



Melrose Township Parks and Recreation Plan Update

January 23, 2023

Introductions

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Plan Update

- Seasonal Population Study
 - See additional handout
- Community Survey Results
 - Full results provided
- Needs Assessment
- Goals and Objectives



Seasonal Population Study

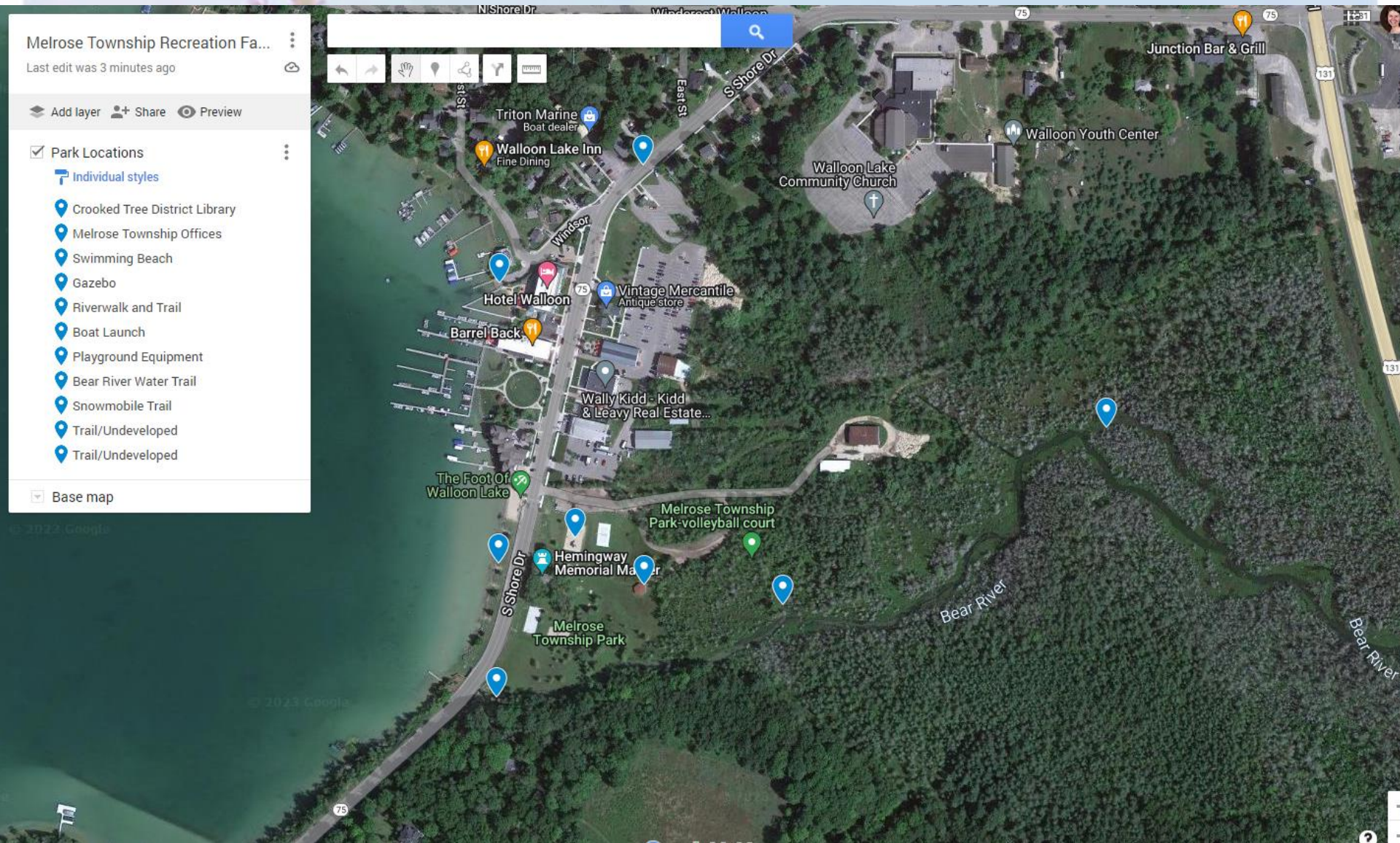
SEASONAL POPULATION STUDY FOR NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN

