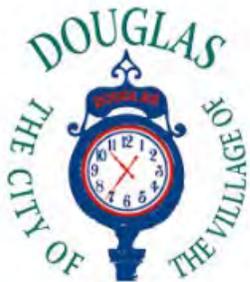


# SAUGATUCK DOUGLAS AREA PARKS & RECREATION PLAN

2019-2023

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS  
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP  
SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**SAUGATUCK  
TOWNSHIP**  
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## 1 INTRODUCTION

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This document serves as the joint 5-Year Recreation Plan for the City of the Village of Douglas, Saugatuck Township, and Saugatuck Public Schools. A main purpose of the plan is to facilitate collaborative planning in the Saugatuck-Douglas area among the local units of government and school district. A joint recreation plan is a means to accomplish regional planning of parks offerings and recreation opportunities while maintaining separate governmental control of facilities within each municipality or jurisdiction. The City of Saugatuck provides a separate plan specific to its facilities.



The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires this plan be approved by their Grants Management Division in order to be eligible for a variety of grant programs. The plan must be approved by DNR by February 1 of the year a community intends to apply for grants. The plan must also meet specific criteria as outlined by DNR and be adopted by resolution of each community. The next complete update of this plan should occur before the 2024 grant application cycle.

Each jurisdiction has provided an Action Program within this plan for future improvements that each community will strive to follow. The Action Program is just a guide and is meant to be a living document which can be updated and amended as funding availability and other events will undoubtedly shape priorities over time.



## 2 COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

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The City of the Village of Douglas, Saugatuck Township, and City of Saugatuck are located in Allegan County and are generally referred to as the Saugatuck-Douglas area. Douglas, the Township, and Saugatuck Public Schools make up the regional jurisdiction of this plan. The City of Saugatuck has a separate plan.

Recreation is a way of life for residents and visitors in the area. The community parks, Lake Michigan beaches and sand dunes, Kalamazoo riverfront and marshes, town shops and civic organizations, galleries, events and parades provide recreational opportunities for all ages. A broad spectrum of recreation exists including elements of physical, cognitive, social, and environmentally related recreation. The area's natural beauty and broad community involvement make for an ideal setting of both passive and active recreational pursuits during all four seasons.

Many year-round residents discovered the Saugatuck-Douglas area as seasonal visitors and later returned as full time residents. Saugatuck-Douglas is a community to which one always wants to return and some never want to leave. There is a small town feel amongst world class natural features. The areas unique mix of art, culture, people, and businesses make it a place like no other.

Map 1 shows an aerial view of the three communities nestled along the Kalamazoo River and Kalamazoo Lake near the Lake Michigan shoreline. The Saugatuck Public School District serves both cities and most of the more populated areas of the township. U.S. 31 and the Blue Star Highway are the major roads that traverse the area bringing visitors from points south, including many from metropolitan Chicago on

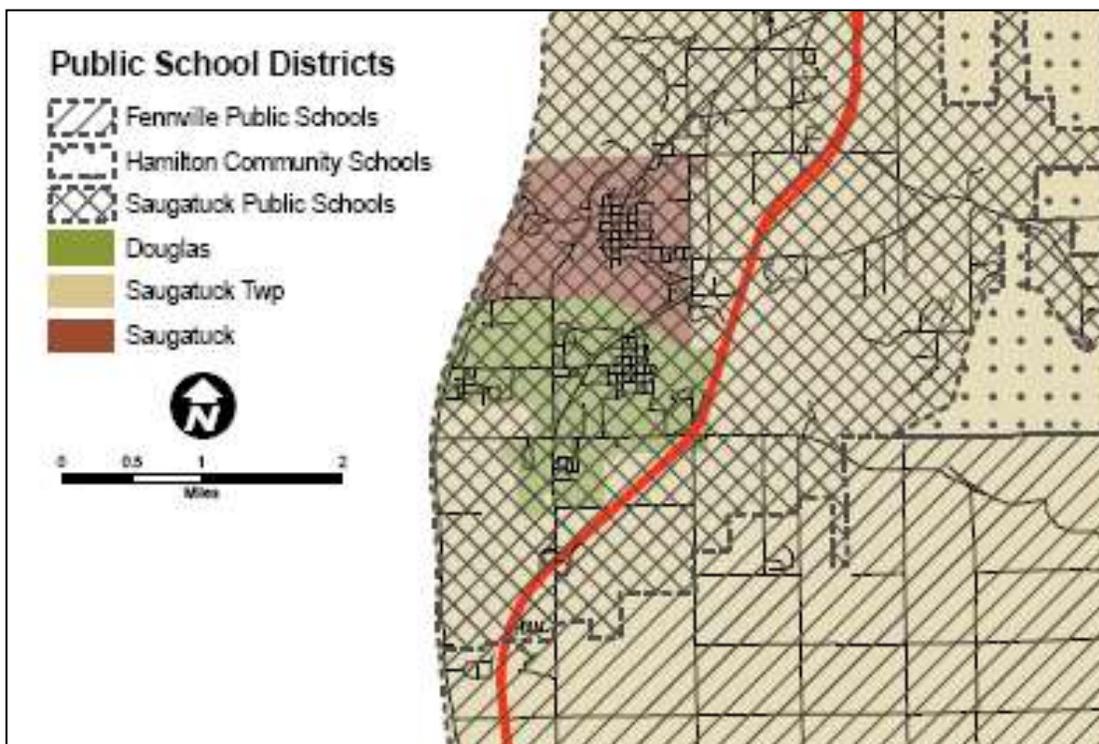




## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

vacation, and points north from the Grand Rapids area.

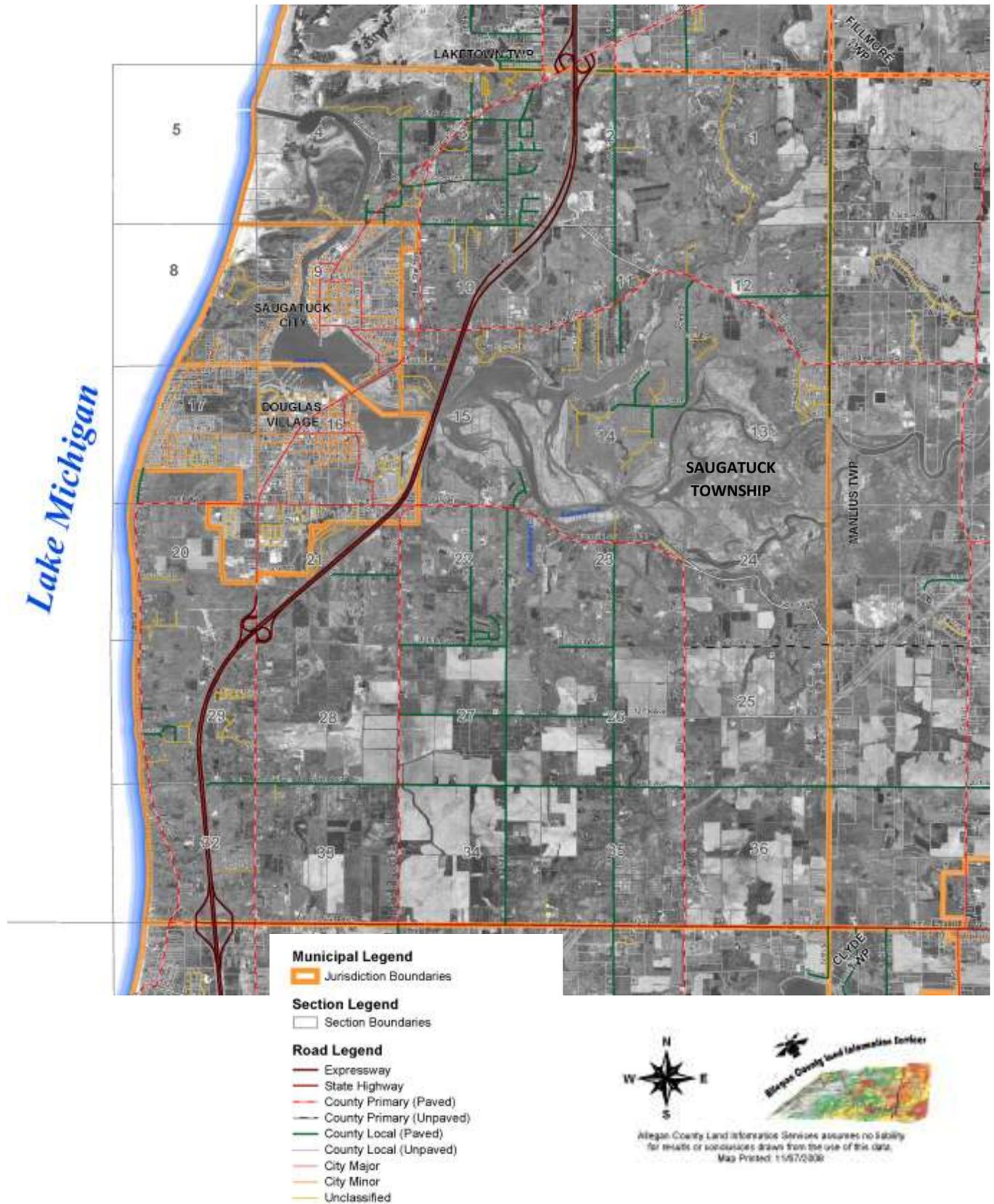
Appendix A and B provide a summary of social and environmental characteristics of the community including detailing the area's population, age distribution, employment characteristics, income and seasonal populations as a means of understanding the recreation goals of the area. Natural features including water, soils, topography and climate are outlined to help evaluate what the area has to offer for recreational pursuits.





# Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

## Map 1 - Tri-Community Aerial Map





### **3 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

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The City of the Village of Douglas, Saugatuck Township, City of Saugatuck, and Saugatuck Public Schools all operate and maintain separate public parks or recreational facilities. However, all four partners cooperate on recreation planning and recreation programming, and many facilities are shared or are under joint use agreements. A discussion of recreation administration for each of the partners follows. The City of Saugatuck provides a separate plan and is not included in this section.

#### **City of the Village of Douglas**

##### **Administration and Planning**

Administration and recreation facility planning in Douglas is coordinated by City staff, which reports to City Council. Recreation master planning is done by City staff and City Council, and coordinated with the Saugatuck, Township, and Saugatuck Public Schools on an as needed basis.

##### **Maintenance**

Maintenance of city recreational facilities is performed by the Public Works Department, under the direction of the City Manager, who reports to City Council.

##### **Programming**

Recreation programming is performed by a variety of partners including: the Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation Department, the Saugatuck-Douglas District Library, Saugatuck-Douglas History Center, Douglas Downtown Development Authority, Saugatuck Douglas Area Business Association, Saugatuck Center for the Arts, the Ox-bow School of Art, and other civic organizations. The Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation Department administers the area's Recreation Programs.

##### **Volunteer Involvement**

Friends of the Blue Star Trail is a volunteer group of local residents that partner with the municipalities to promote, fund, and sustain the Blue Star Trail. It has a 9-member Board of Directors.

##### **2018/2019 Budget**

Annual contribution to School Recreation Program - \$36,245

Budgeted Recreational Expenses for 2018 / 2019 - \$315,127 (not including above)



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

### Saugatuck Township

#### Administration and Planning

The Saugatuck Township Parks Commission is authorized to operate and maintain the Township’s parks. The commission has five elected members. Funds are authorized through the Township Board and Township Manager. Recreation master planning for Saugatuck Township is done by the Township Parks Commission and approved by the Township Board. Planning is coordinated with Saugatuck, Douglas, and Saugatuck Public Schools on an as needed basis.



#### Maintenance

Maintenance of township recreational facilities is performed by volunteers, and an outside contractor under the direction of the Township Parks Commission and Township Manager who reports to the Township Board.

#### Programming

Recreation programming is performed by a variety of partners including: the Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation Department, the Saugatuck-Douglas District Library, Saugatuck-Douglas History Center, Douglas Downtown Development Authority, Saugatuck Douglas Area Business Association, Saugatuck Center for the Arts, the Ox-bow School of Art, and other civic organizations. The Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation Department administers the area’s Recreation Programs.

#### 2018/2019 Budget

Parks General Fund	\$19,000 per year
Parks System Project Fund	\$90,000 balance

### Saugatuck Public Schools

Saugatuck Public Schools operates and maintains numerous athletic and recreational facilities, all of which are available to the general public at appropriate times. Many of the area-wide seasonal recreational programs operate on school property.

#### Administration and Planning

Administration and planning of the district's recreation facilities and programs is the responsibility of the Athletic Director, Recreation Director, Director of Business, Physical Education teachers, Athletic Booster Club and the school board. The Superintendent oversees the overall administration of the facilities and programming.



