



# Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2021-2025





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## Executive Summary

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The City of St. Joseph is a lakefront community fortunate to boast 15 designated park and beach properties encompassing over 200 acres available for public enjoyment. This Parks & Recreation Master Plan builds on past planning efforts while incorporating public input and stakeholder insight to assess current parks and address needs into the future. Because connectivity and ease of access tend to increase park use, this Plan addresses parks as part of an overall green infrastructure network that includes trails, sidewalks, open spaces, and waterways.

This Plan aims to reflect the values expressed in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) of 2018-2022, to preserve and protect our state's natural resources while providing fun and healthy outdoor opportunities for all residents.

Universal and equitable distribution and access, regardless of age, income level, or physical limitations, is a guiding principle of this Plan.

*The outline of the Plan is as follows: introduction to St. Joseph and the governing entities that affect park planning; park and recreation facility inventory; description of the public input process; determination of needs and deficiencies based on collected data; establishment of goals and objectives that would meet those needs; and finally, an Action Plan that helps the City move toward meeting established goals.*





# Introduction

Parks and recreation facilities are important elements of all healthy communities. The City of St. Joseph values its diverse and well-maintained park system. Properly planning and funding a park system is a critical component of quality of life for all residents.

# 01

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## **In this Chapter:**

- Plan Purpose and Scope
- The City of St. Joseph: Character, History, and People
- Land Use and Zoning Maps

# Plan Purpose

The City of St. Joseph's Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update for 2020-2025 has been prepared as a guide for future park planning in the community for near-term improvements over the next five years. The Plan will also help to address community needs for many years to come. This Plan presents an evaluation of the City's current recreation needs and opportunities for better connected and accessible park and recreation facilities. It considers the existing facilities in and around the City, the anticipated demand for additional or improved facilities, and the means for construction and maintenance of those facilities over the upcoming five-year period and beyond. In addition, the Plan helps prioritize funding for both capital improvement and potential grant-assisted projects to best utilize St. Joseph's existing resources and address user needs. This Plan Update was written in a year dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic, which has affected communities in multiple ways. Never before in recent history have parks and outdoor spaces been as critical to the health and well-being of a population. This Plan was written with the hope that even in challenging times, there is opportunity: in this case, opportunity to renew public stewardship of open spaces with the City of St. Joseph.

This plan has been realized through a comprehensive planning process that addresses the parks and recreation needs of the City of St. Joseph and the greater community. The Parks Advisory Board is proud of the work they have accomplished alongside the community with regards to facility improvements and programs. Since 2015, the following planning efforts have been completed:

- Dickinson Park Master Plan
- Riverview Park Master Plan
- Whirlpool Centennial Park Concept Planning



The Plan will also serve as a tool for broader community-based planning decisions. Coordinated planning will lead to improved landscape stewardship, increased opportunities for health and wellness, and will enhance public support through increased standard of living. Recent related planning efforts include the following:

## *Downtown Vision Master Plan, January 2020*

This Plan is the City's official plan and policy guide for Downtown St. Joseph. The Plan presents a community vision for the future of Downtown, outlining specific recommendations and strategies to help achieve that vision over time. This Plan is a helpful interface between the downtown area and public spaces along the bluff, as this popular park hosts programming almost entirely linked to downtown activities.

## *2016 Master Plan, June 2016*

This Plan is the official document used to guide the future development and growth of the City of St. Joseph and the management of its resources. This Plan provides the framework and basis for sound decision making and establishes a clear direction and set of expectations for the community. The Plan helps identify sidewalk and non-motorized pathway networks that can provide access to parks.



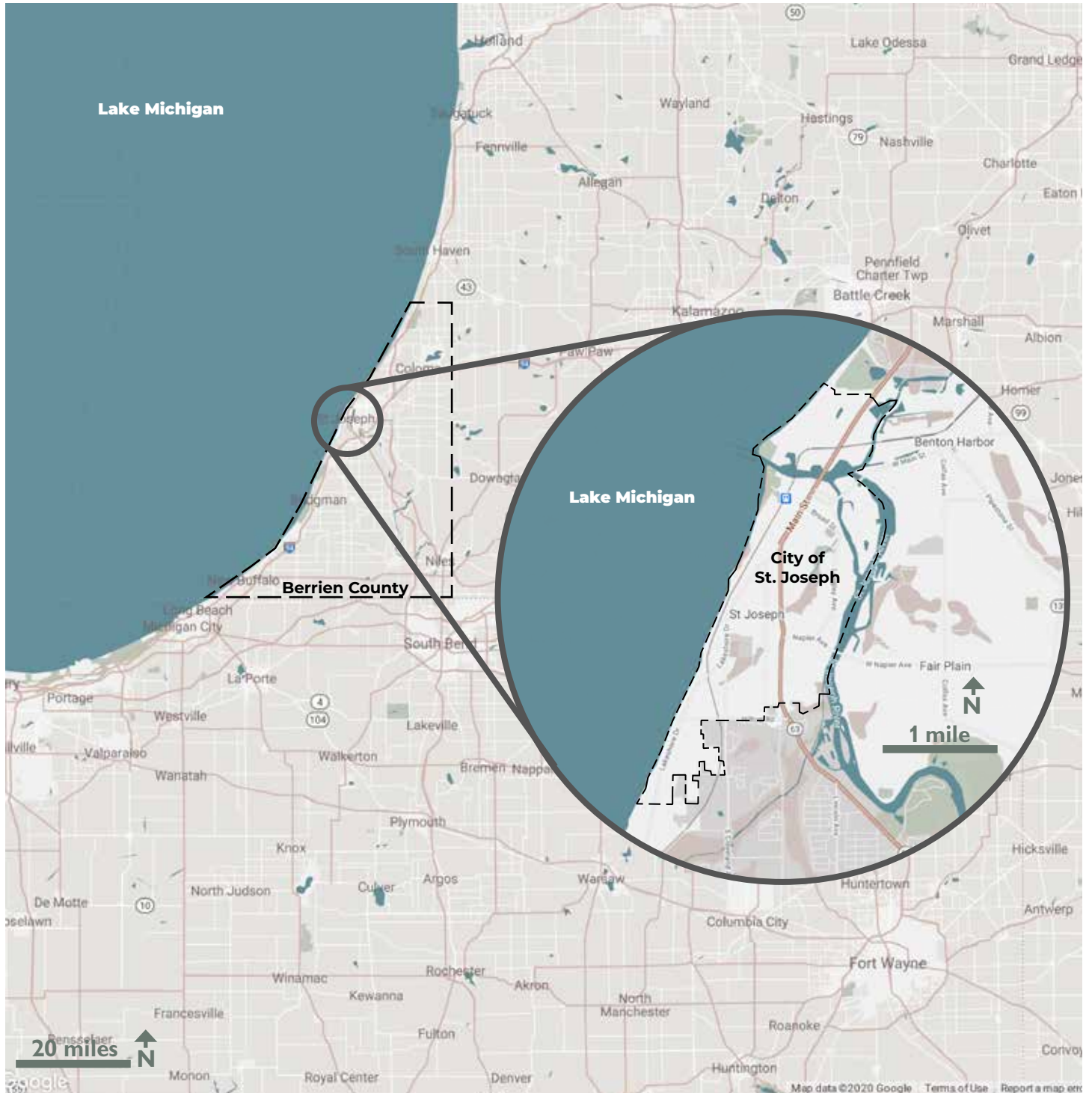
# Plan Scope

The scope of this Plan includes the City’s active and passive parks, beach and waterfront parks, recreation facilities, such as the Ice Arena and Boat Launch and linear corridors such as the Howard Family Path. The Plan aims to balance quality with quantity, analyzing existing capital expenditure and improvement budgets to ensure existing parks are able to be adequately maintained. Recreational programming is also an important consideration. The study area included in the Plan is limited to the City boundaries. However, consideration is also given to regional facilities that influence use patterns. The Capital Improvement Schedule of this document covers proposed development over the next year. However, the Goals and Objectives developed to guide parks and recreation planning will continue to be relevant for many years to come.



# Location Map

The City of St. Joseph is located in Michigan's picturesque southwest region, just 25 miles north of the Indiana border. St. Joseph has over four miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and sits at the mouth of the St. Joseph River. The City resides within Berrien County. The neighboring communities are the City of Benton Harbor to the north and northeast and St. Joseph Charter Township to the southeast and south, including the Village of Shoreham to the south.





# Community Description

The City of St. Joseph (City), estimated population 8,317, is located in Berrien County, on the eastern shores of Lake Michigan at the mouth of the St. Joseph River and at the confluence of the St. Joseph and Paw Paw Rivers. The City has a shoreline of nearly eleven miles, including approximately four miles on Lake Michigan, six miles on the St. Joseph River, and one mile on the Paw Paw River. The City's relationship with the waterfront is a dominant factor influencing the City's residential, economic, and recreational environments.

The City is also part of the "Twin Cities" area, a common name for a group of communities closely surrounding the cities of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph. This core area includes Benton Charter, Lincoln Charter, St. Joseph Charter, and Royalton Townships. These townships benefit from City residential and commercial development, and now have a greater portion of the area's population and tax base. The Twin Cities area has a total population of 18,500 that enjoys a significant number of unique economic, cultural, and recreational resources.

As with most cities, St. Joseph continues to experience transitions, particularly with commercial and industrial facilities. Harbor Shores Golf Course and its surrounding residential and commercial development and the Edgewater redevelopment into a new office and residential neighborhood are some recent changes.

The City's natural beauty assets and small-town charm continue to attract residents and tourists. Attractions include the Silver Beach Center and the Whirlpool Compass Fountain. These, and the annual festivals, Farmers Market, and the many summer weekend events, continue to make St. Joseph a city to visit often. This trend will continue and likely intensify in the future. The City's ability to plan for these trends will ensure that the City is in a position to guide the tourism growth, accompanying changes in property ownership, and economic patterns.



## History

The St. Joseph River has long been an important point of travel and commerce. The Miami and Potawatomi used this route, as did the European explorers and settlers. The first water routes across Lake Michigan between St. Joseph and Chicago began as a mail route in 1825. In 1829, Calvin Britain came to the Carey Mission at Niles and shortly after laid out the plat of the village known as Newburyport. He was influential in attracting many settlers, and the village flourished. The St. Joseph river mouth was straightened through a channel, and piers were later added. The first lighthouse in St. Joseph contends with Chicago's original lighthouse as the first to be built on Lake Michigan. Newburyport changed its name to St. Joseph when it was incorporated in 1834.

## Transportation

The Port at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor flourished during the second half of the 19th century and remained strong until it saw a huge drop in traffic during the early years of the twentieth century, exacerbated by the Great Depression. Trade with Chicago was strengthened in 1870 with the extension of the Chicago and Michigan Lake Shore Railroad line from New Buffalo to St. Joseph. This connected St. Joseph to Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Detroit, and Chicago. Today, the Twin Cities are connected by Interstate and State highways. I-94, which runs generally east-west, is located just south of St. Joseph. M-63, which runs northwest into St. Joseph and continues along Lake Michigan, is the main connector from downtown to I-94. Amtrak's Pier Marquette passenger train operates out of Silver Beach, and CSX commercial transportation services share these same lines. Maritime shipping still operates out of the port for three shippers.

## Land Use

Proximity to water has been the dominant factor in shaping the physical character of St. Joseph. Lake Michigan to the West and the St. Joseph River to the North and East have provided natural growth barriers to the City of St. Joseph with growth naturally pushing to the south over time. Over the years, the function of the channel has slowly changed from primarily commercial shipping to recreational boating, further strengthening St. Joseph as a tourist destination with beautiful beaches, beautiful views from the bluff, and the quaint downtown and historic neighborhood.

The lake and river perimeter is bordered with beautiful single-family homes, summer houses, and parks, with only a small portion of the inner harbor still in commercial use for the receiving and staging of limestone, sand, slag and bulk cement.



# Demographics

Between 1970 and 2010, the population of St. Joseph has been steadily decreasing, similar to many adjacent communities. The US Census Bureau is estimating a small increase from 2010 to 2019, which may be further increased due to recent trends of migration from major urban areas to smaller cities due to the pandemic and other stresses. Only Royalton Township saw significant growth from 2000 to 2010 and that is primarily due to the availability for land and newly constructed single-family homes. The overall population in Berrien County is still showing a small decrease, consistent with other nearby counties, but these numbers may change as previously noted. For the purposes of this Plan, we can assume that the population will remain steady for the foreseeable future, and the 2019 Census Bureau estimate figure of 8,317 will be used for planning purposes.

## DEMOGRAPHICS OF ST. JOSEPH, MI

COMMUNITY	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	EST. 2019	GROWTH*	GROWTH**
City of St. Joseph	11,042	9,622	9,214	8,789	8,365	8,317	-4.8%	-0.6%
City of Benton Harbor	16,481	14,707	12,818	11,182	10,038	9,741	-10.2%	-3.0%
St. Joseph Charter Township	10,271	9,961	9,613	10,042	10,028	9,676	-0.1%	-3.5%
Benton Charter Township	19,034	19,120	17,163	16,404	14,749	14,300	-10.1%	-3.0%
Lincoln Charter Township	11,007	13,520	13,604	13,952	14,691	14,597	5.3%	-0.6%
Royalton Township	2,513	3,046	3,135	3,888	4,764	4,781	22.5%	0.4%
Sodus Township	2,504	2,260	2,065	2,139	1,931	1,951	-9.7%	1.0%
Berrien County	163,940	171,276	161,378	162,644	156,742	153,401	-3.6%	-2.1%
Cass County	43,312	49,499	49,477	51,091	52,245	51,787	2.3%	-0.9%
Van Buren County	56,173	66,814	70,060	76,349	76,147	75,272	-0.3%	-1.1%
Michigan	8,881,826	9,262,078	9,295,297	9,938,444	9,883,635	9,962,311	-0.6%	0.8%

\*2000-2010      \*\*2010-2020

### Population Distribution

According to U.S. Census Bureau projections dated July 1, 2019, 19.6% of St. Joseph's population is age 65 and over. 23.2% of St. Joseph's population is under the age of 18. St. Joseph's median age is 40.8 years, lower than Berrien County's median age of 42.1 and slightly higher than the State of Michigan's median of 39.7 years.

St. Joseph's population is predominantly white (83.9%) according to 2019 Census Data estimates. Other groups include Black or African American (4.9%), American Indian and Alaska Native (1.3%), Asian (6.4%), Two or More Races (2.6%) and Hispanic and Latino population (2.3%). Data from 2019 estimates show 7.7% of the population to be foreign born.

### Households and Income Level

The distribution of income for St. Joseph's residents shows a well-balanced percentage of households in income categories that compares closely with the State of Michigan. The median household income in years 2015-2019 was \$62,374, an increase from 2010's median income of \$51,328. This growth in income has a positive correlation with families escaping from below the poverty level. After the recession, St. Joseph's poverty level reached a height of 20.5% but has significantly declined to 7.0% according to 2019 estimates. Decreasing poverty is an indicator for a healthy economy. The City of St. Joseph shows a relatively broad employment market indicative of a balanced economy. The highest percentages of employees are in the manufacturing and educational/health care service industries. The City's major employers include Whirlpool, Lakeland Regional Health System, Leco Corporation, St. Joseph Public Schools, and Berrien County.

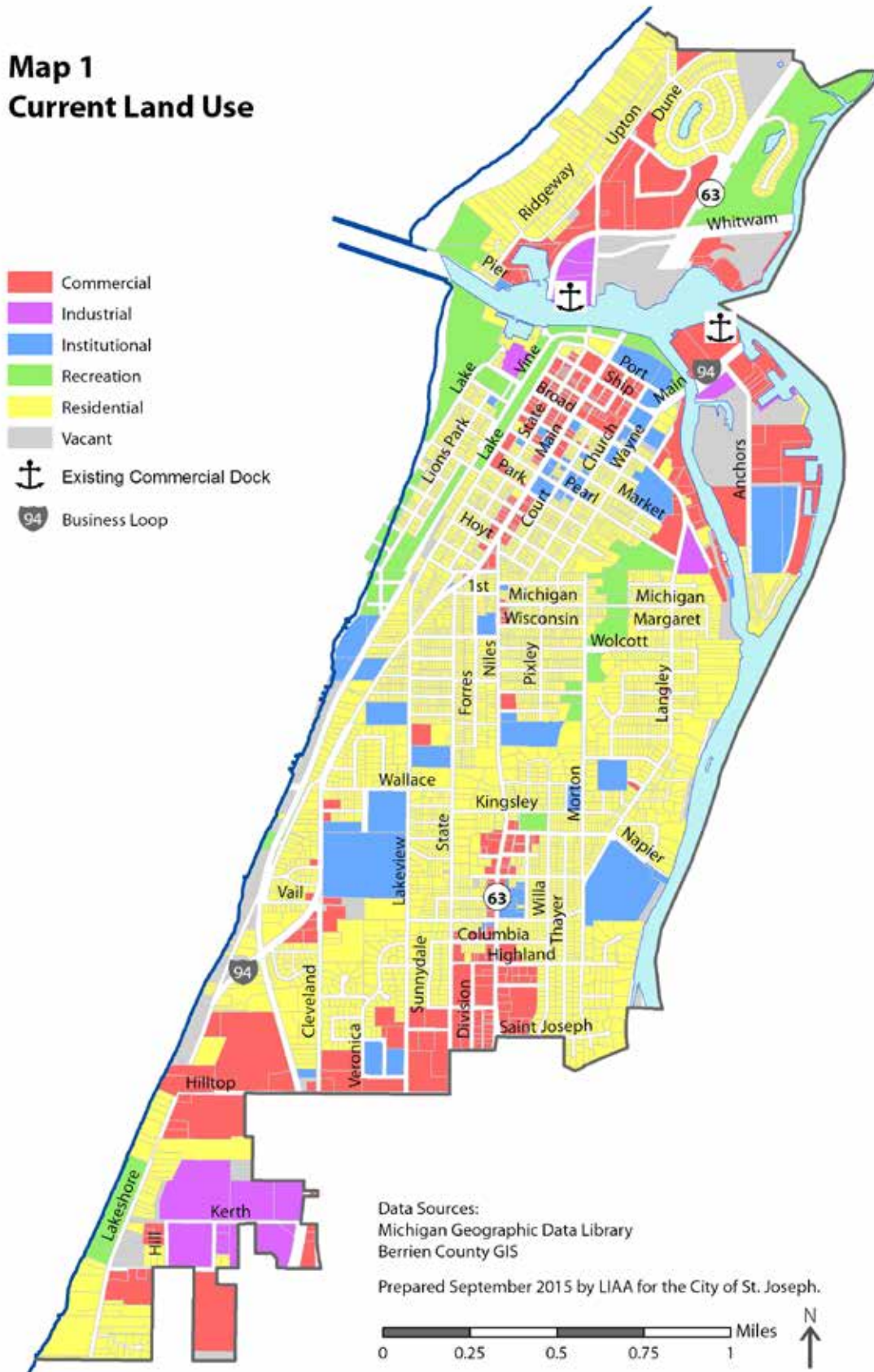
Population Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau  
 Median Age Data Source: censusreporter.org



# Land Use Map

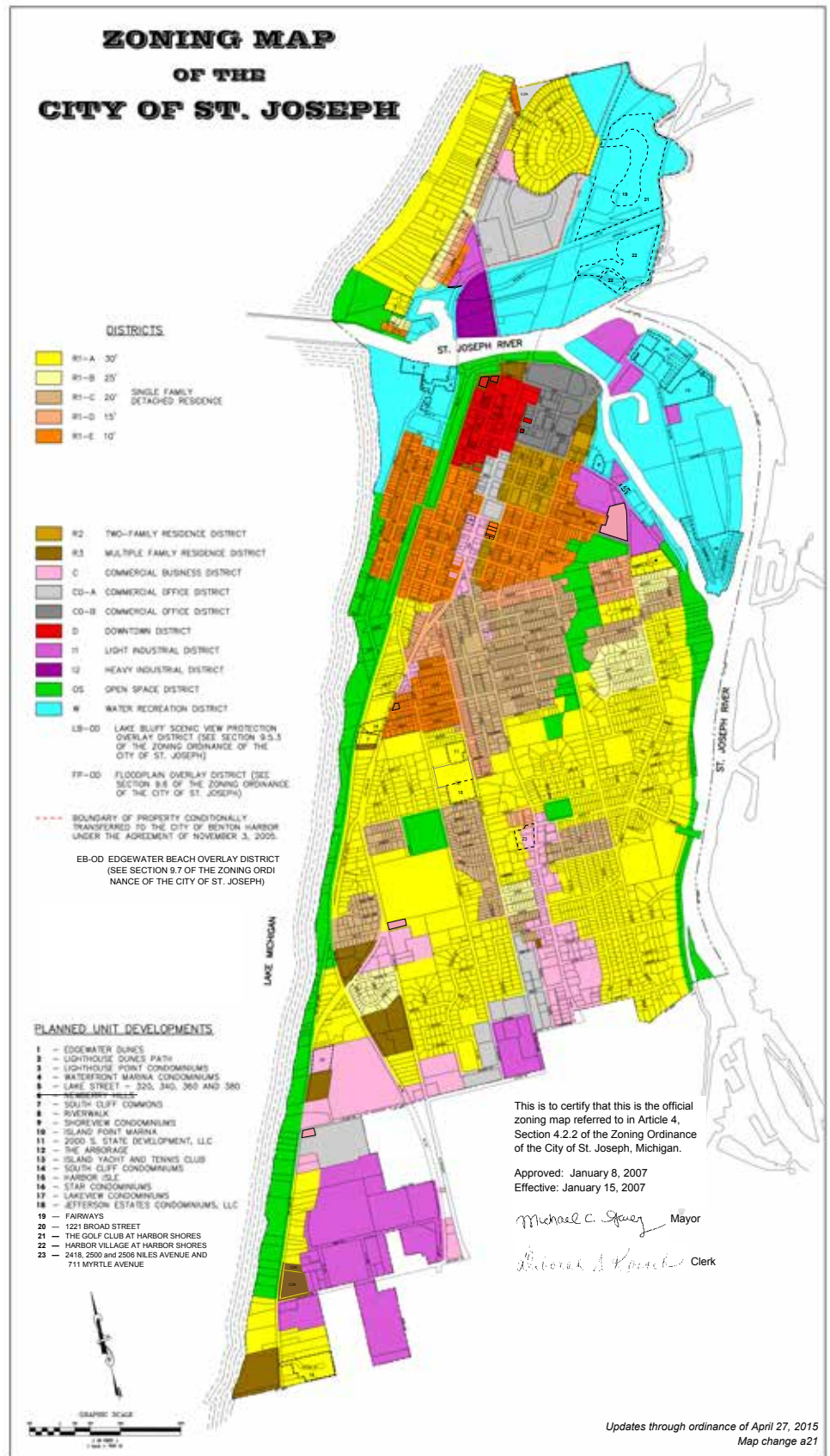
Map courtesy 2016 City of St. Joseph Master Plan.

**Map 1  
Current Land Use**



# Zoning Map

Map courtesy City Zoning Department.



## **Chapter 01 Key Points**

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Beyond outlining the purpose and scope of this Master Plan, this chapter contains an overview of historic background and demographic data for the City of St. Joseph. Data includes population statistics, age, and income level. This data provides background with the potential to impact park planning.

As nearly half of the City of St. Joseph's population is over age 65 or under age 18, use of outdoor spaces will be greatly increased with provision of easily accessible and walkable park networks and open space systems.

It remains critical to make parks and recreation programs accessible to all, regardless of income or ability level. This Master Plan Update, if well planned and thoughtfully executed, has the potential to improve the health and quality of life for residents of all backgrounds.





# Administrative Structure

The Parks and Cemetery Division plays an important role within the City of St. Joseph, both maintaining current park properties and their amenities, and providing a sustainable vision to allow these properties to function for the future of St. Joseph residents.

# 02

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## **In this Chapter:**

- City of St. Joseph Government Structure
- Partnerships and Role of Volunteers
- Current and Projected Budget

# Overview

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The City of St. Joseph Department of Public Works – Parks & Cemetery Division oversees 15 designated park and beach properties encompassing over 200 acres.

The Parks and Cemetery Division is responsible for the maintenance of all City parks and amenities which include playground equipment, interactive and ornamental fountains, ballfields and courts, trails, picnic tables, swings, benches, flowers and landscaping beds. Additionally the crew is responsible for three (3) cemeteries which includes management of Riverview, City and Highland Cemetery grounds, lot and columbarium sales, and internments in the cemeteries. The division is also responsible for over 40 miles of Right-of-Way, and public property trees, although most of this work is done contractually.

## *Facility Maintenance*

The facilities staff is assigned the task of maintaining all City-owned facilities which include restrooms, picnic pavilions, the John E. N. Howard Bandshell, John & Dede Howard Ice Arena and Woodbine Lodge.

## *Recreation*

The Recreation Manager is responsible for all recreation programming, including management of the John & Dede Howard Ice Arena, Summer Tennis and Summer Recreation programs.

## *St. Joseph Recreational Harbor Authority*

The West Basin Marina and City Boat Launch are owned and operated by the City of St. Joseph. The St. Joseph Recreational Harbor Authority oversees operation and management of both facilities. All operating expenses for the facilities are not subsidized by the City General Fund, but instead are recovered from slip fees, fuel sales, parking fees and boat storage fees.



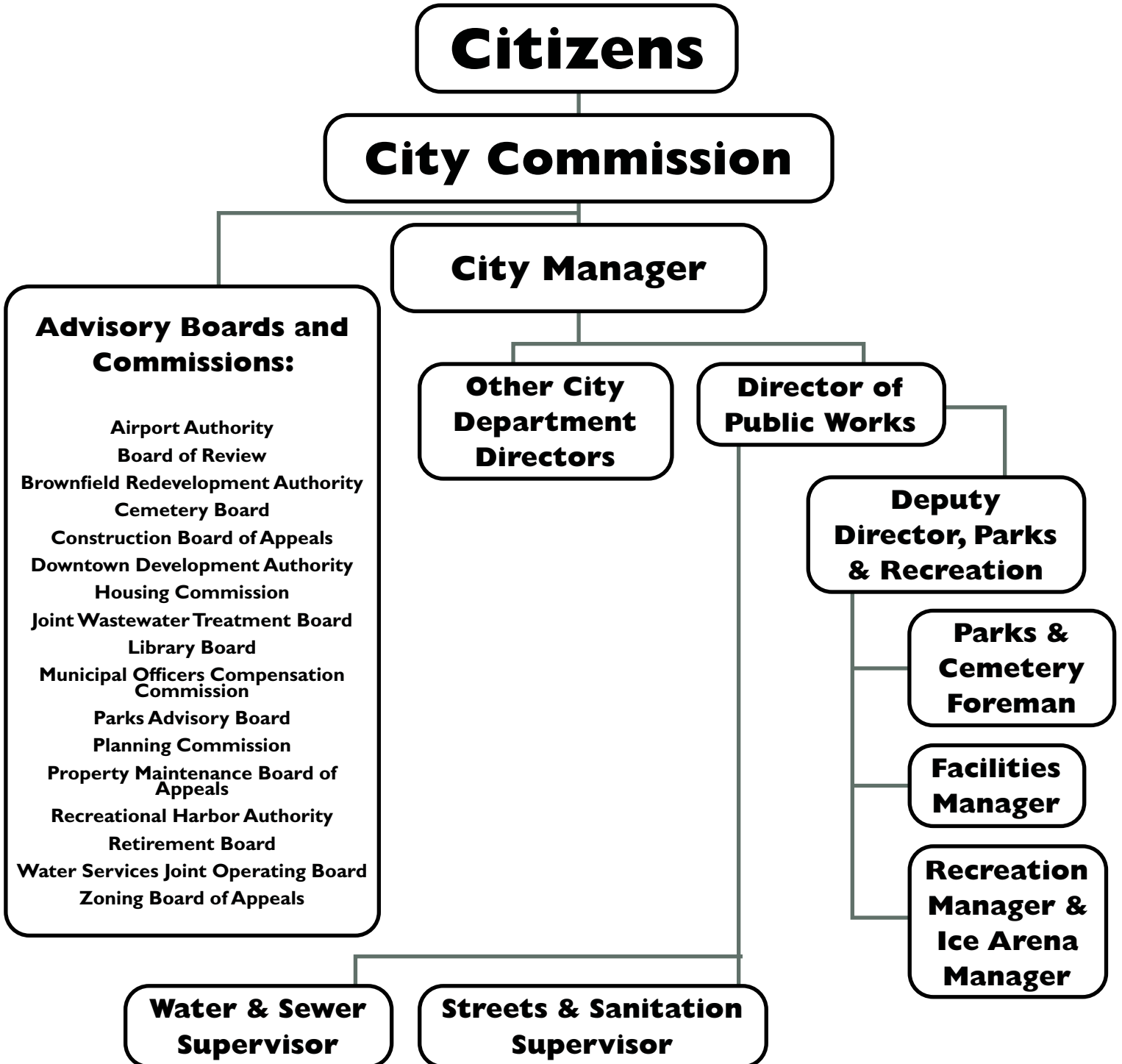


# Governmental Structure

The City of St. Joseph is organized under a Commission-Manager form of government and provides a full range of public services, including general government activities, public safety, public works, and recreation to its residents.

The City Commission sets policy and directs the staff to implement actions in support of those policies. The City Manager is the direct link between the Commission and the City's operation, and is responsible for day-to-day administration of the City. The City Manager supervises several department heads, which serve as senior staff and control the operations of their respective departments.

## Organizational Chart



## Parks Division

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The Parks Advisory Board is made up of seven members of the community appointed by the City Commission. The Board advises and provides recommendations to the City regarding specific Park and Recreation-related issues.

## Recreation Division

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Formal recreation programming in a typical year for the City of St. Joseph includes summer tennis, summer recreation, mini-kicker soccer for 3-5-year olds, movies in the park, stick and puck at the ice arena, a winter recreational basketball league, and assisting St. Joseph Baseball Association with baseball and softball.

The oldest two programs, tennis and the summer recreation program, are approximately 20 years old. The recreation program has had a formal manager for two years. Previously, programming has been organized by the park's director with assistance from the public works administrative assistant. Due to COVID-19, most formal programming is on pause.

The City of St. Joseph contracted with MyRec.com Recreation Software in the spring of 2019 to provide database management, registration software and facility rental software for the parks and recreation department. The system is used for facility and pavilion rentals, registration for recreation programming, and a Point-of-Sale (POS) system for the John & Dede Howard Ice Arena. The program provides a website specifically for parks and recreation, [www.sjcityparkrec.com](http://www.sjcityparkrec.com). By creating an account, residents and non-residents may request facilities, register for programs or complete a special event application. There is also a calendar available to view activities and facility availability.

There are currently 1,269 accounts in the system, and despite the pandemic, 626 individuals participated in programming for the calendar year 2020. City facilities, including pavilions and the ice arena, were reserved for 1,873 hours in 2020 and 3,594 hours in 2019.



# Partnerships and Role of Volunteers

Service Clubs and community groups play an important role in providing volunteer labor and financial support for the park system. The Lions Club has “adopted” Lions Park Beach and provides an annual cleanup, and the Kiwanis Club has provided play equipment for several parks.

## *St. Joseph Public Schools and other Agencies*

The City and St. Joseph Public Schools share facilities to make maximize use of available recreational opportunities. For example, the High School baseball and softball fields are located in Dickinson Park and the cross-country teams race at Riverview Park, both of which are City facilities.

Maximum use of City and School District facilities is facilitated by a cooperative approach. The City holds Shared-Use Agreements with the St. Joseph School District for both Dickinson Park and Stubblefield Tennis Courts.

Dickinson Park is owned by the City, which has long allowed the School District to utilize a portion of the Park for St. Joseph High School’s interscholastic baseball and softball programs, including the construction of two separate ball diamonds and related facilities in the Park. The City and the School District presently share the maintenance of Dickinson Park, where the School District maintains the park for their use only in the fall and spring, and the City maintains the park the rest of the year. The school has first priority use of the ballfields during the school year, and the City has first priority in the summer months. The fields are open to public use if no programmed activities are taking place.

The School District owns the Stubblefield Tennis Courts but has long allowed the City to utilize the courts for the City’s Summer Recreation Tennis Program, as well as general public usage not in conflict with the District’s interscholastic tennis programs.

There is similar cooperation with other agencies in the St. Joseph area, including St. Joseph Today, a non-profit group devoted to the promotion of the community through sponsoring various events to enhance the City, notably including sponsoring free concerts through the summer at the John E. N. Howard Bandshell.



# Current Budget

General Park operation and maintenance funding is provided through the City's General Fund. Although some revenues are received from facility rental and parking fees, the great majority of parks and recreation funding is supplied through the City's general tax levy. Additional funding for capital improvements is provided periodically through the City's Capital/Special Projects Fund. In the 2020-2021 City Fiscal year, the following amounts have been appropriated to the City's Parks and Recreation Budget:

- \$996,100 Parks Department Budget
- \$168,300 Recreation Budget
- \$226,000 Ice Arena Budget

DESCRIPTION	2019-2020	2020-2021	2020-2021
	ACTIVITY	BUDGET	ACTIVITY (thru 6/30/21)
Salaries - Regular Full Time	\$345,052	\$368,000	\$ 69,292
Salaries - Regular Extra	\$ 6,257	\$ 6,600	\$ 2,316
Overtime - Regular	\$ 8,216	\$ 21,000	\$ 3,191
Salaries - Regular Part Time	\$ 42,873	\$ 80,000	\$ 15,886
Other Compensation	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,400	\$ 600
Longevity	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,500	\$ -
FICA - Employer	\$ 29,454	\$ 36,700	\$ 6,670
Health Insurance Premiums	\$ 79,596	\$ 67,400	\$ 16,851
Life Insurance	\$ 1,006	\$ 900	\$ 224
Pension Contribution	\$ 29,369	\$ 30,600	\$ 7,044
Workers Compensation	\$ 11,518	\$ 12,000	\$ 2,785
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,300	\$ -
Operating Supplies	\$ 75,079	\$ 59,600	\$ 8,869
Professional and Contract Services	\$ 4,441	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,700
Computer Technical Support	\$ 333	\$ 500	\$ 333
Communications	\$ 3,865	\$ 4,500	\$ 965
Transportation and Education	\$ 4,121	\$ 5,500	\$ -
Professional Memberships/Dues	\$ 250	\$ 800	\$ 800
Printing and Publishing	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 175
Waste and Rubbish Disposal	\$ 285	\$ 300	\$ -
Public Utilities	\$ 27,342	\$ 40,000	\$ 5,785
General Repair and Maintenance	\$ 48,724	\$ 67,500	\$ 5,897
Vehicle and Equipment Usage	\$121,580	\$160,000	\$ 37,246
Rents and Leases	\$ 7,191	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ -
Bank Charges	\$ 7,925	\$ 10,000	\$ 9,057
Refunds and Rebates	\$ 7,163	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,400
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$867,940</b>	<b>\$996,100</b>	<b>\$197,086</b>

Salaries - Regular Full Time	\$ 13,302	\$ 25,800	\$ 6,719
Salaries - Regular Part Time	\$ 3,951	\$ 10,500	\$ -
FICA - Employer	\$ 1,287	\$ 1,000	\$ 497
Workers Compensation	\$ 153	\$ 500	\$ 130
Operating Supplies	\$ 4,750	\$ 41,800	\$ 2,686
Pro. Subscriptions and Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pro. and Contract Services	\$ 27,400	\$ 61,500	\$ 11,405
Computer Technical Support	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -
Communications	\$ 287	\$ 600	\$ 143
Transportation and Education	\$ 534	\$ 600	\$ -
Professional Memberships/Dues	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -
Printing and Publishing	\$ 7,141	\$ 8,000	\$ -
Rents and Leases	\$ 6,925	\$ 12,000	\$ -
Refunds and Rebates	\$ 24,817	\$ 5,000	\$ 8,462
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 90,547</b>	<b>\$168,300</b>	<b>\$ 30,042</b>



ICE ARENA	DESCRIPTION	2019-2020 ACTIVITY	2020-2021 BUDGET	2020-2021 ACTIVITY (thru 6/30/21)
	Salaries - Regular Full Time	\$ 57,037	\$ 56,100	\$ 5,775
Overtime - Regular	\$ 4,188	\$ 3,500	\$ 426	
Salaries - Regular Part Time	\$ 35,701	\$ 39,000	\$ 1,253	
FICA - Employer	\$ 7,275	\$ 7,600	\$ 556	
Health Insurance Premiums	\$ 5,496	\$ 6,400	\$ 1,599	
Life Insurance	\$ 146	\$ 200	\$ 33	
Pension Contribution	\$ 6,857	\$ 5,300	\$ 1,217	
Workers Compensation	\$ 1,851	\$ 1,700	\$ 121	
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ -	
Operating Supplies	\$ 14,205	\$ 21,000	\$ 3,554	
Technical Equipment	\$ 867	\$ -	\$ -	
Professional and Contract Services	\$ 2,075	\$ 2,500	\$ -	
Computer Technical Support	\$ 1,126	\$ 1,000	\$ -	
Communications	\$ 1,839	\$ 2,400	\$ 445	
Transportation and Education	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	
Printing and Publishing	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	
Public Utilities	\$ 50,794	\$ 60,000	\$ 3,623	
General Repair and Maintenance	\$ 9,163	\$ 13,000	\$ 690	
Vehicle and Equipment Usage	\$ 164	\$ 2,000	\$ 295	
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 141	\$ 1,000	\$ -	
Bank Charges	\$ 1,181	\$ 1,200	\$ -	
Refunds and Rebates	\$ 308	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$201,014</b>	<b>\$226,000</b>	<b>\$ 19,587</b>	

It should be noted that these budgets were set prior to the Covid 19 Pandemic, which drastically limited programs throughout the year 2020. 2020-2021 activity should not be considered typical.

## Capital Improvement Plan

In 2020-2021 the following Park Capital projects are tentatively planned (the budget is under development at the time this report was prepared): Tiny Tots Playground improvements, Whirlpool Fountain improvements, parking system improvements at various parks, Maid of the Mist fountain rehabilitation, Howard Path bridge repairs, Riverfront Trail improvements, Milton Park improvements, Tiscornia Park parking lot repairs, Bluff lighting replacements, Bluff staircase repairs, Lions Park erosion control, Riverview Park sanitary improvements, and Quonset Hut maintenance at the Boat Launch.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: RECREATION	PROJECT NAME	APPROVED 05/2019	UPDATED REQUESTS	REQUESTED 2020-2021
	Parks Five Year Plan	\$	\$	\$ 20,000
Tiny Tots Playground Equipment	\$	\$	\$ 20,000	
Whirlpool Shade/Foot Showers/Other	\$409,000	\$	\$415,000	
Parking System (5)	\$ 15,000	\$	\$ 15,000	
Maids of the Mist Rehabilitation	\$100,000	\$ 5,000	\$180,000	
Howard Path Bridge Rehabilitation	\$ 50,000	\$172,000	\$125,000	
Riverfront Trail	\$ 35,000	\$	\$ 10,000	
Milton Park Improvements	\$	\$	\$ 16,000	
Tiscornia Park Parking Lot Repairs	\$	\$	\$ 15,000	
Whirlpool Compass Fountain Maintenance	\$	\$	\$ 25,000	
Bluff (Light-Up) Refurbish/Replace	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	
Bluff Staircase Repairs	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
Lions Park Restoration/Erosion Control	\$ 20,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	
Riverview Park Sanitary Improvements	\$100,000	\$	\$100,000	
Quonset Hut Maintenance	\$	\$	\$ 15,000	
Ice Arena Condenser Replacements	\$ 30,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	



## **Chapter 02 Key Points**

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The St. Joseph Parks Department currently relies on a network of collaborations and partnerships with outside providers and education facilities to provide expanded opportunities to City residents. Based on input from these providers and from the City, these relationships are currently successful and should be continued.

Prioritizing available funding to make best use of available resources and to maintain flexibility to adapt to recreation trends is critical to best serve the community.



# Inventory of Parks, Natural Areas, and Recreational Facilities

This chapter evaluates each individual park and recreation facility within the City's network of green infrastructure. While the Plan considers the park system comprehensively, the details from this chapter will help to inform park-wide decisions later in the document.

# 03

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## **In this Chapter:**

- Parks and Recreation Facilities Map
- School and Educational Facility Index
- Individual Park Inventory Pages
- Park Amenity Matrix
- Recreation Program Matrix
- Other Recreation Providers
- Related Maps

# Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to document the current content and distribution of St. Joseph parks and recreation facilities. This information will be used in later chapters to analyze how effectively those parks serve their neighborhoods. The intent of the analysis is to provide a clear evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses within the existing recreational options the City of St. Joseph has to offer its citizens. The inventory is based on information provided by City staff and site inspections carried out by Edgewater Resources as part of the planning process. Site inspections took place in-person at each park over multiple site visits in September-October of 2020.

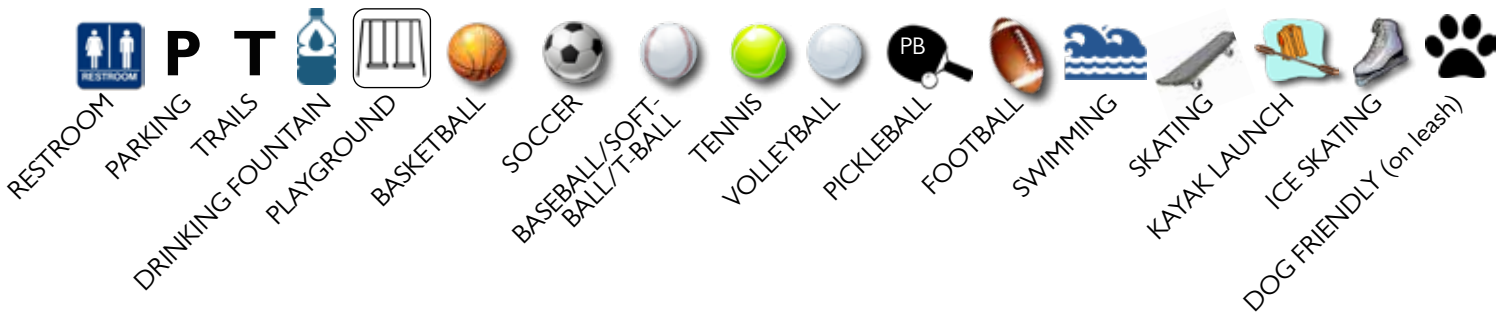
Within the City limits, there are three (3) mini-parks, three (3) neighborhood parks, five (5) community-wide parks, one (1) linear park, three (3) natural resource areas, four (4) special use facilities, and five (5) public school buildings currently in operation. Along with the public schools, there are private schools, exercise clubs, churches, and day care programs that provide recreational activities, such as playground equipment, ballfields, scheduled outings and supervised activities. In addition, a list of the various public, quasi-public and private recreation facilities follows later in this chapter.

