



NOTICE OF MEETING

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Date: May 12, 2026

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center – Fitness Studio, 2960 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of the Minutes

- a. April 14, 2026 Meeting (attached, pp. 1-4/action item)

4. Public Comment

5. Communications, Activities and Recreation Reports

(attached, pp. 5-13/action item)

6. Finance

- a. Claims Report (attached, p. 14/action item)
- b. Financial Reports (attached, pp. 15-21/action item)

7. Old Business

- a. DTE Dispute Resolution Agreement & Release (attached, pp. 22-26/action item)
- b. County Farm Park Site Master Plan (presentation at meeting)
- c. Other Old Business
 - i. Closed Session to Discuss Written Opinion from Legal Counsel

8. New Business

- a. Director's Comments & Project Updates (attached, pp. 27-29/action item)
- b. Legacy Land Conservancy Contract Award (attached, p. 30/action item)
- c. Independence Lake – Phase II Paving Contract Award (attached, p. 31/action item)
- d. NAPP Partnership Request – Kempf Property (attached, pp. 32-34/action item)
- e. NAPP – Singh Property Initial Approval (attached, pp. 35-37/action item)
- f. 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.



MINUTES OF MEETING

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Date: April 14, 2026

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Parks Administration Office, 2230 Platt Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Members Present

Janis Bobrin, WCPARC Vice President; Dan Ezekiel, WCPARC Secretary; Gretchen Driskell, Robert Joerg, Robert Marans, JoAnn McCollum, Brenda McKinney and Katie Scott

Members Absent

Yousef Rabhi and Patricia Tupacz Scribner, WCPARC President

Staff Present

Meghan Bonfiglio, Director; Greg Hohenberger, Chief Deputy Director; Rhonda Bouma, Deputy Director of Operations; Jason Brooks, Manager of Finance and Administration; Karen Harris, Parks Analyst; Roy Townsend; Ann Ziolkowski, Communications Manager; Kyle Jasper, Communications Specialist; Kira Macyda, Park Planner; Matthew Bertrand, Park Planner

1. Call to Order

Ms. Bobrin called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of the Minutes

A. March 10, 2026 Regular Meeting

The minutes of the March 10, 2026 regular meeting were included with the packet materials.

It was moved by Mr. Joerg, seconded by Ms. McCollum, to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 regular meeting, as attached. All ayes, the motion was approved.

4. Public Comment

Kathy Wyatt reiterated the importance of the Eastern Washtenaw Community Recreation Center, noting that the public is eagerly awaiting its opening and is seeking updates on the timeline. She emphasized the significant need for recreational opportunities for children in the community and inquired about the status of Eastside summer camps.

5. Communications, Projects & Activities

Ms. Bonfiglio reported on communications provided in the March meeting packet, as well as recent events across the parks system, including highlights from the MParks Awards. She also mentioned a Michigan Folk School instructor who teaches canning and noted the temporary closure of the Dexter-Huron Border-to-Border Trail segment from May through mid-July.

She continued with additional updates, including that the natatorium is nearing completion. Ms. Macyda added that the artwork will be painted on metal panels.

Ms. Macyda also provided an update on the preserve kiosk redesign, which is expected in Spring 2027. In the interim, temporary signage will be installed displaying rules, emergency contact information, and a map.

It was moved by Ms. Driskell, seconded by Mr. Marans, to receive and file the Communications, Projects & Activities for the months of March 2026, as submitted. All ayes, the motion was approved.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Bulk Carbon Dioxide and Tank Rental Contract Award

It was moved by Mr. Ezekiel, and seconded by Mr. Joerg to renew the contract for bulk CO₂ supply to Leonard's Syrup authorize Roll call vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (Rabhi and Scribner); the motion was approved.

B. Rolling Hills Water Park Kona Ice Vendor Agreement

Mr. Joerg requested clarification regarding the use of Kona Ice as a vendor while on-site concessions are available. Ms. Bouma explained that Rolling Hills is seeking to enhance guest experience by offering additional vendor options.

It was moved by Mr. Ezekiel and seconded by Mr. Joerg to approve a one-season agreement with Kona Ice of Ypsilanti for the 2026 season at Rolling Hills Water Park, including a \$35,000 guaranteed upfront fee. Roll call vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (Rabhi and Scribner); the motion was approved.

C. Rolling Hills Waterslide Refurbishment Contract Award

The proposed project includes reapplication of gel coat and exterior painting of the Body, Tube and Kiddie Slides within Slide Mountain, as well as the Kiddie Slide and Spray grounds slides. This type of restoration is a standard preventative maintenance practice typically required every 10 years; to extend the quality and life of the structures.

It was approved by Mr. Ezekiel and seconded by Mr. Joerg to approve awarding the contract for the slide refurbishing project to Amusement Restoration Companies in the amount of \$100,212. Roll call vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (Rabhi and Scribner); the motion was approved.

7. Financial Reports – March 2026

A. Claims Reports

Mr. Brooks reported on the March claims which totaled \$1,433,306.22.

It was moved by Mr. Marans, seconded by Ms. McKinney, to approve the claims for the month of March 2026 as submitted. Roll call vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (Rabhi and Scribner); the motion was approved.

B. Financial Reports

Mr. Brooks gave the financial report for the month of March 2026.

It was moved by Ms. Driskell, seconded by Ms. McCollum to receive and file the financial reports for the month of March 2026 as submitted. All ayes, the motion was approved.

8. Old Business

A. Westside Maintenance Operations Facility Rental

Ms. Bouma presented details on the proposed Westside Maintenance Facility Rental property located at 8600 Jackson Road in Dexter. She shared that the facility aligns with the department's operational needs by providing improved yard space, layout, access, parking, and storage, as well as sufficient space to support both maintenance and stewardship functions.

It was moved by Ms. Scott, seconded by Mr. Joerg to authorize the Parks Director to proceed with lease a 3-year agreement of \$54,000 annually (\$4,500/month) for the property located at 8600 Jackson Road in Dexter, contingent on attorney review of terms. Roll call vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (Rabhi and Scribner); the motion was approved.

B. Other old business

Ms. McCollum requested an update on the scholarship application pilot. Mr. Hohenberger reported that 31 applications have been received so far with 23 awarded, totaling \$6,350. Of that amount, \$2,750 was awarded for day camps, \$2,700 for memberships, and \$900 for activities. Ms. Harris added that most of the denials were due either to higher income levels or applicants not residing in Washtenaw County.

9. New Business

A. Director's Comments and Project Updates

Ms. Bonfiglio provided updates on current projects. Ms. Bouma reported that Eastside camp registration opens April 15th, with 30 campers per location at the Ypsilanti Community Center and RHIZA Church.

Ms. Bonfiglio discussed the DTE agreement related to Independence Lake and efforts to reduce ongoing power outages. Ms. Scott noted that commissioners may be able to assist through partnerships and connections.

Additional updates were provided on the East Washtenaw Community Recreation Center, including design adjustments, maintaining the project timeline, and plans to present a request for additional bond funding to the Board of Commissioners on April 15th.

Public comment was reopened. Ms. Wyatt emphasized the importance of ensuring the recreation center feels welcoming and community-oriented. Ms. Driskell noted that the 65,000-square-foot facility will take time to complete and emphasized the importance of a thoughtful, deliberate approach.

It was moved by Ms. Scott, seconded by Mr. Joerg, to receive and file the Commission Report as part of Director's Comments for March 2026, as submitted. All ayes, the motion was approved.

B. TAP Grant Design Proposal

Mr. Townsend reported that staff solicited proposals from two qualified consultants under the existing engineering services contract: PEA Group, Inc. and Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. The scope includes design, engineering, construction drawings, and required approvals (MDOT, NEPA, Section 106/SHPO, and related items). Both proposals met requirements; however, PEA Group provided a more competitive cost.

It was moved by Mr. Marans, seconded by Mr. Ezekiel, to award the contract to PEA Group, Inc. in the amount of \$157,000 for the Transportation Alternatives Program non-motorized trail project related to the Eastern Washtenaw Community Recreation Center, with an additional 10% contingency (\$15,700), for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$172,700. Roll call vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (Rabhi and Scribner); the motion was approved.

C. Border to Border Trail Segment CD3 Contract Award

Mr. Townsend reported that five bids were received and that materials were selected to improve longevity.

It was moved by Mr. Ezekiel, seconded by Mr. Marans, to award a construction contract to Michigan Bridge Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$3,349,572.85, plus a 10% contingency of \$334,957.28, for the CD3 B2B Trail Project. Roll call vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (Rabhi and Scribner); the motion was approved.

D. Staebler Farm Northside Restoration Contract Award

Mr. Bertrand provided an overview of the restoration project, including 1.5 acres of wetland preservation, culvert installation, and streambank restoration. Six bids were received; Local Life Landscaping was the lowest responsive and qualified bidder.

It was moved by Ms. McKinney, seconded by Mr. Marans, to award the contract to Local Life Landscaping in the amount of \$118,504.93, with an additional 10% contingency (\$11,850) for potential change orders. Roll call vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent (Rabhi and Scribner); the motion was approved.

E. Other New Business

None.

10. Commissioners Comments

Ms. McCollum requested that the Odindi Youth Action Village be added to the next meeting agenda.