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

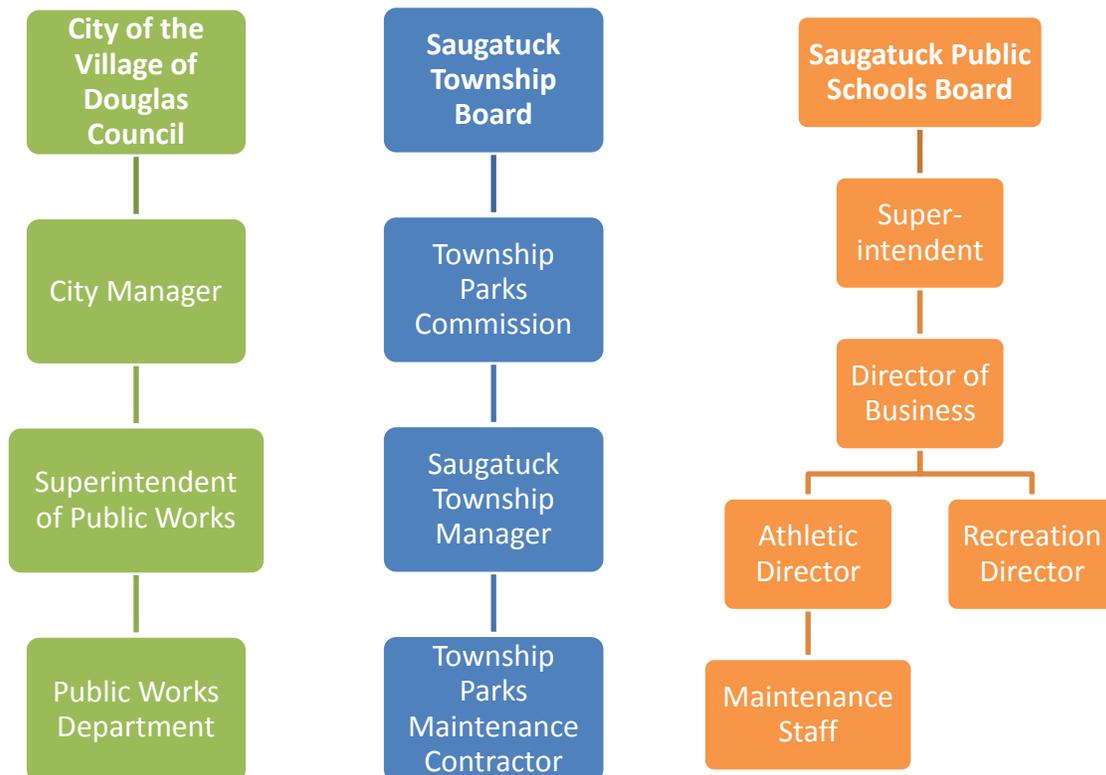
Recreation master planning for the school district is coordinated by the Parks and Recreation Planning Committee. The Recreation Director of Saugatuck Public Schools is a member of the committee.

### Maintenance

Maintenance of Saugatuck Public School's recreational facilities is performed by the school district's maintenance staff, under the direction of the Director of Business.

### Administrative Structure Organizational Chart

#### Douglas, Saugatuck Township, Saugatuck, and Saugatuck Public Schools Community Parks and Recreation Planning





## Allegan County

Financial assistance for local parks may be available from Allegan County when plans assist in advancing the Allegan County Recreation Plan. Allegan County operates and maintains eight parks that range in size from 4 to 320 acres. The County parks are administered by the County Parks and Recreation Commission, and include ten members with representatives from the County Road Commission, the County Planning Commission, the County Drain Commissioner, County Commissioners, and ad-hoc members appointed by the County Board of Commissioners.

## 4 INVENTORY OF EXISTING PARKS, NATURAL AREAS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

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The recreation inventory describes parks, natural areas, other public spaces, and recreation facilities within the tri-community area and surrounding areas. Facilities owned and operated by each partner community in the Joint Plan are included on the Tri-Community Recreation Facilities Map. Inventory information required by Michigan DNR includes: park name, size in acres or length of linear parks, description of use, the primary service area, type and number of recreation and support facilities, an accessibility evaluation, and overall location and facility maps. The City of Saugatuck provides a separate plan and is not included in this section.

Additional information included in the inventory are: a list of previously grant funded projects, a summary of recreation programs offered by the Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation Department, a summary of civic and cultural, regional, and commercial recreation opportunities in the area. Michigan DNR Post-Completion Self-Inspection Reports for previously grant assisted facilities are included in Appendix C.

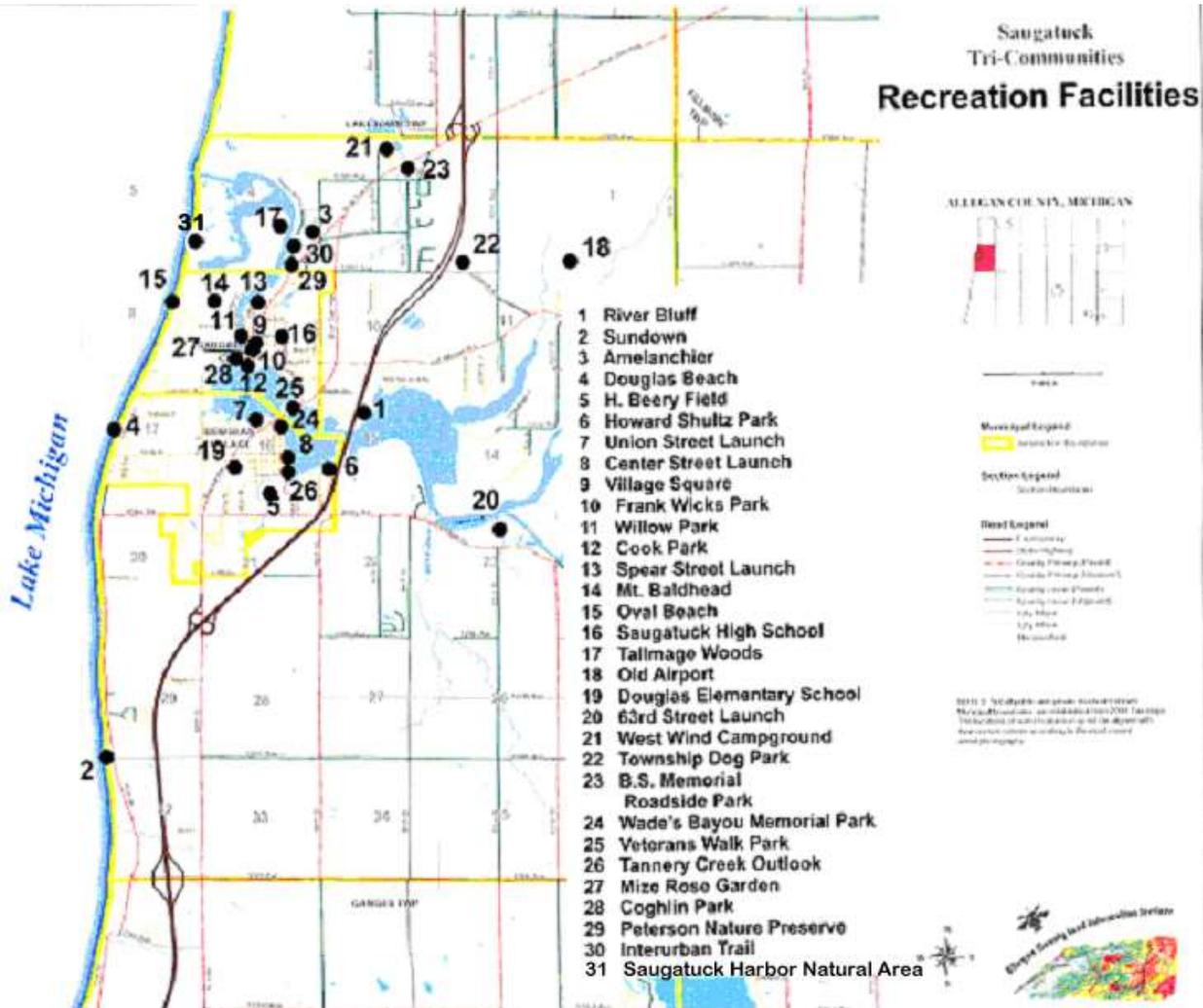
Accessibility of each facility was evaluated compared to the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design and given a ranking from 1 to 5, where 1=none of the site elements meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, 2=some, 3=most, 4=all and 5=the facility meets the Principles of Universal Design.





# Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

## Tri-Community Recreation Facilities Map





## City of the Village of Douglas Inventory

### Douglas Beach

- 1.5 acre site
- Lake Michigan public access via stairwell
- Restrooms/barbeque grills/drinking fountain
- Parking along Lake Shore Drive
- Accessibility = 1

### Howard C. Schultz Park

- 20.0 acre site on the Kalamazoo River
- Boat launch ramp/parking/fishing sites
- Soccer field/baseball diamond
- Picnic pavilion/restrooms/barbeque grills
- Children's playground/nature trails
- Adult softball and youth baseball/softball
- Adult/youth soccer
- Accessibility= 2



### Wade's Bayou Memorial Park

- 1.8 acres
- Gazebo overlook and picnic tables, Park benches
- Bathrooms, Dock, Kayak launch
- Accessibility= 2

### Union Street Launching Site

- Narrow strip of land off of Blue Star Highway providing boat access to the Kalamazoo River, with limited parking
- Accessibility = 1

### Harold Beery Field

- 1.2 acres on main street of Douglas
- Softball diamond with bleachers and lights for night games
- Used for youth baseball/ football practice/youth softball
- "Duck Stop" for DUKW Amphibious Vehicle "Harbor Duck Tours" (fee)
- Home of the "Douglas Social"
- Picnic Area



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

- Children’s playground with multi-generational “Expressions Swing”
- Restrooms
- Accessibility= 2

### The Barrel

- Home of Historic Root Beer Barrel
- Concessions
- Yard Games
- Restrooms
- Ample Parking
- Beach to Bayou Trail Head



### Alice McClay Park

- Less than 1 acre
- Open space
- Nature viewing
- Picnic tables
- Fishing
- Accessibility = 1

### Veterans Walk Park

- Less than 1 acre
- Public access to riverfront boardwalk
- Ample Parking
- Fishing
- Accessibility = 2



### Tannery Creek Outlook

- Less than 1 acre
- East side of Water Street at South Street
- Scenic overlook - wetlands and river
- Accessibility= 1

### Sidewalks & Non-Motorized Trails

- **Blue Star Trail** – Beginning at City limits (bridge) to Center Street, 0.5 miles of separated bike lanes on Blue Star Hwy, with pedestrian islands at Blue Star Hwy and Center Street intersection
- **Blue Star Trail** – 10’ wide asphalt continuation of trail from Wiley Road to Center Street, 0.5 miles
- **Beach to Bayou Trail** – 1.5 mile sidewalk and non- motorized path from Wade’s Bayou to Douglas Beach



## Saugatuck Township Inventory

### River Bluff Park

- 27 acre wooded tract with 0.5 miles Kalamazoo River Frontage
- Wayfinding signage from Blue Star Highway
- Picnic lawn area/children's swings
- Paved parking lot
- Boat landing with picnic shelter
- Natural surface trail to river overlook
- Public interpretation center
- 0.4 miles of natural surface trails including two foot bridges leading from the bluff to river frontage and boat landing
- Historical marker at entrance of park
- Barbeque grills and picnic tables
- Accessibility = 2



### Sundown Park

- 9,900 square foot parcel with overlook to Lake Michigan
- No beach access
- Street end of 126<sup>th</sup> Ave.
- Park bench
- Directional signs on M-89 and Lakeshore Drive
- Accessibility = 1



### Tails n' Trails Dog Park

- 39.5 acre Township owned property
- 5 acres developed as fenced dog park
- Adequate way finding system to park
- Gravel parking lot
- Dog-friendly
- Natural surface trails for leashed dogs with gated entrances around enclosures.
- 1 gazebo in large dog enclosure and 1 shelter in small dog enclosure
- Public drinking water available for dogs
- Accessibility = 2





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

### Blue Star Memorial Highway Park

- Roadside Park with memorial signage
- Picnic shelter
- Owned by the Allegan County Road Commission/maintained by Saugatuck Township
- Small area for off-street parking
- Accessibility = 3



### Amelanchier Park

- 4 acre wooded natural site, north of North Street, with access to Moore's Creek via natural surface trails
- Accessibility = 1



### Sidewalks & Non-Motorized Trails

- Blue Star Trail, 10 foot wide asphalt path from North Street to Old Allegan Road, 0.75 miles with sections of boardwalk
- Blue Star Trail and Holland Street Path, 8 foot wide asphalt path from North Street to 64<sup>th</sup> Street, 1.7 miles
- Accessibility = 5





## **Saugatuck Public Schools Inventory**

### **Douglas Elementary School**

- School and 8.6 acre play field, located on Randolph Street in Douglas
- Elementary School Playground with play structures, swings, and several sets of play equipment
- Drinking fountain/picnic facilities/indoor restrooms
- High school baseball field is adjacent
- Basketball Court
- Indoor gymnasium available for school and public use, programming offered by the Community Recreation Program
- Facility is owned by the Saugatuck Public Schools
- Utilized by community organizations/ governmental groups/residential meetings/Public Schools Community Recreation Programs
- Accessibility = 2

### **Saugatuck High School**

- 12.7 acre site on Elizabeth Street
- Lighted football field/track, tennis courts and softball field
- Performing arts center
- 2 indoor gymnasiums/locker rooms/indoor concessions
- Indoor recreation programs include volleyball/basketball/tennis/weight training/ batting cages/pitching machines
- Utilized by parent and community groups/City of Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township governmental meetings/ Saugatuck Masonic Lodge/ Public Schools Community Recreation Programs
- Accessibility= 3





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

### Previous Grant-Funded Projects

The following is a summary of historical grant assistance received by the community for parks and recreation. Michigan DNR Post Completion Self Certification Reports are included as Appendix C as necessary.

#### **(in process) 2017 City of the Village of Douglas, Point Pleasant Marina, Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

Acquisition of the 1-acre Point Pleasant Marina property containing a 15 slip marina facility, house, guest house, pool and pool house and 500 feet of frontage on Wade's Bayou on the Kalamazoo River.

#### **2016 Saugatuck Township, Non-motorized Trail, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Grant**

Grant through Federal Highway Administration for a Non-Motorized Trail. Matching Funds provided by Friends of the Blue Star Trail. No DNR report required.

#### **2007 Saugatuck Township, Non-motorized Trail, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Grant**

Grant through Federal Highway Administration for a Non-Motorized Trail. No DNR report required.

#### **2003 Saugatuck Township, River Bluff Park, Coastal Zone Management Grant**

Grant through MDEQ Office of the Great Lakes to construct parking lot and lawn areas. No DNR report required.

#### **2000 City of the Village of Douglas, Schultz Park, Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

Grant through MDNR 10 acres to improve the quality and safety of Schultz Park by adding a new field with lights for softball and soccer, and replacing fence at existing field. (PCSCR is included in Appendix C.)

#### **1985 Saugatuck Township, River Bluff Park, Coastal Zone Management Grant**

Grant through MDEQ Office of the Great Lakes to construct dock, viewing area, and shelter. No DNR report required.

#### **1980 Douglas Village, Community Recreation Building Improvements, U.S. Department of Energy Chicago Regional Office**

Grant through USDE for building improvements. No DNR report required.

