



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: November 12, 2024

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Parks Administration Building, 2230 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order / Moment of Silence**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes**
 - A. October 8, 2024 Meeting (attached, pp. 1-4/action item)
- 4. Public Comment**
- 5. Communications, Projects & Activities** (attached, pp. 5-13/action item)
- 6. Financial & Recreation Reports – October 2024**
 - A. Claims Reports (attached, p. 14/action item)
 - B. Fund Balance Reports (attached, pp. 15-16/action item)
 - C. Revenue Reports (attached, pp. 17-20/action item)
- 7. Old Business**
 - A. Director Comments and Project Updates (attached, pp. 21-23/action item)
 - B. 5-Year Recreation Master Plan Presentation/Adoption (attached, pp. 24-25/action item)
 - C. NAPP – Barnett Property Final Approval (attached, pp. 26-28/action item)
 - D. NAPP – DeForest Final Approval (attached, pp. 29-31/action item)
 - E. Other Old Business
- 8. New Business**
 - A. NAPP – ALPAC Priorities (attached, pp. 32-33/action item)
 - B. NAPP – NATAC Priorities (attached, pp. 34-35/action item)
 - C. Main Street Park Alliance Presentation (presentation at meeting)
 - D. Other New Business
- 9. Commissioners Comments**
- 10. Adjournment**

Washtenaw County will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 7-day notice to Washtenaw County. Individuals requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the County of Washtenaw by writing or calling the following: Human Resources, 734-994-2410, TTD# 734/994-1733.



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: October 8, 2024

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Rolling Hills County Park, Lodge Building, 7660 Stony Creek Rd, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Members Present: Patricia Scribner, WCPARC President; Janis Bobrin, WCPARC Vice President; Dan Ezekiel, WCPARC Secretary; JoAnn McCollum, Evan Pratt, Robert Marans and Robert Joerg

Members Absent: Katie Scott, Yousef Rahbi, and Brenda McKinney

Staff Present: Coy Vaughn, Director; Meghan Bonfiglio, Deputy Director; Ginny Leikam, Superintendent of Planning and NAPP; Jason Brooks, Manager of Finance and Administration; Ann Ziolkowski, Communications Manager; Karen Harris, Parks Administration Analyst; Kyle Jasper, Communications Specialist; Rhonda Bouma, Rolling Hills Superintendent; Julie Shoner, Park & Facility Manager; Jeff Miller, Park & Facility Manager; Nick Sekerak, Park Supervisor; David Ries, Project Manager; Allison Krueger, Stewardship Planner; Kira Macyda, Park Planner; and Peter Sanderson, Project Manager.

Others Present: Tanner Sharp, Independence Lake Seasonal staff

1. Call to Order

Ms. Scribner called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of the Minutes

A. September 10, 2024 Meeting

The minutes of the September 10, 2024 regular meeting were included with the packet materials.

It was moved by Mr. Ezekiel, seconded by Ms. McCollum, to approve the minutes of the September 2024 regular meeting. All ayes, the motion was approved.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Communications, Projects & Activities

Mr. Vaughn provided an overview of the September news and communications items. He introduced Ms. Bouma, Rolling Hills Superintendent. Mr. Vaughn shared the happenings at all the facilities including Eastside Camps, Trek or Treat, Doggy Dip and 2nd Annual Craft Show at Independence Lake. Mr. Vaughn shared a Detroit PBS video from a program called, *Under the Radar*, highlighting the Michigan Folk School which featured an interview with Jason Gold, Manager of the Michigan Folk School at Staebler Farm County Park.

It was moved by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Marans, to receive and file the Communications, Projects & Activities for the months of September 2024, as submitted. All ayes, the motion was approved.

6. Consent Agenda

A. B2B Barton to Bandemer Tunnel Change Order

It was moved by Mr. Marans and seconded by Mr. Pratt authorize an amendment to the Colliers Engineering & Design contract in the amount of \$51,000.00 for the Barton to Bandemer Tunnel and Trail Project. Roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent (Rahbi, Scott and McKinney), the motion was approved.

B. Rolling Hills Trail & Loop Road repaving

It was moved by Mr. Marans and seconded by Mr. Pratt to award a Service Contract in the amount of \$350,597.00 to Cadillac Asphalt LLC and to authorize an additional 15% (\$52,589) contingency for potential change orders. Roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent (Rahbi, Scott and McKinney), the motion was approved.

C. Rolling Hills Lazy River Mechanicals Contract

It was moved by Mr. Marans and seconded by Mr. Pratt to award a contract to Innovated Energy Controls LLC, for Lazy River mechanical improvements (as defined in RFP #8660) in the amount of \$347,800 and to authorize an additional 10% contingency for potential change orders. Roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent (Rahbi, Scott and McKinney), the motion was approved.

D. Ducks Unlimited Grant Acceptance

It was moved by Mr. Marans and seconded by Mr. Pratt to accept the grant terms from Ducks Unlimited to complete restoration efforts at Staebler Farm County Park, contingent upon legal review of the final agreement. Roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent (Rahbi, Scott and McKinney), the motion was approved.

7. Financial Reports – September 2024

A. Claims Report

Mr. Brooks reported that the total for the claims for the month of September 2024 was \$1,911,707.58.

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin, seconded by Mr. Joerg, to approve the claims for the month of September 2024 as submitted. Roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent (McKinney, Scott and Rabhi), the motion was approved.

B. Fund Balance Reports

Mr. Brooks provided an update on the fund balance reports throughout September.

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin, seconded by Mr. Marans, to approve the fund balance for the month of September 2024 as submitted. All ayes, the motion carried.

C. Revenue Reports

Mr. Brooks presented the revenue reports through September 2024.

Roll call vote to receive and file the Revenue Reports for the months of September 2024. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent (McKinney, Scott and Rahbi), the motion was approved.

8. Old Business

A. Director's Comments

Mr. Vaughn provided an update on the Eastside Recreation Center and reported that Commission officers met about next steps, reaching the conclusion that it may be best to establish a subcommittee of the Commission to meet regularly about the project. He stated that immediate and next steps include defining roles and project scope, project design, and development of cost estimates. Mr. Vaughn added that the department is also evaluating a Project Manager role for this project.

Ms. Bonfiglio gave a brief master plan update, reporting that the plan is currently open for public comment and will be brought back to the Commission for final approval at the November meeting. Then will be presented to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) for approval at their December 2024 meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Joerg, to receive and file the Commission Report as part of Director's Comments for the month of September 2024, as submitted. All ayes, the motion was approved.

B. NAPP-VanBuhler Final Approval

Ms. Krueger discussed details of the request for final approval to purchase the VanBuhler easement. She explained that the conservation easement across this property will protect wetlands and open water habitats from any future development that could damage these natural resources.

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin, seconded by Mr. Joerg to authorize purchase of a conservation easement on the VanBuhler property as in the amount of \$89,000 and authorize that \$15,000 be contributed to the stewardship special revenue funds for the future monitoring and enforcement of the conservation easement. Roll call vote, 7 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent (Rahbi, Scott and McKinney), the motion was approved.

9. New Business

A. Parks Ellis Property Sales Contract

Ms. Bonfiglio discussed the Ellis Property, located adjacent to Sharon Mills County Parks, that was nominated for purchase in Spring 2024. Staff evaluated the nomination and considered it better suited for parks acquisition given its adjacency to the historic mill, lack of natural areas, and potential for park-related recreational improvements. The Ellis parcels would provide more direct trail access between the mill and hiking trails, provide additional future parking opportunities, and improved water access. There was stronger interest in the parcels' southern area, for its adjacency to the shoreline and the fact that the remaining parcel contains 2 houses, one of which has renters.

Ms. Bonfiglio asked to move forward with the acquisition based on adjusting the existing parcel boundaries as identified in the maps and approval to prepare a sales contract to purchase the southern 1.9 acres and request a Right of First Refusal on the northern parcel for future consideration by WCPARC.