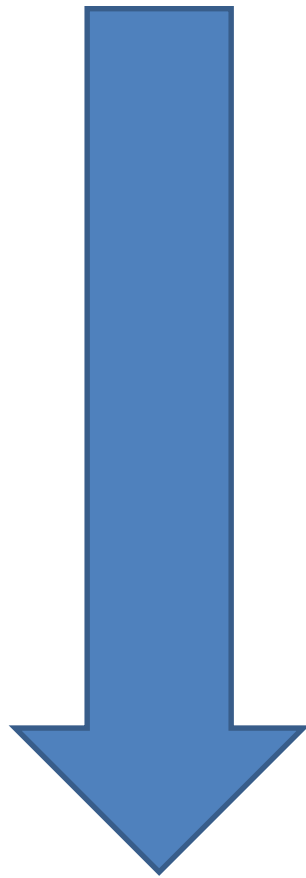
Mr. Joerg congratulated Ms. Scott on her State of the State address speech. MHM Photography was also recognized for their work covering the event and documenting the parks over the years.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

It was moved by Ms. Scott, seconded by Ms. Driskell, to adjourn. All ayes, the motion was approved.

Communications, Projects & Activities



MEDIA COVERAGE – April 2026

The Sun Times News - Southwest Washtenaw Land Protection Event Set for April 9, 4/3/2026 - <https://thesuntimesnews.com/southwest-washtenaw-land-protection-event-set-for-april-9/>

mLive - First-ever State of the County address kicks off Washtenaw County's bicentennial, 4/14/2026 - <https://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/2026/04/first-ever-state-of-the-county-address-kicks-off-washtenaw-countys-bicentennial.html>

Concentrate - Inaugural State of the County address celebrates Washtenaw County's recent achievements, 4/15/2026 - <https://concentratemediacom/inaugural-state-of-the-county-address-celebrates-washtenaw-countys-recent-achievements/>

mLive - Border to Border Trail segment to close for repairs in Dexter, 4/17/2026 - <https://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/2026/04/border-to-border-trail-segment-to-close-for-repairs-in-dexter.html>



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

220 NORTH MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 8645
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48107-8645
(734) 222-6850
FAX (734) 222-6715

TO: All Employees and Elected Officials

FROM: Gregory Dill
County Administrator

DATE: May 1, 2026

SUBJECT: May 1 Organization Update

This past month, Washtenaw County's Parks and Recreation department completed a series of controlled burns across several park properties, including Leonard Preserve in Manchester, County Farm Park and Parker Mill County Park in Ann Arbor, and Park Lyndon and West Lake Preserve in Chelsea. Controlled burns are a vital land management tool used to maintain the health of our natural areas. These carefully planned burns help remove invasive species, promote the growth of native plants, and restore ecological balance.

This work requires a high level of expertise, coordination, and safety planning. Under the supervision of our Parks and Recreation Director, Meghan Bonfiglio, the Parks department has had a record year, with crews successfully burning over 300 acres! I'd like to recognize the dedicated team who made these efforts possible: Thomas Power, Superintendent of Park Maintenance, Kevin Butler, Natural Area Supervisor, and the stewardship team members Allison Krueger, David Mancini, Laura Muelle, Travis Wilcox, and William Cook. Thank you for preserving the ecological health of Washtenaw County's parks.

Washtenaw County is fortunate to have such a strong and vibrant park system, allowing residents and visitors with easy access to nature in their own communities. As we move into the warmer months, I look forward to seeing more residents out enjoying all that our parks have to offer!



RE: Commendation for Karen Harris – Eastside Summer Camp

From Meghan Bonfiglio <bonfigliom@washtenaw.org>

Date Fri 4/24/2026 3:44 PM

To 'gdari19' <gdari19@gmail.com>

Cc Karen Harris <harrisk@washtenaw.org>

Ms. Dari,

Thank you for taking the time to share such a thoughtful and heartfelt message about Karen Harris. I truly appreciate you reaching out and providing insight into your family's experience with the Eastside Summer Camp.

It's clear from your note that Karen has made a meaningful and lasting impact—not only on Emad's experience, but on your family as a whole. The qualities you describe—empathy, adaptability, and a strong sense of community—are exactly what we strive to cultivate in our programs, and it's wonderful to hear how consistently Karen brings those values to life.

I'm glad that you included Karen on your email so she could read your kind words directly. I'll be sure to share with our Parks Commission as well. Recognition like this is incredibly important, and your message highlights the profound difference that dedicated staff can make.

Thank you again for your time and for trusting us with Emad's summer experiences. We are grateful to have families like yours as part of our community.

Kindly,
Meghan

Meghan Bonfiglio, Director
Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission
734-971-6337 ext 41048 | direct: 734-418-5867

Parks, Preserves, Trails and Community. Adventure on!

Please note: *My workday may vary from yours - respond when it's convenient for you!*

From: gdari19 <gdari19@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 2:40 PM

To: Meghan Bonfiglio <bonfigliom@washtenaw.org>

Cc: Karen Harris <harrisk@washtenaw.org>

Subject: Commendation for Karen Harris – Eastside Summer Camp

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.

Dear Meghan Bonfiglio,

I am writing to express my deepest appreciation for Karen Harris, Program Director of the Eastside Summer Camp. As a parent, I have had the privilege of witnessing her extraordinary dedication and compassion over the past two

years, and I wanted to share my experience with you directly.

Karen has been a remarkable role model, not only for my son, Emad Alchurbaji, but also for me as a parent. Emad attended the Eastside Summer Camp in both 2024 and 2025, and from the very first day, Karen demonstrated an exceptional ability to connect with every child while maintaining structure and care. Her approach is both adaptable and deeply empathetic, creating an environment where children feel safe, seen, and supported.

In one word, Karen is “community”. She goes far beyond the expectations of her role to ensure that every child and parent feels welcomed and valued. Whether adjusting activities to meet individual needs, resolving conflicts with kindness, or simply offering a reassuring smile during drop-off, Karen embodies what it means to lead with heart.

Having experienced various programs over the years, I can confidently say that Karen stands out as one of the most dedicated and emotionally intelligent leaders I have encountered. Her emphasis on empathy, inclusion, and respect has not only positively impacted Emad’s summer experiences but has also influenced my own approach to parenting. The lessons we have both learned from her—about patience, adaptability, and the power of genuine connection—are invaluable.

What makes Karen truly exceptional is that she didn’t just serve as Program Director for Emad’s two summers; she continued to check in and offer guidance to our family beyond those seasons. Her door was always open, her heart always present.

In summary, Karen Harris is an outstanding program director whose influence extends far beyond the camp grounds. She is shaping the next generation with kindness and strength, and the Eastside Summer Camp is incredibly fortunate to have her. I hope her remarkable contributions are recognized and celebrated.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Please feel free to reach out if I can provide any further insight into Karen’s wonderful work.

Warmest regards,

Ghadeh Dari
Parent of Emad Alchurbaji



Digital Report - April 2026

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

Monthly comparisons and Year to Date (YTD) accumulations (social media) will be used to track data and improve our outreach.

USEFUL DEFINITIONS FOR THIS REPORT

Views

The number of times your content was played or displayed. Content includes videos, posts, stories and ads.

Followers

Accounts that have chosen to see your content on their newsfeed, without needing to visit your social media page.

Followers vs Non-Followers and Why It Matters

With followers being accounts that have chosen to keep up with our social media accounts, non-followers are simply accounts that have not yet chosen to do so. Breaking post views down by followers and non-followers is indicative on how wide of a reach a post has had. Some factors to reaching more accounts include: who has 'shared' the content and their following, type of hashtags that are used in the post, and content type.

Link Clicks (Facebook only)

The number of clicks on links within posts that led to destinations or experiences, on or off Facebook.

Interactions (Instagram only)

The number of post likes or reactions, saves, comments and shares minus the number of deleted or removed interactions.

Social Media Report

WCPARC FACEBOOK

WCPARC Followers
Growth

+216

Total Followers

8.3K

Views This Month

47K*

Views Last
Month

133K

Views YTD

291K

Link Clicks This Month

25*

Total

Link Clicks YTD

615

Post Highlight

Sharon Mills Open House

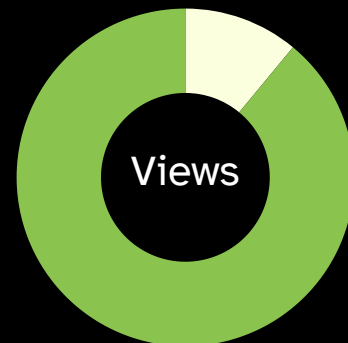


*Under counted
data per Meta

Post Highlight Views

18K

Post Highlight Views



From
Followers

11%

From Non-
followers

89%

Social Media Report

WCPARC INSTAGRAM

WCPARC Followers
Growth

+76

Total Followers

4.3K

Views This Month

9.8K

Views Last
Month

10.1K

Views YTD

34.5K

Content Interactions
This Month

+328

Content Interactions YTD

1K

Post Highlight

Volunteer for Nature



Post Highlight Views

3,995

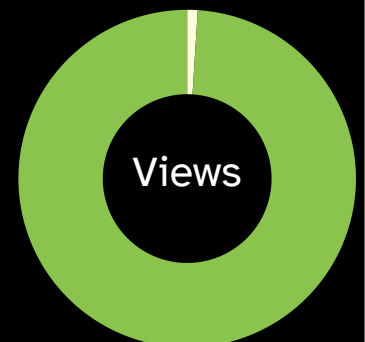
Post Highlight
Views

From
Followers

99

Non
Followers

1



E-News

April Newsletter

Open Rate

39.4%

Open Rate Last Month

40%

Link Click Rate

2%

Link Click Rate
Last Month

2.2%

Top Links Clicked

1. Program Guide
2. MI Folk School
3. Main Page
4. Sharon Mills
5. Job opportunities

Website

Title	URL		Page views % of total	Visits % of total
Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center Washtenaw County, MI - Official Website	https://www.washtenaw.org/497/Meri-Lou-Murray-Recreation-Center		534 8.9%	375 13.7%
Rolling Hills Water Park Washtenaw County, MI - Official Website	https://www.washtenaw.org/638/Rolling-Hills-Water-Park		475 7.9%	382 13.9%
Rolling Hills County Park Washtenaw County, MI - Official Website	https://www.washtenaw.org/607/Rolling-Hills-County-Park		318 5.3%	255 9.3%
Job & Volunteer Opportunities Washtenaw County, MI - Official Website	https://www.washtenaw.org/660/Job-Volunteer-Opportunities		242 4.0%	165 6.0%
Parks & Recreation Washtenaw County, MI - Official Website	https://www.washtenaw.org/288/Parks-Recreation		240 4.0%	208 7.6%