The site inventory for each park includes an accessibility rating to determine the current status of the park’s pathways, structures, and amenities. This ranking will help prioritize which parks should be first to receive accessibility improvements in terms of new paving, modified furniture, or replacement of structures. The Accessibility Assessment of each City park was undertaken using the following ranking system:

- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design

The planning team worked extensively with the Disability Network of Southwest Michigan to help provide accurate and meaningful assessment of every park from the viewpoint of a person with limited mobility, or from the viewpoint of their caretaker.

Each park inventory page contains symbols for key amenities provided at that facility. The legend of symbols is as shown below:



Note that the ‘restroom’ symbol means that the park has a restroom building within the park boundary. This does not include porta-potties or bathrooms on adjacent properties. The ‘parking’ symbol means that parking is provided specifically for this park, either in a lot, or in the case of Lake Bluff Park, with angled parking the entire length of park. The ‘trail’ symbol does not include typical City sidewalks.

# Parks and Recreation Facilities Map



- 1. Dickinson Park
- 2. Howard Family Path
- 3. Kiwanis Park
- 4. Lake Bluff Park
- 5. Lions Park
- 6. Lookout Park
- 7. Milton Park
- 8. Old SJ Neighborhood Park
- 9. Point Park
- 10. Riverview Park
- 11. Tiny Tots Park
- 12. Tiscornia Park
- 13. Upton Arboretum
- 14. Whirlpool Centennial Park
- 15. Whittlesey Park

# School and Educational Facility Index & Map

## *St. Joseph High School*

The City owns Dickinson Park and allows the School District to use the fields for baseball and softball programs.

## *Stubblefield Tennis Courts*

This tennis complex, located at the High School and owned by the School District, provides eight courts with lighting for the community to use. The City maintains the restroom facility in the summertime for community use.

## *Upton Middle School*

City youth basketball programs use the gyms to hold games.

## *Lincoln Public School*

City youth basketball programs practice in gym. This school property provides a large playground area and green space that is open for the public to use after school hours.

## *Brown Elementary*

City youth basketball programs practice in gym. The playgrounds and walking path are open to the public for use after school hours.

## *EP Clarke Elementary School*

City youth basketball programs practice in gym. The playground and walking path are open to the public for use after school hours.

## *Wells Field*

Baseball and Little League are run from this park, which is owned by the School District.





# Dickinson Park

**Description:** Dickinson Park occupies over 8 acres of land adjacent to St. Joseph High School. Located within the park are two ball diamonds that are utilized for home fields by the school baseball and softball teams. The northern and eastern portions of the park have mature deciduous trees. The park is also utilized by area residents as an informal dog walk area, and dog waste stations have been added. Area residents also enjoy chipping golf balls and other recreational activities within the space. Parking is available on the street or in the St. Joseph High school parking lot for large events. Restrooms are available at the nearby Stubblefield tennis and pickleball courts, which are owned by the school but available for public use.

**Assessment:** A Master Plan completed in 2017 proposes addition of a restroom structure, ADA play structure, concessions, storage, improved parking, new fencing, and pathway connecting to Milton Park.

**Location:** 2499 Stadium Drive

**Park Type:** Neighborhood Park

**Size:** 8.39 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** None

**Amenities:** Two baseball diamonds, mature shade trees, informal dog walk area, golf ball chipping (informal)



# Howard Family Path

**Description:** This multi-use path is located along approximately 5 acres of City-owned land and provides accessible linkage for area residents above the 60-foot-tall bluff and the beachfront via a wooden bridge and switchback ramp system at the southern terminus. The path continues to the north through a wooded area to the west of the railroad tracks and then connects to Silver Beach, Whirlpool Park, and the Upton Arboretum. New improvements include lighting and benches. Dogs are also allowed on the path but must be kept on a leash.

**Assessment:** Add drinking fountains, remove invasive plants, prune trees, seal trail surface. Need barriers other than split-rail fence to keep people off of sensitive slopes. Flooding in low areas is a continual problem. Regular sand management required. Consider parking areas at key access points. Add signage and distance markers. Provide more direct access to Lions Park at switchback bridge on south end.

**Location:** 801 Highland Street

**Park Type:** Linear Park

**Size:** 4.5 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 3

**Programming:** None

**Amenities:** Bike/walking path, lighting, trash receptacles, lookout with switchback ramp at south end





# Kiwanis Park

**Description:** This park has the largest acreage (19.2) within the City limits. Volunteering and fundraising led by the Kiwanis Club are responsible for park improvements. This park has a ballfield with lighting used by area leagues, a park shelter, restrooms, a dog park, playground equipment, and a large parking lot. The park is also the location of the John and Dede Howard Skate Park, one of the largest skate parks in the region. This facility contains above-ground ramps, grind rails, etc. Drainage is an issue for the park, and efforts have been made to mitigate pooling through the installation of drainage tiles.

**Assessment:** Future improvements to the outdated bathrooms and drainage are recommended. Other potential improvements include: fencing, new entry sign, ADA pathways, open view from Pearl Street, dog park shade structure, walking path into park, nature area with mown trails, sledding hill, and pickleball courts. City has received multiple requests for lighting at the skate park. Needs long-term plan for improvements. General updates and flood management needed.

**Location:** 1350 Pearl Street

**Park Type:** Community Park

**Size:** 19.2 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** Baseball, softball, kickball

**Amenities:** Off-leash dog park, skate park, playground, baseball diamond, basketball court, covered pavilion, bathroom, parking, pickleball court, horseshoes





# Lake Bluff Park

**Description:** This linear park area of over 7 acres is located along the west side of Lake Boulevard at the top of the 60-foot bluff that runs from Park Street north. The park contains numerous veteran memorials, historical markers, and information signs while also providing outstanding views of Lake Michigan, the lighthouse, and Whirlpool Centennial Fountain. The mature trees and passive seating areas adjacent to the sidewalk add shade and gathering areas. Throughout the summer months, the park is used for the Farmers Market, craft shows, festivals and many other events. The John E. N. Howard Bandshell at the northern end of the park holds concerts and has been the location for many weddings. The park also has a restroom facility that is accessible via a ramp and stairway down to Centennial Park. Dogs must be on a leash, and trash cans with dog clean-up bags are available along the sidewalk. Free parking is available within walking distance to the park.

**Assessment:** Renovations to the bathroom and enhanced landscaping, including butterfly-friendly plants, are recommended. Consider clearing views through forested understory in key areas. Improve ADA switchback down the hill. Limit new monuments. Retaining wall needs repairs. Develop festival fencing plan. Provide space for “Reading on the Bluff” program with Library. Need accessible paths to picnic tables.

**Location:** 500 Port Street

**Park Type:** Natural Resource Area

**Size:** 7.34 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** Farmers Market and other holiday and seasonal events, including: Saturday Market on the bluff in summer, Art Fair on the Bluff, Bed Races.

**Amenities:** Sidewalks, bathroom building on main stairway, landscaping, veteran monuments, water fountains, dog clean-up bags, trash receptacles, benches, historical markers, informational signs. John E. N. Howard Bandshell at north end of park.





# Lions Park

**Description:** Lions Park is a popular waterfront park for City residents and visitors. This 17.22 acre park is located along the shoreline of Lake Michigan. The parking is pay-to-park with overflow parking within walking distance. There are three covered pavilions that are usually reserved to capacity during the summer months. The park also has a restroom/changing room facility and playground area with picnic tables and grills. The St. Joseph Lions Club has purchased equipment and items for the park and continues to fund improvements. This park is located north of the City water filtration facility. No dogs are currently allowed at this park.

**Assessment:** In the future, beach nourishment and shoreline stabilization is recommended. Add steps to Howard Path, improve access from bridge to upper road, add steps from upper road to lower. Requests have been made for a basketball court and spikeball area. Lifesaving station recommended. Needs regular updates and tree replacement program. Erosion and drainage is a continuous issue, overall beach management plan recommended. Need ADA path to playground.

**Location:** 1701 Lions Park Drive

**Park Type:** Community Park

**Size:** 17.22 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** Pavilion rentals, sand volleyball courts

**Amenities:** Bathroom, playground, beach (no swim area), 3 picnic area/pavilions, parking, benches, picnic tables, grills, pay-to-park





# Lookout Park

**Description:** Lookout Park is located at the south end of the City and provides a scenic overlook of Lake Michigan. The park is over 14.5 acres and runs for over one-half mile in length along the west side of Lakeshore Drive. The park extends west to a bluff along Lake Michigan, with shore protection measures to prevent erosion. A welcome sign is located near the parking lot entrance drive. The park is strictly passive with a parking lot, observation platform, picnic tables, and benches. The City has obtained the parcels for the park over the past 40 years, and individual residential lots currently interrupt the continuity of the park. This park is the gateway into St. Joseph from the south.

**Assessment:** Erosion of the bluff should be monitored but no current renovations are needed. Suggested improvements: prune vegetation for strategic views, info kiosk, add artwork, drinking fountain, landscaping. The City would like to develop this park in the future as the southern City limit terminus for a waterfront path system.

**Location:** 3424 Lakeshore Drive

**Park Type:** Natural Resource Area

**Size:** 14.5 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 3

**Programming:** None

**Amenities:** Parking, benches, picnic tables, informational signs, ADA lookout





# Milton Park

**Description:** Milton Park is located on the site of the old St. Joseph High School. The neighborhood park is 2.24 acres and has many mature trees and numerous walking/biking paths with passive seating areas. The park is used primarily by neighborhood residents as it does not contain parking other than on the street. There is also a tot-age play structure and a wooden amphitheater for community use. Ornamental fencing was added on the two sides of the park adjacent to busy streets.

**Assessment:** Needed improvements include: amphitheater improvements, crosswalk across Niles, improved connection to Dickinson Park, general updates and ADA improvements.

**Location:** 1524 Niles Avenue

**Park Type:** Neighborhood Park

**Size:** 2.24 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** None

**Amenities:** Playground, walking/bike path, picnic tables, benches, wooden amphitheater, ornamental fencing, on-street parking only





# Old St. Joseph Neighborhood Park

**Description:** This mini neighborhood park of .17 acres is used for passive recreation. It contains a sculpture of a bear (Josie) and her cubs. Other amenities include a paved walking path, benches, and gardens. Dogs are allowed in the park and bordering sidewalk but must be on a leash. There are no designated bathroom facilities or parking for this park; however, both are available within walking distance in downtown St. Joseph. The 33'-wide corner park is primarily maintained by the Old St. Joseph Neighborhood Association.

**Assessment:** Continued landscape maintenance is only recommendation. Potentially add ADA clear space adjacent to benches.

**Location:** 600 State Street

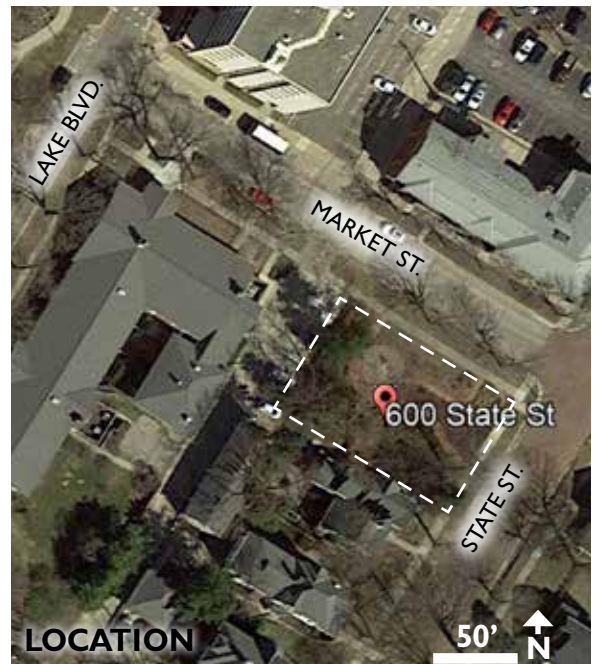
**Park Type:** Mini Park

**Size:** 0.17 Acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** None

**Amenities:** Sculpture, benches, gardens, walkway





# Point Park

**Description:** This mini park is located at the intersection of State and Main Streets and gets its official name from the triangular pointed shape of nearly 1/3rd of an acre. Area residents refer to it as Froggy Park due to the fountain sculptures within the pool area. The park is strictly passive with ornamental lighting and two teak benches. Dogs are currently allowed in the park and on the bordering sidewalk.

**Assessment:** Continued landscape maintenance is recommended. Add landscaping and annuals, repair/replace sidewalk around fountain, improve connectivity. An improved crosswalk is suggested across Main Street to improve safe access to pedestrians from neighbors to the east.

**Location:** 1300 Lake Boulevard

**Park Type:** Mini Park

**Size:** 0.33 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** None

**Amenities:** Fountain, benches, walkways





# Riverview Park

**Description:** This is the largest park (107 acres) owned by the City of St. Joseph. It is located within St. Joseph Charter Township, adjacent to the St. Joseph River. The park is more natural in appearance and character and contains a lodge and two shelters. These facilities are at a premium during the summer months, and a rental fee is charged for their use. The park also has many picnic table and grills scattered throughout. There are two ballfields. The lighted baseball field has a concession stand, bleacher seating, a drinking fountain and landscaping. There are numerous parking areas throughout the park and adjacent to the loop drive system. There is also a boat launch with parking for boat trailers. Dogs are allowed in the park on leash.

**Assessment:** Improve park with general facility updates, drainage improvements, addition of ADA kayak launch, renovation of park shelters, riprap improvements along shore, potential disc golf, and ADA access. Potential exists to rebrand this park as a 'Natural Area' or wetland park, celebrate the nature of this park as a floodplain with boardwalks, signage, etc.

**Location:** 2927 Niles Road

**Park Type:** Community Park

**Size:** 107 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** Pavilion rental, cross-country meets are held here

**Amenities:** Biking/walking paths, an enclosed lodge, two shelters, 2 baseball diamonds, concession stand, boat launch, picnic areas and grills, parking





# Tiny Tots Park

**Description:** This small corner park is less than 1/2 acre in size and was originally owned by the Kiwanis Club of St. Joseph, but was deeded back to the City and is now owned, maintained, and operated as a City park by the City of St. Joseph. The park was designed as a neighborhood park for younger children. There is existing playground equipment with safety surfacing and a picnic table. The park has new City-standard fencing on the street sides and older chain-link on the residential neighborhood sides. Dogs are allowed in the park on leash. Park received a new slide and swings in late 2020.

**Assessment:** Recommendations include improved ADA pathways to picnic tables and improved play surface.

**Location:** 1300 Botham Avenue

**Park Type:** Mini Park

**Size:** 0.45 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** None

**Amenities:** Enclosed playground, picnic tables





# Tiscornia Park

**Description:** This 16-acre community park with beach frontage on Lake Michigan offers several amenities to both visitors and residents. The beach and designated swimming area can be accessed from the parking lot by several sidewalks and trails. The park also features a covered picnic area (reservations available), as well as a bathroom building with outdoor showers. The parking lot is a pay-to-park lot; however, City residents can register to park for free. Currently, no dogs are allowed at this park. In 2013, the City of St. Joseph received the inner and outer lighthouses from the Federal Government. In the summer of 2015, work began to restore both the inner and outer lighthouses to their original look of the 1930's. Since 2016, the City, in conjunction with the local historical society, is providing tours of the lighthouse to the public.

**Assessment:** Remove all unnecessary signage. Change lighting to match City standard. Renovate and expand the existing picnic pavilion and possibly add new pavilion. More ADA parking recommended with accessible route to pier. Security camera on pier and lighthouse. Plant native trees to replace those that are removed. Bathroom updates needed. Lifesaving station recommended. Regular beach cleaning needed.

**Location:** 80 Ridgeway Street

**Park Type:** Community Park

**Size:** 16 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** Pavilion rentals

**Amenities:** Trails, parking, bathroom, Lighthouse access, swimming beach, picnic area pavilion



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# Upton Arboretum

**Description:** The arboretum is a 2.3-acre linear natural resource area located along the south shoreline of the St. Joseph River. Recently, a concrete boardwalk and safety railing was built along the western portion of the site. The park contains numerous sculptures that are periodically replaced with new pieces by the KRASL Art Museum. Dogs are allowed on the walkway but must be on a leash. The park also contains a walking trail, drinking fountain, ornamental lighting, benches, swings, and trees that have been botanically identified and labeled.

**Assessment:** Currently, the condition of the park is good, future landscaping improvements to connect the park with the neighboring parks would be recommended. Provide cleats for transient boats, improve eastern seawall, provide ADA routes to boardwalk and eastern portion of park, continue bike trail to east, continue art display. Improvements are needed for connection from lower park area south to downtown sidewalks. More plant diversity and education is suggested.

**Location:** 410 Water Street

**Park Type:** Natural Resource Area

**Size:** 2.3 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** None

**Amenities:** Trails, landscaping, riverfront viewing, benches, art sculptures, swings, ornamental lighting





# Whirlpool Centennial Park

**Description:** Whirlpool Centennial Park contains a large interactive fountain centered within the park. For many years, the lot has been the location of the Venetian Festival and overflow lawn parking for Fourth of July and other summer events. Whirlpool donated the parcel to the City for the development of the fountain. Along with the fountain, there is a small pump house and concrete boardwalk with bench seating that bisects the park. Dunegrass plantings were added to the west of the fountain to block the sand, and the area surrounding the fountain was planted with ornamental grasses and perennials. A lawn mound was developed to the east of the boardwalk. The park has become a very popular location during the summer. A parking lot to the south has recently been changed to a pay-to-park lot to provide access and parking for the park. Currently, dogs are not allowed in this park. For restrooms, visitors must walk to the Silver Beach or Lake Bluff Park bathrooms.

**Assessment:** In the future, adding bathrooms for this park, as well as shaded areas would be recommended. Install benches, add restroom, shade structure, expand parking, remove vegetation from around fountain, improve dunegrass plantings. A Master Plan for park improvements has been completed. The area has always struggled with blowing sand from Silver Beach directly to the west.

**Location:** 200 Broad Street

**Park Type:** Community Park

**Size:** 3 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 4

**Programming:** Movies in the Park

**Amenities:** Compass Fountain, picnic tables, benches, pay-to-park





# Whittlesey Park

**Description:** This 2.64-acre park is adjacent to the John and Dede Howard Ice Arena with an NHL-sized, refrigerated, open-air covered rink. The building has a warming hut, locker rooms, concession, and restroom facilities. The arena is used for open recreational skating, as well as by area hockey leagues. The park also contains a large parking lot with lighting. To the north of the arena is an open lawn area that is utilized as an informal dog run area and recreation activities. New ornamental 4' high fencing was installed around the perimeter of the park, and a landscape planter with ornamental trees and perennials were added within the asphalt parking lot area. The north and west sides of the building were also landscaped to soften the appearance of the structure for the neighborhood residents. The park is the home of the City Summer Recreation Program that runs during the months of June and July. The program, open to all, is discounted for City residents. Dogs are currently allowed in the park, but not in the ice rink facilities.

**Assessment:** Dog park is currently under construction. Ice Arena is suggested to be considered for alternate programming and private events in summer months.

**Location:** 2414 Willa Drive

**Park Type:** Neighborhood Park

**Size:** 2.64 acres

**Accessibility Rating:** 2

**Programming:** Youth football camp

**Amenities:** Parking, Howard Ice Arena, small dog park, lawn area



The following two pages contain a spreadsheet matrix of currently available park amenities and programmed recreation activities.

The Park Amenity Matrix includes City parks, special use facilities, Township and neighboring community facilities, private facilities, and local school properties and lists available active and passive amenities at each location. To the right of the matrix, accessible amenities are listed separately, and are only included on the list if adjacent to ADA parking.

The Park Programming Matrix includes any park or facility that currently hosts City of St. Joseph Recreation Department programming. To the right of this matrix are listed programming activities that were suggested through the public input process, not all of which currently exist.

These matrices are meant to be used as working documents available for City and Parks staff to use for planning and communication purposes.

# Park Amenity Matrix

ADA Amenities  
with accessible parking access

Baseball/Softball	Basketball Court	Beach (not all swim)	Boat Launch	Cross-Country Ski Trails	Disc Golf	Dog Friendly	Fishing	Golf	Grills	Ice Skating	Kayak Launch	Pickleball Courts	Picnic Tables	Playground	Restroom/Toilet	Shelter	Skateboard Park	Sledding Hill	Soccer Field	Splash Pad/Fountain	Swimming	Tennis Courts	Viewing Platform	Volleyball	Walking Path	Lake or River Views
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Playground	Walking Paths	Picnic Tables	Restroom	Drinking Fountain
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City Parks	Location	Baseball/Softball	Basketball Court	Beach (not all swim)	Boat Launch	Cross-Country Ski Trails	Disc Golf	Dog Friendly	Fishing	Golf	Grills	Ice Skating	Kayak Launch	Pickleball Courts	Picnic Tables	Playground	Restroom/Toilet	Shelter	Skateboard Park	Sledding Hill	Soccer Field	Splash Pad/Fountain	Swimming	Tennis Courts	Viewing Platform	Volleyball	Walking Path	Lake or River Views	Playground	Walking Paths	Picnic Tables	Restroom	Drinking Fountain				
Dickinson Park	2499 Stadium Drive	2						X																										X			
Howard Family Path	801 Highland Street							X																			X	X									
Kiwanis Park	1350 Pearl Street	1	1					X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X													X	X					
Lake Bluff Park	500 Port Street							X						X	X	X	X							X		X	X			X	X						
Lions Park	1701 Lions Park Drive			X				X	X	6				X	X	X	X								X	X	X			X	X						
Lookout Park	3218-3424 Lakeshore Drive							X		X				X										X											X		
Milton Park	1524 Niles Avenue							X						X	X													X									
Old St. Joseph Neighborhood Park	600 State Street							X																													
Point Park	1300 Lake Boulevard							X																													
Riverview Park	2927 Niles Road	2			X			X	X	12		X		X	X	X	X										X	X			X	X					
Tiny Tots Park	1300 Botham Avenue							X						X	X																						
Tiscornia Park	80 Ridgeway Street			X					X	5				X		X	X					X		X		X	X		X	X							
Upton Arboretum	410 Water Street							X	X					X									X		X	X		X	X								
Whirlpool Centennial Park	200 Broad Street							X						X						X					X	X		X	X								
Whittlesey Park	2414 Willa Drive							X						X																							

Special Use Facility	Location	Baseball/Softball	Basketball Court	Beach (not all swim)	Boat Launch	Cross-Country Ski Trails	Disc Golf	Dog Friendly	Fishing	Golf	Grills	Ice Skating	Kayak Launch	Pickleball Courts	Picnic Tables	Playground	Restroom/Toilet	Shelter	Skateboard Park	Sledding Hill	Soccer Field	Splash Pad/Fountain	Swimming	Tennis Courts	Viewing Platform	Volleyball	Walking Path	Lake or River Views	Playground	Walking Paths	Picnic Tables	Restroom	Drinking Fountain			
Boat Launch	282 Anchors Way				X			X	X		X		X																				X			
Howard Band Shell	500 Port Street																																	X		
Howard Ice Arena	2414 Willa Drive										X																						X	X		
West Basin Marina	273 Marina Drive																	X																	X	

Non-City Parks/Facilities	Location	Baseball/Softball	Basketball Court	Beach (not all swim)	Boat Launch	Cross-Country Ski Trails	Disc Golf	Dog Friendly	Fishing	Golf	Grills	Ice Skating	Kayak Launch	Pickleball Courts	Picnic Tables	Playground	Restroom/Toilet	Shelter	Skateboard Park	Sledding Hill	Soccer Field	Splash Pad/Fountain	Swimming	Tennis Courts	Viewing Platform	Volleyball	Walking Path	Lake or River Views	Playground	Walking Paths	Picnic Tables	Restroom	Drinking Fountain					
AYSO Fields, SJ Charter Township																					8																	
Carronde Park, SJ Charter Township		X			X									X										X		X												
Eaton Park, SJ Charter Township		6	1											X	X	X	X											X										
Harbor Shores Golf Club, Benton Harbor									X																													
Knauf Park, SJ Charter Township														X																								
Maiden Lane Park, SJ Charter Township																						8																
Renaissance Athletic Club, Benton Harbor																	X				X		X			X	X											
Southshore Health & Racquet Club																	X						X	6														
St. Joseph River Yacht Club																							X															
YMCA, Benton Harbor																							X															

School Facilities	Location	Baseball/Softball	Basketball Court	Beach (not all swim)	Boat Launch	Cross-Country Ski Trails	Disc Golf	Dog Friendly	Fishing	Golf	Grills	Ice Skating	Kayak Launch	Pickleball Courts	Picnic Tables	Playground	Restroom/Toilet	Shelter	Skateboard Park	Sledding Hill	Soccer Field	Splash Pad/Fountain	Swimming	Tennis Courts	Viewing Platform	Volleyball	Walking Path	Lake or River Views	Playground	Walking Paths	Picnic Tables	Restroom	Drinking Fountain						
Brown Elementary (practice)			X																			X																	
EP Clarke Elementary (practice)			X																			X																	
Lincoln Elementary (practice)		X	X																			X																	
St. Joseph High School																					X	X				X													
Stubblefield Tennis Courts													X											9															
Upton Middle School Gyms (games)			X																		X					X	X												
Wells Field (owned by school)		3						X						X																									

# Park Programming Matrix

<i>All-Ages Programming</i>				<i>Adult Programs</i>				<i>Youth Programs</i>				<i>Non-City</i>		<i>Potential New Programs</i>																	
Concerts	Run/Walk Race Events	Hiking Trails	Ice Skating	Kayak/Canoe Launch	Fishing	Skateboarding	Art/Writing Classes	Basketball	Sand Volleyball	Softball Leagues	Tennis	Pickleball	Swimming	Basketball	Sand Volleyball	Baseball, T-ball, Softball	Soccer	Tennis	Pickleball	Track and Field	Swimming	Little League		Nature Programs	Skateboard Camp	Snowshoeing	X-Country Skiing	Zumba Class	Art and Pottery Classes	Outdoor Exercise Classes	Ice Skating Camp

## *City Parks*

Dickinson Park																																			
Howard Family Path		x																																	
Kiwanis Park						x		x	x					x		x										x									
Lake Bluff Park	x						x																												
Lions Park						x		x*						x*												x									
Lookout Park																																			
Milton Park																																			
Old St. Joseph Neighborhood Park																																			
Point Park																																			
Riverview Park																				x						x	x	x							
Tiny Tots Park	x	x				x																													
Tiscornia Park																										x									
Upton Arboretum	x																																		
Whirlpool Centennial Park																																			
Whittlesey Park																x																			

## *Special Use Facility*

Boat Launch																																				
Howard Band Shell	x																																			
Howard Ice Arena							x																													x
West Basin Marina																																				

## *Non-City Parks/Facilities*

Eaton Park, SJ Charter Township																																			
St. Joseph River Yacht Club																																			
YMCA, Benton Harbor										x																									

## *School Facilities*

Brown Elementary (practice)																																			
EP Clarke Elementary (practice)																																			
Lincoln Elementary (practice)																																			
St. Joseph High School																																			
Stubblefield Tennis Courts													x	x																					
Upton Middle School Gyms (games)																																			
Wells Field (owned by school)																																			

\*activity, but not formal programming



# Other Recreation Providers

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## County Parks

Berrien County provides five county parks to residents. Descriptions provided by Berrien County Parks Department.

### Rocky Gap

Overlooking Lake Michigan from a bluff in Benton Charter Township, Rocky Gap County Park provides a quiet place to enjoy the Lake Michigan shoreline. There's a beach with 1,100 feet of lake frontage, an overlook platform, and spectacular views of the lake. It is an ideal location to take a relaxed lunch break, enjoy a sunset, or cool off with a quick swim.

### Silver Beach

Located in St. Joseph at the mouth of the St. Joseph River, Silver Beach County Park features a clean, wide beach on Lake Michigan and public access to the South Pier.

### Love Creek

Love Creek winds its way through this rolling 150-acre natural area outside of Berrien Springs, Michigan. Six miles of hiking trails provide access to a variety of habitats, including a mature Beech-Maple forest with spectacular spring wildflowers.

### Galien River County Park Preserve

This undeveloped property includes a mix of upland and wetland habitats along the Galien River. The wetland area is particularly significant in that it is a part of the larger "New Buffalo Marsh," a Great Lakes marsh that formed along the Galien River just upstream from the river's mouth at Lake Michigan.

### Madeline Bertrand

Located just south of Niles, Madeline Bertrand County Park offers a public area of natural beauty along the St. Joseph River. Trails lead through pine and Oak forests offering opportunities for hiking and bicycling. Trails are groomed and lighted for cross-country skiing in winter and ski rentals are available. One of the park's most unique and popular features is a challenging 18-hole Disc Golf course. Covered shelters, an indoor lodge, scenic picnic areas, and children's playground structures make Bertrand a favorite location for family and group outings.



Photos this page courtesy Berrien County Parks Department.

## ***Township Parks***

St. Joseph Charter Township provide additional recreation opportunities to St. Joseph residents. The Township has four large community parks. Descriptions provided by St. Joseph Charter Township Parks Department.

### **Carronde Park**

Carronde Park has softball fields, tennis courts, a picnic area, a volleyball court, and boat launch. This relaxing setting on the St. Joseph River turns a simple picnic into an enjoyable day out with kids.

### **Eaton Park**

Eaton Park offers areas for picnicking and playing baseball, basketball or football. You might also find yourself at one of Michigan's finest youth baseball tournaments. When the concession stands are open, the summer weather is at its best, and little league baseball fans fill the bleachers, there is not a more nostalgic feeling anywhere in Southwest Michigan.

### **Knauf Park**

Knauf Park is a parking and picnic area at one of the points of access to the Nature Trail system on Vineland Ave. It offers parking, picnic tables, park benches and information about the Nature Trail.

### **Maiden Lane Park**

This is a newer park that opened in 2002. The park includes eight soccer fields (both youth and adult regulation size), a full-service concession stand, restrooms, and parking for over 200 cars.

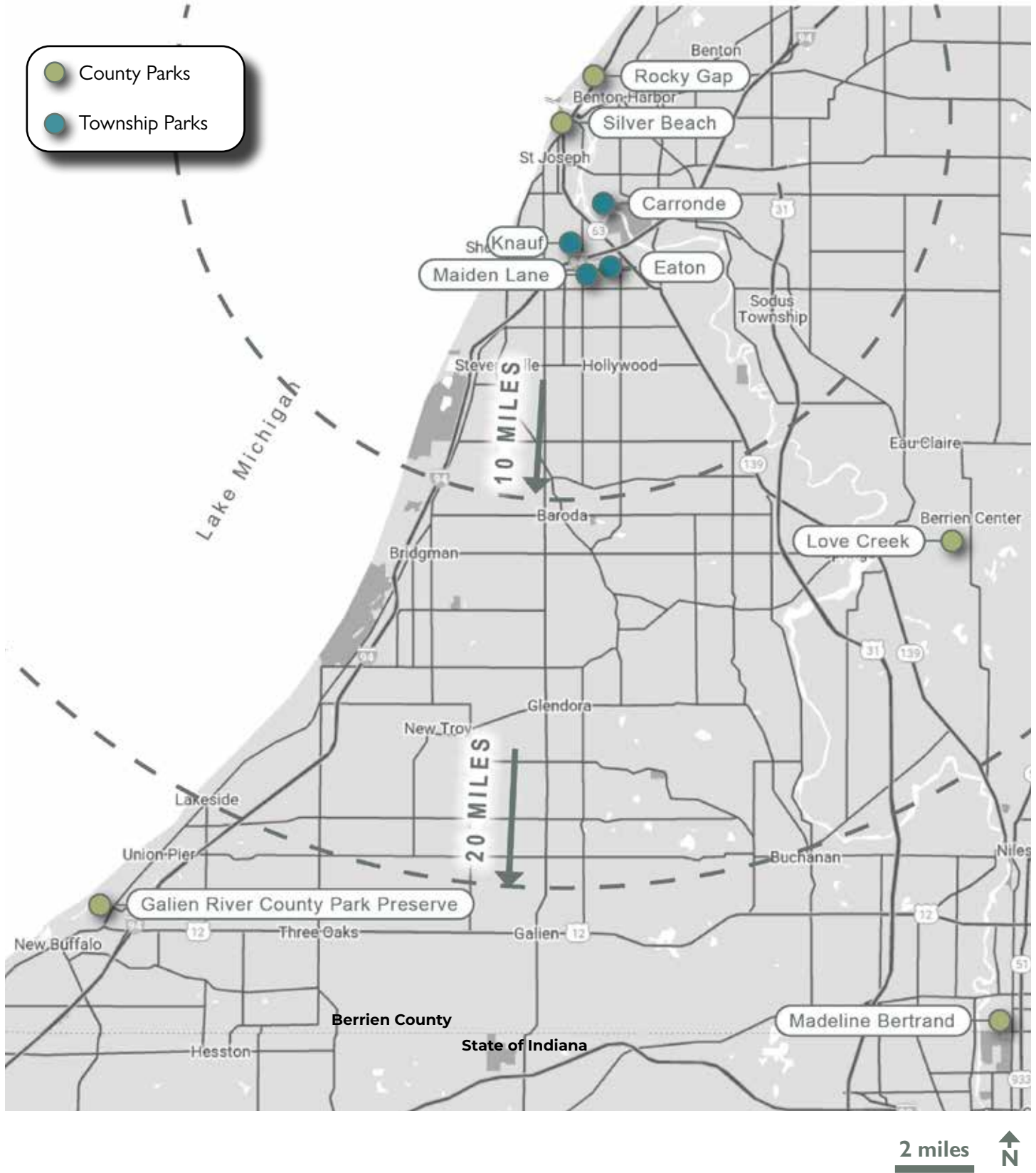
## ***Private Recreational Facilities***

The City of St. Joseph and its surrounding area provide numerous private opportunities for recreational pursuits and activities. A listing of these service providers can be found by contacting St. Joseph Today and/or the Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council.



Photos this page courtesy St. Joseph Charter Township Parks Department.

# Regional Parks Map

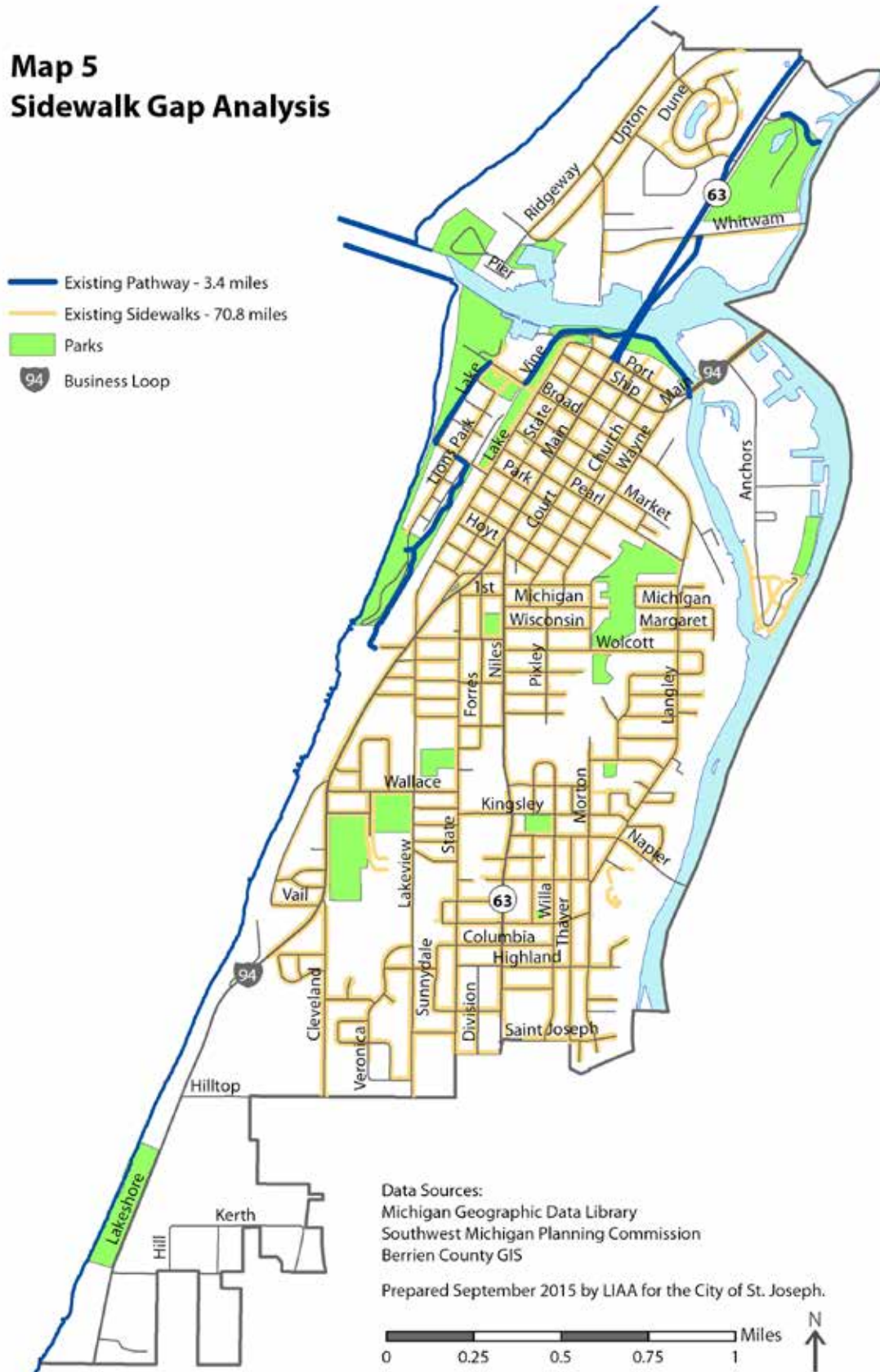




# Sidewalk Gap Analysis

This map, published in the City of St. Joseph Master Plan, is helpful in identifying gaps in pedestrian pathways that might discourage park use. Parks, shown in green, that currently lack sidewalk or pathway connections to residential neighborhoods and other parks include Tiscornia Park, Lookout Park, and Riverview Park.

**Map 5**  
**Sidewalk Gap Analysis**





# Non-Motorized Plan

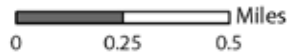
This map, published in the City of St. Joseph Master Plan, identifies multi-use pathways and bicycle routes. Providing non-motorized pathway connections between parks and green spaces encourages use.

**Map 6  
Non-Motorized Plan**

- Cross town bike route
- Existing bike lane
- Future bike lane
- Existing non-motorized pathway
- Future non-motorized pathway
- Parks
- 94 Business Loop

Data Sources:  
Michigan Geographic Data Library  
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission  
Berrien County GIS

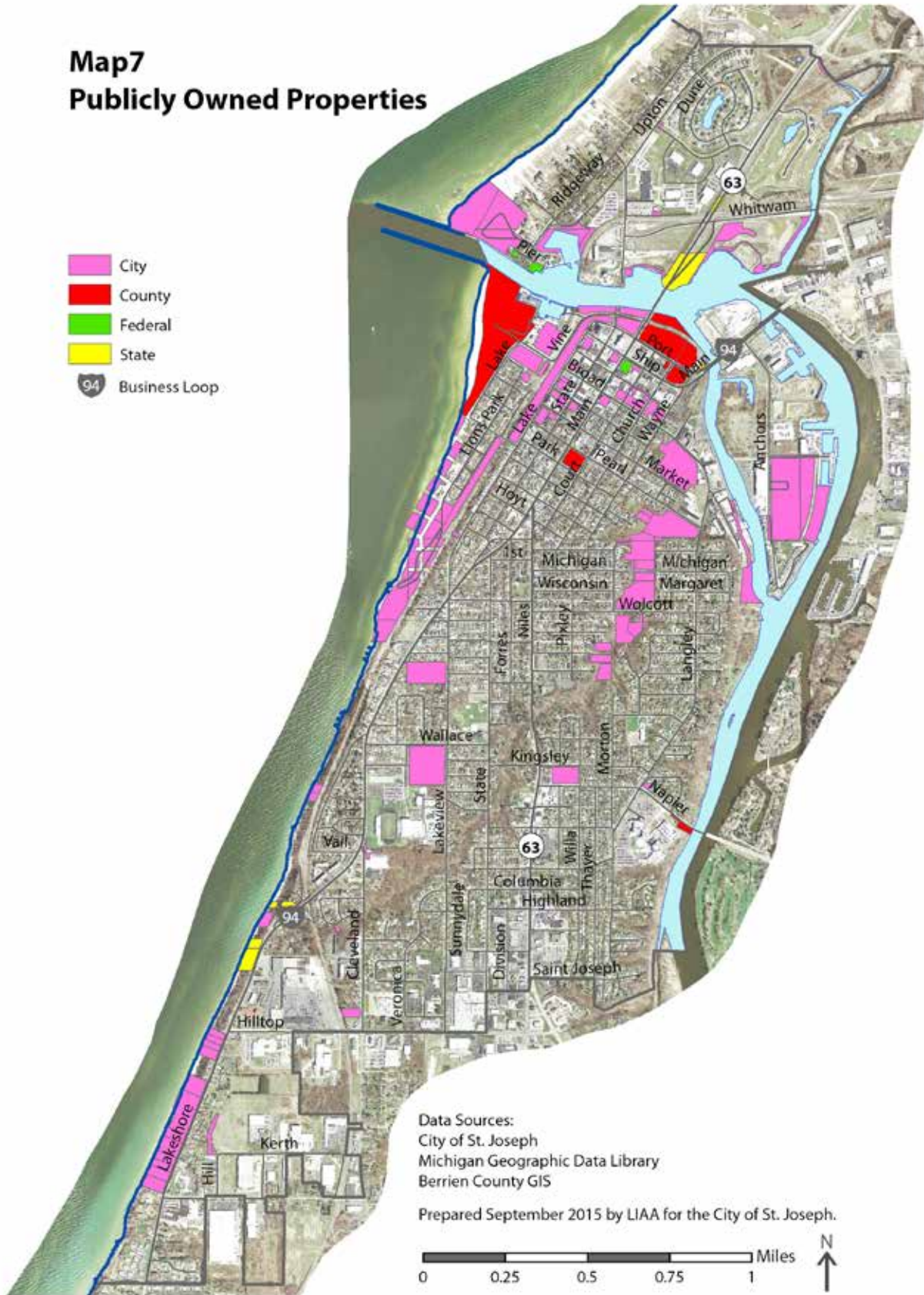
Prepared September 2015  
by LIAA for the City of St. Joseph.