#### **1977 Tri-Community, General Park Maintenance, Comprehensive Employment and Training Act Funds**

Federal grant through CETA for general park maintenance. No DNR report required.



## **Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan**

### **1973 City of the Village of Douglas, Schultz Park, Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

Grant through MDNR 10 acres to include picnic area, 1 group shelters, 2 restrooms, 1 ball diamonds, 2 tennis courts, multi-purpose court, tot lot, boat launch ramp, fencing, site improvement, road parking, and landscaping. (PCSCR is included in Appendix C.)

### **1972 Tri-Community, General Park Maintenance, Federal Emergency Employment Act Funds**

Federal grant for general park maintenance. No DNR report required.

### **1971 Saugatuck Township, River Bluff Park, State Recreation Bond Fund**

State grant for general park improvements. No DNR report required.



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

### Recreation Programs

Recreation programming is performed by a variety of partners including: the Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation Department, the Saugatuck-Douglas District Library, Saugatuck-Douglas History Center, Douglas Downtown Development Authority, Saugatuck Douglas Area Business Association, Saugatuck Center for the Arts, the Ox-bow School of Art, and other civic organizations. The Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation Department administers the area's primary active Recreation Programs.

The Tri-community area offers a wide variety of recreation programming including soccer, baseball, football, cheerleading, T-ball, softball, swimming, tennis, basketball, volleyball. Some non-athletic programs are also offered including hiking club, Labor Day bridge walk, art classes, exercise classes, martial arts and ski club.

The 5 year recreation renewal of a 0.25 millage passed in the 2017 November Election and participation in many programs grew significantly between 2002 and 2014 which indicates a high level of support for current programming. There has also been some interest expressed in more programming directed toward creative ability rather than physical ability (e.g., computers and art or music).

Current Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation Programs include the following:

- Youth Soccer Leagues U-6
- Youth Soccer Leagues U-8
- Youth Soccer Leagues U-10
- Youth Soccer Leagues U-12
- Youth Soccer Leagues U-14
- Start Smart Soccer
- Youth Baseball Boys Minors
- Youth Baseball Boys Majors
- Youth Baseball Boys Juniors
- Youth Baseball Boys Seniors
- Youth Softball Girls Minors
- Youth Softball Girls Majors
- Youth Softball Girls Juniors
- Youth Softball Girls Seniors
- Start Smart Baseball
- Youth T-Ball
- Men's Adult Softball Leagues
- Coed Adult Softball Leagues
- Youth Football League Grades 3&4





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

- Youth Football League Grades 5&6
- Flag Football League Grade K-2
- Summer Swimming Lessons Level 1
- Summer Swimming Lessons Level 2
- Summer Swimming Lessons Level 3
- Summer Swimming Lessons Level 4
- Youth Tennis Lessons
- Adult Tennis Lessons
- Start Smart Multi Sport Program
- Youth Basketball Leagues Grades K&1
- Youth Basketball Leagues Grade 2
- Girls Basketball League Grades 3&4
- Girls Basketball Grades 5&6
- Girls Basketball League Grades 7&8
- Boys Basketball League Grades 3&4
- Boys Basketball League Grades 5&6
- Boys Basketball League Grades 7&8
- Adult Basketball Leagues
- Adult Volleyball Leagues
- Youth Volleyball Clinic
- Volleyball League Grades 5&6
- Youth Cheerleading
- Youth Track Camp
- Boys Running Club
- Baseball Skills Camp
- Softball Skills Camp
- Rocket Football Mini Camp
- Youth Archery
- Martial Arts – Sanchin Ryu Instruction
- Ski Club
- Senior Hiking Club
- Senior Tennis
- Adult Golf Lessons
- Youth Golf Lessons
- Sailing Classes
- Blue Star Bridge Walk
- Boater Safety Class





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

- Educational Classes – French, Art, Cooking, Jewelry Creation etc.
- Fitness Classes – Yoga/Pilates
- Fitness Classes – Swiss Ball Training / Riptide Fitness
- Fitness Classes – Open weight room & gym



Saugatuck Public Schools Community Recreation has a high percentage of participation within the school system. In a study done in 2006 to apply for Blue Ribbon School Status it showed that 87% of the entire student body at Douglas Elementary School has participated in at least one Community Recreation Activity in the last two years. It also showed that there are estimated 1,750 total participants annually.

Sample of Programs	Participant # 2002	Participant # 2013	Participant # 2018
Baseball & Softball	218	244	250
K-2 Basketball	29	43	54
Saturday Morning Basketball	65	120	132
Fall Soccer	102	108	185
Rocket Football	36	51	37
Cheerleading	0	30	8
Tennis Lessons	9	22	25
Swimming Lessons	93	58 (summer only)	48 (summer only)
Ski Club	30	108	107
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>846</b>



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

### Civic & Cultural

In addition to the facilities and formal recreation programs offered by schools and government, several local groups provide additional services to the community. The Saugatuck-Douglas District Library, Saugatuck-Douglas History Center, Douglas Downtown Development Authority, Saugatuck Douglas Area Business Association, Saugatuck Center for the Arts, the Ox-bow School of Art, Saugatuck Yacht Club, and many other civic organizations coordinate programs throughout the year.



Summer Theater, the yacht club, various art and garden clubs, scouting groups and area churches offer limited programming and gathering places for residents. The District Library, Historical Society, Rotary Club Saugatuck-Douglas, Women’s Club and Saugatuck Center for the Arts are important community fixtures.

Several festivals and events are also hosted by the community including “Fourth of July Parade”, “Venetian Festival”, art fairs, winter festival, “Douglas Halloween Parade”, Oxbow School of the Arts and biweekly summer Douglas socials. The Saugatuck/Douglas Historical Society also curate a local history museum. Summer “Music in the Park” is coordinated by the area business association.





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

Noteworthy as a part of the community's resources are historical and archaeological reminders of the area's history. They include:

Name	Year Initiated	Comments
Singapore	1830's - 1870's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northwest bend of the Kalamazoo River</li> <li>• Former lumbering town/now ghost town</li> <li>• Buildings engulfed by the Lake MI shoreline</li> <li>• Privately owned/State Register of Historic Places</li> </ul>
Saugatuck Village Hall	1880	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White frame building with columns</li> <li>• Former fire hall/ now city hall</li> <li>• State Register of Historic Places</li> <li>• Council chambers on second floor with local paintings</li> </ul>
Dutcher Lodge (now the City of the Village of Douglas City Hall)	1902	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two-story white frame in Douglas</li> <li>• Large meeting room on main floor</li> <li>• Basement formally held Village's fire truck</li> <li>• State Register of Historic Places</li> </ul>
Saugatuck Douglas District Library	1872	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Located in Douglas</li> <li>• Former church/converted to the Douglas Athletic Club</li> <li>• Updated library</li> </ul>
Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society Old School House	1866	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former Douglas School (until 1957) recently restored by and home of the Saugatuck-Douglas Historic Society, 138 Center Street, Douglas, MI 49406</li> <li>• Two-Story building is classical style with pilasters around the doorway and a cupola on the roof.</li> <li>• New Outdoor learning center and observation deck.</li> </ul>
Lake Shore Chapel	1904	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Privately owned non-sectarian church located in the Shorewood section of the lakeshore</li> <li>• Constructed by summer residents</li> <li>• Church services held in July and August</li> </ul>
Saugatuck Women's Club	1934	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brick meeting hall on the main street of Saugatuck</li> <li>• Site of plays, reviews, wedding, cultural events</li> <li>• Auditorium for the Chamber Music Festival (since 1988)</li> </ul>
Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society Museum (Kalamazoo River)	1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Located on Kalamazoo Lake waterfront at Mt. Baldhead, 735 Parks Street, Saugatuck, MI 49453</li> <li>• New exhibit provided each season by the Historical Society</li> <li>• Museum open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday</li> <li>• Operated by volunteers</li> </ul>
Red Barn Playhouse	1952	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional summer stock theatre</li> </ul>
Chain Ferry	1859	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic and still used to transport people across the river</li> </ul>



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

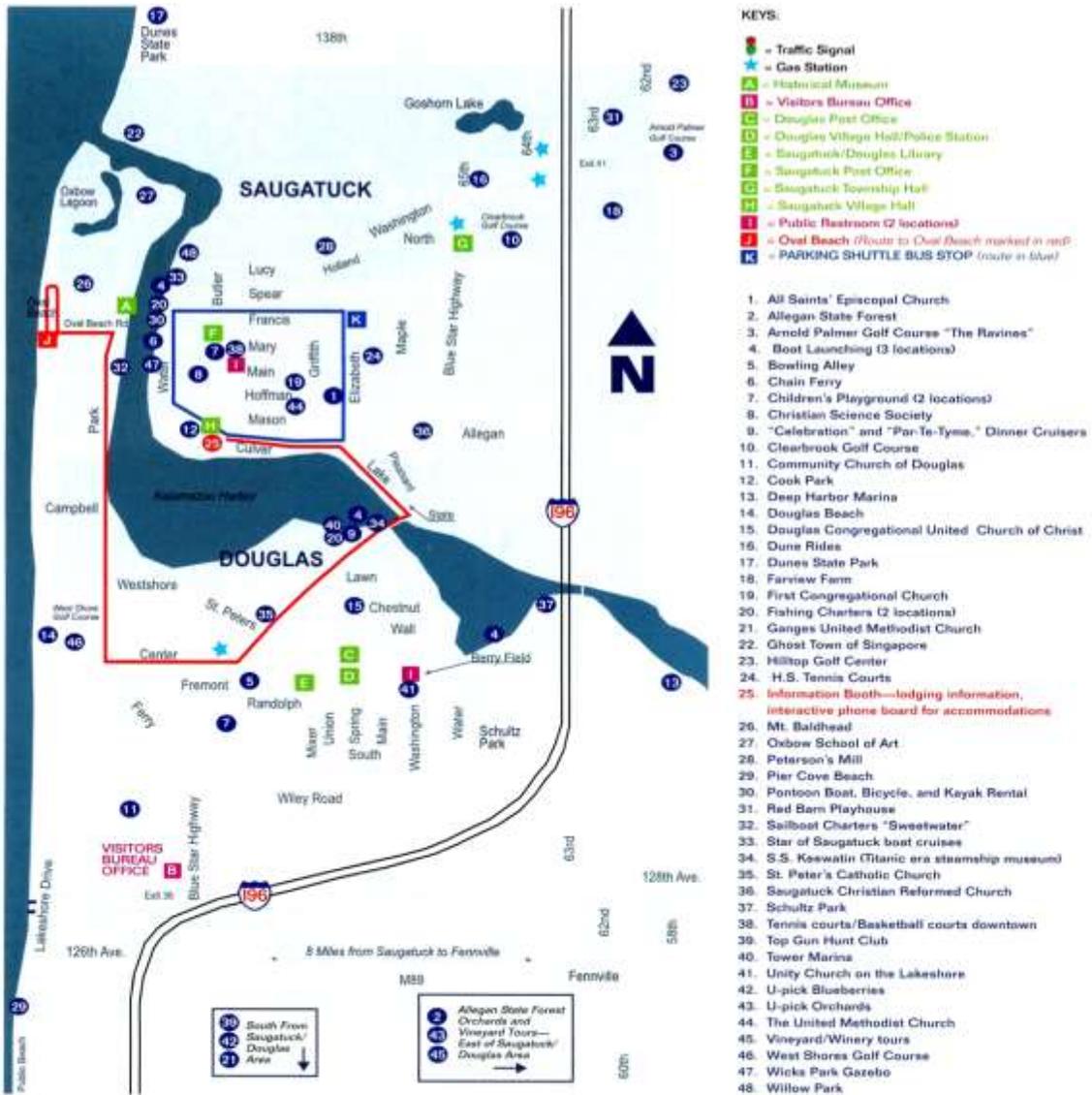
Farmers markets	circa 1980	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Local seasonal farmers markets</li></ul>
Indian burial grounds	circa 1700's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Across from Saugatuck City Hall</li></ul>



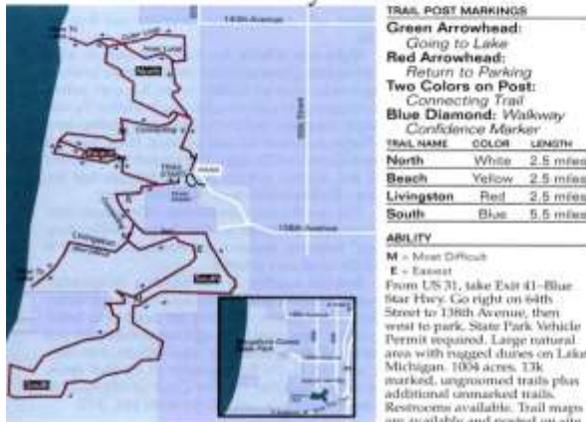


# Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

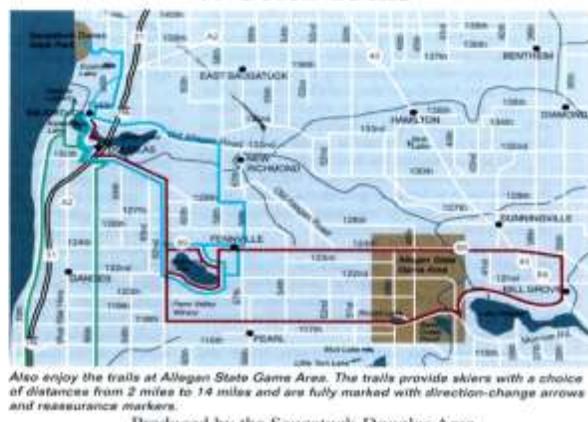
## Tri-Community Interest Points Map



## Saugatuck Dunes State Park Cross Country Ski Trails



## Bike, Scenic Routes & Color Tours





### Regional Recreation

The Saugatuck Douglas area is within close proximity to several excellent public and non-profit facilities of regional significance.