It was moved by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Bobrin, that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize a sales contract for the purchase of the Ellis property in the amount of \$170,000, contingent upon completion of the parcel boundary change, all necessary due diligence investigation and final approval. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent (Scott, Rabhi and McKinney), the motion was approved.

B. Connecting Communities

Ms. Macyda provided an overview of funding totals from 2010-2023 totaling 50 projects. She then broke down requesting funding for the 2024 current projects. Staff is currently reviewing the 2024 applications and will bring recommendations back to the Commission at their December meeting.

C. Other New Business

None.

10. Commissioner's Comments

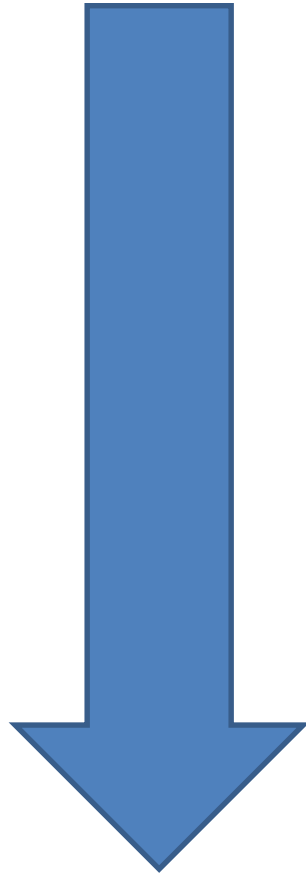
Mr. Vaughn noted that the PBS Folk School video has already received 2.2 million views after just 3 days of being posted. He also noted that for the December meeting there will be a ribbon cutting at B2B near M-52 at noon prior to the regularly scheduled 2 p.m. December Commission meeting.

11. Adjournment

It was moved by Ms. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Ezekiel, to adjourn. All ayes, the motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Communications, Projects & Activities



OCTOBER 2024 NEWS COVERAGE

mLive - Demolition of shuttered school set. Where do plans for Ypsilanti-area rec center stand?, 10/16/2024 - <https://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/2024/10/demolition-of-shuttered-school-set-where-do-plans-for-ypsilanti-area-rec-center-stand.html>

Concentrate - Top 5 places to see fall colors in Washtenaw County, 10/16/2024 - <https://www.secondwavemedia.com/concentrate/features/fallcolors0744.aspx>

mLive - From grist mill to historic park: Washtenaw County buying more land for Sharon Mills, 10/17/2024 - <https://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/2024/10/from-grist-mill-to-historic-park-washtenaw-county-buying-more-land-for-sharon-mills.html>

Manchester Mirror - Sharon Mills Park to become contiguous with land purchase, 10/28/2024 - <https://themanchestermirror.com/2024/10/28/sharon-mills-park-to-become-contiguous-with-land-purchase/>

Meghan Bonfiglio

Subject: FW: So Much to Celebrate

From: TART Trails <julie@traversetrails.org>
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2024 5:15:10 AM
To: Roy Townsend <townsendr@washtenaw.org>
Subject: So Much to Celebrate

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.



Greetings TARTans,

Last week the TART team took the show on the road traveling to the Ann Arbor area to uncover the magic behind trail development in the trail state of Michigan. With incredible insights from our guides at **Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation**, the **Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative**, and the **Treeline Conservancy**, we learned about their trail triumphs—including two millages on the ballot!—and the challenges they navigate. The enthusiasm of community support, local leadership, robust public funding, and dynamic public/private partnerships are the secret sauce for creating thriving trails. Our adventure wasn't just a great team bonding experience (though let's be real—8 hour long road trips bring a whole new level of camaraderie); it was a chance to gather and share knowledge as we tackle many of the same hurdles. Witnessing the strides this area has made is nothing short of inspiring, especially as they work towards a future of seamless regional trail connectivity. As we apply the lessons learned and gear up for our own upcoming ribbon cuttings, it feels fantastic to know that we're all dedicated to strengthening community connections. Together, we're making Michigan a healthier, happier place to call home.



Thanks to Norte and Brick Wheels for the sweet rides for our field trip to visit trail friends in Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County. And huge thanks to staff from the County, HWPI and Treeline Conservancy for the tour. We rode more than 25 miles along the **Border to Border Trail** sharing tricks of the trail trade, we had the opportunity to learn from one another—talking construction materials, organizational funding structures, collaborations with government partners, and geeking out over improved trail/river/road/rail crossings. We are so grateful to all who made our trip educational, informative, and inspiring! We can't wait to return the favor, up in our neck of the woods.

Alice Penrose, MD, MPH
2115 Nature Cove Court #305
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
PO Box 8645
Ann Arbor, MI 48107

Dear Parks and Recreation Commission:

I would like to recommend you change the signage on the bathrooms in your parks. At present in the County Farm Park, there is one bathroom labelled for men and one for women. There appears to be no difference between the bathrooms. If they were labelled "all genders" or "unisex" it would be helpful. As it is, I have often seen women waiting in line when the men's bathroom is not being used.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alice Penrose". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Respectfully,".



Digital Report - October 2024

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 - October 2024

SOCIAL MEDIA

Profiles

Review your aggregate profile and page metrics from the reporting period.

↑ Ascending by Profile

Profile	Audience	Net Audience Growth	Published Posts	Impressions	Engagements
Reporting Period	45,851	70	72	87,650	1,782
Oct 1, 2024 – Oct 31, 2024	↗ 0.2%	↘ 34.6%	→ 0%	↗ 40.5%	↘ 60.4%
Compare to	45,781	107	72	147,233	4,497
Sep 1, 2024 – Sep 30, 2024					
Blue Heron Bay	2,307	-1	0	647	0
Independence Lake Co...	3,405	9	17	11,287	128
Meri Lou Murray Recre...	1,680	3	11	3,929	60
Pierce Lake Golf Course	1,206	6	0	11,405	0
Rolling Hills County Park	26,514	-2	5	39,823	642
Washtenaw County Par...	7,141	24	19	14,391	635
washtenawcountyparks	3,598	31	20	6,168	317

Instagram

Rolling Hills

Total Followers

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
1,514	1,516	

Top Post - Trek or Treat

How many people reacted to posts

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
43	10	

Instagram

WCPARC

Total Followers

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
3,605	3,572	3,241

Top Post - Fall Hikes

How many people reacted to posts

This Month	Last Month	Last Year
51	86	



Digital Report - October 2024

Facebook/Instagram - Top Posts

Rolling Hills Post



 Rolling Hills County Park

Thu 10/24/2024 10:57 am EDT

BIG NEWS! In the coming weeks, beginning Nov 4., all paved trails and ring road at Rolling Hills will be having...



Impressions

8,040



WCPARC Post



 Washtenaw County Park...

Fri 10/11/2024 10:00 am EDT

Join us Sunday for the last Sharon Mills Open House of the season at Sharon Mills County Park in Manchester!...