# Publicly Owned Properties

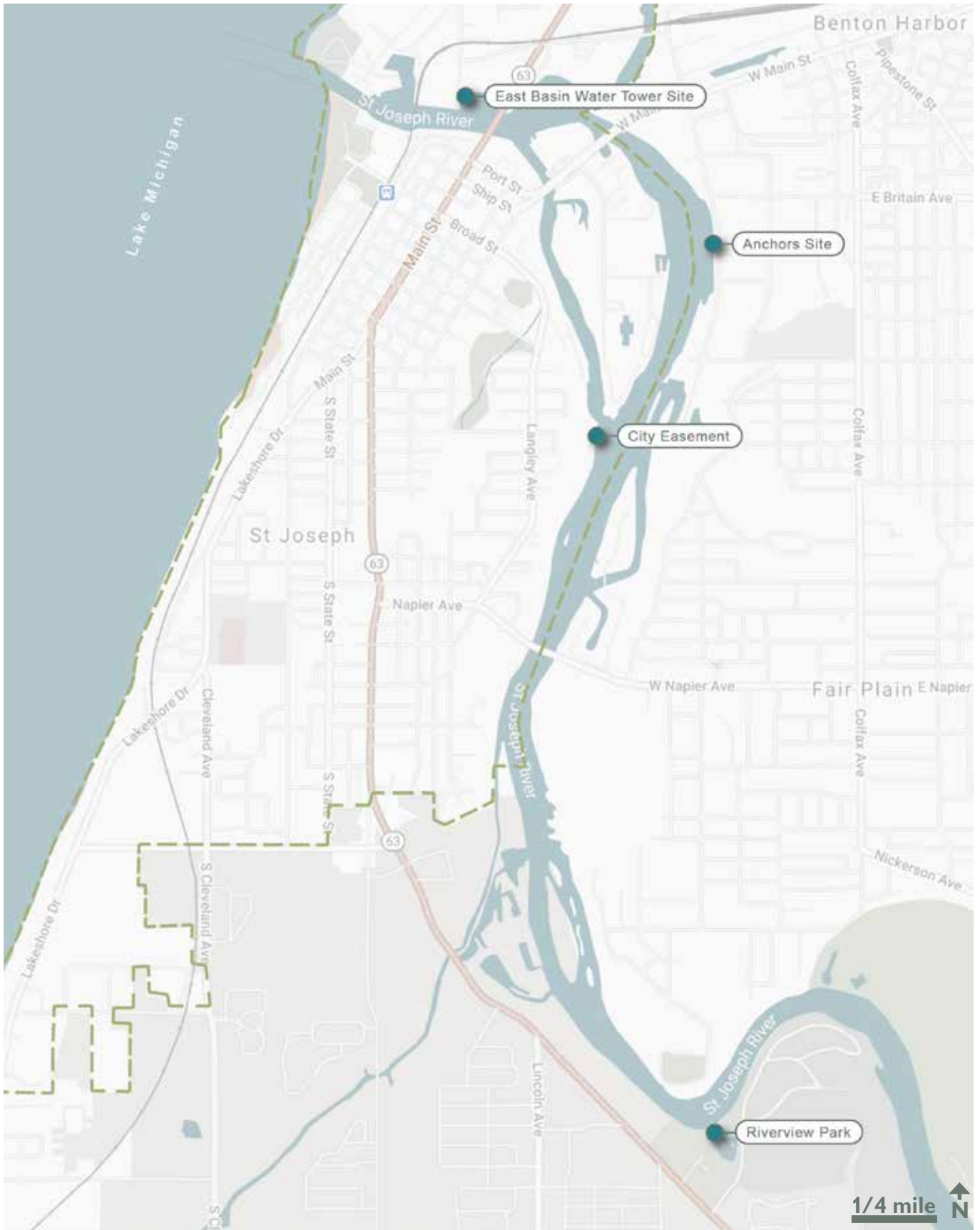
This map, published in the City of St. Joseph Master Plan, can serve as a helpful tool when considering strategic land acquisition for future parks or public amenities.

**Map7**  
**Publicly Owned Properties**



# Waterways Map

The map below shows potential (not existing) kayak launch sites as identified by City staff. These are sites with City-owned property and links to existing parking or trails.





## **Chapter 03 Key Points**

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This chapter contains an inventory and preliminary assessment of all parks and recreation facilities owned by the City of St. Joseph, and also outlines other recreation providers that serve City residents including schools and regional parks.

Walking paths, pedestrian trails, and water trails are also included in this inventory, as these linear connections often help to make all parks more accessible to users.



# Planning & Public Input

Providing multiple outlets for public input is an important part of the planning process in order for the community to feel ownership of their parks and green spaces. By listening to those who use parks most often, final recommendations will better meet user need.

# 04

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## **In this Chapter:**

- Plan Process and Development
- Public Input Methods
- Community Survey

# Plan Process and Development

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A comprehensive planning process that incorporates other current planning efforts helps to outline goals and objectives that will later impact recommendations for park planning, helps in developing realistic action items, and helps in gaining public support through the planning, design, and decision process.

The process used to generate this Master Plan consisted of preparing, collecting, and analyzing an online parks and recreation use survey, reviewing and updating the recreation inventory to reflect changes since the previous Plan adoption, conducting a virtual public open house in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, publishing a draft Plan for a thirty-day public comment period, and development of a final Plan. This process concludes with a public hearing before the City Commission in advance of plan adoption.

Park improvements since the publication of the previous 2016 Master Plan Update include:

- Howard Family Path: Lighting, benches, decking updates on ramp
- Tiscornia Park: New LED lights, asphalt repair ongoing, new pumps for septic, ADA bathrooms
- Dickinson Park: Master Plan Concept Development
- Whirlpool Centennial Park: Master Plan Concept Development and DNR Grant Application (did not receive grant in 2019 or 2020, will reassess and reapply in 2021)
- Riverview Park: Master Plan Concept Development

## Public Input

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Parks and Recreation planning plays an important role in maintaining the quality of life in a community. The purpose of the plan is to serve as a guiding document for directing the City in the future planning, development and operations of its park system.

### *Parks Plan Steering Committee*

The 2021-2025 City of St. Joseph Parks and Recreation Plan was developed by Edgewater Resources and City Staff with input from the public, focused stakeholder groups, City Commission and Parks Advisory Board.

### *Parks and Recreation Survey*

A public survey was available to all residents of the City of St. Joseph from mid-October to mid-November, 2020. Hard copies of the survey were available at the Public Library and City offices, and the digital survey was advertised through the Recreation Newsletter, through City website and Facebook pages, in the Herald-Palladium local newspaper, and through a public school newsletter to parents of all school children. Residents were asked to complete the survey about the City of St. Joseph's Parks and Recreation offerings. The City received 315 responses. The City also invited residents to attend an online open house on October 1<sup>st</sup>, to share comments and suggestions for the Master Plan. This meeting was held via Zoom conference to respond to limitations of the Covid pandemic and restrictions on public gatherings.





*Join us!*

## PARKS & RECREATION VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

The community is invited to share ideas and suggestions with the City of St. Joseph on current parks, facilities, and recreation programs.

**Thursday, October 1, 2020 6:00-7:00 PM**

Join online any time throughout the hour to share your comments and questions. Input gathered at this meeting will help prioritize improvements for the Parks & Recreation Master Plan update. A link to an online survey will be shared at this meeting and available through the month of October.



Visit [Zoom.com](https://zoom.us)  
Meeting ID: 913 6809 0627  
Passcode: Parks

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:  
Suzanne Fromson, [sfromson@edgewaterresources.com](mailto:sfromson@edgewaterresources.com)

## Stakeholder Input

To gain targeted feedback for planning purposes, key stakeholder groups were identified early in the planning process. These groups included community organizations, neighborhood groups, public schools, and any group that was determined to have a unique and valuable point of view that might provide insight on park management and opportunities. An extensive review of park condition and proposed improvement was held with the Recreation Manager, Carrie Ogenowski, and Parks Foreman, Jeff Rechner. Other groups interviewed include:

- St. Joseph Public Schools Athletic Director
- Police and Public Safety
- Fire Department
- Berrien County Parks
- Disability Network of Southwest Michigan
- Kiwanis Club
- Lions Club
- Public Library
- Old St. Joseph Neighborhood Group
- KRASL Art Center
- SW Michigan Tourist Council
- St. Joseph Today ([stjoetoday.com](http://stjoetoday.com))
- Bluffside Development Group (Carousel, Shadowland Ballroom, Curious Kids Discovery Zone)

# Community Survey

The community survey was created specifically for this Plan and included twenty-three questions. Data collected from the survey includes general demographic information, along with questions to measure level of satisfaction with existing City parks, facilities, open space, trails, and recreation programming offered. A number of opportunities were available for open-ended comments, and respondents were encouraged to consider what deficiencies and needs exist in the current system, while suggesting ideas for improvements. A summary of survey response is included on the following pages, with complete survey results included as an Appendix.

## Survey Questions

### Introduction

Welcome to the community survey for the City of St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Department! Your input will be included in our updated Parks Master Plan for 2021 and will serve as a valuable tool to help the City prioritize park improvements over the next 5 years.

1. Are you a resident of the City of St. Joseph? [Yes/No]
2. What is your age range? [0-17, 18-24, 25-44, 45-64, 65-84, 85+]
3. How many people in your household? [fill in]
4. How often do you visit St. Joseph City Parks? [A few times per week, A few times per month, A few times a year, Rarely or Never]
5. Do our existing facilities and recreation programs meet your needs? [YES/NO/Why Not]
6. If you are not a frequent park user and recreation participant, why not?
  - a. Parks are not close to where I live
  - b. Access to parks is difficult for me
  - c. Current parks don't meet my needs
  - d. I use other recreation facilities, not City
  - e. No relevant programming for me
  - f. Cost of recreation programs is too high
  - g. Other [fill in]
7. What City programs or events have you or your family attended/participated in over the past 18-24 months? [list events]
8. How do you obtain information about the City Parks & Recreation Department?
  - a. City website
  - b. Social media
  - c. Newspaper
  - d. Parks & Rec Newsletter
  - e. Word of mouth
  - f. Other [fill in]

## Survey Questions, continued

9. How do you get the parks most often?
- Walk
  - Bike
  - Drive
  - Other [fill in]
10. Which of St. Joseph's City Parks do you visit regularly (a few times a year or more)? [Check all that apply]
11. Which park is your favorite? [Check one only]
12. Why is that park your favorite?
- Closest to where I live
  - Specific amenities provided such as playground
  - Programming provided such as sports and rec camps
  - Other [please specify]
13. Why do you visit St. Joseph City Parks?
- Structured activities
  - Special events
  - Relaxation
  - Exercise
  - Walking Trails
  - Athletics/sports
  - Picnics
  - Playgrounds
  - Socializing
  - Other [please specify]
14. What additional types of amenities would you like to see offered by our parks and recreation facilities? Example would be specific play structures, kayak launch, more trails, courts of specific sports, etc. [open ended comment]
15. What additional type of recreation programming would you like to see in your neighborhood parks?
- More programs for youth
  - More programs for adults
  - More programs for families
  - More programs for seniors
  - None, programming seems adequate as is
  - Other [fill in]
16. If you said 'more programs' in the question above, please provide an example.



## Survey Questions, continued

17. What type of programming would you use at Howard Ice Arena in warmer months?
- Social events and parties
  - Soccer and futsal
  - Field hockey
  - In-line skating or floor hockey
  - Lacrosse
  - Other (please specify)
18. How important are each of the following to your decision to live in the St. Joseph Community? (scale 1-5, with 1 not important at all and 5 very important)
- Amenities such as libraries and parks
  - Recreational opportunities (beaches, parks)
19. How would you rate the importance of the following community services, facilities and activities? (scale 1-5, with 1 not important at all and 5 very important)
- Outdoor recreation activities and/or sports leagues
  - Local parks
  - Sports and recreation facilities
  - Need more leisure/recreation for youth/teens
  - Expand recreation trail system in natural areas along rivers, Lake Michigan and ravines
20. What would your priority be in funding various community services? (scale 1-5, with 1 low priority and 5 high priority)
- Maintain public beaches
  - Maintain public parks (other than beaches)
  - Acquire new public parks
  - Summer recreation program
  - Howard Ice Arena
21. Please rate your satisfaction with the following: (scale 1-5, where 1 is very unsatisfied and 5 is very satisfied)
- Number and size of parks
  - Condition of parks
  - Condition of facilities
  - Condition of park amenities
  - Variety of park activities
  - Amount of flexible green space
  - Quality of sports fields and courts
  - Connections to and between parks
  - Variety of recreation programs
  - Variety of art and cultural events
22. What is the single most important thing the City of St. Joseph could do to make the parks more useful and valuable to you? [fill in]
23. If you would like to receive emails with Master Plan updates and invites to view the final Plan, please leave your email address here.

## Community Survey Word Cloud

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Throughout the public input process, many parks and recreation needs were expressed. The graphic below is a summary of feedback gained from the community survey. Many of the open-ended comments fit into similar themes. When a topic was mentioned multiple times, the comment was grouped into a general theme and expressed in the word cloud, where the size of the word corresponds to the number of times it was mentioned in comments. This graphic helps to distill a great deal of input into a quick summary of responses.



## Public Review and Final Adoption

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A draft Plan was prepared by Edgewater Resources and reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Plan Committee. This Plan was then presented to the Parks Advisory Board for comment. This draft Plan was then made available for public review for one month beginning on December 4, 2020. Copies were placed at City Hall and the St. Joseph Public Library. The Plan's availability for public review was posted in the local newspaper and the City's Website. Following the month long public review, the St. Joseph Parks Advisory Board held a public hearing on the Plan at its January 7, 2021 meeting. Following the public hearing and Board recommendation for Commission adoption, the Plan was adopted by City Commission on January 25, 2021.

## **Chapter 04 Key Points**

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A variety of methods were employed to gain input on the successes, needs, and deficiencies of the St. Joseph system. Survey results, including open-ended comments, will be documented in the Appendix of this document. The needs that emerged as most prevalent through the public input process are discussed in the following chapter.





# Needs & Deficiencies

This chapter addresses park size and distribution in relation to national standards, and how that distribution affects neighborhood walkability. This analysis will show which neighborhoods are under-served by parks and recreation opportunities.

# 05

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## **In this Chapter:**

- Accessibility Guidelines and NRPA Recreation Standards
- Comparison to Standards
- Needs as heard from public input process

# Introduction

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This section of the Plan identifies recreation needs determined through a variety of means. Throughout this chapter, it will be demonstrated that St. Joseph is currently on target with park acreage and that parks and facilities are generally well distributed to serve the community, with some minor exceptions that will be addressed. The City of St. Joseph appears to have a park system that is sized appropriately for its current population, and the focus of future improvements can be shifted from expansion to enhancement of non-motorized connections and maintaining the quality of those existing parks and facilities.

Study methods used to determine community needs include comparison to accessibility and recreational standards, geographic distribution of existing facilities, direct input from City staff and representatives and public input. While each of these methods has its limitations, using a combination of methods yields a more accurate assessment of recreational needs and deficiencies. The following is a brief description of each of the methods used.

## Accessibility Guidelines

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Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Public Accommodations and Commercial Facilities, recommends four main priorities for accessibility of public spaces. These include: 1) Access approach and entrance, 2) Access to goods and services, such as signage and seating, 3) Access to restrooms, and 4) Any other measures necessary, including features such as drinking fountains. Through the public input process and collaboration with the Southwest Michigan Disability Network, it was determined that it would be useful for all parks moving forward to address each of these priorities and provide information to park users so they can determine which parks provide accessible amenities, and where they are lacking.

A member of the SW Michigan Disability Network collaborated with the planning team and visited each of St. Joseph's parks to make sure accessibility ratings are accurate. As a park user with a child who uses a wheelchair, this partner provided extremely valuable input and guidance to help identify which parks are most accessible and which parks, with minor improvements, could better meet user needs.

This group suggested the idea of offering an "Accessibility Menu" of parks that could be accessed online through the Parks website. This Menu would be a list of parks and would highlight those that offer accessible facilities and accessible parking to access them. This matrix of information is included in the data on page 39 of this document.

An important accessibility improvement noted by this group is careful consideration of playground fall surface. In terms of ease of access, the following surfaces are listed in order of preference: poured-in-place rubber, engineered wood fiber, recycled loose rubber fiber, gravel, sand. Gravel and sand are the least accessible surfaces and can actually be a tipping hazard for wheelchair users. Considering cost and maintenance concerns, engineered wood fiber was mentioned as a material with the best balance of accessibility and affordability. It should be noted, however, that this surface requires proper installation by experienced contractors and regular raking to maintain its accessible properties.

# NRPA Recreation Standards

While only a guide, recreation standards provide a benchmark for evaluating the relative adequacy or inadequacy of the City’s recreation system. This Plan has used, as a guide, the 1983 Recreation, Park, and Open Space, Standards and Guidelines and 1995 Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines published by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

Typical recreation standards establish a certain number of activity-specific recreational facilities per 1,000 of population (e.g., 1 tennis court per 2,000 persons). Other standards establish a certain number of acres per 1,000 of population for different types of park facilities: neighborhood, community, and regional parks. These standards are adapted to reflect the City’s character and then compared to the City’s existing population and projected population for the upcoming 10 years. This Plan will combine both approaches to identify deficiencies in recreational facilities and acreage. There are two basic types of recreational experiences: “active” and “passive.” Active recreation requires space and facilities capable of accommodating exertive activities. Such facilities include: sports fields, play apparatus areas, open areas, special facilities, such as pools and court areas, and areas for organized activities. On the other hand, passive recreation requires little more than space and furniture for quiet, non-exertive activities for limited numbers of users. Recreation areas must provide for both types of use and preferably include a variety of opportunities for each to respond adequately to a wide range of interests and age groups.

Parks are generally classified by purpose and area per population served. They range in type from mini-playlots and green areas to large regional and national parks. The categories used for this plan will be: Mini-Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, Natural Resource Areas, Linear Parks and Pathways, and Special Use Facilities.

<b>Mini-Park</b>	<b>Neighborhood Park</b>	<b>Community Park</b>
Address needs of neighborhoods with limited recreation	Basic unit of park system: Focus of neighborhood	Serves community-wide recreation needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.25-0.5 acre per 1000 population suggested</li> <li>• Serves ¼-mile radius</li> <li>• Typically between 2,500 s.f. and one acre in size</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-2 acres per 1000 population suggested</li> <li>• Serves ½-mile radius</li> <li>• 5-10 acres in size is optimal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5-8 acres per 1000 population suggested</li> <li>• Serves up to 3-mile radius, 2 or more neighborhoods</li> <li>• Usually between 30-50 acres in size</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linked to neighborhood trails and walks</li> <li>• No parking or restroom facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linked to neighborhood trails and walks</li> <li>• No permanent restrooms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linked to regional trails</li> <li>• Permanent restroom facilities and concessions where appropriate</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area served should be uninterrupted by non-residential roads or physical barriers, easily walkable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area served should be uninterrupted by non-residential roads or physical barriers as much as possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area served may be interrupted by arterial or collector streets</li> <li>• Served by arterials and collectors</li> </ul>



### **Mini-Parks**

Mini-parks serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group, such as families with very young children or senior citizens, as determined by the distance that can be easily traveled by the local user. The facilities that are provided in these types of parks are generally specialized, such as play equipment or green space with benches for passive activities.

St. Joseph currently has three (3) parks that fall into this category. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific park names and sizes. As many of the functions of mini-parks are also served by neighborhood parks, these should be looked at together rather than individually.

### **Neighborhood Parks**

Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. They should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities geared specifically for those living within the service area. Neighborhood parks are generally not suited for heavily programmed activities that result in overuse, noise or parking problems.

Accommodating a wide variety of age user groups, including children, adults, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, is important. Creating a sense of place by bringing together the unique character of the site with that of the neighborhood is valuable to successful design. Suitable activities for neighborhood parks include: play structures, court games, “informal” (i.e. non-programmed) play field or open space, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe area, ice skating area, internal trails (that could connect to the greenway system), picnic/sitting areas and general open space.

St. Joseph currently has three (3) neighborhood parks that fall into this category. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific park names and sizes. For analysis purposes, mini-parks and neighborhood park acreage shall be combined, as they serve a similar purpose.

### **Mini-Parks and Neighborhood Parks Existing Acreage**

Dickinson Park	8.4
Milton Park	2.2
Old SJ Neighborhood Park	0.2
Point Park	0.3
Tiny Tots Park	0.5
Whittlesey Park	2.6

TOTAL 14.2

There are also two (of three total) elementary school sites that are within City limits that provide neighborhood recreational areas and approximately 4.8 acres of their overall total acreage could be used for neighborhood recreation. This provides a total of 19.0 acres of mini-parks and neighborhood parks.

By comparing the estimated 2019 City population with the recreation standard of two acres per 1,000 persons, it appears that the City’s current neighborhood recreation acreage is adequate.

### **Population Acreage Required Acreage Available Acreage Deficiency**

8,317 17 19.0\* --

Population Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau

\* Including approximate school acreage considered suitable for recreation

Other factors that also need to be considered include: individual site size, distribution of the parks within the City, and the range and quality of facilities offered. Currently, all of the neighborhood park sites are smaller than the optimum 15+ acres, and two are below the recommended minimum size of 5 acres. These site acreages provide limitations on potential site uses and the ability to support a diversity of recreation opportunities. However, it should be noted that the facilities provided by a number of the Community Parks also serve the local neighborhoods. Old SJ Neighborhood Park, Point Park, and Tiny Tots Park can not be expanded without removal of adjacent residential homes.

### Community Parks

Community parks are larger in size and serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Their focus is on meeting the recreation needs of several neighborhoods or large sections of the community, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. They allow for group activities and offer other recreational opportunities not feasible, nor perhaps desirable, at the neighborhood level. As with neighborhood parks, development should include both active and passive recreation activities.

Potential active facilities include large play structures and/or creative play attractions, game courts, ballfields, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe areas, ice skating areas, swimming pools, and swimming beaches. Passive activity facilities include extensive internal trails (that connect to a community trail system), individual and group picnic/sitting areas, general open space and unique landscapes/features, nature study areas, and ornamental gardens. Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park, are also appropriate. Parking lots should be provided as necessary to accommodate user access. Permanent restroom structures, such as park-appropriate pit toilets, should be provided. These structures can remain open year-round and are more sanitary than portable toilets. Park lighting should be used for security, safety, and lighting facilities, as appropriate, to expand use.

St. Joseph currently has five (5) community parks. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific names and sizes.

<b>Community Parks</b>	<b>Existing Acreage</b>
Kiwanis Park	19.2
Lions Park	17.2
Riverview Park	107.0
Tiscornia Park	16.0
<u>Whirlpool Centennial Park</u>	<u>3.0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>162.4</b>

In some cases, high school or middle school properties contain athletic fields and courts that provide recreational facilities community-wide. The Middle School is outside of City limits, and Dickinson Park at the High School serves as a neighborhood park. For the purposes of this Plan, only the Stubblefield Tennis Courts and Wells Field fit the community park criteria. They provide approximately 5.6 acres that could be used for community-wide recreation. This provides a total of 168.0 acres of community parks.

By comparing the estimated 2019 City population with the recreation standard of 8 acres per 1,000 persons, it appears that the City's current neighborhood recreation acreage is more than adequate.

<b>Population</b>	<b>Acreage Required</b>	<b>Acreage Available</b>	<b>Acreage Deficiency</b>
8,317	68.0	168.0*	--

Population Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau

\* Including approximate school acreage considered suitable for recreation

The existing community-wide park acreage more than meets the needs for the present and the estimated future City populations and helps to offset any future deficiency in neighborhood park acreage (due to increase in population).

When considered collectively, the City caters to a wide range of user groups and activities, including water frontage, walking trails, programmed sports facilities, fishing, picnicking and playgrounds. It should be noted that many of the community parks, and smaller parks as well, were developed over 20 years ago and are in need of further renovation to maintain quality and recreational/safety/sanitation standards.



### ***Natural Resource Areas***

Natural Resource Areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space and visual/aesthetic buffering. These sites are typically unsuitable for development but offer natural resource potential and can support recreational activities at a level that preserves the integrity of the natural resource. The location and size of these parks are largely governed by availability.

St. Joseph currently has three (3) parks that fall into this category: Lake Bluff Park, Lookout Park, and Upton Arboretum. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific park names and sizes.

Lake Bluff Park serves a vital role in the community as a public gathering space for many types of special events and programs. This unique park serves as a connection between downtown and Silver Beach County Park, and also a pathway for exercise and people-watching. Some of the programs and events held in this space and/or along Lake Boulevard include:

- Farmers Market
- Antiques on the Bluff
- Artisan Faire
- Mike Yore Memorial Car Show
- Light up the Bluff





There are no set requirements for Natural Resource Area acreage, as area varies depending on resource availability and opportunity. St. Joseph's principal natural resources are the Lake Michigan shoreline and the St. Joseph River. Existing parks help to provide access to these resources and in some case provide a buffer between urban areas and the waterfront. Improved and consistent, clearly marked access to the lake and riverfront is a need that has been expressed through stakeholder and public input. Several existing street rights-of-way end at the Lake Michigan shoreline north of Lions Park. These are not always clearly marked with City boundary markers, but could allow pedestrian access for waterfront access and viewing, fishing, and bird watching. High water levels have obscured the pedestrian connection between Lions Park and Silver Beach to the north, resulting in conflict with property owners in this area.

Development of a coastal management plan for St. Joseph's Lake Michigan shoreline could serve as a model for waterfront communities across the state. Regional partnerships will be key: a coastal management plan, including shoreline from the St. Joseph Water Plant on the south to the St. Joseph harbor piers on the north, would include properties owned by Berrien County, the City of St. Joseph, and several smaller residential parcels. Existing shoreline conditions range from sandy beaches to hard rock and shoreline armoring structures. A coastal management plan would help address sand management, erosion issues, and a balance of natural preservation and recreation access.



### ***Linear Parks and Pathways***

There are a number of different types of trails that can provide both transportation and recreation opportunities. Trails may be located within parks, on an independent right-of-way, or within the road right-of-way. Connector Trails are defined as “multi-purpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the Community” (J.D. Mertes and J.R. Hall, Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, 1995). These trails are generally located within the road right-of-way and can be divided into two types. Type I has separate paths for different user types, such as pedestrians and bicyclists. Type II has mixed uses and is suited to lighter use patterns.

Currently, off-road linear trails in St. Joseph are provided by the Howard Family Path. Other trails are located within community parks, such as Riverview Park, which has an extensive natural trail system within the park. The City of St. Joseph has extensive walking/bicycle paths located on City Streets. These pathways link to neighboring communities and regional trails.

There are no set requirements for Natural Resource Area and Linear Park acreage. However, linear parks and trail development was identified as a priority during the planning process, particularly along the waterfront. Future consideration should be given to providing off-road bike paths or non-motorized trails primarily for bike and pedestrian use, which link residential areas to school/park developments and to City and neighboring community recreation facilities. This can be easily accommodated in developing residential areas, although it will be more difficult in developed areas.

For the purposes of this Plan, Natural Resource Areas and Linear Parks and Pathways have been grouped together. St. Joseph currently has four (4) parks that fit into this category. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific park names and sizes. NRPA does not have requirements for this acreage, but totals have been compiled for informational purposes.

<b>Natural Resource Area/Linear Park</b>	<b>Existing Acreage</b>
Howard Family Path	4.5
Lake Bluff Park	7.3
Lookout Park	14.5
Upton Arboretum	2.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28.6</b>

Potential additions to the park system with activities that are currently under-represented might include additional trail connections to existing parks, space for winter sports, such as cross-country ski trails and sledding hills, and areas for wild bird and butterfly gardens and wildlife viewing.



### ***Special Use Facilities***

The Special Use classification covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use. Special uses generally fall into three categories:

- **Historic/Cultural/Social Sites:** Unique local resources offering historical, educational, and cultural opportunities. Examples include historic downtown areas, performing arts parks, arboretums, ornamental gardens, performing arts facilities, indoor theaters, churches, public buildings, and amphitheaters.
- **Recreation Facilities:** Specialized or single-purpose facilities. Examples include community centers, senior centers, community theaters, hockey arenas, marinas, golf courses, and aquatic parks.
- **Outdoor Recreation Facilities:** Examples include tennis centers, softball complexes, sports stadiums.

Recreation needs, community interests, the type of facility, and land availability are the primary factors influencing location. Special use facilities should be viewed as strategically located community-wide facilities rather than as serving well-defined neighborhoods or areas. Where feasible, a geographically central site is optimal. The site should be easily accessible from arterial and collector streets, where feasible.

Facility space requirements are the primary determinants of site size. As an example, a golf course may require 150 acres, whereas a community center with parking may fit on 10 or 15 acres.



The City of St. Joseph has four (4) facilities that fit into this classification, covering a wide range of interests and uses. These include the Boat Launch, John E. N. Howard Bandshell, Howard Ice Arena, and West Basin Marina. These facilities are not included in the park evaluation and inventory, but do serve as recreational facilities, sometimes for City programming.

St. Joseph is also home to a number of facilities that serve a historical and/or educational purpose, but are not operated by the Parks and Recreation Department. These include the Silver Beach Carousel and Curious Kids' Discovery Zone, Curious Kids' Museum, the Heritage Museum and Cultural Center, and the KRASL Art Center, and Lake Michigan College.

No deficiencies in cultural or educational facilities were expressed during the public and stakeholder input sessions. The only recreation facilities that were mentioned as future need would be an indoor pool for swim lessons and exercise swimming.





# Recreation Facility Standards

The existing and future recreation needs of the City of St. Joseph were examined in comparison to state and national standards for key activities. The following table compares the recommended number of facilities per population for the City of St. Joseph (estimated at 8,317) with the existing facilities available and illustrates any current or projected deficiencies.

## 2020 RECREATION STANDARDS AND DEFICIENCIES

CITY POPULATION: 8,317

FACILITY	FACILITY STANDARDS	RECOMMENDED FACILITIES	EXISTING FACILITIES	NON-CITY FACILITIES	FACILITY DEFICIENCIES
BASKETBALL COURT	1 Per 5,000	1 to 2	2	1 <sup>1</sup>	
TENNIS COURT	1 Per 2,000	4	9	6 <sup>1</sup>	
PICKLEBALL COURT	N/A	N/A	9		
VOLLEYBALL COURT	1 Per 5,000	1 to 2	4 <sup>2</sup>		
BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD	1 Per 5,000	1 to 2	8	6 <sup>3</sup>	
FOOTBALL FIELD	1 Per 20,000	--	0	1 <sup>4</sup>	
TRACK	1 Per 20,000	--	0	1 <sup>4</sup>	
SOCCER FIELD	1 Per 10,000	1	0	4 <sup>5</sup>	1
SLEDDING AREA	As Available	--	1		
PLAY EQUIPMENT	1 Per 3,000	3	5	1 <sup>6</sup>	
ICE RINK (OUTDOOR)	1 Per 20,000	--	1		
SWIMMING POOL (INDOOR)	1 Per 20,000	--	0	4 <sup>7</sup>	
SWIMMING POOL (OUTDOOR)	1 Per 40,000	--	0	1 <sup>8</sup>	
SWIMMING BEACH	As Available	--	1	1 <sup>9</sup>	
BOAT LAUNCH	As Available	--	2		

<sup>1</sup>Additional courts at Southshore Racquet Club

<sup>2</sup>Sand courts at Lions Park

<sup>3</sup>Additional fields at Eaton Park

<sup>4</sup>St. Joseph High School

<sup>5</sup>Additional fields at ASYO Park and Kickers Soccer Complex

<sup>6</sup>Eaton Park

<sup>7</sup>Benton Harbor YMCA, Renaissance Health Club, Southshore Racquet Club

<sup>8</sup>St. Joseph Yacht Club

<sup>9</sup>Silver Beach County Park

Adapted From:

Lancaster, R. A., Ed. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: National Recreation and Park Association, 1983.

Mertes, J. D. and J. R. Hall. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: National Recreation and Park Association, 1995.

When non-City recreation facilities are considered, the table shows that facilities for key activities are adequate, with the exception of soccer fields within City limits. However, while standards for comparison address the quantity of facilities desirable for a particular number of persons, they do not address quality, location or availability concerns. Programming currently relies on school facilities to meet some of these needs. Upon inspection, it is evident that many of the City's playgrounds are in need of renovation to address safety and accessibility concerns.

# Park Needs and Deficiencies Matrix

PARK AND FACILITY NEEDS																			
ADA Improvements	Amenity/Equipment Repair	Amenity/Equipment Replacement	Play Structure Updates	Site Furniture Updates	Graffiti/Vandalism Removal	Addition of Security Cameras	Utility Improvements	Lighting Improvements	Drainage Improvements	Athletic Court Resurfacing	Athletic Field Improvements	Asphalt Resurfacing/Striping	Concrete Repair/Replacement	Brick Paving Repair	Landscaping: Gen. Maintenance	Improved Signage	Fencing Repair or Replacement	Sidewalk/Trail Connections	Barrier-free Toilet

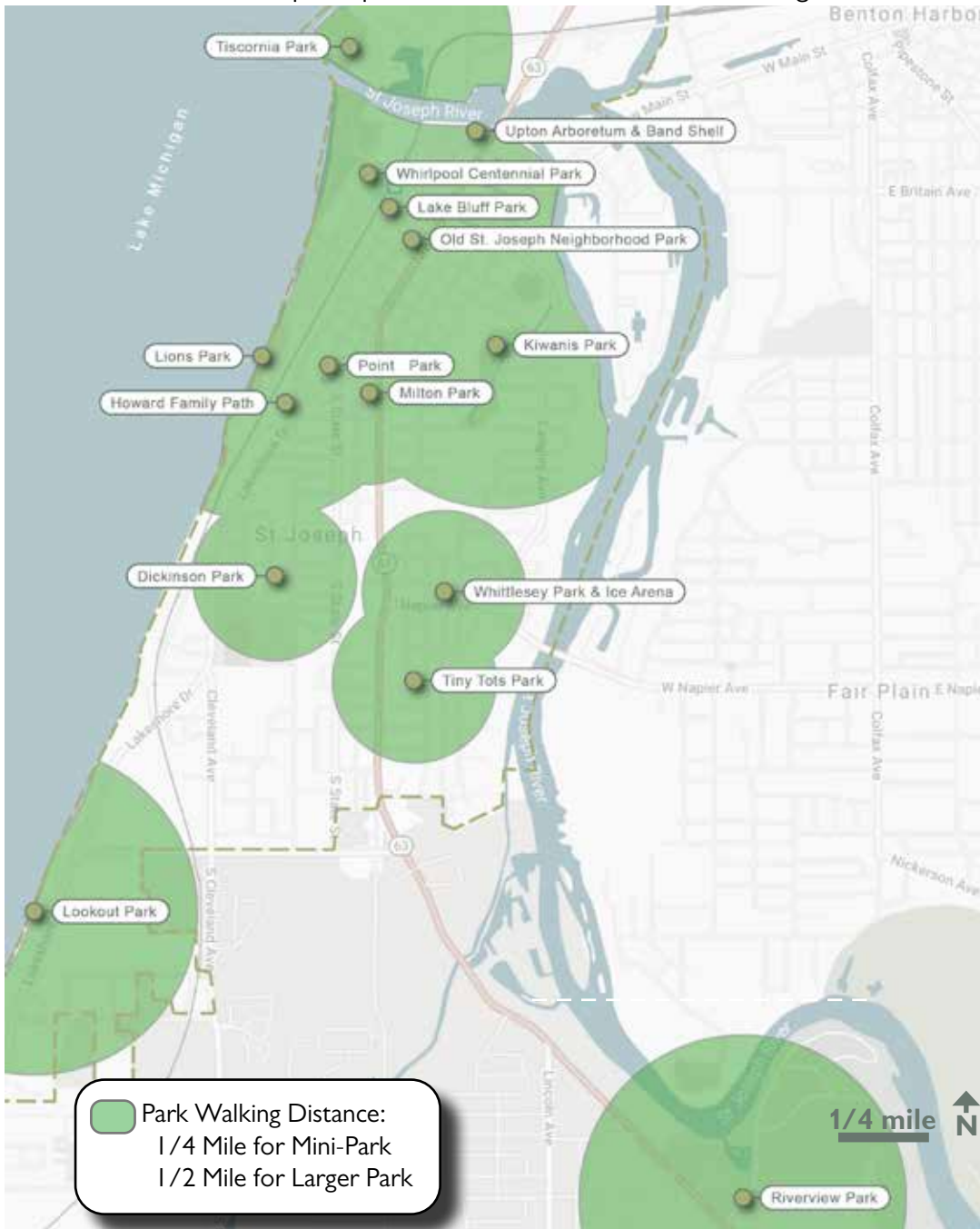
City Parks	ADA Improvements	Amenity/Equipment Repair	Amenity/Equipment Replacement	Play Structure Updates	Site Furniture Updates	Graffiti/Vandalism Removal	Addition of Security Cameras	Utility Improvements	Lighting Improvements	Drainage Improvements	Athletic Court Resurfacing	Athletic Field Improvements	Asphalt Resurfacing/Striping	Concrete Repair/Replacement	Brick Paving Repair	Landscaping: Gen. Maintenance	Improved Signage	Fencing Repair or Replacement	Sidewalk/Trail Connections	Barrier-free Toilet	Ideas we've heard...	ADA Improvements Suggested	Issues to address	
Dickinson Park	x	x		x																x	x	Implement 2017 plan for this park, consider school Boosters for funding of school improvements.		Need to establish chain of command for park management, security issues.
Howard Family Path										x			x			x	x	x				Standard furniture and signage, repair and rethink the split rail fencing, maybe paved parking at key spots, distance markers.		Drainage problems, erosion, regular tree maintenance.
Kiwanis Park	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x							x					Move picnic pavilion south, then increase parking by playground.	ADA playground equipment, ADA picnic tables, clear space by benches.	Problems with drainage, restroom updates.
Lake Bluff Park	x																x					Maid of the Mist fountain needs updates, undermining of wall near restrooms, need underbrush clearing in central area of park on slopes. Request for a restroom at the north end of Bluff Park to serve the bandshell, arboretum, and north end of the park.	More curb cuts, paths to tables, clear space by benches. Bathrooms? And the ramps going down to lower beach area too steep.	Bathrooms outdated.
Lions Park	x	x			x		x			x			x	x			x					Lifesaving station. Let people pay for parking with app and credit card. Suggested beach mat to water at 2nd St entrance. Allow off-season dog use.	Need ADA pathway to playground.	Erosion, need plan to deal with high water levels, sand management, infrastructure failing, lack of beach access.
Lookout Park																	x			x		Acquire private property to make park more continuous, southern terminus of trail system.	Could have walkways or accessible tables.	Erosion control and bluff vegetation management needed on slopes, preserve key views.
Milton Park	x	x	x	x	x															x		Replace amphitheater with sledding hill, improve crosswalk across Niles to improve neighborhood access. Possibly add mailbox library.	Need walkways to ADA tables, ADA play surfacing.	Play surface upgrade, amphitheater upgrade.
Old St. Joseph Neighborhood Park																	x					Additional plantings, site furniture to match City standard. Possibly add mailbox library.	Could use a clear space next to benches.	
Point Park								x												x		Crosswalk near State across Main St would improve neighborhood access, need spigot for watering, fountain updates.		
Riverview Park	x	x								x								x				Desire for winter activity such as nordic skiing, disc golf and archery, portable toilets near boat launch.	ADA picnic tables. Pathway to water edge. ADA playground equipment. Bathrooms have small vertical lift at entry.	Flooding, drainage issues, pathways need better maintenance and signage.





# Park Walkability Map

The following graphic uses NRPA service radii to determine which St. Joseph neighborhoods are within walking distance of a park, and which are lacking park access. The service radius for a mini-park is 1/4 mile. For any larger park, a radius of 1/2 mile (10-minute walk) was used for this assessment. Distances are noted from **park entrance**. Although community parks serve a larger radius, this map depicts walking distances only, and 1/2 mile was used as a likely maximum distance that park users would be expected to walk to visit a park for any purpose. Mini-parks are shown with a smaller radius because they do not generally have the same level of recreation options, so people will not walk as far to visit. Schools are not shown because property is not publicly available during school hours. Not all of the shaded spaces have access to equal resources, but gaps in coverage help to determine need for additional park space or amenities in under-served neighborhoods.

