

# Manistee County-Wide Park & Recreation Plan Update

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## Worksheet for Local Stakeholders

### Instructions

Thank you for helping in this important effort to update the Manistee County-Wide Park & Recreation Plan. This worksheet and the subsequent discussion with Networks Northwest regarding the responses to each section will help to ensure that the county-wide plan accurately describes the direction the community is seeking to go.

Please read each section's directions, review the information provided and detail updates that will go into the 2022-2026 plan. This worksheet should be completed by either an individual or group that is very knowledgeable about parks and recreation in your municipality.

### City of Manistee

#### Item 1 - DNR-Funded Projects

Below is a list of projects from the 2016-2020 county-wide plan that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has funded. The DNR requires all parks and recreation plans to list projects that it has funded. Please review the table and provide any and all updates or additional projects that have taken place since 2016.

Project #	Applicant	Title	Year	Amount	Status	Description
26-001 2B	City of Manistee	First Street Beach Ramp	1972	\$81,450.00	Closed	Development of parking lot, comfort station, lift station, underground wiring and landscaping at boat launch.
26-002 44	City of Manistee	Manistee City Marina Park	1972	\$98,500.00	Closed	Acquire two parcels of land to develop for grading, landscaping, sidewalks and steps, retaining wall, benches, waste receptacles & picnic tables.
26-011 01 F	City of Manistee	Sands Park	1980	\$16,750.00	Closed	Two fenced tennis courts, drinking fountain, playground, landscaping.
BF89-4 61	City of Manistee	Sands Park Restoration	1989	\$34,650.00	Closed	Replace shelter house & lighting, restrooms, fencing, irrigation system.
26-015 04	City of Manistee	Barrier Free Marina Project	1991	\$81,000.00	Closed	Renovation of bathhouse, marina access ramp/walkway, replace fuel tanks.

TF91-1 47	City of Manistee	Manistee Riverwalk West	1991	\$375,000.00	Closed	Develop 3,000' elevated lighted boardwalk from Manistee Marina to First Street Beach on Lake Michigan.
TF94-2 40	City of Manistee	Manistee Riverfront Park	1994	\$375,000.00	Closed	Develop additional 550 of lighted riverwalk including handicapped access area, benches, signage, shore protection/landscaping to east of US-31
BF98-2 94	City of Manistee	Lake Michigan Public Access	1998	\$40,000.00	Closed	Build trail and parking lot to provide additional access to a mile of City-owned Lake Michigan shoreline.
TF07-0 40	City of Manistee	Man Made Lake Acquisition	2007	\$2,015,000.00	Closed	Acquisition of 23 acres, with 1,350 feet of frontage on Lake Michigan and 1,700 feet of frontage on the 10 acre Man Made lake for passive rec.
TF11-0 6	City of Manistee	Manistee First St. Beach House	2011	\$280,000.00	Closed	Development to include removal and replacement of First St. Beach House in Douglas Park. Universally accessible.
26-017 31	City of Manistee	Rotary Park Play Area	2013	\$48,000.00	NPS	Universally accessible, ADA-compliant play area for children.

## Item 2 - Community Description

This community description was provided by a local official from your municipality during the previous park and recreation planning process. Please look over this description and make sure that it accurately answers the following questions:

- What is your community known for, both internally (to residents) and externally (to visitors)?
- What in your community are residents most proud of?
- What recreation opportunities are present in your community? (please mention parks, trails, water access, camping, etc.) – you do not need to note every recreation site in your municipality. A table will note each site in the final plan. Please provide a narrative that describes recreation generally in your community.

Description from previous plan:

It is the beauty and natural wonder that abounds in the region's forests, lakes and rivers that remain a constant factor and will always make Manistee a special place to live and visit. The city is located at the mouth of the Manistee River on Lake Michigan, a part of northwestern Michigan. Historic Manistee, the Victorian port city, has a river walk running through downtown to Lake Michigan to enjoy. You will find activities for all personalities, from the adventurous winter sports to the casual strolls along the beach. Manistee is your four season's destination for adventures, excitement and relaxation. The city is a paradise for water and sports enthusiasts and is known as the "Fishing Capitol of the Midwest." The abundance of nearby outdoor activities, beaches and trails are second to none.

Manistee has a vast natural beauty and a "hometown" feeling, and cultural arts include the historic Ramsdell Theatre, Manistee Symphony Orchestra, Manistee Art Institute, dance studios, and art

galleries. The city is also home to nearly 150 businesses and community resources. River Street features an eclectic mix of retail shops, antique stores and restaurants.

