



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN AREA RECREATION BOARD
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2021 – 6:00 PM
CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI

AGENDA

THE BUCHANAN AREA RECREATION BOARD (B.A.R.B.) OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN in compliance with Michigan’s Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting.

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Roll Call**
- IV. Approve Agenda**
- V. Public Comment - Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)**
- VI. Approve Minutes**
- VII. Unfinished Business**

A. 5-Year Recreation Plan Timeline

Marcy Hamilton to provide an overview of the City of Buchanan 5-Year Recreation Plan.

- Develop Survey – Sept 21- Oct 6 (I am working on this today)
- 1st Meeting with BARB (with Township reps) to review survey and background information. – Sept 28 – Oct 5
- Release survey – Oct 7 (press release, social media, emails, etc) Survey Closes – Nov 5.
- 2nd BARB meeting – week of Nov 15 (review the survey results and update the goals, objectives and action plan)
- 3rd BARB meeting – week of Dec 6 (review the final draft plan)
- The public review period would be mid-December to mid-January.
- The public hearing would be mid to late January with adoption by City Commission.
- Submit to MDNR by Feb 1, 2022 deadline.

B. Review and Discuss Changes to Current 5-Year Plan

C. Review and Potentially Revise Bylaws

- VIII. New Business**
- IX. Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)**
- X. Executive Comments**
- XI. Adjourn**

2017 - 2021

Buchanan Community Recreation Plan



Photo by: Shelley Morgan

BUCHANAN COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN

Prepared By:

The Buchanan Area Recreation Board

James Toth
Bill Marx
Ashley Hanson
Lonnie Hoover
Dave Perez
Patricia Moore
Brittany McBain

Table of Contents

Plan Development.....	1
Public Involvement.....	2
Plan Adoption and Transmittal.....	2
Legal Authority.....	3
Membership.....	3
Staffing.....	3
Budget.....	3
Regional Location.....	5
Historical Sketch.....	5
Population Demographics (2010 Census).....	6
Population.....	6
Gender.....	6
Race and Hispanic Origin.....	6
Median Age.....	7
Age Distribution.....	7
Family Income.....	7
Educational Attainment, 25 years old and older.....	7
Labor Force.....	7
Housing.....	7
Disability of Civilian Non- institutionalized Persons.....	8
Local Economy.....	8
Land Use.....	8
Transportation.....	8
Climate.....	9

Topography..... 9

Soils 10

Vegetation..... 10

Water Resources 10

Barrier-Free Accessibility 11

Local Recreation Open Space..... 13

Block Park..... 13

Neighborhood Park..... 14

Community Park 14

Organized Programs..... 15

Regional Recreation Open Space..... 17

Mud Lake Bog..... 17

Fernwood Nature Center 17

Madeline Bertrand County Park..... 18

Love Creek County Park..... 18

Silver Beach County Park 18

Rocky Gap County Park..... 18

Warren Dunes State Park..... 18

Grand Mere State Park 19

Warren Woods State Park..... 19

Private Recreation Resources 19

Goal Statement..... 23

Objectives..... 23

General Fund Support..... 28

User Fees..... 28

General Obligation Bonds 28

Millage..... 29

Revenue bonds 29

Gifts and Donations..... 29

Private Partnerships 30

Land and Water Conservation Fund..... 30

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund 30

Michigan Coastal Management Program 31

Michigan Inland Fisheries Cooperative Grants Program 31

Waterways Fund Program..... 32

Appendix A: Notice Inviting Public Comment 34

Appendix B: Public Hearing Notice 35

Appendix C: Resolutions of Plan Adoption 38

Appendix D: Letters of Transmittal..... 40

Appendix E: Aerial Photographs of Parks and Schools..... 41-57

Appendix F: McCoy Creek Trail Project..... 58

Plan Development

It is a primary function of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board to maintain a current plan for city parks and recreation areas, facilities, and programs.

The 2017-2021 Buchanan Community Recreation Plan will help guide Buchanan with its parks and recreation planning and development efforts over the next five years and serve as a reference document for future decision making.

Plan Development

Development of the 2017 Buchanan Community Recreation Plan is in accordance with the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans, established by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Plan approval by the MDNR will enable the City of Buchanan to compete for state and federal recreation grants.

This plan was prepared by the Buchanan Area Recreation Board (BARB), with input from members of the community, the Buchanan Youth Baseball Softball Association, the Downtown Development Association, and the Buchanan School Board, Projects Leading to Amazing Youth, McCoy Creek Trail Committee, and Have Fun at Buchanan Parks

The Organization Structure chapter of the plan, documents the Buchanan Area Recreation Board's formation, legal authority, membership, administrative structure, and budget resources. The BARB's enabling legislation, policies and procedures, budget and personnel records were also examined for this plan.

The Community Profile is a review of Buchanan's cultural and socio-economic characteristics and physical resources. Published socio-economic data, population statistics, land use, zoning, transportation, and natural features plans and studies, were examined for this plan.

The Recreational Inventory and Needs Assessment, examines the current adequacy of recreation land and facilities. Both City and School owned recreation resources are examined.

The chapter on Barrier-Free accessibility is a general assessment of the accessibility of each park to persons with disabilities. Specific deficiencies and remedies will be addressed as part of all future park improvement projects.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The Action Plan is a determination of what actions the BARB wishes to undertake over the next five or more years. The necessity and associated cost of each action item is described in some detail. Collectively, the proposed actions are intended to improve the City's parks and recreation delivery system.

The chapter on Park System Financing provides an overview of multiple funding mechanisms available for land acquisition, facility development and parks operations.

Public Involvement

Opportunities for public input occurred at numerous regular monthly meetings of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board. Representatives from the Buchanan Youth Baseball and Softball Association, and Have Fun at Buchanan Parks were invited and attended meetings providing input as to the Associations' needs which were incorporated in the Action Plan. Three of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board members are also active members in the Have Fun at Buchanan Parks Committee and attend every month's meetings.

Copies of the draft plan were made available for public review and comment at City Hall, during the month of September 2016. Advanced public notice of the Plan's availability for review and comment was given with an ad in the Berrien County Record. No feedback was received during the thirty-day public comment period.

A public hearing notice was placed in the Berrien County Record two weeks prior to the Buchanan Area Recreation Board's September meeting. The BARB recognizes that as proposed projects and actions are advanced, so is the likelihood for public interest. Therefore, the community will be given meaningful opportunities to review specific projects prior to their implementation.

Plan Adoption and Transmittal

Resolutions of plan adoption by the Buchanan Area Recreation Board and the City Commission are located in Appendix C.

Letter of transmittal to the Southwestern Michigan Planning Commission and Berrien County Planning Commission is located in Appendix D. It is intended that this Plan be amended as necessary, to ensure it is responsive to community needs and emerging opportunities.

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

Legal Authority

The City of Buchanan provides park and recreation services through a cooperative effort with the Buchanan Community Schools. The original Buchanan Area Recreation Board was established by the Buchanan City Commission under a 1973 agreement between the City of Buchanan, Buchanan Township and Buchanan Community School Corporation, with the passage of City Ordinance Number 204. Staffing for the recreation programs was provided through the Communication Education Office of the Buchanan Community Schools. As a result of reorganization in 2008-2009 of positions at Buchanan Schools and the elimination of the Community Education Department, the BARB became null and void. The Buchanan City Commission recognized the importance of the BARB, and a restructure of the BARB Bylaws and Committee was completed in 2009 as recreation is paramount for the Commission and its priorities.

Membership

The Board is comprised of seven members, including four (4) members appointed by the City Commission, including two (2) city residents and two (2) at large (can be from surrounding non city areas) residents, two (2) members appointed by the School Board, and the Buchanan City Manager or his/her designee.

Staffing

All city-owned park properties and facilities are maintained by the Buchanan Department of Public Works. The Board conducts routine inspections of all properties and the DPW attends to the necessary repairs and improvements, with help from volunteers.