[View more details](#)



Parks Administration | 2230 Platt Road | Ann Arbor, Michigan | 48104

April 2026 - Claims Report

PARK / FACILITY / FUNCTION	UTILITIES	DIRECT PURCHASES	OTHER	TOTAL
Administration	\$ 3,003.80	\$ 6,039.42	\$ 53,685.04	\$ 62,728.26
Recreation Center	15,905.60	5,427.56	25,805.99	47,139.15
Park Maintenance	1,361.11	17,528.34	40,936.60	59,826.05
Pierce Lake Golf Course	1,903.04	5,420.39	54,252.56	61,575.99
Independence Lake	5,795.16	2,863.79	5,660.18	14,319.13
Rolling Hills	4,197.39	4,888.36	13,675.69	22,761.44
Parker Mill	4,484.42	-	753.00	5,237.42
Sharon Mills	415.86	-	1,544.33	1,960.19
Staebler Farm	1,920.12	3,044.70	6,801.57	11,766.39
Swift Run Dog Park	-	-	-	-
Capital Improvement	-	-	242,603.09	242,603.09
Committed Funding Partnerships	-	-	-	-
Commission	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL	\$ 38,986.50	\$ 45,212.56	\$ 445,718.05	\$ 529,917.11
 Road Millage Fund	 -	 -	 54,725.00	 54,725.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,725.00	\$ 54,725.00
 Natural Areas Preservation Program				
Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,304.00	\$ 5,304.00
Preserve Management	-	6,181.68	8,114.16	\$ 14,295.84
NATAC	-	-	-	\$ -
Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,380.00
Annual Monitoring	-	-	-	\$ -
ALPAC	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ 6,181.68	\$ 14,798.16	\$ 20,979.84
 TOTAL	\$ 38,986.50	\$ 51,394.24	\$ 515,241.21	\$ 605,621.95

It was moved by _____ and supported by _____
to approve payment of claims in the amount of..... \$ 605,621.95

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FUND BALANCE STATEMENT - APRIL 30, 2026

#6b

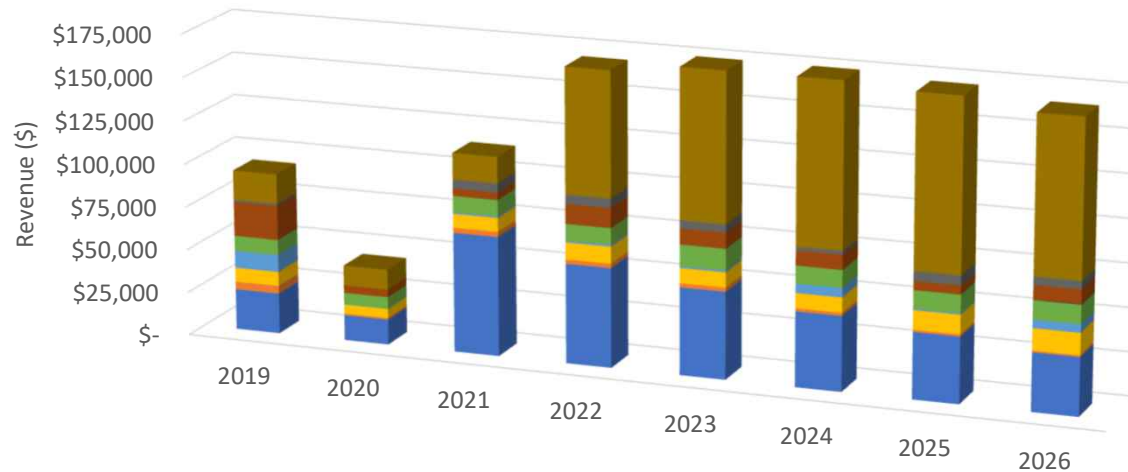
Beginning Fund Balance (1/1/26)	13,167,140	(unaudited)	33%	YTD % Budget			
Revenue (Budget)		Revenue (Actual)			Variance	2025 Actuals through 4/30	
Property Tax	11,149,049	10,800,608		97%	(348,441)	10,370,578	
Federal Revenue	-	21,531			21,531	-	
Fees & Services	4,546,000	919,365		20%	(3,626,635)	1,013,312	
Interest Earnings	300,000	91,661		31%	(208,339)	126,020	
Other Revenue & Reimb.	<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>		0%	<u>(30,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	
Total Revenue		16,025,049		11,833,165	74%	(4,191,884)	11,509,910
Expense (Budget)		Expense (Actual)			Variance		
Personnel Services	(8,857,722)	(2,271,046)		26%	6,586,676	(2,250,572)	
Supplies & Other Services	(2,990,100)	(683,415)		23%	2,306,685	(687,150)	
Internal Service Charges	(1,165,971)	(389,699)		33%	776,272	(354,852)	
Capital							
Land Acquisition	-	-		-	-	-	
CIP/Development	(3,100,000)	(1,689,211)		54%	1,410,789	(381,447)	
Contingency	(400,000)	(9,282)		2%	390,718	(29,100)	
Machinery & Equipment	<u>(75,000)</u>	<u>(55,509)</u>		74%	<u>19,491</u>	<u>(12,532)</u>	
Capital Subtotal	(3,575,000)	(1,754,002)		49%	1,820,998	(423,079)	
Transfers Out	(1,600,000)	-					
Total Expense		<u>(18,188,793)</u>		<u>(5,098,163)</u>	28%	11,490,630	
Surplus/(Deficit)		(2,163,744)		6,735,001			
Operating Reserve		(11,149,049)		(9,798,849)			
East Washtenaw Comm/Rec Cen		<u>(3,500,000)</u>		<u>-</u>			
		(14,649,049)		(9,798,849)			
Projected Fund Balance (12/31/26)		<u>7,503,396</u>		<u>19,902,141</u>			

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION PROGRAM
FUND BALANCE STATEMENT - APRIL 30, 2026

Beginning Fund Balance (1/1/26)	14,474,619	unaudited	33%	YTD % Budget		2025 Actuals through 4/30
Revenue (Budget)					Variance	
Property Tax	5,855,798		5,746,970	98%	(108,828)	5,519,091
State Revenue	-		-		-	511,751
Interest Earnings	100,000		105,827	106%	5,827	84,539
Other Revenue & Reimb.	<u>5,000</u>		<u>-</u>	0%	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenue		5,960,798	5,852,797	98%	(108,001)	6,115,381
Expense (Budget)					Variance	
Personnel Services	(950,304)		(255,812)	27%	694,492	(238,999)
Supplies & Other Services	(804,200)		(101,126)	13%	703,074	(68,433)
Internal Service Charges	(35,869)		(8,716)	24%	27,153	(6,128)
Capital						
Land Acquisition	(2,900,000)		(231,000)	8%	2,669,000	(77,000)
Land Development	-		-		-	-
Machinery & Equipment	<u>(30,000)</u>		<u>-</u>	0%	<u>30,000</u>	<u>(3,397)</u>
Capital Subtotal	(2,930,000)		(231,000)	8%	2,699,000	
Total Expense		<u>(4,720,373)</u>	<u>(596,654)</u>	13%	4,123,719	(393,957)
Surplus/(Deficit)		1,240,425	5,256,143			
Projected Fund Balance (12/31/26)		<u>15,715,044</u>	<u>19,730,762</u>			