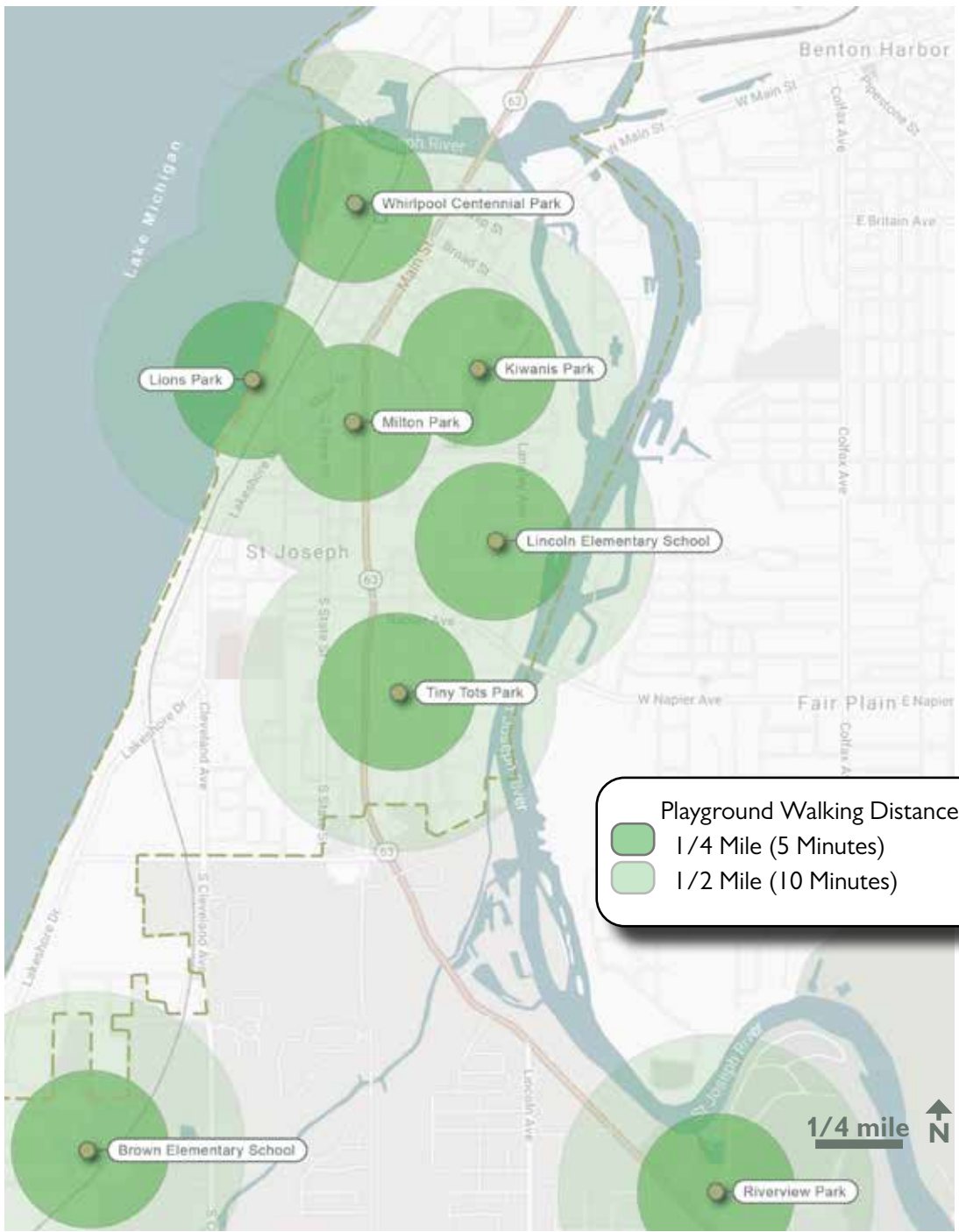


The Walkability Map shows that the majority of residential neighborhoods within St. Joseph are within walking distance of at least one park. Neighborhoods lacking easy access to parks include the southern neighborhoods. It should be noted that many of these neighborhoods are within one mile of multiple parks, but this map determines that the majority of people only walk to parks if they are an easy 10-minute (or less) walk.

# Playground Access Map

The following graphic illustrates 1/4-mile (5-minute walk) distance from all playground structures. Families with young children are most likely to use these parks if they are located within easy walking distance of residential neighborhoods. For this study, Whirlpool Centennial Park was considered a playground as it serves a similar recreation function for children. The larger, light green circles illustrate a 1/2-mile radius. When safe and easily accessible pathways exist, families are often willing to walk or bike a bit farther to reach these playgrounds.

Similar to overall park access, this graphic demonstrates that even when school playgrounds are included, the southern neighborhoods within City limits lack easy access to play activities for young children.



# Potential Connections Map

The following graphic shows specific pedestrian connections that were suggested through the public input process.





## Chapter 05 Key Points

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Through public input and comparison to national standards, the following needs have been determined. These are the needs that will be addressed in the goals and objectives of the next chapter.

### **General Needs, City-Wide**

Maintain parks to current high standards. Need for “branding” of City parks to present a standard palette of signage and wayfinding, site furniture, lighting.

### **Facility-Based Needs**

Updates and added amenities at key locations based on user need. Potential for additional park and playground space in the southern portion of City.

### **Lifestyle Needs**

Trail connections to encourage park use and walking and biking safely to the parks. Water trail stops to encourage use of St. Joseph’s many waterfront resources.

### **Environmental Needs**

Shoreline protection and erosion control.

### **Economic Needs**

Sharing resources with partners to provide wide range of services while making best use of funding.



# Goals & Objectives

This chapter incorporates stakeholder and public input, park inventory and assessment, and community needs developed from the previous chapter to establish goals for the City of St. Joseph's park system for the next five years and beyond.

# 06

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## **In this Chapter:**

- Preserve
- Connect
- Sustain
- Grow

# Introduction

The City of St. Joseph Parks and Recreation Plan identifies goals and objectives for the next five years. These goals are based upon input from the citizens, elected officials, appointed officials and City staff. These goals are long-range in nature and intended to be broad in scope and flexible enough to handle future change in recreational needs and funding resource availability.

Goals incorporate data from the City's Master Plan, the previous Parks Plan, the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, the Sustainability Committee, and the Downtown Master Plan.

## Goals and Objectives

### PRESERVE

A common theme heard through the public input process was the desire to protect the valuable natural resources that make St. Joseph such a unique and desirable place to live. Specifically, proper management of lakefront and riverfront natural resources was a common goal.

#### **Objective 1 - Protect public trust property along the Lake Michigan shoreline and existing homes near the shore, improve public access along Lake Michigan shoreline and riverfront.**

Action 1: Revisit 2012 Coastal Study for implementation measures, and update study as needed.

Action 2: Enforce appropriate regulations to ensure there is no improper construction along the shoreline as identified by FEMA.

Action 3: Work to more clearly define public access along Lake Michigan shoreline between Lions Park and Silver Beach, especially during seasons of high lake levels. Assess need for safe and connected public access to reduce conflicts with private property.

Action 4: Consider improved connection to beach at 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Streets with beach mat to clearly define public vs. private property and allow fire and emergency access to lakefront.

Action 5: Extend riverfront trail from Upton Arboretum south to approximately Bernice Avenue, with potential to continue south all the way to Riverview Park.

#### **Objective 2 - Support preparation of a Coastal Management Plan to address sand management and erosion concerns along the Lake Michigan shoreline.**

Action 1: Build on the successful St. Joseph Coastal Study to further manage growth and development on adjacent lands.

Action 2: Explore innovative alternative strategies to traditional steel and rock shoreline armoring that reduce long-term maintenance costs while improving water quality and expanding habitat.

Action 3: Soften existing shorelines, study the removal of existing steel groin structures, and improve public access and connections to the coast for public use and enjoyment.

Action 4: Work with EGLE to develop protocols for approval of alternative strategies, such as reclamation of offshore sand deposited past the depth of closure for beach nourishment, and offshore structures to reduce wave energy and direct natural littoral drift patterns to restore (rather than erode) shorelines.

#### **Objective 3 - Incorporate green infrastructure Best Management Practices into park maintenance and operations.**

Action 1: Work with local conservation groups/garden clubs to develop gardens with native plantings to attract wild birds and butterflies, limit/control invasive species, and include educational signage.

Action 2: Create a Natural Features Ordinance.

Action 3: Delineate wetlands in parks, such as Riverview, and consider boardwalks and flood-tolerant amenities.

Action 4: Utilize clean, or efficient, energy where possible and incorporate LED fixtures as standard.

Action 5: Use rain gardens and rain barrels in a high-visibility public space to educate how homeowners can recreate these features. Educate and encourage composting.



## **CONNECT**

St. Joseph has a well-distributed system of paved sidewalks and trails through most of the City. Most parks and waterfront open spaces are connected to at least one pathway system. However, a need that was expressed repeatedly through stakeholder meetings and the public survey was to increase access to the lakefront and riverfront, and make it easier to walk and bike between parks. This goal would aim to provide linkages between residential neighborhoods, downtown, parks, beaches, and the riverfront.

### **Objective 1 - Identify existing barriers to pedestrian pathways, determine land swap opportunities, land acquisition, or rights of way to maintain continuity. Project priorities to include those that link existing parks/facilities and make access easier or safer (such as greenway trails, bike lanes, etc) to make best use of existing parks.**

- Action 1: Assess property acquisition opportunities for continuous riverfront trail from Upton Arboretum south to Riverview Park.
- Action 2: Create a City Blueway Trail map, identify linkage from each community park (and ideally from each neighborhood park) to waterfront. Identify locations for kayak launch/storage sites and pursue partnerships or grant funding to improve those sites and link to trails. Include Harbor Study.
- Action 3: Identify unsafe crosswalks near parks that could be improved to connect to neighborhoods.
- Action 4: Use sidewalk gap diagram to identify missing links and add sidewalks.
- Action 5: Consider options for ADA access from Lake Bluff Park down to Silver Beach.

### **Objective 2 - Reduce need to drive to and between parks.**

- Action 1: Improve signage and wayfinding.
- Action 2: Do not supply more than necessary parking. Multi-use fields or flex space could be used for overflow for large events.
- Action 3: Consider traffic-calming measures at key locations.
- Action 4: Identify roads with "road diet" opportunity to narrow driving lanes and add a bike lane.
- Action 5: Add additional bike racks to all parks and at key locations downtown.
- Action 6: Reduce driving speed on Main Street or Wayne Street bridge to encourage non-motorized traffic.
- Action 7: Prioritize non-motorized trail connections to waterfront parks with parking fees to allow locals to access parks for free. Consider free shuttle to beaches during summer weekends.

### **Objective 3 - Provide connected trails between parks, natural areas, and facilities.**

- Action 1: Provide bicycle trailheads at key locations with system maps, restrooms, and bike fix-it stations.
- Action 2: Consider partnership with County to connect City and County parks with a regional trail.
- Action 3: Extend Howard Family Path to Lookout Park.
- Action 4: Improve public access to Lions Park at 2nd Street, possibly at 1st and 3rd.
- Action 5: Install ADA kayak launch at Riverview Park.
- Action 6: Add distance markers along Howard Family Path.

## **SUSTAIN**

Beyond a typical maintenance program, the City aims to maximize budgets to allow for a continuous cycle of upgrades for parks and facilities to meet the high standards the community has come to expect. While basic maintenance, such as landscaping and litter removal, is key to a successful parks system, the Parks Department has a vision to systematically improve park spaces and amenities.

### **Objective 1 - Maintain parks and facilities to high standards.**

- Action 1: Purchase/install highest-quality equipment whenever possible to decrease waste in repair and replacement costs.
- Action 2: Plan for high-quality maintenance of existing landscape and streetscapes to defined development standards. Formal gardens vs. natural areas requiring different levels of maintenance should match available funding and capacity of grounds staff.
- Action 3: Update playgrounds to modern standards, one per year.
- Action 4: Update Needs Matrix using regular input from Grounds/Maintenance Staff.
- Action 5: Develop maintenance plans for Lions Park, Kiwanis Park, Riverview Park, and Tiscornia Beach to address need for landscaping and trash removal. Consider shed for litter removal equipment at Tiscornia.
- Action 6 Maintain baseball/softball fields and upgrade as needed.

### **Objective 2 - Create a St. Joseph City Parks “branding” palette of signage, wayfinding, site furniture, lighting, and other amenities to clearly designate public park space.**

- Action 1: Remove unnecessary signage or outdated fixtures that do not meet current standards.
- Action 2: Prioritize additional landscaping and annual planting in key parks.
- Action 3: Identify problem areas along Howard Family Path where pedestrians are straying from public property and more clearly identify acceptable routes.

### **Objective 3 - Prioritize funding to meet projected user needs.**

- Action 1: Continue to seek outside funding sources whenever possible for park improvements and renovations.
- Action 2: Continue to investigate and implement user fees for non-residents when practical.
- Action 3: Implement a plan to create a separate Park budget by 2025.
- Action 4: Implement a plan to create a full-time Park Director position by 2025.
- Action 5: Utilize partnerships to maximize available funding, such as Park Foundation, service clubs.
- Action 6: Prioritize projects with the best chance of receiving grant funding.
- Action 7: Consider partnership with County and Townships to provide waterfront park annual parking pass to local residents at a discounted rate.

### **Objective 4 - Continue to assess all parks for needed accessibility improvements.**

- Action 1: Complete the accessibility matrix and public online for park users.
- Action 2: Replace all playground surfacing with engineered wood fiber.

## **GROW**

St. Joseph boasts abundant parks, beautiful beaches, and thriving public spaces that bustle with activity year-round. However, the Parks Department continues to maintain a vision of smart growth to meet both the needs of residents and the thousands of visitors who are drawn to the area every year. Park development should not take the place of managing the existing system to high standards, but only through wise planning for growth can the City continue to provide a high quality of life for all park users.

### **Objective 1 - New development should focus on linear parks and trails to encourage walking, biking and connectivity of the community.**

Action 1: Land acquisition should be focused on parcels that connect existing park resources.

Action 2: Consider land acquisition for a mini-park or neighborhood park in the southern portion of the City to provide walkable park space to residents.

Action 3: Consider development of the east basin City property (the old water tower site) for a kayak launch.

### **Objective 2 - Identify additional or new park and recreation amenities that are in high demand.**

Action 1: Dog parks and dog-friendly facilities were requested multiple times in the public survey. Parks could have dog hours in the early morning. Add dog bag dispensers at regular intervals at all trails. Centennial Park could have a “dog day” at the end of the regular summer season where dogs are allowed. Consider allowing dogs at Tiscornia Beach and Lions Park in winter months. Dog park at Whittlesey.

Action 2: Add restrooms and a playground at Dickinson Park.

Action 3: Plan for additional amenities at Centennial Park, such as a restroom, shade structures, drinking fountain, site furniture.

Action 4: Consider additional pickleball courts in a park such as Kiwanis.

Action 5: Consider addition of disc golf course at Riverview Park.

Action 6: Pools for swim lessons and lap swimming were a popular request in the online survey. Consider partnership with School District to use their pool outside of the school year.

Action 7: Consider location for additional basketball courts.

Action 8: Renovate and expand pavilion at Tiscornia Beach.

Action 9: Add lighting to Kiwanis Skate Park to allow evening use.

### **Objective 3 - Identify opportunities for winter-time recreation.**

Action 1: Groom cross-country ski trails in Riverview Park with possible grading improvements at entry drive for ease of winter access.

Action 2: Consider portable “holiday” ice rink near downtown.

Action 3: Identify potential location for winter activity park, including sledding hill, skating rink, and warming hut.

### **Objective 4 - Identify recreation trends and high-demand programs, increase communication and advertising of recreation programming.**

Action 1: Use social media (such as Facebook) to direct residents to City recreation page. Update page regularly with all current information.

Action 2: Utilize results of online survey for this document to identify desired program offerings.

Action 3: Consider alternative programming at the Howard Ice Arena in summer months.

### **Objective 5 - Increase public art and sculpture in public spaces.**

Action 1: Partner with KRASL to identify desired pieces and locations.

### **Objective 6 - Identify potential new opportunities for recreation or public use of existing spaces.**

Action 1: Potential partnerships for new amenities, such as mini-golf.

Action 2: Consider update to City ordinance to allow food trucks at more locations in parks near downtown.



## Chapter 06 Key Points

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This chapter includes the following over-arching goals that take a comprehensive view of the entire park system and are developed in detail in this chapter:

- **Preserve:** Goals in this category focus on protection, preservation, and management of natural resources.
- **Connect:** Goals in this category relate to improving connections between existing parks and facilities.
- **Sustain:** Goals in this category aim to maximize available funding to prioritize improvements that are financially feasible into the future.
- **Grow:** Goals in this category involve many specific park and facility improvement ideas and actions as suggested by stakeholders and the general public.



# Action Plan

This chapter combines goals from the previous chapter with an overlay of financial feasibility. Projects that meet user needs, address established goals, and have the best chance of receiving grant funding should be prioritized.

# 07

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## **In this Chapter:**

- Action Plan
- Implementation Alternatives

# Action Plan

The action plan provides a proposed manner in which the goals and objectives can be met over the next five years. All of the action items are a result of the four broad goals: preserve, connect, sustain, grow. A summary of top priorities for the next five years (2021-2025) include:

- Accessible kayak launches and blueway trail development (signage, landside trails, kayak storage and rentals).
- Whirlpool Compass Fountain enhancements, including restroom and shade structure.
- Howard Family Path improvements, extend south as possible.
- Signage and wayfinding improvements, and develop palette of site furniture and lighting to clearly identify and delineate public park spaces and trails. Provide safe and continuous waterfront access as possible.
- Universally accessible playground at Dickinson Park.

## Potential Funding Source Codes\*

**GP:** Grants & Philanthropy Programs

**PS:** Partner to Share Cost

**GR:** Generate Revenue

**RS:** Reduce Services

**RF:** Reallocate Existing Funds

**OP:** Operations/Policy Change

\*Details on pages 84-85

I. PRESERVE		
<b>OBJECTIVE 1: Protect public trust property along the Lake Michigan shoreline and existing homes near the shore, improve public access along Lake Michigan shoreline and riverfront.</b>		
ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES		
1	Revisit 2012 Coastal Study for implementation measures, and update study as needed.	OP
2	Enforce appropriate regulations to ensure there is no improper construction along the shoreline as identified by FEMA.	OP
3	Work to more clearly define public access along Lake Michigan shoreline between Lions Park and Silver Beach, especially during seasons of high lake levels. Assess need for safe and connected public access to reduce conflicts with private property.	OP
4	Consider improved connection to beach at 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Streets with beach mat to clearly define public vs. private property and allow fire and emergency access to lakefront.	RF: 13
5	Extend riverfront trail from Upton Arboretum south to approximately Bernice Avenue, with potential to continue south all the way to Riverview Park.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1G, 4, 5 GR: 11
<b>OBJECTIVE 2: Support preparation of a Coastal Management Plan to address sand management and erosion concerns along the Lake Michigan shoreline.</b>		
ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES		
1	Build on the successful St. Joseph Coastal Study to further manage growth and development on adjacent lands.	PS: 14
2	Explore innovative alternative strategies to traditional steel and rock shoreline armoring that reduce long-term maintenance costs while improving water quality and expanding habitat.	PS: 14
3	Soften existing shorelines, study the removal of existing steel groin structures, and improve public access and connections to the coast for public use and enjoyment.	RF: 13
4	Work with EGLE to develop protocols for approval of alternative strategies, such as reclamation of offshore sand deposited past the depth of closure for beach nourishment, and offshore structures to reduce wave energy and direct natural littoral drift patterns to restore (rather than erode) shorelines.	RF: 13
<b>OBJECTIVE 3: Incorporate green infrastructure Best Management Practices into park maintenance and operations.</b>		
ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES		
1	Work with local conservation groups/garden clubs to develop gardens with native plantings to attract wild birds and butterflies, limit/control invasive species, and include educational signage.	RS: 16
2	Create a Natural Features Ordinance.	RF: 13
3	Delineate wetlands in parks, such as Riverview, and consider boardwalks and flood-tolerant amenities.	RS: 16
4	Utilize clean, or efficient, energy where possible and incorporate LED fixtures as standard.	RS: 16
5	Use rain gardens and rain barrels in a high-visibility public space to educate how homeowners can recreate these features. Educate and encourage composting.	RS: 16



## I. CONNECT

**OBJECTIVE 1: Objective 1 - Identify existing barriers to pedestrian pathways, determine land swap opportunities, land acquisition, or rights of way to maintain continuity. Project priorities to include those that link existing parks/facilities and make access easier or safer (such as greenway trails, bike lanes, etc) to make best use of existing parks.**

### ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Assess property acquisition opportunities for continuous riverfront trail from Upton Arboretum south to Riverview Park.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1G, 4, 5 GR: 11
2	Create a City Blueway Trail map, identify linkage from each community park (and ideally from each neighborhood park) to waterfront. Identify locations for kayak launch/storage sites and pursue partnerships or grant funding to improve those sites and link to trails. Include Harbor Study.	GR: 6, 11 RF: 13
3	Identify unsafe crosswalks near parks that could be improved to connect to neighborhoods.	GR: 9A, 9B
4	Use sidewalk gap diagram to identify missing links and add sidewalks.	GR: 9A, 9B
5	Consider options for ADA access from Lake Bluff Park down to Silver Beach.	RF: 13

**OBJECTIVE 2: Reduce need to drive to and between parks.**

### ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Improve signage and wayfinding.	RF: 13
2	Do not supply more than necessary parking. Multi-use fields or flex space could be used for overflow parking.	OP
3	Consider traffic-calming measures at key locations.	GR: 9A, 9B
4	Identify roads with "road diet" opportunity to narrow driving lanes and add a bike lane.	GR: 9A, 9B
5	Add additional bike racks to all parks and at key locations downtown.	RF: 13
6	Reduce driving speed on Main Street or Wayne Street bridge to encourage non-motorized traffic.	OP
7	Prioritize non-motorized trail connections to waterfront parks with parking fees, to allow locals to access parks for free. Consider free shuttle to beaches during summer weekends.	OP

**OBJECTIVE 3: Provide connected trails between parks, natural areas, and facilities.**

### ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Provide bicycle trailheads at key locations with system maps, restrooms, and bike fix-it stations.	GP: 1G
2	Consider partnership with County to connect City and County parks with a regional trail.	PS: 14, 15
3	Extend Howard Family Path to Lookout Park.	GP: 1G
4	Improve public access to Lions Park at 2nd Street, possibly at 1st and 3rd.	RF: 13
5	Install ADA kayak launch at Riverview Park.	GP: 1C
6	Add distance markers along Howard Family Path.	RF: 13

### III. SUSTAIN

#### OBJECTIVE 1: Maintain parks and facilities to high standards.

##### ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Purchase/install highest-quality equipment whenever possible to decrease waste in repair and replacement costs.	RF: 13
2	Plan for high-quality maintenance on existing landscape and streetscapes to defined development standards. Formal gardens, structures, vs. natural areas requiring different levels of maintenance and should match available funding and capacity of grounds staff.	GP: 5
3	Update playgrounds to modern standards, one per year.	RF: 13
4	Update Needs Matrix using regular input from Grounds/Maintenance Staff.	GP: 1A, 1C RF: 13
5	Develop maintenance plans for Lions Park, Kiwanis Park, Riverview Park, and Tiscornia Beach to address need for landscaping and trash removal. Consider shed for litter removal equipment at Tiscornia.	RF: 13
6	Maintain baseball/softball fields and upgrade as needed.	RF: 13

#### OBJECTIVE 2: Create a St. Joseph City Parks “branding” palette of signage, wayfinding, site furniture, lighting, and other amenities to clearly designate public park space.

##### ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Remove unnecessary signage or outdated fixtures that do not meet current standards.	RF: 13
2	Prioritize additional landscaping and annual planting in key parks.	RF: 13
3	Identify problem areas along Howard Family Path where pedestrians are straying from public property and more clearly identify acceptable routes.	RF: 13

#### OBJECTIVE 3: Prioritize funding to meet projected user needs.

##### ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Continue to seek outside funding sources whenever possible for park improvements and renovations.	GP: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2	Continue to investigate and implement user fees for non-residents when practical.	GR: 7, 8
3	Implement a plan to create a separate Park budget by 2025.	OP
4	Implement a plan to create a full-time Park Director position by 2025.	OP
5	Utilize partnerships to maximize available funding, such as Park Foundation, service clubs.	PS: 14, 15
6	Prioritize projects with the best chance of receiving grant funding.	OP
7	Consider partnership with County and Township to provide waterfront park annual parking pass to local residents at a discounted rate.	PS: 14, 15

#### OBJECTIVE 4: Continue to assess all parks for needed accessibility improvements.

##### ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Complete the accessibility matrix and public online for park users.	OP
2	Replace all playground surfacing with engineered wood fiber.	GP: 1C RF: 13

**IV. GROW**

**OBJECTIVE 1: New development should focus on linear parks and trail ways to encourage walking, biking and connectivity of the community.**

**ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES**

1	Land acquisition should be focused on parcels that connect existing park resources.	GP: 1A
2	Consider land acquisition for a mini-park or neighborhood park in the southern portion of City to provide walkable park space to residents.	GP: 1A
3	Consider development of the City property in east basin (the old water tower site), for a kayak launch.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D

**OBJECTIVE 2: Identify additional or new park and recreation amenities that are in high demand.**

**ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES**

1	Dog parks and dog-friendly facilities were requested multiple times in the public survey. Parks could have dog hours in the early morning. Add dog bag dispensers at regular intervals at all trails. Centennial Park could have a “dog day” at the end of the regular summer season where dogs are allowed. Consider allowing dogs at Tiscornia Beach and Lions Park in winter months. Dog park at Whittlesey.	OP
2	Add restrooms and a playground at Dickinson Park.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1C
3	Plan for additional amenities at Centennial Park, such as a restroom, shade structures, drinking fountain, site furniture.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1C
4	Consider additional pickleball courts in a park such as Kiwanis.	RF: 13
5	Add a disc golf course at Riverview Park.	RF: 13
6	Pools for swim lessons and lap swimming were a popular request in the online survey. Consider partnership with School District to use their pool outside of the school year.	PS: 14
7	Consider location for additional basketball courts.	RF: 13
8	Renovate and expand pavilion at Tiscornia Beach.	RF: 13

**OBJECTIVE 3: Identify opportunities for winter-time recreation.**

**ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES**

1	Consider grooming specific trails for cross-country skiing in winter, possibly in Riverview, which would need safety improvements at the road access.	RF: 13 PS: 15
2	Consider portable “holiday” ice rink near downtown.	PS: 14, 15
3	Identify potential location for winter activity park, including sledding hill, skating rink, and warming hut.	GP: 1A, 1C

**OBJECTIVE 4: Identify recreation trends and high-demand programming, increase communication and advertising of recreation programming.**

**ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES**

1	Use social media (such as Facebook) to direct residents to City recreation page. Update page regularly with all current information.	OP
2	Utilize results of online survey from this document to identify desired program offerings.	OP
3	Consider alternative programming at the Howard Ice Arena in summer months.	OP

**OBJECTIVE 5: Increase public art and sculpture in public spaces.**

**ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES**

1	Partner with KRASL to identify desired pieces and locations.	PS: 14
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**OBJECTIVE 6: Identify potential new opportunities for recreation or public use of existing spaces.**

**ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES**

1	Potential partnerships for new amenities, such as mini-golf.	PS: 14, 15
2	Consider update to City ordinance to allow food trucks at more locations in parks near downtown.	OP



# Implementation Alternatives

Park development will occur as funds and opportunities evolve. Assistance will be solicited from all available sources and will include both physical and financial support. Local business, industry, service organizations, governmental agencies, and the school district will be solicited for monetary and material support. Associations, such as scouts, church groups, school groups and service organizations, can provide physical construction assistance, along with construction contractors retained for various projects. The City will be encouraged to take maximum advantage of job training and related work programs to assist in clean-up, miscellaneous construction, and general maintenance projects. The City will also seek grant-in-aid funding assistance from all available sources, such as trusts, foundations and federal and state funding programs.

The following list compiles all available funding sources, as referenced in the previous Actions pages.

## Grant and Philanthropy Programs (GP)

1. Michigan Department of Natural Resources funding:
  - A. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund: Projects shall protect resources, provide recreation opportunities, demonstrate need. (No dollar limits for acquisition, \$15-300k for development, 25% match minimum.)
  - B. Land and Water Conservation Fund: Projects shall preserve land for public outdoor recreation. (\$30-500k for development, 50% match.)
  - C. Recreation Passport Grant Program: Intended for public recreation facilities, renovation of existing facilities and projects that fulfill unmet recreation needs. (\$7.5-150k for development, 25% match minimum.)
  - D. Waterways Program Grant: Intended for recreational boating facilities. (50% of total cost.)
  - E. Boating Infrastructure Grant Program: Intended for large recreational boating facilities providing transient slips, increased access to resources, and public access to water. (75% of total cost.)
  - F. Community Forestry Grants: Intended for programs, such as tree planting and inventories that address the urban forestry needs of municipal governments, schools, nonprofit organizations, and volunteer groups. (Up to \$20k.)
  - G. Recreational Trails Program Grants: Projects shall demonstrate need, balance of trail uses, adequate distribution. (No dollar limit.)
2. Other State and Federal Grants.
3. Special gifts, contributions, or scholarships from local citizens or organizations supportive of recreational programs.
4. Park Endowment Fund: Interest to be used for dedicated park expenses after ten years, or other established time period. An example is the Agency Endowment Fund for Berrien County Parks through the Berrien Community Foundation.
5. St. Joseph Community Park Foundation: Founded in 2018, St. Joseph Community Park Foundation Inc is a recreation and sports nonprofit focused on parks and playgrounds.

## **Generate Revenue (GR)**

6. Improve/update facilities, such as the waterfront TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District, to attract more use, increase efficiency, increase taxable values.
7. Create revenue-generating amenities/programming at existing facilities, such as boat rentals, public activities (i.e., performing arts events with entry fees), additional recreation classes/camps with entry fees.
8. Increase current program/facility fees for more popular programs.
9. Increase Taxes:
  - A. General Obligation bond issues, supported by the community for special projects.
  - B. Special millage, also subject to voter approval, for major programs such as waterfront development.
10. Consider strategic private development opportunities to increase tax base.
11. Support State-level legislation for local hotel tax that could be levied for recreation.

## **Reallocate Existing Funds (RF)**

12. Community Development Block Grant funds eligible for capital expenditure, or other federal funds that may become available.
13. General fund appropriations for projects that can be phased in predictable increments.

## **Partner to Share Costs (PS)**

14. Partner with non-profit groups, schools, St. Joseph Charter Township and other neighboring Townships, Berrien County, and other area municipalities.
15. Private and non-profit park sponsorships (Adopt-a-Park programs).

## **Reduce Services (RS)**

16. Green infrastructure programs to reduce maintenance (native grasses vs. turf), reduce energy costs, etc.
17. Cut under-performing programs.

## **Operations / Policy Change (OP)**

This category covers action items that do not require direct funding, but instead would involve a change a modification of current department operations plans or updates/revisions to current local policy, and/or ordinances.

## **Chapter 07 Key Points**

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This chapter addresses the broad needs identified earlier in this document by assigning specific action items as organized in by general goal categories of preserve, connect, sustain, and grow.

These are the categories that have potential to meet the recreation needs of the most people within St. Joseph. From these broad categories, specific actions have been developed as applied to individual parks and recreation facilities, and proposed implementation strategies are then assigned to those actions.





# Appendices

# 08

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**Included:**

- US Census Data Quick Facts
- Community Survey Results

**Under Separate Cover:**

- Certification Checklist
- Draft Plan Availability Notice
- Public Hearing Notice
- Public Hearing Minutes and Parks Advisory Board Recommendation of Adoption
- City Commission Minutes Excerpt and Resolution of Adoption
- DNR Recreation Grant History
- Current Development Plans
- Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports
- County Planning Agency Transmittal Letter
- Regional Planning Agency Transmittal Letter

**QuickFacts**

**St. Joseph city, Michigan**

QuickFacts provides statistics for all states and counties, and for cities and towns with a **population of 5,000 or more**.

**Table**

All Topics 	St. Joseph city, Michigan
<b>Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)</b>	<b>8,317</b>
 <b>PEOPLE</b>	
<b>Population</b>	
<b>Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)</b>	<b>8,317</b>
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2019)	8,365
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2019, (V2019)	-0.6%
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	8,365
<b>Age and Sex</b>	
Persons under 5 years, percent	 6.5%
Persons under 18 years, percent	 16.7%
Persons 65 years and over, percent	 19.6%
Female persons, percent	 50.0%
<b>Race and Hispanic Origin</b>	
White alone, percent	 83.9%
Black or African American alone, percent (a)	 4.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)	 1.3%
Asian alone, percent (a)	 6.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)	 0.0%
Two or More Races, percent	 2.6%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)	 2.3%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent	 82.5%
<b>Population Characteristics</b>	
Veterans, 2015-2019	424
Foreign born persons, percent, 2015-2019	7.7%
<b>Housing</b>	
Housing units, July 1, 2019, (V2019)	X
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2015-2019	60.9%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2015-2019	\$196,000
Median selected monthly owner costs -with a mortgage, 2015-2019	\$1,476
Median selected monthly owner costs -without a mortgage, 2015-2019	\$503
Median gross rent, 2015-2019	\$774
Building permits, 2019	X
<b>Families &amp; Living Arrangements</b>	
Households, 2015-2019	4,059
Persons per household, 2015-2019	1.95
Living in same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+, 2015-2019	80.6%
Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2015-2019	9.7%
<b>Computer and Internet Use</b>	
Households with a computer, percent, 2015-2019	90.1%
Households with a broadband Internet subscription, percent, 2015-2019	82.1%
<b>Education</b>	
High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2015-2019	94.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2015-2019	49.2%
<b>Health</b>	
With a disability, under age 65 years, percent, 2015-2019	10.6%
Persons without health insurance, under age 65 years, percent	 5.4%
<b>Economy</b>	
In civilian labor force, total, percent of population age 16 years+, 2015-2019	62.7%
In civilian labor force, female, percent of population age 16 years+, 2015-2019	54.5%
Total accommodation and food services sales, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	35,737
Total health care and social assistance receipts/revenue, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	457,312
	252,223

Total manufacturers shipments, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	
Total merchant wholesaler sales, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	D
Total retail sales, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	56,000
Total retail sales per capita, 2012 (c)	\$6,738
<b>Transportation</b>	
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16 years+, 2015-2019	14.1
<b>Income &amp; Poverty</b>	
Median household income (in 2019 dollars), 2015-2019	\$62,374
Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2019 dollars), 2015-2019	\$44,192
Persons in poverty, percent	▲ 7.0%

## BUSINESSES

<b>Businesses</b>	
Total employer establishments, 2018	X
Total employment, 2018	X
Total annual payroll, 2018 (\$1,000)	X
Total employment, percent change, 2017-2018	X
Total nonemployer establishments, 2018	X
All firms, 2012	1,116
Men-owned firms, 2012	655
Women-owned firms, 2012	268
Minority-owned firms, 2012	56
Nonminority-owned firms, 2012	998
Veteran-owned firms, 2012	88
Nonveteran-owned firms, 2012	969


## GEOGRAPHY

<b>Geography</b>	
Population per square mile, 2010	2,601.9
Land area in square miles, 2010	3.22
FIPS Code	2670960

About datasets used in this table

### Value Notes

▲ Estimates are not comparable to other geographic levels due to methodology differences that may exist between different data sources.

Some estimates presented here come from sample data, and thus have sampling errors that may render some apparent differences between geographies statistically indistinguishable. Click the Quick Info  icon to the row in TABLE view to learn about sampling error.

The vintage year (e.g., V2019) refers to the final year of the series (2010 thru 2019). *Different vintage years of estimates are not comparable.*

### Fact Notes

- (a) Includes persons reporting only one race
- (b) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories
- (c) Economic Census - Puerto Rico data are not comparable to U.S. Economic Census data

### Value Flags

- Either no or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest or upper in open ended distribution.
- D Suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information
- F Fewer than 25 firms
- FN Footnote on this item in place of data
- N Data for this geographic area cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.
- NA Not available
- S Suppressed; does not meet publication standards
- X Not applicable
- Z Value greater than zero but less than half unit of measure shown

QuickFacts data are derived from: Population Estimates, American Community Survey, Census of Population and Housing, Current Population Survey, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, Small Area Income and Estimates, State and County Housing Unit Estimates, County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, Survey of Business Owners, Building Permits.