- **Saugatuck Dunes State Park** – Michigan State Park offering Lake Michigan access, hiking trails, bird watching, picnicking, and cross country skiing.
- **63rd Street Boat Launch.** Located at the end of 63<sup>rd</sup> Street in Saugatuck Township is a DNR Boat Launch on the south side of the Kalamazoo River.
- **Allegan State Game Area.** State of Michigan DNR land offering hunting, fishing, camping, horseback riding, hiking, bird watching, and cross country skiing.
- **Allegan County Parks-** offering a variety of nearby outdoor parks including Westside County Park located on Lake Michigan, New Richmond Park with kayak access to the Kalamazoo River, Dumont Lake County Park, and Little John Lake County Park.
- **Neighboring Township Parks** – numerous other parks may be found in neighboring townships throughout the region. Shore Acres Park in nearby Laketown Township offers mountain bike trails and a disc golf course near the Felt Mansion.
- **Lake Michigan** – the proximity of Lake Michigan provides a tremendous recreational resource for the area. Activities to be enjoyed on the lake include power boating, fishing, sunbathing and swimming, wind surfing, sea kayaking, sailing, sightseeing, scuba diving and snorkeling, and nature photography.





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

- **The Outdoor Discovery Center.** The ODC is a non-profit education and conservation organization focused on connecting people with nature through outdoor education. They have an educational visitors center and nature preserve in nearby Fillmore Township.
- **The Critter Barn.** Located in Holland, this is a favorite attraction for kids where families can learn how a farm operates and interact with farm animals like goats, ducks, chickens, rabbits, donkeys and more.
- **Upper Macatawa Natural Area.** 612 acre property with paved paths and single-track mountain bike trails located in Zeeland Township.
- **Saugatuck-Douglas District Library.** Located in downtown Douglas provides events for children and adults all year.

### Commercial Recreation

In addition to public facilities, there are many privately owned and operated commercial recreational opportunities in the tri-community area.

- **Clearbrook Country Club.** 18 hole golf course in Saugatuck Township.
- **The Ravines Golf Club.** Arnold Palmer Signature Championship 18 hole golf course in Saugatuck Township.
- **Laketown Golf Center.** Driving range and conference center in Laketown Township.
- **Saugatuck RV Resort.** Commercial recreation vehicle campground in Saugatuck Township.
- **Saugatuck Dune Rides.** Seasonal dune schooner rides through scenic privately owned lakeshore dunes near Goshorn Lake.
- **Star of Saugatuck.** Paddle wheel boat tour along Kalamazoo River and into Lake Michigan.
- **Harbor Duck.** Amphibious water taxi that tours Douglas and Saugatuck.
- **Saugatuck Center for the Arts.** Provides high quality arts programming, theatre, and music performances all year.
- **Lakeview Lanes Bowling.** Bowling alley in Douglas.
- **Teusink's Pony Farm.** Offers pony rides and farm animal interaction.
- **Art Galleries.** Dozens of galleries and artists' studios in the tri community area.
- **Local Shopping.** Both Douglas and Saugatuck downtown areas offer over 200 shops with a great variety of goods.



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

- **Bed & Breakfasts.** Dozens of Bed and Breakfast establishments in the area also provide entertainment for their guests.
- **Boat & Bike Rentals** are readily available from retail and rental operations with hourly, daily or weekly rates.
- **Pine Trail Camp.** Seasonal youth camp programming and recreation activities.





## 5 INVENTORY OF EXISTING RECREATIONAL BOATING FACILITIES

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An inventory summary of recreational boating facilities for improved and unimproved locations where water access is provided is included. This section is required by Michigan DNR to be eligible for the DNR Waterways Program, and is a new plan requirement as of 2015. Examples of these types of facilities include: carry down sites, boat or kayak launches, harbors and marinas. The City of Saugatuck provides a separate plan and is not included in this section.

### Publically Owned and Operated Boating Facilities

#### Douglas Point Pleasant Marina

Located at 201 S. Washington St., this 15-slip marina has 500 feet of Kalamazoo Lake Frontage. It will soon undergo some improvements to its docking system and pier.

#### Douglas Schultz Park Launch

Located at Shultz Park Drive near US-31, this park offers lake access along with pickleball courts, as a picnic shelter, playground, grills, nature trail and pit toilets. The park also features a dog park, soccer and baseball fields, and sand volleyball courts. There is a boat launch fee.

#### Douglas Wades Bayou Dock and Launch

Located at the east end of downtown Douglas off Center Street, this park offers docks, boat launch, transient slips, barrier free kayak and canoe launch, and a gazebo.

#### Union Street Launch Ramp

Located at the north end of Union Street north of Blue Star Highway this site offers boat access to the Kalamazoo River with limited parking.

#### Saugatuck Township River Bluff Park Dock and Shore Access

Located at River Bluff Park off Old Allegan Road this site offers 0.5 mile of undeveloped shore access to the Kalamazoo River.

#### Michigan DNR 63rd Street/Hacklander Boat Launch

Located at the end 63<sup>rd</sup> Street south of the Kalamazoo River this is a DNR owned and operated site that offers a hard surface ramp for medium sized watercraft, low water depth, 44 parking spaces, and public toilet. Adjacent to historical Walker's Landing property.

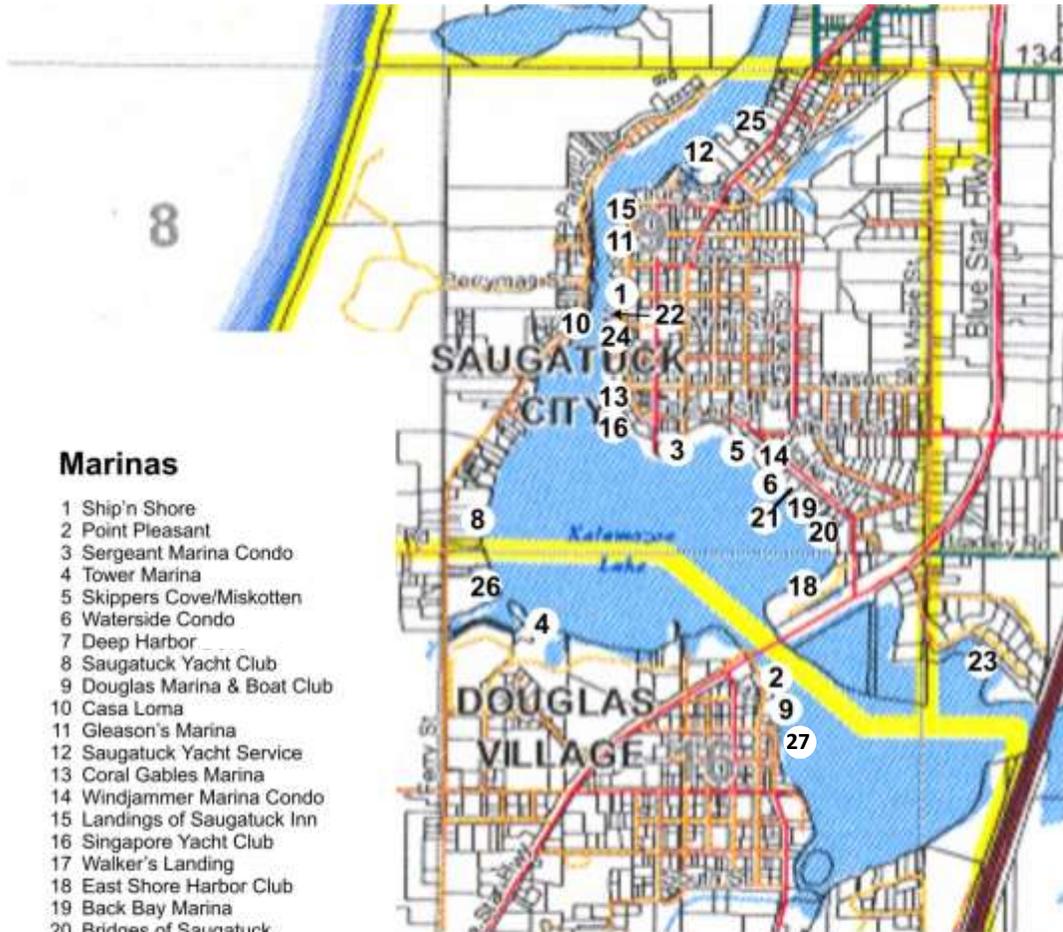
#### New Richmond Bridge Park Launch

Located at New Richmond Bridge Park operated by Allegan County Parks at the end of Old Allegan Road and 58<sup>th</sup> Street in Manlius Township. Offers hard surface ramp for medium sized watercraft, low water depth, 26 parking spaces, and public toilet.



# Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

## Tri-Community Marina Map



### Marinas

- 1 Ship'n Shore
- 2 Point Pleasant
- 3 Sergeant Marina Condo
- 4 Tower Marina
- 5 Skippers Cove/Miskotten
- 6 Waterside Condo
- 7 Deep Harbor
- 8 Saugatuck Yacht Club
- 9 Douglas Marina & Boat Club
- 10 Casa Loma
- 11 Gleason's Marina
- 12 Saugatuck Yacht Service
- 13 Coral Gables Marina
- 14 Windjammer Marina Condo
- 15 Landings of Saugatuck Inn
- 16 Singapore Yacht Club
- 17 Walker's Landing
- 18 East Shore Harbor Club
- 19 Back Bay Marina
- 20 Bridges of Saugatuck
- 21 Saugatuck Shores Condo
- 22 Main Street Docks - City of Saugatuck
- 23 Heron Bay Condo
- 24 Dockside Marketplace
- 25 Riverview Marina
- 26 Tower Harbor Marina Condo
- 27 Wade's Bayou





## **Commercial Boating Recreation**

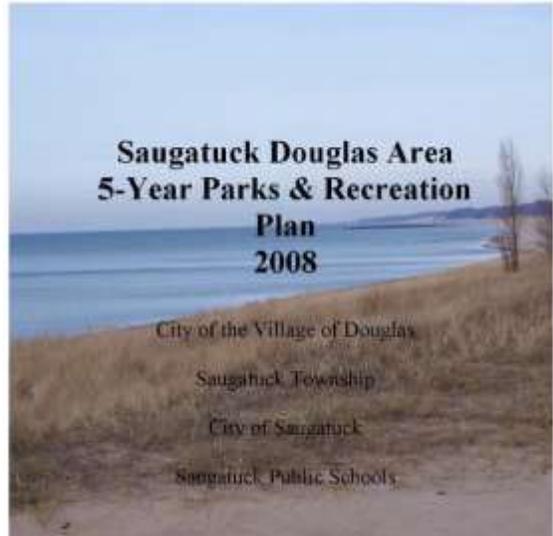
- **Marinas.** Over 900 slips for transient and seasonal boaters on the shores of Kalamazoo Lake and River. Facilities include: Singapore Yacht Club, Saugatuck Yacht Club, Sergeant's Docks, Coral Gable Marina, Saugatuck Yacht Service, Tower Marina, West Shore Marine, Point Pleasant Marina, Wade's Bayout (transient slips), Key Marina, South Shore Marina, Walker's Landing, Deep Harbor Marina, and Gleason's Marina. Some of these facilities also offer boat launching, boat storage, repairs, nautical equipment, fuel sales, and rental of small boats.
- **Charter Fishing.** Charter fishing boat tours in Lake Michigan for salmon and lake trout are widely available out of local marinas.
- **Local Boat, Paddle Board, and Kayak Rentals.** Provide leisurely cruises on the river and out into Lake Michigan. They include the Jet Ski rentals from Coral Gables in the City of Saugatuck, and kayak/canoe rentals from Running River's at Wade's Bayou Park in Douglas. Retro Boat Rentals offers rare classic runabout boats reflective of the 50's and 60's rental by the hour or day in downtown Saugatuck. Just Add Water store offers stand up paddle boards, skim boards, boogie boards for rent.



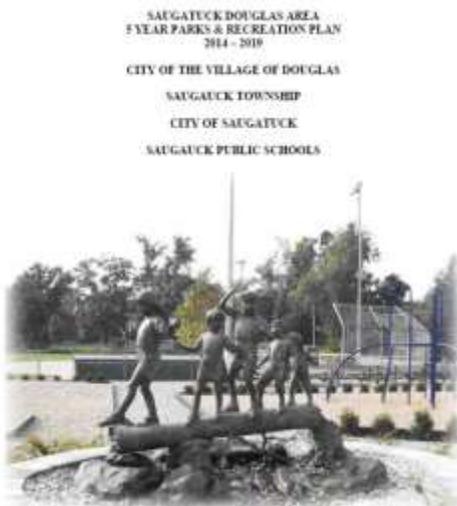
## 6 DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AND PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

The 2019-2023 Joint Park & Recreation Plan is a comprehensive update to the 2014-2019 Plan. The plan has been prepared by the administrative offices and elected officials of the City of the Village of Douglas, Saugatuck Township, and the Community Recreation Department administered by Saugatuck Public Schools. The City of Saugatuck provides a separate plan and is not included in this section.

A main purpose of the plan is to facilitate collaborative planning in the Saugatuck-Douglas area among the local units of government and school district. A joint recreation plan is a means to accomplish regional planning of parks offerings and recreation opportunities while maintaining separate governmental control of facilities within each municipality or jurisdiction.



While the plan itself is crafted by representatives of each local government it is the residents, business owners, and seasonal visitors that are at the heart of the community planning process. This process involved close cooperation among the partner communities. Public input was gathered through a variety of methods including online survey, Public Meetings, and on-going public access to members of each City Council, the Township Board, Township Parks Commissioners, and Community Recreation Advisory Board.



The initial efforts began with a review of the previous plan by members and staff of each local unit of government. Existing parks were reviewed and demands made on each facility were discussed. An inventory of each facility owned and operated by each partner community was developed and evaluated per Michigan DNR guidelines. Online input was considered amongst discussions of priorities by each partner community. Goals and objectives were identified, and an Action Program in form of a capital improvement plan was prepared by each unit of government based on identified needs and financial capabilities of each community. Draft proposed plan updates were made by each community and incorporated into the joint planning document.



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

The draft 2019-2023 Joint Park & Recreation Plan was then made available to the general public for review and presented at a public hearing where citizens could again provide input. The final joint plan will be sent to respective County, Regional, and State recreation planning agencies.

Each local unit of government conducted a separate initial public input process. In addition to these separate efforts, a joint public hearing on the plan was conducted on January 2, 2019 at Saugatuck Township Hall. After the joint public hearing, the plan was adopted by Resolution of the City of the Village of Douglas City Council and the Saugatuck Township Board, at their respective government meetings. Specifics of individual public input efforts are described below.