Rolling Hills County Park Revenue Report - April

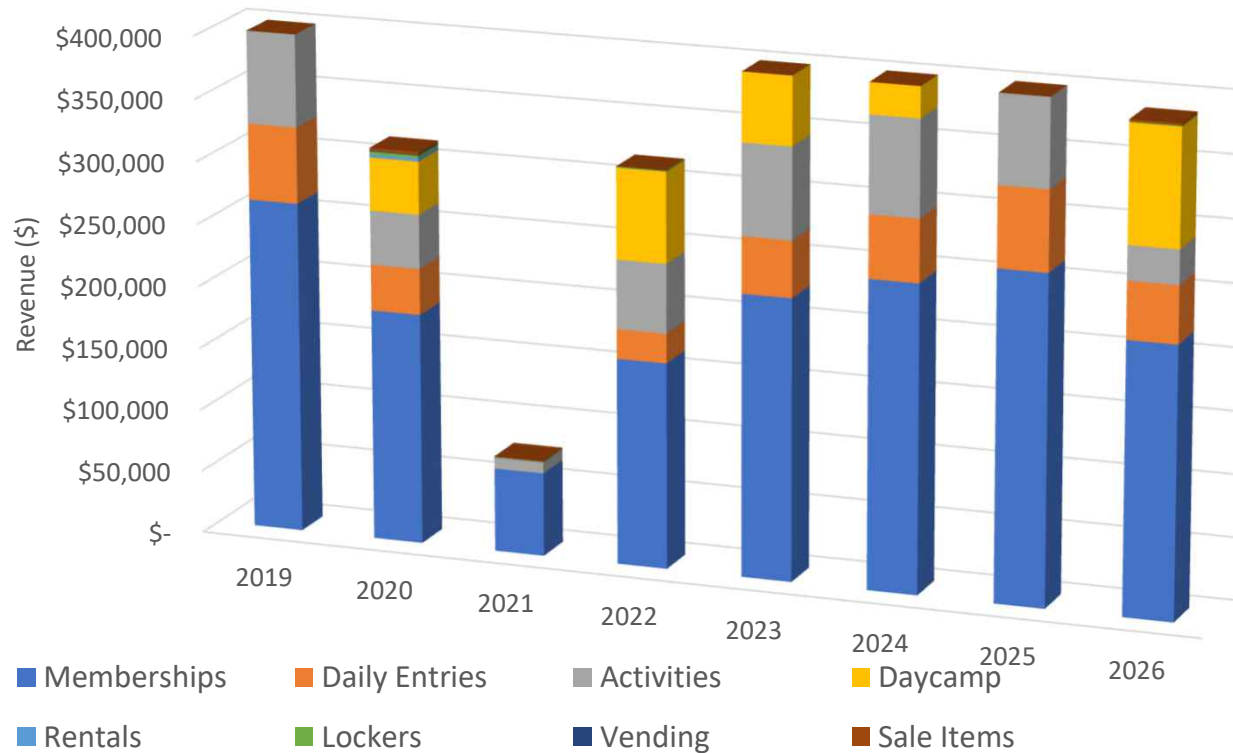
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Gate Fees	\$ 23,283	\$ 14,538	\$ 68,958	\$ 57,404	\$ 50,371	\$ 43,215	\$ 38,216	\$ 33,584
Disc Golf	\$ 4,500	\$ 926	\$ 2,968	\$ 2,518	\$ 2,340	\$ 1,751	\$ 1,228	\$ 854
Waterpark	\$ (30)	\$ 20	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64
Facility Rentals - Park & Waterpark	\$ 8,265	\$ 5,310	\$ 8,085	\$ 9,790	\$ 8,745	\$ 8,720	\$ 11,120	\$ 12,580
Soccer Fields	\$ 9,965	\$ 100	\$ 925	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,025	\$ 5,305	\$ 725	\$ 4,835
Cell Tower Rent	\$ 8,795	\$ 6,777	\$ 9,330	\$ 9,610	\$ 12,319	\$ 10,195	\$ 10,501	\$ 10,816
Concessions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19	\$ 6	\$ 2	\$ -	\$ 267
Activities/Events - Park & Waterpark	\$ 19,988	\$ 4,453	\$ 4,398	\$ 11,482	\$ 9,158	\$ 8,568	\$ 5,155	\$ 8,280
Winter Park	\$ 1,218	\$ -	\$ 5,088	\$ 5,245	\$ 4,600	\$ 2,180	\$ 5,610	\$ 4,560
Daycamp	\$ 17,131	\$ 11,495	\$ 15,305	\$ 72,636	\$ 96,912	\$ 103,214	\$ 99,583	\$ 90,390
Totals:	\$ 93,115	\$ 43,619	\$ 115,057	\$ 169,715	\$ 185,476	\$ 183,150	\$ 172,138	\$ 166,230



- Gate Fees
- Disc Golf
- Waterpark
- Facility Rentals - Park & Waterpark
- Soccer Fields
- Cell Tower Rent
- Concessions
- Activities/Events - Park & Waterpark
- Winter Park
- Daycamp

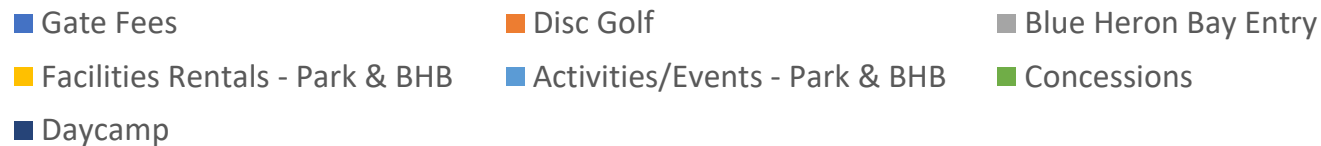
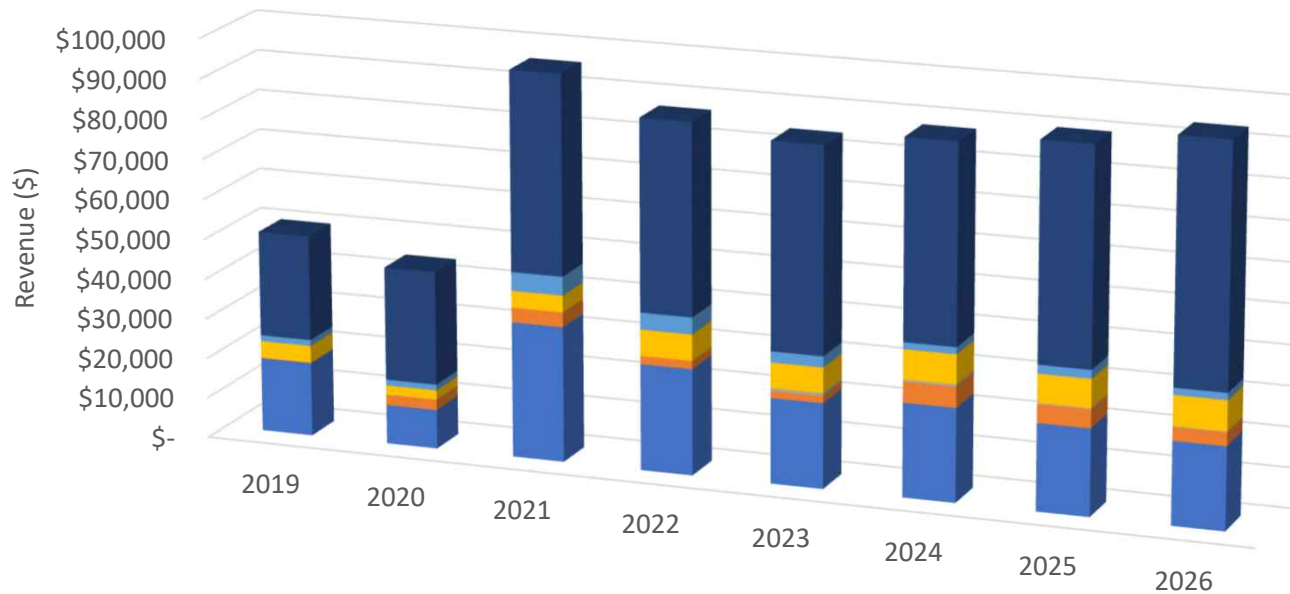
Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center Revenue Report - April

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Memberships	\$ 265,083	\$ 184,992	\$ 66,843	\$ 165,024	\$ 226,091	\$ 246,952	\$ 264,227	\$ 217,951
Daily Entries	\$ 60,919	\$ 36,825	\$ -	\$ 23,712	\$ 45,360	\$ 50,501	\$ 64,677	\$ 45,997
Activities	\$ 84,909	\$ 43,249	\$ 8,618	\$ 55,257	\$ 73,313	\$ 77,464	\$ 74,378	\$ 27,477
Daycamp	\$ 53,329	\$ 42,370	\$ -	\$ 72,418	\$ 74,440	\$ 75,451	\$ 79,107	\$ 94,081
Rentals	\$ 4,142	\$ 2,494	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Lockers	\$ 3,429	\$ 2,267	\$ 370	\$ 1,020	\$ 1,353	\$ 1,386	\$ 1,418	\$ 687
Vending	\$ 268	\$ 558	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sale Items	\$ 4,548	\$ 2,220	\$ 603	\$ 36	\$ 1,619	\$ 1,906	\$ 1,831	\$ 1,783
Totals:	\$ 476,628	\$ 314,974	\$ 76,734	\$ 317,467	\$ 422,176	\$ 453,660	\$ 485,638	\$ 387,976