Budget

Appropriations from the City's general fund supply most of the operating revenue needed to provide park and recreation services. Fees and charges are not a significant source of operating revenue at the present time. Major park improvement projects have traditionally been funded through a mix of state and federal recreation grants, City funds, and private contributions. Annual expenditures for park operations and maintenance average \$25,750 or about \$5.85 per capita.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Organizational Chart

City
Commissioners

City Manager

Department of Public Services

Buchanan Area Recreation Board

- P.L.A.Y.
- Friends of McCoy's Creek Trail
- Buchanan Dog Park Committee
- BYSBA
- Geocache
- Youth Garden
- Have Fun at Buchanan Parks



Regional Location

The City of Buchanan is located in southeastern Berrien County and is in close proximity, to a number of major metropolitan areas.

Historical Sketch

The Potawatomi Indians were the first residents in this area, with many settlements established along the St. Joseph River. By 1833 the Potawatomi Indians had signed away the land in exchange for land west of the Mississippi River. Near the time of the treaty, the town's industry was born when Charles Cowels, the first settler, built his shingle mill. Russell McCoy soon followed and constructed the first sawmill along McCoy Creek. Because of McCoy Creek and the power furnished by the water, sawmills and gristmills became the mainstay industry of the area.

The growing community joined in the battle for Michigan's statehood between 1835 and 1837. A famous senator, James Buchanan of Pennsylvania who became the 15th President of the United States, sided with Michigan to obtain this goal. Miller John Hamilton, who platted the area, honored Senator Buchanan for his championship by naming the community after him and recorded it as such in 1842. At the time of the City incorporation in 1858, Buchanan was a thriving area with some 960 residents.

The area was rich in timber, in natural abundance of game, fruits, maple sugar, wild honey, and plentiful fishing in McCoy Creek and the St. Joseph River. Buchanan continues to enjoy many natural amenities and is known as "Redbud City" due to the abundance of these trees throughout the area.

Population Demographics (2010 Census)

Population

Population		Change	% Change
1980 Census	5142		
1990 Census	4992	-150	-2.9%
2000 Census	4681	-311	-6.2%
2010 Census	4456	-225	-4.8%

Gender

Male	2072	47%
Female	2384	53%

Total	4456
-------	------

Race and Hispanic Origin

White	3934	86%
Black	469	11%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	54	1%
Asian	34	1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1	0%
Hispanic Origin (of any race)	47	1%
Some other race	86	1%

Median Age

	Buchanan	Berrien County
1980 Census	29.3	29.5
1990 Census	32.1	33.6
2000 Census	35.2	37.4
2010 Census	N/A	N/A

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Age Distribution

Under 5 years	305	7%
5 to 9 years	362	8%
10 to 14 years	334	7%
15 to 19 years	341	7%
20 to 24 years	307	7%
25 to 34 years	677	14%
35 to 44 years	682	15%
45 to 54 years	620	13%
55 to 59 years	214	5%
60 to 64 years	162	3%
65 to 74 years	294	6%
75 to 84 years	278	6%
85 years and over	105	2%

Family Income

	Buchanan	Berrien County
Median Family Income	\$43,860	\$46,548

Educational Attainment, 25 years old and older

Percent with high school degree or higher	79%
Percent with college degree	22.4%

Labor Force

Total Work Force	2428
Employed	2272
Unemployed	156
Unemployed rate	6.42%

Housing

Number of dwellings	2132
Owner occupied	1253
Renter occupied	742
Median monthly rent	396
Median home value	\$69,600

Community Profile

Disability of Civilian Non- Institutionalized Persons

Persons 16 to 64 years	1294	
With a mobility or self-care limitation	373	29%
Persons 65 and over	679	
With mobility or self-care limitation	386	57%

Local Economy

Buchanan has a well-diversified economy. There are approximately 25 manufacturing companies (with a Buchanan address) with approximately 1025 employees. These employees produce a variety of goods and services including furniture, manufacturing automation systems, automotive and aircraft components, packaging, and wine. Buchanan Community Schools is the top non-manufacturing employer. The downtown area of Buchanan is experiencing a retail renaissance with more than ten new businesses opening

within the last five years. These new businesses feature antiques, art, home decor, hospitality, and other service industries. With this renaissance and rejuvenation of the downtown, the City of Buchanan often sees a large influx of tourists and visitors coming to experience the history, culture, and events sponsored by the various community organizations.

Land Use

The City of Buchanan is 2.5 square miles. Urban land uses include commercial, industrial and residential districts prevail in the City. Current land use precludes the acquisition of large tracts of open space within the City limits. Other governmental jurisdictions including rural townships, the County, and State must be relied upon and encouraged to provide large natural resource based parks and recreation areas. The City of Buchanan is, for the most part, providing smaller more intensely developed parks and active recreation facilities typical of most urbanized communities.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Transportation

The three Buchanan interchanges on U.S. 31 promote convenient access to the South Bend metropolitan area. The Michiana Regional Airport in South Bend is only 12 miles south of Buchanan. When completed, U.S. 31 will provide direct expressway access to I-94 and I-196 to the north.

The City of Buchanan owns and operates the oldest transportation service for cities of our size. We're the smallest community that offers public transportation Buchanan Dial-a-Ride (3 buses). We are one of four transportation services in the county. We are in discussion to consolidate transportation services to form a county wide service. This service would be run by a millage.

Amtrak passenger rail service terminals are located in Niles (5 miles), St. Joseph (20 miles), and New Buffalo (33 miles). The North Indiana Commuter Transit, known as the "South

Shore”, offers daily commuter service to Chicago from South Bend, Indiana and Michigan City, Indiana.

Climate

Average high temperature	32F / JANUARY	82F / JULY
Average low temperature	18F / JANUARY	61F / JULY
Days over 90F	11	
Days below 0F	4	
Days of growing season	162	
Average Annual Rainfall	37”	
Average Annual Snowfall	70”	

Topography

In the last glacial period, some 13,000 years ago, the Buchanan area was completely glaciated, leaving several geologic land forms behind including rolling hills and many small “kettle moraine” lakes.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Soils

The soils of the Buchanan area were developed from parent material by the action of climate forces, together with plants, animals and their residues. Parent materials were distributed by the action of ice, water, and wind. Glacial till is predominant parent material in the area. There is diversity of soil conditions, from wet, poorly drained soils to dry, sandy soils with a random pattern of occurrence in many areas. Soil conditions may limit the placement of recreation facilities in some areas.

Vegetation

Most of the cities original vegetation has been lost to agriculture and urban development. The original vegetation of the area consisted of deciduous hardwood trees, prairie grasses, water tolerant grasses, and trees and various sedges.

Most of the original remnant vegetation is located along the St. Joseph River and McCoy Creek.

Water Resources

The St. Joseph River and McCoy Creek are the dominant water courses in the City and are important recreation and economic resources.

The St. Joseph River provides recreational boating and fishing opportunities for migratory Salmon and Steelhead. The city's Riverfront Park, located just below the dam and fish ladder, provides important public access to the St. Joseph River fishery.

McCoy Creek flows through the City in a northeasterly fashion and is one of the most significant natural and historical features in the City. The McCoy Creek Trail Project seeks to highlight the creek's natural and historical amenities. The McCoy Creek Mill Race dug in the 1850's, served as a power source for local industry including the now restored 1853 vintage Pears Mill.

BARRIER-FREE ACCESSIBILITY

Barrier-Free Accessibility

The Buchanan Area Recreation Board is committed to making every "reasonable accommodation" to ensure recreational opportunities are available to all persons regardless of their level of ability. Specific barriers for persons with disabilities will be identified and addressed in conjunction with all future park improvement projects.

The following table presents a general park by park assessment of accessibility.

BARRIER FREE ACCESSIBILITY	McCoy Creek Recreation Area	Centennial Park	Commons	Kathryn Park	Ravish Park	Redbud Riverfront park	Victory Park	E.B. Clark Park	Smith Park	Spafford Woods Park	McCoy Pond Park	Tot Lot	Buchanan Garden Club Memorial Park	Firehouse Park	Dog Park	McCoy Creek Trail Park
None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines						1	1	1				1			1	
Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines										2						
Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines	3	3	3	3	3				3		3		3			
The entire park meets accessibility guidelines														4		4
The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design meets accessibility guidelines																

*Evaluation reference ADA Checklist for existing facilities Insite for Human Centered Design

GRANT FUNDING HISTORY

The following is a list of recreation grants received by the City of Buchanan.

