



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: May 10, 2022

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48108

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order / Moment of Silence**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes**
 - A. April 12, 2022 Meeting (attached, pp. 1-5 /action item)
- 4. Public Comment**
- 5. Communications, Projects & Activities** (attached, pp. 6-24 /action item)
- 6. Financial & Recreation Reports – April 2022**
 - A. Financial Reports (attached, pp. 25-27 /action item)
 - B. Recreation Reports (attached, pp. 28-33 /action item)
- 7. Old Business**
 - A. Other Old Business
- 8. New Business**
 - A. NAPP – Naming Lost Wagon Lake Preserve (attached, pp. 34-36 /action item)
 - B. Ducks Unlimited & USFWS Restoration (attached, pp. 37-40 /action item)
 - C. NAPP – Phinney Sales Contract (attached, pp. 41-47 /action item)
 - D. Other New Business
- 9. Commissioners / Directors Comments**
- 10. Adjournment**

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Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: April 12, 2022

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, MI

Members Present: Patricia Scribner, WCPARC President, Janis Bobrin, WCPARC Vice President; Dan Ezekiel, Secretary; Robert Joerg; Sue Shink, Brenda McKinney, and Evan Pratt.

Members Absent: JoAnn McCollum and Ricky Jefferson

Staff Present: Coy Vaughn, Director; Meghan Bonfiglio, Deputy Director; Ginny Leikam, Superintendent of Park Planning and Natural Areas; Jason Brooks, Manager of Finance and Administration (attending remotely); Hannah Cooley, Management Analyst; Rosie Pahl Donaldson, Park Planner (attending remotely); Peter Sanderson, Project Manager.

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Scribner called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. with a moment of silence.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 15, 2022 regular meeting were included with the agenda material.

It was moved by Mr. Ezekiel and seconded by Ms. Bobrin to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2022, regular meeting. All ayes, the motion was approved.

3. Public Comment

Jason Aric Jones thanked the commission and Peter Sanderson for working with PMBA to connect mountain bike trails between the Poto, Waterloo Recreation Area and DTE. DNR went through a long approval process. Feedback we are getting from our 700 members is incredible support. Very happy that the Commission is willing to entertain idea of connection and use a portion of Lyndon south.

Carl Loomis, president of Poto Mountain Bike Association, also thanked the Commission to allow a small use of Lyndon trail connection. This has been a long time coming. This will give us a legitimate connector and will help keep bikers off other trails. We have a long-standing relationship with Sharon Mills, and Rolling Hills that we have been maintaining the trails. Thank you for allowing this to come to fruition.

4. Communications, Projects & Activities

Mr. Vaughn reported on the March communications which were included in the packet and provided a presentation summarizing the projects, programs, and events for the month.

It was moved by Mr. Marans and seconded by Ms. McKinney to accept and file the Communications, Projects & Activities for the month of March 2022, as submitted. All ayes, the motion was approved.

5. Financial & Recreation Reports – March 2022

A. Financial Reports

Mr. Brooks reported on the financials and stated that the total for the claims for the month of January was \$423,725.75. It was noted that Risk Management will be covering roughly \$86,000 of the Draper Houston boardwalk reconstruction under NAPP, due to an insurance claim from a flooding event that caused the damage. The expenditures will increase in the coming months with the hiring of seasonal staff and peak construction season.

Mr. Ezekiel asked for a report back in the fall regarding the pumps at Independence Lake.

Mr. Marans noted the first slide of overview was excellent and asked to please continue to include in presentation.

It was moved by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Ms. Shink to accept and file the Financial Reports for the month of March 2022 as submitted. All ayes, the motion was approved.

B. Recreation Reports

Mr. Brooks presented the recreation reports for the month of March 2022 for all park facilities.

Mr. Marans asked if the 2022 MLM numbers are expected to exceed the 2019 numbers and if the fee increase as affected participation?

Mr. Brooks noted it is not expected that that the numbers at MLM to bounce back to pre-pandemic numbers. However, trends are looking more encouraging than 2021.

It was moved by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Ms. Shink to accept and file the Recreation Reports for the month of March 2022 as submitted. All ayes, the motion was approved.

6. Old Business

A. B2B – Dexter Chelsea (CD2) Change Order

Mr. Sanderson presented background on the existing contract for segment CD2 between Dexter and Chelsea. Work is currently ongoing for the segment down to Wylie Road. Staff is asking the Commission to approve modification to contract to continue project about 3,000 feet to east. Contractor will honor 2021 contract pricing. The total contract amendment is equal to \$359,343.

Mr. Ezekiel asked to clarify if the Commission does not approve this, the project would not move forward at this time and would have to rebid with next year prices. Staff confirmed that would be the case.

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin, seconded by Mr. Ezekiel to authorize a contract amendment to Erie Construction for the B2B Trail Segment CD2 in the amount of \$359,343. All ayes, the motion was approved.

B. NAPP – Scully et all Properties, Final Approval

Ms. Pahl Donaldson provided an overview of the contiguous 4 properties located at the south end of the Village of Manchester. The project has been in the works since 2018. WCPARC will own and manage the property. The parking area will be located across the street and cross walk will be installed. The collective purchase price is \$626,000.

Moved by Ms. Shink, seconded by Ms. McKinney to authorize the fee simple purchases of the Gregerson, Lehr, Milkey, and Scully properties in the amounts of \$23,000, \$60,000, \$75,000, and \$468,000 respectively, contingent upon attorney approval of final documents. I further recommend that \$30,000 be contributed to the stewardship special revenue fund for the future maintenance and management of the land. Roll call vote, 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (McCollum & Jefferson). Motion was approved.

C. NAPP – Botsford Trust Property, Final Approval

Ms. Leikam presented an overview of the property on Miller Road in Scio Township. The original nomination came to NAPP in Round 1, in 2001. In 2008, the Township and City of Ann Arbor purchased a conservation easement on 10 acres of the Botsford Trust property. In 2017, WCPARC purchased the 19-acre Pringle property, adjacent to the west. The entire 20-acre Botsford Trust property was nominated again to NAPP in 2015 as a potential partnership with the City of Ann Arbor and Scio Township for fee purchase, but an agreement with the Trust was not made at the time. Then in 2020, a private landowner submitted an offer to the Botsford Trust for the purchase of the property, which triggered the City of Ann Arbor's Right of First Refusal. The City made a counteroffer to the Trust to exercise its Right of First Refusal. The County will ultimately own and manage the property as the Botsford Preserve, along with the adjoining 19-acre property already owned by NAPP.

Moved by Mr. Ezekiel, seconded by Mr. Joerg to partner with the Ann Arbor Greenbelt program for the fee purchase of the Botsford Trust property in Scio Township, as identified in the attached map and contribute \$175,000 toward the purchase, contingent upon attorney review of final closing documents and execution of participation agreement. I further recommend that an additional \$10,000 be contributed to the stewardship special revenue funds for the future maintenance and management of the property. Roll call vote, 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (McCollum and Jefferson). Motion was approved.

D. Other Old Business

None.

7. New Business

A. NAPP – Maisel Buy-Protect-Sell Easement, Partnership

Ms. Pahl Donaldson provided an overview of the project, which is a slightly different structure than previous farmland easements. To address farmland ownership, succession, and inequity challenges, conservation groups have been working to ensure that land stays in the hands of farmers through

Buy-Protect-Sell (BPS) transactions that help directly facilitate affordable farmland access opportunities in their communities. Michigan State University Extension has surveyed southeast Michigan farmland-seekers and found that there is overwhelming demand for affordable farmland in Washtenaw County area, and that ownership is the preferred model over long-term lease agreements.

The City of Ann Arbor Greenbelt received a nomination in 2021 for fee simple purchase of farmland in Northfield Township that met their parameters for a desirable BPS project. In February 2022, the Agricultural Lands Technical Advisory Committee (ALPAC) reviewed a contribution request from the Greenbelt towards the conservation easement value of the property.

Ms. Shink noted she lives close to Maisel property and the area is becoming an enclave of small farms. She is excited that this will contribute to the area and close to markets.

Moved by Ms. Shink, seconded by Ms. McKinney to partner with the City of Ann Arbor Greenbelt for the purchase of a conservation easement on the Maisel BPS property in Northfield Township, as identified in the attached maps, and contribute 50% of the final easement purchase price, not to exceed \$190,000, toward the purchase, contingent upon attorney review of documents and execution of participation agreement. I further recommend that \$7,500 to the stewardship special revenue fund to cover potential future costs associated with monitoring and enforcement of the conservation easement. Roll call vote, 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (McCollum and Jefferson). Motion was approved.

B. Skatepark Lighting Project

Mr. Vaughn provided background on the role of WCPARC in the Ann Arbor Skatepark. Grassroots efforts to get skatepark started. The City had \$1M budget for the project. AA Community Foundation worked with grassroots efforts to support private fundraising projects. In 2010, the City of Ann Arbor came to WCPARC to participate in the project and seek funding. WCPARC set up \$400K matching grant. 2013 construction started and the construction finished in 2014. This is the first time City is coming back to WCPARC asking for capital improvement.

Hillary Hanzel, Park Planner for the City of Ann Arbor presented details of the proposed lighting project. The City is requesting \$35,000 from WCPARC.

Mr. Marans asked if the lighting will only be operational during the park hours. Can someone push button to allow 1 hour use, but would not be possible after certain hours? He also asked if neighbors have expressed any concern. Ms. Hanzel noted that the lighting is similar to the use at the ball fields, so no major concerns have been expressed. Mr. Marans also asked that WCPARC be recognized as partner on the overall and promote WCPARC. Ms. Hanzel noted that the City will work with Coy to identify ways to promote both organizations.

Mr. Joerg noted that as a practice he does not like awarding when 1 bid was received but understands current conditions. Ms. Hanzel noted that City went through their procurement procedure. This was the last project that was competitively bid in end of 2021. Bids were due back in Jan. 2022. The City is moving away from construction bidding. No longer required to go with lowest bid.

Moved by Ms. McKinney, seconded by Mr. Ezekiel to authorize a contribution of \$35,000 to the City of Ann Arbor for installation of lighting as proposed. All ayes, 0 nays. Motion was approved.