Published October, 2022

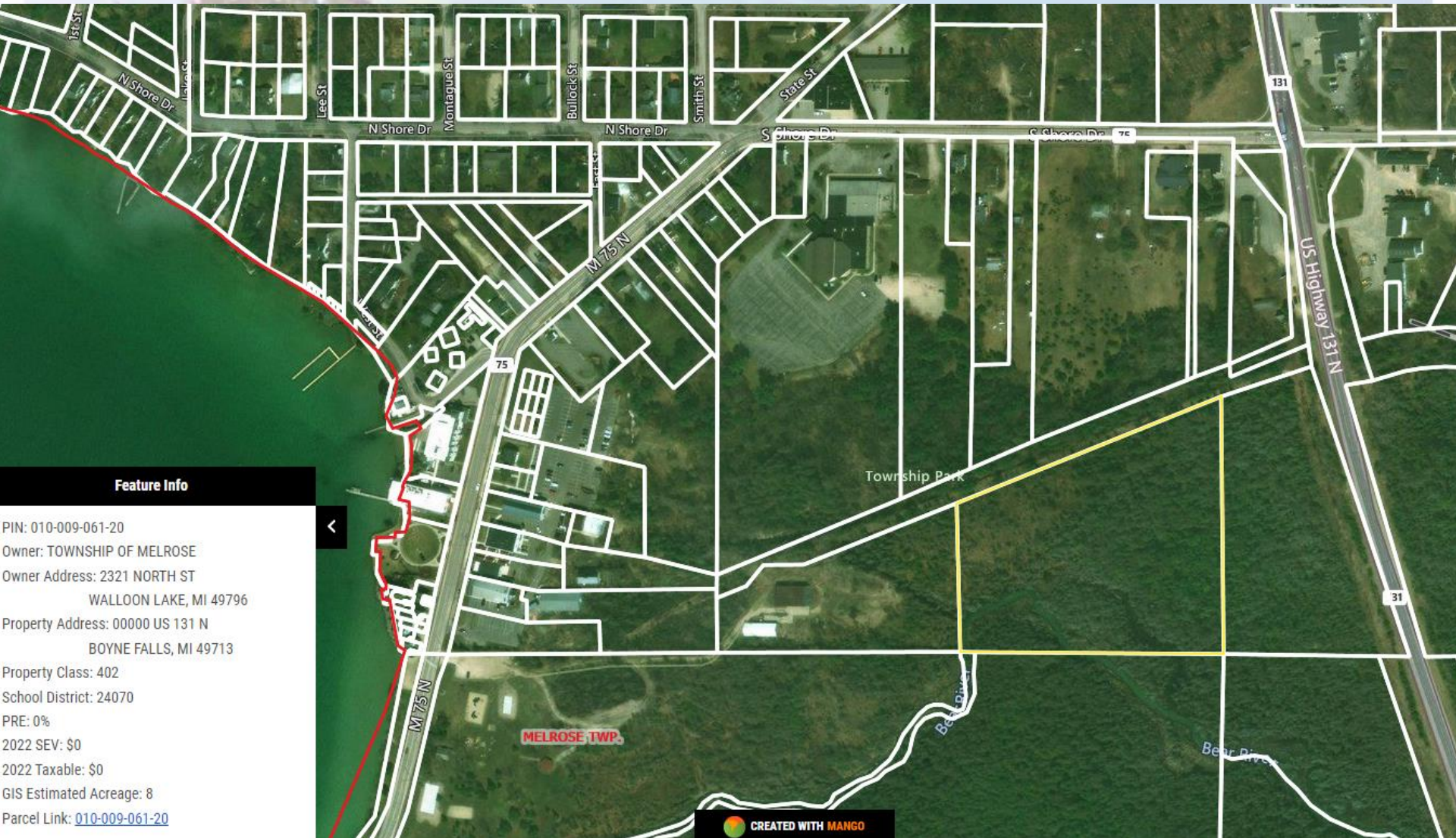
Networks  Northwest
Talent / Business / Community