Park	Project No.	Project Title	Scope of Project (Including area acquired, development scope items and current condition of facilities)	Project Type	Application Year	Grant Name	Grant Amount
-------------	--------------------	----------------------	---	---------------------	-------------------------	-------------------	---------------------

Redbud Riverfront Park	26-01186	Redbud Park Development	Installation of boat ramp, parking lot, access, porta-potties. Condition: Fair	DEV	1981	Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$48,331
Redbud Riverfront Park	26-01222	Redbud Park Phase 3 Development	Installation of restroom bldg., picnic facilities, parking lot, landscaping, walkways Condition: Fair	DEV	1981	Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$24,793
Hubbard Park	26-01075	Hubbard Park Acquisition	Acquisition of 5.5 acres along the St. Joseph River and 1 block inland for Hubbard Park	ACQ	1979	Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$28,262
	26-00732	Buchanan Recreation Development	Installation of lighting for softball field Condition: Fair	DEV	1979	Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$11,274
McCoy's Creek Trail Development	TF11-039 & Amendments	Trail Phase 2	Established linear park through the city, connecting the WE corner to the SW corner.	DEV	2012		\$288,000
							\$400,660

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Local Recreation Open Space

Buchanan’s existing recreation estate offers diverse public outdoor recreation opportunities from river access sites to baseball diamonds and playgrounds. The map and table at the conclusion of this chapter identifies the location, type, size, and adequacy of outdoor recreation facilities within the City. Aerial photographs of all City park properties and school sites are located in Appendix E.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) suggest that a park system, at a minimum, be composed of a “core” system of parklands, with a total of 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed open space per 1,000 population.

The NRPA’s recommended classification systems for local recreation open space are as follows:

Block Park

Use

Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots and senior citizens

Service Area

Less than ¼ mile radius

Desirable Size

1 acre or less

Acres/1,000 Population

0.25 to 0.5 acres

Desirable Site Characteristics

Desired locations are neighborhoods, within close proximity to apartment or townhouse developments, and housing for the elderly.

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Neighborhood Park

Use

These areas are for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, a playground apparatus area, skating, picnicking, wading pool, etc.

Service Area

¼ mile to ½ mile radius to serve a population up to 5,000 (a neighborhood)

Desirable Size

15+ acres

Acres / 1,000 Population

1.0 to 2.0 acres

Desirable Site Characteristics

Site should be suited for intense development and easily accessible to the neighborhood's population. It should be geographically centered, with safe walking and bicycle access. Site may be developed as a school-park facility.

Community ParkUse

This is an area of diverse environmental quality. It may include areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. The site may be in an area with natural qualities for outdoor recreation. Walking, viewing, sitting, picnicking, and biking are a few of the activities which can be used in combinations with the above, depending on community needs and site suitability.

Service Area

Area serves 1 to 2-mile radius or several neighborhoods.

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Desirable Size

25+ acres

Acres / 1,000 Population

5.0 to 8.0 acres

Desirable Site Characteristics

Site may include features such as water bodies, and areas suited for intense development. Site should be easily accessible, to the neighborhood served.

Based upon the above classification system, the City of Buchanan exceeds the recommended acreage standards for local recreation open space.

Facility Type	Recommended Acreage	Existing Acreage	Recommended Mileage	Existing Mileage	Surplus (Deficit)
Block Park	2.3	2.2	N/A	N/A	(0.1)
Neighborhood Park	9.4	16.3	N/A	N/A	6.9
Community Park	37.4	60.4	N/A	N/A	23.0
Linear Park	N/A	N/A		1.2 Miles	
Total	49.2	78.9		1.2Miles	

Buchanan’s 12 City parks total 80 acres, and the six school properties contribute another 102 acres in local recreation open space.

The table at the end of the chapter also indicates that the City of Buchanan meets and exceeds the NRPA’s suggested facility development standards. Sport related recreation facilities including softball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis courts, etc. are in adequate supply when compared to recognized “minimum” standards.

The needs assessment suggests a primary focus, and plan of action, aimed at improving “existing” City park properties and recreation facilities.

Organized Programs

A wide range of organized recreation programs and leagues are conducted on City and school property. The popularity and growing demand for these programs is reflected in the following participation statistics.

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

GENDER	ACTIVITY	AGE/GRADE	2013	2014	2015
Male	Rocket Football	8-12	110	115	125
Male/Female	Optimist Soccer	5-14	400	350	325
Male	Youth Baseball (BYSBA)	5-14	250	245	260
Female	Youth Baseball (BYSBA)	5-14	160	150	160
Male/Female	5k Extreme McCoy Creek	All ages	65	80	90
Male/Female	Trek or Treat	0-12	200	250	293
Male/Female	Trek or Treat	13 - above	400	500	600
Male/Female	Michiana Cruiser’s	All ages	171	134	137
Male/Female	Thrill on the Hill Winter	All Ages	1676	1167	2152
Male/Female	Have Fun at Buchanan Parks	All Ages	N/A	N/A	1635

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEED ASSESSMENT

The participation levels and trends warrant continued investment in recreation programs and suggest a need for additional facility development beyond “minimum” standards. Residents of surrounding rural townships do make use of Buchanan City parks and do participate in organized programs and leagues which is also an important consideration when assessing the adequacy of additional recreation facilities in Buchanan.

Also located within the City limits are the Nature Conservancy Preserve and the Pears Mill Historic Site. The 62.5 acre Bakertown Fen of the Nature Conservancy was acquired by The Nature Conservancy in 1986 in a land exchange designed to protect and preserve this unique natural feature. The Conservancy’s property is adjacent to the 35-acre Buchanan City prairie. There is a 10-year Management Agreement between the Conservancy and the City allowing

the Conservancy to do period burns on both properties, and protect the endangered species that reside there. The City's 1853 "Greek revival style" grist mill, called Pears Mill, is operated by the Buchanan Preservation Society and is a registered Michigan Historic Site.

Regional Recreation Open Space

The following regional recreation resources, all within the County of Berrien, provide additional "close to home" recreation opportunities.

Mud Lake Bog

Mud Lake Bog in Buchanan Township is a unique natural area and preserve, with nature trails, an observation tower, a small covered shelter, and parking.

Fernwood Nature Center

Fernwood is privately owned and is open to the public on a fee basis. The Center features nature programs, gardening, arts and crafts, and classes.

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Madeline Bertrand County Park

Madeline Bertrand County Park is 22 acres of regional recreation open space on the St. Joseph River, in Niles Township. Features include cross country skiing, picnicking, river fishing, hiking, disc golf, special events and a playground.

Love Creek County Park

Love Creek County Park is a 170-acre wildlife sanctuary and education facility located in Berrien Township. Features include a nature center and six miles of hiking and cross country ski trails.

Silver Beach County Park

Silver Beach County Park is 22 acres located in St. Joseph. Features include one half mile of frontage on Lake Michigan, 700' frontage on the St. Joseph River and access to the South Pier.

Other amenities include play structures, fishing, beach volleyball, swimming and barrier-free walkways.

Rocky Gap County Park

Rocky Gap is 3 acres located on Lake Michigan in Benton Township with 1,100 feet of shoreline.

Warren Dunes State Park

Warren Dunes is 1,600 acres on Lake Michigan, just south of Bridgman. Features include 3 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, picnicking, hang gliding, 15 miles of hiking trails, swimming, birding, nature study, cross country skiing, 211 modern campsites, 36 semi modern campsites and an organizational campground. Park attendance exceeds one million annually, making it one of the busiest parks in the mid-west.

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Grand Mere State Park

Grand Mere is 985 acres located on Lake Michigan in Lincoln Township. Grand Mere features 5,000 feet of Lake Michigan shoreline, 7 miles of hiking and cross country ski trails, nature study, swimming, and picnicking. Grand Mere was designated a, "National Natural Landmark" by the U.S. Government in 1968, recognizing the unique significance of the sites fresh water dune complex.

Warren Wood State Park

Warren Woods is 312 acres located in Chickaming Township. The property is managed as wildlife sanctuary and features a high quality beech-sugar maple forest and floodplain forest, hiking trails and nature study.