C. Park Lyndon DNR Trail Connection

Mr. Sanderson provided an overview of the project and recognized Chuck Dennison, DNR Pinckney. The Potawatami chapter of the Michigan Mountain Bike Association and DNR have been leading the process. From DNR's perspective spent a lot of time considering the implications. Important to use Embury Rd. to N. Territorial. Ebikes are not permitted on the trail, but open to mountain bike.

Mr. Ezekiel noted as a boy scout he hiked these trails and notes that birding in these areas and have mountain biked area as well. Embury Road in Lyndon are beloved areas for birders. He asked that the County and DNR acknowledge in signage that they are sensitive to birds. DNR has been a wonderful partner for County Parks. Preserving Silver Lake. Support project but point out potential conflict. DNR: no problem advising bikers that portion of the trail is being used by birders.

Mr. Marans also asked about the current crossing of N. Territorial Rd. Pete has initiated conversation with WCRC. This portion of North Territorial is less busy than others.

Mr. Marans also asked who is responsible for signage? The PMBA has ordered some basic signs that indicates what is allowed and not and way finding. WCPARC would be updating in our facility.

D. Other New Business

None.

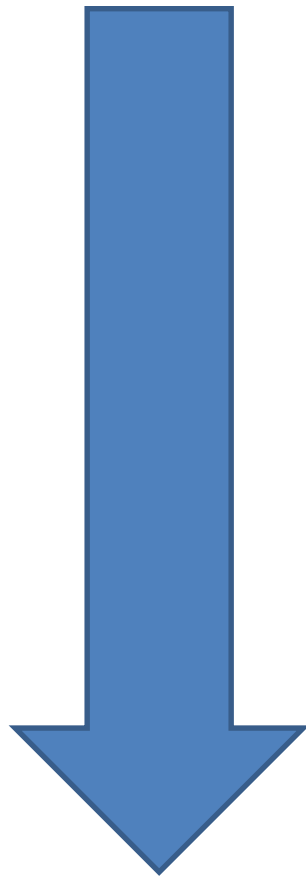
8. Commissioners/Directors Comments

9. Adjournment

It was moved by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Mr. Marans to adjourn the meeting. All ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Communications, Projects & Activities



Meghan E. Bonfiglio

From: Coy Vaughn
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 8:19 PM
To: Scott Linn; Julie Sigda; Julie Shoner; Jason Adams; Joseph Karr
Cc: Meghan E. Bonfiglio; Thomas Power
Subject: FW: Thank you

Indy Lake Team,

This is great to hear. People are quick to send a nasty note when they are not happy – very few take time to send such a positive e-mail (although many would agree with the message). Thanks for all the hard work at Indy Lake!!!!

Coy

From: Nathaniel Barton <n8barton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 6:22 PM
To: Coy Vaughn <vaughnc@washtenaw.org>
Subject: Thank you

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Coy,

I wanted to reach out and say thank you for all the work and effort put into the disc golf courses/program. I was playing today and preparing for an upcoming tournament. Independence Lake Red Hawk East and West are two beautiful courses, and rival many of the country's other courses (I have played many in Michigan and have played over 200 courses around the country). Your folks take pride in them and the upkeep really shows, even despite our crazy weather! I am sure you don't hear it enough, but I know I am speaking on behalf of many disc golfers - that we do truly appreciate all the hard work that you folks do. Please feel free to pass this on to the other employees, especially the guy out on the tractor today in the rain who politely let us play a hole while waiting to make a waterproof walk path with gravel.

Thank you so much,
Nate Barton

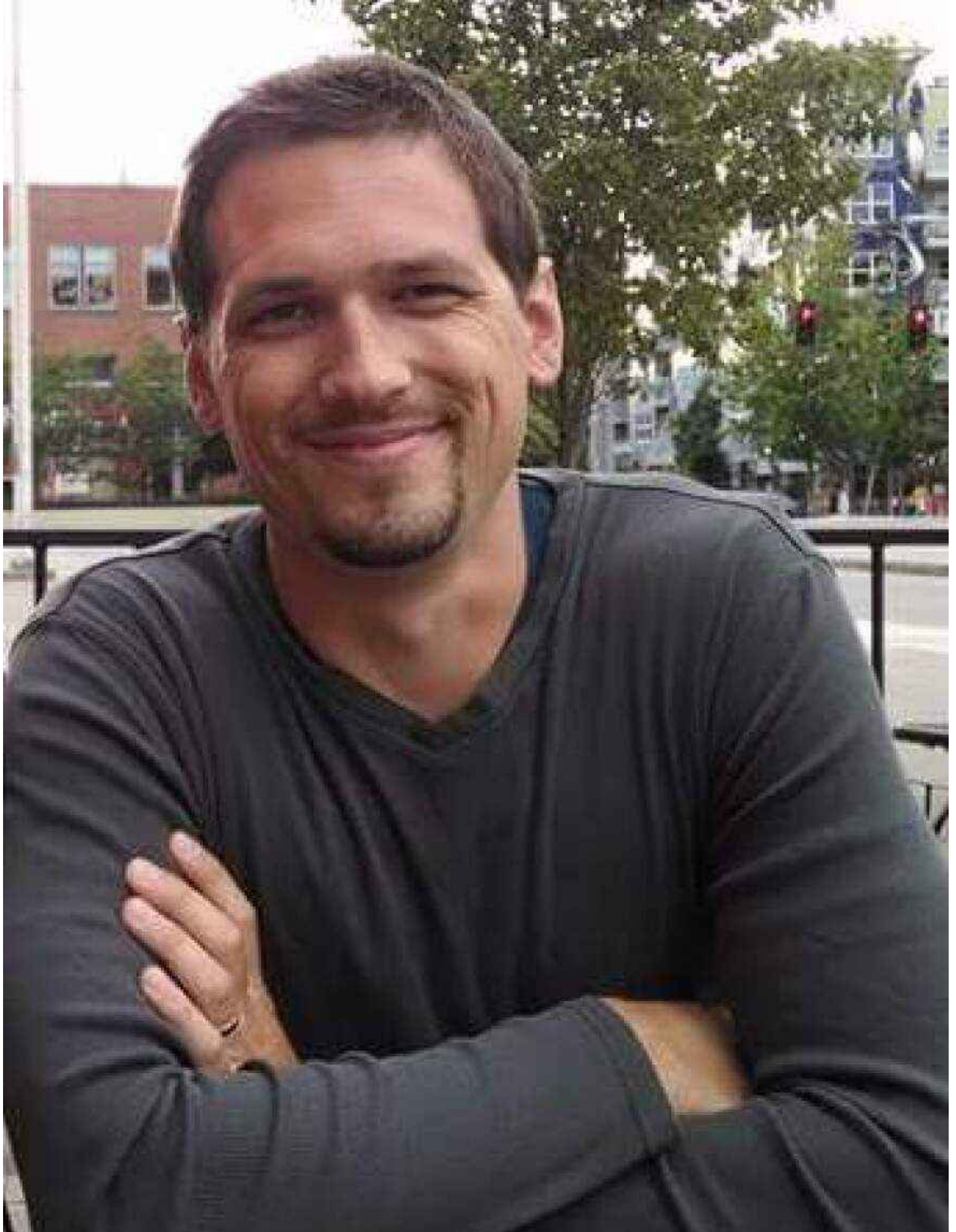


Issues of the Environment

Issues of the Environment: Border-to-Border Trail in Washtenaw County to expand another three miles in 2022

Published April 13, 2022 at 7:50 AM EDT

LISTEN • 10:35



Overview

- One of the county's premier projects is the Border-to-Border Trail (B2B). Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission ([WCPARC](#)) has led the multi-agency effort to develop the Border to Border Trail (B2B Trail) since its inception in the late 1990s. (Source: **directly quoted** <https://www.washtenaw.org/334/Border-to-Border-Trail>)
- WCPARC has completed 36 of 54 miles of trails within the county. Peter Sanderson, principal park planner for Washtenaw County's Parks and Recreation, says the remaining segments are the most challenging to build.
- Last year, 3 miles were built (projects located in Ypsilanti, City of Ann Arbor, and Lima Township (between Dexter and Chelsea)). Three miles of construction is planned for 2022:

1. *Chelsea and M-52 [2 projects]*
2. *Dexter-Chelsea extension*
3. *East of Dexter from Zeeb Road to Delhi Metropark (completes the connection between all Metroparks in the county)*

- In addition, planning and engineering are occurring on multiple projects, most notably the Barton-Bandemer Underpass in the City of Ann Arbor to build a tunnel under the railroad to connect Huron River Drive and Bandemer Park on the northwest side of the city.
- Regional partners and the Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative are working to complete connections in Jackson, Ingham, and Wayne Counties as part of the State Iron Belle Trail (IBT). To better gauge use of the non-motorized routes, more permanent bike/ped counters are being placed to analyze and quantify trail use.
- Peter Sanderson points out that the B2B supports the County's Climate Action plan (under development) and the City of Ann Arbor's adopted carbon neutrality plan ([A2 Zero](#)). Key reasons are:

1. *Goal is to connect Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor, Dexter, and Chelsea with the non-motorized trail route, providing a safe route to connect people and destinations*
2. *Creates a "spine" of a nonmotorized transportation corridor as part of the broader nonmotorized infrastructure network*
3. *Key destinations along or very near the B2B are some of our largest job centers including Michigan Medicine, UM North & Central Campus, St. Joe's Health Systems, Concordia College, WCC Campus, EMU Campus, and central business districts of several cities.*

Transcription

Issues of the Environment. This week, we're going to take a look at the Border to Border Trail in Washtenaw County. The initiative launched back in the late 1990s and continues to create more connectivity between communities, and the work to get to completion is going onward. Our guest this week is Peter Sanderson. Peter is principal park planner for the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Department, which has led the multi-agency Border to Border Trail project since its inception. Thank you so much for the time today, Peter.

Peter Sanderson: Oh, you're welcome. Thank you for having me.

David Fair: Do you like to get out to walk or bike portions of the trail yourself?

Peter Sanderson: Oh, absolutely. I use the trail on a regular basis. I'm a runner and cyclist myself, so my local sections, the Gallup Park Trail in Ann Arbor.