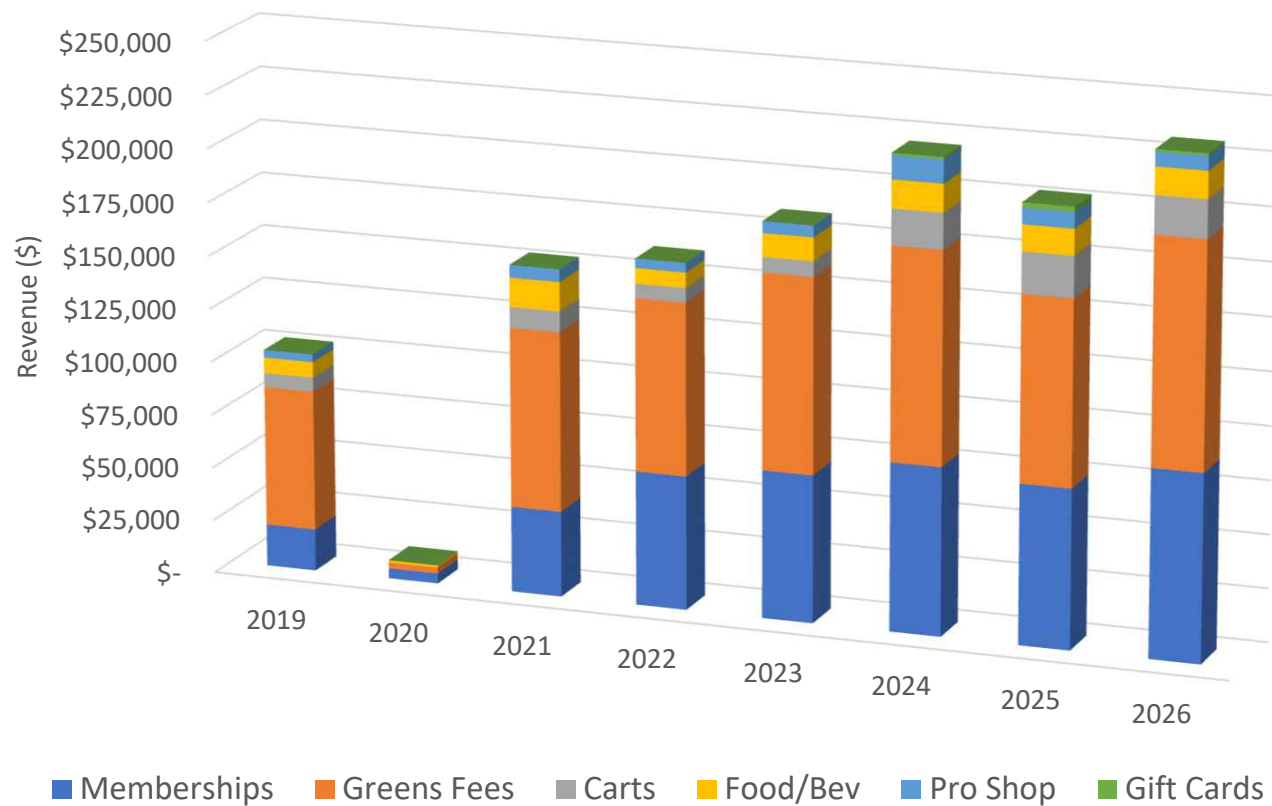
Independence Lake County Park Revenue Report - April

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Gate Fees	\$ 18,383	\$ 9,729	\$ 33,727	\$ 26,460	\$ 21,294	\$ 23,415	\$ 21,711	\$ 20,716
Disc Golf	\$ 94	\$ 2,606	\$ 3,700	\$ 2,028	\$ 1,726	\$ 5,168	\$ 4,618	\$ 3,358
Blue Heron Bay Entry	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (100)	\$ 700	\$ 560	\$ 275	\$ 175
Facilities Rentals - Park & BHB	\$ 4,270	\$ 2,370	\$ 4,180	\$ 6,570	\$ 6,360	\$ 7,380	\$ 7,160	\$ 7,600
Activities/Events - Park & BHB	\$ 1,475	\$ 1,425	\$ 4,675	\$ 4,205	\$ 2,750	\$ 1,725	\$ 2,170	\$ 1,745
Concessions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5	\$ -	\$ -
Daycamp	\$ 26,141	\$ 28,235	\$ 49,860	\$ 47,863	\$ 51,484	\$ 49,763	\$ 54,180	\$ 60,400
Totals:	\$ 50,363	\$ 44,365	\$ 96,142	\$ 87,026	\$ 84,314	\$ 88,016	\$ 90,114	\$ 93,994



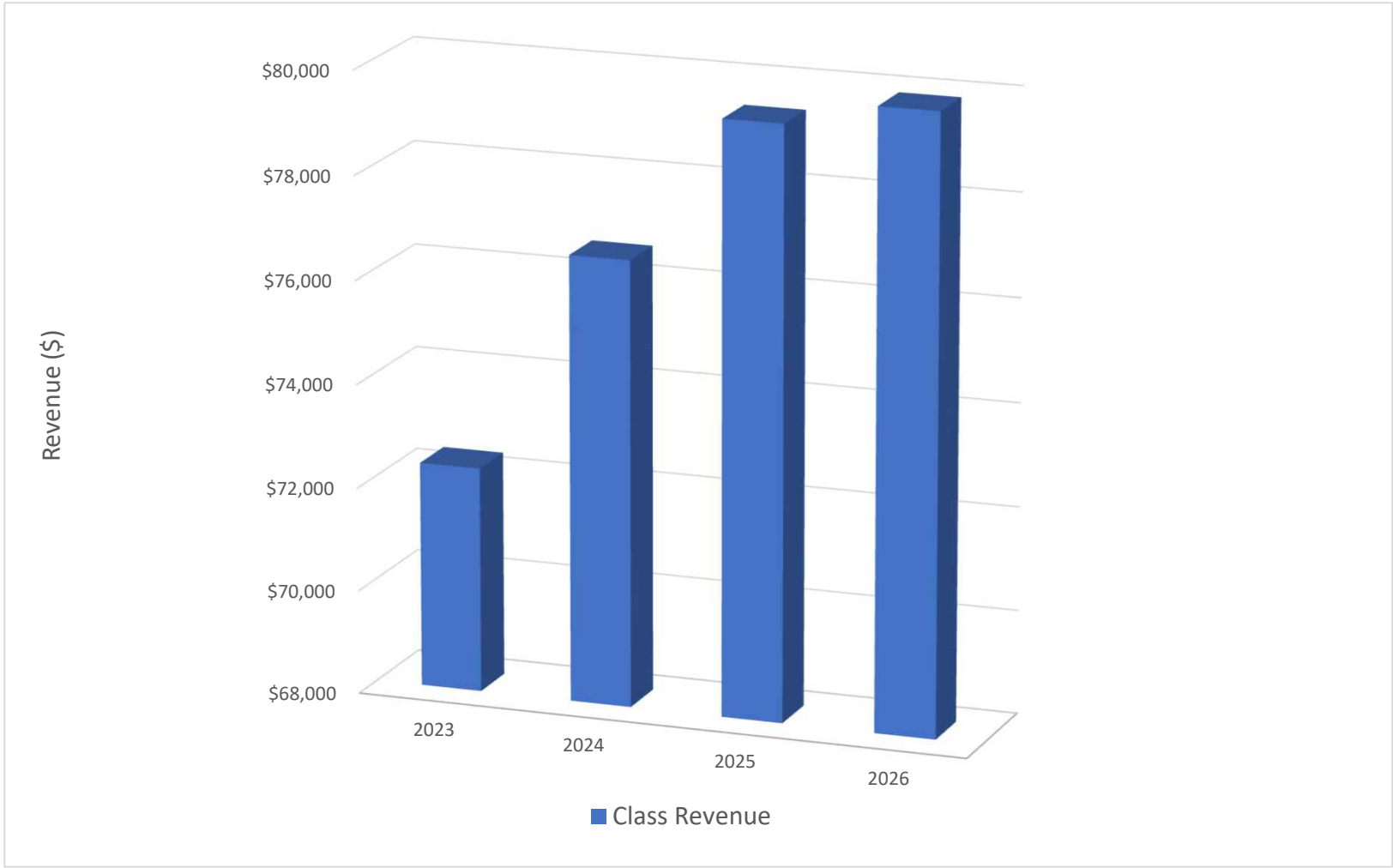
Pierce Lake Golf Course Revenue Report - April

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Memberships	\$ 19,550	\$ 4,700	\$ 40,051	\$ 62,625	\$ 69,025	\$ 78,700	\$ 74,800	\$ 87,886
Greens Fees	\$ 65,487	\$ 2,781	\$ 84,082	\$ 80,791	\$ 91,616	\$ 99,594	\$ 86,873	\$ 105,910
Carts	\$ 6,670	\$ -	\$ 9,701	\$ 6,665	\$ 7,141	\$ 16,843	\$ 19,243	\$ 17,805
Food/Bev	\$ 7,399	\$ 1,068	\$ 13,733	\$ 7,253	\$ 10,995	\$ 13,250	\$ 12,265	\$ 12,786
Pro Shop	\$ 3,561	\$ 52	\$ 5,875	\$ 4,419	\$ 5,429	\$ 10,939	\$ 7,467	\$ 6,624
Gift Cards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,160	\$ 2,506	\$ 1,190
Totals:	\$ 102,667	\$ 8,601	\$ 153,442	\$ 161,753	\$ 184,206	\$ 220,486	\$ 203,154	\$ 232,201



Staebler Farm Revenue Report - April

	2023	2024	2025	2026
Class Revenue	\$ 72,345	\$ 76,610	\$ 79,433	\$ 79,905





MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Meghan Bonfiglio, Director

Date: May 12, 2026

Subject: Approval of Dispute Resolution Agreement and Release with DTE Electric Company – Blue Heron Bay Waterpark

BACKGROUND

Blue Heron Bay (BHB) Waterpark has experienced electrical service issues over a number of years, including park closures due to damage to BHB electrical equipment. In summer 2025, BHB experienced a documented voltage irregularity and damage to park equipment. Since that time, Parks staff and DTE Electric have engaged in discussions to address ongoing concerns related to power reliability and infrastructure serving the park. While both parties dispute fault for the occurrences, they share a mutual interest in improving the reliability and quality of electrical service to BHB and reducing the risk of future equipment damage.