The City of Manistee contains the largest population within Manistee County. Abundant recreation sites can be found throughout the community in the form of neighborhood and regional parks, as well as preservation of beach access for the public and linear trails and walkways through the City.

Both the Douglas Recreation Area/1st St. Beach and the 5th Ave. Beach provide abundant access to Lake Michigan. The City was wise in preserving shoreline and beach assets for the public as this is a major draw to the City for visitors, but is also welcomed by residents. Each of these sites offers various amenities in terms of ball field, courts, concessions, playground equipment and in the case of Douglas Rec. Area, a boat launch.

Trail development in the City has been on-going through the leadership of the Non-motorized Trail Committee. The committee has worked for the development of on-road bike facilities as well as the establishment of the Zimmerman Pathway (located in Manistee Twp.), and the City's non-motorized trail park (located in Manistee Twp.)

The riverwalk, a boardwalk along the Manistee River channel through the City of Manistee provides a great location for a stroll down the river, with historic information, parks linked along the linear trail and seating for those wishing to take in the view.

Trail development has been successful and increased opportunities for making regional connections to adjacent municipalities is something that should be pursued into the future. Support is in place for trail development and momentum in carrying that development forward should be sustained.

### **Item 3 - Primary, Secondary & Tertiary Sites**

In the 2016 park and recreation plan, local stakeholders worked with the planning team to categorize their recreation assets in terms of their importance to the community. These sites were designated primary, secondary or tertiary. Please review the list of sites shown below and confirm that these designations are correct or if one or more of these sites should be changed.

#### **Primary**

- Douglas Rec Area/1st St Beach
- River walk East Entrance
- Fifth Ave Beach
- Sands Park
- MHS/MMS/Paine Aquatic Cen.
- Duffy Park

#### **Secondary**

- Mack Park
- Kennedy School Gym
- Jefferson School Gym
- Centennial Track
- Ninth St Boat Launch
- Morton Park

- Red Szymarek Park
- Man Made Lake
- Arthur St Boat Launch
- North Beach Access Park
- Art Park
- Visitors Bureau
- Manistee City Hall
- Manistee Public Library
- Hamlin Field