David Fair: And are you a winter person? Do you still go out in the winter? I personally hibernate and people make fun of me for it, but nonetheless, there are people like me out there.

Peter Sanderson: Oh, I try to get out when I can. But, you know, sometimes the Michigan weather is just a little too much.

David Fair: I'm right with you. From the broad environmental perspective, Peter, the longer the trail, the more kind of activity created, the more that people use it. That all plays into diminished greenhouse gases. Is it a significant contributor in helping get Washtenaw County to carbon neutral by 2035?

Peter Sanderson: We think it will be. We don't have specific data on that, but we are working to install bicycle and pedestrian counters across the county in partnership with WATS--the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study--to try and quantify the trail usage and analyze the use patterns. You know, is it used for recreation or commuting? Right now, we only have two permanent counters that are installed in the Dexter area, and the use is trending up significantly, especially with 2020. You know, our numbers are showing, you know, from 2018, we had about 277,000 passes by the sensors in Dexter. And, in 2020 it was 424,000. So, that's a pretty significant increase over just a two-year period.

David Fair: WEMU's Issues of the Environment conversation with Washtenaw County Parks and Rec planner Peter Sanderson continues. 36 miles of the Border to Border trail has been completed, with plans for creating at least 18 more. Last year, three more miles were added. Was that the plan, or did pandemic issues slow the work down some in 2021?

Peter Sanderson: Well, I think we've been keeping our progress steady, which is our goal. We want to keep making progress. These projects take several years, usually, to

construction phase. Historically, our average has been about one mile per year, so doing three miles per year is a significant increase. And that's due in part to the millage that was passed by Washtenaw County voters in 2016 and 2020 to help with roads and trails and our partners at the Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative, a nonprofit group who's been doing significant fundraising to help us construct the trail.

David Fair: Last year's project included ones in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and Lima Township, if I remember correctly. What did that add to the overall community connectivity via the trail?

Peter Sanderson: So, the one in Chelsea area, that's a big connection to make into the city coming into the northwest side along M-52 connects into nearly five miles of trail that was built since 2018, and this closes the gap to connect into the downtown area. And now, we're working with the city to do some signs and route finding to connect that trail through the Central Business District and out over to the Lima Township section, which enters into the city on the East Side along Freer Road. So, that one's a big addition in connectivity. The other one that really made a big difference is in the city of Ann Arbor. We rebuilt a mile section of trail in partnership with the city in Gallup Park. That was an old section of trail. I think it was constructed in the 80s. It really improved the capacity of the trail. We widened it from eight feet to 10 feet and we used, you know, a concrete surface as opposed to asphalt, which should increase the longevity and reduce maintenance costs into the future.

David Fair: So, this year, there are three more miles of construction plans. Where are the projects going to take place?

Peter Sanderson: So, in the northwest side of the county, up in Lyndon Township, we hope to extend the trail by about a mile along M-52. So that project that we're working on last year connecting into the city of Chelsea, that's got a little bit of wrap up this year. But then we hope to extend the northern end of that. So, that'll turn that into about a seven-mile long section of trail northwest of Chelsea that connects to the city. The Green Lake campground, which is operated by the DNR, the DTE Energy Foundation mountain bike trail system that's out there--there's a lot of neat stuff out in Lyndon Township. The other one is we hope to extend some of the work just west of Dexter in Lima Township where we're working to connect the cities of Dexter and Chelsea. That's not a direct connection into either of the cities yet, but that should be coming in the next couple of years. And then, one of the big pieces of construction that we have that should be happening this year is in Scio Township. We hope to start construction this summer on a section of trail that is starting at Zeeb Road and Huron River Drive and connecting to Delhi Metropark. So, the completion of that project will connect all three metroparks in Washtenaw County with the Border to Border trail with the city of Dexter right at the center.

David Fair: The more that you and I talk, the more ambitious I realize these plans and

Peter Sanderson: Oh, I don't have a hard date for you yet, but we are working diligently to try and keep that progress going. And, you know, we hope to be done, you know, in the 2020s would be our goal and sooner is better. Right now, there's a lot of momentum in terms of priorities at the local and state levels that are opening up some funding opportunities through grants. And so, we hope to keep going. We have a lot of the pieces aligned, and the planning work has been done. And now, it's a matter of working through the legal side, so, you know, the environmental permitting and regulatory compliance and things like that as we are building the trail sections out. But, usually, that takes between 12 and 24 months just to go through the permitting process for one project.

David Fair: Once again, this is Issues of the Environment on WEMU, and we're talking with Washtenaw County Parks and Rec principal park planner Peter Sanderson about the Border to Border trail. Now, we have seen prices for everything this year skyrocket, and that includes fuel. Is it possible that the cost of fuel diminishes the ability to accomplish as much as you would like over the course of this coming construction season?

Peter Sanderson: We hope not. We definitely build a contingency into our project budgets, but we haven't gotten our construction bids back for the season yet. We have one big project that should be getting bids in May or June. And so, I guess we'll see where those numbers come in. One of the strategies that we've been using to try and mitigate that is using bid alternatives, which is why the Gallup Park Trail and some of our projects in Chelsea and Dexter are actually now constructed from concrete as opposed to asphalt. We've been using a bid alternative and using price comparisons between the two different materials and concrete has been coming in less expensive, and it's more durable in the long run. That's not, historically, been the case, but it is right now. And so, that's one of the ways we're trying to keep our projects on budget and on track.

David Fair: Ultimately, the county Border to Border trail is designed to connect to pathways that will better connect significant portions of the state. Am I right on that?

Peter Sanderson: That's right. It is part of the statewide Iron Belt Trail Initiative, and we're working to connect in Wayne County and through Jackson and Ingham Counties up to Stockbridge, trying to make a big regional connection here in Southeast Michigan.

David Fair: Clearly, this is a passion project for you, Peter. What do you love best about what the Border to Border trail is today and what you anticipate it becoming?

Peter Sanderson: Well, that's a good question, I think what I like most about it today is just seeing the diversity of use. You know, you get everybody from marathon trainers to,

really like to see how the community uses the trail. And, for me, I hope that continues. I would like to see it become a little bit more of a commuter route as we complete some of the sections into the future because it does go by some of our largest employers in the county: The University of Michigan campuses, the hospital, Washtenaw Community College, EMU, St. Joe's Hospital, Concordia College. That's a large percentage of our county's employment. And so, I think that there's opportunities there to use this as a safe route for commuting, and, hopefully, that helps the county accomplish some of their carbon neutrality goals into the future.

David Fair: I'd like to thank you very much for the time and the insights today, Peter. I appreciate it.

Peter Sanderson: Well, thank you for having me.

David Fair: That was Peter Sanderson, principal park planner for Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation. I'm David Fair, and this is 89 one WEMU FM and HD One Ypsilanti.

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David Fair

Nearly three-quarters of David Fair's 20+ years in radio has been at WEMU. Since 1994, he has been on the air at 5am each weekday on 89.1 FM as the local host of NPR's Morning Edition. Over the years, Fair has had the opportunity to interview nationally and internationally known politicians, activists and celebrities. But he feels the most important features and interviews have been with those who live and work here at home. He believes his professional passions and desires fit perfectly into WEMU's commitment to serving a local audience.

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4-21-2022 1:39pm

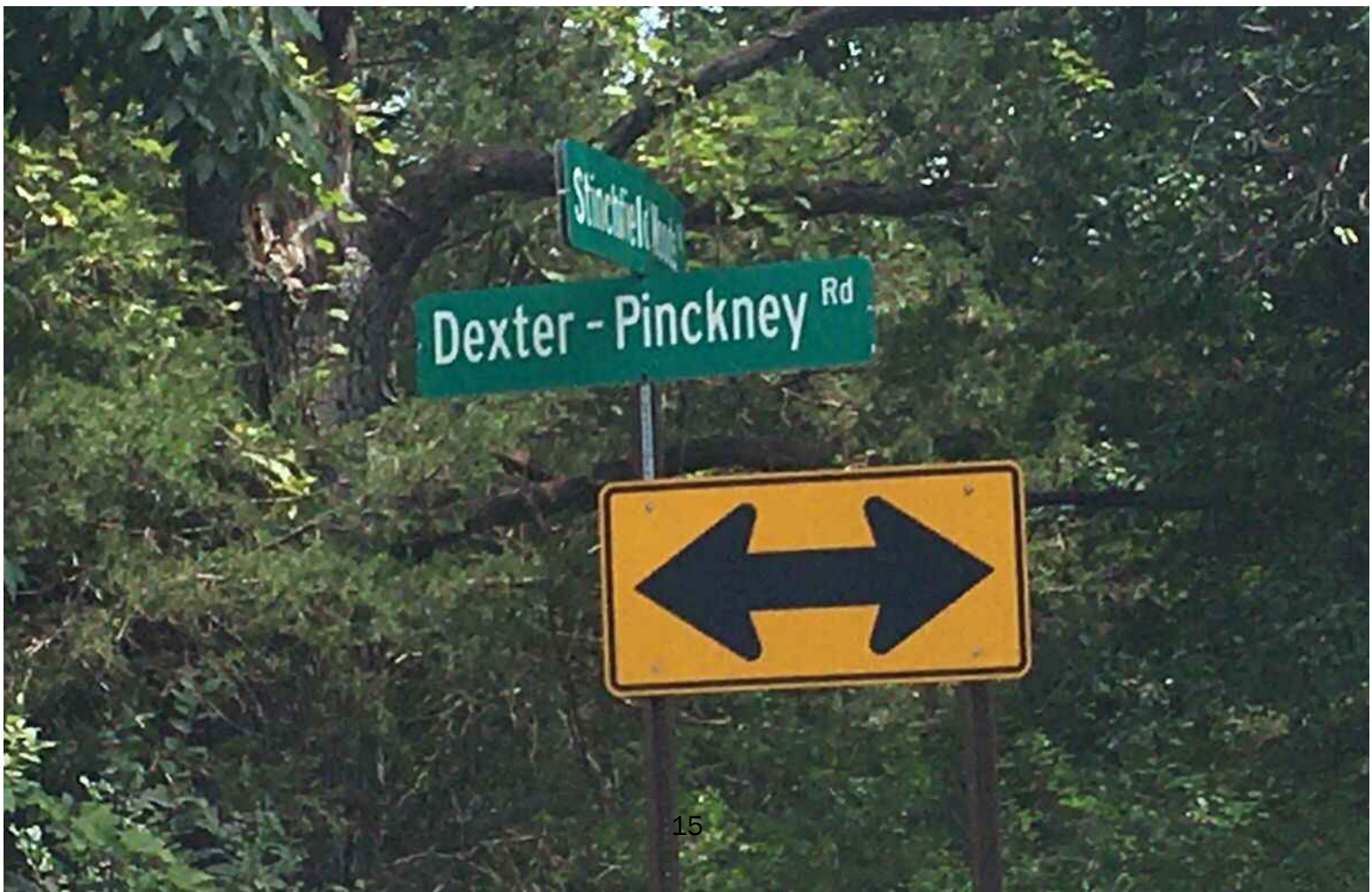
Update on the Northwest Passage trail plan in Dexter Township



[Lonnie Huhman](#)

[Reporter](#) ✓

[The Sun Times News](#)





The planning for a pathway connection from Dexter Township into the Pinckney community is moving along.