DISCUSSION

The proposed Dispute Resolution Agreement and Release reflects a collaborative effort between WCPARC and DTE Electric Company to address the root causes of electrical service issues at BHB. Rather than attributing fault, the agreement focuses on practical, forward-looking solutions to reduce the likelihood of future equipment damage.

Under the agreement, DTE Electric will complete a series of infrastructure upgrades at its own expense, including replacement of key distribution components, phase balancing, and targeted tree trimming along the service line. In parallel, WCPARC will install a protective relay system designed to safeguard park equipment from voltage irregularities. Both parties will coordinate to ensure proper testing and operation of these systems. Electrical engineers for both DTE and WCPARC believe these steps are likely to prevent further recurrences.

As part of the resolution, DTE Electric will also provide a one-time payment of \$30,000 to the County to support the shared goal of enhancing electrical reliability. In exchange, both parties agree to a full and final release of claims related to past service issues, without any admission of fault. The agreement also establishes a clear, good-faith process for resolving any future concerns.

This agreement advances several key WCPARC priorities by strengthening the reliability and resilience of critical recreational infrastructure. Improved electrical service at Blue Heron Bay Waterpark will help ensure consistent operations, enhance the visitor experience, and reduce the risk of service disruptions during peak seasons. At the same time, the agreement reflects a commitment from DTE and WCPARC to quickly and constructively address any similar issues should they arise.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission approve the attached Dispute Resolution Agreement and Release with DTE Electric Company and authorize appropriate County officials to execute the agreement.

Attachments

Dispute Resolution Agreement and Release

This Agreement, made this ____ day of May, 2026, is between DTE Electric Company (“DTE Electric”) and Washtenaw County, Michigan (herein, “Washtenaw County”) (collectively, “Parties”). The Parties agree as follows:

DTE Electric provides electric service to Washtenaw County pursuant to the DTE Electric Company Rate Book for Electric Service at, among other locations, Washtenaw County’s Blue Heron Bay Waterpark (“BHB Park”). The Park has experienced power outages, voltage variations, and electrical equipment damage that occurred after the Settlement Agreement between the parties in Case 13-343-CZ in 2014 (the “Occurrences”). The Parties have discussed the matters without prior resolution. The Parties, with the execution of this Settlement Agreement, intend to fully and finally resolve all matters related to the Occurrences. Nothing in this Agreement shall be interpreted as an admission of fault by the Parties and both DTE Electric and Washtenaw County deny fault for the Occurrences. The Parties acknowledge and agree that it is not technically feasible to achieve a 100% guarantee of continuous power quality, but that there are actions that can be taken that are expected to improve BHB Park’s service and reduce the risk of equipment damage. However, in order to fully and finally resolve matters involving electric service to BHB Park, the Parties agree to the following actions in order to achieve the goals of reducing the future risk of equipment damage at BHB Park, improving the reliability of BHB Park operations, and minimizing DTE Electric system transients on DTE Electric equipment providing electrical service to BHB Park:

DTE Electric shall own, install, and accomplish by May 25, 2026, at its own cost, the following:

- a. Replacement of one (1) pole on Poplar DC 9885.
- b. Replacement of eight (8) porcelain cutouts with polymer cutouts at four locations on Poplar DC 9885.
- c. Phase balancing across all three phases with the ISO Pocket that serves the Park.
- d. Targeted tree trimming of DTE Electric service line at two (2) sites on Poplar DC 9885. Washtenaw County forever waives and releases DTE Electric from any complaints or claims with respect to this tree trimming.

DTE shall confirm to Washtenaw County in writing no later than June 10, 2026, that the work was performed to fulfill these requirements.

Washtenaw County shall own and install by June 30, 2026, at its own cost, the following:

A SEL-751 microprocessor-based protective relay which provides comprehensive undervoltage, overvoltage, unbalance, and inverse sequence protection, along with intelligent tripping and event recording. This protective relay shall be installed at **a location downstream of the DTE electric meter on the customer side** by a licensed electrician of Washtenaw County’s choosing and Washtenaw County and DTE Electric shall cooperate to confirm satisfactory operational testing of the protective relay.

Customer Service Measure

As a one-time customer service measure only and not a precedent, DTE Electric will provide \$30,000.00 (Thirty Thousand dollars) in US funds to Washtenaw County, to be used by Washtenaw County in any way it sees fit in furtherance of the goals of this Agreement. Washtenaw County withdraws any and all claims regarding the Occurrences it may have against DTE Electric and forever waives and releases DTE Electric with respect to such claims. DTE Electric denies any and all fault or obligation with respect to such claims.

FURTHER, and in consideration of the dispute resolution set forth herein, to the maximum extent allowed by law, each Party hereby waives, releases and fully discharges the other, their affiliates, and all of their officers, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, causes of action, rights, liabilities or damages whatsoever, including attorney's fees, arising out of or related to the subject matter of this Agreement. Neither Party shall be liable under this Agreement or under any cause of action arising out of or relating to the subject matter of this Agreement, for any special, incidental, or consequential damages, including loss of business or profits, whether based upon breach of warranty, breach of contract, negligence, strict liability, tort, or any other legal theory, and whether or not the Party has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

FURTHER, that if either Party believes, in good faith, there has been a failure to implement the technical requirements of this Agreement, the Party shall provide written notice to the other Party. In the event such a notice issues, the Parties agree that they will meet and confer in good faith regarding those technical matters within 10 days following a notice of such failure. If the matter of any alleged failure cannot be resolved at that meeting, the Parties agree to meet again within 30 days thereafter with representatives present with sufficient authority to resolve the matter consistent with the terms of this Agreement.

FURTHER, that all notices provided for in this Settlement Agreement shall be made by electronic mail as provided below:

For the County:

Attn: Meghan Bonfiglio, Director Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission

Email Address: bonfigliom@washtenaw.org

Attn: Michelle Billard, Corporation Counsel Washtenaw County

Email Address: billardm@washtenaw.org

For DTE Electric:

Attn: Jon P. Christinidis, DTE Electric Company

Email Address: jon.christinidis@dteenergy.com

Attention: Office of the General Counsel

Attn: Sandeev Sarna
Email Address: Sandeev.sarna@dteenergy.com

Derrick R. Sanborn
Email Address: derrick.sanborn@dteenergy.com

DTE Electric Company
One Energy Plaza
1635 WCB
Detroit, MI 48226

FURTHER, this Agreement, and the rights, obligations and liabilities of the parties hereto shall be construed in accordance with the law of the State of Michigan without regard to its conflict of law principles.

FURTHER, This Agreement represents the entire agreement between the parties, and no modification of this Agreement shall be effective unless made in writing and signed by the parties. Any agreements, negotiations, or understandings of the parties prior or contemporaneous to the date of the Agreement, whether written or oral, are superseded hereby.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Dispute Resolution Agreement and Release as of the last date written below.

Washtenaw County

By: _____

Its: _____

Date: _____

DTE Electric Company

By: _____

Its: _____

Date: _____



RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION AGREEMENT AND RELEASE WITH DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY

May 12, 2026

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County operates Blue Heron Bay Waterpark, which has experienced electrical service quality issues, interruptions and related equipment damage since 2013; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County and DTE Electric Company have engaged in discussions to address these issues and improve electrical service quality and reliability; and

WHEREAS, the parties have negotiated a Dispute Resolution Agreement and Release to establish responsibilities for system improvements, provide a one-time financial contribution, and resolve all claims related to the electrical service quality issues at Blue Heron Bay; and

WHEREAS, the agreement includes infrastructure improvements to be completed by DTE Electric, installation of protective equipment by the County, and a mutual release of claims without admission of fault by either party; and

WHEREAS, approval of this agreement is in the best interests of the County to enhance operational reliability, reduce risk of future damage, and bring final resolution to this matter;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission hereby approves the Dispute Resolution Agreement and Release between Washtenaw County and DTE Electric Company; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission recommends authorization for the appropriate County officials to execute the agreement and take all necessary actions to implement its terms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission supports the implementation of the infrastructure improvements and protective measures outlined in the agreement to improve electrical service reliability at Blue Heron Bay Waterpark.

Patricia Tupacz Scribner, President (DATE)
Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission



MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Meghan Bonfiglio, Director

Date: May 12, 2026

Subject: Project and Activities Update – April 2026

Park Facility Events and Projects

Independence Lake

- MOB Disc Golf held two tournaments with around 100 players participating in each event.
- Summer seasonal hiring is nearly complete, and staff are beginning training.
- Sixteen people attended the Kayak Birding program on April 25, observing several waterfowl species, including a small group of ruddy ducks.
- Maintenance staff and Project Managers met on site last month to review the Phase II portion of repaving the existing asphalt pathways and portions of concrete. Quotes have been received, and staff will seek Commission approval in May. Work is expected to be completed this year.
- Staff, along with the JFR consultant team, are in the process of finalizing the construction documents, including the site plan, for a new maintenance building. Permit approvals are being sought with EGLE and other agencies.

Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center & County Farm Park

- Training for the new positions at County Farm Park has begun, with an additional training session scheduled for May. There will be four new Park Labor Aides and twelve new Park Rangers, which will allow for additional staff presence in the park.
- Construction on the Natatorium renovation is near substantial completion. Tile has been completed, the kalwall transparent panels are installed and the pool is filled with water. Startup of HVAC systems is expected to begin the final week of April. Final inspections are being scheduled, and site work is expected to begin soon. The JFR team, along with staff, are responding to any contractor questions. Project is currently on time and within the approved budgeted amount.
- The artist fabricating the natatorium artwork is nearing completion, with installation anticipated in mid-May.
- Foodie Fridays at County Farm Park will begin this upcoming Friday, May 15-September 25 with a variety of one food truck each week.

Rolling Hills Park

- A seasonal employee has completed a new mural on the wall of the winter park rental room.
- Park staff and Project Managers are working to schedule pavement maintenance repairs for this spring. The project is expected to be completed this year.

Staebler Farm Park

- Farmhouse rehabilitation plans have been approved by all applicable permitting agencies. Water filtration design and technical specifications have been finalized and submitted to EGLE for review. The RFP is expected to be released for bids once the budget has been approved.



- Following Commission approval of the contractor selection in April, the contract with Local Life is currently in circulation for signature by County officials. A pre-construction meeting will be held May 13. Additional grant-funded site preparation work has been scheduled through an existing professional services contract with PlantWise to prepare the site for construction.

Special Initiatives

Border to Border Trail (B2B)

- Segment DAA7 (Barton-Bandemer Tunnel and Trail, in partnership with the City of Ann Arbor):
 - o Tunnel: Additional plantings and restoration were completed in April. Vegetation is being monitored for establishment.
 - o The Dexter-Huron Metropark boardwalk redecking project in partnership with HCMA has begun and the trail is closed to the public for the duration of the project, which is expected to last approximately two months.
- Engineering and permitting are in various stages for the following trail segments:
 - o Segment DAA4 (Delhi Metropark to Wagner Rd): Amtrak permit review still in process.

Nelson Meade County Farm Park Master Plan

- Staff is finalizing Site Master Plan recommendations and will present finding to the Commission in May. A public meeting is scheduled for May 18.

Natural Areas Preservation Program (NAPP)

Stewardship

- NAPP stewardship crew conducted fires at Northfield Woods, West Lake, Whitmore Lake, Leonard preserves, as well as County Farm Park, Park Lyndon, and Sharon Mills County Park. The season was incredibly successful with the crew completing burns across 300 acres.
- A new trail has been added at Trinkle Marsh Preserve, leading through open fields to the scenic northern woodlot and expanding hiking opportunities for visitors.
- WCPARC and the University of Michigan are collaborating on phragmites control at Mud Lake Bog and Independence Lake County Park. Both partners have contracted chemical control and will be monitoring progress by collecting data through the Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative. Partners are also working with Michigan Tech Research Institute to develop a workflow for drone flights and aerial photo assessments.
- Staff met with the design consultant, JHLE, to review locations of the overlook, parking, trails and site entrance at Lost Wagon Preserve, as part of the NAPP Preserve Amenity Design Services project. Surveys for Lost Wagon Preserve and "Saline Preserve" are nearly complete.

Acquisitions

- WCPARC was awarded \$372,000 by the MDARD Farmland Preservation Fund for a conservation easement for the McCalla property in Lima Township, which was previously prioritized by the Parks Commission.
- Northfield Township has requested partnership to acquire a conservation easement on the 37.5-acre Kempf Trust property, which ALPAC approved at their April meeting.



Programming, Events, and Volunteers

Educational & Interpretive Programming

- 251 patrons attend nature programs, including: “Family Bird Walk” and “Timberdoodle Tumble” at Leonard Preserve; Archery program at Staebler Farm Park; “Pollinator Survey” at County Farm Park; Friends of Watkins Lake Earth Day Festival; Geology hikes at Scio Woods Preserve; “Kettle & Kame” at Park Lyndon; “Kayak Birding” and “Women’s Nature Camp” meet-up and “Water in our World” field trips at Independence Lake Park.

Michigan Folk School

- 167 students attended 32 classes, which include basketry, stained glass, blacksmithing, food craft, gardening, beekeeping, and jewelry making.

Volunteer Programs

- Volunteers logged more than 528 working hours. Activities included: five “Stewardship Workdays” held at County Farm Park; three “Stewardship Workdays” held at Independence Lake County Park; Parker Mill Clean-up, where local students spruced up the area around the Cabin; Stewardship Workday with the Preserve Community Stewards was hosted at Scio Woods Preserve; Vernal Pool Training at Scio Woods Preserve; individual Preserve Community Stewards Volunteer Work; Photo Ambassadors Volunteers; and Independence Lake Park Gardening.

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Washtenaw County Park and Recreation Commission
From: Meghan Bonfiglio, Director
Date: May 12, 2026
Subject: Legacy Land Conservancy Contract

BACKGROUND

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPARC) has contracted with Legacy Land Conservancy for several years to provide services related to agricultural land conservation and the Natural Area Preservation Program. Since 2017, those services have included completing the annual monitoring of WCPARC owned conservation easements, as well as Baseline Document Reports needed prior to the closing on conservation easements.

DISCUSSION

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission currently holds 27 conservation easements that cover 3,656 acres of land across the County. These properties are a mix of farmland, woodlands, wetlands and stream corridors. Prior to the closing on any conservation easement, a Baseline Document Report is completed. The detailed report includes a history of the property and documents the current conditions of the property including maps and photos taken at specific photo points across the entire property. The significance of the report is to be able to document any changes to the property over time and determine if a violation has occurred. In addition, to ensure the conservation easement terms are upheld, an annual monitoring visit is required. The monitoring visit includes a meeting with the landowner and the monitor to walk the property to ensure no violations or potential violations have occurred. The monitor will also discuss the future plans for the property to ensure they comply with the terms of the conservation easement.

Legacy Land Conservancy has been protecting land in Washtenaw County since 1971. Since its inception, Legacy has helped to conserve 11,000 acres of land through conservation easements, public preserves and partnerships with other conservation groups. The organization is also an accredited land trust through the Land Trust Alliance's Accreditation Commission since 2009. The accreditation program verifies that Legacy has the policies and programs in place to keep our promise to protect land forever. Accreditation must be renewed every 10 years and in order to maintain the accreditation, they must demonstrate that they adhere to the highest national standards for excellence and conservation permanence.

RECOMMENDATION

It is my recommendation that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission approve a two-year contract (2026-2027) with Legacy Land Conservancy in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 annually for completing Baseline Document Reports and annual monitoring of WCPARC owned conservation easements.

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Meghan Bonfiglio, Director

Date: May 12, 2026

Subject: Independence Lake – Phase II Non-Motorized Pathway Repair Contract Award

BACKGROUND

Independence Lake Park is one of the largest parks within the parks system covering over 446 acres. The park includes more than 2 miles of paved non-motorized trails which were constructed in multiple phases over the last 20-30 years. These trails are heavily utilized by visitors throughout the year.

The asphalt surfaces of the paved trails are showing severe signs of aging, which includes numerous cracks and pavement failures. Some of these trails are in such poor condition they need to be repaired to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the trail users. In fall 2025, Phase I was completed which included milling and paving approximately 4,100 linear feet of trail.

DISCUSSION

The WCPARC staff conducted a pavement assessment of all paved non-motorized trails. They documented all known pavement cracks and areas that required replacement due to aging, heaving, settling, and/or “alligator cracking”. Staff concluded that 11,000 linear feet of non-motorized pathway needed replacement.

From these findings, staff developed a plan to remediate the pavement and prepared an order of magnitude estimate based upon recent unit price costs from similar projects and industry trends. Staff categorized the pavement that would either require milling and resurfacing or pavement removal and repaving. For the failed pavement areas, staff recommended full replacement of the asphalt for those sections.

To ensure that the repairs will be completed by a responsive, qualified contractor and before the 2026 peak season, WCPARC staff discussed the project with the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC), who has competitively bid the same type of work for the county road network. The WCRC has a contract to complete pavement milling, and HMA paving, similar work with Cadillac Asphalt. Cadillac Asphalt has agreed to honor the unit prices as bid through the WCRC’s Competitive Bid Purchasing Program. This Cooperative Purchasing Program has been approved and utilized in the past by Washtenaw County Purchasing for WCPARC projects, most recently in 2024 for the Rolling Hills Park trails and roadway pavement repairs.

Through the competitive bid purchasing program, Cadillac Asphalt LLC provided unit price costs utilizing the summary of quantities noted in the pavement assessment report for a total cost of \$173,720. WCPARC staff has confirmed that pricing is consistent with the WCRC contract and Cadillac has honored the 2025 bid prices for the work in 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

After conducting a careful investigation into the quote and ensuring that all aspects of construction meet both industry best management practices and purchasing requirements; it is my recommendation that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission award a Service Contract to Cadillac Asphalt LLC to include the quoted work plus a 10% contingency (\$17,372), for a total not to exceed amount of \$191,092.