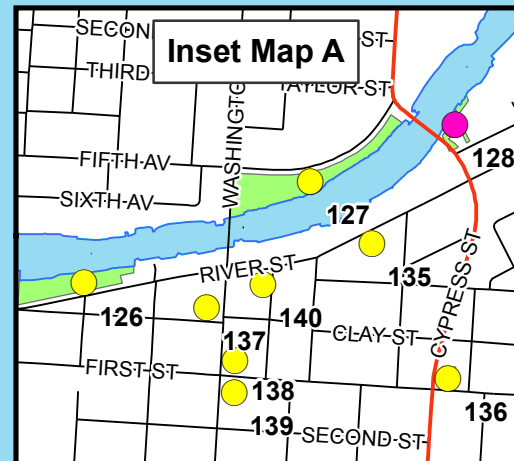
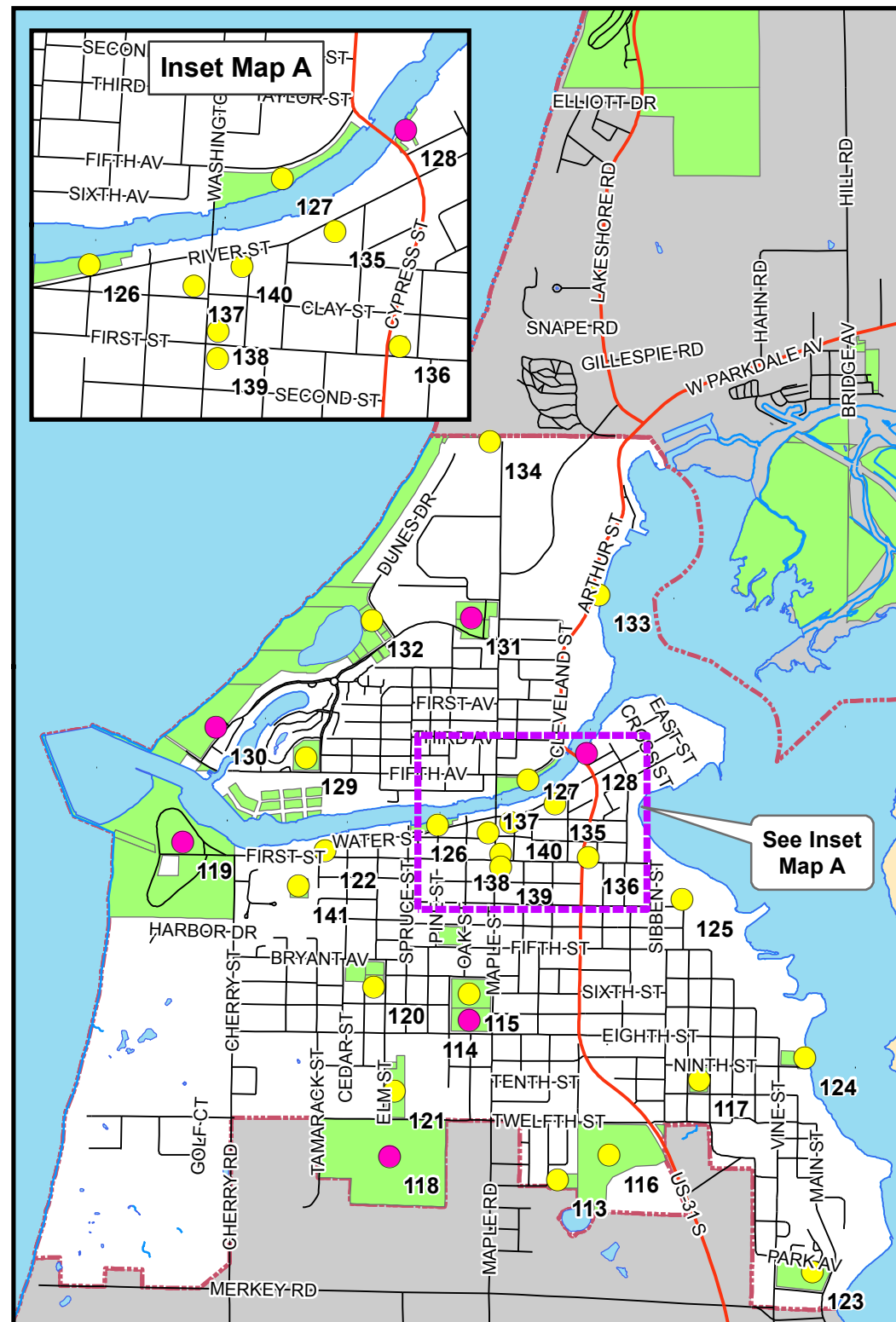
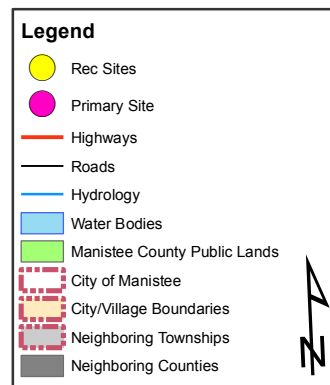
#### Tertiary

- MCC Playground/Gym
- Maxwelltown Comm. Park
- Waterworks Museum
- Reitz Park
- Manistee Municipal Marina
- North River walk/Mem. Park
- Ramsdell Theatre
- Vogue Theatre

### Item 4 - Recreation Site Amenities

Please review the attached table of recreation sites in your municipality. This table displays all of the amenities at each site. If amenities have been added or taken away at a particular site, please note this change for the eventual discussion your stakeholder group will have with Networks Northwest.





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## Administrative Structure – City of Manistee

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires park and recreation plans to describe the administrative structure of the jurisdiction submitting a plan to be on file with the state. The following language is directly from the DNR’s Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans:

“Planning for and providing park and recreation services and open space for a community requires staff (or volunteers) and funds to purchase recreation land and open spaces and to develop, operate, and maintain them. In this section, describe how the park and recreation functions are carried out in your community, and include descriptions of the following as they apply to your community:

- The park and recreation commission, committee, board of directors, or advisory board. Include the enabling act under which it was established (see Appendix A). For multi-jurisdictional plans, the working relationship among the participating communities and school districts.
- Your parks and recreation department, staff, or authority. Define who has the authority to commit funds for parks and recreation, accept grants and purchase land on behalf of the community.
- The current year and projected annual budgets for parks operation and maintenance, recreation programming, and capital improvements.
- The sources of funding for the park and recreation budget.
- The volunteers involved in park and recreation programs and what they do. Describe any partnerships you have formed with private organizations to maintain or operate any of your park or recreation programs.
- Relationships with school districts and other public agencies involved in recreation.
- For regional authorities, describe the relationship between the authority and the recreation departments of the participating communities. Provide the Articles of Incorporation for the authority.”

**On the next page is a table with two rows of information. The first row shows the information for your jurisdiction as it appeared in the 2016-2020 county-wide plan. The second row is for you to fill in.**





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## City of Manistee

### Goals & Objectives

Prior to your community's discussion with Networks Northwest, please review the goals and projects from the previous plan. Please note any projects that have been completed or are no longer sought by the municipality. Also make note of any projects that members of the public are seeking to implement in the next 5-10 years (please note that any goals and projects listed in the draft plan will be reviewed during a public hearing at the end of the planning process).