An update on what's called the Northwest Passage trail was given at the Dexter Township Board meeting on April 19.

Board trustee Karen Sikkenga, who is the township's representative on this project, said they recently received the concept preliminary planning report from consultant Beckett & Raeder and it included a proposed final route.

The report is the beginning stages of the project. Sikkenga said the parties that funded this initial preliminary design project are the Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative (HWPI), Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPARC) and Dexter Township. She said the proposed route is entirely in Metropark land.

"They have participated in all the planning meetings and are supportive of the project," Sikkenga said of the Metroparks (Hudson Mills).

Sikkenga emphasized during the township board meeting that the proposed route is contingent on getting permits and land use.

In follow up by The Sun Times News (STN), Sikkenga said the route in the report basically links from Hudson Mills near North Territorial under the bridge and continues alongside the river for a mile or two, then crosses into Stinchfield Woods with a signalized mid-block crossing.

The preliminary budget is between \$1.7 and \$2.7 million, with the budget estimates based on a preferred route. The cost ranges are for crushed limestone, 8-foot asphalt or 10-foot asphalt with 2-foot shoulders.

Sikkenga said by email that, "The highest cost option (\$2.7 million) would be eligible for MDOT Transportation Alternative Funds of up to 80 percent for construction (\$1.2M of the total project cost – MDOT doesn't contribute to "soft costs"), so ironically the most expensive option sometimes ends up being the most financially feasible."

HWPI is the lead on this project. Sikkenga said they are a fundraising and project management entity.

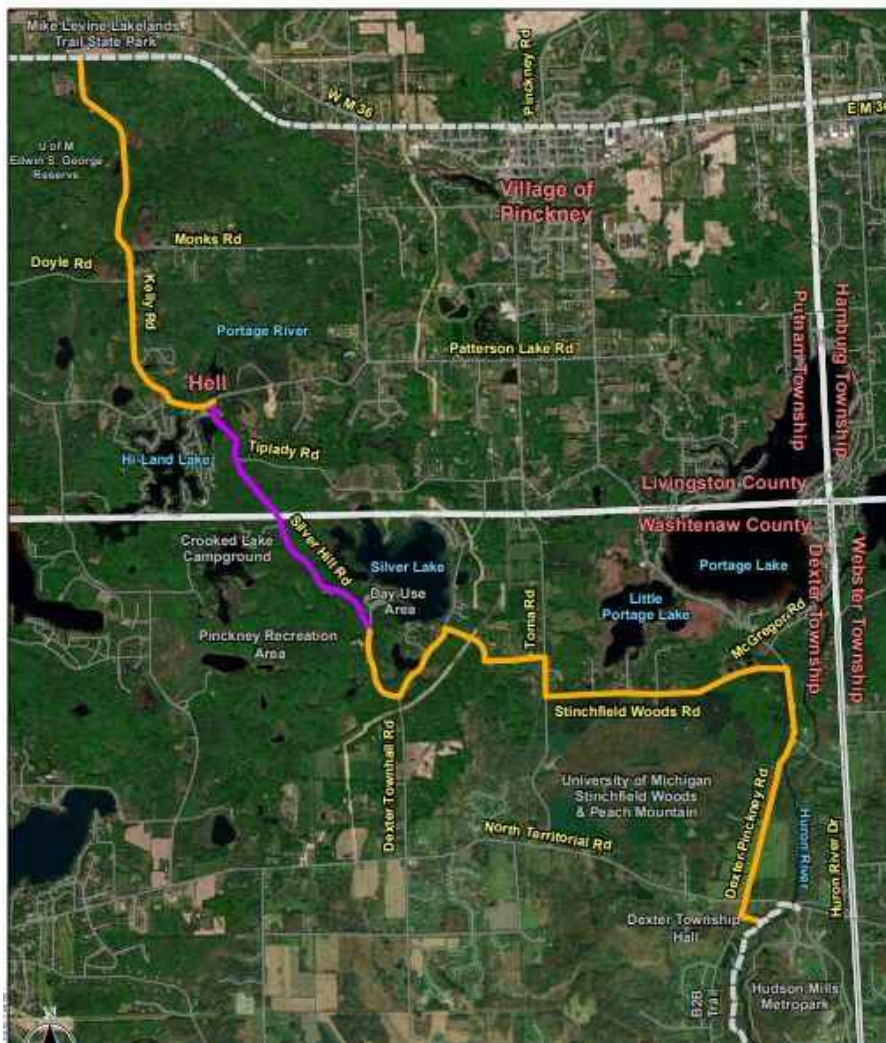
"At this time, there have been no decisions about fundraising or project management," she said. "Beckett & Raeder is currently preparing documents that can be used to satisfy grant

said. “Beckett & Rader is currently preparing documents that can be used to satisfy grant submittal requirements of WCPARC, the DNR Trust Fund, and MDOT TAP, among others. Typically on a trail project, grants might be the backbone and then a fundraising entity or the project lead raises funds for the local match. At this time, which of these entities would be the project lead hasn’t been determined.”

STN asked what a possible schedule might look like and Sikkenga said in terms of timeline, “I imagine this will be several years out. Often it is 3-5 years from preliminary design to execution.”

This is just phase one of the overall plan.

Planning, being led by the HWPI, for a separate project phase is also underway that would see the trail continue within Stinchfield Woods. Ultimately, the hope and plan is to connect Hudson Mills Metropark to the Mike Levine Lakelands Trail in Pinckney.



Here's a map of the proposed Northwest Passage route, which is a concept and still being planned. provided by the Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative



Digital Report - April 2022

This monthly report will highlight our social media outreach, website analytics, newsletters, items in the news, and recent snapshots around the parks.

Monthly comparisons will be used to track data and improve our outreach.

Useful definitions for this report

Impressions

A Facebook metric related to the visibility of our posts is referred to as impressions. Impressions measure the number of times our posts were seen. That includes if one post was seen multiple times by a single user.

Engagement

Engagement measures the number of times someone took action on our posts. That could mean clicking a link, sharing our post, making a reaction or leaving a comment.



Digital Report - April 2022

SOCIAL MEDIA

facebook

Blue Heron Bay

Monthly Impressions

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
377	1,554	

Total Post Engagement

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
1	6	

facebook

Independence Lake

Monthly Impressions

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
25,579	15,109	

Total Post Engagement

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
1,028	721	

facebook

Meri Lou Murray

Monthly Impressions

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
1,286	2,811	

Total Post Engagement

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
12	50	

facebook

Pierce Lake

Monthly Impressions

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
12,120	3,909	

Total Post Engagement

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
549	127	

facebook

Rolling Hills

Monthly Impressions

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
176,634	47,108	

Total Post Engagement

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
12,082	1,906	

facebook

WCPARC

Monthly Impressions

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
20,407	9,731	

Total Post Engagement

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
979	311	

Instagram

Rolling Hills

Total Followers

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
996	987	

Top Post - Hiring

How many people reacted to posts

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
31	31	

Instagram

WCPARC

Total Followers

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
2,421	2,383	

Top Post - Tree Swallows

How many people reacted to posts

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
141	110	



Digital Report - April 2022

Facebook/Instagram - Top Posts

 **f Rolling Hills Co...**
Sun 4/17/2022 6:59 pm ...

You spoke, we listened...7
DAYS/WEEK THIS SUMMER!!!

The poster features a large orange circle with the text "7 Days per week" in white. Below the circle is a photograph of a swimming pool with people. To the right of the circle, there is a list of details: "• River Walking is available to anyone ages 16 years and up (16 or 17 if accompanied by an adult).", "• Water shoes are encouraged.", "• Drop-in Only. Pre-Registration is not available.", "• Drop-In Fee: \$4/Session", and "• Punch Card: \$60 for 20 Sessions".

Total Engagements	11,403
Reactions	2,673
Comments	1,221
Shares	693
Post Link Clicks	1
Other Post Clicks	6,815

 **f Washtenaw Co...**
Tue 4/26/2022 6:18 am ...

Dwelling in the damp
understory of wetland woods,
delighting wanderers with it...

The photo shows a close-up of yellow flowers in the foreground, with a blurred background of green foliage and trees.