Private Recreation Resources

The following private recreation resources also contribute to the overall park and recreation system in the Buchanan area.

Brookwood Golf Course	Buchanan Township
Orchard Hills Country Club	Niles Township
Bear Cave	Buchanan Township
Redbud Track and Trail	Buchanan Township

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

PARKS INVENTORY	McCOY CREEK TRAIL																		
	Mc COY CREEK RECREATION AREA	27			16.4		12	5											
	KATHRYN PARK																		
	RAVISH PARK																		
	REDBUD RIVERFRONT PARK																		
	VICTORY PARK																		
	E. B. CLARK																		
	SMITH PARK																		
	TOT LOT																		
	Mc COY POND PARK																		
	SPAFFORD WOODS																		
	BUCHANAN GARDEN CLUB PARK																		
	FIREHOUSE PARK																		
	BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL																		
	BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL																		
	OTTAWA SCHOOL																		
STARK SCHOOL																			
MOCCASIN SCHOOL																			
TOTAL ACRES																			60.4

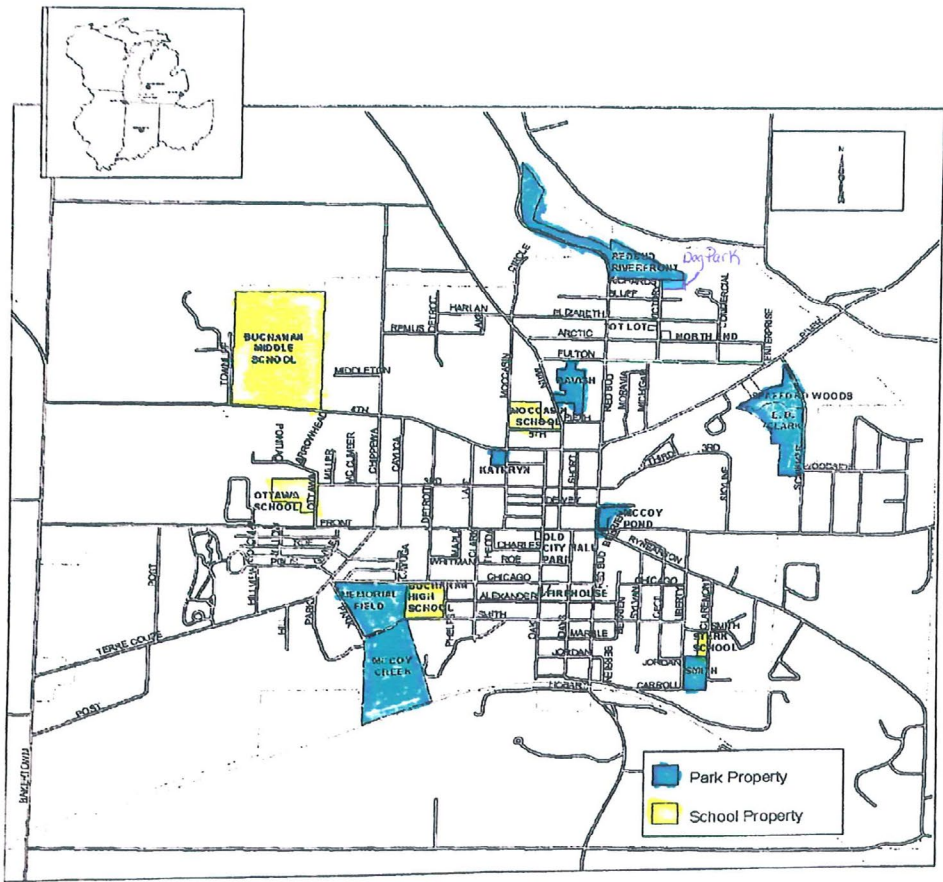
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK			1.2	5.4						9.7							16.3	
BLOCK PARK						.4		.2	1.1		.2	.3					2.2	
LINEAR PARK	4.3																4.3m	
SCHOOL PROPERTY													12	61	6	1.2	4.9	101.6

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

FACILITIES INVENTORY	McCoy Creek Recreation Area	Kathryn Park	Ravish Park	Redbud Riverfront Park	Victory Park	E.B. Clark	Smith Park	Spafford Woods	Firehouse Park	McCoy Pond Park	McCoy Creek Trail	Tot Lot	Buchanan Garden Club Park	BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL	BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL	OTTOWA	MOCCASIN	TOTALS	STANDARD	REQUIRED NUMBER	SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)
Baseball Fields	1						2											3	6000	1	2
Softball Fields	2		1												1	1		5	3000	2	5
Basketball Courts outside			2		1											1	1	5	5000	1	5
Basketball Courts inside														2	1	1	1	5	5000	1	4
Fishing Access	1			1														2	N/A		

Football Fields															1	3	1				5	20,000	0	5
Golf Course																					0	25,000	0	0
Handball Courts																					0	20,000	0	0
Horseshoe Pits	1																				1	N/A		
Ice Rinks																					0	20,000	0	0
Picnic Areas	1		1	1	1																4	N/A		
Grills					1																1	N/A		
Tables	1		1	1	1	1		1													6	N/A		
Playgrounds	1	1	1	1		1		1									1	1			8	N/A		
Covered Shelters	1		1	1										1							4	N/A		
Enclosed Shelters		1																			1	N/A		
Shuffleboard Courts																					0	N/A		
Sledding Hills	1																				1	40,000	0	1
Soccer Fields			1												1	2	4	1			9	10,000	1	8
Swimming Beach																					0	N/A		
Swimming Pool outdoor																					0	20,000	0	0
Tennis Courts outdoors														4							4	2,000	3	3
Cross Country Skiing Trails									1												1	N/A		
Hiking Trails					1		1			1											3	N/A		
Bicycle Trails										1											1	40,000	0	0

RECREATION INVENTORY AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Goals and Objectives which follow, guide the work of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board, and the preparation of this park and recreation plan.

Goal Statement

It is the mission of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board to plan, acquire, develop and maintain, in cooperation with the city, township, school district, and all interested individuals and groups, a responsive, efficient and innovative community parks and recreation delivery system available to all citizens, composed of a variety of services, park areas and special facilities that contribute to the well-being of the individual, the family and the attractiveness, social and economic health of the greater Buchanan community.

Objectives

- Be responsible to citizen needs.
- Encourage citizen participation in decision making.
- Assume responsibility for City-level park and recreation services planning.
- Cooperate with other government and recreation agencies, organizations, and groups involved in leisure services.
- Provide balanced services at affordable prices.
- Operate efficiently and effectively.
- Operate within available resources.
- Operate special facilities and activities on break even basis.
- Encourage citizen resources contributions.
- Support efforts for economic growth.
- Provide safe and secure parks and facility environment.
- Attract and retain competent and service oriented personnel at competitive wages.
- Increase physical beauty of all areas.
- Work cooperatively with other community organizations to improve the quality of life of Buchanan residents.

ACTION PLAN

This chapter sets forth a strategic plan of action for improvements to Buchanan City parks and recreation areas over the next five or more years.

The basis for each action is described in sufficient detail to promote an understanding of the need for each project and related benefits and how they relate to the goals and objectives identified previously.

The five-year action plan, which follows, is also intended to help guide the development of a detailed capital improvement budget each year.

ACTION PLAN SUMMARY	COST ESTIMATE
City Wide Totals	\$32,300
McCoy Creek Trail Project Totals	\$35,000
McCoy Creek Recreation Area	\$2,500
Dog Park	\$39,750
Kathryn Park	\$300
Seasonal Ice Rink	\$5,000
2017 TOTALS	\$114,850
City Wide Totals	\$13,500
McCoy Creek Recreation Area	\$50,000
McCoy Creek Trail Project	\$400,000
Ravish	\$3,500
Redbud Riverfront Park	\$1,000
2018 TOTALS	\$468,000
City Wide Totals	\$13,500
McCoy Creek Recreation Area	\$58,000
McCoy Creek Trail Project	\$10,000
2019 TOTALS	\$81,500
City Wide	\$13,500
McCoy Creek Recreation Area	\$58,000
2020 TOTALS	\$63,500
City Wide	\$13,500
McCoy Creek Recreation Area	\$50,000
McCoy Creek Trail Project	\$515,000
2021 TOTALS	\$578,500
GRAND TOTAL	1,306,350

Five Year Action Plan Proposal

Target Year	Park	Project	Cost Estimates	Potential Funding Sources	Project Details and Basis for Proposed Actions
2017	City Wide	Bicycle Rentals	\$15000	City	Design and create a bicycle share program.