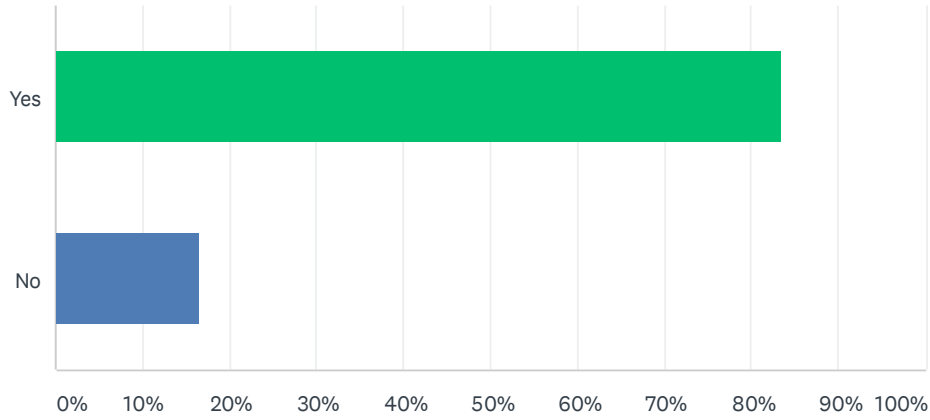
### CONNECT WITH US

Accessibility | Information Quality | FOIA | Data Protection and Privacy Policy | U.S. Department of Commerce



## Q1 Are you a resident of St. Joseph?

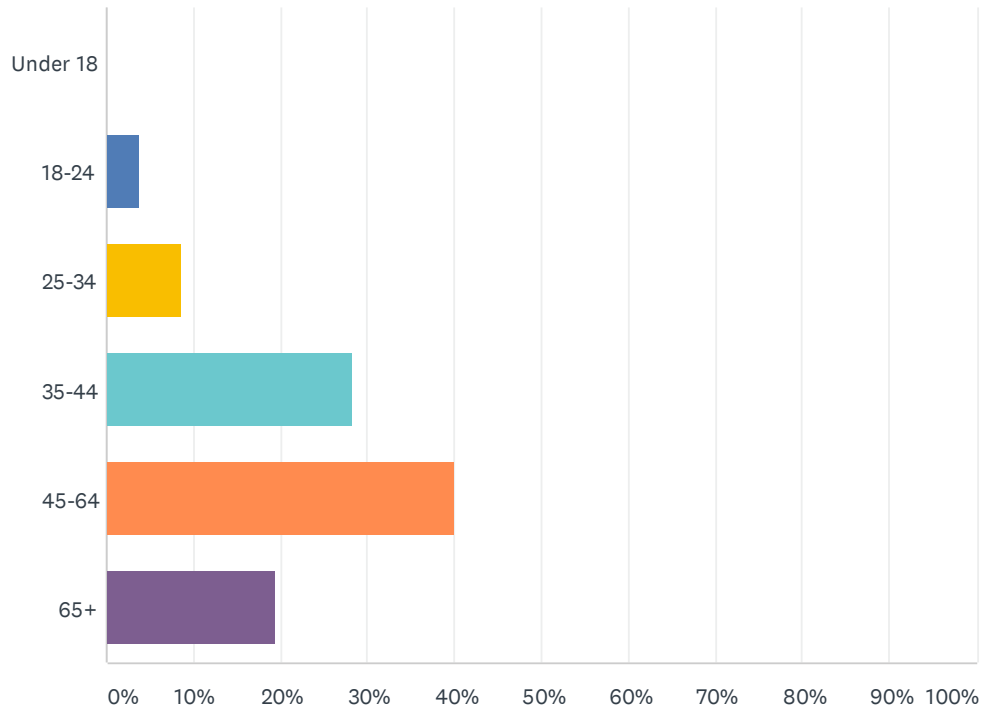
Answered: 314 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	83.44%	262
No	16.56%	52
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>314</b>

## Q2 What is your age?

Answered: 315 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	3.81%	12
25-34	8.57%	27
35-44	28.25%	89
45-64	40.00%	126
65+	19.37%	61
TOTAL		315

### Q3 How many people are in your household?

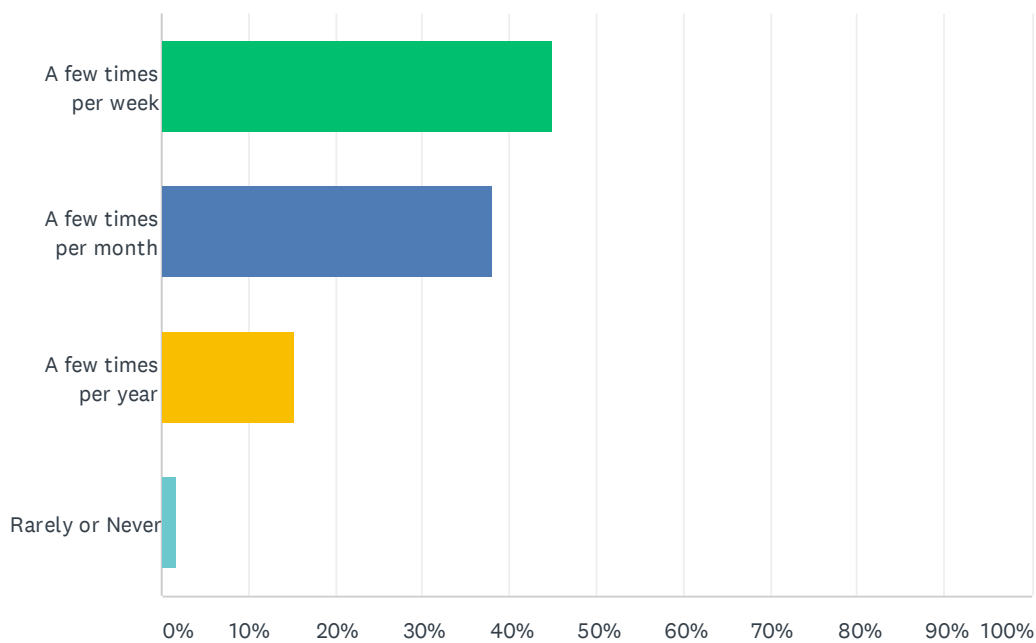
Answered: 311 Skipped: 4

Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

304	2	10/3/2020 8:58 AM
305	3	10/2/2020 2:55 PM
306	2	10/2/2020 2:20 PM
307	2	10/2/2020 1:55 PM
308	1	10/2/2020 1:51 PM
309	3	10/2/2020 12:09 PM
310	4	10/2/2020 8:16 AM
311	3	10/1/2020 8:13 PM

### Q4 How often do you visit St. Joseph City Parks?

Answered: 315 Skipped: 0

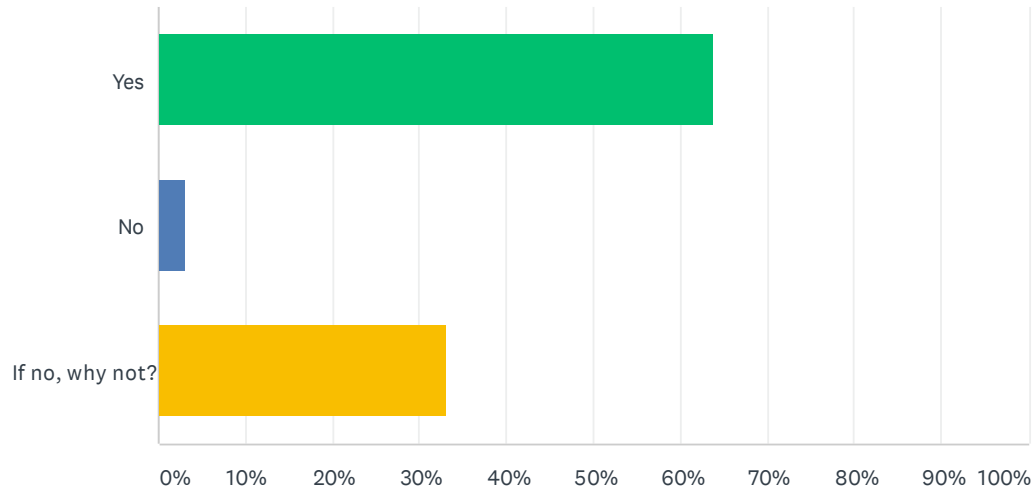


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
A few times per week	45.08% 142
A few times per month	38.10% 120
A few times per year	15.24% 48
Rarely or Never	1.59% 5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>315</b>

### Q5 Do our existing facilities and recreation programs meet your needs?

Answered: 312 Skipped: 3

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	63.78%	199
No	3.21%	10
If no, why not?	33.01%	103
TOTAL		312



Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

#	IF NO, WHY NOT?	DATE
1	Would like more Bike Paths	12/2/2020 12:54 PM
2	lack of dedicated bike paths	12/2/2020 12:45 PM
3	Why no baseball ....summer collegiate baseball?	11/22/2020 2:17 AM
4	Lack of biking trails	11/18/2020 3:58 PM
5	Would like more baseball fields and trails	11/17/2020 3:27 PM
6	A fenced in dog park would be fantastic	11/17/2020 2:44 PM
7	I attend YMCA outdoor Zumba classes in the summer, which the city doesn't offer. I would like more trails, along the river and ravines.	11/17/2020 10:26 AM
8	Not happy paying 'extra' to park at the park	11/15/2020 10:04 PM
9	Need more current info about youth sports opportunities on recreation websites	11/15/2020 8:52 PM
10	Not great park options apart from SB and Lions	11/15/2020 8:44 PM
11	No sure what programs are available	11/15/2020 3:42 PM
12	would love to see more bike-friendly roads, especially connecting townships to the city	11/15/2020 1:38 PM
13	Softball fields need better tending	11/15/2020 11:43 AM
14	No bike paths	11/15/2020 9:19 AM
15	More adult programs desires (pottery etc), wider variety of kids classes	11/15/2020 8:51 AM
16	Not enough recreational activities	11/14/2020 10:58 PM
17	Parking issues	11/14/2020 10:54 PM
18	There aren't bathrooms at all of the play parks.	11/13/2020 6:39 PM
19	Lions park is not maintained	11/13/2020 1:28 PM
20	I would like to see more walking / biking trails.	11/12/2020 9:26 PM
21	During nice weather there is not enough parking available.	11/12/2020 9:06 PM
22	Some facilities need to be upgraded/repared. It seems as though the only parks that get the best care are those the summer tourists use. Would also like to see the city and surrounding municipalities invest in bike lanes and trails for bicyclists. There are a lot of them around here.	11/12/2020 8:39 PM
23	I would like more bike paths	11/12/2020 6:49 PM
24	Need more swings, tables & places to sit on bluff.	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
25	The dog park at Kiwanis is too prone to problems. The ice rink was more calm and the neighborhood used it daily.	11/12/2020 3:00 PM
26	It would be nice (but expensive I know) to have bathroom facilities at all the parks.	11/12/2020 2:34 PM
27	St. Joe should have a community pool. It is exclusive and classist to only offer outdoor summer pool swimming at the Yacht Club. Any good suburban community looking to build space for community youth provides a community pool. The beach is not a pool. It is challenging to learn to swim there, and this past summer, we had a record number of non-swimming days due to conditions.	11/12/2020 1:56 PM
28	Restrooms are not maintained. Outdoor grills have not been replaced. Not enough recreational activities are provided when there is plenty of unused space to be put to better use	11/12/2020 1:53 PM
29	We would love to see the fence put back up at the Howard Ice Arena. This was a great place for our dog to run and play very close to home.	11/12/2020 12:39 PM
30	The dog park next to the ice rink was great, I am hoping this gets put back so the community can continue to enjoy it.	11/12/2020 12:37 PM
31	We use Kiwanis Park w/grandchildren. While I know the material in the playground is soft, it	11/12/2020 12:19 PM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

	leaves black on shoes. The surface that Trinity Lutheran put on their playground is amazing!	
32	I feel the parks are not being fully utilized and some like Kawanis just don't look nice ugly colors and buildings. No safe connection bike trails connecting from south areas of St Joe to downtown	11/12/2020 9:49 AM
33	Trails that connect to an extended network should be developed.	11/10/2020 2:29 PM
34	I'd love more children's recreation programming - sports, maybe some nature study classes in the summer	11/9/2020 10:49 AM
35	I'd like more botanical gardens, like those you find in England	11/8/2020 6:03 PM
36	River view park has terrible roads.	11/7/2020 11:50 PM
37	Wish there were more casual programs to meet and greet, give a sense of community even in a socially distanced way	11/7/2020 11:14 AM
38	Parking	11/5/2020 9:47 AM
39	More trails needed!	11/3/2020 11:51 AM
40	The restrooms are often locked or not clean	11/3/2020 11:06 AM
41	Disc golf would be nice	11/1/2020 8:24 PM
42	they are lacking some good biking trails/paths, and disc golf opportunities	11/1/2020 8:23 PM
43	prefer longer walking trails and better bike paths	10/29/2020 6:05 PM
44	Need more walking and biking paths please	10/26/2020 5:53 PM
45	I would like more dog trails and trails in wooded areas.	10/25/2020 11:33 AM
46	Too little parking in the summer	10/24/2020 2:42 PM
47	St Joseph needs a dog park by the beach.	10/23/2020 7:30 PM
48	More bike trails and kayak launches would be nice.	10/23/2020 2:43 PM
49	Lack of bike trails.	10/23/2020 1:00 PM
50	I can't walk on sand any more, so I can't use the lake for wading or swimming.	10/22/2020 6:22 PM
51	more connected bike trails would be nice	10/21/2020 9:24 AM
52	Yes but fousls love more trails	10/21/2020 12:07 AM
53	Would like a playground at Dickinson or near there	10/20/2020 8:43 PM
54	Need year round restroom access please!	10/20/2020 8:34 PM
55	Rocks to prevent beach erosion, what is the plan for next year at 1st and 2nd beach? Also, I want to be able to bring my dog.	10/20/2020 7:38 PM
56	Riverview Park needs some serious maintenance.	10/20/2020 5:46 PM
57	Allowing pets	10/20/2020 5:45 PM
58	Not enough enclosed areas, would be nice to have buildings that could be closed up for use in Fall, Winter or rainy weather. Difficult to plan family reunions, showers, birthday parties etc. when you don't know what the weather will be. If more of the pavilions had doors/walls that could be pulled down or slid closed for bad weather they would be more rentable. We rent park areas in surrounding communities that have this type of shelters.	10/20/2020 3:33 PM
59	We need quality outdoor basketball courts	10/20/2020 2:40 PM
60	I have a heavily special needs child who cannot sit up on her own. My 3 other kids can enjoy, but not her.	10/20/2020 1:51 PM
61	Would like to see pickleball courts at parks.	10/20/2020 1:27 PM
62	It seems that the arts have taken over the sports. I love the arts but our youth and high school sports need to be invested in. We have fallen way too far behind on our sports facilities. The	10/20/2020 11:48 AM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

high school baseball field is a disaster. We need maintenance-free turf facilities comparable to neighboring communities and youth facilities that are not next to a major highway.

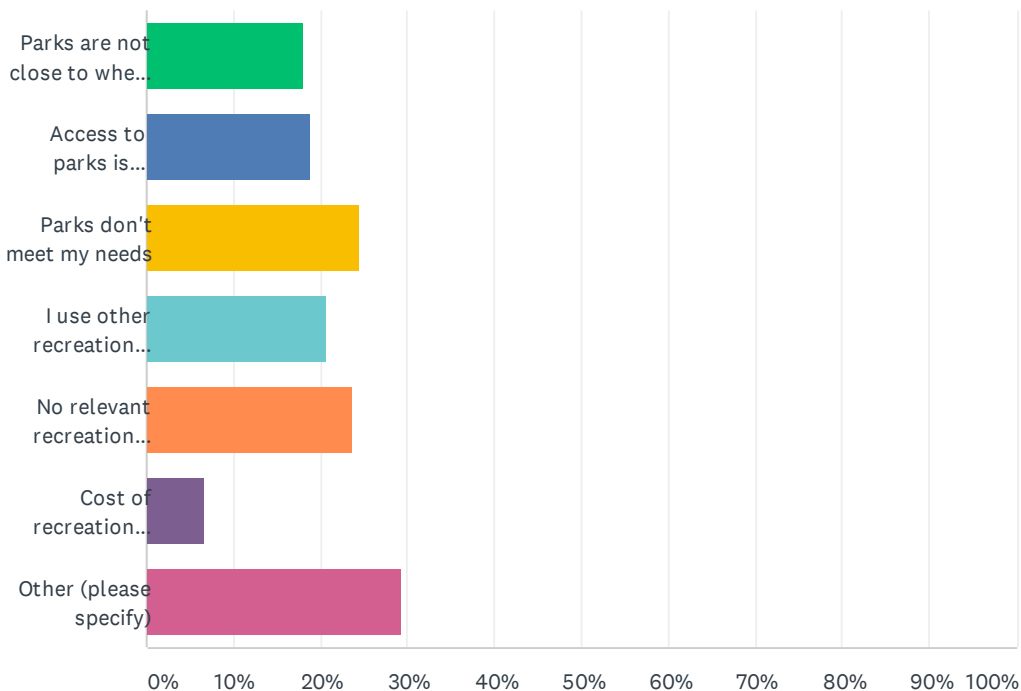
63	More organized sports for kids, more summer activities and movies/concerts	10/20/2020 11:08 AM
64	Hand sanitizer stations would be appropriate until Covid is settled	10/20/2020 10:19 AM
65	They mostly do. But a bike path around the city and it's greatest features would be nice	10/20/2020 10:15 AM
66	Our neighborhood park (Kedzie) is incredibly outdated compared to other parks. We love the convenience of it but know it has hazards. We'd be thrilled with a renovation as would many other families!	10/20/2020 10:10 AM
67	Enjoy what we have, need more dog parks and bike trails	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
68	Wish the play grounds were modernized a touch more. Thankful for the parks we have	10/20/2020 10:02 AM
69	I have to pay to use some as a Township resident. I feel that's ridiculous as I pay taxes.	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
70	More parking at tiscornia beach needs to be made available	10/20/2020 9:56 AM
71	It would be nice to have some longer biking trails that don't require going on roads, so more conducive for kids' use. Or maybe we have them but they aren't well-advertised... :)	10/18/2020 8:01 PM
72	We need a community swimming pool	10/16/2020 8:24 PM
73	I loved the tennis offering this summer. I would love more programs like that for younger kids.	10/16/2020 3:10 PM
74	No walking trail limited view of the lake	10/16/2020 12:44 PM
75	The maintenance is lax and the benches are faced into weeds views of the outlook park are restricted to the public street .	10/16/2020 12:35 PM
76	Would love to see a more recreation programs for young and old. How about and outdoor pool? Kids could have swim lessons, have a summer swim league. Adults could have daily exercise classes. Families could safely have swim outings. The lake isn't always the safest place! Also, what about Pickle Ball fields/leagues?	10/12/2020 11:13 AM
77	More diversity of activities in the park would elevate the parks	10/10/2020 9:50 PM
78	we really need a disc golf course or two in our parks, biking trails and kayak launches	10/10/2020 9:32 PM
79	No pickle ball courts	10/8/2020 7:08 PM
80	More mobility friendly areas, swings, etc...	10/8/2020 6:28 PM
81	Would like to see some covered sitting areas at the fountain.	10/8/2020 3:24 PM
82	It would be nice to have a walking/running trail system throughout the city connecting the parks.	10/8/2020 3:11 PM
83	More trash cans are needed and you need to turn the drinking fountain and dog fountains on	10/8/2020 2:02 PM
84	More restroom facilities, disc golf, hiking/biking, more things for adults/not necessarily families	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
85	See answers to next question	10/8/2020 1:17 PM
86	A local disc golf course would be great	10/8/2020 12:20 PM
87	Focused on tourism not residents	10/8/2020 10:35 AM
88	Not a tourist a resident and we don't matter	10/8/2020 10:21 AM
89	Need more connectivity of trails, and parks, more elderly amenities like benches and clear smooth sidewalks. Dog prohibition areas should be enforced	10/8/2020 10:04 AM
90	I don't know enough about what is going on and what is available to me	10/8/2020 9:35 AM
91	The tennis recreation program was at one time the "cream of the crop", but this year it was ran by kids and not adults. The director needs to be present and instructing.	10/8/2020 8:06 AM
92	No recreation programming for my age group	10/6/2020 8:36 PM
93	Permanent Bathrooms needed at softball field near HS	10/5/2020 1:27 PM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

94	Would love to see more outdoor exercise classes and fitness groups for average ability adults	10/5/2020 11:58 AM
95	Need more walking trails and paths.	10/5/2020 10:52 AM
96	Need more miles bike/running paths; like a rails to trails	10/5/2020 10:32 AM
97	Not enough trails for walking and biking	10/5/2020 9:40 AM
98	More dog-friendly parks would be nice!	10/5/2020 9:15 AM
99	Lions park needs to remove steel structures to all access to the water, addition of off shore structures to protect beach erosion, connectivity of parks by bike and walking trails, and the addition of parking meters at Kiwanis park is poor decision	10/2/2020 2:55 PM
100	More dog friendly beaches!	10/2/2020 1:55 PM
101	Restroom facilities close too early.	10/2/2020 1:51 PM
102	not accessible to persons with disabilities	10/2/2020 12:09 PM
103	more trails needed	10/2/2020 8:16 AM

### Q6 If you are not a frequent park user and recreation participant, why not? (can choose more than one)

Answered: 106   Skipped: 209





Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Parks are not close to where I live	17.92%	19
Access to parks is difficult	18.87%	20
Parks don't meet my needs	24.53%	26
I use other recreation facilities, not City owned	20.75%	22
No relevant recreation programming for me	23.58%	25
Cost of recreation programming is too high	6.60%	7
Other (please specify)	29.25%	31
Total Respondents: 106		

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#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Cost of parking	11/17/2020 7:05 PM
2	Covid-19	11/15/2020 7:03 PM
3	I used to be able to park free at lions and Kiwanis park but now there is a fee to park so I only buy one county parking pass per year and go to that park	11/15/2020 4:18 PM
4	too busy	11/15/2020 1:38 PM
5	Should be able to transfer my annual parking pass to any vehicle	11/14/2020 10:54 PM
6	Lack of adequate parking! Especially downtown for Lake Bluff Park and Upton Arboretum	11/12/2020 8:39 PM
7	Other than occasionally watching the sunset, no need.	11/12/2020 6:03 PM
8	I use the parks because I bike to them. Not enough parking.	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
9	Irresponsible dog owners.	11/12/2020 3:00 PM
10	Too busy in summer months	11/12/2020 10:03 AM
11	You seem more concerned about out-of-Townes than meeting the needs of local residents. Weekend access in the summer is impossible most days.	11/12/2020 10:00 AM
12	I don't have any reason to go to them	11/5/2020 10:06 AM
13	I enjoy walks and hikes, but used them more when my children were younger	11/3/2020 11:06 AM
14	I am a frequent park user	10/22/2020 5:41 AM
15	Parking Cost	10/21/2020 8:34 PM
16	Parking can be challenging	10/20/2020 5:45 PM
17	If you rent beach pavilions they should come with a number of free passes for parking for out of city guests. Gets pricey when you have to pay for pavilion then pay for parking passes for multiple guests.	10/20/2020 3:33 PM
18	I live in Georgia, and spend summers in SW Michigan	10/20/2020 2:15 PM
19	Paying to park is frustrating.	10/20/2020 1:34 PM
20	Limited and expensive parking	10/20/2020 11:55 AM
21	Need more sidewalks and bikepaths in this region	10/20/2020 11:14 AM
22	We moved out of state.	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
23	I mean to make time to go but don't get around to it	10/20/2020 10:02 AM
24	cost of parking as a resident	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
25	Love the dog park at Kiwanis. I believe that the beach parking fees should be increased and the traffic should be watched more closely. I have had several experiences walking and almost getting hit by a distracted driver.	10/12/2020 8:45 PM
26	Busy	10/12/2020 11:25 AM
27	Bathroom access for small children longer after labor day	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
28	Not as frequent as I used to be -- Covid-19 : - (	10/5/2020 11:47 AM
29	I use Riverview most. Easy parking, I can take my dogs, not many people.	10/5/2020 11:15 AM
30	Usually due to few trails and not dog-friendly	10/5/2020 9:15 AM
31	N/a	10/4/2020 8:05 AM

**Q7 What City programs or events have you or your family attended/participated in over the past 18-24 months?**

Answered: 216 Skipped: 99

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Farmers Market, Tree Lighting, Halloween, Winterfest, most other city sponsored downtown events	12/2/2020 12:54 PM
2	Farmers Market - Antiques on the bluff - Krasl Halloween - Winterfest - Huminary	12/2/2020 12:45 PM
3	events on the Bluff	11/23/2020 3:15 PM
4	We go to the beaches, walk the trails, love the viaduct! The bluff, miss Band Concerts due to covid.	11/23/2020 11:02 AM
5	Attended all the events hosted on the land between the Compass Fountain and the RR Tracks.	11/23/2020 9:07 AM
6	Lighting the bluff, Band concerts weekly	11/18/2020 3:58 PM
7	Just walking the beach ...	11/18/2020 3:27 PM
8	Light Up the Bluff, Movie in the Park, Chalk the Bluff	11/18/2020 8:24 AM
9	Trail walking/running, beaches, playgrounds.	11/18/2020 7:54 AM
10	Summer tennis	11/18/2020 12:31 AM
11	Tennis Movies	11/17/2020 11:15 PM
12	Light up the Bluff, Luminaries, Blossomtime Parade, Reindog Parade, Farmer's Market, Fit 4 Fall 5k	11/17/2020 7:05 PM
13	Krasl art fest, chalk the block, light the bluff,	11/17/2020 5:48 PM
14	Chalk on the bluff, Friday night concerts, Mannequins, Ice festival	11/17/2020 10:26 AM
15	Chalk the block, Art fair, Light the Bluff, Christmas dog parade...	11/15/2020 10:18 PM
16	We moved to St. Joseph in September, so we have not had too much of an opportunity to participate in many events	11/15/2020 8:52 PM
17	I can't think of any City programs or events offered.	11/15/2020 8:44 PM
18	Drive in movies! Ice skating	11/15/2020 7:44 PM
19	New to area, with Covid haven't been able to participate in any programs.	11/15/2020 7:03 PM
20	Enjoy walking the Bluff, especially now for the holidays. Thanks.	11/15/2020 5:29 PM
21	Unknown	11/15/2020 4:18 PM
22	We mainly use them to exercise	11/15/2020 4:14 PM
23	Ice fest, window displays, farmers market, chalk the walk, downtown trick or treating	11/15/2020 4:09 PM
24	None	11/15/2020 3:37 PM
25	downtown programs like light up the bluff, concerts at the band shell	11/15/2020 1:38 PM
26	None due to the pandemic	11/15/2020 1:22 PM
27	A lot! Love what the city does and the dog park.	11/15/2020 11:43 AM
28	Municipal Band Concerts, car shows, art fair, Brown Bag Concerts, Symphony Concerts, Antiques on the Bluff, farmers market	11/15/2020 9:19 AM
29	Drive in movies	11/15/2020 8:51 AM
30	Downtown events	11/14/2020 10:58 PM
31	Beer fest, blossomtime parade, art fair, chalk the block, car show in July	11/14/2020 10:54 PM
32	National Night Out, light up the bluff, luminary fest,	11/14/2020 10:41 PM
33	Luminary, Ice Fest, Live Mannequin, Reindog.	11/14/2020 5:33 PM
34	Movies in the park (or parking lot.) downtown special events, skate park	11/13/2020 7:22 PM



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35	Farmers markets, krasl art fair, antiques on the bluff, pictures with reindeer	11/13/2020 6:39 PM
36	Downtown events	11/13/2020 2:09 PM
37	0	11/13/2020 1:28 PM
38	I enjoyed the Movies at the Park.	11/13/2020 11:25 AM
39	Pretty much all of the city festivals OUTSIDE of the COVID period.	11/12/2020 9:26 PM
40	Luminary, Christmas lights	11/12/2020 9:06 PM
41	Chalk the Block, Saturday Farmer's Market, and the Ice Festival	11/12/2020 8:39 PM
42	Art Fair. Concerts at Shadowland. Farmer's Market	11/12/2020 6:49 PM
43	None. Downtown parking is terrible and costly at times. I avoid the tourist crowds.	11/12/2020 6:03 PM
44	Limited due to COVID this year. Fountain, bluff, piers	11/12/2020 4:22 PM
45	Ice skating at the Howard	11/12/2020 4:01 PM
46	Not many. Farmers market primarily.	11/12/2020 3:56 PM
47	Luminaries, ice fest, Memorial Day Parade, 4th of July fireworks, Tri State Regatta, Chili Cookoff, Harvest petting zoo, Sunday bandshell concerts, Reindog Parade, Christmas tree lighting (Light up the bluff) & Dec shop local day.	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
48	Unsure of relevance but gladly come answer it in person.	11/12/2020 3:00 PM
49	Live in St. Joe Township. Love the free concerts on the bluff, the farm market, and the Junk on the Bluff. Also spend a lot of time at Township parks.	11/12/2020 2:54 PM
50	None, mostly for age reasons. I'm 77.	11/12/2020 2:34 PM
51	Light up the bluff	11/12/2020 2:05 PM
52	All the downtown Christmas events, outdoor movies, ice skating at Howard, Trunk or Treat at Howard, frequent beach swimming, Community 5 K's and walking/running paths. Also all the playgrounds for my young children. The Compass Fountain.	11/12/2020 1:56 PM
53	Walking paths, 4th of July fireworks, picnic facilities	11/12/2020 1:53 PM
54	Farmers market, movies	11/12/2020 1:25 PM
55	Light the bluff, rain dog parade,	11/12/2020 1:15 PM
56	None due to covid	11/12/2020 12:43 PM
57	Drive-in movie @SJHS, which I loved that set up better than in Whirlpool field.	11/12/2020 12:19 PM
58	Fireworks, Antiques on the Bluff, Farmers Market, music	11/12/2020 11:19 AM
59	0	11/12/2020 10:00 AM
60	Farm Market Alzheimer Walk	11/12/2020 9:55 AM
61	Band concerts Light up bluff	11/11/2020 11:22 PM
62	None	11/11/2020 4:46 PM
63	Some concerts, use of playground equip for grandchildren, walking trails	11/11/2020 4:07 PM
64	walked the Howard family trail, walked Tiscornia beach, walked Lake Bluff Park, went to Farmer's Market frequently, looked at the winter wonderland scenery, sat on benches or swings and read, picnicked at Lookout Park, watched sunset from Lions Park	11/10/2020 2:30 PM
65	ice skating--open ice time	11/10/2020 2:29 PM
66	farmers market,beaches,riverview	11/10/2020 7:46 AM
67	None	11/9/2020 10:07 PM
68	Movies in the park. Dog parade/Santa. Luminaries. Light up the Bluff. Live mannequins. Ice Festival. Pumpkin contest. Basically, everything.	11/9/2020 2:24 PM

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69	Movies, farmer's market, reformed beaches at Lion's Park, Howard Family Path, Lake Bluff Park (use daily), Tiscornia for nature, Bear Park for reading, special interest in Milton Park as I owned 1520 Forres Oct. 2004-May 2011.	11/9/2020 1:25 PM
70	Ice skating	11/9/2020 10:49 AM
71	0	11/7/2020 11:50 PM
72	None, I visit the parks because they are part of my neighborhood. They are well kept up. I am not sure why the leaders of our parks are trying to increase out of town participation in our local parks. If you maintain the parks in a clean and orderly fashion that is what most people are looking for in our local parks.	11/7/2020 8:22 PM
73	Farmer's market, light up the bluff, beer festival	11/7/2020 11:14 AM
74	We generally don't participate in city organized events...we walk and bike a lot. Plus use Riverview occasionally.	11/7/2020 8:29 AM
75	Loris place run	11/5/2020 9:47 AM
76	What programs???? I would love to if there's any easily accessible way to obtain more information (that isn't hopelessly out-of-date or is obfuscated via the cities antiquated website & transparency of any public communication strategies that incorporate at least some 21st century innovations) I would love to hear of any steps taken to ease access to said information and these mysterious programs that apparently exist.	11/5/2020 9:06 AM
77	ice skating - that's about it.	11/3/2020 11:51 AM
78	Light the Bluff Ice sculptures Farmers Market on weekends,	11/3/2020 11:23 AM
79	Fit for Fall 5K run/walk in Riverview Park	11/3/2020 11:06 AM
80	None	11/2/2020 10:25 AM
81	Not much with Covid. Farmers market.	11/1/2020 8:24 PM
82	movies	11/1/2020 8:23 PM
83	Light up the bluff	11/1/2020 12:58 PM
84	NONE	10/29/2020 2:06 PM
85	We go to pretty much anything that is on the bluff. Also, go to the dog park daily	10/28/2020 8:05 AM
86	Light Up the Bluff, Farmers Market, Mannequins, Chalk the Block, Luminary,	10/27/2020 7:54 AM
87	Farmers market	10/26/2020 5:53 PM
88	Drive in movies, farmers market, fireworks, municipal band concerts, jazz concerts at pavilion, Krasl Art Fair, Chalk The Block, Blossomtime parade, sledding, luminary festival,	10/26/2020 8:40 AM
89	none	10/25/2020 11:33 AM
90	farm market	10/25/2020 9:37 AM
91	None	10/24/2020 3:49 PM
92	We mostly go to the park by ourselves. Movies in the park mostly if any. None at the splash pad, those events tend to have too many tourists for our liking.	10/24/2020 11:54 AM
93	The Christmas tree lighting, AYSO soccer, NLBSA/SJBSA baseball (including fall baseball this year), movies at the beach and in the park (including the drive in movies this year), and probably many others that slip my mind.	10/23/2020 7:42 PM
94	July 4th, Antiques on the Bluff,	10/23/2020 7:30 PM
95	Everything. Downtown store events. Lightning of the Bluff. Farmers market. Antiques on the Bluff.	10/23/2020 5:34 PM
96	Movies in the park, outdoor concert series, ice fest, beer fest, reindog parade, luminary fest, chili cook off	10/23/2020 2:43 PM
97	Light Up the Bluff, Ice Fest, Reindog Parade, Beer Festival, Luminary Fest, Chili Cookoff,	10/23/2020 1:00 PM

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Outdoor Movies in the Park, Antiques on the Bluff, Farmer's Market		
98	basketball	10/23/2020 7:26 AM
99	Personal visits to parks, taking children to tot lot.	10/22/2020 6:22 PM
100	None	10/22/2020 5:52 PM
101	Soccer for my 4 year old.	10/22/2020 5:49 PM
102	None	10/22/2020 4:12 PM
103	Farmers Market on Bluff	10/22/2020 8:34 AM
104	Tennis	10/22/2020 5:41 AM
105	Summer Tennis	10/21/2020 6:56 PM
106	baseball and basketball,bike riding	10/21/2020 1:15 PM
107	most of them	10/21/2020 9:24 AM
108	Baseball, tennis	10/21/2020 12:07 AM
109	Light up the bluff, parades, runs, community events downtown,	10/20/2020 10:37 PM
110	parades,antiques in the park, art fair, vendor fairs in the park,Makers Faire, art exhibits downtown ,	10/20/2020 10:24 PM
111	Tennis, soccer	10/20/2020 9:05 PM
112	Baseball, tennis	10/20/2020 8:44 PM
113	Farmers market, antiques, bluegrass festival, open skate	10/20/2020 8:43 PM
114	Summer Tennis Program	10/20/2020 8:18 PM
115	Farmers market, Silver Beach Carousel, Light up the bluff	10/20/2020 8:07 PM
116	Rented a pavilion for a wedding ceremony, love the beach	10/20/2020 7:50 PM
117	Chalk on bluff, blues brews and bbqs, art fair. Mostly everyone I can. I miss Venetian Fest. Loved the old 80s bands! Bring that back at least.	10/20/2020 7:38 PM
118	Typically the Artshow on the Bluff and we've been meaning to attend the Movies down below the bluff but haven't made it yet.	10/20/2020 7:14 PM
119	Light the Bluff, Farmer's Market, Halloween downtown, Live Mannequin night.	10/20/2020 5:46 PM
120	Kiwanis Park- Lions Park Beach	10/20/2020 5:45 PM
121	Youth baseball, Rec softball	10/20/2020 5:37 PM
122	Tennis, hikes, Kiwanis, beaches	10/20/2020 4:19 PM
123	I pay for grandchildren to go to summer camp each year. They also enjoy the Whirlpool park, beaches, Riverview park ,Tiny Tots park, Carousel, Dickinson, Tiscornia park	10/20/2020 3:33 PM
124	Tennis	10/20/2020 2:40 PM
125	The St Joseph Art Fair, Events at Band Shell, wedding at Silver Beach Gazebo, Splash Park, Farmers Market, Car Show, Fireworks, World War 11 reenactment, renting Lions Beach gazebo, walking the Howard Family path, Kiwanis playground, Whittelsey Ice Arena in Winter, Lighthouse tour	10/20/2020 2:15 PM
126	Antiques on the bluff , most of everything downtown.	10/20/2020 1:51 PM
127	Pavilion rental	10/20/2020 1:46 PM
128	Summer activities - Like movie night, different events in downtown st joe	10/20/2020 1:38 PM
129	Riverview, Lions Park, Silver Beach, Tiscornia	10/20/2020 1:34 PM
130	Many St Joe Today events	10/20/2020 1:27 PM

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131	Baseball, flag football	10/20/2020 1:26 PM
132	In the past before covid, we've been to the Chalk event, the luminary event every year, the dog parades. Shopping in St. Joe and concerts at Silver beach and the bandshell, volleyball tournaments. The beaches (Jean Clock, Tiscornia, Lions, Silver Beach, Rocky Gap with our grandkids to play, swim and look for shells. Plus they love the splash pad, Kids Museum, Carousel and picnics at Riverview Park. We really enjoy the events that are held on the bluff and the 4th of July Fireworks too! We really don't like the new parking or being charged for parking or all of the cameras. Because of it both Lions & Silver Beach have lost the hometown vacation feel and they feel like a horrible big city out to pack you in and grab your money, like Chicago.	10/20/2020 1:03 PM
133	Baseball	10/20/2020 1:01 PM
134	youth tennis - summer, youth soccer	10/20/2020 12:52 PM
135	Summer tennis recreation program	10/20/2020 12:32 PM
136	Not much due to covid 19	10/20/2020 12:14 PM
137	As many as we can	10/20/2020 11:48 AM
138	None	10/20/2020 11:47 AM
139	Love the library - usually participate in the Dog Parade and the ice sculpture event. Also like the Trick or Treat Fall event - Love living here and try to participate in all that great stuff!	10/20/2020 11:37 AM
140	Baseball/softball, but it was cancelled before we could participate	10/20/2020 11:15 AM
141	Summer tennis and basketball	10/20/2020 11:07 AM
142	The Howard ice rink	10/20/2020 11:04 AM
143	Light up the bluff, Krasl, chalk the block, ice fest, basically everything downtown.	10/20/2020 10:53 AM
144	soccer, tennis	10/20/2020 10:43 AM
145	Softball, basketball,youth sports, walkways	10/20/2020 10:41 AM
146	None because of pandemic	10/20/2020 10:35 AM
147	Lions Beach Park. Lake Bluff Park. Splash Pad. Riverview Park.	10/20/2020 10:34 AM
148	Farmers Market Ice skating	10/20/2020 10:29 AM
149	None	10/20/2020 10:29 AM
150	no idea	10/20/2020 10:16 AM
151	baseball at Wells Field, XC meet at Riverview, simply using them to explore.	10/20/2020 10:13 AM
152	Not many due to covid	10/20/2020 10:10 AM
153	Tennis Just moved here recently	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
154	Tennis camp	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
155	None, but when we lived in St. Joseph, we occasionally fished at Riverview park.	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
156	Youth softball program	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
157	Movies in the park	10/20/2020 10:04 AM
158	We started and loved the scavenger hunt this summer but couldn't find all the clues and then it disappeared. We love the ice rink and use that. We did not join basketball last year but wanted to.	10/20/2020 10:02 AM
159	Basketball. Beach.	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
160	Chalk the Block, downtown trick or treating, Reindog parade, Blossomtime parade, movies in the park, farmer's market, antiques on the bluff, ice skating	10/20/2020 10:00 AM
161	None	10/20/2020 9:56 AM



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162	Art Fair, Antiques on the Bluff, Chalk the Block, Light the Bluff, Downtown Luminary Festival, Live Mannequins Downtown, Concerts at Howard	10/19/2020 5:25 PM
163	Soccer, ice-skating, National Day Out... Not sure if those were all parks events...	10/18/2020 8:01 PM
164	Light up the Bluff and other downtown events. Howard Trail and bridge walk nearly daily.	10/18/2020 5:51 PM
165	Lions beach park, tiscornia, Whirlpool park, Kiwanis park	10/17/2020 11:55 AM
166	Movies in the park	10/16/2020 8:24 PM
167	Fall festival 2019	10/16/2020 6:18 PM
168	Tennis class for the 4-6 year olds Farmers market	10/16/2020 3:10 PM
169	None due to Covid	10/16/2020 12:44 PM
170	Due to covid none .	10/16/2020 12:35 PM
171	Art Fair and Open market on Saturdays	10/16/2020 12:45 AM
172	Farmer's Market at the bluff.	10/14/2020 7:54 PM
173	Farmers market, light up the bluff, chalk the block	10/12/2020 11:45 PM
174	Tennis, parks, beach	10/12/2020 11:54 AM
175	Outdoor movie events. Usually, we are more involved. However, due to the pandemic, we haven't been out as much.	10/12/2020 11:13 AM
176	Farmers Market	10/11/2020 9:46 PM
177	Chalk the block, farmers markets	10/10/2020 9:50 PM
178	No programs, just walked a few times or go to Lions/Tiscornia beach	10/10/2020 9:32 PM
179	Farmer's Market, Fourth of July fireworks, Blues concert, Movie night	10/8/2020 10:57 PM
180	Movies, walking, Farmers Market, Fire Works, blues concert, Sunday band concert, Froggy Park, Lions Beach	10/8/2020 10:46 PM
181	Sadly none due to covid	10/8/2020 7:08 PM
182	I don't know what there is other than the beaches.	10/8/2020 6:28 PM
183	Mannequins, ice sculpture festival, chalk the block	10/8/2020 3:40 PM
184	Fall fest. Farmers market, outdoor movies, fountain, beach, play areas, art fair.	10/8/2020 3:24 PM
185	Summer Rec 2019	10/8/2020 3:11 PM
186	Farmers market, antiques on the bluff, we do the Howard trail several times a week, Lions parts Park Beach. Frequent visitor to the public library	10/8/2020 2:02 PM
187	Farmers Market, Art Fair, Blues bluegrass	10/8/2020 1:44 PM
188	Not many due to covid but previously we frequented the ice rink, fall fest, trick or treating, lions, tiny tots, riverview, walking trail by ace, silver beach, fountain, chalk the block, mannequins when it went with tree lighting, etc	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
189	Movies on the Bluff, seeing the Christmas lights, 5Ks	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
190	Commission meetings..... and I go to the beaches a few times a week during the warmer months. Some St. Joe Today programs.	10/8/2020 1:17 PM
191	Not many in the past few years, because of out of town and state tourist makes access impossible.	10/8/2020 1:14 PM
192	Most anything ST Joseph Today does	10/8/2020 12:20 PM
193	Drive in movies Farmers market	10/8/2020 11:54 AM
194	Off seasons ones as city it too crowded in summer to be able to take advantage of the great activities	10/8/2020 10:21 AM

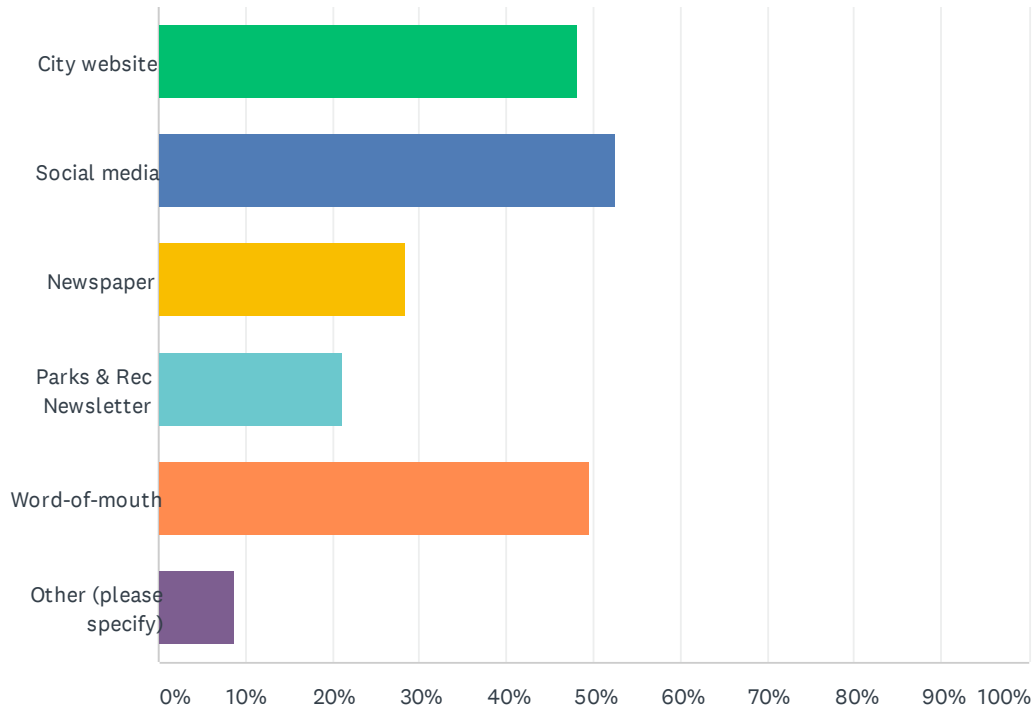
Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

195	Art Fair, mannequins, farmers market, lumiaries, antiques market,	10/8/2020 10:04 AM
196	Lots of things at Lake Bluff Park but cannot think of something without a list in front of me	10/8/2020 9:35 AM
197	Many city events/programs: Programs- Tennis program Events- Chalk the Block, Farmers Market, Parades, Mannequins, Ice Festival, etc.	10/8/2020 8:06 AM
198	most downtown	10/8/2020 6:14 AM
199	Mannequins, Light Up the Bluff, Luminary, etc.	10/8/2020 3:20 AM
200	Fireworks, tree lighting, movies in the park.	10/6/2020 8:36 PM
201	Festivals, concerts,	10/5/2020 1:27 PM
202	Sunday and Friday concerts at bandshell	10/5/2020 1:04 PM
203	Various things at the library; Lights on the Bluff; Reindog Parade; Farmer's Market; Antiques on the Bluff; fireworks; store-window mannequins; Chalk the Block; movies in the park...probably more.	10/5/2020 11:47 AM
204	Summer movie nights	10/5/2020 11:29 AM
205	Movie in the park, once. The Greatest Showman.	10/5/2020 11:15 AM
206	Lighting of the tree	10/5/2020 11:11 AM
207	Bluff events, beaches	10/5/2020 10:49 AM
208	Kids recreation, outdoor movies, block parties	10/5/2020 10:32 AM
209	Holiday events	10/5/2020 9:15 AM
210	Band shell!	10/4/2020 8:05 AM
211	Krasl Art Fair, Mike Yore Memorial car show, Chalk the Block, Antiques on the Bluff, Reindog Parade, Mannequins night, Fire & Ice, Chili Cookoff, Light Up the Bluff	10/3/2020 8:58 AM
212	Farmers market on the bluff, lighting of the bluff,	10/2/2020 2:55 PM
213	Band Shell programs, Farmers Market, Centennial Fountain, walk on Bluff, enjoy Riverview Park facilities.	10/2/2020 2:20 PM
214	Every weekend the farmer's market on the bluff.	10/2/2020 1:55 PM
215	None	10/2/2020 1:51 PM
216	not alot due to covid..walks and driving by beach mostly	10/2/2020 12:09 PM