Total Engagements	90
Reactions	46
Comments	4
Shares	6
Post Link Clicks	—
Other Post Clicks	34



Digital Report - April 2022

Website, Newsletter, News

Website Statistics

washtenaw.org/parks

April 2022

Total Page Visits	This Month	Last Month	Sept. Last Year
		18,885	

Top Pages Viewed	Views
MLM	3,789
Rolling Hills	2,317
Indy Lake	1,268
County Farm	1,158
MLM Fitness	1,090

In The News

WEMU 89.1: Issues of the Environment: Border-to-Border Trail in Washtenaw County to expand another three miles in 2022

Monthly Newsletter

WCPARC 44.3 open rate

Newsletter via MailChimp

Sent to	Opened	Clicks
6,752	3,399	50%

Newsletter non MailChimp

Sent to	Opened	Clicks
1,110	N/A	

Photography





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
DATE: May 10, 2022
RE: Project and Activities Update – April 2022

Park Facility Events and Projects

Independence Lake

- MOB Disc Golf Club hosted a disc golf tournament on April 3 with 144 participants.
- “Spring Yoga in the Park” began early April and runs through May.
- “Spring Bird Egg Hunt” was held on April 9. Families learned about birds and hunted for different types of wooden eggs.
- “Frog Calling Night Hike” was held on April 22. Patrons hiked along the nature trail and then were fortunate to see frogs.
- Operations staff have been actively recruiting and hiring seasonal summer staff members.
- Summer Day Camp registration opened on March 15 and is 95% full as of the first week in May.
- Maintenance staff have been preparing for the summer season by cleaning the disc golf course, nature trails, disc golf pavilion area, and Blue Heron Bay Spray Park.
- Construction of the Disc Golf Pavilion is substantially complete. Consultant and staff conducted a punch list to address any outstanding items.
- Re-construction of three boardwalks has commenced. Parks staff are working closely with the contractor and consultant to ensure that design is implemented correctly. Project is expected to be fully complete sometime this summer.

Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center

- Spring II session began on April 24. Group fitness classes include use of the indoor studio, outdoor terrace, virtual options, and County Farm Park.
- The facility has increased the number of Parent-Tot group swim lesson due to high demand.
- In one month, patrons donated food to fill five large barrels for the Food Gatherers food drive.

Nelson Meade County Farm Park

- Staff and contractor met on site to discuss schedule of completing outstanding items. Sitework and paving of pathway along Washtenaw Ave. is expected to recommence this spring, weather permitting.

Rolling Hills Park

- MOB Disc Golf hosted a Disc Golf Tournament on April 16 with 144 players.
- “Signs of Spring Story Time” was held on April 23. Ten families enjoyed refreshments, a story by the campfire and a nature.
- Neighborhood Nature Day was held on April 23. Volunteers identified and removed garlic mustard, dames rocket, and bittercress.
- The final Lifeguard Certification course offered before the summer season was held April 22-24. Ten lifeguards were certified.
- Maintenance staff installed nineteen new disc golf baskets on the OG (main) course for a much-needed upgrade.
- Operations staff have been diligently interviewing and hiring summer seasonal staff and are about 77% of full staffing numbers. Based on this staffing levels, the decision was made to operate the Water Park from 12pm-7pm daily.
- Interior renovations of the Water Park’s concession building are nearly complete. Exterior renovations should be completed by the end of May.
- Maintenance staff have begun activating Water Park systems.
- IEC began site work in the main mechanical room in preparation for the installation of the new equipment is expected to take place mid to late May.

Staebler Farm Park

- Permits for the Multipurpose Building are being finalized and work is expected to commence in May.
- Staff has prepared a park development document that can be used for fundraising purposes.

Special Initiatives

Border to Border Trail (B2B)

- Zeeb Road to Delhi Metropark (Segment DAA3) construction project is in the May 6 bid letting with MDOT. Staff will report results at the May Commission meeting. If bids are favorable, construction should begin this summer with a completion date no later than July 2023.
- Construction of the Dexter-Chelsea trail segment (CD2), Dancer Road to Wylie Road (1.6 miles), is completing final punch list items.
- Chelsea Connector segment (C1) construction is complete within Veterans Park, Weber Field, and Timbertown (south of Sibley Road). A permanent pedestrian counter was installed to collect trail use data. Work north of Sibley Road is underway and the project is expected to be completed later this year.
- Engineering and permitting are in various stages of progress for the following trail segments:
 - o Barton-Bandemer Tunnel and Trail (Segment DAA7 - Ann Arbor)
 - o Delhi Metropark to Wagner Road (Segment DAA4)
 - o Dexter-Chelsea (Segments CD2 & CD3) Wylie Road to Parker Road, and to Mill Creek Park in Dexter
 - o M-52 from North Territorial Road to Boyce Road (Segment CS3)
 - o Hudson Mills Metropark to Stinchfield Woods and Silver Lake State Park

Connecting Communities

- Letters and emails announcing the opening of the 2022 round of grants have been sent to municipalities.
- Staff is preparing a webinar to help potential applicants with project planning and application submission.

Natural Areas Preservation Program (NAPP)

Stewardship

- Around seventy-five volunteers helped to remove garlic mustard, dames rocket, and narrowleaf bittercress at Baker Woods Preserve, County Farm Park, Rolling Hills Park, and Parker Mill Park. Volunteers were part of the general public, EMU CRU, Washtenaw Technical Middle College, Daycroft Montessori School, and a Boy Scout troop.
- Controlled burns were conducted at Whitmore Lake, West Lake, and Watkins Lake preserves.
- Spring invasive plants were pulled at West Lake, Baker Woods, Squiers, Whitmore Lake, Goodrich, Draper-Houston Meadows, and Kosch Headwaters preserves.

Interpretive Programming

- Nearly 700 patrons attended nature programs in April.
- Naturalist received an influx of school field trips resulting in roughly 350 students being served in April.
- Archery programs officially started. Two homeschool groups and two public programs were hosted at Staebler Farm Park.



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

April 2022 - Claims Report

PARK / FACILITY / FUNCTION	UTILITIES	DIRECT PURCHASES	OTHER	TOTAL
Administration	\$ 336.07	\$ 10,528.15	\$ 15,681.32	\$ 26,545.54
Recreation Center	15,452.56	1,750.48	14,363.90	31,566.94
Park Maintenance	1,599.09	2,388.96	2,478.69	6,466.74
Pierce Lake Golf Course	2,382.07	10,780.96	61,795.56	74,958.59
Independence Lake	2,513.13	5,658.40	6,049.00	14,220.53
Rolling Hills	4,169.90	7,924.02	7,261.48	19,355.40
Parker Mill	85.19	-	355.00	440.19
Sharon Mills	84.03	-	1,428.05	1,512.08
Staebler Farm	-	-	191.74	191.74
Swift Run Dog Park	-	-	-	-
Capital Improvement	-	-	265,607.94	265,607.94
Committed Funding Partnerships	-	-	500.00	500.00
Commission	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL	\$ 26,622.04	\$ 39,030.97	\$ 375,712.68	\$ 441,365.69
Road Millage Fund	-	-	529,612.83	529,612.83
SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 529,612.83	\$ 529,612.83
Natural Areas Preservation Program				
Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,679.54	\$ 43,679.54
Preserve Management	-	1,180.57	7,896.54	\$ 9,077.11
NATAC	-	-	-	\$ -
Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,059.00	\$ 3,059.00
Annual Monitoring	-	-	-	\$ -
ALPAC	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ 1,180.57	\$ 54,635.08	\$ 55,815.65
TOTAL	\$ 26,622.04	\$ 40,211.54	\$ 959,960.59	\$ 1,026,794.17

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

\$ 1,026,794.17

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FUND BALANCE STATEMENT - APRIL 30, 2022

Beginning Fund Balance (1/1/22)	16,261,408		33%	YTD % Budget	
Revenue (Budget)		Revenue (Actual)			Variance
Property Tax	8,681,375	8,215,118		95%	(466,257)
State Grant Funds	-	-			-
Fees & Services	3,635,000	713,863		20%	(2,921,137)
Interest Earnings	100,000	15,975		16%	(84,025)
Other Revenue & Reimb.	<u>30,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>		3%	<u>(29,000)</u>
Total Revenue		12,446,375		8,945,956	72% (3,500,419)
Expense (Budget)		Expense (Actual)			Variance
Personnel Services	(6,909,556)	(1,520,230)		22%	5,389,326
Supplies & Other Services	(2,549,600)	(665,461)		26%	1,884,139
Internal Service Charges	(939,876)	(307,340)		33%	632,536
Capital					
Land Acquisition	-	-		-	-
CIP/Development	(3,100,000)	(355,726)		11%	2,744,274
Contingency	(400,000)	(106,182)		27%	293,818
Machinery & Equipment	<u>(181,100)</u>	<u>(14,980)</u>		8%	<u>166,120</u>
Capital Subtotal	(3,681,100)	(476,888)		13%	3,204,212
Total Expense		<u>(14,080,132)</u>		<u>(2,969,919)</u>	21% 11,110,213
Surplus/(Deficit)		(1,633,757)		5,976,037	
Operating Reserve		(8,681,375)		(8,681,375)	
Funding Commitments (Partnerships)		<u>(8,395,000)</u>		<u>-</u>	
		(17,076,375)		(8,681,375)	
Projected Fund Balance (12/31/22)		<u>(2,448,724)</u>		<u>13,556,070</u>	

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION PROGRAM
FUND BALANCE STATEMENT - MARCH 31, 2022

Beginning Fund Balance (1/1/22)	8,127,796	unaudited	25%	YTD % Budget	
Revenue (Budget)					Variance
Property Tax	4,622,888		4,372,465	95%	(250,423)
Federal Revenue	-		-		-
Interest Earnings	25,000		7,651	31%	(17,349)
Other Revenue & Reimb.	<u>5,000</u>		<u>28,883</u>	578%	<u>23,883</u>
Total Revenue		4,652,888	4,408,999	95%	(243,889)
Expense (Budget)					Variance
Personnel Services	(700,883)		(188,640)	27%	512,243
Supplies & Other Services	(336,200)		(197,756)	59%	138,444
Internal Service Charges	(20,612)		(5,869)	28%	14,743
Capital					
Land Acquisition	(2,550,000)		(1,044,920)	41%	1,505,080
Land Development	-		-		-
Machinery & Equipment	<u>(5,000)</u>		<u>-</u>	0%	<u>5,000</u>
Capital Subtotal	(2,555,000)		(1,044,920)	41%	1,510,080
Total Expense		<u>(3,612,695)</u>	<u>(1,437,186)</u>	40%	2,175,509
Surplus/(Deficit)		1,040,193	2,971,812		
Projected Fund Balance (12/31/22)		<u>9,167,989</u>	<u>11,099,609</u>		