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Meghan Bonfiglio, Director
Date: May 12, 2026
Subject: Kempf Trust Property Conservation Easement – Partnership Request

BACKGROUND

The 37.5-acre farm, located at 5235 Nollar Rd, is currently owned by the Lewis W. Kempf and Lisa M. Kempf Trust. The property is in proximity to other farmland already protected by Ann Arbor Township and the Greenbelt. Northfield Township is the lead agency and will be responsible for monitoring and enforcing the conservation easement.

DISCUSSION

The Kempf Trust property was identified as a priority in Round 25. The nomination was also identified as a priority for Northfield Township in 2025. This would be the first partnership with Northfield Township under their recently approved millage. The Kempf family is a long-time owner of the property. It is adjacent to the north to a farm protected by the Greenbelt Program and in proximity to Northfield Woods and Arbor Woods Preserves owned by WCPARC. Additional active applications are also in proximity, so this builds on an existing block of protected land.

Based on the ALPAC scoring system, the property scored 65 points, for the percentage of prime soils (76%), amount of property in active agriculture (85%), site suitability for septic systems (46%), adjacency to active farmland, and proximity to other protected land.

An appraisal was completed in December 2025, and the value of the conservation easement was determined to be \$252,000. Northfield Township requests WCPARC to partner on the purchase of a conservation easement and provide a contribution of \$50,400 from ALPAC funds. In the event that the Township divests itself from the Conservation Easement, the County has the right and option to become the holder of the Conservation easement, per the terms of the participation agreement. Northfield Township has secured funding from USDA in the amount of \$123,480 and has requested funding from the Greenbelt. The full breakdown of purchase price is:

USDA = \$123,480

ALPAC = \$50,400

Greenbelt = \$50,400

Northfield Township = \$27,720

FMV = \$252,000

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Committee's recommendation, quality of the farmland, proximity to other protected land, the multiple partnerships and grant funds, I recommend that Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize the partnership with Northfield Township and the Ann Arbor Greenbelt and contribute \$50,400 toward the purchase of the conservation easement. I further recommend that \$7,500 be contributed to the stewardship special revenue fund to cover potential future monitoring or enforcement costs.

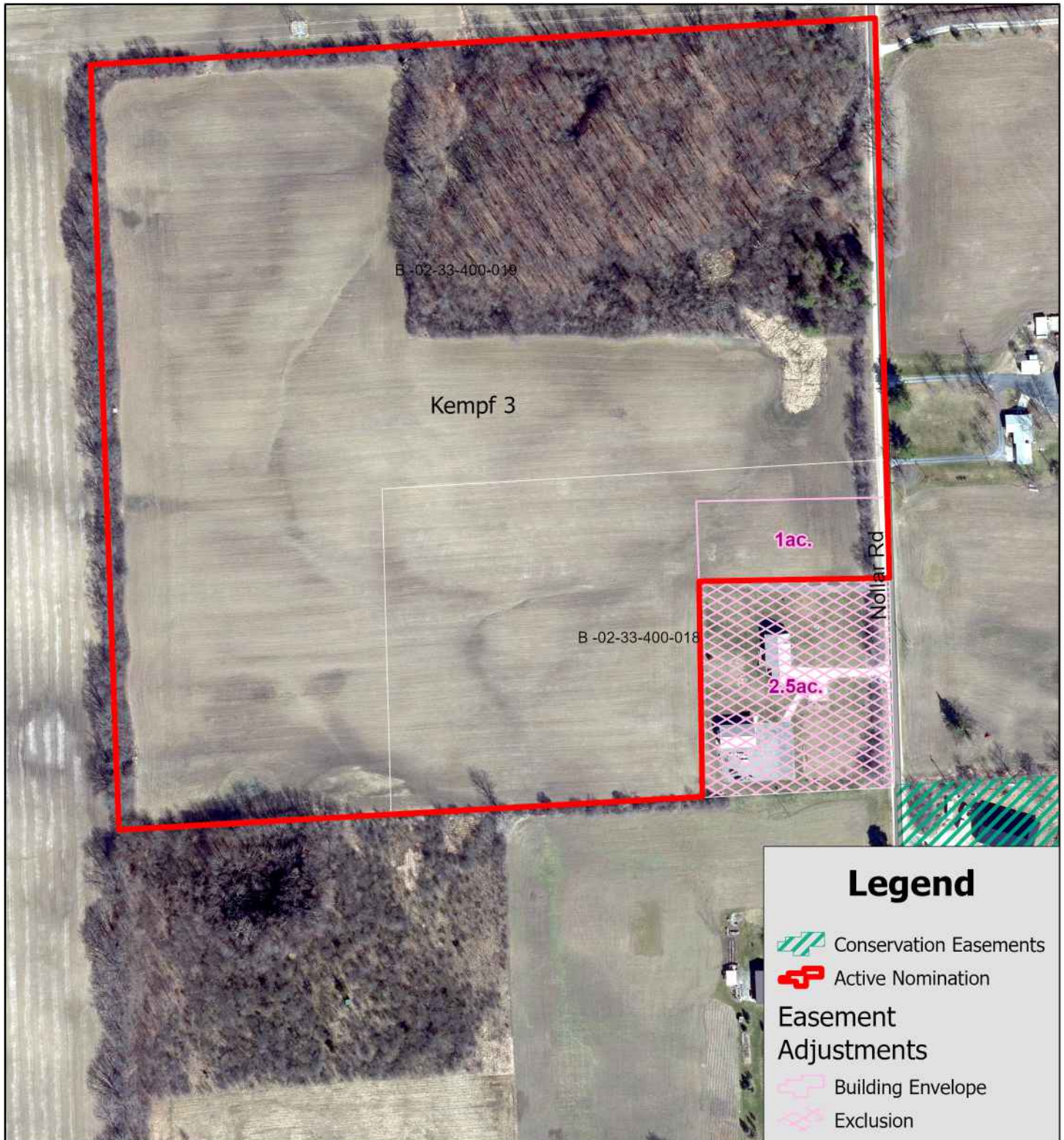
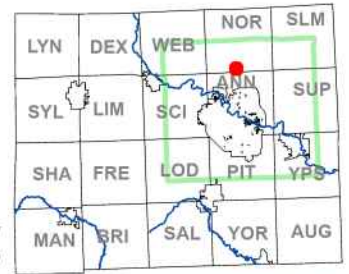
Kempf Trust Property 2024 Aerial

Natural Areas Preservation Program

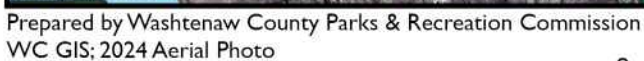
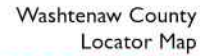
Northfield Township

+/- 37.5 acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



+/- 37.5 acres



**MEMORANDUM**

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Meghan Bonfiglio, Director
Date: May 12, 2026
Subject: NAPP - Singh Property Contingent Initial Approval

BACKGROUND

Northfield and Arbor Woods Preserves are currently comprised of 354 acres of land in Ann Arbor and Northfield Townships. The preserves have been compiled through six acquisitions completed between 2009 and 2022. The most recent acquisition was the Maisel property completed in 2022. The purchase added 223 acres of high-quality forest habitat that is not contiguous with the existing preserve. WCPARC staff has been working to identify a property acquisition opportunity to connect the Maisel parcel to the existing preserve since the time of purchase.

DISCUSSION

In 2022 staff had connected to the owners of the Singh property. The Singh property provides the missing link to connect the existing preserve along Joy Road and Northfield Church Road to the Masiel parcel. NATAC visited and evaluated the site in 2022 and ranked as a Tier 1 priority in Round 22.

The landscape supports a diverse and young canopy that was described as a moderate quality forest. During the NATAC site visit, native oaks and hickories were noted along with pockets of invasive species. Vernal pools and dry forest species were also identified. During the site visit, members noted the significance of this landscape for protection and recreational trail development.

The Singh property provides a critical connection between the publicly accessible preserve portion of Northfield Woods to the Maisel property. The ITC – owned corridor separates this property from the existing Northfield Woods Preserve. Staff has negotiated trail license agreements with ITC on other Parks owned properties and does not foresee any issues. Discussions with ITC would be part of the due diligence process if an offer is accepted and sales contract executed. The purchase of the Singh property would eliminate the need for the construction of an additional parking lot on the Maisel parcel, which both protects the existing forest and reduces future maintenance. The connection is also an incredible recreational opportunity, potentially allowing for a 5-6 mile trail experience that is unique in our existing preserve portfolio. Heavy development leading north from Ann Arbor will limit future opportunities for acquisition.

Last week, the Singh property was listed for sale for \$700,000 for 31 acres or \$22,580/acre. An appraisal has not yet been completed. In order to act expeditiously, staff is requesting an approval for a sales contract that will be based on an appraised value, not to exceed the asking price of \$700,000. Staff has reached out to one of the appraisers under contract to ensure an appraisal can be expedited. We know an offer for purchase has been submitted but not accepted by the seller. Therefore, staff is requesting an expedited process to be able to submit an offer before the June Commission meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on review of the Natural Area Technical Advisory Committee and staff, I recommend that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize a sales contract in the amount based on the value determined by an appraisal, not exceed \$700,000 contingent upon, satisfactory completion of due diligence and final approval of the Parks Commission.

Singh S Property: Aerial & Soils

Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 22.349

Northfield Township

+/- 31 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



Singh S Property: Local Area Aerial

Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 22.349

Northfield Township

+/- 31 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map