### City of the Village of Douglas

The City of the Village of Douglas held a public hearing on December 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm, at the City offices at 86 W. Center Street, Douglas, Michigan 49406 to hear public comments on the draft 2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Five Year Recreation Plan. Minutes are included in Appendix F.

### Saugatuck Township & Community Recreation

In February of 2018, Saugatuck Township and Saugatuck Public School Community Recreation Department collaborated on a public input survey to solicit public input early in the planning process. Residents and visitors were asked to comment specifically on Saugatuck Township Parks and other facilities used for Community Recreation. The survey was made available in online format through social media, posted to the Township and SPS websites, paper copies were collected throughout the tri-community area in a stationed ballot box, and paper copies were collected in person at local area events. Input was collected through May 2018. Results are summarized in a memo included as Appendix D. Full survey results are available upon request.





## 7 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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### Area Wide Goals and Objectives

The three governmental units consisting of the City of Saugatuck, the City of the Village of Douglas and Saugatuck Township came together in 1988 to develop the Tri-Community Comprehensive Plan, which was updated in June of 2016. For about a decade, Saugatuck Public Schools have taken on a significant role in Tri-Community recreation programming. A special millage was passed in 2005 and was renewed in 2017 with strong support to maintain a department within the school system for recreation programming. The communities continue to have a strong commitment to joint planning efforts. The City of Saugatuck provides a separate plan and is not included in this section.

The greater Saugatuck/Douglas community intends to advance the following goals:

**GOAL:** Protect and enhance the natural aesthetic values and recreation potential of all waterfront areas for the enjoyment of area citizens and visitors to the community.

**Objectives of waterfront goal:**

- Where the opportunity arises, secure additional Lake Michigan, Kalamazoo River, wetland, stream, and dune lands access. Consider conservation easements or visual access if outright ownership cannot be secured.





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

**GOAL:** Enhance the well-being of area residents by providing a variety of opportunities for walkability, relaxation, rest, activity, and education through a well-balanced system of public parks, trails & sidewalk systems, recreational facilities, and activities to serve the identified needs of the area.

**Objectives of well-balanced goal:**

- Enhance and expand the trail system for non-motorized activities throughout and beyond the area. A main collaborative goal of all governmental entities involved is to provide safe, networked access between communities and points of special interest such as beaches, parks, residential and business areas. Work with other government entities and non-profit entities like “Friends of the Blue Star Trail” to obtain matching funds for grants to extend existing non-motorized trails.
- Continue to collaborate and share resources among the communities to extend limited financial and human resources.
- Maintain and upgrade existing park facilities as a backdrop for community living.
- Augment natural areas and tie parks and natural features together with way finding systems and trails.
- Expand wildlife habitat enhancement opportunities.





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

**GOAL:** Provide recreational opportunities for persons of all ages and physical ability.

**Objectives of accessibility goal:**

- Improve the accessibility of park and trail facilities for people with mobility challenges. Encourage ADA Accessible Design and Universal Design principles.
- Continue strong recreational programming that provides a diverse range of physical and non-physical activities.
- Work with civic and cultural organizations to provided additional recreational opportunities and facilities for people of all ages and abilities – for example the Saugatuck Douglas District Library.





### Area Wide Rationale

**Kalamazoo River and Lake Michigan Access:** Our economy is based on tourism and lake access is vital. The fishing boat charters and the companies offering boat tours of the area must have lake access. The communities also support over 500 large boat slips and numerous small boat slips. These boaters use the lake for water recreation and fishing. The Kalamazoo River and Lake Michigan access must be the highest priority to all entities involved. The Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority has been formed by the tri-communities to implement the recommendations within the Kalamazoo Harbor Master Plan to secure funding. In 2013, river dredging was a major focal point due to record low lake levels.



**Non-motorized Trails:** All three communities value safe travel connections within their boundaries. It is important that trail design and routes are thoroughly vetted and planned by each community partner. There is wide spread use of bicycles in the area by young people who work, by tourists, and by area bicycle groups. Many of the areas are very congested and the bicycles try to compete with automobiles. The 2015 plan outlined a bicycle path for the area and the 2019 plan continues to develop this long term plan. Non-motorized trails ranked highest on the resident priority list and visitors to the area frequently ask for maps of area trails. This is a high priority for the area with greater emphasis in the Township and City of the Village of Douglas where there are fewer sidewalks and more access to the Blue Star Highway Corridor.

**Develop Brochure/Signage for Area Parks:** An area wide parks and recreation brochure has been discussed for a number of years. The coordinating effort remains difficult, but the need is there. Many of our residents and visitors are unaware of the extensive area park system and often ask for directions to the parks.



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

**Winter Recreational Facilities:** Three season recreation opportunities are widely available in the area, but winter recreation opportunities need to be expanded. Public input has shown support for activities such as: ice skating, sledding, cross-country skiing, fat tire biking, and snow shoeing. Since the area tourist season has now stretched to all four seasons we would like to have these opportunities available to our tourists too.



**Historical Museum:** The Historical Museum/Learning Center is an added gem in the Saugatuck Douglas area and all of the governmental units wish to support this project. The actual museum building is located on the river in Saugatuck and the Learning Center is located in the Old School House in Douglas. Funds are needed to expand exhibits and to supplement local donation support. The museum/learning center adds depth to our tourist offerings and gives roots to its residents. It provides enjoyment to all of our communities.

**Swimming Pool. Visitor Convention Center. Tot Lots:** These items are a low priority, but remain noted for the following reasons. An indoor swimming pool has some support on survey of residents but the governmental units have looked at the cost of building and maintaining a facility and simply cannot afford the project. The area still does not have a building to provide meeting rooms for companies who would like to bring employees here for training. This remains an interest of the lodging concerns and the CVB. There still is an interest in providing small areas in the neighborhoods where young children can gather safely to play.



## City of the Village of Douglas Rationale, Local Goals, and Objectives

### 1. Douglas Beach:

- a. Construct maintenance building to house emergency response equipment
- b. Install 911 telephone
- c. Lake Michigan Overlook (ADA Accessible)
- d. Demarcate beach property to limit overflow on adjacent private property
- e. Additional parking
- f. Increase beach size

### 2. Schultz Park:

- a. Landscape to include shade trees
- b. Replace playground equipment
- c. Add drain tiles around soccer field
- d. Expand and pave additional parking areas (utilizing geo blocks)
- e. Construct maintenance building to store sports equipment
- f. Construct public rest rooms
- g. Add highway berm to block noise from adjacent neighborhoods

### 3. Wade's Bayou Memorial Park:

- a. Remove existing Garage/Storage facility after constructing new D.P.W. building
- b. Construct rest rooms and concessions opportunities
- c. Install boardwalk
- d. Create multipurpose plaza with benches and barrier free picnic tables
- e. Landscape
- f. Install lighting
- g. Fishing piers, boathouse, and floating gathering area
- h. Increase parking
- i. Explore feasibility of water front amphitheater
- j. Install additional docks and boating facilities for transient boaters
- k. Establish stop on Kalamazoo River Greenway Trail and Heritage Trail
- l. Consider purchase for expansion of parcels as available



**4. Union Street Launch Ramp**

- a. Purchase property to increase parking
- b. Install lighting
- c. Add barrier free picnic tables and benches

**5. Harold Beery Field:**

- a. Construct maintenance building to store sports equipment
- b. New playground equipment
- c. Construct Ice Rink
- d. Construct water amenity / splash pad
- e. Winterize restrooms for year round use

**6. Purchase land to expand the City of the Village of Douglas park and recreation offerings. The above facilities are needed to:**

- a. provide a full range of recreational opportunities;
- b. meet the identified recreational needs of the residents and visitors;
- c. Ensure the long term quality and use of facilities;
- d. meet the recreational needs of special populations;
- e. meet the recreational needs of all ages.
- f. dredging – bridge clearance and water depth issues

**7. Expand Non-Motorized Trail Network:**

- a. Expand existing trail from Wiley Road to City Limits
- b. Expand pedestrian access on Ferry from Center Street to City limits (N).
- c. Expand pedestrian access on Union from Wiley Road to Center Street
- d. Expand pedestrian and non-motorized access from Blue Star Highway to Schultz Park Drive with potential bridge access over Tannery Creek.



### Saugatuck Township Rationale

**River Bluff Park-** Several grant programs including: MDEQ Coastal Management, DNR MNRTF and Recreation Passport, and Office of the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust grants have been sought in the past to fund improvements to River Bluff Park. The parks natural features are well documented including: a 0.5 mile of publically accessible shoreline along the Kalamazoo River which is a state designated Natural River, a largely undisturbed Hemlock-Beech forest, thriving wetlands, variety of wildlife, and access to the Great Lake Fishery. The park is along the Kalamazoo River Heritage Trail and included in future planning efforts for a Kalamazoo River Greenway and Water Trail.

The natural surface trail system is largely undeveloped with limited accessibility. Future improvements will focus on improved water access, fishing pier, docks, gazebo(s) near the river areas of the park as well as parking lot improvement and ADA trail improvement. Fluctuating lake levels and river dredging efforts may have an additional impact on water accessibility and waterfront features. Active shoreline erosion has been observed and is of concern.



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

Capital improvements for ADA compliant trails, new benches, children's play area, swing set, fitness course, ropes course, large gazebo, restrooms outdoor amphitheater and picnic enclosure have been considered for open space uses for the park. A phased development plan for River Bluff Park is included in Appendix E.

**Sundown Park**-This park has received new parking lot crushed concrete and landscaping since 2016. Improvements have been small in scale but include a new split rail fence, a privacy fence, park bench, removal of unsightly debris, and the removal trees on the north end of the property. This park does extend to Lake Michigan, however access has been removed and deemed too costly due to maintenance and close proximity to a large outlet to public storm drain. Sundown Park could be targeted for a possible observatory deck overlooking Lake Michigan in the future with improved parking. The Sundown Park sign is weathered and in need of replacement.

**Dog Park / 134<sup>th</sup> Ave Property**- In 2017 and 2018 the "Tails N Trails" dog park area of the property received new water faucets, two new concrete pads around main entrances, picnic tables, benches, and trail improvements. The large dog enclosure was refurbished in 2016. The 5 acre dog park is the only developed portion of the larger Township owned property.

The park offers a unique dog park experience for users with a large off leash wooded walking trail area. The park is open all season.



The parking lot and large dog enclosure have both received lighting since 2008. The entrance from 134<sup>th</sup> Avenue and parking lot would benefit greatly from pavement and drainage basin. In the past, conceptual plans for the park and surrounding acreage have included playgrounds, basketball courts, gazebo, bathrooms facilities, additional parking, nature trails, and a pond for fishing. ADA compliant trails are lacking throughout entry areas and both dog enclosures.

**Blue Star Memorial Park**-This park received a new split rail fence and asphalt pull aside area off the shoulder in 2017. It offers a secure area for motorist to break from traffic on Blue Star Highway and is near, yet across the street, from the Township's existing non-motorized trail and west of the Spectator's Bar and Grill parking area. Its proximity to the existing trail may promote expanded use of this park. The enclosure area was repaired in the 1990's and is aging, should



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

funding be available, the enclosure would be a priority. Its disrepair would be an eyesore to a corridor of the Tri-community.

**Amelanchier Park**-This is a wooded and undeveloped area along Moore's Creek south of the Riverside Cemetery and is the targeted site for the next non-motorized trail connection area from North Street to Cemetery Road. It has received little or no capital improvement and exists within a large, predominately wet parcel of property extending from the cemetery to North Street. The Amelanchier Park area is higher in elevation and suitable for park use, and according to minutes from the late 1970's, was considered as an area where residents could net and fish trout from Moore's Creek. It received a private donation of land in 2017 for the purposes of connecting the Blue Star Trail. It has a scenic potential for public access to Moore's Creek and potential for use by cemetery visitors given its proximity to Riverside Cemetery.

**Non-Motorized Trails** – In 2009, 1.7 miles of non-motorized trail connected the Laketown Township trails at 64<sup>th</sup> Street to the City of Saugatuck along the north side of Blue Star Highway and Holland Streets. In 2017, Saugatuck Township constructed a large portion of non-motorized trail from 134<sup>th</sup> Street./North Street to Old Allegan road along the west side of Blue Star Highway. Saugatuck Township plans to connect this section of trail through the undeveloped Amelanchier Park thence west on Cemetery Road to Holland Street in the near future.



The Township plans to connect the Blue Star Trail north portion from Old Allegan Road to Maple Street, and a south portion from the City of the Village of Douglas south limits to M-89. The goal of the Township is to develop, own and maintain a non-motorized trail along the Blue Star Highway Corridor that is “boundary to boundary” from Laketown to Ganges Townships. In 2018 a shared maintenance agreement was signed by Laketown Township, Saugatuck Township, and the City of the Village of Douglas to further collaborate on future trail maintenance activities.



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan



Ideas for additional connecting trails have been supported and could be located along Old Allegan Road to connect River Bluff Park to the Blue Star Trail. This portion could eventually run along Old Allegan Road toward the Allegan County Swing Bridge Park in New Richmond, MI. The Township plans to continue collaboration with private donors and partners like non-profit group “Friends of the Blue Star Trail” as needed in order to continue development of non-motorized trail and improve the its trail users experiences. Future phasing for the Blue Star Trail is included in Appendix E.

These projects are very possible in the future with grant assistance from the DNR Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, MDOT Transportation Alternative Program, and Federal Highway Administration CMAQ and/or additional revenues from special millage like those in place at Laketown Township and many other townships in Ottawa County.





## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

**Acquire more Natural Resources Property** – Acquiring land that will provide public access to Lake Michigan, the Kalamazoo River, and streams/wetlands will create a more cohesive parks and recreation system for the area and provide opportunities to improve and connect many existing amenities and spaces. A Kalamazoo River Heritage Trail is already in place and the Outdoor Discovery Center is evaluating a future Kalamazoo River Greenway (see Appendix E). Water Trails efforts are underway statewide and locally, and there may be future opportunities to the Township to enrich these efforts through property acquisition. Partnerships with local philanthropic entities, land conservancy’s, government agencies, and neighboring local municipalities may enhance these efforts.