ROLLING HILLS COUNTY PARK
YEAR-TO-DATE PARTICIPATION & REVENUE REPORT
APRIL

	GATE					
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
RESIDENT (ANNUAL)	341	1,451	1,247	\$ 10,230	\$ 43,530	\$ 37,410
NON-RESIDENT (ANNUAL)	28	124	124	1,260	5,580	5,580
RESIDENTS (DAILY)	281	2,066	1,529	1,686	12,396	9,174
NON-RESIDENTS (DAILY)	129	714	467	1,290	7,140	4,670
SENIOR (DAILY)	11	85	62	33	255	186
SENIOR NON-RES. (DAILY)	4	7	14	24	42	84
GLOW GOLF DROP-IN	-	-	-	-	-	-
BUSES (DAILY)	-	-	-	-	-	-
ANNUAL BUS	-	-	2	-	-	300
MINI BUS	1	1	-	15	15	-
ANNUAL MINI BUS	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>795</u>	<u>4,448</u>	<u>3,445</u>	<u>\$ 14,538</u>	<u>\$ 68,958</u>	<u>\$ 57,404</u>

PERCENT OF NON-RESIDENTS:

ANNUAL	7.59%	7.87%	9.04%
DAILY	31.29%	25.10%	23.21%

WATER PARK POOL ATTENDANCE

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
DAILY ENTRANCE	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ 20</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 11</u>
	2	-	-	\$ 20	\$ -	\$ 11

PROGRAMMING & RETAIL OPERATIONS

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
DAYCAMP	426	567	2,690	\$ 11,495	\$ 15,305	\$ 72,636
BIRTHDAY PACKAGES	-	-	-	-	-	-
AQUATICS PROGRAMMING	-	-	-	-	-	-
DISC GOLF	463	1,484	1,259	926	2,968	2,518
SPECIAL EVENTS	<u>356</u>	<u>208</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>4,025</u>	<u>4,398</u>	<u>5,960</u>
	<u>1,245</u>	<u>2,259</u>	<u>3,981</u>	<u>\$ 16,446</u>	<u>\$ 22,671</u>	<u>\$ 81,114</u>

ROLLING HILLS COUNTY PARK
YEAR-TO-DATE PARTICIPATION & REVENUE REPORT
APRIL

PROGRAMMING & RETAIL OPERATIONS (cont'd)

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
FACILITY RENTALS						
WEEKDAYS	4	6	5	\$ 660	\$ 730	\$ 950
WEEKENDS	24	41	48	4,650	7,355	8,840
SOCCER FIELDS	35	-	-	100	-	-
DISC GOLF COURSE	-	9	-	-	925	1,000
WATERPARK SHELTERS	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>63</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>\$ 5,410</u>	<u>\$ 9,010</u>	<u>\$ 10,790</u>
TOBOGGANS	-	760	-	\$ -	\$ 2,280	\$ 2,675
CROSS COUNTRY SKIS	-	936	-	-	2,808	2,560
MISC. RETAIL	-	-	-	-	-	10
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,696</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,088</u>	<u>\$ 5,245</u>
LOCKERS	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FOOD CONCESSIONS	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS	-	-	2	-	-	5,169
GIFT CERTIFICATE SALES	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>428</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>372</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>\$ 428</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,541</u>
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
YTD TOTAL PARTICIPATION & REVENUE:	2,108	8,459	7,485	\$ 36,842	\$ 105,727	\$ 160,105

RECREATION CENTER
YEAR-TO-DATE PARTICIPATION & REVENUE REPORT
APRIL

MEMBERSHIPS

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
INDIVIDUAL RESIDENT	337	130	317	\$ 60,905	\$ 21,079	\$ 64,198
INDIVIDUAL NON-RESIDENT	5	-	6	2,060	-	2,110
S/Y/D RESIDENT	420	129	274	67,757	20,056	52,879
S/Y/D NON-RESIDENT	2	-	2	520	-	556
FAMILY RESIDENT	133	70	97	34,107	10,896	24,597
FAMILY NON-RESIDENT	1	-	-	735	-	-
FAMILY - ADDT'L MEMBER	13	4	-	483	150	-
SENIORS OVER 80	109	42	113	6,180	2,335	7,730
PERSONAL TRAINERS	3	-	-	1,500	-	-
MILITARY PASS	2	1	5	180	204	920
30-DAY PASS	257	285	229	10,532	12,420	12,033
SEASONAL PASS	-	-	-	-	-	-
REPLACEMENT PASS	33	4	1	33	4	1
SUB-TOTAL	1,315	665	1,044	\$ 184,992	\$ 67,143	\$ 165,024
PASS FACILITY USE	43,173	21,048	40,160			
PERCENT OF NON-RESIDENTS:	0.89%	0.00%	1.15%			

DAILY ENTRIES

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
INDIVIDUAL RESIDENT	2,552	-	1,221	\$ 20,416	\$ -	\$ 10,988
INDIVIDUAL NON-RESIDENT	212	-	106	1,908	-	1,270
S/Y/D RESIDENT	2,122	-	977	12,732	-	6,949
S/Y/D NON-RESIDENT	105	-	686	735	-	4,505
INDIVIDUAL FITNESS RESIDENT	46	-	-	264	-	-
INDIVIDUAL FITNESS NON-RESIDENT	-	-	-	-	-	-
SENIOR FITNESS RESIDENT	129	-	-	756	-	-
SENIOR FITNESS NON-RESIDENT	3	-	-	14	-	-
DAILY PASS/GIFT CERTIFICATE SALES	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUB-TOTAL	5,169	-	2,989	\$ 36,825	\$ -	\$ 23,712
PERCENT OF NON-RESIDENTS:	6.19%	-	26.47%			

OTHER REVENUE

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
DAYCAMP	1,569	-	2,682	\$ 42,370	\$ -	\$ 72,418
RECREATION PROGRAMS	8,724	11,762	7,090	43,249	8,618	55,257
FACILITY RENTALS	104	-	-	2,494	-	-
POOL/STUDIO/GYM	-	-	-	-	-	-
PARTY PAVILION	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISC. RETAIL	81	17	-	2,220	603	36
LOCKERS	9,068	1,480	4,080	2,267	370	1,020
VENDING	-	-	-	558	-	-
SUB-TOTAL	19,546	13,259	13,852	\$ 93,158	\$ 9,591	\$ 128,731

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
YTD TOTAL PARTICIPATION & REVENUE:	69,203	34,972	58,045	\$ 314,974	\$ 76,734	\$ 317,467

PIERCE LAKE GOLF COURSE
YEAR-TO-DATE PARTICIPATION & REVENUE REPORT
APRIL

GREEN FEES

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
WEEKDAYS						
REGULAR - 9	-	65	49	\$ -	\$ 676	\$ 583
SR/JR/STUDENT - 9	-	67	22	-	970	387
LEAGUES - 9	100	2,422	2,424	2,178	41,174	46,968
REGULAR - 18	2	458	763	57	13,542	9,256
SR/JR/STUDENT - 18	-	368	274	-	6,977	4,207
TWI-LIGHT	-	256	153	-	4,491	2,888
WEEKENDS						
REGULAR - 9	-	18	18	-	432	504
SR/JR/STUDENT - 9	-	9	10	-	171	235
REGULAR - 18	-	627	266	-	21,739	12,265
SR/JR/STUDENT - 18	-	2	5	-	38	190
TWI-LIGHT	-	136	123	-	3,114	3,307
EARLY BIRD - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-
MEMBERSHIPS						
ULTIMATE PACKAGE	3	255	50	2,200	20,326	43,350
WEEKDAY PACKAGE	2	71	14	1,550	14,350	11,500
WEEKEND PACKAGE	-	4	2	-	800	1,650
TWI-LIGHT PACKAGE	2	81	9	950	4,575	6,125
OUTINGS (WEEKDAYS & WEEKENDS)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	109	4,839	4,182	\$ 6,935	\$ 133,375	\$ 143,416

PROGRAMMING & RETAIL OPERATIONS

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
CARTS	-	1,937	1,379	\$ -	\$ 9,701	\$ 6,665
RENTALS	-	6	-	-	60	-
	-	1,943	1,379	\$ -	\$ 9,761	\$ 6,665
FOOD & BEVERAGE	26	3,774	2,537	\$ 1,068	\$ 13,721	\$ 7,253
PRO SHOP	6	480	275	52	5,815	4,419
DISCOUNTS	-	-	-	546	(9,242)	-
VENDING	-	-	-	-	12	-
	32	4,254	2,812	\$ 1,666	\$ 10,306	\$ 11,671
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
YTD TOTAL PARTICIPATION & REVENUE:	141	11,036	8,373	\$ 8,601	\$ 153,442	\$ 161,752

**INDEPENDENCE LAKE COUNTY PARK
YEAR-TO-DATE PARTICIPATION & REVENUE REPORT
APRIL**

	GATE					
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
RESIDENTS (ANNUAL)	176	513	377	\$ 5,280	\$ 15,390	\$ 11,310
NON-RESIDENTS (ANNUAL)	37	154	160	1,665	6,930	7,200
RESIDENTS (DAILY)	175	562	352	1,050	3,372	2,112
NON-RESIDENTS (DAILY)	165	775	564	1,650	7,750	5,640
SENIOR (DAILY)	20	55	40	60	165	120
SENIOR-NON RES. (DAILY)	4	27	13	24	162	78
BUSES (DAILY)	-	-	-	-	-	-
ANNUAL BUS	-	-	-	-	-	-
MINI BUS	-	-	-	-	-	-
ANNUAL MINI BUS	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>577</u>	<u>2,086</u>	<u>1,506</u>	<u>\$ 9,729</u>	<u>\$ 33,769</u>	<u>\$ 26,460</u>
PERCENT OF NON-RESIDENTS:						
ANNUAL	17.4%	23.1%	29.8%			
DAILY	46.4%	56.5%	59.5%			

BLUE HERON BAY ATTENDANCE

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
BHB ANNUAL PASSES	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (100)
BHB DAILY ENTRANCE	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (100)

BLUE HERON BAY RETAIL OPERATION

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
FACILITY RENTALS	-	-	5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 320
BIRTHDAY PACKAGES	-	-	-	-	-	-
SPECIAL EVENTS	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	-	-	5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 320
LOCKERS	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FOOD CONCESSIONS	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACCESSORIES/MISC.	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**INDEPENDENCE LAKE COUNTY PARK
YEAR-TO-DATE PARTICIPATION & REVENUE REPORT
APRIL**