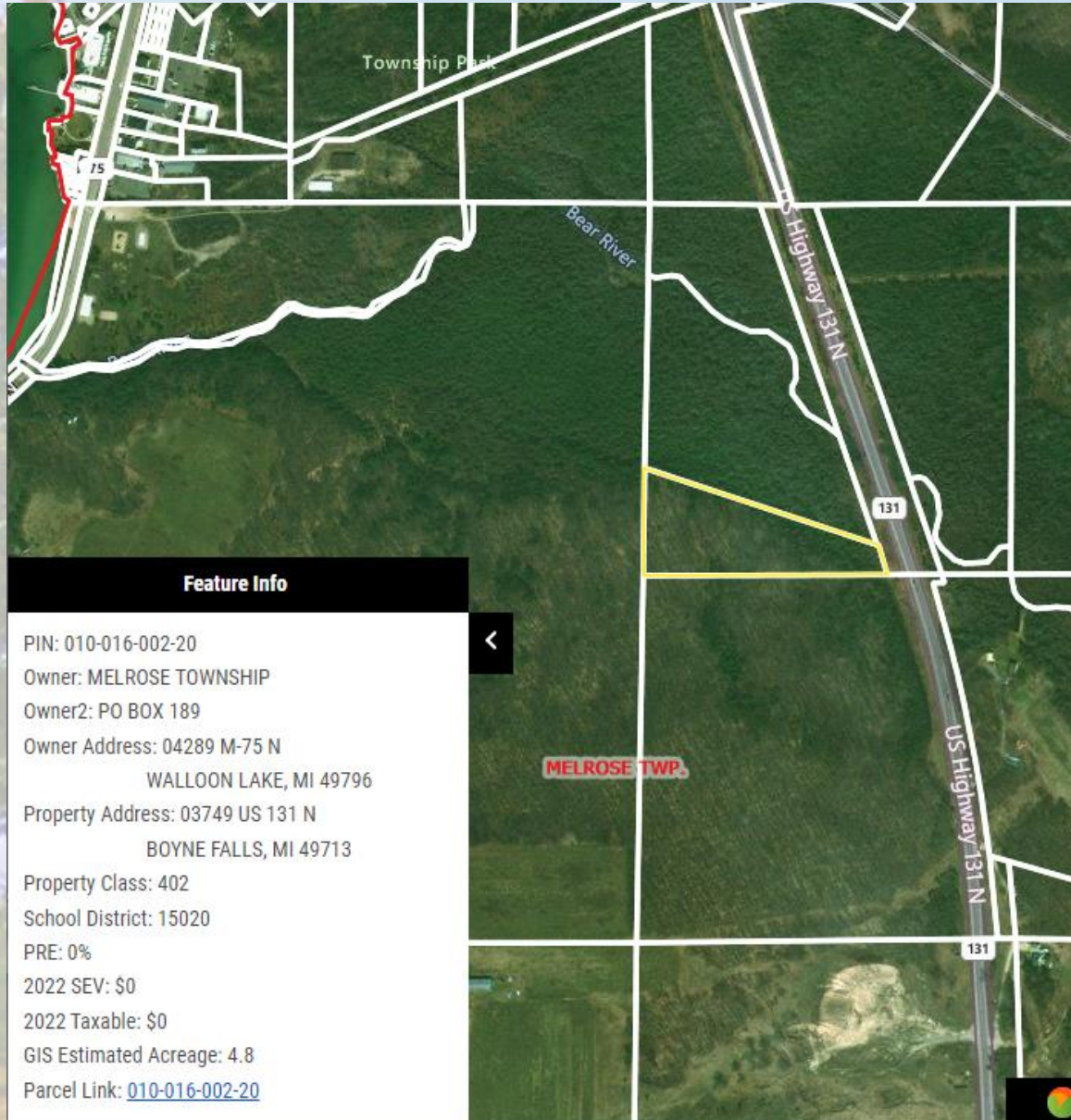
Facility Locations



Trail / Undeveloped Property Locations



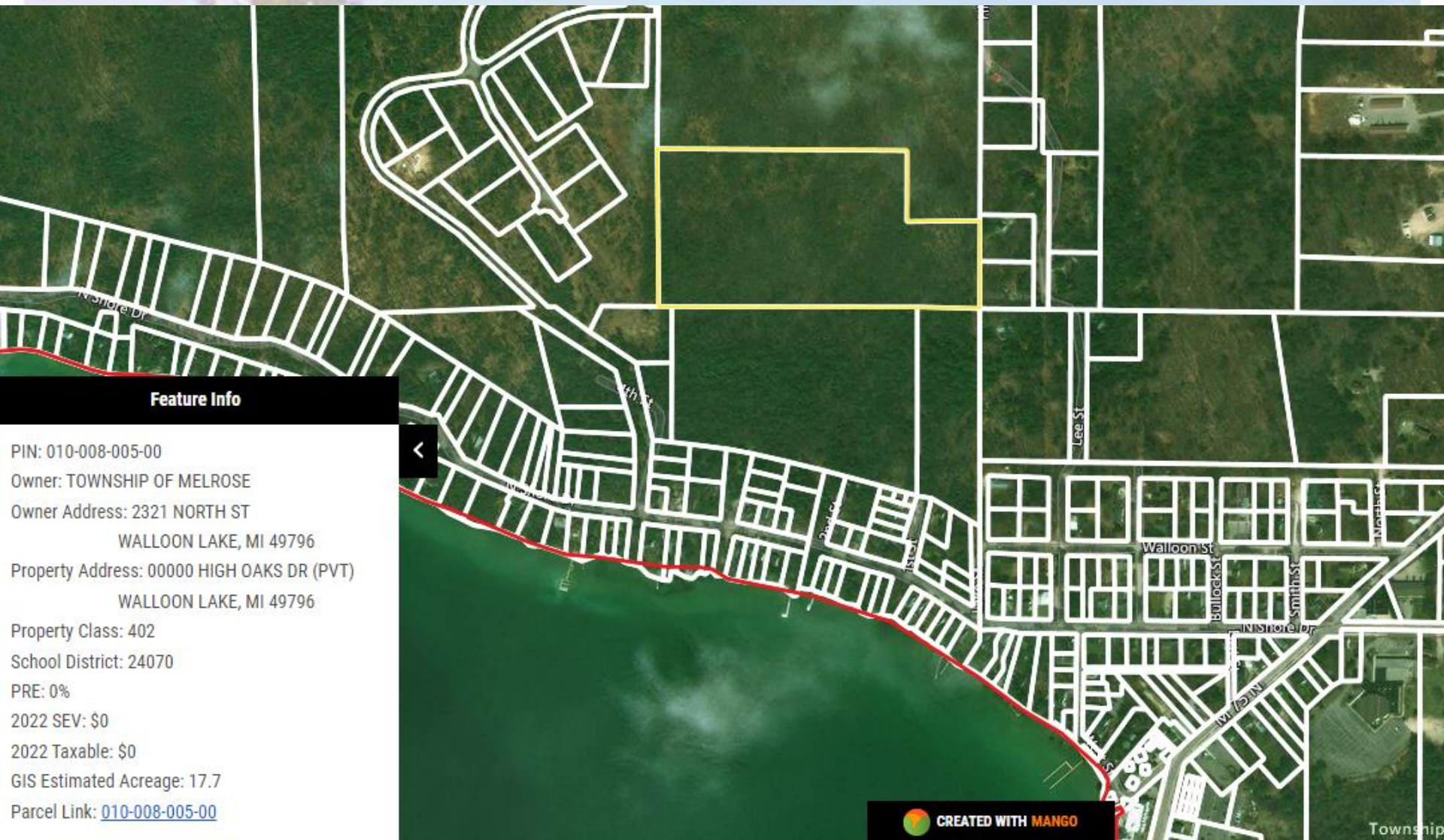
Trail / Undeveloped Property Locations



Feature Info

PIN: 010-016-002-20
Owner: MELROSE TOWNSHIP
Owner2: PO BOX 189
Owner Address: 04289 M-75 N
WALLOON LAKE, MI 49796
Property Address: 03749 US 131 N
BOYNE FALLS, MI 49713
Property Class: 402
School District: 15020
PRE: 0%
2022 SEV: \$0
2022 Taxable: \$0
GIS Estimated Acreage: 4.8
Parcel Link: [010-016-002-20](#)

Trail / Undeveloped Property Locations



Community Survey Results



Link shared on handouts, social media, newsletter, and on website

<https://www.networksnorthwest.org/community/projects/melrose-township-parks-and-recreation-plan.html>

15 Questions; Available July through January

102 total responses

Community Survey Results

A complete set of results are shared

Some things to note:

Question 4: What other parks and recreation sites do you use locally?