**Q8 How do you obtain information about the City Parks & Recreation Department? (can choose more than one)**

Answered: 309 Skipped: 6

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
City website	48.22%	149
Social media	52.43%	162
Newspaper	28.48%	88
Parks & Rec Newsletter	21.04%	65
Word-of-mouth	49.51%	153
Other (please specify)	8.74%	27
Total Respondents: 309		

Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

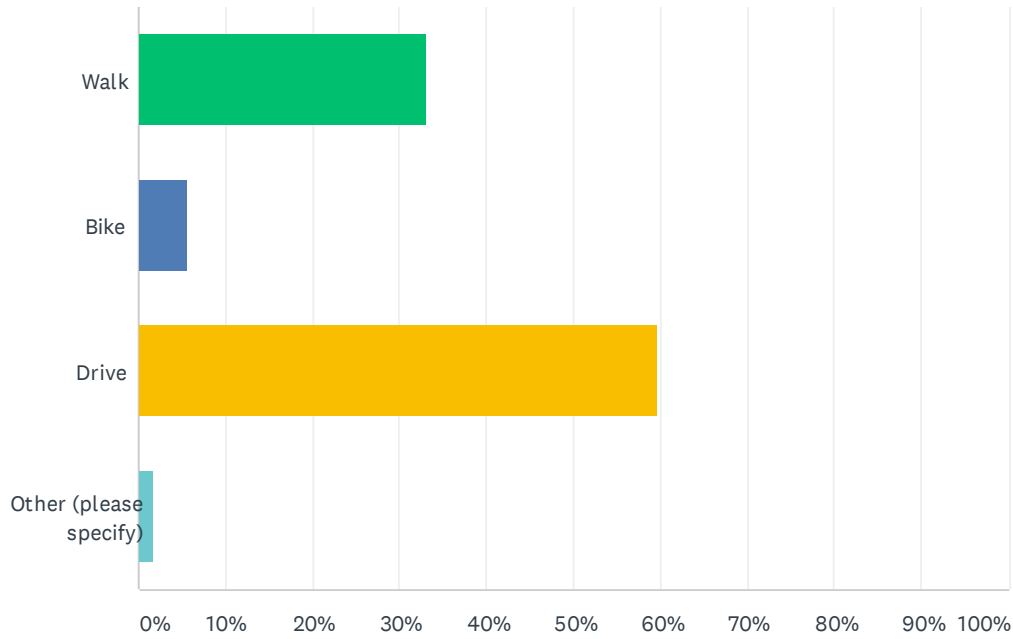
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Wife	12/2/2020 12:45 PM
2	#1 method: Posters/fliers in the City/Community four standalone notification structures	11/23/2020 9:07 AM
3	St Joseph today and the radio WSJM	11/17/2020 10:26 AM
4	I don't know how to obtain info. Currently don't receive any emails, etc	11/15/2020 8:44 PM
5	Posters in restaurants downtown & Mailmax	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
6	N/A	11/12/2020 2:34 PM
7	Billboard on Broad/Main	11/9/2020 2:24 PM
8	Saint Joseph Today	11/7/2020 11:14 AM
9	The billboard downtown.	10/23/2020 7:42 PM
10	Stjoetoday.com	10/23/2020 2:43 PM
11	St. Joe Today	10/23/2020 1:00 PM
12	Email	10/20/2020 8:44 PM
13	Not sure	10/20/2020 1:26 PM
14	emails	10/20/2020 12:52 PM
15	St. Joe Today, Tourist Council	10/20/2020 11:37 AM
16	Elementary school blog	10/20/2020 11:15 AM
17	I don't receive anything about the parks	10/20/2020 10:29 AM
18	South Shore HRC	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
19	Website is awful we try to use it we get notices through the school	10/20/2020 10:02 AM
20	moody on the market	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
21	City Commission meetings	10/18/2020 5:51 PM
22	City Billboard	10/16/2020 12:44 PM
23	City Newsletter (don't recall seeing a specific Parks and Rec newsletter?)	10/8/2020 1:17 PM
24	St Joe Today newsletter	10/8/2020 9:35 AM
25	Calendar!!	10/8/2020 3:20 AM
26	The sign on Broad Street	10/2/2020 1:55 PM
27	talking with Greg and others in city parks drpt.	10/2/2020 12:09 PM

## Q9 How do you get to the parks most often?

Answered: 314 Skipped: 1



## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



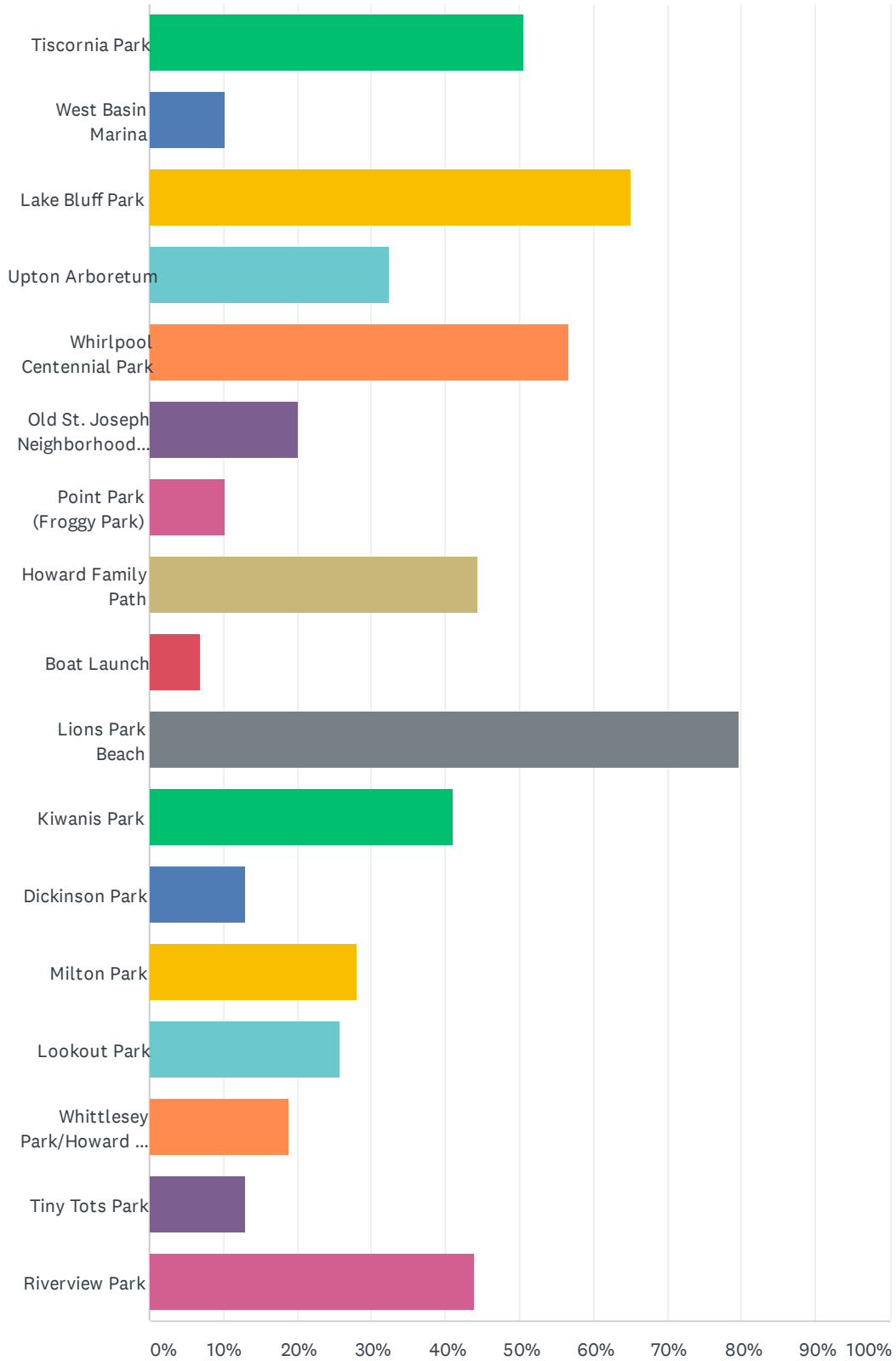
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walk	33.12%	104
Bike	5.73%	18
Drive	59.55%	187
Other (please specify)	1.59%	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>314</b>

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Walk (at the parks several times/week), Bike 1-2 X per week, Drive 5 X / week.	11/23/2020 11:02 AM
2	Park at a friend who lives in the city and walk	11/12/2020 2:54 PM
3	Boat	10/22/2020 4:12 PM
4	We walk, bike or scooter, depending where we're going. Downtown area SO busy with traffic in the summer that it's very difficult to find parking and get around. We tend to avoid it unless we can park bikes or scooters.	10/18/2020 5:51 PM
5	Depends on the park but walk, bike or drive.	10/8/2020 3:11 PM

### Q10 Which St. Joseph City Parks do you visit regularly (a few times a year or more)

Answered: 314 Skipped: 1

# Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



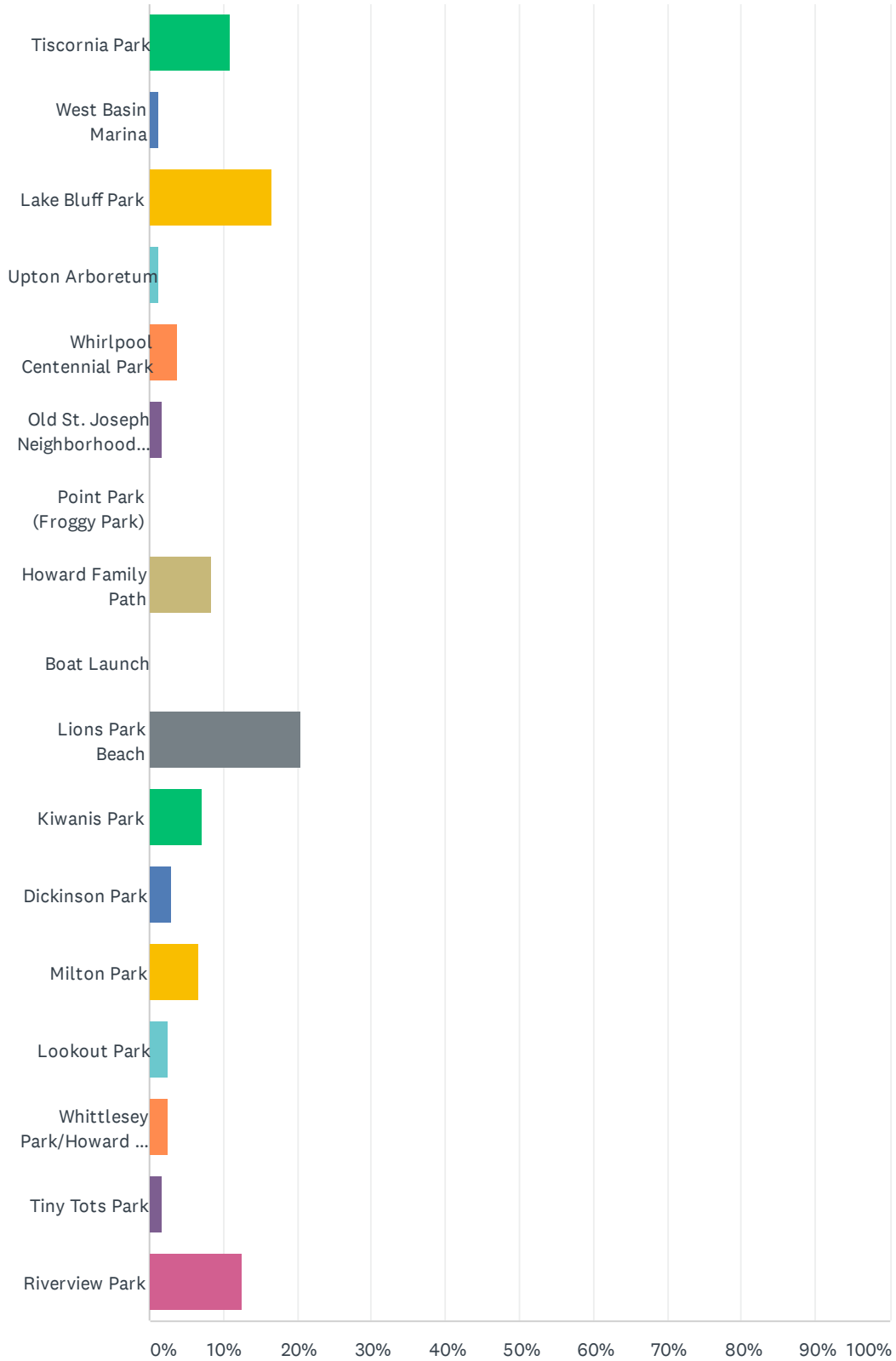
Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Tiscornia Park	50.64%	159
West Basin Marina	10.19%	32
Lake Bluff Park	64.97%	204
Upton Arboretum	32.48%	102
Whirlpool Centennial Park	56.69%	178
Old St. Joseph Neighborhood Park (Bear Park)	20.06%	63
Point Park (Froggy Park)	10.19%	32
Howard Family Path	44.27%	139
Boat Launch	7.01%	22
Lions Park Beach	79.62%	250
Kiwanis Park	41.08%	129
Dickinson Park	13.06%	41
Milton Park	28.03%	88
Lookout Park	25.80%	81
Whittlesey Park/Howard Ice Arena	18.79%	59
Tiny Tots Park	13.06%	41
Riverview Park	43.95%	138
Total Respondents: 314		

### Q11 Which park is your favorite?

Answered: 313 Skipped: 2

# Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update





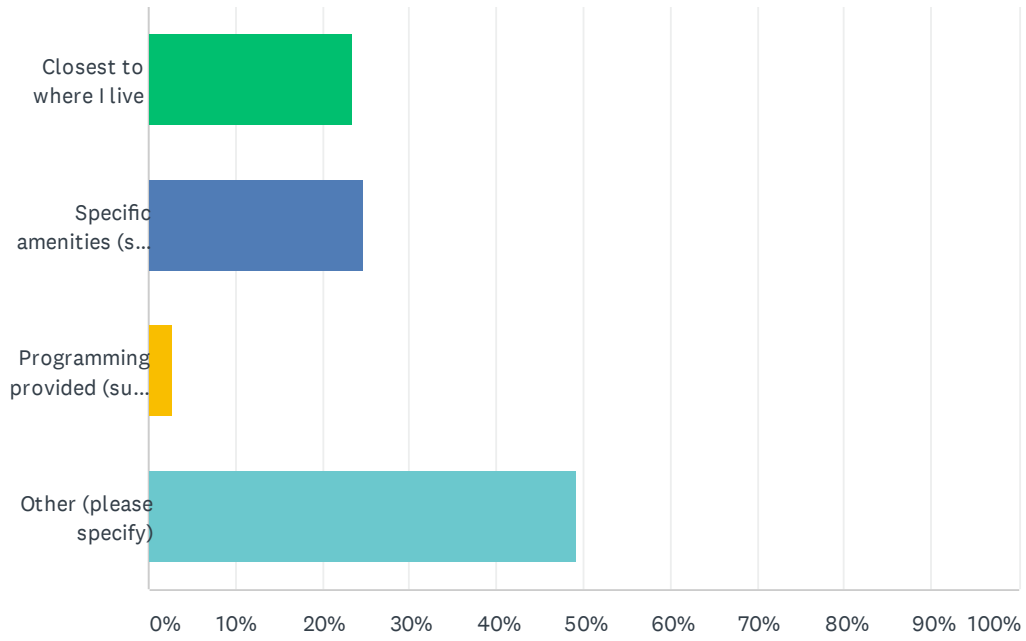
Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Tiscornia Park	10.86%	34
West Basin Marina	1.28%	4
Lake Bluff Park	16.61%	52
Upton Arboretum	1.28%	4
Whirlpool Centennial Park	3.83%	12
Old St. Joseph Neighborhood Park (Bear Park)	1.60%	5
Point Park (Froggy Park)	0.00%	0
Howard Family Path	8.31%	26
Boat Launch	0.00%	0
Lions Park Beach	20.45%	64
Kiwanis Park	7.03%	22
Dickinson Park	2.88%	9
Milton Park	6.71%	21
Lookout Park	2.56%	8
Whittlesey Park/Howard Ice Arena	2.56%	8
Tiny Tots Park	1.60%	5
Riverview Park	12.46%	39
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>313</b>

## Q12 Why is that park your favorite?

Answered: 303 Skipped: 12

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Closest to where I live	23.43%	71
Specific amenities (such as playground, basketball court, etc)	24.75%	75
Programming provided (such as sporting events or camps)	2.64%	8
Other (please specify)	49.17%	149
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>303</b>

Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Centrally Located / Activities	12/2/2020 12:45 PM
2	My parents house went over the bluff there when I was 8. Parents were Joe and Ruth Hanley who placed the plaque there.	11/23/2020 11:02 AM
3	Closest to where I Live and Specific amenities.	11/23/2020 10:45 AM
4	The excitement of having so many people enjoy it ...	11/23/2020 9:07 AM
5	nice wide walking path, away from traffic	11/18/2020 3:58 PM
6	Lake Michigan	11/18/2020 3:27 PM
7	It is a place where our family gets together and truly think of that area as home, and I enjoy walking through every morning	11/18/2020 12:31 AM
8	We own a boat	11/17/2020 11:41 PM
9	It's the quietest and easiest to access	11/17/2020 7:05 PM
10	Beach1/water	11/17/2020 5:48 PM
11	Space	11/17/2020 3:27 PM
12	Free parking	11/17/2020 2:44 PM
13	Natural Area	11/17/2020 10:26 AM
14	Great place for famil gatherings, not many teenagers!	11/16/2020 7:25 AM
15	Beauty	11/15/2020 7:42 PM
16	Splash pad	11/15/2020 7:03 PM
17	Path picnic tables views benches	11/15/2020 6:59 PM
18	More family friendly than other swim beaches. Lighthouse and natural setting.	11/15/2020 5:30 PM
19	Love seeing the lake, the mouthwatering smell of pizza and all the monuments reflecting St. Joseph's history.	11/15/2020 5:29 PM
20	Closest beach	11/15/2020 4:43 PM
21	great view of the lake	11/15/2020 3:54 PM
22	Water view and picnics	11/15/2020 3:42 PM
23	Location	11/15/2020 1:38 PM
24	Beautiful scenery	11/15/2020 1:22 PM
25	Pretty view	11/15/2020 8:51 AM
26	great swings and benches	11/14/2020 11:11 PM
27	Monuments, nice view, picnic tables	11/14/2020 10:54 PM
28	The beach	11/14/2020 10:41 PM
29	The overall beauty of the dune and the lighthouse.	11/14/2020 5:33 PM
30	North Pier, dunes, grasses, scenery and natural setting	11/14/2020 2:26 PM
31	I like to walk over the walk bridge and then along Lions Park and the Howard path. 2nd St beach has been the beach for us this year.	11/13/2020 7:22 PM
32	Activity	11/13/2020 2:09 PM
33	Great wildlife and nature trail	11/12/2020 6:49 PM
34	Looking at the Lake and the drive around	11/12/2020 6:03 PM
35	Beach & Bathrooms	11/12/2020 4:22 PM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

36	View	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
37	Great for walking	11/12/2020 3:25 PM
38	Love the beach. Local friendly	11/12/2020 3:00 PM
39	events	11/12/2020 2:54 PM
40	THE VIEW and location near downtown	11/12/2020 2:34 PM
41	Wonderful beach!	11/12/2020 2:05 PM
42	It's just a beautiful place	11/12/2020 1:43 PM
43	Beauty	11/12/2020 1:25 PM
44	Dog friendly	11/12/2020 1:15 PM
45	Beach yoga	11/12/2020 12:43 PM
46	Whitlessey park is very close to our home and it's a great place to let the dog run and play.	11/12/2020 12:39 PM
47	Quiet, peaceful,	11/12/2020 11:19 AM
48	It is more accessible, peaceful, and not as crowded so that one can enjoy nature.	11/12/2020 10:00 AM
49	view	11/12/2020 9:55 AM
50	Safe area to walk	11/12/2020 9:49 AM
51	nice to walk through	11/11/2020 5:41 PM
52	Enjoy walking here	11/11/2020 4:46 PM
53	It's a beautiful park/setting	11/11/2020 4:07 PM
54	it's a beautiful place to exercise, relax and view the Lake	11/10/2020 2:30 PM
55	Very good walking venue	11/10/2020 2:29 PM
56	close to downtown merchants	11/10/2020 7:46 AM
57	Sidewalks enable lots of people, plus bikes	11/9/2020 10:07 PM
58	So pretty!!!	11/9/2020 8:16 PM
59	Closest to home, playground, skatepark and dog park!	11/9/2020 2:24 PM
60	Exercising	11/9/2020 1:25 PM
61	It is reminiscent of older gardens that I'd like to see more	11/8/2020 6:03 PM
62	Water views	11/7/2020 11:50 PM
63	Romantic and nostalgic	11/7/2020 11:14 AM
64	I walk it every day	11/5/2020 8:25 PM
65	There's no other option that is not surrounded by vehicles & the wonderful air quality they leave behind after avoiding there noisy negligence of any pedestrians. (No reliably safe street crossings on Niles Ave.	11/5/2020 9:06 AM
66	Walking	11/5/2020 12:43 AM
67	paved walking path	11/3/2020 5:20 PM
68	walking trail	11/3/2020 11:51 AM
69	its beautiful with plants and paths	11/3/2020 11:23 AM
70	LOTS of space, the river is nice,	11/1/2020 8:23 PM
71	Quiet	10/31/2020 11:04 PM
72	Beach	10/29/2020 6:05 PM



## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

73	It is close to where I live, so I can walk when weather is nice, and it has something for everyone in my family. It is kept up and mostly, i take my dog there almost every day and it's a nice space	10/28/2020 8:05 AM
74	Beautiful, walkable, Farmers Market	10/27/2020 7:54 AM
75	It is a great park to to anything I want to; walk my dog, ride my bike, look for wildflowers and animals on the trail through the woods, wade in the river and look for beavers and herons. It is like our own nature center, and very beautiful just the way it is! Please don't change it!	10/26/2020 7:12 PM
76	The sheer beauty of the view, great social interaction.	10/26/2020 8:40 AM
77	Big, near where I live, easy to walk dog, not crowded	10/25/2020 11:33 AM
78	The view, the beaches, the tables and the people and dogs in the park...plus all the events!	10/24/2020 3:49 PM
79	The beach. The view. The carousel. The events. Close to downtown.	10/23/2020 5:34 PM
80	Accessibilty	10/22/2020 6:22 PM
81	Marina amenities	10/22/2020 4:12 PM
82	Close to where I work	10/21/2020 8:34 PM
83	connected walkway	10/21/2020 9:24 AM
84	View if the lake	10/20/2020 10:37 PM
85	beauty, people,art fair	10/20/2020 10:24 PM
86	Quiet not busy like silver beach	10/20/2020 8:59 PM
87	Beach and playground options	10/20/2020 8:44 PM
88	It is so scenic!	10/20/2020 8:34 PM
89	Beach access	10/20/2020 7:50 PM
90	It's a good way to get peace from the summer crowds. I use 1st street beach right by my house.	10/20/2020 7:38 PM
91	Beautiful walk.	10/20/2020 5:46 PM
92	Great for stress free exercise and views	10/20/2020 2:40 PM
93	Activities, splash park, family fun, beauty	10/20/2020 2:15 PM
94	Large, river access, covered pavilion. enclosed building, restrooms, baseball field, playground etc.	10/20/2020 1:27 PM
95	THe setting	10/20/2020 1:03 PM
96	Trail	10/20/2020 12:57 PM
97	Our high school gives me the most pride. It's the heartbeat of our city. Too many resources are spent on appeasing the out of town tourist. Not enough is spent on local interest.	10/20/2020 11:48 AM
98	Nature	10/20/2020 11:47 AM
99	Not as crowded in the summer	10/20/2020 11:37 AM
100	It open to run around in, would be better if totally fenced in	10/20/2020 11:15 AM
101	less tourists	10/20/2020 11:14 AM
102	Scenic beauty	10/20/2020 11:07 AM
103	A chance to enjoy the lake in a family friendly setting.	10/20/2020 10:34 AM
104	Trails, on the water, picnic facilities	10/20/2020 10:26 AM
105	Gives us a chance to walk and enjoy the views	10/20/2020 10:15 AM
106	Kept up/groomed and not many tourists/it's beautiful	10/20/2020 10:10 AM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

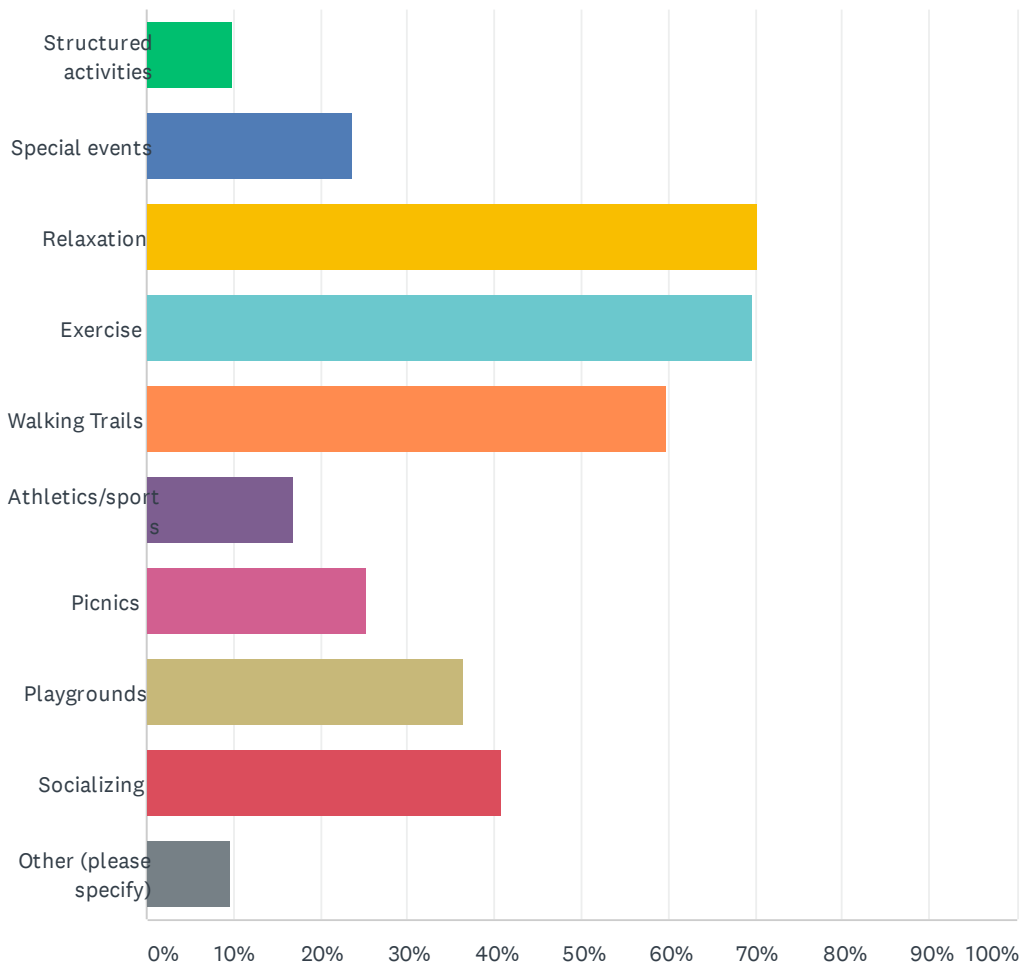
107	Playground overlooking lake!	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
108	good walking/bike trail, not long enough	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
109	Pier & beach	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
110	Lighthouse at tiscornia	10/20/2020 9:56 AM
111	Has a wonderful view of the lake and is easily adapted to fit the needs for different events	10/19/2020 9:47 AM
112	Benches, river/lake views, lovely trees, easy access to downtown, quieter/fewer people than Lake Bluff Park	10/18/2020 5:51 PM
113	Good place to walk, close to home	10/16/2020 8:24 PM
114	Beautiful yet not too crowded	10/16/2020 5:11 PM
115	Not in congested downtown area.	10/16/2020 12:44 PM
116	I love the beach and Tiscornia is the nicest in St. Joe because it isn't overly developed!	10/12/2020 11:13 AM
117	beautiful view of the lake, farmers market, nice walking path	10/12/2020 10:32 AM
118	I like how large of a beach it is and the lookout there is great for watching sunsets	10/10/2020 9:50 PM
119	best walking / riding paths	10/10/2020 9:32 PM
120	Scenic walk	10/8/2020 10:57 PM
121	Many uses of the park, great for walking and sunsets	10/8/2020 10:46 PM
122	Nice walking path	10/8/2020 7:08 PM
123	Beautiful spot to sit and look at the water. Others not as mobility limited friendly.	10/8/2020 6:28 PM
124	Its free	10/8/2020 3:24 PM
125	Views	10/8/2020 2:02 PM
126	Views and friendly people, although views could be improved tremendously with tree trimming	10/8/2020 1:44 PM
127	Easy parking, bathrooms, playground	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
128	Close to biking/hiking trails	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
129	Like the local history, the many benches to sit and the shade with a beautiful view of the lake and delicious aroma of pizza.	10/8/2020 1:14 PM
130	Very accessible by all people and beautiful views	10/8/2020 10:04 AM
131	Close to where I used to live	10/8/2020 9:35 AM
132	The beach and pier	10/8/2020 8:06 AM
133	Beach views, limited parking so never too crowded.	10/8/2020 3:20 AM
134	The view	10/6/2020 8:36 PM
135	The view	10/6/2020 8:45 AM
136	Sunset views	10/6/2020 8:43 AM
137	It is a wonderful place to walk ... a piece of nature in the city!	10/5/2020 1:04 PM
138	Beach	10/5/2020 11:58 AM
139	I walk a lot and my favorite route starts with the Waterworks Bridge and Howard Family trail, then down Silver Beach to the pier, then back through downtown, then home.	10/5/2020 11:47 AM
140	close to work	10/5/2020 11:11 AM
141	Not as many people	10/5/2020 11:08 AM
142	Playground	10/5/2020 11:07 AM
143	It's like hiking in the city! Like the secludedness in the trees.	10/5/2020 11:02 AM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

144	variety of events	10/5/2020 10:49 AM
145	sunsets	10/5/2020 9:15 AM
146	Nice trail	10/4/2020 8:05 AM
147	Wooded trails	10/3/2020 8:58 AM
148	length of river it sits on. multiple of activities. needs more/smaller picnic pavilions all along river	10/2/2020 2:55 PM
149	Ease of parking and parking is close to the beach	10/2/2020 2:20 PM

### Q13 Why do you visit St. Joseph City Parks? (can choose more than one)

Answered: 313    Skipped: 2



Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Structured activities	9.90%	31
Special events	23.64%	74
Relaxation	70.29%	220
Exercise	69.65%	218
Walking Trails	59.74%	187
Athletics/sports	16.93%	53
Picnics	25.24%	79
Playgrounds	36.42%	114
Socializing	40.89%	128
Other (please specify)	9.58%	30
Total Respondents: 313		



Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Nature contact	11/15/2020 10:18 PM
2	Dog parks	11/15/2020 7:44 PM
3	Relax and view the scenery	11/14/2020 2:26 PM
4	Dog park	11/12/2020 3:56 PM
5	Music	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
6	Dog park	11/12/2020 3:00 PM
7	For my dog to enjoy	11/12/2020 12:37 PM
8	To enjoy nature and breathe.	11/12/2020 10:00 AM
9	Biking	11/12/2020 9:49 AM
10	photography	11/10/2020 2:29 PM
11	Dog park	11/9/2020 2:24 PM
12	Nature	11/9/2020 1:25 PM
13	Beach	11/7/2020 11:50 PM
14	dog parks	10/28/2020 8:05 AM
15	The view	10/24/2020 3:49 PM
16	Walking the dog.	10/23/2020 7:30 PM
17	Kids love them!	10/20/2020 8:34 PM
18	U	10/20/2020 1:51 PM
19	Bring out of town guests	10/20/2020 11:37 AM
20	I	10/20/2020 10:41 AM
21	beauty, water	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
22	Best location for beach weddings	10/20/2020 9:56 AM
23	Kayak launch, covered structures, more nature trails, wall for tennis practice, disc golf,	10/16/2020 6:18 PM
24	The view	10/16/2020 12:35 PM
25	Wildlife.	10/8/2020 3:20 AM
26	My dogs	10/7/2020 9:59 AM
27	Beach	10/5/2020 11:58 AM
28	Can take my dogs.	10/5/2020 11:15 AM
29	Walk our dogs	10/3/2020 8:58 AM
30	Dogs	10/2/2020 1:55 PM

**Q14** What additional types of amenities would you like to see offered by our parks and recreation facilities? Example would be specific play structures, courts for specific sports, kayak launch, more trails, etc.

Answered: 220 Skipped: 95

Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Bike and Walking Trails (Most surrounding areas have them), Bring back the downtown corner art corner sculptures. They are missed as well as wine festival with the auction	12/2/2020 12:54 PM
2	Bike & Walking Trails - Downtown Corner Sculptures - Wine Festivals - Auction	12/2/2020 12:45 PM
3	Keep what we have in great shape, like viaduct repairs.	11/23/2020 11:02 AM
4	Covered sitting areas ... i.e., shade from the sun	11/23/2020 9:07 AM
5	Riverview Park ....summer collegiate baseball. Great little park.	11/22/2020 2:17 AM
6	biking trails - of at least several miles in length - wide and paved, not gravel. We are so lacking in safe bike paths in our City and nearby. This lack is particularly notable in the summer when all the tourists are here. We need to upgrade to more of what South Haven has. I don't want my only option to be to drive to then bike. We need bike trails in and next to the City. Every other city is working on this - we should too!!!	11/18/2020 3:58 PM
7	Free parking	11/18/2020 3:27 PM
8	Indoor/outdoor lacrosse, soccer, make SJ a walking city (more sidewalks and trails).	11/18/2020 7:54 AM
9	Kayak launch, small sailboat launch from West Basin	11/18/2020 12:31 AM
10	Basketball courts	11/17/2020 11:41 PM
11	Hard surface volleyball courts, kayak launch sites, more trails (both bike & walking), outdoor pools	11/17/2020 7:05 PM
12	Launches for kayak , trails, picnic tables dog parks	11/17/2020 3:27 PM
13	Dog park	11/17/2020 2:44 PM
14	Water-pet friendly, benches	11/16/2020 10:20 AM
15	Soccer nets	11/16/2020 7:25 AM
16	I would like to see an update to the play structures at Riverview. They are more tailored to the very young. Also the rubber pellets are lacking and need to be refilled. Public bathrooms more accessible by the kids playground	11/16/2020 3:38 AM
17	Bike trails	11/15/2020 10:18 PM
18	Kayak launch would be great, basketball court(s), more bike trails	11/15/2020 8:52 PM
19	More walking & bike trails, better play equipment and NO RUBBER MULCH!! We don't visit certain parks because of the rubber mulch. It's filthy and hot.	11/15/2020 8:44 PM
20	Kayak launch, fence the Howard park again for the dogs	11/15/2020 7:44 PM
21	N/A	11/15/2020 7:03 PM
22	Connecting walking and biking trails throughout city, pedestrian bridge over river to island and BH	11/15/2020 6:59 PM
23	Tennis Combined Hike/bike trails More Kayak launches would be nice	11/15/2020 5:30 PM
24	This summer was so nice just to enjoy th natural beauty of town and parks.	11/15/2020 5:29 PM
25	I wish there was a city aquatic facility.	11/15/2020 4:43 PM
26	Dog parks	11/15/2020 4:30 PM
27	Ninja course for children-covid friendly	11/15/2020 4:14 PM
28	Kayak rental	11/15/2020 4:09 PM
29	Frisbee stations. More picnic tables. More facilities at Riverview Park	11/15/2020 3:54 PM
30	Kayak launch, trails	11/15/2020 3:42 PM
31	N/a	11/15/2020 3:37 PM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

32	More trails for biking and running. Trails that specifically get you from one place to another safely - it is scary to bike around here as a family. Bike trails leading into downtown would really helpful during congested events. We do often bike but cars are so focused on parking and beating someone to the turn that they don't see bikers.	11/15/2020 1:38 PM
33	Scavenger hunts and more adult softball	11/15/2020 11:43 AM
34	Disc golf, splash pad, zip line	11/15/2020 8:51 AM
35	Would like to have a par course at one of the parks.	11/15/2020 6:44 AM
36	more trails would be great.	11/14/2020 11:11 PM
37	PICKLEBALL! Can't believe St. Joseph doesn't offer more. We go to Berrien Springs twice a week to play.	11/14/2020 10:58 PM
38	More parking, bathrooms	11/14/2020 10:54 PM
39	More trails for bicycles	11/14/2020 10:41 PM
40	Shade sails at Morton Park over the checkers table and a swing bench would be great	11/13/2020 7:22 PM
41	More structures on the playground for tiny toddlers and bathrooms	11/13/2020 6:39 PM
42	Downtown area music	11/13/2020 2:09 PM
43	More pickle ball courts	11/13/2020 1:51 PM
44	Pickle ball	11/13/2020 1:28 PM
45	none I can think of right now.	11/13/2020 11:25 AM
46	1 or 2 "Tiny Tots" park / playground in south SJ area (ie. in the area bound by Cleveland, Hilltop, S. State, and Highland; maybe one west of the RR tracks.	11/12/2020 9:26 PM
47	More consideration for runners and bicyclists.	11/12/2020 8:39 PM
48	More bike and walking paths. Biking is not safe in downtown SJ.	11/12/2020 6:49 PM
49	Nothing that I care about it seems. Parking and safety and ease of access.	11/12/2020 6:03 PM
50	Safe bike trails near or on the roads	11/12/2020 4:22 PM
51	Use of the Howard rink for summer roller hockey, additional hours for open skate, sticks and pucks, youth and adult drop in	11/12/2020 4:01 PM
52	More trails, mini yacht club where I could store my Sunfish sailboat close to beach/river like I did in Lake Bluff IL.	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
53	Less is more. Nature is important.	11/12/2020 3:00 PM
54	more walking trails, kayak launch, more dog parks, Dog beach	11/12/2020 2:54 PM
55	More trails, more restroom facilities and signs with area history like in Lake Bluff Park	11/12/2020 2:34 PM
56	A community pool.	11/12/2020 1:56 PM
57	More trails for walking	11/12/2020 1:43 PM
58	Some upgrade at the dog park (sheltered seating, trashes at both sides)	11/12/2020 1:15 PM
59	More trails for biking and walking would be great	11/12/2020 12:43 PM
60	More trails	11/12/2020 12:39 PM
61	More nature trails & a kayak launch	11/12/2020 11:19 AM
62	More safe hiking and biking trails.	11/12/2020 10:00 AM
63	Nice basketball courts, pickel ball courts, more bike and nature trails OPEN up the gate to get through by Clementines then lock it at dusk. Bike trail along the river from clementines to Eagle point would be wonderful!!!!	11/12/2020 9:49 AM
64	Kayak launch would be good as would more trails	11/11/2020 4:07 PM