PROGRAMMING & RETAIL OPERATIONS

	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
DAYCAMP	1,046	1,847	1,773	\$ 28,235	\$ 49,860	\$ 47,863
DISC GOLF	1,303	1,850	1,014	2,606	3,700	2,028
SPECIAL EVENTS	<u>34</u>	<u>360</u>	<u>205</u>	<u>1,425</u>	<u>4,675</u>	<u>4,205</u>
	2,383	4,057	2,992	\$ 32,266	\$ 58,235	\$ 54,096
FACILITY RENTALS						
WEEKDAYS	3	2	9	\$ 320	\$ 160	\$ 900
WEEKENDS	<u>17</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>2,050</u>	<u>4,020</u>	<u>5,350</u>
	20	34	57	\$ 2,370	\$ 4,180	\$ 6,250
ROW BOATS-HOURLY	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ROW BOATS-DAILY	-	-	-	-	-	-
PADDLE BOATS-1/2 HOUR	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FOOD CONCESSIONS	-	-	(1)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1)
ACCESSORIES/MISC.	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	-	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
YTD TOTAL PARTICIPATION & REVENUE:	2,980	6,177	4,560	\$ 44,365	\$ 96,184	\$ 87,026



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: May 10, 2022
Re: Preserve Naming Recommendation - Lost Wagon Lake Preserve

Background

In January 2022, WCPARC purchased two parcels of land in Superior Township (referred to as the Godfredson & Ranieszski parcels). The parcels are adjoined by a utility parcel owned by ITC. ITC granted WCPARC access through the utility corridor and the combined properties preserve 105 acres as shown on the attached map.

Throughout NAPP acquisition the majority of preserves are named for the previous landowner(s). NAPP acquisition in recent years has limited the option for naming rights. The naming process has also been guided by the adoption of the WPCARC policy for naming or renaming parks, preserve or facilities, including memorial honorarium features. The remaining preserves, also often more recent acquisitions, follow this policy and are named for significant natural features, in honorarium, or by the location in a municipality.

Discussion

The property highlight is the pond and wetland complex in the center of the preserve. Noted by NATAC and birding enthusiasts, the productive pond and wetland have 132 species documented on eBird.org. The WCPARC purchase of these properties provides the first public access to this waterbody. Referenced in a second memo in this packet, roughly 35 acres of land along the northern border of the property is also planned for restoration. The restored landscape and views to the pond and wetland will provide a compelling landscape for a hiking trail.

The pond/wetland complex is a designated Washtenaw County drain. Water Resources has historic surveys showing this drain existing in 1870 and named for the Clark family, owners of the western parcel (also verified by the 1874 parcel survey). In the 1915 parcel survey, the ownership has changed. Beyond the drain name, 'Clark Lake' has no current cultural or historic significance. We find ourselves with a significant natural feature without an existing name.

The naming policy describes the general practice of naming a location for a geographic area or natural/historic feature and the procedure for requesting the name through providing a written explanation justifying the request to the Director for consideration who, if approves, will present to the commission for designation. With the lake not having a recognized name, the parcels provide

an interesting naming situation. In following the policy guidelines, we are sharing a written justification of the name Lost Wagon Lake Preserve for consideration.

In researching the site and planning stewardship, we spoke with a farmer who shared a story that has provided the naming inspiration. He farmed the site for over 50 years and his father farmed before then. He shared childhood memory of his father and local friends chuckling about an incident. The story relayed was that during an especially wet season, a 'less-than-familiar' employee from the farm bureau, tried to deliver seed by driving a heavy wagon up a very muddy Gottfredson Road. He went too far, got too stuck, and lost the valuable seed and wagon in what is now the lake. The local farmers laughed at the misadventure, keeping the drivers toil as an ongoing joke. The feeling of dread and anger that the delivery man must have felt upon seeing his wheels too deep, is something even modern off-road adventurers either fear, or sympathize with.

The story continues with the driver complaining to the road commission who ultimately changed the path of Gottfredson to dissuade such troubles in the future. Although we don't have proof of this action, the 1915 survey shows Gottfredson as a straight road whereas the 1940s aerial show the current path around a nubbin of the pond edge.

The name Lost Wagon Lake Preserve embraces the whimsy of the story in an almost 'tall-tale' fashion. There is also a curious affect to the name that might just inspire visitation. On a clear day, can you see the sunken wagon? Hear the curses of the stuck delivery driver? We will have to see...

Recommendation

Based on the policy and provided written justification, it is my recommendation to name this preserve Lost Wagon Lake Preserve.

Lost Wagon Lake 2020 Aerial





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: May 10, 2022
Re: Partnership with Ducks Unlimited and US Fish and Wildlife Service – Lost Wagon Lake Preserve

Background

Since 2017, WCPARC has worked with US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Private Lands Office and Ducks Unlimited (DU) staff to restore wetlands and grasslands at Watkins Lake County Preserve, Sharon Mills County Park, and Northfield Woods Preserve. These restoration projects have been funded by the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and have resulted in increased wildlife habitat and natural resources and improved recreational experiences for our visitors.

In January 2022, WCPARC purchased two parcels of land in Superior Township (Godfredson & Ranieszski parcels) that adjoin a utility line parcel owned by ITC. ITC granted WCPARC access through the utility corridor and the combined properties preserve 120 acres. The parcels include an agricultural and fallow field along Warren Road that were identified with wetland restoration potential. Staff presented the landscape for consideration to USFWS and DU staff in late winter.

There is an additional memo in this meeting's packet discussing and requesting approval to name the location Lost Wagon Lake Preserve.

Discussion

Lost Wagon Lake Preserve was visited by USFWS, DU, and WCPARC staff in April for restoration evaluation and planning. The USFWS team identified two small wetland ponds that can be restored in the agriculture and fallow field, as shown in the attached plan. The project will result in the restoration of 30 acres of grassland and 2.5 acres of wetlands. The wetlands will be contained by a berm with a spillway for release and no water control structures will be installed.

The restoration is planned for two phases, with the western parcel planned for planting in 2022 and the eastern parcel for planting in 2023. Planting the western parcel in 2022 will eliminate the need develop a farming lease while taking advantage of the upland field conditions. Holding the eastern parcel until 2023 will allow for partners to approach ITC on possible restoration expansion. During the timeline, WCPARC staff will also be planning the parking lot and trail system with the goal to open the preserve by 2024-2025.

Similar to previous projects, USFWS will gather permits, and will work with WCRPARC staff to plan the restoration design, construction and planting. DU will fund the construction and planting costs. WCPARC will then steward the restoration for 25 years, which will require mowing in the first year after planting, annual mowing of all berms, and then regular burning or mowing to maintain grass dominance. These details will be described in the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Landowner Agreement, which will be prepared once the permit is submitted and before planting in 2022.

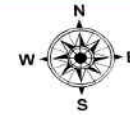
Recommendation

Based on staff review of the plans and meetings with USFWS and Ducks Unlimited, it is my recommendation to continue this partnership to restore grasslands and wetlands at Lost Wagon Lake Preserve as presented and authorize the approval of the Landowner Agreement when prepared.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Michigan Private Lands Office
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program



Washtenaw County
Superior Township
T2S R7E S12

"Lost Wagon Lake" Washtenaw County Parks Wetlands and Grassland Projects



 Property boundary

 Native Grassland

 Wetland Restoration Area

0 0.07 0.15 0.3 Miles



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
DATE: May 10, 2022
RE: Recommendation for Sales Contract: Phinney – Sylvan Township

Background

In 2021, the Phinney property in Sylvan Township was nominated to the Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program for consideration of fee simple acquisition. The Natural Areas Technical Advisory Committee (NATAC) designated as a Tier 1 priority for Round 21, as consideration for a nature preserve addition to Cavanaugh Lake County Park.

Discussion

Immediately south of the parking lot at Cavanaugh Lake County Park lies an extensive 100+ acre wetland complex. About 43 of those acres adjacent to our park are under consideration for a sales contract today. This NAPP-funded addition, once developed with trails, will add a new attraction to Cavanaugh Lake County Park and hopefully encourage users to spend more time there.

NATAC visited the site in 2021 as part of their evaluation of Round 21 nominations. The wetland under consideration is predominantly wet meadow. There are a few open waters, named Mud Lakes, and healthy tamarack stands. NATAC noted multiple times on their visit that they found no phragmites or buckthorn, and other invasive plant species were limited to habitat edges. The landowner agreed to include in his sale a small amount of upland to the west as a buffer to the wetland, should development occur on the remaining parcel. The property was identified as a Tier 1 priority for Round 21 nominations. The Assessment and Prioritization Mapping identified the property as medium-high quality and prioritized it for purchase. The Commission's NAPP scoring yielded 68/100.

Staff ordered an appraisal that was completed in April 2022. The appraised value was determined to be \$258,000 based on 43 acres, or roughly \$6,000/acre. The landowner has reviewed the appraisal and is willing to move forward at that price. NATAC recommended at their May 2, 2022 meeting to move forward with a sales contract at this price. WCPARC will own and manage the property.