Impressions

1,897





Digital Report - October 2024

Website, Newsletter, News

Website Statistics

washtenaw.org/parks

Total Page Visits	This Month	Last Month	. Last Year
	11,668	18,334	

Title	URL	Page views % of total	Visits % of total
Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center Washtenaw County, MI	https://www.washtenaw.org/497/Meri-Lou-Murray-Recreation-Center	4,815 21.9%	3,506 30.8%
Parks & Recreation Washtenaw County, MI	https://www.washtenaw.org/289/Parks-Recreation	966 4.4%	805 7.1%
Get Involved with Washtenaw County Parks Washtenaw County, MI	https://www.washtenaw.org/660/Job-Volunteer-Opportunities	840 3.8%	485 4.3%
Nelson Meade County Farm Park Washtenaw County, MI	https://www.washtenaw.org/421/County-Farm-Park	726 3.3%	616 5.4%
Fitness Classes Washtenaw County, MI	https://www.washtenaw.org/500/Fitness-Classes	702 3.2%	416 3.7%

Monthly Newsletter

WCPARC 42% open rate

Newsletter via MailChimp		
Sent to	Opened	Clicks
31,424	18,080	1,101

Newsletter non MailChimp		
Sent to	Opened	Clicks
N/A	N/A	

Photo Ambassador October Collage





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

October 2024 - Claims Report

PARK / FACILITY / FUNCTION	UTILITIES	DIRECT PURCHASES	OTHER	TOTAL
Administration	\$ 978.44	\$ 2,689.57	\$ 90,904.63	\$ 94,572.64
Recreation Center	1,258.39	5,372.76	29,698.04	36,329.19
Park Maintenance	670.29	13,248.00	12,561.83	26,480.12
Pierce Lake Golf Course	3,498.07	4,016.78	20,141.47	27,656.32
Independence Lake	1,964.05	7,703.22	4,947.56	14,614.83
Rolling Hills	4,673.22	7,791.93	8,336.42	20,801.57
Parker Mill	158.22	-	33.00	191.22
Sharon Mills	122.58	-	821.26	943.84
Staebler Farm	1,742.25	5,886.41	9,611.18	17,239.84
Swift Run Dog Park	-	-	-	-
Capital Improvement	-	-	98,700.06	98,700.06
Committed Funding Partnerships	-	-	-	-
Commission	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL	\$ 15,065.51	\$ 46,708.67	\$ 275,755.45	\$ 337,529.63
 Road Millage Fund	 -	 -	 723,647.60	 723,647.60
SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 723,647.60	\$ 723,647.60
 Natural Areas Preservation Program				
Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,630.94	\$ 6,630.94
Preserve Management	-	5,589.36	5,997.00	\$ 11,586.36
NATAC	-	-	-	\$ -
Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,603.00	\$ 9,603.00
Annual Monitoring	-	-	-	\$ -
ALPAC	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ 5,589.36	\$ 22,230.94	\$ 27,820.30
 TOTAL	 \$ 15,065.51	 \$ 52,298.03	 \$ 1,021,633.99	 \$ 1,088,997.53

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

\$ 1,088,997.53

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FUND BALANCE STATEMENT - OCTOBER 31, 2024

#6b

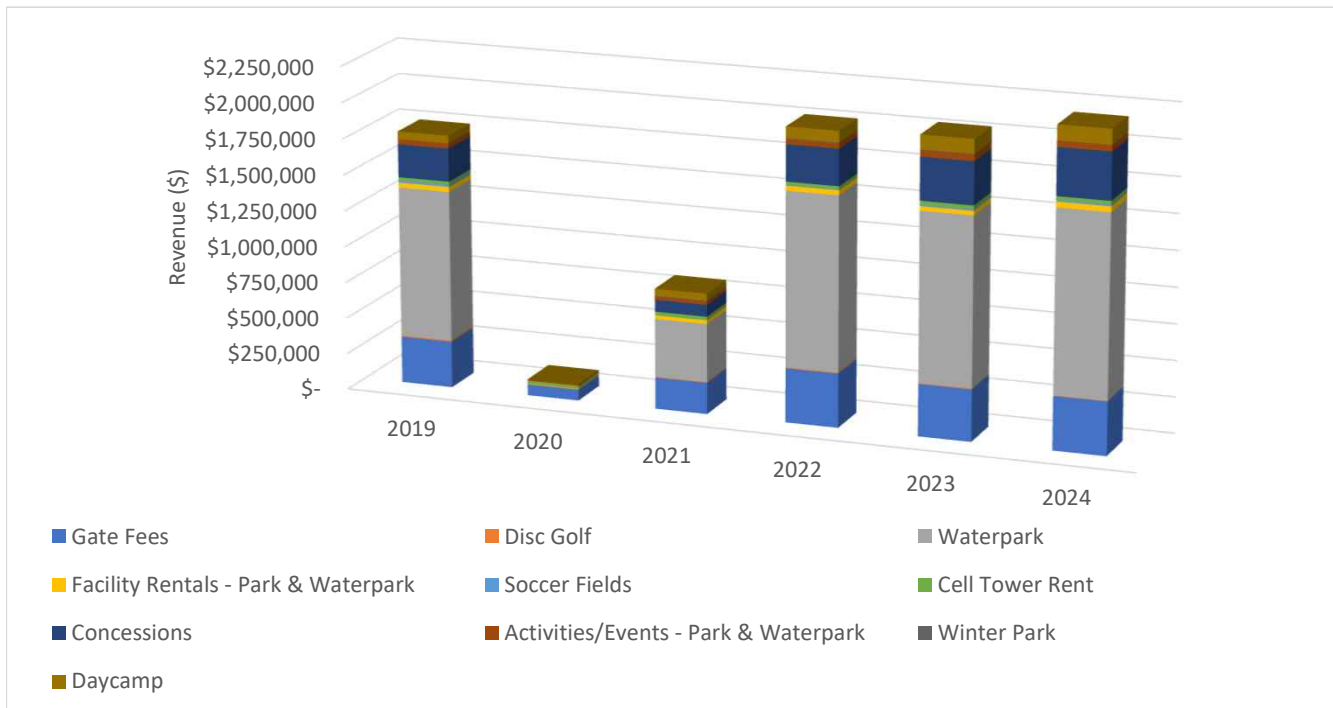
Beginning Fund Balance (1/1/24)	13,802,302		83%	YTD % Budget	
Revenue (Budget)		Revenue (Actual)			Variance
Property Tax	9,798,849	10,001,827		102%	202,978
State Grant Funds	-	-			-
Fees & Services	4,415,000	4,732,288		107%	317,288
Interest Earnings	300,000	723,466		241%	423,466
Other Revenue & Reimb.	<u>661,980</u>	<u>89,752</u>		14%	<u>(572,228)</u>
Total Revenue	15,175,829	15,547,333		102%	371,504
Expense (Budget)		Expense (Actual)			Variance
Personnel Services	(7,558,812)	(6,491,437)		86%	1,067,375
Supplies & Other Services	(3,505,990)	(2,781,822)		79%	724,168
Internal Service Charges	(1,182,210)	(1,009,888)		85%	172,322
Capital					
Land Acquisition	-	-		-	-
CIP/Development	(3,100,000)	(796,973)		26%	2,303,027
Contingency	(200,000)	(32,898)		16%	167,102
Machinery & Equipment	<u>(797,330)</u>	<u>(716,024)</u>		90%	<u>81,306</u>
Capital Subtotal	(4,097,330)	(1,545,894)		38%	2,551,436
Transfers Out	(1,190,540)	-			
Total Expense	<u>(17,534,882)</u>	<u>(11,829,041)</u>		67%	4,515,301
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2,359,053)	3,718,292			
Operating Reserve	(9,798,849)	(9,798,849)			
2024 Funding Commitments (Partnerships)	<u>(4,780,000)</u>	<u>-</u>			
	(14,578,849)	(9,798,849)			
Projected Fund Balance (12/31/24)	<u>6,663,249</u>	<u>17,520,594</u>			

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION PROGRAM
FUND BALANCE STATEMENT - SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Beginning Fund Balance (1/1/24)	9,421,113	75%	YTD % Budget	
Revenue (Budget)		Revenue (Actual)		Variance
Property Tax	5,190,155	5,318,352	102%	128,197
Federal Revenue	-	-		-
State Revenue	-	4,000		
Interest Earnings	100,000	516,771	517%	416,771
Other Revenue & Reimb.	<u>5,000</u>	<u>93,837</u>	1877%	<u>88,837</u>
Total Revenue	5,295,155	5,932,959	112%	633,804
Expense (Budget)		Expense (Actual)		Variance
Personnel Services	(815,111)	(554,618)	68%	260,493
Supplies & Other Services	(1,004,200)	(703,475)	70%	300,725
Internal Service Charges	(31,532)	(24,603)	78%	6,929
Capital				
Land Acquisition	(2,900,000)	(1,362,509)	47%	1,537,491
Land Development	-	-		-
Machinery & Equipment	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>(6,002)</u>	12%	<u>43,998</u>
Capital Subtotal	(2,950,000)	(1,368,510)	46%	1,581,490
Total Expense	<u>(4,800,843)</u>	<u>(2,651,207)</u>	55%	2,149,636
Surplus/(Deficit)	494,312	3,281,753		
Projected Fund Balance (12/31/24)	9,915,425	12,702,866		