#### 1. Goal: Improve the parks

PROJECTS:

Park Improvements:

- See the City of Manistee Park Improvements 2016 Table for specific park improvements. The park improvements listed are improvements that need to be taken to improve the specific park mentioned. (See Table 7.1)

#### 2. Goal: Acquire land for future recreational opportunities

PROJECTS:

Trail Route Around Manistee Lake:

- Acquire existing railway bed on the southern and northern end of Manistee River to work towards creating a continuous trail route around Manistee Lake ensuring that the trail is connected to the Riverwalk and the County wide trail system.

Splash Pad Park:

- Acquire property downtown to build a splash pad park.

Consumers Property-Arthur Street Parcel:

- Acquire the Consumers Property- Arthur Street Parcel #51-101-300-01 which is a 13.6 acre parcel for the purpose of overflow parking for the Arthur Street Boat Launch and possible location for a trail segment.

Mack Park:

- Acquire the Morton Salt Inc. Property (portion that is south of the park) part of Parcel #06-424-709-01 to allow for the expansion of Mack Park

Ninth Street Boat Launch:

- Acquire the Consumers Power Company Parcel #51-712-475-01 and Morton Salt Parcel #51-712-150-01 in order to make improvements to the Ninth Street Boat Launch and in reserve for the adjacent City of Manistee Waste Water Treatment Facility located north of the launch

North Riverwalk/Memorial Park:

- Acquire the property west of Washington Street to Harbor Village Channel to extend Riverwalk to the Harbor Village Channel

South Riverwalk-Various Parcels:

- Acquire the property(s) east of the Chamber of Commerce building in order to complete the Riverwalk through and around the Peninsula to the east portion of Manistee Lake ultimately connecting to a County wide trail system

**3. Goal: Develop multi-use trails that are connected to a County wide trail system**

PROJECTS:

Trail Development:

- Create a network of trails and bike paths, on road and off road routes, that features the best of Manistee connecting Lake Michigan, River Street, neighborhoods, wooded areas, parks, and any areas considered “Best of...” that have facilities such as trash receptacles, signage, ADA compliant bathrooms, and fitness stations at key locations.

County-Wide Trail System Collaboration:

- Continue to work with collaboratively in developing the County wide trail system.

Safe Pedestrian Crossings:

- Improve safety by creating safe crossing areas across large roads with specific focus on US 31 between 8th Street and Merkey Road

Blue Water Trail:

- Become a part of the Blue Water Trail network.

Snowmobile Route:

- Develop a “snowmobile route” with way-finding signage that is connected to the great Manistee County Snowmobile Trail System.

**4. Goal: Improve access to our water resources**

PROJECTS:

Zero Entry Boat Launch and Other Improvements:

- Create a zero entry boat launch and undertake other improvements at Arthur Street Boat Launch, Fifth Avenue Beach, the Municipal Marina and the Ninth Street Boat Launch.

Canoe/Kayak Launch:

- Create a canoe and kayak launch at the south portion of Riverwalk

Crewing:

- Create an area within the City for crewing

Universally Accessible Floating Docks:

- Create a universally accessible floating dock at the Municipal Marina

Piers:

- Create a pier on Man Made Lake and improve the pier at Douglas Park and the Ninth Street Boat Launch

## **5. Goal: Develop an eco-tourism economy**

PROJECTS:

Outdoor Equipment Rental Opportunity:

- Encourage the start up of an outdoor rental business

Visitors Bureau Meeting:

- Meet with the visitors bureau to discuss further information concerning recreation.

## **6. Goal: Plan for maintenance and funding of recreational facilities, programming, and future opportunities**

PROJECTS:

County-Wide Recreation Authority:

- Support research of a County wide Recreation Authority

## **7. Goal: Improve recreational programming**

PROJECTS

Youth:

- Evaluate and improve gaps in programming for youth.

Adults:

- Evaluate and improve gaps in programming for adults.

## **8. Goal: Create new recreational opportunities**

PROJECTS:

Ice Arena:

- Create a community ice arena

Accessible Playground Structure:

- Create a specific park accessible for all kids with no barriers and a wheelchair accessible playground structure

Outdoor Amphitheater:

- Build an outdoor amphitheater.

Outdoor Pool:

- Build an outdoor pool

Community Recreation Center:

- Build a community recreation center with a climbing wall, indoor pool, childcare, etc.