- 4 for boat launch, 1 kayak launch
- 13 for walking trails
- 9 for biking trails
- 3 for pickleball
- Other sites that came up frequently
 - Jones Landing (5), Young State Park (6), Petoskey Parks (17), Conservancy land (8)

Community Survey Results

Question 5: What is your preferred recreation area?

- Playground equipment and swimming beach both received 15 votes
- Pickleball received 4 write-in votes beating the Bear Hill Trail, Township Hall and Fire Station, ORV & Snowmobile Trails, and the Bear River Water Trail

Community Survey Results

Question 6: Overall, how would you rate Melrose Township parks and recreation facilities?

- The Library rated highest with 31 “excellent” votes
- Except for the library, facilities sat squarely in the “good” category
- Playground equipment and swimming beach both received 5 “poor” votes – highest of any facility

Community Survey Results

Question 7: What recreational activities do you and members of your household enjoy?

1. Beach / Lake Swimming – 60 votes
2. Walking / Running – 54 votes
3. Farmers' Market – 52 votes

Playground received 44 votes and pickleball received 22 votes

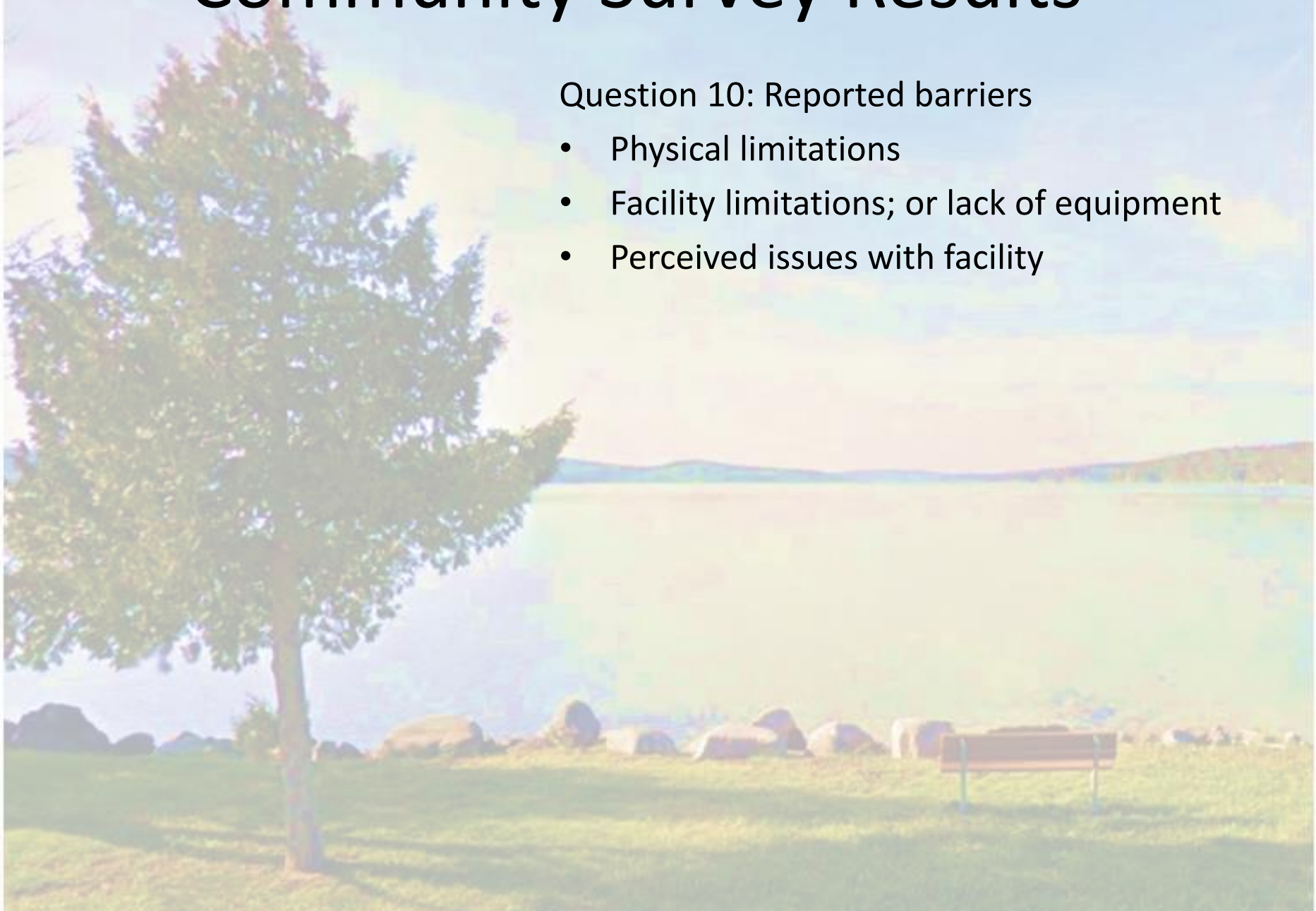
Question 8: How often do you participate in your preferred activity?