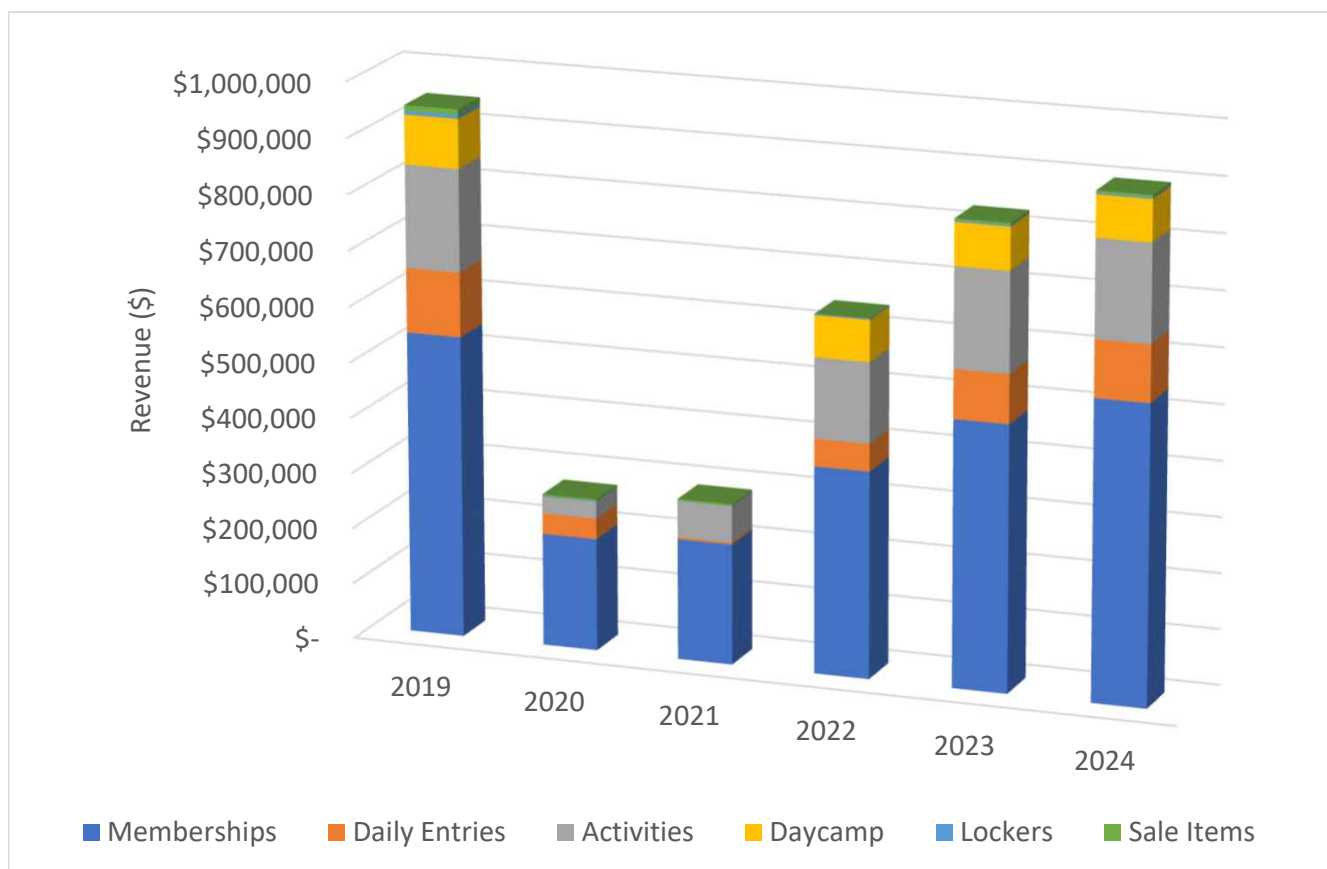
Rolling Hills County Park Revenue Report - October

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Gate Fees	\$ 322,301	\$ 74,626	\$ 217,765	\$ 375,165	\$ 360,237	\$ 372,403
Disc Golf	\$ 8,818	\$ 5,364	\$ 5,802	\$ 6,032	\$ 5,682	\$ 3,497
Waterpark	\$ 1,039,674	\$ 48	\$ 402,006	\$ 1,209,698	\$ 1,171,941	\$ 1,265,106
Facility Rentals - Park & Waterpark	\$ 34,958	\$ 1,375	\$ 25,510	\$ 34,629	\$ 30,486	\$ 39,321
Soccer Fields	\$ 15,200	\$ 550	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 8,890	\$ 10,800
Cell Tower Rent	\$ 22,083	\$ 20,465	\$ 23,428	\$ 24,131	\$ 27,275	\$ 25,601
Concessions	\$ 229,584	\$ -	\$ 81,954	\$ 253,313	\$ 296,182	\$ 326,894
Activities/Events - Park & Waterpark	\$ 35,362	\$ 9,280	\$ 24,773	\$ 36,300	\$ 45,067	\$ 41,958
Winter Park	\$ 1,218	\$ -	\$ 5,088	\$ 5,245	\$ 4,600	\$ 2,180
Daycamp	\$ 52,405	\$ -	\$ 47,485	\$ 78,648	\$ 98,497	\$ 105,112
Totals:	\$ 1,761,603	\$ 111,708	\$ 835,311	\$ 2,026,161	\$ 2,048,857	\$ 2,192,872



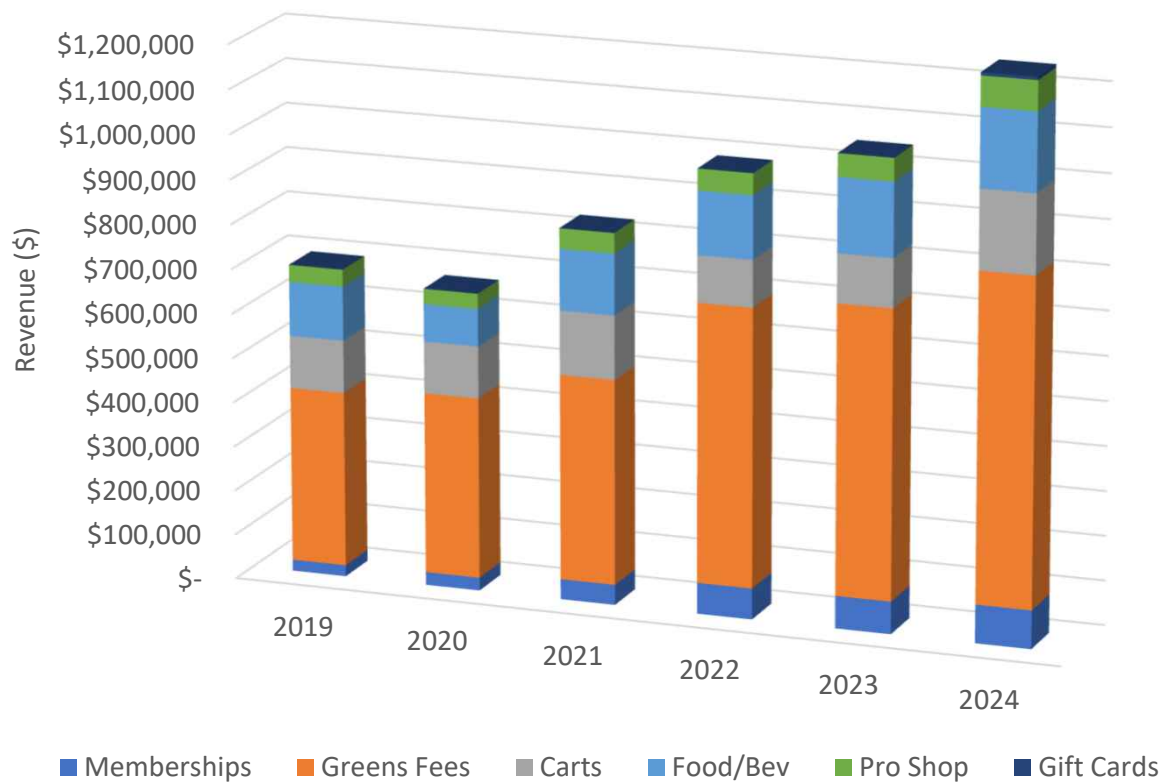
Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center Revenue Report - October