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

### Saugatuck Township & City of the Village of Douglas Proposed Non-Motorized Trails Map

This map shows potential future sidewalk and non-motorized trail concepts to improve non-motorized connectivity in the tri-community area. The Township is focused on constructing the Blue Star Trail to extend the initial corridor begun in 2007 with the extension of trail linking the Laketown Township path network to the City of Saugatuck limits on the north side of Saugatuck Township. Douglas is focused on expanding walkability throughout the city.





## Saugatuck Public Schools Rationale

Community Recreation development priorities include:

1. Additional football field
2. Soccer fields
3. Softball field
4. Outdoor bathrooms and parking
5. Baseball field



The above facilities are needed to:

- provide a full complement of recreational activities in a safe and healthy environment;
- provide facilities that meet regulation size and shapes to ensure a well-rounded series of recreational opportunities;
- meet the recreational needs and desires of a broad range of students;
- provide recreational facilities which also provide health related benefits to students, and community users;
- meet the needs of the general public.





## 8 ACTION PROGRAM

These capital improvement schedules are based on a five year time sequence, coinciding with the life of the joint recreation plan. The schedules identify planned improvements, estimated construction costs, desired year of completion and potential funding sources. Due to the nature of project funding, the schedules are somewhat fluid and are subject to ongoing evaluation and modification. It is noted that project costs are based on conceptual designs, and are subject to change based on final project scope and detailed design.

### City of the Village of Douglas

Year	Project – Douglas	Total Project \$
<b>2019</b>	<b>Wade’s Bayou Memorial Park</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove garage storage facility (relocate Public Works).</li> <li>• Paint Kalamazoo Lake Sewer &amp; Water Authority Buildings.</li> <li>• Install benches and barrier-free picnic tables.</li> <li>• Add utilities for marina</li> <li>• Add Pile supported Deck (North)</li> </ul>	
<b>2020</b>	<b>Wade’s Bayou Memorial Park</b>	<b>\$900,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install gangway, abutment and finger piers on new dock (North)</li> <li>• Add Boathouse and Pile supported Deck (North)</li> <li>• Continue partnership with State of Michigan on permitting and dredge cost reduction.</li> </ul>	
<b>2021</b>	<b>Wade’s Bayou Memorial Park</b>	<b>\$1,450,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install Main floating pier, gangway, abutment and finger piers (South)</li> <li>• Establish Blueway Trail Network and water trail nodes (\$300,000)</li> <li>• Consider acquisition of available parcels.</li> </ul>	
<b>2022</b>	<b>Wade’s Bayou Memorial Park</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add floating gathering areas on end of main piers (North and South)</li> <li>• Increase parking</li> <li>• Explore feasibility of waterfront amphitheater</li> <li>• Work towards I-196 Sound Berms (at Schultz Park)</li> </ul>	



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

<b>2023</b>	<b>Wade's Bayou Memorial Park</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct Waterfront Trail / Boardwalk (\$500,000)</li><li>• Construct multi-purpose plaza and bathroom</li></ul>	
<b>2019</b>	<b>Point Pleasant Marina</b>	<b>\$1,400,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquire Marina</li><li>• Upgrade facility to public ADA standards</li></ul>	
<b>2019</b>	<b>Continue Non-Motorized Trail Network</b>	<b>\$325,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expand existing trail from Wiley Road south to City Limits</li><li>• Expand pedestrian access from Blue Star Highway east to Schultz Park Drive</li></ul>	
<b>2020</b>	<b>Continue Non-Motorized Trail Network</b>	<b>\$475,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expand pedestrian access on Union from Wiley Road to Downtown</li><li>• Expand pedestrian access on Ferry Street from Center Street to City Limits</li></ul>	
<b>2019</b>	<b>Douglas Beach</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explore feasibility of ADA accessible deck overlooking Lake Michigan</li><li>• Demarcate boundaries of public beach area with permanent fixtures to protect adjacent properties from trespass and to ensure full use of public areas.</li><li>• Install 911 telephone.</li></ul>	
<b>2021</b>	<b>Douglas Beach</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct maintenance building to house emergency response equipment.</li></ul>	
<b>2019</b>	<b>Schultz Park</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Landscape to include shade trees</li><li>• Replace playground equipment</li><li>• Add water to Dog Park</li></ul>	



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

<b>2021</b>	<b>Schultz Park</b>	<b>\$180,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Add drain tiles around soccer field</li><li>• Expand and pave additional parking areas (utilizing geo blocks)</li><li>• Construct Maintenance Building to store sports equipment</li><li>• Construct public bathrooms</li></ul>	
<b>2020</b>	<b>Union Street Launch Ramp</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Install lighting</li><li>• Add barrier free picnic tables and benches</li><li>• Purchase property to increase parking</li></ul>	
<b>2019</b>	<b>Harold Beery Field</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct Ice Rink</li><li>• Winterize restrooms for year round use</li></ul>	
<b>2020</b>	<b>Harold Beery Field</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct water amenity / splash pad</li><li>• Construct maintenance building to store sports equipment</li></ul>	
<b>2019</b>	<b>Land Acquisition for Park and Recreational Offerings</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

### Saugatuck Township

Year	Project – Saugatuck Township	Total Project \$
2019	<b>North Connection – Blue Star Trail – Part 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-motorized trail connection from Holland Street to Blue Star Highway at North Street. Trail to extend through Amelanchier Park with elevated boardwalk. Plans have already been developed. Major funding provided by Friends of the Blue Star Trail.</li></ul>	<b>\$550,000</b>
2019	<b>Amelanchier Park Trailhead</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop a trailhead parking and picnic area adjacent to Riverside Cemetery and the Blue Star Trail North Connection.</li></ul>	<b>\$60,000</b>
2019	<b>North Connection – Blue Star Trail – Part 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-motorized trail connection from Old Allegan Road to Maple Street and Saugatuck city limits. To be coordinated with the City of Saugatuck.</li></ul>	<b>\$300,000</b>
2019	<b>Old Allegan Road/Allegan Street Sidewalk</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct 550 feet of sidewalk from Maple Street to the Blue Star Trail on the north side of Old Allegan Road west of Blue Star Highway.</li></ul>	<b>\$20,000</b>
2020	<b>South Connection Phase 1 - Blue Star Trail</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-motorized trail extension from the Douglas city limit to Fallen Leaf Trail crossing I-196 at Exit 36. Draft plans have already been developed. Major funding provided by Friends of the Blue Star Trail. Coordinate with Douglas on their extension of trail from Wiley Road to their south limits. Coordinate with MDOT on crossing I-196.</li></ul>	<b>\$800,000</b>
2020	<b>River Bluff Park - Phase 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expand walking trails to ridge and shore and improve trails for ADA accessibility. Enhance shore fishing access and overlook areas of the Kalamazoo River.</li></ul>	<b>\$150,000</b>
2020	<b>Exit 36 Streetscape - Concepts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop tree planting and landscape concepts within the Blue Star Highway right of way north of Exit 36. Coordinate with Douglas Blue Star Highway corridor planning.</li></ul>	<b>\$10,000</b>



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

<b>2020</b>	<b>Non-Motorized Trail Preventative Maintenance</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Crack Seal existing non-motorized trails.</li></ul>	
<b>2021</b>	<b>Dog Park – Parking Lot &amp; Sidewalk Improvements</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pave the existing gravel parking lot and extend sidewalk into park for universal accessibility.</li></ul>	
<b>2021</b>	<b>South Connection Phase 2 – Blue Star Trail</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-motorized trail extension from Fallen Leaf Trail (Phase 1) to M-89. Major funding provided by Friends of the Blue Star Trail.</li></ul>	
<b>2021</b>	<b>River Bluff Park – Phase 2</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct accessible shore fishing pier at existing dock. Alternative to construct sections of riverfront boardwalk and stabilize bank erosion along the Kalamazoo River. Water Trail or Heritage Trail information stations. Explore private-public partnerships for Aerial Forest Park/High Ropes Course/Zip-Line operations.</li></ul>	
<b>2021</b>	<b>Acquisition Planning</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Study potential lands for active and passive recreation within the Township. Explore opportunities to acquire greenway and waterfront properties. Collaborate with community recreation on needs for additional field space.</li></ul>	
<b>2022</b>	<b>Sundown Park Improvements</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct a Lake Michigan observation deck with accessible parking, sidewalk, and trash service.</li></ul>	
<b>2022</b>	<b>Dog Park – Trail Expansion</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expand the fenced trail network into surrounding park acreage. Create water feature and additional open space. Improve existing trails with accessible loop and trail signage.</li></ul>	
<b>2022</b>	<b>River Bluff Park – Phase 3</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct restroom facilities with public water. Coordinate with programming opportunities - for example the Outdoor Discovery Center and local school or daycare</li></ul>	



## Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan

field trips.

**2023 Old Allegan Road Trail to River Bluff Park \$120,000**

- Extend non-motorized trail from Blue Star Trail to River Bluff Park, 0.4 miles.

**2023 Wiley Road Trail to Lakeshore Drive \$170,000**

- Extend non-motorized trail from Wiley Road at Douglas city limits to Lakeshore Drive, 0.7 miles. Coordinate with Douglas on extension of trail within their limits to connect to Blue Star Trail.

**2023 Lake Drive Emergency Access and Trail \$100,000**

- Restore emergency and non-motorized trail access around the 800 foot washed out road right of way in Lakeshore Drive.





## Saugatuck Public Schools

Year	Project – SPS Community Recreation	Total Project \$
2019-20	<b>Resurfacing the track as SHS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Place new surface on High School Track. Possible funding from Building Site Sinking Fund.</li></ul>	<b>\$80,000</b>
2020-21	<b>Replace field turf as SHS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Replace field turf at High School Field. Possible funding from Building Site Sinking Fund.</li></ul>	<b>\$600,000</b>
2021-22	<b>Purchase land and develop green space/athletic field</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Purchase land for multi-purpose green space/athletic fields. Possible funding from Building Site Sinking Fund</li></ul>	<b>\$900,000</b>
2023-24	<b>Community Recreation Center: indoor courts, indoor track, weight room</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Construct a recreation center. Possible funding from Building Site Sinking Fund, dedicated bond, Community Recreation, Investment, Grant Funds.</li></ul>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>





## 9 PLAN ADOPTION

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This section documents that the City of the Village of Douglas and Saugatuck Township have submitted copies of the plan to the required organizations, held a public meeting, and adopted the plan. Copies of the following documents are included in Appendix F. It is not a requirement for Saugatuck Public Schools to formally adopt this plan.

### **Resolution from City of Village of Douglas Council**

Resolution 01-2019 approving the plan with meeting minutes from January 7, 2019.

### **Resolution from Saugatuck Township Board**

Resolution 2019-01 approving the plan with meeting minutes from January 2, 2019.

### **Minutes from Joint Public Hearing**

Minutes from joint public hearing held January 2, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Saugatuck Township Hall, 3461 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453 are included as part of the Regular Saugatuck Township Meeting Minutes following the board resolution.

### **Notice of Joint Public Hearing and Availability of Plan for Public 30-Day Review**

Notice published in The Commercial Record newspaper on November 23, 2018 and The Local Observer newspaper on November 23, 2018 with joint public hearing to be held January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Saugatuck Township Hall, and notice that the plan is available for public viewing at the respective City, Township, and Recreation offices between November 26, 2018 and January 1, 2019 and online [saugatucktownship.org](http://saugatucktownship.org), [ci.douglas.mi.us](http://ci.douglas.mi.us), or [saugatuckpublicschools.com/community-recreation/](http://saugatuckpublicschools.com/community-recreation/).

### **County Planning Agency Submittal**

Letter was sent to Brandy Gildea, Parks Coordinator at Allegan County Parks and Recreation, 3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 103, Allegan, MI 49010 on January 22, 2019 with copy of the plan.

### **Regional Planning Agency Submittal**

Letter was sent to West Michigan Regional Planning Commission, 1345 Monroe Avenue NW, Suite 255, Grand Rapids, MI 49505-4670 on January 22, 2019 with copy of the plan.

### **DNR Submittal**

The plan and Certification Checklists were uploaded to MiRecGrants online on, or around, January 29, 2019. Certification Checklists were signed by each separate local unit of government also uploaded.



## **Appendix A – Social Characteristics**

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## APPENDIX A

# SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

An area profile is necessary to help understand the population and determine the recreation needs of Douglas, Saugatuck Township, City of Saugatuck, and the Saugatuck School District. This profile includes population counts and projections, age distribution, and income and employment characteristics for year-round residents, as well as, estimated impacts of seasonal residents and visitors who greatly increase demands on recreational facilities in the area.

Population growth in the study area has been steady over the past several decades according to the 2010 census. Population has increased 31.5% in the past 20 years. The City of Saugatuck experienced a slight decrease of 3% from 2000 to 2010. The overall area continues to experience a large presence of seasonal visitors and housing that has increased during the same period. The 2020 census will update this information. Growth in the area slowed substantially during the recession, but in 2017 and 2018 substantial increases in growth have been observed.



Historically, from 1940 to 2010, the population of the area grew from 1,783 to 5,101 residents. The number of full-time residents in Saugatuck-Douglas-Saugatuck Township was 5,101 in 2010 based on Census data.

Allegan and Ottawa County are expected to continue to increase in population faster than the State of Michigan averages. Development in West Michigan, the Greater Grand Rapids area, and nearby Holland area are expected to spill over into the Saugatuck-Douglas-Saugatuck Township area. An estimated 1,445 persons live in the portion of Laketown Township covered by Saugatuck Public Schools District.

### Decennial Census Populations

Unit	1990	2000	2010	% GROWTH (20 year)
Douglas City	1,049	1,214	1,232	17%
Saugatuck City	954	1,065	925	-3%
Saugatuck Township	1,876	2,376	2,944	56.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,879</b>	<b>4,655</b>	<b>5,101</b>	<b>31.5%</b>

Source: US Census, 2010

Family households refer to households with two or more family members residing in the household. Non-family households reflect one-person and non-family member households. Within Douglas and Saugatuck, the ratio of households is somewhat evenly divided between family and non-family. In Saugatuck Township family households are higher than non-family.