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 \$258,000, to be adjusted on a per-acre basis by the surveyed acreage, for the fee simple purchase of the Phinney property in Sylvan Township as described above, contingent upon completion of all necessary due diligence investigation and final approval by the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Attachments

Phinney Property: Aerial & Soils

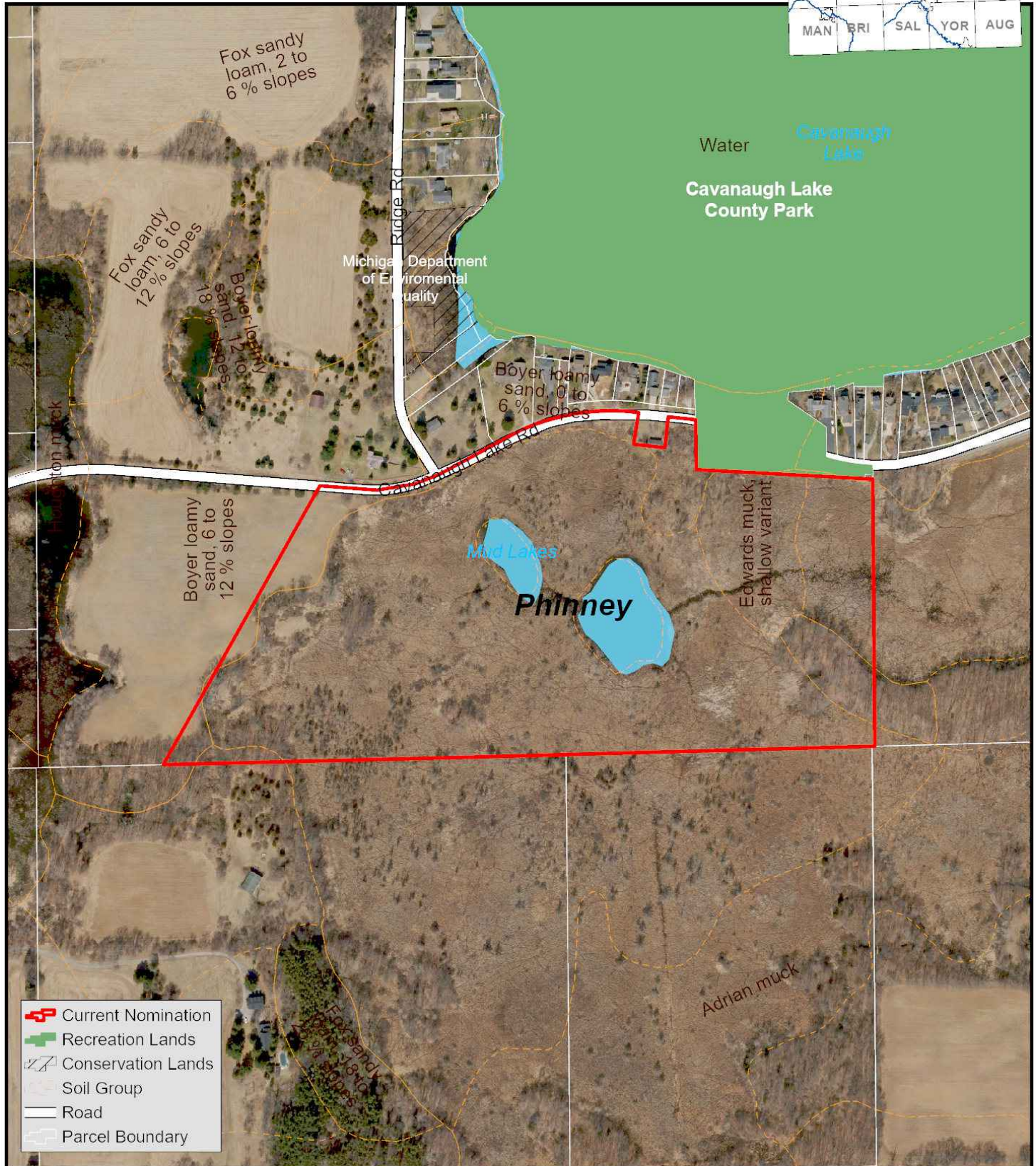
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 21.339

Sylvan Township

+/- 43 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



Phinney Property: Local Area Aerial

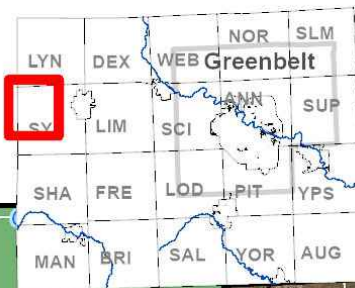
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 21.339

Sylvan Township

+/- 43 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



Phinney Property: Assessment & Prioritization Mapping

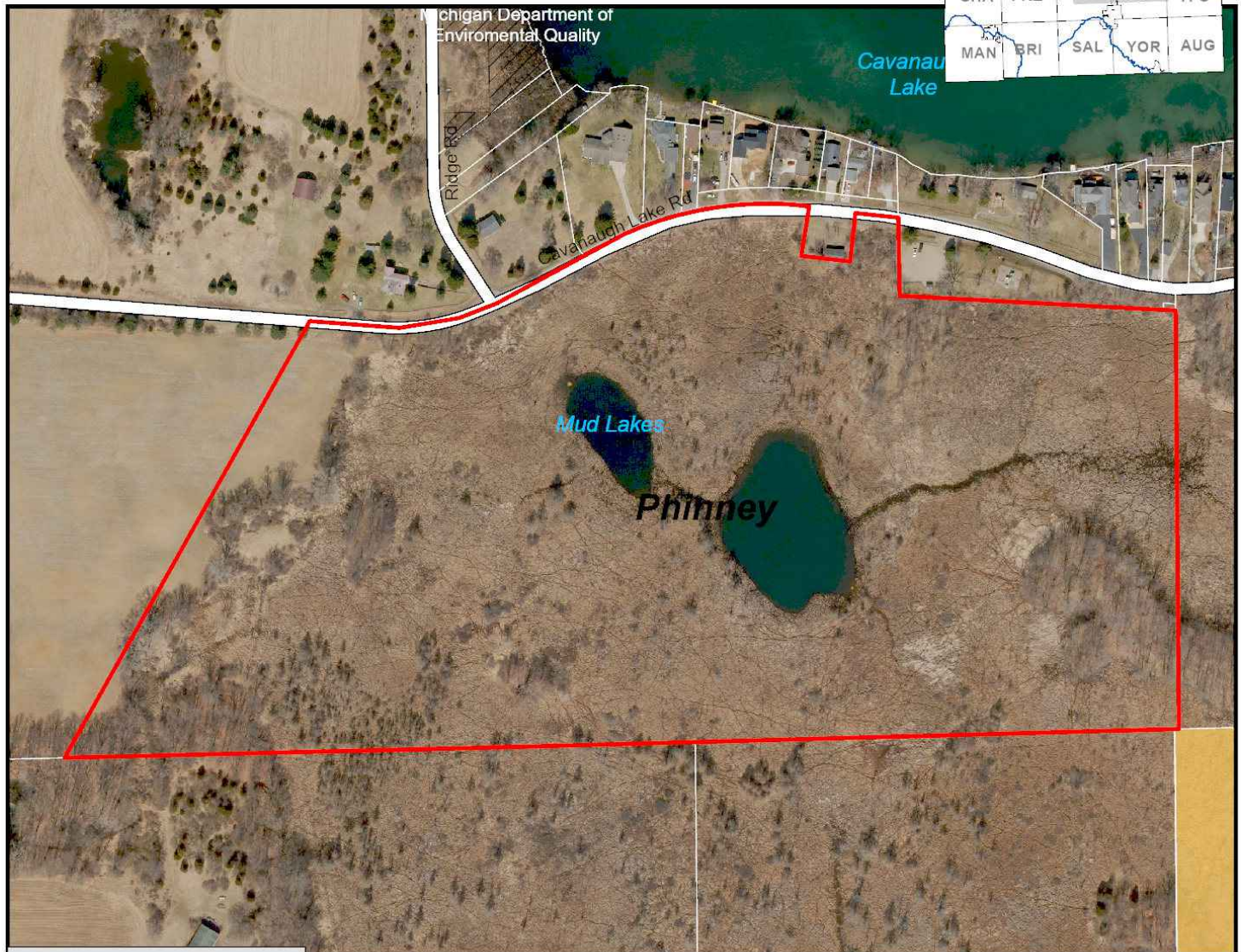
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 21.339

Sylvan Township

+/-43 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



Current Nomination

Conservation Lands

Road

Parcel Boundary

Ag Quality Assessment

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



NATAC NOMINATION - FIELD REVIEW WORKSHEET

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Project Name: Phinney ☒ Fee Simple or Easement (circle one)
 Location: Sylvan Size (acres): 20ish
 Current Use: Farm, natural area Date of Visit: 06/07/2021

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 ☒ would be expansion of existing Park preserve
 protected, and that property adjoins
 protected land

NOTES: Cavanaugh Lake Canty Park

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

NOTES:

FIELD ASSESSMENT

Names of Assessors: Tony, Sue, Dave ; Allison, Rosie, Barry

ECOSYSTEMS

Please check all that apply:

Pglustrine
☒ Submergent marsh *Terrestrial*
☒ Emergent marsh ☐ Dry prairie
☒ Wet meadow ☐ Oak savanna
☒ Wet/mesic prairie ☐ Mesic southern forest (beech-maple)
tamarack, sedge meadows ☐ Dry southern forest (oak-hickory)
☐ Lakeplain forest or prairie ☐ Other upland forest
☐ Fen
☐ Bog *Other*
☒ Inundated shrub swamp (buttonbush) ☒ River/Lake/Pond/Creek
☐ Southern shrub-carr ☐ Old farm fields
☐ Floodplain forest ☒ Active farm fields
☐ Other forested wetland ☐ Evidence of restoration

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

7ish

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

Yes, but maybe not w/ this specific combination in land

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

Blendings (ssp)

DEBRIS

Describe debris found on the site:

NATAC NOMINATION - FIELD REVIEW WORKSHEET

INVASIVE SPECIES

Distribution	Associated Species	NOTES
☐ pervasive		no phrag
☐ within interior		
☐ large monotypic stands		
☒ primarily along trails and edges	recluse	
☒ isolated pockets	reed canary	

INVENTORY

List all wildlife species seen	List plant species seen, to the best of your ability
butterfly cocoon sandhill cranes blanding's turtle dragonflies	<u>South of park</u> tamarack → tamarack savanna poison sumac reed canary baby ash (not for ash swamp) bromes tufted sedges iris yellow lady slipper orchid → good natural soil condition

FIELD NOTES

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

South of park

in fact wet meadow
not inaccessibly wet
oak island
small cattail marsh + tamaracks
high diversity of dominants
tamaracks looking healthy

west wetlands

spatterdock wetland
buttonbush wetland

center wetland

just a depressional wetland

buying full ponds

no phrag
no buckthorn

Parks Commission Scoring - Fee Simple