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Memberships	\$ 541,588	\$ 201,450	\$ 216,446	\$ 371,333	\$ 478,815	\$ 539,009
Daily Entries	\$ 116,020	\$ 37,275	\$ 3,602	\$ 49,268	\$ 88,228	\$ 102,714
Activities	\$ 184,619	\$ 29,042	\$ 64,538	\$ 144,478	\$ 180,462	\$ 176,296
Daycamp	\$ 89,077	\$ 630	\$ 360	\$ 74,590	\$ 77,066	\$ 75,341
Rentals	\$ 5,432	\$ 2,554	\$ 2,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Lockers	\$ 6,857	\$ 2,267	\$ 930	\$ 2,158	\$ 2,573	\$ 2,565
Vending	\$ 1,425	\$ 1,208	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sale Items	\$ 9,973	\$ 2,526	\$ 2,915	\$ 85	\$ 3,618	\$ 4,033
Totals:	\$ 954,991	\$ 276,952	\$ 291,191	\$ 641,912	\$ 830,762	\$ 899,958



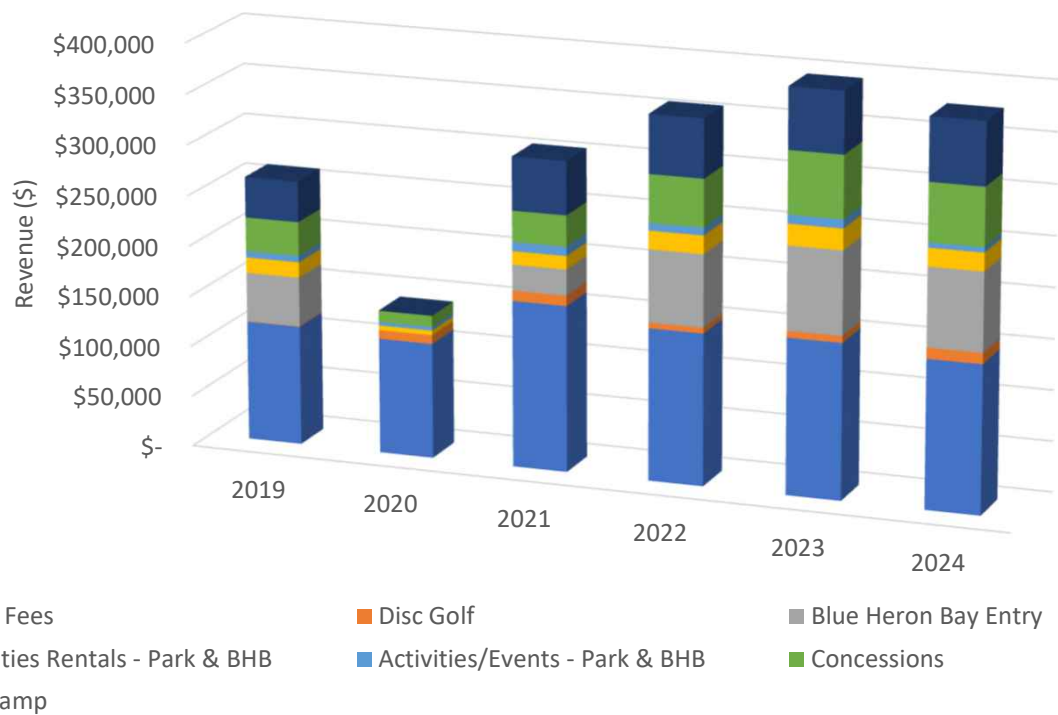
Pierce Lake Golf Course Revenue Report - October

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Memberships	\$ 25,175	\$ 28,883	\$ 45,194	\$ 69,455	\$ 72,908	\$ 86,230
Greens Fees	\$ 391,802	\$ 405,718	\$ 460,507	\$ 625,424	\$ 649,222	\$ 735,355
Carts	\$ 118,202	\$ 116,564	\$ 143,336	\$ 105,067	\$ 109,556	\$ 178,201
Food/Bev	\$ 121,268	\$ 83,921	\$ 137,050	\$ 141,957	\$ 166,645	\$ 176,123
Pro Shop	\$ 38,398	\$ 34,187	\$ 45,684	\$ 48,058	\$ 51,579	\$ 67,216
Gift Cards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,652
Totals:	\$ 694,845	\$ 669,273	\$ 831,771	\$ 989,961	\$ 1,049,910	\$ 1,256,777



Independence Lake County Park Revenue Report - October

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Gate Fees	\$ 117,729	\$ 113,701	\$ 164,153	\$ 150,231	\$ 154,146	\$ 146,854
Disc Golf	\$ 542	\$ 8,592	\$ 10,244	\$ 5,726	\$ 6,846	\$ 10,920
Blue Heron Bay Entry	\$ 48,563	\$ -	\$ 25,556	\$ 71,479	\$ 82,464	\$ 77,865
Facilities Rentals - Park & BHB	\$ 15,262	\$ 4,730	\$ 13,240	\$ 18,133	\$ 21,050	\$ 18,150
Activities/Events - Park & BHB	\$ 6,387	\$ 3,579	\$ 9,122	\$ 7,632	\$ 8,823	\$ 5,113
Concessions	\$ 33,469	\$ 11,026	\$ 30,547	\$ 47,244	\$ 61,881	\$ 57,625
Boat Rentals	\$ 4,503	\$ -	\$ 5,583	\$ 3,487	\$ 4,117	\$ 4,565
Daycamp	\$ 40,217	\$ 150	\$ 52,910	\$ 58,036	\$ 60,906	\$ 62,233
Totals:	\$ 266,672	\$ 141,778	\$ 311,355	\$ 361,968	\$ 400,233	\$ 383,325





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
DATE: November 12, 2024
RE: Project and Activities Update – October 2024

Park Facility Events and Projects

Independence Lake Park

- Twenty-seven people attended the “Glow Disc Golf Glow Tournament” on October 11.
- Twelve families participated in the “Owl Prowl” night hike on October 11.
- Eighty people attended the “Howl-o-Ween” trick or treat trail event on October 25.
- The park is offering yoga classes on Wednesday evenings throughout the fall.
- Twelve people contributed 54 volunteer hours with “Explore and Restore Woods, Wetlands and Prairies” offered every Thursday through November.
- Parks staff, along with the JFR consultant team, continue to finalize design documents, including the site plan for a new maintenance building. The team has conducted multiple site visits to garner additional information from staff about operational needs, as well as to gain a better understanding of the existing infrastructure. Soil borings, along with an asbestos report have been completed and the team is awaiting the results as construction documents progress.
- Parks staff met on site with an asphalt contractor to determine best management practices to repair the existing pathways.

Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center

- The facility hosted a “Halloween Bash” on October 26. Eighty-six people attended the event, which included two bounce houses, an obstacle course, an eight-station spooky trail in County Farm Park, DJ, and snacks.
- The final week of October offered free group exercise classes. Twenty-two classes were offered and included Pilates, Zumba, judo, yoga, tai chi, strength and conditioning, and more.
- WCPARC staff continues to work with the JFR Consultants to review the latest floor plans and estimate for the Natatorium renovations. Staff is in the process of reviewing finishes and procuring a contract with TEC to perform soil borings. Lighting is currently being evaluated to ensure that it meets both code and pool industry standards. Staff has instructed the architect to evaluate cost reduction measures, while still maintaining the overall design intent.
- Staff have begun discussions with the University of Michigan’s Student Accessibility & Accommodations Services and Adaptive Sports and Fitness program to create wheelchair sports opportunities for Washtenaw County residents.