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65	more trails for exercising with exercise stations and distance markers through a variety of natural environments	11/10/2020 2:30 PM
66	More trails...interconnected to trails across the county and to adjoining counties	11/10/2020 2:29 PM
67	open bluff park , tiscornia and lionsrestrooms earlier in the day	11/10/2020 7:46 AM
68	More trails/wider sidewalks. In Hermosillo beach CA they have what's called "the strand" it's miles of protected and curbed walking/biking lanes. I would love to see this from Silver beach south to ... grand mere?! pavilion for yoga. Locations to launch paddle board to the river	11/9/2020 10:07 PM
69	Trails!!!	11/9/2020 8:16 PM
70	Bike Racks throughout. New play structures.	11/9/2020 2:53 PM
71	I would like to see an exertrail in Milton Park, similar to the one in Bendix Woods in South Bend, only more compact. Milton has plenty of room to add this non-evnvasive-looking equipment. Please, no bright colors like on the beach playground. When there is natural beauty around, the bright colors are sadly distracting.	11/9/2020 1:25 PM
72	more trails, disc golf	11/9/2020 10:49 AM
73	More events like a farmers market, for different trades and interests, events and shows.	11/7/2020 11:14 AM
74	More walking trails off of roads.	11/7/2020 8:29 AM
75	A splash pad, pool, more playground equipment.	11/6/2020 11:52 AM
76	More trails	11/5/2020 8:25 PM
77	1)-Trails/ dedicated pedestrian routes connecting each public space as a truly comprehensive park network. (People never mix with cars) 2)-permanently close Pleasant Street to vehicular traffic & have it be a dedicated pedestrian walkway from Lake Bluff Park -> Pavilion adjacent to Silver Harbor Brewing Company. (Extend State Street's economic advantages/Saint Joseph's downtown esthetic would be reinvigorated & increased commercial opportunities will provide a level of economic diversity & resiliency fortified. 3)-Bike Lanes painted a solid color (green?) differentiating them from the vehicular lanes providing all roadway users a easy guide to be safe.	11/5/2020 9:06 AM
78	More walking/biking trails	11/5/2020 12:43 AM
79	Riverview has always been a beautiful and multi purpose park. With all the rain and the river so high, it has been mostly too wet to walk. Possible add paved paths?	11/3/2020 5:20 PM
80	Trails!	11/3/2020 11:51 AM
81	hiking trails	11/3/2020 11:23 AM
82	More regularly maintained trails and more access to waterways ( kayak launch). Restrooms open and cleaned year round, particularly in Riverview and Lake Bluff Park	11/3/2020 11:06 AM
83	Rentable equipment(beach balls, toys, etc)	11/2/2020 10:25 AM
84	Frisbee Disc Golf Course, groomed trails	11/1/2020 8:24 PM
85	disc golf courses!! these are a must for a town like St. Joe. It's really growing in popularity. It's family friendly, and a great draw. Plus low cost to install and maintain!	11/1/2020 8:23 PM
86	Tennis court	11/1/2020 12:58 PM
87	Public art	10/31/2020 11:04 PM
88	More trails	10/29/2020 9:10 PM
89	Kayak, sailing dinghy launch	10/29/2020 6:05 PM
90	TENNIS COURTS	10/29/2020 2:06 PM
91	indoor dog park for rainy days and in the winter when it is just too cold or too much snow. My dog loves the socialization and so do I. I hate to have to stop going because of weather	10/28/2020 8:05 AM
92	pickle ball courts	10/26/2020 7:12 PM



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93	Would love to see more safe walking and biking paths.	10/26/2020 5:53 PM
94	More bike-friendly infrastructure (on-road bike routes, bike racks, bike trails, etc), sledding hills, soccer fields	10/26/2020 8:40 AM
95	***Flashing stop signs for pedestrian crossings throughout town, especially from the alley behind Wisconsin Ave. to Winchester across Niles. This is already marked as a pedestrian crosswalk to get across to Milton Park but NO ONE SLOWS DOWN or ever stops. This as a major safety hazard and I frankly do not feel comfortable for my children crossing the street to go to the park. There are many families with young children like mine and any additional safety measures would be greatly used throughout the years. Thank you for considering.	10/25/2020 11:11 PM
96	More trails, better merry go round at Milton, replaced paths at Milton, improved sledding hill at Kiwanis	10/25/2020 10:57 PM
97	Kayak launches, more trails (especially for dog walks)	10/25/2020 11:33 AM
98	more bike paths	10/25/2020 9:37 AM
99	More soccer goals. Can be smaller fields with smaller goals.	10/24/2020 11:54 AM
100	Rather than adding anything, I think resources could be better spent maintaining things, especially restoring the beaches.	10/23/2020 7:42 PM
101	Kayak launch	10/23/2020 7:30 PM
102	JUST PROTECT THE SHORELINE!!!	10/23/2020 5:34 PM
103	See above	10/23/2020 2:43 PM
104	Bike trails, Kayak launch on river	10/23/2020 1:00 PM
105	Paving into water	10/22/2020 6:22 PM
106	Walking the trails	10/22/2020 5:52 PM
107	Sports programming	10/22/2020 5:49 PM
108	Better drainage at Dog Park. Seems to be muddy and wet all the time.	10/22/2020 8:34 AM
109	Kayak launch. Pickle ball courts (not on a tennis court)	10/21/2020 6:56 PM
110	Kayaking	10/21/2020 1:15 PM
111	basketball courts! more connected trails wherever possible	10/21/2020 9:24 AM
112	More trails connecting parks around town. Ability to walk/bike away from cars to the parks. Also frisbee golf course!	10/21/2020 12:07 AM
113	Kayak launch, more trails along waterways or view sheds . Keep the natural feel of Riverview	10/20/2020 10:37 PM
114	play structures, places to walk and sit, music	10/20/2020 10:24 PM
115	More trails!	10/20/2020 9:05 PM
116	More bike trails/walking for kids to ride bikes or walk	10/20/2020 8:59 PM
117	Kayak launch, pickle ball courts	10/20/2020 8:44 PM
118	More trails, natural playground like at Sarrett	10/20/2020 8:43 PM
119	All of the above, also wish for better bike trails and bike connections.	10/20/2020 8:34 PM
120	Kayak launch, tennis courts	10/20/2020 8:18 PM
121	Walking/biking trails	10/20/2020 8:07 PM
122	More trails, more dog friendly beaches. I'm single, no kids, and my dog is all I've got. I'd enjoy it more if I could bring her with me. People can bring kids lol just kidding	10/20/2020 7:38 PM
123	Basketball Courts and Soccer Fields are lacking in Saint Joseph.	10/20/2020 7:14 PM
124	Park maintenance instead of more amenities.	10/20/2020 5:46 PM

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125	More public water parks/pools	10/20/2020 5:37 PM
126	-More bike trails- easily accessible, flat ride, wide -Kayak launch	10/20/2020 3:58 PM
127	Pavilions that can be enclosed in bad weather, nice basketball court for kids, updated play ground areas, update and use the baseball fields in Riverview park, summer camps held back in indoor/outdoor park (Riverview) instead of concrete ice skating park or under tent in YMCA.	10/20/2020 3:33 PM
128	Splash pad	10/20/2020 2:53 PM
129	Quality basketball court - metal nets are horrible for equipment.	10/20/2020 2:40 PM
130	Bocce Ball court, Pickle Ball court, more trails	10/20/2020 2:15 PM
131	More trails, kayak launch	10/20/2020 1:49 PM
132	More walking/biking trails closed to car traffic	10/20/2020 1:49 PM
133	More trails, pickleball courts and more playground equipment	10/20/2020 1:27 PM
134	Mountain bike trails	10/20/2020 1:26 PM
135	Tennis? Baseball	10/20/2020 1:01 PM
136	More trails both paved and non paved	10/20/2020 12:57 PM
137	*playground equipment for children with disabilities, splash pad for younger children, nicer tennis courts, pickleball courts	10/20/2020 12:52 PM
138	Bring back tennis courts to Kiwanis Park. Install new tennis courts and basketball courts at Riverview Park.	10/20/2020 12:32 PM
139	Trails	10/20/2020 12:14 PM
140	Indoor softball field	10/20/2020 11:47 AM
141	Love it here!	10/20/2020 11:37 AM
142	Fully fenced in for small children	10/20/2020 11:15 AM
143	more trails, bike paths, make it easier to get to the parks without cars	10/20/2020 11:14 AM
144	More organized activities during spring and summer...maybe more movies and even concerts. A better sports program for kids and updated playground equipment. We also need a better waterfront ( and non waterfront) walking trail system. I love the trail up by South Haven, and something like that here would be amazing!	10/20/2020 11:08 AM
145	Swimming pool, pickle ball, soccer fields playground	10/20/2020 11:07 AM
146	more trails	10/20/2020 11:01 AM
147	Kayak launch would be great. I would make sure the parks are all freshly mowed and cleaned for weekends and holidays. I've noticed a couple of times in the last couple of years where we have a busy weekend or holiday downtown and some of the parks have not been mowed recently and just look shaggy.	10/20/2020 10:53 AM
148	playgrounds, kayaks, trails, picnic tables	10/20/2020 10:43 AM
149	More hiking trails.	10/20/2020 10:34 AM
150	Outdoor courts, more trails or family type activities. (Pickle ball court)	10/20/2020 10:29 AM
151	Kayak, trails, picnic	10/20/2020 10:26 AM
152	structures for smaller kids under 4	10/20/2020 10:16 AM
153	A Bike Trail that connects Howard Path and would go along the river all the way to Path by Ace Hardware would be a nice addition	10/20/2020 10:15 AM
154	more open greenspace for "free play" for kids.	10/20/2020 10:13 AM
155	Routine grooming (trash, branches pickup up), new sand/mulch, old structures taken down (dangerous slide at tiny tots park and Kiwanis)	10/20/2020 10:10 AM

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156	More trails, social events with drinks?, kids activities	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
157	More enclosed dog parks, longer walking and bike trails, more pickleball courts, kayak launch sites	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
158	Would like to see a more complex, interesting play structure at Milton. City offered swim lessons, like the tennis camp.	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
159	More play structures and more bathrooms. More walking/biking trails available.	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
160	Riverside park is embarrassing	10/20/2020 10:02 AM
161	walking/biking trails. BATHROOMS. kayak launch, things for older kids/teens.	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
162	More kids programs	10/20/2020 10:00 AM
163	More parking options at tiscornia beach	10/20/2020 9:56 AM
164	Kayak launch, more trails, woods to walk in	10/19/2020 7:23 PM
165	Pickle Ball and Disc Golf	10/19/2020 5:25 PM
166	I would like to see a public pool that could be easily incorporated into the parks department. Whether it be indoors or outdoors, I believe having a facility would allow for the community to be more active and provide a place that can be enjoyed by those of all ages. If the pool were to be indoors, this would also provide an opportunity for the parks department to host more events in the winter and encourage additional fitness programs.	10/19/2020 9:47 AM
167	See above re: biking	10/18/2020 8:01 PM
168	Easier beach access for disabled needed, especially for drop-off and parking; sponsorship of affordable exercise programs (maybe in conjunction with our local exercise businesses) at local parks and Lions or Tiscornia Beach, etc.	10/18/2020 5:51 PM
169	More multi-use trails	10/17/2020 11:55 AM
170	More trails	10/16/2020 9:19 PM
171	Swimming pool	10/16/2020 8:24 PM
172	None	10/16/2020 5:11 PM
173	We have the one dog park downtown (Kawanis). I would like to see either more zones for dogs there or another dog park. Sometimes I have experienced/seen dogs that should not be in there playing with other dogs (too aggressive) and it makes it annoying for actual owners/neighbors who want to use that space.	10/16/2020 3:10 PM
174	Sidewalk/walking trail in Lookout park. Many people huddle in the small area where brush is removed(parking lot). This was not good for social distancing. Clearing brush from North to South parking lots would improve the walking experience.	10/16/2020 12:44 PM
175	Sidewalks or walking trails	10/16/2020 12:35 PM
176	I would love to see a project to label some of the species of trees. Saint Joseph has a marvelous collection of trees. A biology project to identify their species with discrete signs would be incredible.	10/14/2020 7:54 PM
177	More walking trails	10/12/2020 11:45 PM
178	More safe trails would be great! Also, Lions park has not been very clean this year.	10/12/2020 8:45 PM
179	More trails.	10/12/2020 11:54 AM
180	1. Pickle Ball courts 2. A launch for kayaks and personal watercraft (on the lake, not the river)	10/12/2020 11:13 AM
181	More trails, kayak launches	10/11/2020 9:46 PM
182	A disc golf course or two would be a great addition. It would also allow for fun league play. Also American Ninja Warrior course equipment would be nice in parks (salmon ladder, warped wall etc)	10/10/2020 9:50 PM
183	disc golf courses! bike and walking paths. Kayak launches.	10/10/2020 9:32 PM

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184	Water refill stations, bike racks	10/8/2020 10:46 PM
185	Pickle ball courts please.	10/8/2020 7:08 PM
186	Swings for wheelchairs or larger handicapped kids. Bench seat swing one on each side. Hard surface paved or cement path down to the water or within a few feet. Sand is soft at the end of the parking lot and cannot handle a wheelchair or walker.	10/8/2020 6:28 PM
187	More trails and more bike roads to ride safely to the parks.	10/8/2020 3:40 PM
188	Pickle ball court, kayak launch, updated play area at some parks	10/8/2020 3:24 PM
189	The play structures could be updated. Also, better walking/running paths.	10/8/2020 3:11 PM
190	Kayak launch	10/8/2020 2:02 PM
191	bike trails would be great!	10/8/2020 1:44 PM
192	More trails for biking.	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
193	More restroom facilities, disc golf, hiking/biking, tennis	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
194	More walking trails. Also, easier/safer walking access to neighborhood parks (not having to take my life in my hands to try to walk across busy streets like Niles to get to nearby parks).	10/8/2020 1:17 PM
195	N/A	10/8/2020 1:14 PM
196	Disc golf, restrooms, changing stations near the beaches	10/8/2020 12:20 PM
197	More walking trails (only if scenic) Pickle ball Food trucks Drinking fountains	10/8/2020 11:54 AM
198	More trails	10/8/2020 10:21 AM
199	Pickleball courts, connected trails. Connect arboretum to river walk. More and better restrooms facilities. Better use and maintenance of the natural resources we have. Maybe dedicated small areas for dogs would keep them off the beaches .	10/8/2020 10:04 AM
200	More amenities or programs overall - I usually go to these parks because they're in beautiful areas and walk around, but I don't know what I could be doing	10/8/2020 9:35 AM
201	My hours were spent by the parks board in the past and my ideas are in their brainstorm from a few years back. See Chad, Gloria, and Sylvia for more details	10/8/2020 8:06 AM
202	I think the upgrades to any park should require input from the local residents, the city park supervisor has taken the opposite approach. Big plans were made for Dickinson Park, before input from local residents.	10/8/2020 6:14 AM
203	Kayak launch...Great idea!	10/8/2020 3:20 AM
204	Kayak launch. Curling. Disc golf. Terrace the bluff so more usable.	10/6/2020 8:36 PM
205	More trails, kayak launch	10/6/2020 8:45 AM
206	Safe bike trails ... I am hesitant to bike in the city ... traffic is too fast.	10/5/2020 1:04 PM
207	More trails	10/5/2020 11:58 AM
208	Sorry, no ideas.	10/5/2020 11:47 AM
209	More kayak launches	10/5/2020 11:07 AM
210	Frisbee golf; more trails (make the Howard Family Path longer and more easily connected to the Upton Arboretum path- through Whirlpool Centennial Park and possibly all the way up the St. Joe river to Lakeland Hospital)	10/5/2020 11:02 AM
211	More trails, paved and unpaved but well kept and maintained.	10/5/2020 10:52 AM
212	More trails	10/5/2020 10:32 AM
213	more trails and fenced in dog parks	10/5/2020 9:15 AM
214	More maintenance	10/4/2020 8:05 AM
215	non typical play structures. more natural materials, boulders, mounds, timber logs.	10/2/2020 2:55 PM

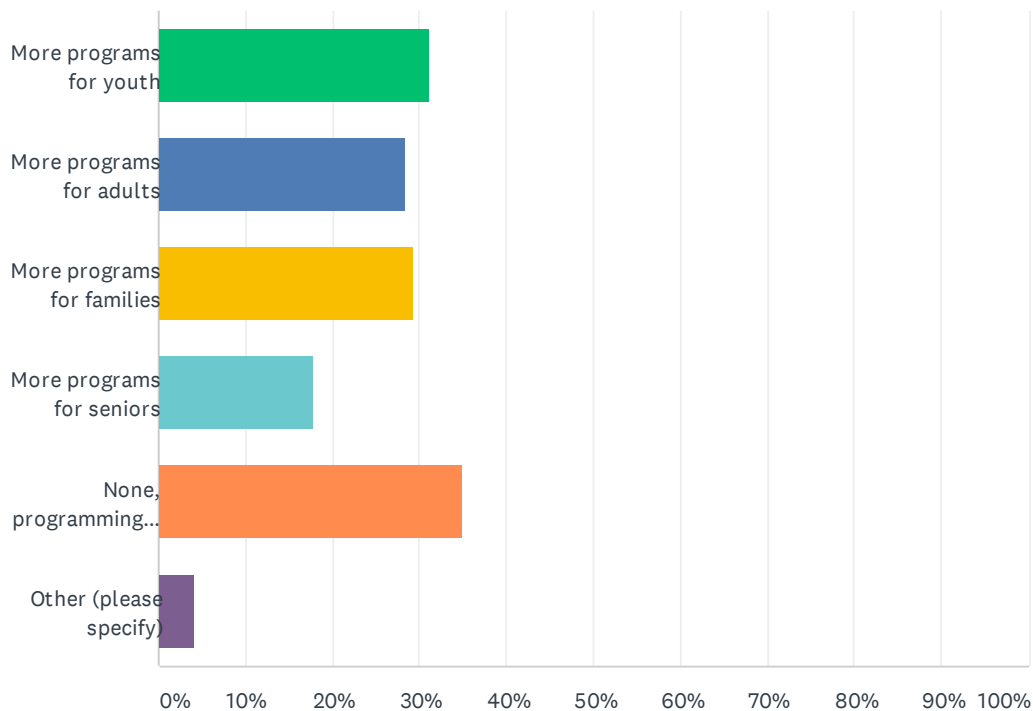


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216	More restrooms at Riverview Park closer to the Northeast boat launch	10/2/2020 2:20 PM
217	More/longer connected trails for hiking and biking, dog beach	10/2/2020 1:55 PM
218	more accessible paths, tables, parking and accessible playground equipment, beach access for those who are disabled..extra space for persons in wheelchairs by benches and clear accessible paths to all	10/2/2020 12:09 PM
219	more bike and walking trails	10/2/2020 8:16 AM
220	Restrooms and shaded picnic area at Whirlpool Compass Fountain.	10/1/2020 8:13 PM

### Q15 What additional types of recreation programming would you like to see in your neighborhood parks?

Answered: 243 Skipped: 72



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
More programs for youth	31.28%	76
More programs for adults	28.40%	69
More programs for families	29.22%	71
More programs for seniors	17.70%	43
None, programming seems adequate as is	34.98%	85
Other (please specify)	4.12%	10
Total Respondents: 243		

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#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I'm happy	11/23/2020 11:02 AM
2	When we first moved here, it was difficult to find activities for our children in a central location. Other cities we've lived in had an office that organized all community youth programs. Not only was participation in these programs great for the kids, but it allowed parents to socialize and was an integral part of the city's vitality with young families.	11/18/2020 7:54 AM
3	Educational activities for exercise, clubs, short education, etc.	11/12/2020 9:26 PM
4	Tables where you could play board games.	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
5	outdoor yoga, music	10/29/2020 6:05 PM
6	Team sports for adults	10/26/2020 8:40 AM
7	I really think the programming now is adequate. However, if suggestions are needed, I would suggest free/low cost group exercise .... yoga, tai chi, etc.	10/5/2020 1:04 PM
8	Not a good person to answer this because I'm not familiar with all that's available.	10/5/2020 11:47 AM
9	not sure	10/5/2020 9:15 AM
10	Street entertainers at summer evenings at Lake Bluff Park	10/4/2020 8:05 AM

**Q16 If you said 'more programs' in the question above, please provide an example.**

Answered: 99 Skipped: 216

Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Outdoor excercises when we can	11/18/2020 3:27 PM
2	Walking clubs (adults,) swimming lessons, beach glass/sea shell hunts	11/17/2020 7:05 PM
3	Tennis clubs, walking groups, adult ice skating lessons	11/17/2020 10:26 AM
4	Family fitness in the park	11/16/2020 3:38 AM
5	More youth athletic programs	11/15/2020 8:52 PM
6	Movies are fun, what about exercise programs	11/15/2020 7:44 PM
7	I would like to have sports such as volleyball or basketball leagues.	11/15/2020 4:43 PM
8	Outdoor kids activities	11/15/2020 4:14 PM
9	tennis tournaments, guided bike rides or walks (not just downtown)	11/15/2020 1:38 PM
10	Softball tournaments and cook outs	11/15/2020 11:43 AM
11	Pottery, more movies, tumbling for kids	11/15/2020 8:51 AM
12	Concerts	11/14/2020 10:54 PM
13	Yoga, rolling art cart in the afternoons	11/13/2020 7:22 PM
14	Pickle Ball	11/13/2020 5:38 PM
15	Sports for seniors	11/13/2020 1:51 PM
16	See above	11/13/2020 1:28 PM
17	Roller hockey and ice skating programs	11/12/2020 4:01 PM
18	Opportunity for locals to do open mike music at bandshell when no concert is scheduled.	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
19	Exercise programs for seniors.	11/12/2020 2:34 PM
20	Picnic areas/grills to be updated, as well as restrooms	11/12/2020 1:53 PM
21	When covid is over more chances to socialize and learn about nature	11/12/2020 1:43 PM
22	Concerts	11/12/2020 12:43 PM
23	Provide a connection to nature	11/12/2020 11:19 AM
24	Adult basketball, tennis and pickleball summer leauges	11/12/2020 9:49 AM
25	outdoor exercise classes and exercise stations along a trail	11/10/2020 2:30 PM
26	nature/science based programs for elementary aged kids.	11/9/2020 10:49 AM
27	More events like a farmers market, for different trades and interests, events and shows.	11/7/2020 11:14 AM
28	More programs for youth ages 12 to 18, especially boys. Basketball, skating, biking, soccer, any organized games and activities	11/7/2020 8:29 AM
29	Workout classes	11/5/2020 9:47 AM
30	There are a plethora of options!! Do you know what your citizens need or are even interested in??	11/5/2020 9:06 AM
31	Programs for Teens	11/3/2020 11:51 AM
32	Like to see more involvement for all age groups.	11/1/2020 12:58 PM
33	outdoor yoga, music	10/29/2020 6:05 PM
34	EXCERCISE CLASSES	10/29/2020 2:06 PM
35	maybe groups for card games, maybe you already have it and I just haven't noticed. How do you get the parks brochure or news letter?	10/28/2020 8:05 AM

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36	Outside exercise activities (weather permitting)	10/26/2020 5:53 PM
37	Team sports for adults	10/26/2020 8:40 AM
38	We have only lived here since February of 2020, so I would love to know what kind of activities we can join (in a more normal year).	10/25/2020 11:11 PM
39	group exercise, such as yoga	10/25/2020 9:37 AM
40	Even covid is done, "family days" in the park. Or neighborhood family parties etc	10/24/2020 11:54 AM
41	More programs that are for the disabled	10/22/2020 5:52 PM
42	sports for families, dancing teams. etc.	10/22/2020 5:49 PM
43	Seniors and children getting to know each other, history lessons by our elders.	10/22/2020 8:34 AM
44	Education programs about the natural area, geologic history, plants and animals, small sport programs like kickball or volleyball. Board game options under a pavilion, service programs to plant, pick up trash, or otherwise help the parks	10/22/2020 5:41 AM
45	camp / craft type activities for kids	10/21/2020 9:24 AM
46	Pickleball, fitness	10/20/2020 10:37 PM
47	entertainment, classes (health/exercise), crafts	10/20/2020 10:24 PM
48	Art classes would be awesome	10/20/2020 9:05 PM
49	Exercise classes!	10/20/2020 8:34 PM
50	Kayaking, exercise club/group	10/20/2020 8:18 PM
51	Maybe an art lesson on the beach?	10/20/2020 7:38 PM
52	Chess in the Parks would be neat. Other ideas could be ball courts.	10/20/2020 7:14 PM
53	yoga, family crafts, live animal shows	10/20/2020 5:33 PM
54	More sports and fitness activities	10/20/2020 4:19 PM
55	Bring back baseball fields, soccer fields, kid enrichment programs. We spent a lot of time at Riverview baseball fields and camps when my children were growing up. I now take my grandchildren to other communities for sports because we don't have any nice sports fields, basketball courts, playgrounds etc.	10/20/2020 3:33 PM
56	Yoga, martial arts	10/20/2020 1:49 PM
57	exercise, yoga, educational	10/20/2020 1:27 PM
58	Spring and fall baseball, programs to get kids interested in things, science camps	10/20/2020 1:01 PM
59	tennis for adults, summer exercise classes for kids	10/20/2020 12:52 PM
60	Outdoor exercise	10/20/2020 12:14 PM
61	Community picnics, block parties	10/20/2020 11:37 AM
62	Family events	10/20/2020 11:15 AM
63	sports tourneys, game nights, etc.	10/20/2020 11:14 AM
64	Sports! Summer special events	10/20/2020 11:08 AM
65	A skating time just for seniors	10/20/2020 11:04 AM
66	sports, special events	10/20/2020 10:43 AM
67	Boys basketball league	10/20/2020 10:29 AM
68	more activities for families to participate in	10/20/2020 10:16 AM
69	soccer, basketball, baseball, softball	10/20/2020 10:13 AM
70	Swimming lessons. Crew/ rowing/ paddleboard/ kayaking. Yoga/ pilates	10/20/2020 10:08 AM



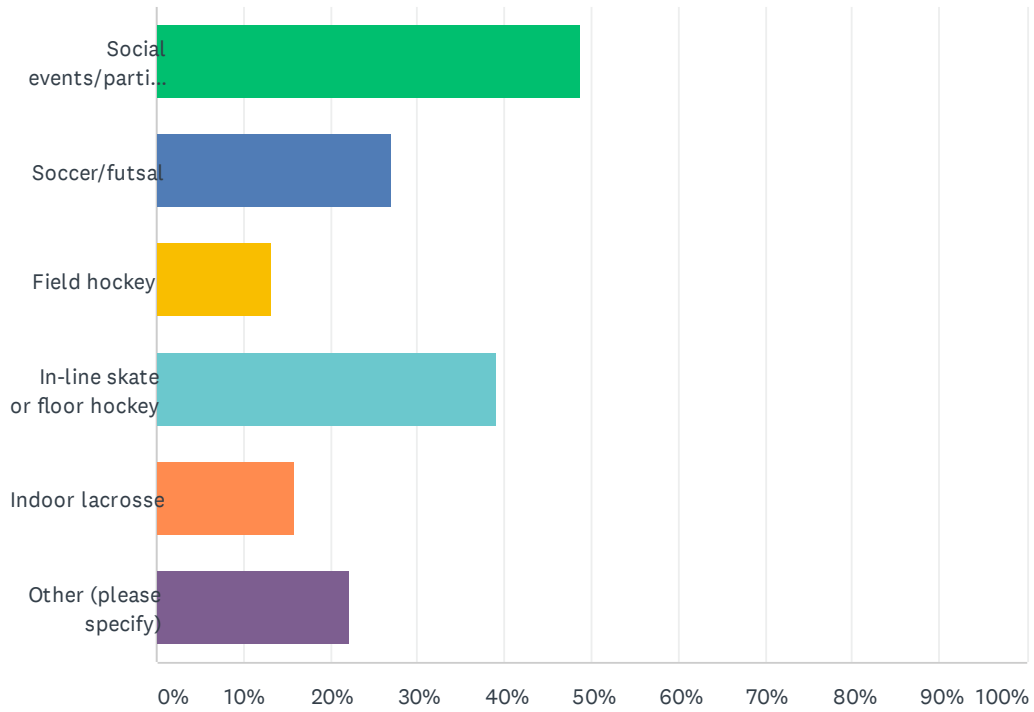
Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

71	Family fun nights	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
72	youth sports	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
73	Organized sports-especially in the winter	10/20/2020 10:00 AM
74	Organized Hiking / Walking groups - Outdoor group classes/activities	10/19/2020 5:25 PM
75	Yoga or exercise classes; 50+ pickleball "league"	10/18/2020 5:51 PM
76	Garden tours, sunset socials	10/17/2020 11:55 AM
77	Pickle ball, social events	10/16/2020 8:24 PM
78	Summer camps. dodge-ball?	10/16/2020 3:10 PM
79	Missed the movie nights at Whirlpool Field	10/16/2020 12:45 AM
80	Any healthy activity that utilizes are lovely parks	10/14/2020 7:54 PM
81	More swimming, T-ball	10/12/2020 11:54 AM
82	Outdoor exercise program for Seniors.	10/12/2020 11:13 AM
83	Not sure	10/11/2020 9:46 PM
84	More concerts and seasonal activities to draw people downtown, especially in the off season	10/8/2020 10:57 PM
85	Walking groups, picnics, eetc...	10/8/2020 6:28 PM
86	Open air theater festival in the park, Christmas market in the park	10/8/2020 3:40 PM
87	Yoga? Beginner kayak groups?	10/8/2020 1:17 PM
88	N/A	10/8/2020 1:14 PM
89	Design parks for aging residential population rather than tourist	10/8/2020 10:35 AM
90	Organized pickleball	10/8/2020 10:04 AM
91	Social events, board game events, etc.	10/8/2020 9:35 AM
92	Pickelball for all ages,	10/8/2020 8:06 AM
93	Disc golf league	10/6/2020 8:36 PM
94	Outdoor exercise programs like Tai Chi, Stretch Classes (like yoga), Walking Groups	10/5/2020 11:58 AM
95	Senior exercise class	10/5/2020 11:11 AM
96	Outdoor activities-scavenger hunts, nature walks, etc	10/5/2020 11:07 AM
97	Sports, arts (watercolor, sketching, etc)	10/5/2020 10:32 AM
98	a summer box lacrosse league at the Howard Ice arena, exercise fitness trail for seniors with equipment	10/2/2020 2:55 PM
99	Rec leagues for adults like softball or dodgeball	10/2/2020 1:55 PM

**Q17 What type of programming would you use at Howard Ice Arena in warmer months?**

Answered: 189 Skipped: 126

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Social events/parties/receptions	48.68%	92
Soccer/futsal	26.98%	51
Field hockey	13.23%	25
In-line skate or floor hockey	39.15%	74
Indoor lacrosse	15.87%	30
Other (please specify)	22.22%	42
Total Respondents: 189		

Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Music/dance events for high schoolers and adults too	12/2/2020 12:54 PM
2	It would be nice to have trees there. It is very hot to stand out there with your dog.	11/23/2020 10:45 AM
3	Baseball....perfect location and family oriented. Fix it up with seats and better lights. Listen if someone wants to bring a team there.	11/22/2020 2:17 AM
4	Pickle ball	11/18/2020 12:31 AM
5	R/C car track and competitions	11/15/2020 5:30 PM
6	x	11/15/2020 4:37 PM
7	Socially distanced	11/15/2020 4:14 PM
8	Art & Craft Fair, Community Garage Sale	11/14/2020 5:33 PM
9	Yoga	11/13/2020 7:22 PM
10	PickleBall	11/13/2020 5:38 PM
11	Ice bumper	11/13/2020 1:28 PM
12	Nothing	11/12/2020 6:03 PM
13	Neighborhood 'meet & greet' events	11/12/2020 11:19 AM
14	(Re)enclosed dog park for small/med sized dogs	11/11/2020 4:07 PM
15	Yoga classes, boot camp	11/9/2020 10:07 PM
16	Roller rink, not necessarily in-line.	11/9/2020 1:25 PM
17	Yoga/exercise classes	11/3/2020 11:51 AM
18	na	11/3/2020 11:06 AM
19	Anything for the kids	10/24/2020 3:49 PM
20	Very much so for soccer/futsal!	10/24/2020 11:54 AM
21	Exercise classes	10/22/2020 8:34 AM
22	Recreation sports/volleyball kickball etc	10/20/2020 8:59 PM
23	Kickball	10/20/2020 5:37 PM
24	Fencing	10/20/2020 4:19 PM
25	I would use it for ice skating in the summer if it were enclosed!	10/20/2020 2:15 PM
26	Camps, one week, science,next week sports, teaching kids	10/20/2020 1:01 PM
27	A Roller / in-line skate rink in evenings for families	10/20/2020 12:32 PM
28	Movies	10/20/2020 11:47 AM
29	Enclose it for a year-round rink experience	10/20/2020 10:19 AM
30	Exercise classes in the rink?	10/19/2020 5:25 PM
31	These all sound interesting	10/18/2020 5:51 PM
32	I don't need any.	10/16/2020 5:11 PM
33	If you do indoor lacrosse, please paint the field for both Womens and mens lacross (two different sports)	10/16/2020 3:10 PM
34	None	10/16/2020 12:44 PM
35	Roller derby's	10/10/2020 9:50 PM
36	None	10/8/2020 10:57 PM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

37	Curling in the winter	10/8/2020 12:20 PM
38	Pickleball	10/8/2020 10:04 AM
39	Outside free skate rink next to the inside rink	10/7/2020 9:59 AM
40	A Farmers Market sometime between Monday-Friday	10/5/2020 11:58 AM
41	Farmers Market	10/5/2020 9:40 AM
42	roller skating with music? Not sure	10/5/2020 9:15 AM

### Q18 How important are each of the following to your decision to live in St. Joseph?

Answered: 300 Skipped: 15

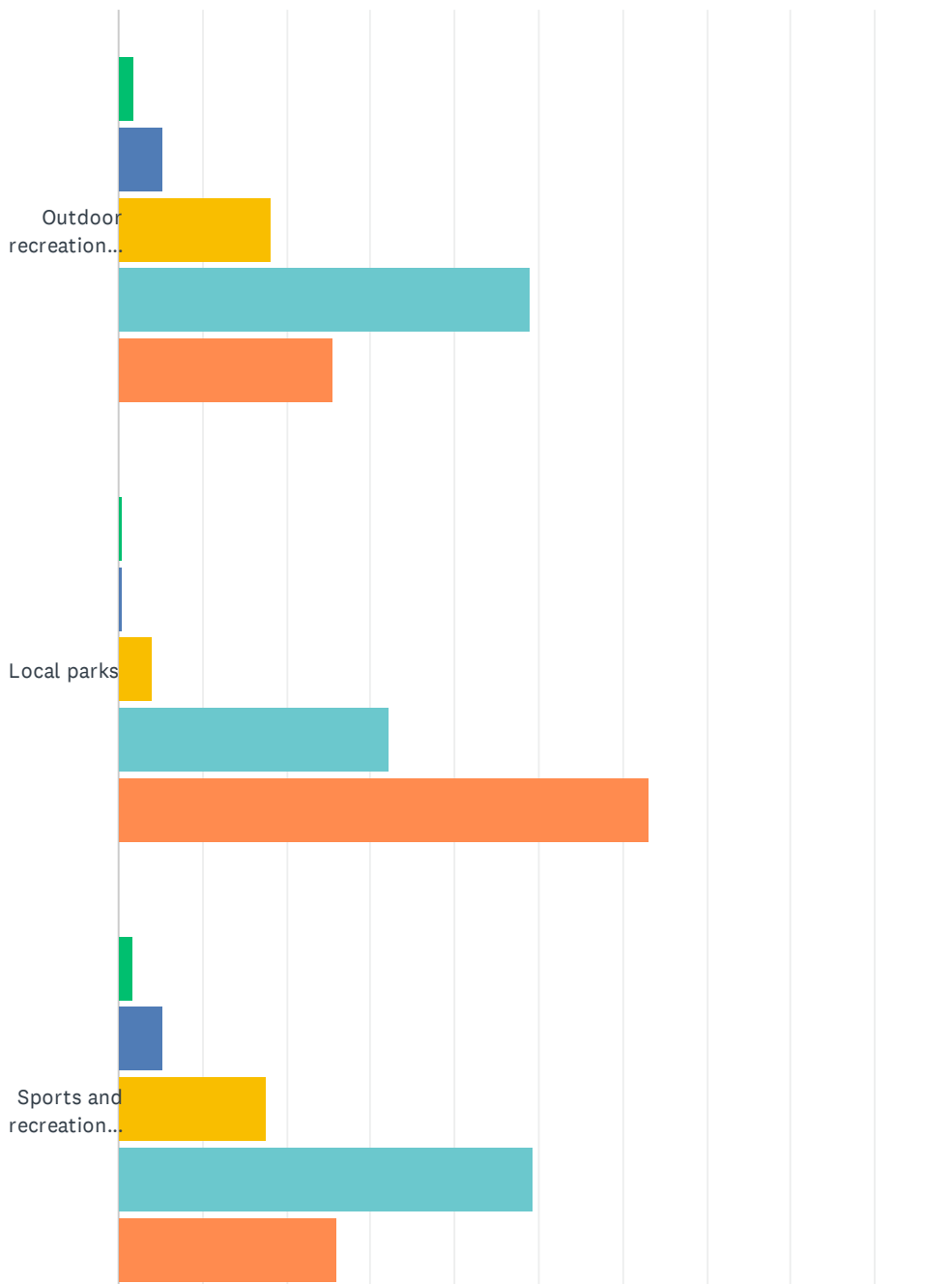


Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

	NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Amenities such as libraries, museums, public art, parks	1.34% 4	1.34% 4	11.07% 33	34.23% 102	52.01% 155	298	4.34
Recreational opportunities (beaches, parks, special events, programs)	0.67% 2	0.33% 1	7.69% 23	31.77% 95	59.53% 178	299	4.49

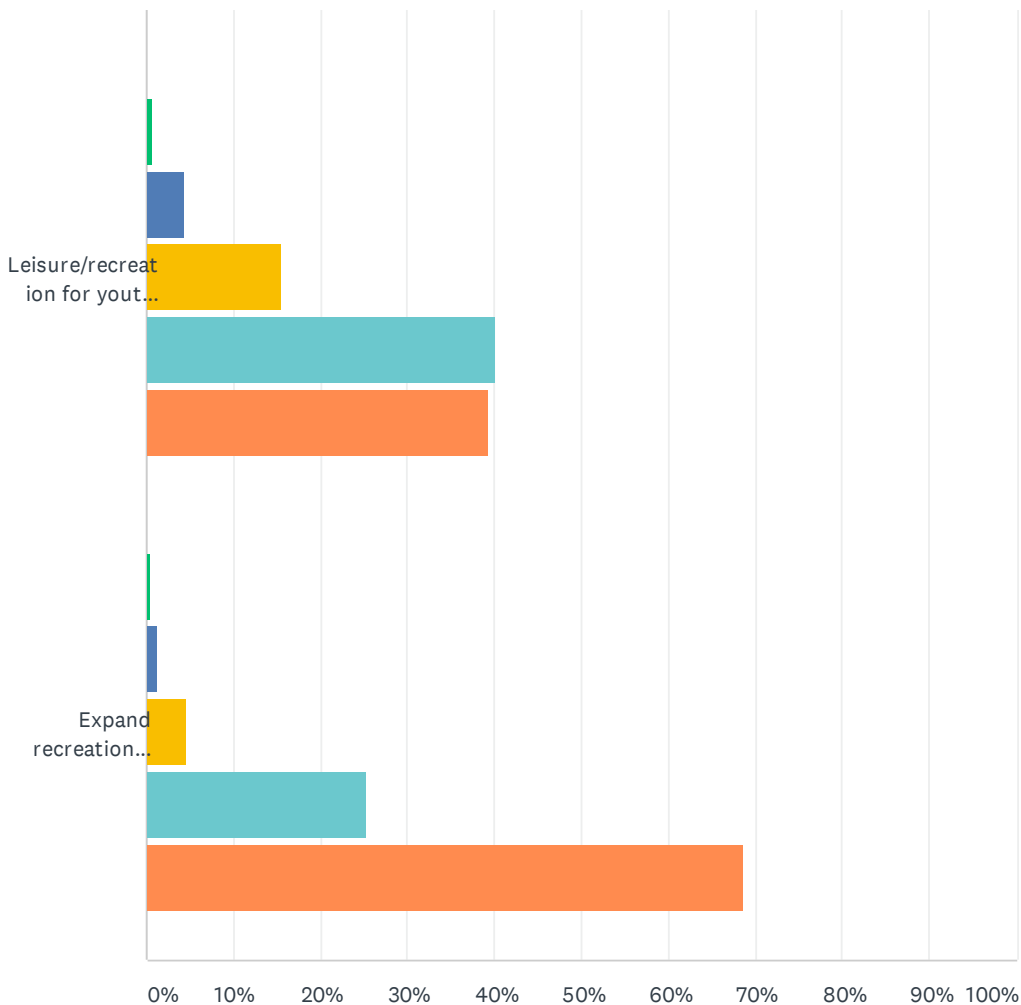
### Q19 How would you rate the importance of the following community services, facilities, and activities?