2017	McCoy Creek Trail Project	Exercise Stations	\$30000	City/BARB	Installation of exercise stations along McCoy Creek Trail.
2017	City Wide	Geocache Network	\$300	City/BARB	Establish and maintain geocache locations in support of recreational benefit
2017	Kathryn	Community Garden	\$300	City/Private	Park beautification and community outreach
2017	Dog Park	Park improvement	\$39750	City/Private	Develop Park site and amenities
2017	City Wide	Playground Improvement	\$7500	City	Improve the safety, accessibility and play value of all the city's playgrounds. Bounce house
2017	City Wide	Park Endowment Fund	\$500	City	Establish City Park and Recreation Endowment Fund under the umbrella of the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation
2017	City Wide	Picnic Table Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Annual replacement of picnic table, boards and the addition of universal access tables
2017	City Wide	Grill Installation Program	\$1000	City	Initial installation of waist high grills in the city's parks
2017	City Wide	Bench Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Installation and replacement of park benches in all the city's parks
2017	City Wide	Drinking Fountain Replacement Program	\$5000	City	Installation or replacement of drinking fountains in all the city's parks
2017	City Wide	Horseshoe Pits	\$1000	City	Installation of regulation horseshoe pits in appropriate city parks
2017	McCoy Creek Trail Project	Maintenance of Phase I & II	\$5000	City/Private	
2017	McCoy Recreation Area	Bridge Maintenance	\$2500	City	Pedestrian bridge over McCoy Creek is in a state of disrepair and needs replacement
2017	Location TBD	Floodable Ice Rink	\$5000	City	Installation of a seasonal ice rink
2017 Total			\$114,550		
2018	City Wide	Playground Improvement	\$5000	City	Improve the safety, accessibility and play value of all the city's playgrounds.
2018	City Wide	Park Endowment Fund	\$500	City	Establish City Park and Recreation Endowment Fund under the umbrella of the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation
2018	City Wide	Picnic Table Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Annual replacement of picnic table, boards and the addition of universal access tables
2018	City Wide	Grill Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Replacement of waist high grills in the city's parks
2018	City Wide	Bench Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Installation and replacement of park benches in all the city's parks
2018	City Wide	Drinking Fountain Replacement Program	\$5000	City	Installation or replacement of drinking fountains in all the city's parks
2018	McCoy Recreation Area	Surface roadway to softball diamonds	\$50,000	City	Surface a portion of the roadway going to the softball diamonds, a section at a time, to serve both the trail and the softball fields
2018	McCoy Creek Trail Project	Phase III	\$400,000	Grants	Phase III of the Trail Project begins at Roe St. and runs south along the creek behind the Tin Shop Theatre. The trail then proceeds through Firehouse Park and links to Oak St. until it reaches Smith St. The trail then enters the purchased railroad bed and runs behind the DPW buildings to the McCoy Creek Recreation

					Area. Extend trail from EB Clark Woods to North River Park.
2018	Ravish	Landscaping	\$2500	City and Service Club	Replace the park entrance sign and add fencing around the parking area
2018	Ravish	Site Lighting	\$1000	City	
2018	Red Bud Riverfront Park	Master Plan	\$1000	City and State Waterways Fund	Red Bud Riverfront Park's 1,700 feet of frontage on the St. Joseph River provides public access to this major water resource. The park is underutilized at present and is in need of improvements. The entrance and parking area need to be surfaced. The boat launch, site lighting and furnishing are in need of replacement. It is recommended that a consulting firm be engaged to develop a master plan for this area.
2018 Total			\$468,000		
2019	City Wide	Playground Improvement	\$5000	City	Improve the safety, accessibility and play value of all the city's playgrounds.
2019	City Wide	Park Endowment Fund	\$500	City	Establish City Park and Recreation Endowment Fund under the umbrella of the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation
2019	City Wide	Picnic Table Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Annual replacement of picnic table, boards and the addition of universal access tables
2019	City Wide	Grill Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Replacement of waist high grills in the city's parks
2019	City Wide	Bench Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Installation and replacement of park benches in all the city's parks
2019	City Wide	Drinking Fountain Replacement Program	\$5000	City	Installation or replacement of drinking fountains in all the city's parks
2019	McCoy Creek R.A.	Surface roadway to softball diamonds	\$50,000	City	Surface a portion of the roadway going to the softball diamonds, a section a time, to serve both the trail and the softball fields
2019	McCoy Creek Trail Project	Maintenance of Phase I & II	\$10,000	City/Private	
2019	McCoy Creek R.A.	Landscaping	\$5000	City	Replacement of deteriorated landscaping
2019	McCoy Creek R.A.	Upgrade entrance	\$2000	City	New entrance sign and landscaping
2019	McCoy Creek R.A.	Shelter maintenance	\$1000	City	Shingle shelter roof
2019 Totals			\$81,500		
2020	City Wide	Playground Improvement	\$5000	City	Improve the safety, accessibility and play value of all the city's playgrounds.
2020	City Wide	Park Endowment Fund	\$500	City	Establish City Park and Recreation Endowment Fund under the umbrella of the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation
2020	City Wide	Picnic Table Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Annual replacement of picnic table, boards and the addition of universal access tables
2020	City Wide	Grill Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Replacement of waist high grills in the city's parks
2020	City Wide	Bench Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Installation and replacement of park benches in all the city's parks

Target Year	Park	Project	Cost Estimates	Potential Funding Sources	Project Details and Basis for Proposed Actions
2020	City Wide	Drinking Fountain Replacement Program	\$5000	City	Installation or replacement of drinking fountains in all the city's parks
2020	McCoy Recreation Area	Surface roadway to softball diamonds	\$50,000	City	Surface a portion of the roadway going to the softball diamonds, a section a time, to serve both the trail and the softball fields
2020 Totals			\$63,500		
2021	McCoy Creek Trail Project	Phase III	\$500,000	Private, City and Grants	Phase III of the Non-Motorized McCoy Creek Trail Project begins at Schirmer Parkway to River St. It then crosses River St. and enters a residential neighborhood that will connect with Redbud Riverfront Park.
2021	City Wide	Playground Improvement	\$5000	City	Improve the safety, accessibility and play value of all the city's playgrounds.
2021	City Wide	Park Endowment Fund	\$500	City	Establish City Park and Recreation Endowment Fund under the umbrella of the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation
2021	City Wide	Picnic Table Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Annual replacement of picnic table, boards and the addition of universal access tables
2021	City Wide	Grill Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Replacement of waist high grills in the city's parks
2021	City Wide	Bench Replacement Program	\$1000	City	Installation and replacement of park benches in all the city's parks
2021	City Wide	Drinking Fountain Replacement Program	\$5000	City	Installation or replacement of drinking fountains in all the city's parks
2021	McCoy Recreation Area	Surface roadway to softball diamonds	\$50,000	City	Surface a portion of the roadway going to the softball diamonds, a section a time, to serve both the trail and the softball fields
2021	McCoy Creek Trail Project	Maintenance of Phase I, II, and III	\$15,000	Private	Endowment Fund has been established with Michigan Gateway Foundation
2021	McCoy Creek Trail Project	Phase IV	500,000	Private	Extension of Phase II into the Fen then to Bakertown Road, linking up with US-12 connection of the Berrien County Non-Motorized trail from Niles to New Buffalo
TOTALS			\$1,078,500		

PARK SYSTEM FINANCING

Day to day operations and maintenance, and execution of the five year capital improvements schedule require significant financial resources. A number of alternative funding sources are examined below.

General Fund Support

Property taxes through the City's General Fund Budget have traditionally been the principle means of support for the City's Park and Recreation Budget. It is hoped that strong General Fund Support will continue in the future. However, as a non- mandated City function, The BARB is vulnerable to cutbacks during periods of financial challenges for the City. Realistically, the potential for significant increases in General Fund Support to finance new initiatives is limited.