Rolling Hills Park

- 65 dogs and their owners attended “Pawtober” event on October 5.
- 880 people participated in “Trek or Treat” on October 5. This year, 14 themed stations were located along the 1.5-mile trail.

- Running Fit held “Run Scream Run” trail run on October 12, with event proceeds benefiting Friends of the Border 2 Border Trail.
- A2 Glow hosted “Haunting at the Hills” disc golf tournament on October 19.
- Staff met with Cadillac Asphalt to review the plan and timeline for paved pathway and roadway repairs. Work is expected to begin November 4.
- Willow Run Composite Squadron utilized the open fields at the park to perform model rocket launching for 24 Cadets.
- Construction on the new shade canopies and patio adjacent to the concessions area has begun. Footings have been dug and inspected. Construction is expected to be completed this year, in time for the next busy waterpark season. This will complete the concessions renovations projects.

Staebler Farm Park

- The Contractor for Blackbird Lodge is presently addressing the remaining warranty items noted on the walk-through last month. Final invoice has been paid and the project is expected to be closed out this year. Work is expected to be completed by the end of October.
- Consultants from The Collaborative have submitted engineering plans for the Farmhouse Renovation project for permit review to all respective agencies. Technical specifications and RFP are being prepared for release for bids once permits are approved.

Special Initiatives

Border to Border Trail (B2B)

- Segment CS3 (N. Territorial Rd to Boyce Rd in Lyndon Twp): Installation of the concrete boardwalk is nearly complete with an anticipated opening in early December.
- Segment DAA7 (Barton-Bandemer Tunnel and Trail, in partnership with the City of Ann Arbor):
 - o Trail segment: Construction of the trail from Barton Dam, heading east across the Barton Nature Area, is complete, including plantings and restoration.
 - o Tunnel portion: The contractor, Davis Construction, and the project team have initiated the process in anticipation of summer 2025 construction.
- Engineering and permitting are in various stages for the following trail segments:
 - o Segment DAA4 (Delhi Metropark to Wagner Rd): Permit review at Amtrak is in process.
 - o Segment DAA6 (Barton Dam to Maple Rd): Stantec continues to develop the preliminary engineering plans.

Connecting Communities

- Staff has been reviewing projects and scoring applications; additional follow-up with applicants is needed to help with evaluation.
- Staff anticipates providing recommendations that the December Parks Commission meeting.

Comprehensive Master Plan

- The Recreation Master Plan’s final draft was available for public review on September 16, and was open for public comment until October 25.
- A Public Hearing was held on October 24, at Blackbird Lodge at Staebler Farm County Park. Four people attended the meeting.
- The final edits to the Recreation Master Plan are being made. It will be presented to the Parks Commission for adoption in November and the Board of Commissioners on December 4.
- PROS Consulting continues to work with Director Vaughn and Deputy Director Bonfiglio to develop the Strategic Master Plan.

Natural Areas Preservation Program (NAPP)

Stewardship

- WCPARC hosted BOW hunters and mentors at Sharon Mills County Park for the third year of educational archery programming. After classroom and range instruction, the team hunted at Watkins Lake and River Raisin preserves and at Sharon Mills County Park. Two doe and one buck were harvested from these locations. BOW and MiOFO will be hunting at Leonard Preserve for archery and firearm deer hunting seasons.
- The Jackson Lenawee Washtenaw Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (JLW CISMA) is reimbursing WCPARC \$1,500 for the control of Stiltgrass at Watkins Lake County Preserve. This work is funded through the Michigan Invasive Species Control Program Grant.
- The retention basin at County Farm Park has been replanted with native species through a contract with PlantWise. These improvements were partially funded through a grant from Washtenaw County Water Resources.
- Stewardship work occurred at Whitmore Lake, Northfield Woods, Watkins Lake, Burns-Stokes, Baker Woods, West Lake and Leonard preserves and at County Farm and Parker Mill parks.
- A prescribed fire was completed at Whitmore Lake Preserve, which included habitat from the planted prairie and adjacent woodlands.

Acquisitions

- Closing is scheduled on December 2nd for the 66.41-acre Weidmayer K 2 conservation easement located in Freedom Township, at a total purchase price of \$623,508.88 (\$296,070.50 from an MDARD grant, \$327,438.38 from WCPARC).

Volunteering and Educational Programming

Educational Programming

- 802 patrons attended nature programs that included public mill tours, field trips, archery, family owl hikes, sunrise and mindfulness hikes.

Michigan Folk School

- Classes: 168 students attended 31 classes including basketry, blacksmithing, fiber, gardening, leather, homesteading, and sewing.
- Nearly 1,300 people attended the first “Folk Festival” on October 12,

Volunteer Programs

- 101 volunteers provided 325 hours of service, which is a 54% increase over 2023 hours.
- The Preserve Community Stewardship Team program was launched; six initial volunteers registered to adopt and steward Fox Science Preserve, Independence Lake County Park, Scio Woods Preserve, and West Lake Preserve.
- 16 volunteers contributed close to 75 hours at the MLMRC “Halloween Bash.”
- Hosted the fall Volunteer Appreciation event at County Farm Park.



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: November 12, 2024
Re: Adoption of the *2025-2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan*

Background

Since 1976, the Washtenaw County parks system has been supported, in part, by a voter-approved millage dedicated exclusively to the purpose of acquiring, developing, maintaining, and operating parks, preserves and recreational facilities for the benefit of Washtenaw County citizens. The preparation of a master plan to invest those public funds is necessary and prudent. It facilitates public discourse in a participatory process that clearly guides the orderly development of a successful parks system.

Discussion

The master plan is the “blueprint” for the strategic investment of public funds for recreational purposes. It is prepared every five years, building on previous planning efforts, and incorporates extensive public input and considers trends in the recreation industry.

The *2025-2029 5-Year Parks & Recreation Master Plan* describes the administrative structure of the Parks Commission; provides a historic framework for anticipated investments; inventories existing recreational opportunities throughout the County; documents the public engagement and participation process; defines the goals and objectives that guide the current planning effort, including those that support recreation opportunities in underserved and underrepresented areas of the county; and details the capital investments anticipated from 2025 through 2029.

In addition to adoption of the plan by the WCPARC, approval by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners is also required to maintain the eligibility of the Parks Commission to compete for and receive various grants for acquisition and development activities from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Since 1977, WCPARC has been awarded more than \$9.3 million in MDNR grants for recreation and land preservation projects. The MDNR has been an invaluable partner in the past, and completion of this planning effort will ensure that relationship continues well into the future.

Recommendation

After a comprehensive planning process, which included extensive public engagement, it is my recommendation that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission adopt the *2025-2029 5-Year Parks & Recreation Master Plan*.

Attachment

Resolution.

The *2025-2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan* may be found here: <https://www.washtenaw.org/2860>.



25



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
DATE: November 12, 2024
RE: Recommendation for Final Approval: Barnett Property – Northfield Township

Background

In 2012, several contiguous properties located in Northfield Township were nominated to the Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program (NAPP) as part of Round 12 for consideration of acquisition. The site visits identified a diverse landscape including upland woods, open fields, a significant portion of Lawton Lake and extensive wetlands. These parcels were subsequently purchased in 2013 and became what is now known as the Whitmore Lake Preserve. Since that time, the preserve continues to grow. In 2022 and earlier in 2023, two additions to Whitmore Lake Preserve were purchased, making Whitmore Lake Preserve one of our largest preserves at over 350 acres with 2.7 miles of trails. Counters installed along the trail at the preserve show that it is a popular destination, receiving hundreds of visits each month. Active volunteers on site maintain a little library along the main trail and have confirmed bobolinks and other birds of interest reside in the landscape.