Answered: 308 Skipped: 7





Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



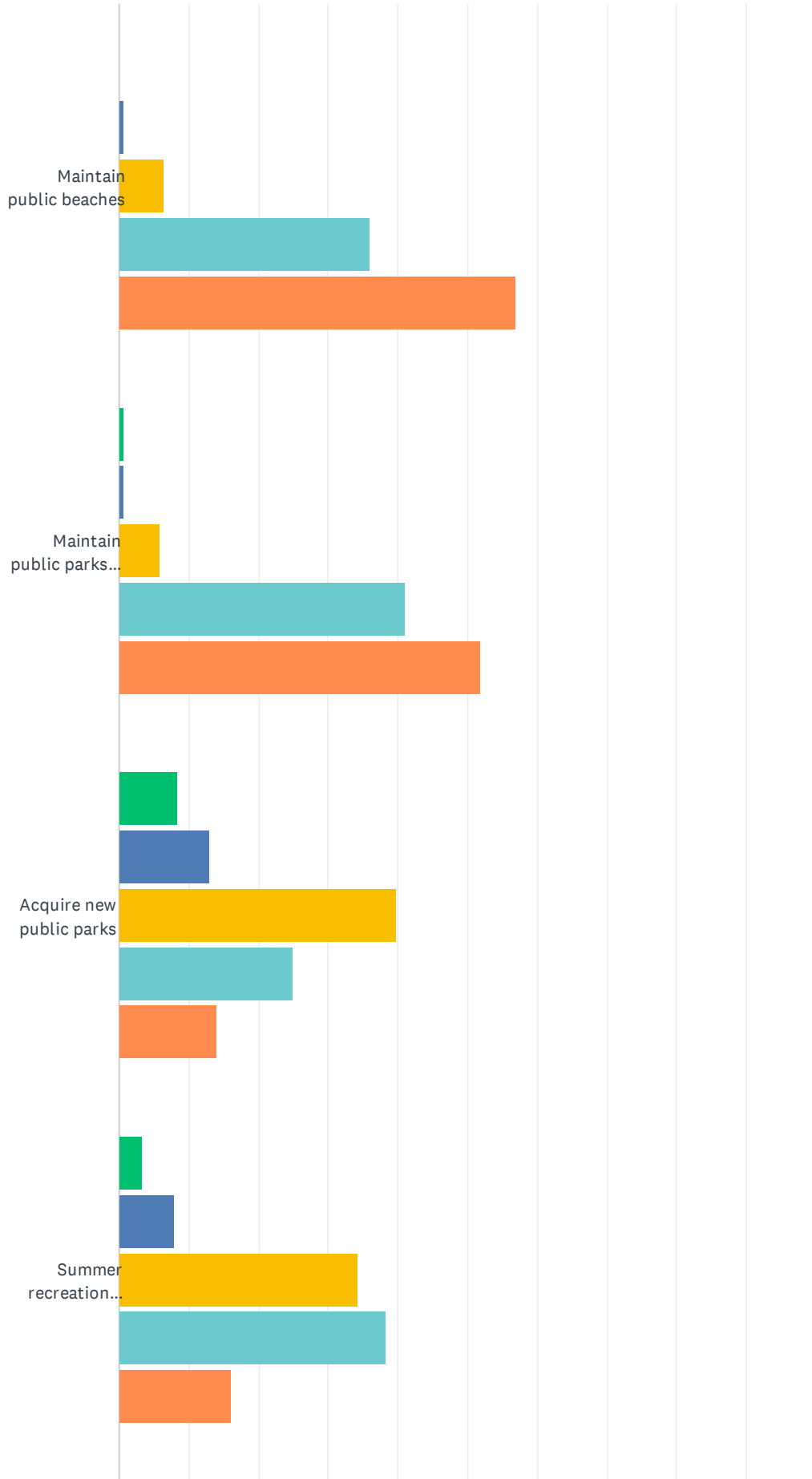
■ Not Important At All  
 ■ Not Very Important  
 ■ Neutral  
 ■ Important  
 ■ Very Important

	NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Outdoor recreation activities and/or sports leagues	1.99% 6	5.30% 16	18.21% 55	49.01% 148	25.50% 77	302	3.91
Local parks	0.33% 1	0.33% 1	3.95% 12	32.24% 98	63.16% 192	304	4.58
Sports and recreation facilities	1.67% 5	5.33% 16	17.67% 53	49.33% 148	26.00% 78	300	3.93
Leisure/recreation for youth and teens	0.66% 2	4.30% 13	15.56% 47	40.07% 121	39.40% 119	302	4.13
Expand recreation trail system in natural areas along rivers, Lake Michigan, and ravines	0.33% 1	1.31% 4	4.59% 14	25.25% 77	68.52% 209	305	4.60

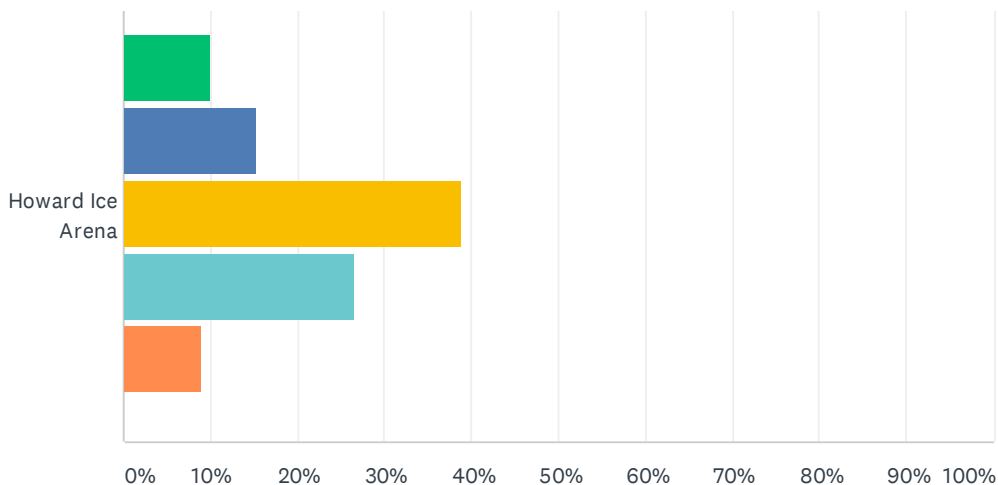
Q20 What would be your priority for funding various community services?

Answered: 309   Skipped: 6

# Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

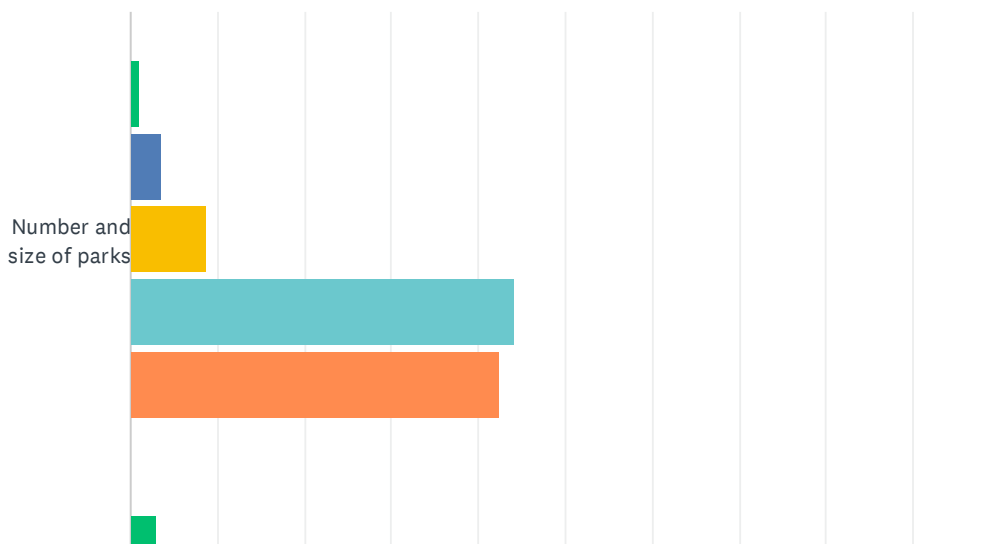


■ Very Low Priority   
 ■ Somewhat Low Priority   
 ■ Neutral  
■ Somewhat High Priority   
 ■ Very High Priority

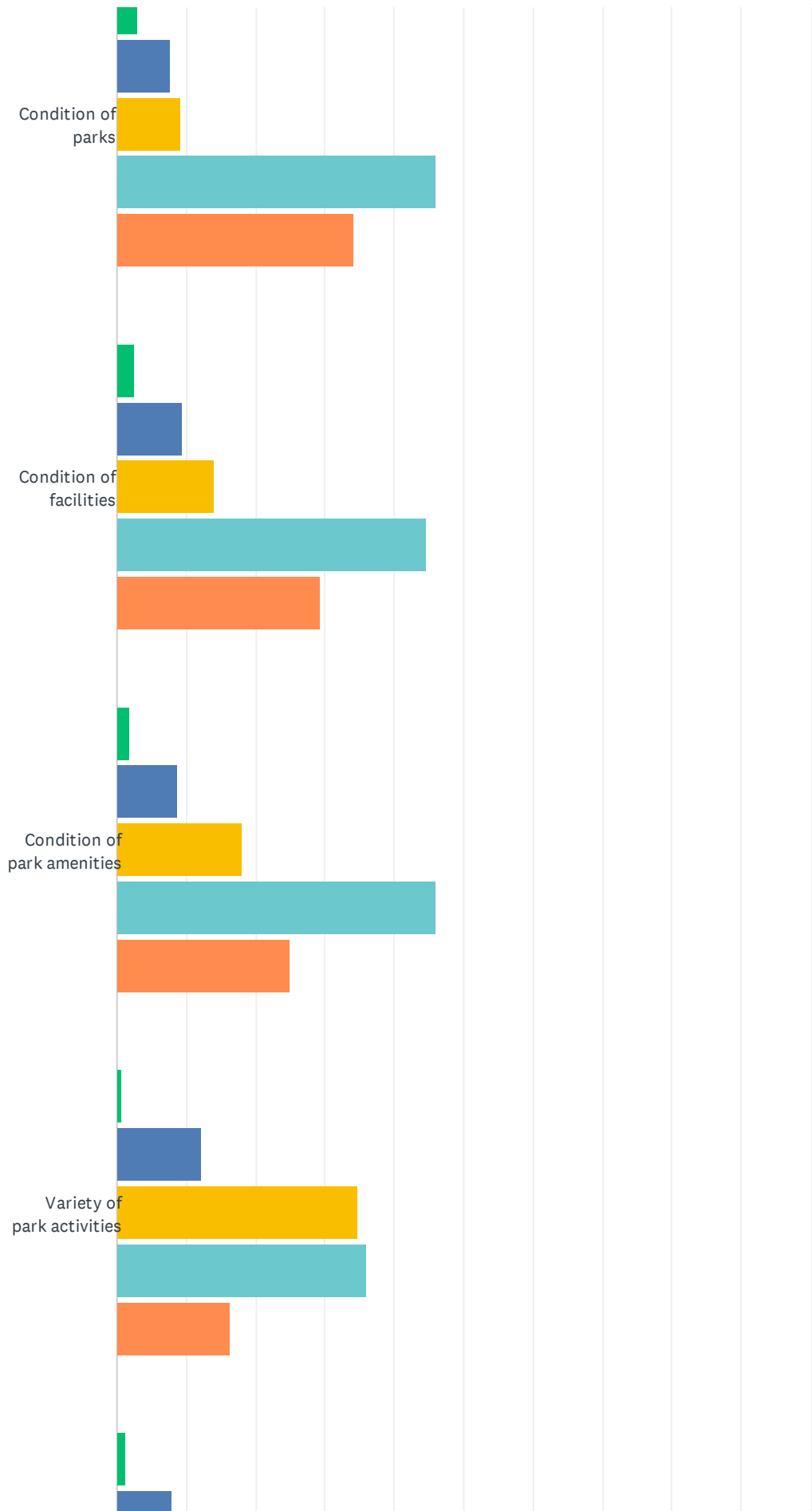
	VERY LOW PRIORITY	SOMEWHAT LOW PRIORITY	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT HIGH PRIORITY	VERY HIGH PRIORITY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Maintain public beaches	0.00% 0	0.65% 2	6.54% 20	35.95% 110	56.86% 174	306	4.49
Maintain public parks (other than beaches)	0.65% 2	0.65% 2	5.86% 18	41.04% 126	51.79% 159	307	4.43
Acquire new public parks	8.33% 25	13.00% 39	39.67% 119	25.00% 75	14.00% 42	300	3.23
Summer recreation programs	3.36% 10	8.05% 24	34.23% 102	38.26% 114	16.11% 48	298	3.56
Howard Ice Arena	10.00% 30	15.33% 46	39.00% 117	26.67% 80	9.00% 27	300	3.09

## Q21 Please rate your satisfaction with the following:

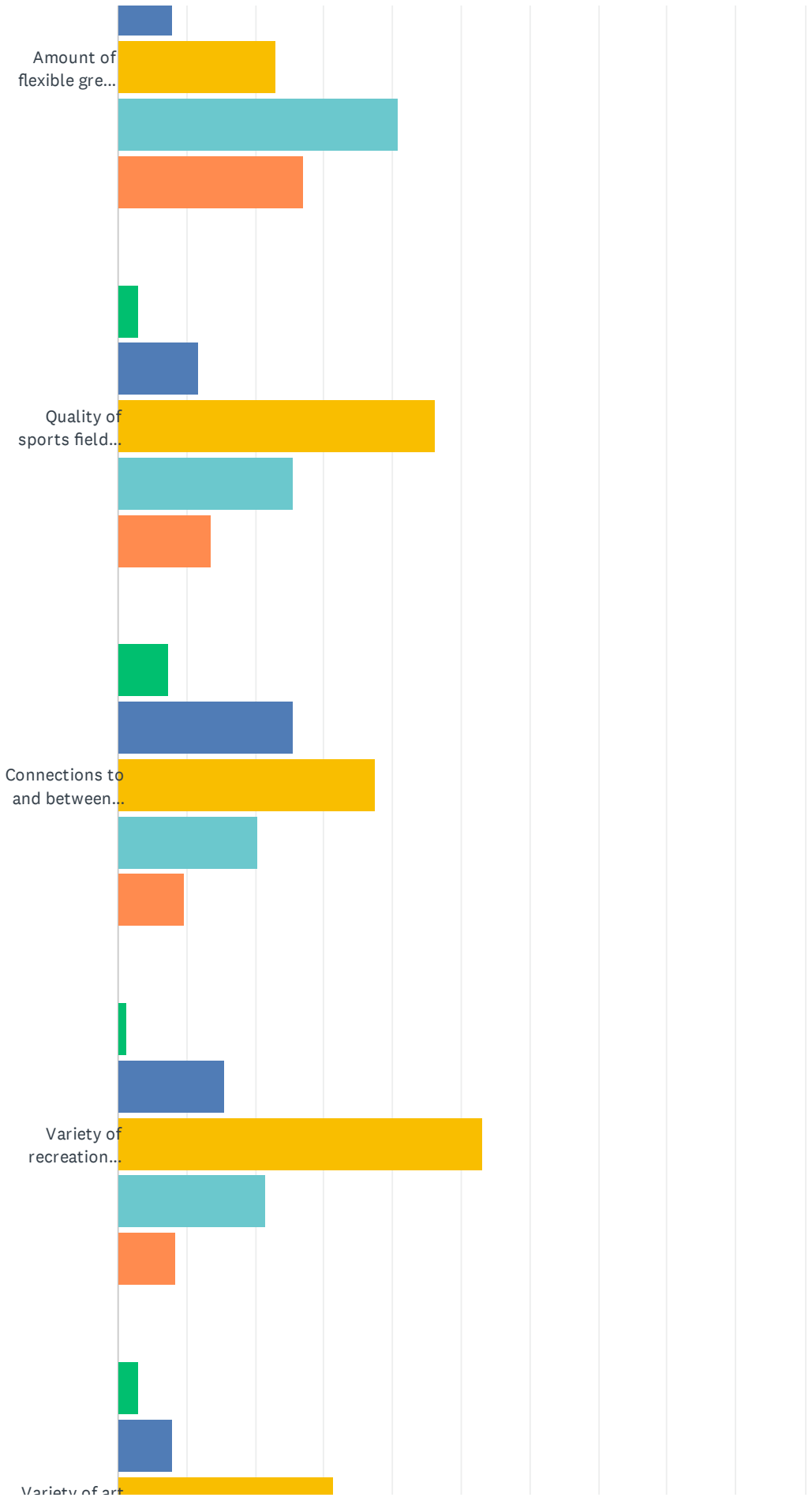
Answered: 309    Skipped: 6



# Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

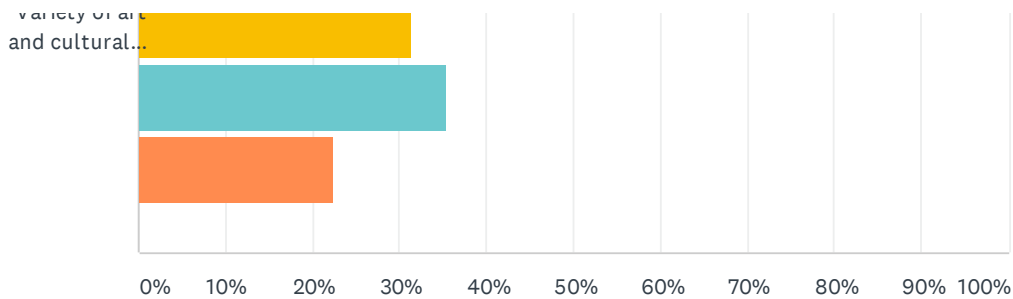


# Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update





## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



■ Very unsatisfied   
 ■ Somewhat unsatisfied   
 ■ Neutral   
 ■ Somewhat satisfied   
 ■ Very satisfied

	VERY UNSATISFIED	SOMEWHAT UNSATISFIED	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT SATISFIED	VERY SATISFIED	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Number and size of parks	0.98% 3	3.59% 11	8.82% 27	44.12% 135	42.48% 130	306	4.24
Condition of parks	2.93% 9	7.82% 24	9.12% 28	45.93% 141	34.20% 105	307	4.01
Condition of facilities	2.61% 8	9.45% 29	14.01% 43	44.63% 137	29.32% 90	307	3.89
Condition of park amenities	1.97% 6	8.88% 27	18.09% 55	46.05% 140	25.00% 76	304	3.83
Variety of park activities	0.66% 2	12.13% 37	34.75% 106	36.07% 110	16.39% 50	305	3.55
Amount of flexible green space	1.32% 4	7.89% 24	23.03% 70	40.79% 124	26.97% 82	304	3.84
Quality of sports fields and courts	2.99% 9	11.63% 35	46.18% 139	25.58% 77	13.62% 41	301	3.35
Connections to and between parks	7.28% 22	25.50% 77	37.42% 113	20.20% 61	9.60% 29	302	2.99
Variety of recreation programs	1.35% 4	15.54% 46	53.04% 157	21.62% 64	8.45% 25	296	3.20
Variety of art and cultural events	3.00% 9	8.00% 24	31.33% 94	35.33% 106	22.33% 67	300	3.66

**Q22 What is the single most important thing the City of St. Joseph could do to make the parks more useful and valuable to you?**

Answered: 235    Skipped: 80

Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Create more walking and bike trails	12/2/2020 12:54 PM
2	Connectors / Signage	12/2/2020 12:45 PM
3	Put bricks or something under bluff swings so they don't collect water/puddles. Another "Puddle" is at Lions Park just past restrooms in the road. Also - repair asphalt along Howard trail.	11/23/2020 11:02 AM
4	Paths and bike paths to connect them or to get to them from neighborhoods.	11/23/2020 10:45 AM
5	More shaded areas.	11/23/2020 9:07 AM
6	more events like baseball for families. Summer collegiate baseball as an example.	11/22/2020 2:17 AM
7	Extend paved trails along the rivers for biking, and connect them all to each other and to paved trails from nearby townships, etc. We need to do our part to build a safe biking network of paved trails. Adding restrooms would be a good idea - look at NW Indiana as a model for that.	11/18/2020 3:58 PM
8	Not charge so much for parking	11/18/2020 3:27 PM
9	Add a connected walking trail with signage between parks. Promote walking/running within SJ, similar to other cities with known long mileage walking/running trails.	11/18/2020 7:54 AM
10	Relate walking/running and biking trails/paths	11/18/2020 12:31 AM
11	Replace light bulbs on boat boxes at West Basin Marina. For safety and because it looks tacky to have half the light bulbs burned out.	11/17/2020 11:41 PM
12	Add sidewalks/improve accessibility, including free parking.	11/17/2020 7:05 PM
13	Walking access to parks. Safety for youth.	11/17/2020 5:48 PM
14	People that live here should not have to pay	11/17/2020 2:44 PM
15	Bathrooms that are open in the winter. More outdoor winter events.	11/17/2020 10:26 AM
16	More trails	11/16/2020 10:20 AM
17	Provide affordability to all. Prices are to higher for seniors.	11/16/2020 7:25 AM
18	Bathrooms	11/16/2020 3:38 AM
19	Create safe bike/running trails connecting the city parks	11/15/2020 10:18 PM
20	If you live here, you don't have to pay 'again' for parking.	11/15/2020 10:04 PM
21	Have a centralized website that can provide detailed information about current sports programs for youth & adults, events around town, park activities, etc	11/15/2020 8:52 PM
22	Add more trails	11/15/2020 8:44 PM
23	Walking trails would be amazing. And expanding them from one park to another or from the surrounding city to downtown would be even more amazing. Love the wide walkways by Lincoln school and Howard.	11/15/2020 7:44 PM
24	More bike paths	11/15/2020 7:42 PM
25	Get rid of Covid-19	11/15/2020 7:03 PM
26	Work on increasing connections and expanding trails	11/15/2020 6:59 PM
27	Walk/bike trails. Utilize right of ways, e.g. a Knauf Park extension to the kayak rental near clementines (just need some safe handrails under Napier bridge). Even if no asphalt, just mow and minimum signage.	11/15/2020 5:30 PM
28	Dog park with water access	11/15/2020 4:30 PM
29	I was under the impression that parking passes to city parks were park specific. Maybe this is incorrect but it is my current perception and reason I do not go to the parks as often as I would like	11/15/2020 4:18 PM
30	Add kids family and sports programming	11/15/2020 4:14 PM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

31	Update Riverview Park.	11/15/2020 3:54 PM
32	Parking and advertising. I think there's more parks than I realize	11/15/2020 3:42 PM
33	I hate that the city is soon charging parking at Riverview park and that they now charge parking at Kiwanis. Now that we are living in a pandemic it's better for us to be outside and limiting access by charging rates for parking is really sad for area residents who don't receive the benefit of the city passes. I understand the need to charge for parking at the beaches, especially during peak tourist season, but Riverview and Kiwanis are parks enjoyed mainly by people who live here, not the tourists who are only here briefly.	11/15/2020 3:37 PM
34	More free parking close to the parks	11/15/2020 1:22 PM
35	Create a shared calendar for all parks, so when a softball field is in use, you don't try to use it with your team to practice	11/15/2020 11:43 AM
36	Add bike paths not accessible to cars	11/15/2020 9:19 AM
37	Keep maintained and increase pedestrian connections between them/dedicated trails	11/15/2020 8:51 AM
38	Make parking easier downtown	11/14/2020 11:30 PM
39	easier ability to obtain parking pass for City Residents.	11/14/2020 11:11 PM
40	Be able to transfer annual parking pass to any vehicle. More amenities at Lions Park beach, bathrooms and lockers at fountain	11/14/2020 10:54 PM
41	Actively protect the shoreline.	11/14/2020 5:33 PM
42	Continue to keep them always open and accessible	11/14/2020 2:26 PM
43	Add adult yoga or stretching classes and shade	11/13/2020 7:22 PM
44	Exercise trails with different fitness stops	11/13/2020 5:38 PM
45	Bring back Concourse 'd Elegance	11/13/2020 2:09 PM
46	Maintenance	11/13/2020 1:28 PM
47	More bench swings!	11/13/2020 11:25 AM
48	Develop an extensive linear park system.	11/12/2020 9:26 PM
49	More free parking	11/12/2020 9:06 PM
50	Keep them clean, safe, and updated and don't let them fall out of disrepair.	11/12/2020 8:39 PM
51	Cheaper parking fees & proper maintenance of bathrooms	11/12/2020 7:21 PM
52	Make biking safer.	11/12/2020 6:49 PM
53	Make them accessible via safe bike paths	11/12/2020 4:22 PM
54	Add more programs for all seasons at the Howard	11/12/2020 4:01 PM
55	More structured events & more parking.	11/12/2020 3:30 PM
56	I f I am not mistaken, Riverview Park is the largest park in St. Joseph. The new Pavillion at Riverview is terrific! However, overall the park is in desperate need of maintenance which is decades overdue. Many trees and shrubbery need substantial pruning or removal. Address the flooding problem if financially viable as this closes the park many times during the year. Repair the road as the holes are dangerous to walkers, bikers, and automobiles. This park is beautiful but it lacks the regular care it deserves.	11/12/2020 3:25 PM
57	Change the trash at dog parks more often	11/12/2020 3:00 PM
58	NA	11/12/2020 2:54 PM
59	Parks are the "sparkle" that attracts newcomers to a community. Keeping our parks clean and with facilities that are up to date is important. Our parks are nicely maintained. Just plant more trees when old ones die or are removed.	11/12/2020 2:34 PM
60	Add a community pool.	11/12/2020 1:56 PM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

61	More user friendly with clean, useable picnic facilities, walking paths & restrooms	11/12/2020 1:53 PM
62	Ease of entry... ie: lowered parking fees for residents and more parking available	11/12/2020 1:43 PM
63	Walking spaces/trails	11/12/2020 1:25 PM
64	One of my dogs can regularly squeeze under the fence at Kiwanis and run into the woods. I've tried calling the phone number before but was unable to reach anyone.	11/12/2020 1:15 PM
65	Bike racks	11/12/2020 12:43 PM
66	Help prevent beach erosion and fix it where it exists.	11/12/2020 12:39 PM
67	Continue to maintain them	11/12/2020 12:19 PM
68	Increase the amount of green space, even neighborhood pocket parks	11/12/2020 11:19 AM
69	parking	11/12/2020 10:03 AM
70	Pay attention to the needs and accessibility of local, tax-paying residents. Stop the trashing/polluting abuse and law-breaking behavior on the piers. Start issuing heavy fines for people leaving their litter behind for others to pick up. Stop the loud and violent social gatherings on holidays before they get out of control.	11/12/2020 10:00 AM
71	Add connecting bike trails from south St Joseph along the river from Eagle point to Clementines this trail could connect bikers to the knauf nature trails giving Bike riders from the South area of Saint Joseph a Safe way to get downtown on their bike	11/12/2020 9:49 AM
72	Safety Maintenance, lighting etc	11/11/2020 11:22 PM
73	More pet friendly	11/11/2020 4:46 PM
74	Limit the number of monuments and structures in Lake Bluff Park including the number and size of war memorials. Assure that proper guidelines exist to apply against future requests.	11/11/2020 4:07 PM
75	maintain good lighting for safety	11/10/2020 2:30 PM
76	More recycling containers!	11/10/2020 2:29 PM
77	parking options during summer months	11/10/2020 7:46 AM
78	Clean up the backend of Kiwanis park. It's a big storm water mud pit. That park has so much potential and it continually is just left to rot. Put a bike /walking trail around the perimeter.	11/9/2020 10:07 PM
79	Garbage and recycling out year round	11/9/2020 8:16 PM
80	Keep them clean and updated	11/9/2020 2:23 PM
81	The parks I use are very well kept. The exertrail in Milton would be a great addition.	11/9/2020 1:25 PM
82	Keep them clean, stop making our neighborhood parks into a destination for out of tourist. Their are other parks for that.	11/7/2020 8:22 PM
83	More events like a farmers market, for different trades and interests, events and shows.	11/7/2020 11:14 AM
84	Make connected long walking trails off roadways, through the ravines if possible.....more along the river.	11/7/2020 8:29 AM
85	Stop charging parking fees. It is outrageous that as a mother of three small children I have to pay to park if I want to take my children to the park. It is impossible for me to walk with three children under 5.	11/6/2020 11:52 AM
86	Walking trails	11/5/2020 8:25 PM
87	Bike trails	11/5/2020 9:47 AM
88	Elimination of accessibility barriers (ex: pay/ticketed parking...) the park is not only there for locals, but for everyone who decides to spend their time & \$\$\$ here. Even if they come from a surrounding community parks ce are where you are to socialize with & understand various viewpoints on local issues. Sociological segregation is still segregation...that fuels unintended animosity between community members on opposite ends of the steadily expanding wage gap. BEFORE MOWING THE DOG PARK: a)- Pick up any trash or lost toys!!! so dogs aren't	11/5/2020 9:06 AM

## Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

chewing on imperceivable pieces shredded trash that they'll later vomit up or will have to visit the veterinarian for removal. b)- Pick up all the trash!! c)- Evaluate & document the inevitable deterioration of the fence and erosion at it's base. Dogs have been escaping constantly this fall.

89	Extend Howard family trail	11/5/2020 12:43 AM
90	Maintain walking trails, insure adequate access to trails	11/3/2020 5:20 PM
91	Trails	11/3/2020 11:51 AM
92	Maintain the restrooms	11/3/2020 11:06 AM
93	Trash cans at the beach and clean sand and large beaches	11/2/2020 10:25 AM
94	Groomed trails, add disc golf	11/1/2020 8:24 PM
95	Disc Golf!	11/1/2020 8:23 PM
96	Safety	11/1/2020 12:58 PM
97	Connected trails: walking, biking, water	10/29/2020 6:05 PM
98	PERHAPS ADD WARMING STATIONS AND CROSS COUNTRY SKI TRAILS TO MAKE THEM MORE USUABLE YEAR ROUND	10/29/2020 2:06 PM
99	indoor dog park	10/28/2020 8:05 AM
100	leave them just the way they are: open green space to be enjoyed by anyone for anything. By designating areas for specific activities (like dog parks and disc golf), parks become crowded, and too structured. Not relaxing and peaceful.	10/26/2020 7:12 PM
101	Better bike lanes	10/26/2020 5:53 PM
102	Better accommodation for bikes.	10/26/2020 8:40 AM
103	Continue park/ beach maintenance throughout the fall and winter months. It would be nice to have at least some of the restroom facilities open on the Silver beach or at Lion's park year round and it would be amazing to have the garbage raked off the beaches so my toddlers are not tempted by water bottle caps, cigarillo mouthpieces, broken glass, plastic, etc..	10/25/2020 11:11 PM
104	New trails along rivers, ravines, lookout park/bluff	10/25/2020 10:57 PM
105	Add more trails (especially for dog walks)!	10/25/2020 11:33 AM
106	expansion of trails	10/25/2020 9:37 AM
107	Connect them for biking and add more public bathrooms	10/24/2020 2:42 PM
108	Defined trail system between neighborhoods and parks. Safe way for my child to be independent.	10/24/2020 11:54 AM
109	Again, restoring the beaches.	10/23/2020 7:42 PM
110	Dog park by the beach.	10/23/2020 7:30 PM
111	MAINTAIN THE SHORELINE!!! And refurbish the restrooms at Silver Beach.	10/23/2020 5:34 PM
112	More trails--hiking and bike	10/23/2020 2:43 PM
113	Create a system of bike trails/paths.	10/23/2020 1:00 PM
114	Accessible	10/22/2020 6:22 PM
115	Hire people that are mentally and physically disabled	10/22/2020 5:52 PM
116	Maintain the cleanliness of the park.	10/22/2020 5:49 PM
117	Signage and promotions, activities at parks	10/22/2020 8:34 AM
118	Bike paths connecting parks to neighborhoods and each other.	10/22/2020 5:41 AM
119	More secure/safer. Regular patrols in high traffic areas. Issues with teens/young adults misbehaving	10/21/2020 6:56 PM



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120	continue to maintain appearance, high quality structures / materials	10/21/2020 9:24 AM
121	Bike trails	10/21/2020 12:07 AM
122	Connecting walking trails	10/20/2020 10:37 PM
123	parking	10/20/2020 10:24 PM
124	Add new structures	10/20/2020 9:05 PM
125	The parking fees for residents especially!! Maybe some deals or after certain time it's free.	10/20/2020 8:59 PM
126	Connectivity with non motorized trails and bike lanes	10/20/2020 8:43 PM
127	I wish I could bike more in Saint Joe.	10/20/2020 8:34 PM
128	Improve quality of sports fields/courts and maintain quality buildings at park sites	10/20/2020 8:18 PM
129	Light up the bluff needs to be earlier in the fall. Thanksgiving weekend would be great. Lots of family in town but lights not working yet.	10/20/2020 8:07 PM
130	Second street beach was nice this year as they made it accessible to me by keeping and building up a dune there, so I could get up and down it to the water. I really want this side beach to allow my dog to be legal there. If this beach loses access to it, by these holders that are being placed there I am strongly considering moving from here. I've been down here 10 years. That will ruin it for me. I understand we have to do this for the erosion, but what's the plan for next year?	10/20/2020 7:38 PM
131	Have more space for kids to run without feeling limited yet still being "enclosed"	10/20/2020 7:14 PM
132	Take better care of what we have.	10/20/2020 5:46 PM
133	No parking fees	10/20/2020 4:19 PM
134	Update them, make buildings rentable for year round use	10/20/2020 3:33 PM
135	Keep parks clean	10/20/2020 3:06 PM
136	Free parking for residents	10/20/2020 2:53 PM
137	Better parking	10/20/2020 2:40 PM
138	I am sad that they abandoned the sculptures on the downtown corners. They made the city look "fun"!!	10/20/2020 2:15 PM
139	Make it more enjoyable for my handicapped 2.5 year old.	10/20/2020 1:51 PM
140	More structured young kids activities, more picnic/party pavilions	10/20/2020 1:49 PM
141	Reduce local to St Joe parking fees	10/20/2020 1:49 PM
142	Utilize more social media platforms to promote events and activities	10/20/2020 1:27 PM
143	Mountain bike trails	10/20/2020 1:26 PM
144	More recreational camps	10/20/2020 1:01 PM
145	Add tennis courts.	10/20/2020 12:52 PM
146	Add tennis courts.	10/20/2020 12:32 PM
147	More trails	10/20/2020 12:14 PM
148	Invest in sports	10/20/2020 11:48 AM
149	Don't let dogs poop (without cleaning it up!) and stop smokers from flicking cigarette butts all around! Kids play at the beach and in the parks this is gross!	10/20/2020 11:37 AM
150	Beaches and playground equipment	10/20/2020 11:15 AM
151	make them easier to access without a car	10/20/2020 11:14 AM
152	More organized events for kids, adults and families...as well as a better walking trail system...also better sports programs for kids. How about a community pool?!?	10/20/2020 11:08 AM

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153	More enhancements	10/20/2020 11:07 AM
154	Use the waterfront along the river and make it more useful.	10/20/2020 10:53 AM
155	Don't charge for parking	10/20/2020 10:43 AM
156	Make aware of acrivities	10/20/2020 10:41 AM
157	Maintain them	10/20/2020 10:35 AM
158	Continue with maintenance and upkeep.	10/20/2020 10:34 AM
159	More bike paths	10/20/2020 10:29 AM
160	provide activities to young families with small children under 4	10/20/2020 10:16 AM
161	improved maintenance of existing parks and fields.	10/20/2020 10:13 AM
162	All parks to be equally updated for all residents in their specific locations	10/20/2020 10:10 AM
163	Would love more events I could take my kids to	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
164	Longer, wider, family friendly non-motorized trails	10/20/2020 10:09 AM
165	Play structures at parks that are bigger, more interesting, ADA accessible	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
166	No longer live in the area	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
167	Having a trail through St. Joe connecting different parks	10/20/2020 10:08 AM
168	Update riverview	10/20/2020 10:02 AM
169	Cost is often prohibitive. The times offered for youth programs during the summer don't always work well for working families either.	10/20/2020 10:01 AM
170	Maintain restrooms	10/20/2020 10:00 AM
171	More walking trails	10/20/2020 9:57 AM
172	More parking at tiscornia beach	10/20/2020 9:56 AM
173	Add more trails for hiking	10/19/2020 7:23 PM
174	Connectivity	10/19/2020 5:25 PM
175	Increase the amount/length of trails throughout St. Joseph to better connect the parks to one another. The conditions of the sidewalks and trails currently used are poor and need to be better upkept to ensure the safety of those on them. By also improving the connectivity of parks, this could potentially increase the usage and patronage of people within the area.	10/19/2020 9:47 AM
176	Biking options, at the moment	10/18/2020 8:01 PM
177	Spread events throughout the various city parks vs most events (especially in the summer) being staged at venues nearest the beaches. For instance, movies were moved to various parks vs all at Whirlpool Field. (Pandemic idea of "drive-in" movies at h/s is excellent idea, as well.) The beaches and parks near them are beyond capacity with visitors, cars, etc, all summer, even without sponsored events. Let's make better use of other sites. :)	10/18/2020 5:51 PM
178	Listen to residents	10/17/2020 11:55 AM
179	More trails	10/16/2020 9:19 PM
180	Adult social programs	10/16/2020 8:24 PM
181	Much needed new bathrooms at the bluff park, small playground area at lookout park, porter pottys at any park without bathrooms, more doggie bag dispensers on popular roads not close to parks (wolcott, langley, south state)	10/16/2020 6:18 PM
182	Maintain bathroom facilities as long as possible. Keep them clean.	10/16/2020 5:11 PM
183	Put in a walking trail/bike path at Lookout park. Clear the brush to restore the view.	10/16/2020 12:44 PM
184	Maintain the bluff and fix access roads to the boat launch.	10/16/2020 12:35 PM

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185	Keep the parks cleaner, including Silver Beach and keep the bathrooms clean. Provide more parking	10/16/2020 12:45 AM
186	Keep natural areas as natural as possible. Saint Joseph is a beautiful city.	10/14/2020 7:54 PM
187	More accessibility, for those who don't live right down town it is harder to appreciate our parks. Growing up we lived right downtown and it was great. We would go on walks, go to the beach, attend events, etc. When we moved further out more towards royalton there really isn't much to do. Limited walking trails and no real structured events. Once you leave downtown the idea of community sponsored events goes away.	10/12/2020 11:45 PM
188	Great parks, keep them clean. More safe walking trails would be great! Thanks!	10/12/2020 8:45 PM
189	More programming. We have lots of space but we need more classes/programs for all ages.	10/12/2020 11:13 AM
190	Update boat launch so boats are launched with the current as opposed to the way they are now which is launching perpendicular to the current	10/12/2020 10:32 AM
191	More walking trails would be nice	10/11/2020 9:46 PM
192	Install a disc golf course	10/10/2020 9:50 PM
193	disc golf courses! it's such a great outdoor fun activity for families: young and old, men and women. Very low cost to create and maintain, too. This would be a very popular feature.	10/10/2020 9:32 PM
194	Expansion of walking trails *I feel Riverview Park is an asset worthy of improvements and expanded use.	10/8/2020 10:57 PM
195	Improvement at Riverview Park	10/8/2020 10:46 PM
196	More walking trails and pickle ball courts would be great.	10/8/2020 7:08 PM
197	Make them user friendly for EVERYONE!!	10/8/2020 6:28 PM
198	More bike roads to ride to the parks.	10/8/2020 3:40 PM
199	More uninterrupted walking trails between the parks including maybe a pedestrian bridge over main Street to cross traffic.	10/8/2020 2:02 PM
200	Improved upkeep - weeding, trash pick up, trimming example: can't touch the plants next to sidewalk around Whirlpool Fountain or you'll be covered in burrs!	10/8/2020 1:44 PM
201	A safe place for biking with kids, Cleanliness, I've tried to rent the howard ice arena multiple times and been told different excuses. Hockey has first dibs, etc. Either stop offering rental or make the price compare to whatever you're charging the hockey team.	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
202	More outdoor recreation opportunities (athletic versus sunbathing).	10/8/2020 1:25 PM
203	Easier walking/biking access or shuttle service to beaches during the summer; connecting the parks wherever possible (so busy streets don't have to be crossed to access)	10/8/2020 1:17 PM
204	With the pandemic as a local resident been so nice to have access to down town / parking.	10/8/2020 1:14 PM
205	Maintain (repair and paint) existing facilities before adding more. Things looking well kept projects the idea that we care about our community.	10/8/2020 12:20 PM
206	Keep the marquee parks in top shape (Bluff, Lions Park, Kiwanis, Tiscornia).	10/8/2020 11:54 AM
207	Focus on residents rather than tourists. Residents live here and parks are funded by them. When will they get a higher priority than tourism?	10/8/2020 10:35 AM
208	Stop encouraging not non residential use. We can't enjoy our beaches. Way too crowded. Miss the beach so much. Can walk or drive by and watch people enjoying but packed in like sardines. Probably nothing can stop the overcrowding now. So sad. Maybe stop with trying to draw and accommodate tourist	10/8/2020 10:21 AM
209	Accessibility—More shade and places to sit at compass fountain. Make it more accessible to walk between them. More and improved bathroom facilities	10/8/2020 10:04 AM
210	Hold more events to get local members of the community to meet and do activities together	10/8/2020 9:35 AM
211	Follow the recommendations made by the parks board a few years back. It was well thought	10/8/2020 8:06 AM

Community Survey: St. Joseph Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

	out!	
212	That local residents wishes are not stymied over the desire of the city to increase usage of small city parks by out of towners.	10/8/2020 6:14 AM
213	Point Park needs doggie waste bags and a rubbish bin.	10/8/2020 3:20 AM
214	Kayak launch	10/6/2020 8:36 PM
215	Improve the beaches	10/6/2020 8:43 AM
216	More green space and benches	10/5/2020 1:08 PM
217	MAINTAINING the parks we have, especially in the summer months. I believe St. Joseph already has many beautiful parks and it is not really necessary to look for more or add more amenities to current parks. Less is more. It really bothers me to see the trash from the tourists on Mondays after the weekends. I applaud the work the city does to clean up. Perhaps add more trash bins during the summer? Also, perhaps some type of communication to visitors to respect our lake/beaches/city can be done tactfully. I really appreciate how well the restroom facilities are maintained and kept open for a good portion of the year ... it comes in handy when walking and nature calls!	10/5/2020 1:04 PM
218	Continued updates and maintenance	10/5/2020 11:58 AM
219	No strong answer here; I'm not a dissatisfied customer, so to speak.	10/5/2020 11:47 AM
220	Keep them clean	10/5/2020 11:29 AM
221	More extensive walking trails from downtown.	10/5/2020 11:11 AM
222	Keep them maintained. Lions beach has some broken equipment-the car could use some maintenance.	10/5/2020 11:07 AM
223	Connectivity - having that flow. Although Upton Arboretum, Whirlpool Centennial Park and the Howard Family Path are relatively close to each other, it'd be great if they connected in a better way so folks can go on long walks through them. If mile markers were included, that'd be great as well.	10/5/2020 11:02 AM
224	More walking paths and trails.	10/5/2020 10:52 AM
225	More miles of trails	10/5/2020 10:32 AM
226	Connected trails	10/5/2020 9:40 AM
227	Publicize events on social media. Movie nights in the summer. Dog events	10/5/2020 9:15 AM
228	Improve seating / shade at Whirlpool Centennial Fountain	10/4/2020 8:05 AM
229	connection of parks via a green corridor, bike and walking paths	10/2/2020 2:55 PM
230	More trash and recycling containers at parks and better collection of said items.	10/2/2020 2:20 PM
231	Allow dogs at all parks.	10/2/2020 1:55 PM
232	Clean facilities.	10/2/2020 1:51 PM
233	Make them accessible to all ...	10/2/2020 12:09 PM
234	expand trails	10/2/2020 8:16 AM
235	Safe biking and hiking trails to connect parks to each other.	10/1/2020 8:13 PM

**Q23 If you would like to receive emails with Master Plan updates and invites to view the final Plan, please leave your email address here.**

Answered: 108 Skipped: 207