User Fees

User fees are not a significant source of operating revenue at the present time. User fees including park admission fees, league registration fees, etc. can effectively offset a portion of annual operating costs but are not a realistic source of funding for capital improvements.

General Obligation Bonds

Under Michigan State Law, municipalities can issue General Obligation Bonds against anticipated tax receipts. The advantage for park and recreation development is that larger amounts of funds can be committed to satisfy the costs of major facility development. The disadvantages of issuing General Obligation Bonds are that they commit the City to a long payback, usually 15 to 25 years, with interest charges on borrowings.

PARK SYSTEM FINANCING

Millage

A voted millage for parks and recreation services is an extremely stable source of financing park operations and facility development. A dedicated parks millage is often the only reliable mechanism to finance significant facility expansion and development in a timely manner. Millage generated revenue can also supply local matching funds requires to access state and federal recreation grants.

Revenue bonds

In some instances, recreation facilities will generate revenue for operations and income stream sufficient to retire principle and interest on revenue bonds. Before this method of capital financing is chosen, it is imperative to develop a detailed analysis of costs and debt retirement.

Gifts and Donations

Although gifts are an unpredictable source of funds, they can play a vital role in the development of a park system. The board should seek and encourage gifts of land, money, materials and services from local residents, service organizations, business and industry. The BARB should identify and market specific projects and programs within the Plan, which may have appeal to private donors.

The BARB should also explore the establishment of an independent foundation with 501(c) (3) tax exempt status. The creation of an endowment fund organized and authorized to accept gifts and bequests, could provide a strong financial base for funding special projects in the future. Future assets from an endowment fund can become a viable source of local maturing funds, necessary to access state recreation grants.

PARK SYSTEM FINANCING

Private Partnerships

Opportunities for joint development projects with the private sector, on City land, should be continuously explored. Partnerships of this type can be structured to provide a steady income stream to the City while also providing meaningful recreation opportunities to the community.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The federal funding program is administered through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) that provides 50% matching grant funds for projects that meet “outdoor” recreation needs of the City. The funds can be used for land acquisition, facility design, and development. Appropriations for this federal program have declined dramatically in recent years.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

The purpose of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) is to acquire lands or rights to land for public recreation use, to protect land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty, and to develop public recreation facilities. Funds from the program are derived from oil, gas, or other mineral lease or royalty payments. The primary goals of the program include protection of the State’s natural resources, public access to water bodies, and improvement of urban recreation opportunities and stimulation of the State’s economy through recreation related tourism and community revitalization.

There are no minimum or maximum dollar amounts to acquisition projects. Development projects with costs between \$15,000 and \$500,000 are eligible for consideration. Local grant proposals must guarantee a local match of “at least” 25% of the total costs.

The MNRTF is the primary source of grant funds in the State today with over \$20 million available annually on a statewide competitive basis. Approximately 25% of the total is authorized for development projects with the remainder devoted to land acquisition.

PARK SYSTEM FINANCING

Michigan Coastal Management Program

The Michigan Coastal Management Program administers the Nongame Wildlife Program which provides limited funds for projects addressing nongame wildlife species and their habitats.

Objectives under the program include:

- Increasing people's enjoyment, understanding, and appreciation of precious wildlife and plant species.
- Preserving populations of desirable nongame wildlife species and their habitat.

Grants of up to \$4,000 are provided to local units of government, universities, private individuals, and organizations who meet basic eligibility requirements including the demonstration of project need and expected year round use and programming of the proposed facility or activity. Local applicants must match 50% of the grant funds requested.

Michigan Inland Fisheries Cooperative Grants Program

The program was established in 1986 and is administered by the Fisheries Division, MDNR operating on an annual appropriation of \$200,000. The program is intended to assist local units of government, conservation clubs, and individuals wishing to undertake projects which contribute to the enhancement of Michigan's inland fishery.

Specific criteria which must be met in order for a project to receive favorable consideration include the following:

- Project must be consistent with MDNR Fishery Division
- Project must have public support
- Project must be initiated in the calendar year the grant is awarded
- Project must benefit a positive cost-benefit ratio
- Project must provide evidence of land control for proposed project area

Individual grants of up to \$20,000 are available. Applicants must match the grant amount with in-kind services and/or cash.

PARK SYSTEM FINANCING

Waterways Fund Program

The Waterway Fund Program administered by the MDNR assists local governments in providing increased public access to the State's water resource. Eligible projects include harbors of refuge, docking, and boat launch facilities. Funding from the program is derived from the State gasoline tax, MDNR revenue producing operations, watercraft sales tax, and registration fees.

Grants-in-Aid for the construction of recreational boating facilities, equal 50% of the total project costs, are made to local units of government. Eligible costs include engineering and construction. The sponsoring municipality seeking a grant must own the land and agree to operate and maintain the completed facility.

APPENDIX

Notice Inviting Public Comment	A
Public Hearing Notice	B
Resolution of Plan Adoption	C
Letters of Transmittal to County and Regional Plan Commissions	D
Aerial Photographs of Parks and Schools	E
McCoy Creek Trail Project	F

Appendix A: Notice Inviting Public Comment

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

IN THE MATTER OF

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF BUCHANAN
BERRIEN COUNTY
BUCHANAN COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN
AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

September 15, 2016

Public Notice
City of Buchanan, Michigan
Berrien County

A draft of the Buchanan Community Recreation Plan will be available for public review and comment at the Buchanan City Hall, 302 Red Bud Trail, Buchanan, Michigan 49107 from September 15 to October 15, 2016. Public input is sought to ensure the PLAN reflects community recreation needs and priorities for improving parks and recreation over the next five or more years. Public comments may be sent to the City Hall address. Attention: City Clerk or given in person at the October 19, 2016 Buchanan Area Recreation Board meeting at 6 p.m. at Buchanan City Hall.

Improved maintenance and modest upgrades to all our parks include; picnic tables, benches, grills, drinking fountains, horseshoe pits, seasonal ice rink, Dog Park, Geocaching, Community Gardens and road improvements to our high use McCoy Creek Recreation Area are identified in this plan. Also identified is the ongoing development of the McCoy's Creek Trail Project Phase III.

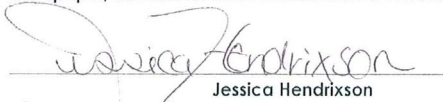
Mandi Schanick
Recording Secretary
Publish September 15, 2016

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
County of Berrien

Jessica Hendrixson being duly sworn, deposes and says the annexed printed copy of a notice was taken from the Berrien County Record, a newspaper printed and circulated in said State and County, and that said notice was published in said newspaper on:

September 15,

A.D. 2016, that she is the agent of the printers of said newspaper, and knows well the facts stated therein.


Jessica Hendrixson

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this

4th day of October A.D. 2016

My commission expires:



CHRISTOPHER ALLEN FLECK
NOTARY PUBLIC
SEAL
STATE OF INDIANA
My Commission Expires June 28, 2019

Notary in Berrien Co, MI

Appendix B: Public Hearing Notice

AFFP
Thursday, September 29, 2016 NO

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF MICHIGAN }
COUNTY OF BERRIEN } SS

Thursday,
September 29, 2016

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF BUCHANAN, MICHIGAN
BERRIEN COUNTY

Angie Marciniak, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Ad Assistant of the Niles Daily Star, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in , Berrien County, Michigan; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

October 03, 2016

The BUCHANAN AREA RECREATION BOARD will hold a public hearing at 6:00 pm on October 19, 2016 at the Buchanan City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI, for the purpose of hearing public comments prior to adopting the BUCHANAN COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN. The City of Buchanan will be eligible to receive state and federal recreation grants upon submittal and approval by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

At the above time and place all interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard. Written correspondence can be submitted to the City Clerks office at City Hall.

Mandi Schanick
Recording Secretary
City of Buchanan

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Ad Assistant

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 3rd day of October 2016.