Discussion

The approximate half-acre Barnett property is adjacent to Whitmore Lake Preserve. The parcel is a residential lot along East Shore Drive and is a unique nomination to NAPP for consideration. Rather than the usual list of protected natural resources, the acquisition of this parcel is recommended for the potential to improve connectivity and accessibility to the preserve for the community along East Shore Drive. Described by Natural Areas Technical Advisory Committee (NATAC) as a community benefit, this parcel would provide a highly visible entrance to welcome visitors to the preserve.

The current public entrance is along Seven Mile Road, a few miles from the community along East Shore Drive. Future development of this property could include a parking lot, trails, and ultimately a connection to the existing hiking trails within Whitmore Lake Preserve.

An appraisal was completed in May 2024, and determined the value for the fee simple acquisition is \$95,000. NATAC reviewed the appraisal at their May 2024 meeting. NATAC recognized the value of the site for public use and recommended discussing a donation with the landowner. Staff approached the landowner who approved a donation of \$15,000 to reduce the cost of the parcel to \$80,000. NATAC met in June 2024 and recommended acquisition with the reduced price. The Commission approved the sales contract in June 2024, contingent upon completion of due diligence, which is now done.

- A boundary survey has been completed with legal descriptions for the conservation easement.
- A Phase I environmental site assessment was completed and no REC's were identified.

Recommendation

Based upon the review by the Natural Areas Technical Advisory Committee, along with other background information, it is my recommendation the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission approve the fee simple purchase of the Barnett property as identified in attached maps in the amount of \$80,000, contingent upon completion of all necessary due diligence investigation and final approval of the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. I further recommend that \$1,000 be contributed to the stewardship special revenue funds for the future management of the property.

Attachments

2024

Whitmore Lake Preserve - Barnett Acquisition





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: November 12, 2024
Re: DeForest Conservation Easement – Final Approval

Background

The 116.73-acre DeForest farm located in Salem Township was reviewed and prioritized in Round 20. The property is adjacent to two farm properties already protected by the City of Ann Arbor Greenbelt.

Discussion

Based on the ALPAC scoring system, the property scored 63 points, for the percentage of prime soils (75%), adjacency to active farmland, and proximity to other protected land. In March 2023, an application to USDA's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) was submitted and subsequently awarded funds for 50% of the conservation easement value.

An appraisal was completed in December 2023. The appraised value for the conservation easement was determined to be \$7,475/acre for 114 acres. The final purchase price, based on the updated survey acres is \$872,556. The USDA grant will cover \$428,000 (49%) and the City of Ann Arbor's Greenbelt program has been requested to contribute \$214,000 (24.5%). The remaining purchase price (\$230,556) will come from the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Committee's (ALPAC) funds.

The sale is contingent upon completion of due diligence.

- Appraisal was completed for the property in October 2023.
- Phase I Environmental Site Assessment completed in June 2024 by ASTI and showed no recognized environmental conditions.
- A boundary survey including legal descriptions has been prepared.

Recommendation

Based upon the review by the Agricultural Lands Preservation Advisory Committee, along with the completion of the due diligence, it is my recommendation the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize the conservation easement purchase of the DeForest Salem Township property as identified in attached maps in the amount of \$872,556, contingent upon attorney review of final closing 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.

DeForest Salem Property: Local Area Aerial

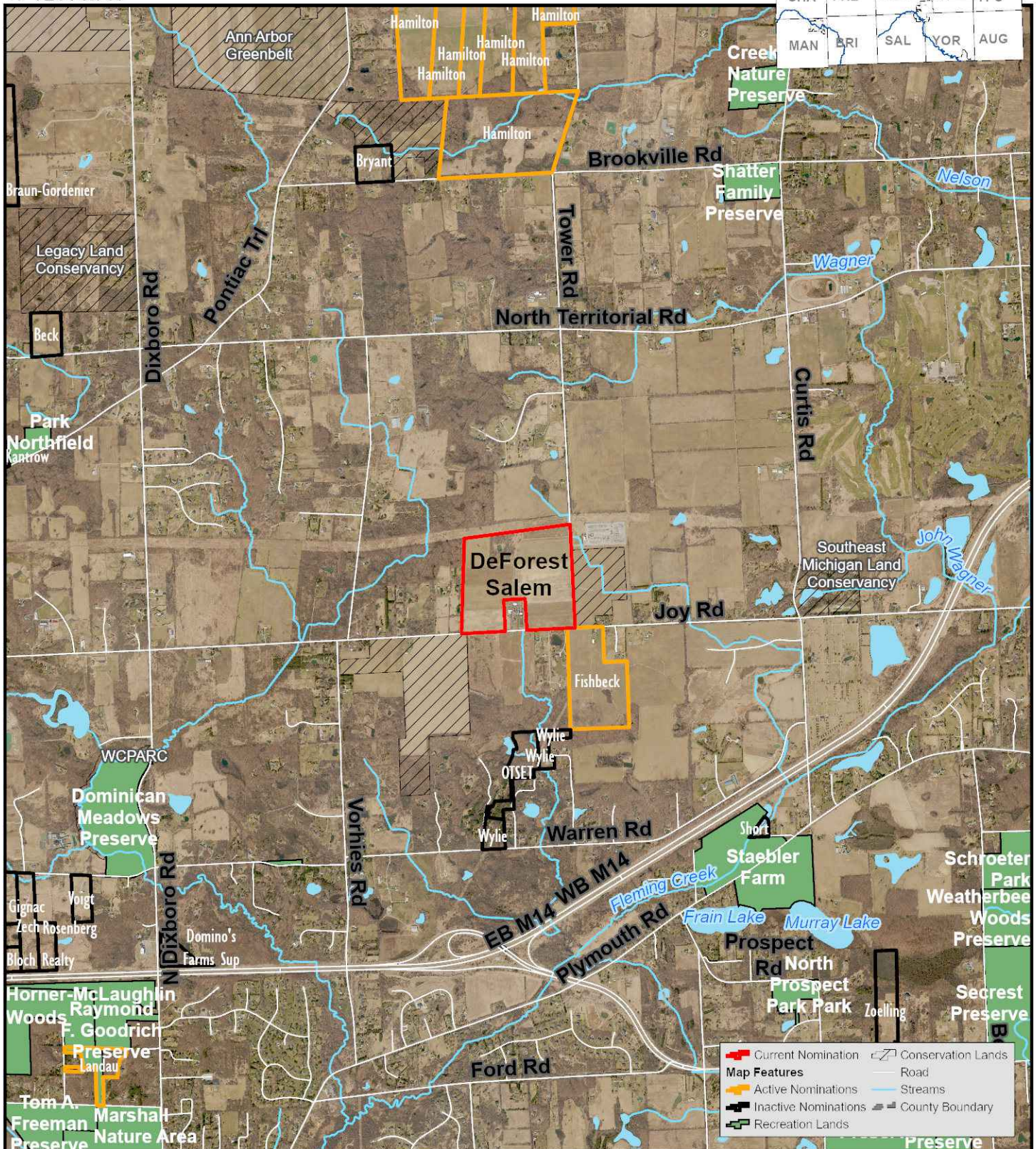
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: A20.138