- 29 votes for Weekly

Community Survey Results

Question 10: Reported barriers

- Physical limitations
- Facility limitations; or lack of equipment
- Perceived issues with facility



Community Survey Results

Boat Launch Recommendations

- Tight space
- Conflicts with traffic
- Site access
- Difficult for rental companies
- Needs repaving
- Needs boat wash station
- Signage for rules and public education



Community Survey Results

Playground Equipment Recommendations

- Regular bathroom maintenance
- Restroom improvements
- Basketball court improvements
- Playground equipment maintenance
- Play equipment for different ages (little and big kids)
- Install tennis courts
- More playground equipment

Community Survey Results

The background of the slide is a photograph of a park. On the left, there is a large, full-canopied green tree. In the middle ground, there is a calm body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river. In the foreground, there is a grassy area with a wooden bench. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Gazebo Recommendations

- Regular maintenance (paint, clean up)
- Add benches and weathervane
- Build more modern structure

Riverwalk and Trail Improvements

- Need solid or raised surface
- Too muddy
- Need signage

Community Survey Results

The background of the slide is a scenic photograph of a lake. On the left, a large, dark green evergreen tree stands prominently. In the foreground, a grassy field leads to a wooden bench. The lake stretches across the middle ground, with distant hills visible under a clear blue sky.

Swimming Beach Recommendations

- More parking
- Safety concern; rules enforcement
- Water quality concern
- Beach cleanliness and aesthetic improvement

Bear Hill Trail Improvements

- Don't know where it is – need signage

Community Survey Results



Township Hall and Fire Station Recommendations

- Building and facility redone
- Flower beds

Library and ORV & Snowmobile Trails Recommendations

- None

Community Survey Results

Question 13: Are there additional recreation facilities and/or opportunities that you would like to see in the Township that are not provided at present?

- Pickleball (4)
- Winter activities (2)
- Splash pad (3)
- Walk / bike trails (7)
- Shooting range (1)
- Dog park (1)
- Kayak / canoe launch (1)
- Movies (1)
- Indoor play area (1)

Community Survey Results

Question 14: Tell us your big idea for Melrose Township parks and recreation?

- Public swimming pool with lap swim & water aerobics & lessons
- Like the park in the center of town with gazebo. Would like to see summer concerts
- Boat ramp attendant needed to monitor traffic and parking at the launch.
- Parking signs, trail signs, distance indicated, degree of difficulty indicated, playground equip suitable for which age group, I don't know if avail or not but a changing station avail for parents/ babies,

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Preserve and expand access to open space and natural resources in Melrose Township

Goal 2: Ensure that all Township recreation facilities are well-maintained

Goal 3: Increase Township's involvement in environmental stewardship and in the Little Traverse Bay Watershed Protection Plan

Goal 4: Expand opportunities for year-round recreation in Melrose Township

Goal 5: Improve communication of recreational opportunities in and around the Township to Township residents and visitors

Next Steps

- Review partial draft plan (recreation inventory)
- Prepare strategies for improvement
- Any questions??