The ratios are significantly different than Allegan County as a whole where family households comprise approximately 72.5% of the household mix and non-family at roughly 27.5%. This fact has an influence on recreation programming needs. For example, 54% of the households do not have children, so the individuals in these households are likely not served by all the same programs as family-households. The average household size and average family size for the units of the project area are less than those of Allegan County as a whole.

### Households

Unit	Total Households	Family Households	Non-Family Households
Douglas City	645	279 (43.3%)	366 (56.7)
Saugatuck City	513	243 (47.4%)	270 (52.6%)
Saugatuck Township	1,276	809 (63.4%)	667 (36.6%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,434</b>	<b>1,331 (45%)</b>	<b>1,303 (54%)</b>
Allegan County	42,018	30,450 (72.5%)	11,568 (27.5%)

Source: US Census, 2010

### Household Size

Unit	Average Household Size	Average Family Size
Douglas City	1.82	2.60
Saugatuck City	1.80	2.43
Saugatuck Township	2.31	2.86
Allegan County	2.63	3.08

Source: US Census, 2010

The age of the population is an important factor in identifying recreation needs. The following table provides a breakdown of age categories for the study area and Allegan County. This data shows the percentage of school age residents ages 5-19 is less than Allegan County as a whole; 14.8% and 22%, respectively. The percentage of residents 55-64 years and older is significantly greater for the area than Allegan County as a whole; 40.1% and 25.7 %, respectively. However, this data does not account for the substantial number of seasonal residents, day visitors, and vacationers who are drawn to the area.

### Age Distribution - Number and Percent (Per Specified Unit)

Age	Douglas (1,232 pop.)	Saugatuck (925 pop.)	Saugatuck Twp. (2,944 pop.)	<b>Project Area (5,101 pop.)</b>	Allegan County (111,408 pop.)
0-4	45 (3.7%)	25(2.7%)	150 (5.1%)	220 (4.3%)	7,501 (6.7%)
5-19	147 (11.9%)	103(11.1%)	506 (17.3%)	756 (14.8%)	24,482 (22%)
20-24	24 (1.9%)	22 (2.4%)	90 (3.1%)	136 (2.7%)	5,816 (5.2%)
25-34	61 (4.9%)	68 (7.4%)	213 (7.2%)	342 (6.7%)	12,201 (10.9%)
35-44	123(10.0%)	98 (10.6%)	412 (14%)	633 (12.4%)	18,143 (17.2%)
45-54	234 (19.0%)	175 (18.9%)	576 (18.9%)	985 (19.3%)	18,121(16.2%)
55-64	278(22.6.7%)	234 (25.3%)	535 (18.2%)	1,047(20.5%)	14,158 (12.7%)
65+	320(26%)	200 (21.6)	482(16.4%)	1,002(19.6%)	14,438 (13%)
Note: Percentages are rounded. Source: US Census, 2010					

The following table provides a breakdown of gender and race. While all units report a slightly higher percentage of males, the overall proportion of males to females is relatively even. The same holds true for Allegan County as a whole. The racial character of the project area, as well as Allegan County as a whole, indicates a population largely classified as “White”.

### Gender and Race Breakdowns

Unit	2010 Gender		2010 Race					
	Male	Female	White	Black	Am. Indian/ Alaskan	Asian	Native Hawaiian	Other
Douglas City	616 (50%)	616 (50%)	1,198 (97.2%)	7 (0.6%)	2 (0.2%)	3 (0.2%)	-	11 (0.9%)
Saugatuck City	467 (50.4%)	458 (49.5%)	884 (95.6%)	6 (0.6%)	6 (0.6%)	4 (0.4%)	-	8 (0.9%)
Saugatuck Township	1,505 (51.1%)	1,439 (48.9%)	2,824 (95.9%)	9 (0.3%)	16 (0.5%)	17 (0.4%)	-	39 (1.3%)
<b>Project Area</b>	<b>2,588 (50.7%)</b>	<b>2,513 (49.3%)</b>	<b>4,906 (96.2%)</b>	<b>25 (0.5%)</b>	<b>16 (0.5%)</b>	<b>24 (0.5%)</b>	<b>2 (-)</b>	<b>69 (1.3%)</b>
Allegan County	55,473 (49.8%)	55,935 (50.2%)	103,513 (92.9%)	1,358 (1.2%)	636 (0.6%)	648 (0.6%)	22 (-)	3,082 (2.8%)
Note: Percentages are rounded. Source: US Census, 2010								

The following table provides a breakdown of household income, including median household income and an income spread by select category. Compared to Allegan County as whole, the project area exhibits a slightly greater percentage of households with income over \$100,000 and lower percentages of household with income \$15,000 to \$99,999.

According to the 2010 Census Bureau: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates from 2007-2011 the total number of households in Allegan County equal 41,914. The total project area household equals 1,970 (Township 1,215, Saugatuck 405, and Douglas 350).

### Household Income

Unit	Median HH Income	Less than \$15,000	\$15,000 to \$24,999	\$25,000 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 and above
Douglas City	\$41,042	68 (19.4%)	65 (18.6%)	74 (21.2%)	91 (26%)	52(14.8%)
Saugatuck City	\$54,563	51 (12.6%)	17 (4.2%)	60 (14.9%)	136(33.6%)	96(23.7%)
Saugatuck Township	\$57,001	129(10.6%)	79 (6.5%)	302(24.8%)	430(35.4%)	275(22.2%)
<b>Project Area</b>	<b>\$50,869</b>	<b>248 (12.9%)</b>	<b>161 (8.4%)</b>	<b>436 (22.6%)</b>	<b>657 (34.1%)</b>	<b>423 (22%)</b>
Allegan County	\$51,232	4,561 (11%)	4,356 (10.4%)	11,472 (27%)	15,356 (36.7%)	6,169 (14.7%)

2010 Census: 2007-2011 5 Year Est.

The following table provides detail on the number of families classified as poverty level status. As indicated, each unit possesses a slightly higher percent of poverty level status families than Allegan County as a whole, when compared with the Area’s relatively high percentage of higher income the result indicates greater disparity in wealth than Allegan County as a whole.

### Poverty Level Status- Families

Unit	Families	Percent of Families
Douglas City	24	8.7
Saugatuck City	18	6.7
Saugatuck Township	51	5.4
Allegan County	1,437	5.0

Note: Percent reflects that percent of total families per unit. Source: US Census, 2010

It is important to note that each of the project area’s governmental units, as well as the public schools, have instituted a number of recreational facilities and programs which area either free or low cost to area residents.

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## Special Needs Residents

Special needs residents include, among others: the elderly; persons physically or mentally challenged; persons visually or hearing challenged; persons and/or families in poverty; and, other residents having special or unique needs. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, one out of every dozen U.S. children and teenagers has a physical or mental disability.

Based on contact with area health care, educational, social and other agency organizations, it is roughly estimated 2 to 5 percent of the area's population experience some level of special need. To ensure that all populations are given opportunity to enjoy local recreational opportunities, the 2019-2024 Parks & Recreation Plan provides:

- New facilities will be designed to meet or exceed ADA requirements including non-motorized trails and sidewalks.
- Examine existing park facilities to determine accessibility.
- Future action programs will consider all needs of special populations. It is noted that past programs have done likewise.
- Special needs residents will be encouraged to participate in programming and planning activities.
- Whenever possible, programs will be offered without charge to ensure that low income residents have equal opportunity to participate. In the event charges/fees are necessary, allowances will be made to assist those in need. As possible, assistance will be accomplished in a confidential manner.

## Seasonal Population

A seasonal influx of cottage owners, visitors, and boaters is estimated to virtually double the permanent population of the recreational area in the summer season. Fall and Spring experience more part time residents too. While it is difficult to be precise on the seasonal population, the next table offers insight into the magnitude of increase during spring, summer, and fall.

Note that these figures are only for people who are residents for part of the year. Day visitors on summer weekends are estimated to add another 4,000 or more to the population. The Saugatuck Douglas area has over 500 transient rooms available for overnight guests.

### Historical Seasonal Population

Community	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000	Total Housing Units 2000	Seasonal % of Total 2000
Douglas City	184	217	18%	853	25.4%
Saugatuck City	287	319	11%	928	34.4%
Saugatuck Township	180	197	9%	1,236	15.9%
<b>Tri- Community Area</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>3,017</b>	<b>24.3%</b>
Allegan County	2,730	3,154	16%	43,292	7.3%

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

### 2010 Estimated Seasonal Residents

Dwelling Type	Number of Units	Population/Unit	Total Population
Seasonal Homes	733	2 (2)	1,466
Large Boats	498	2	996
Campground Sites	223	4	488 (3)
Church Camp Users	162	1	162
Overnight Lodging	507	2	1,014
			<b>4,126</b>

Notes:  
 1) U.S. Census, 2010  
 2) Based on avg. persons per household of the project area as secured from the US Census, 2010  
 3) Based on an average 55% campsite occupancy rate.

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## Visitor Profile

The City of Saugatuck completed a strategic plan for purposes of future growth and development. Part of that effort involved an examination of local tourism. The following was secured from the plan. It provides useful information considered applicable to all of the neighboring area communities when considering economic and recreational impacts on the area.

- Residence - Michigan (42%), Illinois (30%), Indiana (11%), Ohio (12%)
- Income - 38% had incomes of \$100,000 or greater.
- Children - 22% of those visiting brought children.
- Lodging - Bed&Breakfast (70%), hotel/motel (25%), cottage/RV park (5%)
- Activities - beach (40%), dune rides (12%), and boating (11%)
- Spending Patterns - \$500 to \$599 (median range), 15% spend +\$1,000
- Likes - Shops (39%), water (19%), restaurants (16%), and beaches/scenic beauty (13% each)
- Dislikes - Parking (22%), traffic (5%), and early closing of shops (5%).

## Employment

The following table provides a breakdown of employment for the project area. For comparative purposes, the percentage of employment for Allegan County as a whole is also shown. Indicative of the project areas tourism base, employment in the categories of retail trade; real estate; and arts, entertainment, lodging, and food exceed the county's overall percentages for similar employment.

### Employment by Industry - Project Area Units of Government

Category	Number	Project Area Percent of Total Area	Allegan County Percent of Total County
Farm/Ag/Forestry/Fisheries	12	0.3	2.9
Construction	174	5.6	7.3
Manufacturing	831	26.7	32.6
Wholesale Trade	68	2.2	4.1
Retail Trade	468	15.1	11.0
Transportation and Public Utilities	131	4.2	4.1
Information	56	1.8	1.2
<b>Employment by Industry Continued:</b>			
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	242	7.8	3.7
Prof/Scientific/Admin/Man.	217	6.9	5.2
Ed/Health/Social Services	350	11.3	15.4
Arts/Ent/Rec/Lodging/Food Services	345	11.1	6.0
Other Services (except Admin)	160	5.1	4.2
Public Administration	54	1.7	2.0
Note: Percentages are rounded. Source: US Census, 2010			

The following table offers a breakdown of employment by occupation. Occupational percentages are also provided for Allegan County as a whole. It should be noted that employment statistics for seasonal residents are not included in these figures. Additionally, many residents of the area may be retirees.

**Employment by Occupation - Project Area Units of Government**

Occupation	Number	Project Area Percent of Total Area	Allegan County Percent of Total County
Management/Prof. Related	897	28	24.0
Services	457	14.7	13.2
Sales/Office	813	26.2	22.1
Farm/Fish/Forestry	4	0.1	1.7
Construction/Extraction	266	8.6	11.3
Production/Transportation	671	21.6	27.7
Note: Percentages are rounded. Source: US Census, 2010			

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## SOCIO-ECONOMIC SUMMARY POINTS

- The area's population as a whole is expected to grow steadily in future decades with growth pushing out from Ottawa County and an influx of residents from other larger metropolitan areas.
- Non-family and seasonal households make up a large portion of the area's households and should be considered in recreation programming.
- Household sizes in the study area are smaller than for the county overall.
- The number of school-aged children in the study area is less than the county average while the number of "empty-nester" households (persons over 45) is higher than the county. This does not mean children are not an active part of these households as perhaps grandchildren visit the area. This notion is reinforced by a City of Saugatuck's study which reflected 22% of the area's visitors brought children with them.
- The range of difference between the areas most modest and most wealthy households is greater than found in the county overall.
- During the summer, the population nearly triples with visitors and seasonal residents. This is an important part of the area's economy which is reinforced by the fact that retail trade and real estate sectors provide proportionately more employment in the area than other areas of Allegan County overall.
- It is estimated that over half of the area's seasonal visitors are from outside of Michigan.





## **Appendix B – Environmental Characteristics**

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## APPENDIX B

# ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Saugatuck Douglas area has many environmental characteristics which make it uniquely suited to a variety of recreational pursuits. In addition to being adjacent to a great lake, there is an abundance of inland water recreational opportunities framed by sand dunes and woodlands.

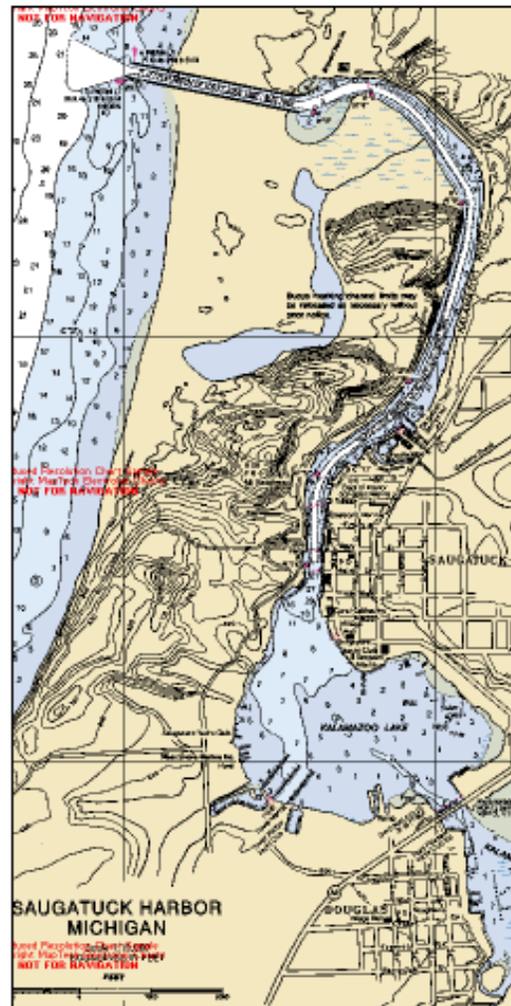
### Water Resources

Among the most unique environmental attributes of the study area are its lakes, rivers, ponds, and streams which are interconnected with Lake Michigan. These resources provide a location for a variety of outdoor activities including boating, fishing, swimming, wildlife observation, nature study, camping, hiking, cross country skiing and nature walks. Lake Michigan forms the western boundary of Saugatuck Township, Saugatuck, and Douglas.