Donna Knight, Notary Public, Berrien County, MI

My commission expires: June 20, 2021

a0108674 00029093

Gladys Bybee
City of Buchanan
302 N. Redbud Trail
Buchanan, MI 49107



**City of Buchanan
BUCHANAN AREA RECREATION BOARD
AGENDA
October 19, 2016
6:00 p.m.**

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Call to Order** Invite and hear public comments at which time interested parties are invited to express public comments regarding the Buchanan Area Recreation Board’s 5-year Recreational Plan
- III. Adjourn**

**City of Buchanan
BUCHANAN AREA RECREATION BOARD
AGENDA
October 19, 2016
6:10 p.m.**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Approval of Agenda**
- IV. Approval of Minutes** – September 21, 2016
- V. Financial Reports**
- VI. Committee Reports**
 - A. BYSBA
 - B. Trail Committee Update
 - C. PLAY Update
 - D. Have fun at Buchanan Parks
 - E. Community Garden at Kathryn Park
 - F. Geocache
 - G. Dog Park Update
- VII. Unfinished Business**
 - A. 5 Year Plan Resolution of Buchanan Community Recreation Plan Adoption
- VIII. New Business**
- IX. Park Inspection Reports**
- X. Business from the Floor**
- XI. Board Member Comments**
- XII. Staff Comments**
- XIII. Adjourn**

302 Redbud Trail North • Buchanan, Michigan 49107
Tel: (269) 695-3844 • Fax: (269) 695-4330
www.cityofbuchanan.com

**Buchanan Area Recreation Board Minutes
City of Buchanan, Michigan
October 19, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.**

Public Hearing

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Recreation Board for the City of Buchanan was held at City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, Michigan Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. and applicable notice provided as required by Act 267 of the Public Acts of 1976. Jim Toth called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

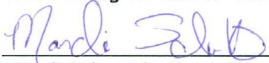
ROLL CALL

Members present: James Toth, Bill Marx, Dave Perez, Brittany McBain
Members absent: Lonnie Hoover, Ashley Hanson, Patricia Moore
Staff/Visitors present: Recording Secretary Mandi Schanick, Jacky Vigansky

CALL TO ORDER – Invite and hear public comments at which time interested parties are invited to express public comments regarding the Buchanan Area Recreation Board’s 5-year Recreational Plan – No Public Comments

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, *The Jim Toth adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.*



Mandi Schanick, Recording Secretary



Jim Toth, Board Member

Appendix C: Resolutions of Plan Adoption

Buchanan Area Recreation Board (BARB) 2017-2021 Buchanan Community Recreation Plan Resolution

The Buchanan Area Recreation Board adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is a primary function of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board to maintain a current plan for City parks, recreation areas, facilities, and programs, and

WHEREAS, the Board has analyzed the cultural and physical resources of the City, including an inventory of existing recreation facilities, and

WHEREAS, the Board has established a plan of action for the improvement of park facilities and recreational opportunities in Buchanan

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2017-2021 Buchanan Community Recreation Plan is hereby adopted by the Buchanan Area Recreation Board as a reference document for future decision-making.

AYES, AND IN FAVOR OF: 5

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Marx; Jim Toth; Patricia Moore; Brittany McBain; Dave Perez

ABSENT: Lonny Hoover; Ashley Hanson

NAYS: 0

Respectfully Adopted: October 19, 2016

Mandi Schanick, Recording Secretary

RESOLUTION 2016.10/ _____
CITY OF BUCHANAN, COUNTY OF BERRIEN, MICHIGAN
A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A FIVE YEAR PARK AND RECREATION PLAN
FOR THE CITY OF BUCHANAN

WHEREAS, the Buchanan City Commission unanimously approved the Five Year Park and Recreation Plan at its regular public meeting held October 24, 2016, and

WHEREAS, it is a primary function of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board to maintain a current plan for City parks and recreation areas, facilities and programs, and

WHEREAS, the Buchanan Area Recreation Board has analyzed the cultural and physical resources of the City including an inventory of existing recreation facilities, and

WHEREAS, the Buchanan Area Recreation Board has established a plan of action for the improvement of park facilities and recreational opportunities in Buchanan, and

WHEREAS, the Buchanan Area Recreation Board held a Public Hearing to invite and hear comments about the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2017-2021 Buchanan Community Recreation Plan is hereby adopted by the Buchanan City Commission as a reference document for future decision making.

At a regular meeting of the City of Buchanan, County of Berrien, State of Michigan (the "City"), held in said City on Monday, October 24, 2016 the Resolution was offered by Commissioner Moore and supported by Commissioner Cole.


YEAS: Carla Cole, Brenda Hess, Dale Toerne, Patricia Moore, Dan Vigansky

NAYS: none

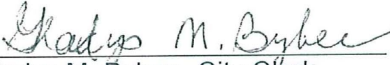
ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED this 24th day of October, 2016.



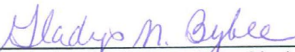
 Carla M. Cole, Mayor



 Gladys M. Bybee, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Commission of the City of Buchanan, County of Berrien, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on the 24th day of October, 2016, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said act.



 Gladys M. Bybee, City Clerk

Appendix D: Letters of Transmittal



November 15, 2016

Southwestern Michigan Planning Commission
185 E. Main Street, Suite 701
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Berrien County Planning Commission
Administration Center
701 Main Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085

RE: Buchanan Community Recreation Plan 2016-2021

The above reference plan is submitted herewith pursuant to community recreation planning requirements of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 269-695-3844.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "William Marx", is written over the typed name.