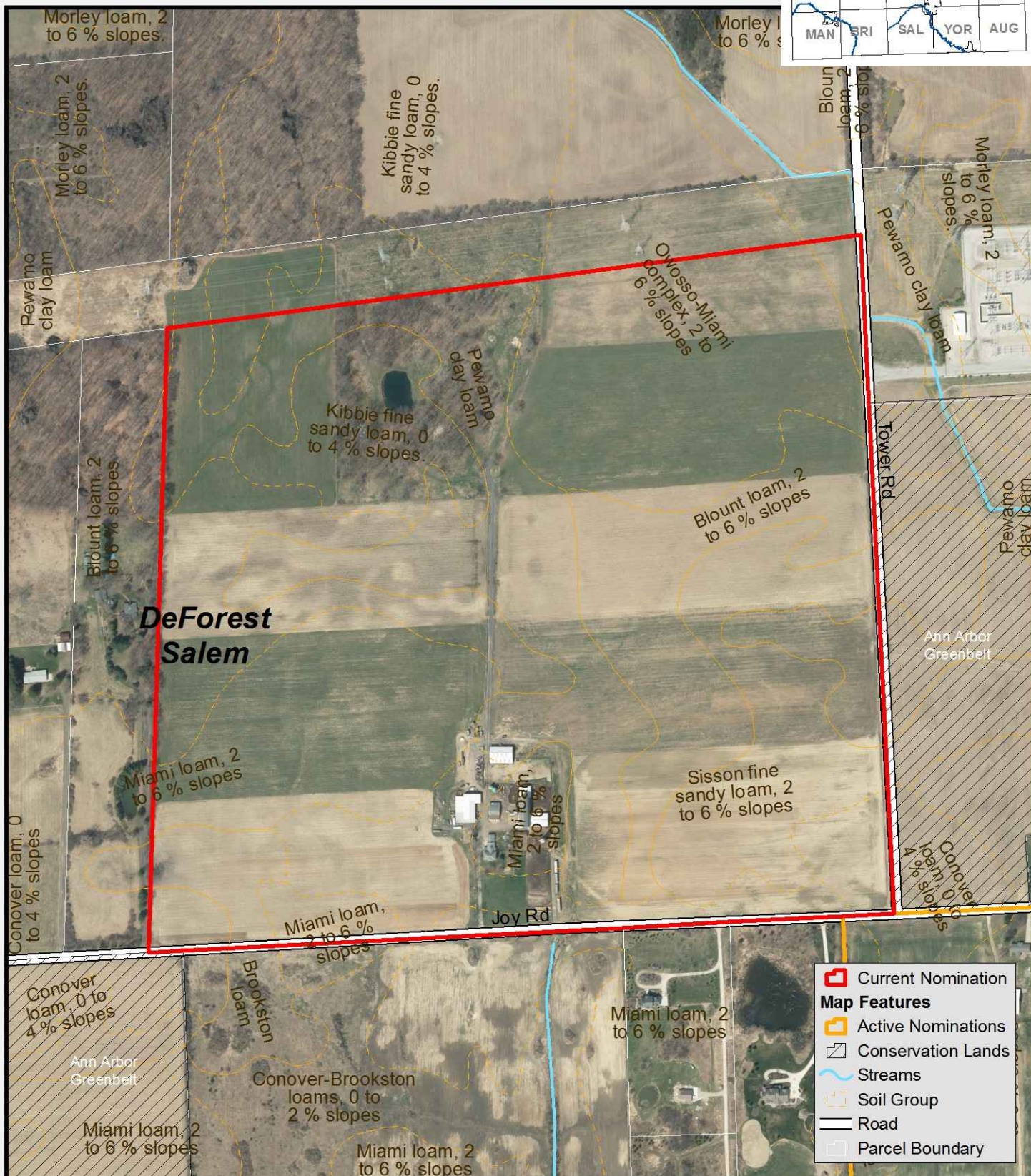
Salem Township

+/-126 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



+/-134 Acres





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: November 11, 2024
Re: Recommendation for Round 24 ALPAC Priorities

Background

At their October 2024 meeting, the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Committee (ALPAC) evaluated all property nominations received in 2024 to determine which properties are the “highest priority” for protection. This evaluation uses an objective numeric scoring system that was adopted by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners and is intended to produce similar scores to models used at the State and Federal Level.

Highest Priority for ALPAC: In order of score, proceed with negotiations as funds available for acquisition, and seek matching funding opportunities as indicated below. ALPAC will make further recommendations once partnerships / grants are determined.

Property Name	Acres	Township	Grant / Partnership	Score
Maulbetsch	135	Bridgewater	ACEP-ALE / MDARD grant	66
Pittsfield Realty 2	123	Saline	ACEP-ALE / MDARD grant	56
Zahn	157	Saline	ACEP-ALE / MDARD grant	55

Highest Priority for Partnerships: Partners have requested ALPAC's partnership on several nominations, but no specific dollar amount has been requested to date. These partnership requests will be reviewed as they are received and as funds are available.

Property Name	Acres	Township	Lead Organization	Score
Dieterle *	85	Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor	67
Wing East	56	Scio	Scio	67
Esch	35	Dexter	Dexter	66
Wing West	138	Scio	Scio	64
Esch Family Trust **	93	Dexter	Dexter	62
R&R *	38	Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor	57

**Property is also a priority for NATAC. Likely split contribution.*

*** ALPAC prioritization is contingent on successful rezoning of the property by Dexter Township to allow agriculture as a permitted land use.*

The Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Committee presents the above recommendation for your consideration. The Committee is available to address any questions you may have concerning the recommendation and members can be available to attend a future Commission meeting.



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

Recommendation: Based on ALPAC and staff's review of Round 2024 nominations, I recommend that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission adopt the priorities as noted in memo above. I further recommend to direct staff to prepare and submit grant applications for top WCPARC – led priority properties as noted.



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: November 12, 2024
Re: Recommendation for Round 24 NATAC Priorities

At their October 2024 meeting, the Natural Area Technical Advisory Committee (NATAC) evaluated 26 nominations. Of the 26 nominations, 21 site were visited by NATAC. All site visits resulted in completed field review worksheets. The remaining properties were adjacent to existing protected or nominated land. NATAC reviewed field worksheets, prioritization data, and property maps to determine the “highest priority” for protection for the nominations received in 2024.

Tier One Priority: Move forward with appraisals or negotiations.

Property Name	Acres	Township	Acquisition Type	Lead Org.
Zellner	14	Northfield	Fee Simple	WCPARC
Garretts Space	77	Superior	Conservation Easement	WCPARC
Brundson (portion)	57	Sharon	Fee Simple	WCPARC
Schuck	50	Northfield	Trail Easement	WCPARC
Barnett	.52	Northfield	Fee Simple	WCPARC
Roller Waters	133	Manchester & Bridgewater	Conservation Easement	Legacy Land Conservancy
Houle	41	Sharon	Conservation Easement	Legacy Land Con.
Schoen	20	Manchester	Conservation Easement	Legacy Land Con.
Dieterle*	85	Ann Arbor	Conservation Easement	Ann Arbor Township
R & R Farms*	44	Ann Arbor	Conservation Easement	Ann Arbor Township
Bennett	76	Dexter	Conservation Easement	Dexter Township
Esch*	93	Dexter	Conservation Easement	Dexter Township
Schwarck	80	Webster	Conservation Easement	Webster Township

* Property is also a priority for ALPAC. Funds will be split between 2 budgets.

Tier Two Priority: More information is needed before moving forward.

Property Name	Acres	Township	Acquisition Type	Lead Org.
Anchor Reality/RPY46 -	48	Ypsilanti	Fee Simple	WCPARC
Emmett*	29	Superior	Fee Simple	WCPARC
Hoff Sisung	78	Manchester	Conservation Easement	WCPARC
Dimo	43	Dexter	Conservation Easement	Dexter Township
Clark	30	Dexter	Conservation Easement	Dexter Township
Pheasant Hollow	112	Northfield	Conservation Easement	Greenbelt

Nonnenmacher	92	Webster & Northfield	Conservation Easement	Greenbelt
Berquist**	55	Webster	Conservation Easement	Webster Township

** NATAC prioritization is contingent limiting any development on this property.

Tier Three: *Recommend to not move forward/do not participate in project.*

Property Name	Acres	Township	Acquisition Type	Lead Org.
Nester	3	Dexter	Conservation Easement	Dexter Township
Dettore	40	Dexter	Conservation Easement	Dexter Township
Mertz	71	Dexter	Conservation Easement	Dexter Township

The Natural Area Technical Advisory Committee presents the above recommendation for your consideration. The Committee is available to address any questions you may have concerning the recommendation and members can be available to attend a future Commission meeting.

Recommendation: Based on staff and NATAC's review and site visits of Round 24 nominations, I recommend that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recommendation Commission adopt the priorities as outlined in the memo above.