William Marx,
City Manager

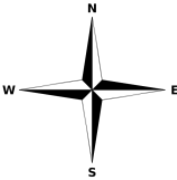
WM:ms

enclosure

302 Redbud Trail North • Buchanan, Michigan 49107
Tel: (269) 695-3844 • Fax: (269) 695-4330
www.cityofbuchanan.com

Appendix E: Aerial Photographs of Parks and Schools

The Commons/Pears Mill/Community Center



Firehouse Park



Kathryn Park



Buchanan Garden Club Park



McCoy Creek Recreation Area



McCoy Pond Park



Ravish Park



Redbud Riverfront Park



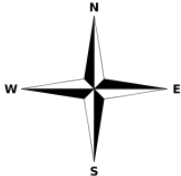
Smith Park

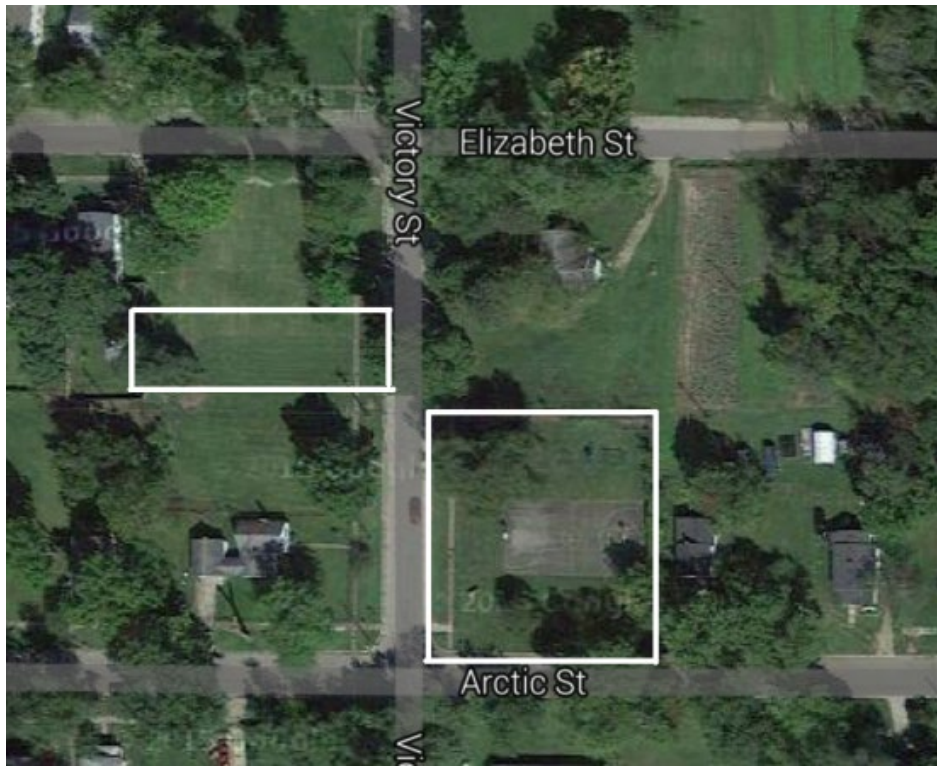


Spafford Woods and E.B. Clark



Tot Lot and Victory Park





Buchanan High School



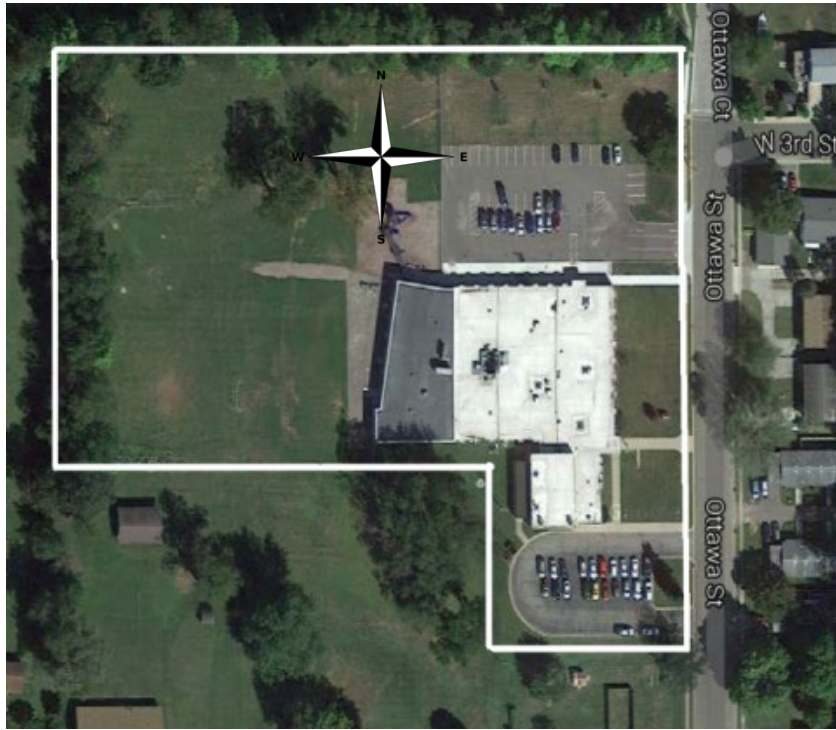
Buchanan Middle School



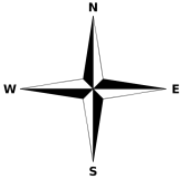
Moccasin Elementary School



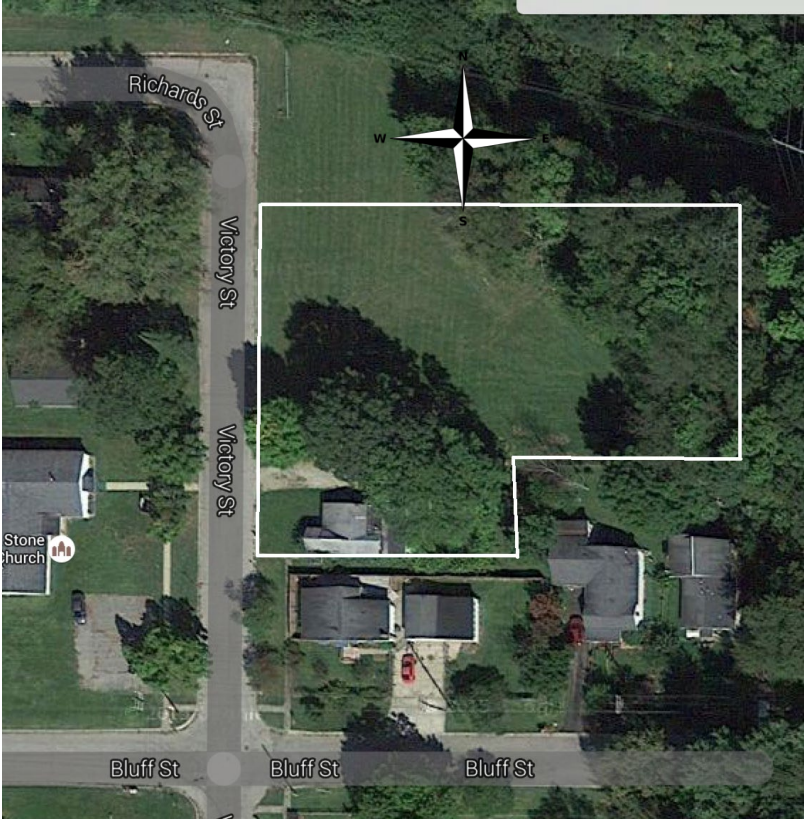
Ottawa Elementary School



Stark Elementary School



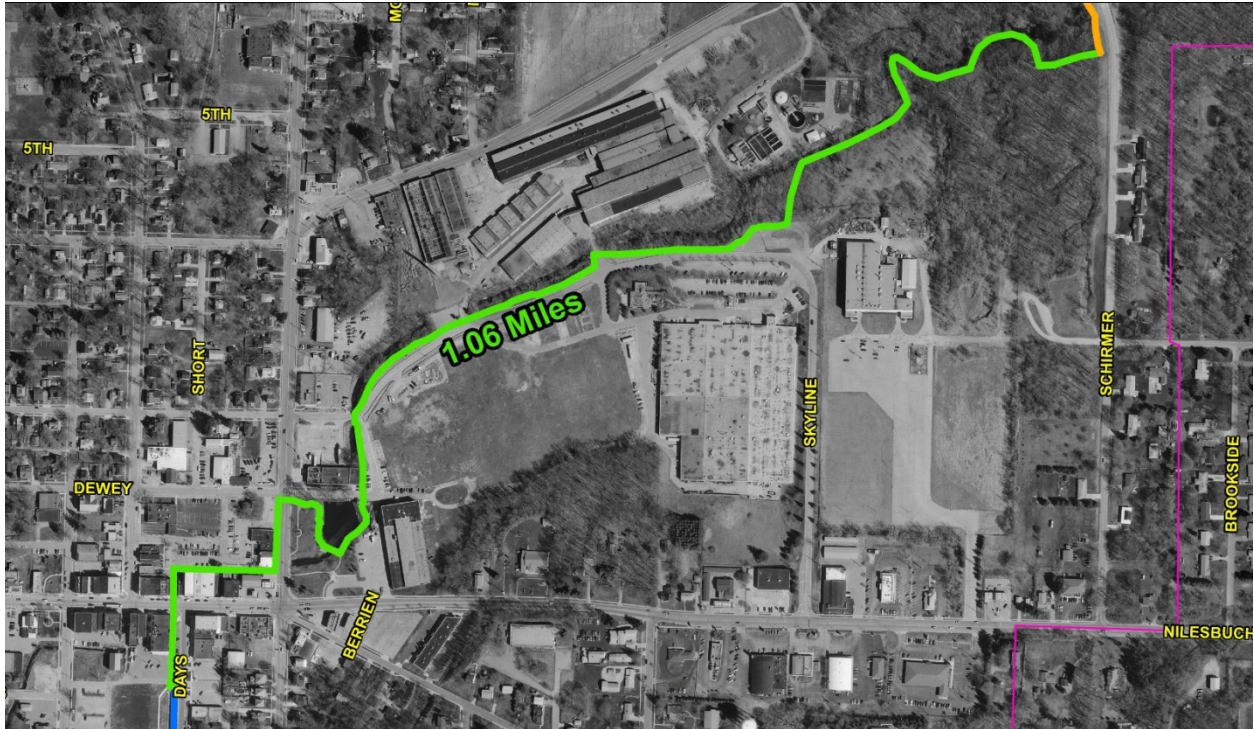
Dog Park



Appendix F: McCoy Creek Trail Project

McCoy's Creek Trail Project

Phase I



McCoy's Creek Trail Project

Phase II



McCoy's Creek Trail Project

Phase III