The Kalamazoo River meanders through the central and northwestern portions of the township and creates the inviting waterfronts of Saugatuck and Douglas. The river widens to form Kalamazoo Lake, a center of boating activity between Saugatuck and Douglas. Additional bodies of water include Ox-Bow Lagoon in the northwestern corner of the township, Goshorn Lake on the northern boundary and Silver Lake in the central part of the township. An extensive marsh is located in the central part of the township along the Kalamazoo River which is a state designated Natural River for its wild, scenic, recreational value.



Saugatuck Harbor Chart



Source: NOAA

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## Topography

Most of the tri-community area is relatively flat, but local variations in elevation of up to 150 feet exist between uplands and the flood plain of the Kalamazoo River. There are also considerable local differences in elevation in the extreme northwest portions of the Township in the sand dunes between the Kalamazoo River and Lake Michigan. The highest point in this area is Mount Baldhead which rises 310 feet above Lake Michigan. Special features of the area include the Lake Michigan shoreline and beaches, the sand dune areas, Kalamazoo River, woodlands, and abundant green space.



## Climate

Weather conditions play an important role in the Saugatuck-Douglas area. This area is reliant on the recreational opportunities for both residents and tourist alike. Lake-effect weather does affect the community's economic base.

Variations in average conditions, especially during the spring, summer, and fall months can cause fluctuations in tourism and outdoor recreation activities. The perfect summer weather is temperatures ranging from warm to very warm with cool nights. Rain plays havoc with outdoor recreation, but adds to the shopper's and civic recreation. The winter months offer many opportunities for recreational activities such as cross country skiing, hiking the beach, sledding, fat tire biking, and other winter sports.

## Soils

Much of the study area contains poorly drained soils outside of dune areas. Drainage occurs via creeks, including Peach Orchard Creek, Tannery Creek, Silver Creek and Moore's Creek, all of which flow into the Kalamazoo River and many of which are floodplain areas that can offer recreational amenities. A network of county drains facilitates movement of water from flat areas in the southern half of the township. Well-drained soils are found in the northwestern corner of the study area and northwestern and southwestern corners. In the study area, bedrock of the Michigan Basin is overlain by 50 to 400 feet of glacial deposit. This gives our beaches a wide variety of beach stones.

The sand dunes along Lake Michigan in the northwest corner of the township form a unique, fragile geological formation and ecosystem that is susceptible to erosion by wind and water, and

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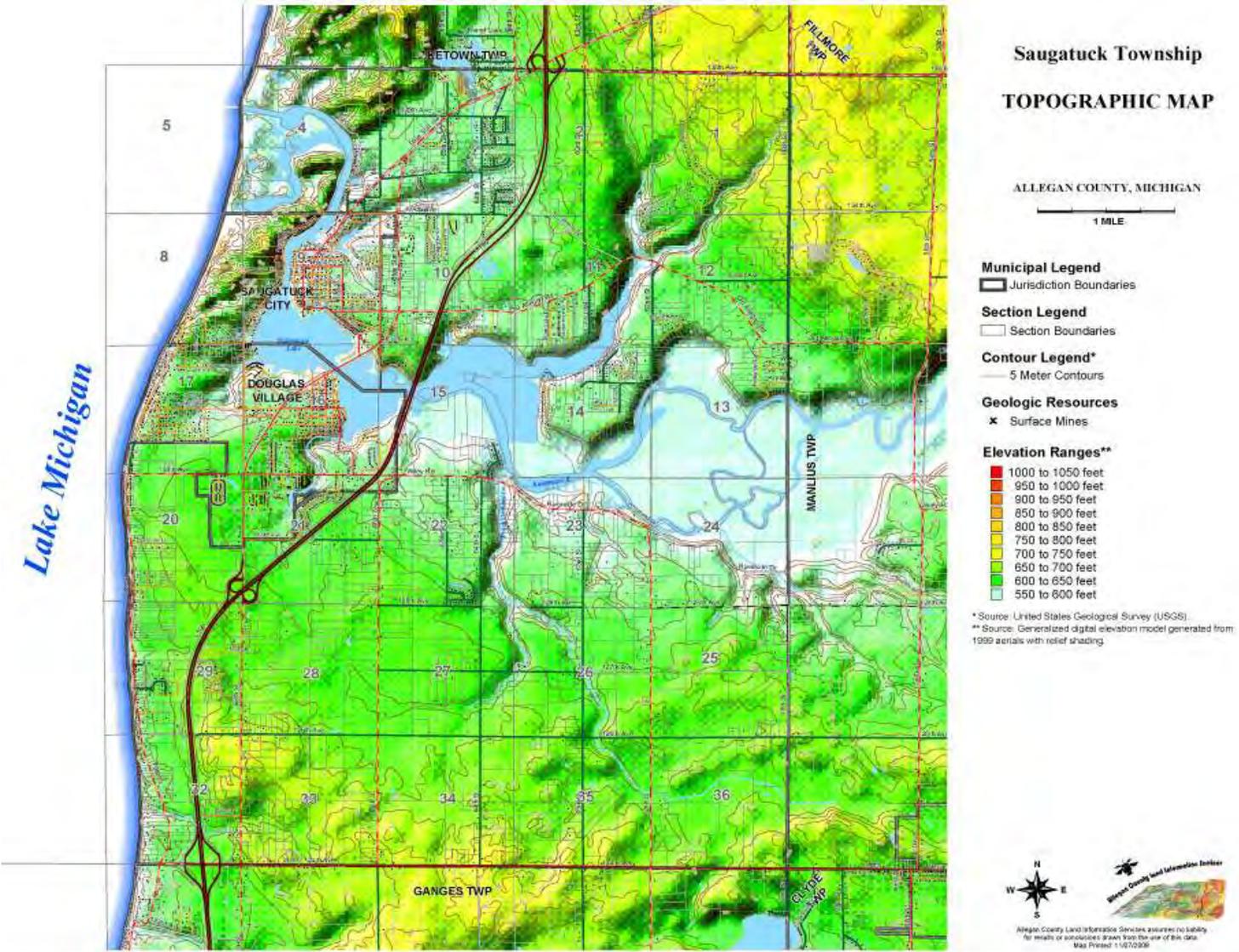
subject to destruction from careless use or development. The sand dunes are also a key component of the area's character and charm.

## Fish and Wildlife

Although much of the area has been altered due to urbanization and human settlement, there are areas of forested acreage and unique dune ecosystems. In addition there are several types of wetlands and aquatic systems in the study area. The fish stocks range from salmon and walleye in Lake Michigan and the Kalamazoo River to smaller sunfish, bluegill, and other types of pan fish in the inland waters. Also included in the aquatic life are small crustaceans and mollusks. An abundance of waterfowl finds this area attractive for breeding and feeding. It is also located on the Lake Michigan Flyway for migrating ducks, geese and swans. Whitetail deer, beaver, wild turkeys, and other small mammals are common to the area. Even in the more urbanized areas of the study area wildlife is found due to the wooded corridors and parks found throughout the region. Songbirds are found throughout the study area. The forested areas, dune areas, and open fields all are home to many species of song birds. Because dune, floodplain, wetland and lake ecosystems are in close proximity to one another, the diversity of wildlife viewing and nature study opportunities in the area are fantastic, especially considering they are tucked amongst highly populated areas. Much of the area is within the designated DEQ Coastal Zone for Coastal Zone Management Grants.



# Tri-Community Topographic Map



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## Residential Land Use

Residential land use in the study area is concentrated in Saugatuck and Douglas, along the Lake Michigan shoreline, and Township areas adjacent to the cities. In the rest of the Township, residential development is scattered along section line roads and overlooking the Kalamazoo River. Many of the homes along Lake Michigan or the Kalamazoo River are cottages or seasonal homes. There are two mobile home parks in Saugatuck Township and two in Douglas. Approximately 2,797 acres of the available land is in residential use.

## Commercial Land Use

Commercial development is centered in Saugatuck, Douglas, and along the Blue Star Highway in the Township. Many of the commercial establishments serve the needs of a large tourist community in the summer and a growing year-round economy. Approximately 211 acres of land is in commercial use.

## Industrial Land Use

Industrial land use is limited largely to an area south of downtown Douglas extending to the Exit 36 interchange of Interstate 196. Less than 1% of the total land area is devoted to industrial uses. General manufacturing, brewing facilities, construction, and food processing are the main industrial land uses in the area. There are also several small machine shops.

## Agricultural Land Use

Agriculture is another important part of the area's economic base. A major portion of the land (57%) in the study area can be classified as agricultural or vacant. The size of farms in Saugatuck Township ranges from over 300 acres to under 10 acres. Agriculture includes orchards of apples, peaches, apricots, and cherries in addition to row crops. Some of the less well-drained areas are used for blueberry plantations. Prime farmland is generally concentrated in the south central part of the Township. Corn, wheat, hops, and soybeans are other crops. A few farms are livestock, including horses, hogs, and cattle. Many of the areas farm-to-table restaurants, wineries, cider houses, and breweries are supplied from local agriculture.

## Zoning and Future Land Use

A review of local land use policies and programs of the City of the Village of Douglas, Saugatuck Township and the City of Saugatuck reveals that the three jurisdictions have closely followed the existing zoning ordinances and Tri-Community Comprehensive Master Plan. In particular is the dune protection area along Lake Michigan.

Public and semi-public uses such as schools and parkland are programmed in locations that support the residents of the area. Heavy use areas along Lake Michigan and in other tourist

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gathering points receive particular attention because they serve a concentrated year-round population in addition to a large seasonal population. A balance is sought for recreational uses for a wide variety of users while protecting the area's natural resources.

## Transportation Systems

The City of Saugatuck and the City of the Village of Douglas have a well-defined urban grid pattern of streets which is common to mature urban areas. Saugatuck Township's street pattern is more rural in nature but blends well with the City of Saugatuck and the City of the Village of Douglas. The City of Saugatuck and Interurban Transit Authority collaborate to offer shuttle bus services for residents and tourist during the summer months. Cars park on the outskirts of town, thus reducing traffic, and the need for more in town parking, and people are transported by bus to the downtown area or the beach area.

Sidewalks facilities are located throughout the City of Saugatuck and the City of the Village of Douglas. As new development occurs, or with the reconstruction of area streets, sidewalk connections are examined for placement to connect area paths and walking routes. It is very important to the area that all densely populated areas, or other areas heavily used by pedestrians, possess adequate sidewalks and/or non-motorized pathways for purposes of advancing public safety. There are currently several non-motorized users that use paths and sidewalk routes in the area. One connects the City of Saugatuck to the City of the Village of Douglas and the second connects the City of Saugatuck to Laketown Township and Holland to the North. The third non-motorized pathway is the new section of Blue Star Trail on Blue Star Highway in Saugatuck Township between Allegan St. and 134<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Public transportation is available through the services of the Interurban Transit Authority, a bus service provided to the all three communities and school district through tax millage. The beloved Saugatuck Chain Ferry operates seasonally to shuttle passengers across the Kalamazoo River from downtown Saugatuck to western residential area and tourist destinations of Oxbow, Oval Beach, and the Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area.

Interstate US 31 traverses the area running north and south. This is the main route for north/south traffic on the western part of the state. Air and bus service is available in either Muskegon or Grand Rapids. Rail Service (e.g. passenger service), via Amtrak, is available in Grand Rapids, Holland, and Kalamazoo.

Commercial charter boat service and boats for hire are available in both the City of Saugatuck and the City of the Village of Douglas. There are several marinas and private boating facilities in Kalamazoo Lake which connects to Lake Michigan. Private boats from around the Great Lakes visit the port of call. The relatively new pastime of cruising the Great Lakes has made an impact with cruise ships coming to the area. The waterways are looked at as an asset and life blood of this region.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY POINTS

- The area's unique setting along the Lake Michigan shoreline with a major lake, wetland and river system inland makes it a perfect setting for a variety of unique and environmentally based recreational opportunities.
- Water dominates the landscape, local views and is a center for recreational activities.
- Natural features harbor wildlife and natural study opportunities.
- Sand dunes and woodlands frame the community and provide a backdrop for additional recreational activity.
- The area is also home to fragile ecosystems such as sand dunes and protected species.



## **Appendix C – Michigan DNR Post-Completion Self-Inspection Reports**

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**Grant Administration CMI**  
**Organization: City of the Village of Douglas**  
**Post-Completion Self-Certification Report: 06/01/1974**

CM00-236

Date Completed:\* 6/1/1974  
Project Number: CM00-236  
Project Title:  
Project Type: Development

Select all parks that the contents of this self-certification report applies to. Answers provided on this form will be automatically copied to all grants for the selected parks.

Douglas Schultz Park (formerly Douglas Recreation Area)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person
	Bill LeFevere
Address	Title
	Manager
City, State, Zip	Telephone
,	269-857-1438
	Email
	wlefevere@ci.douglas.mi.us

**1. Site Development**

- a. Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activiites provided? If yes, please describe change(s)\*  Yes  No  
Pickleball Courts added  
Dog Park added
- b. Please refer to the attached boundry map. Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation builings.)\*  Yes  No
- c. Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.\*  Yes  No
- d. Is the site and all facilities accessible to persons with disabilities? If no, please explain.\*  Yes  No
- e. List all additional existing development/facilities at the referenced project site. If the site is undeveloped, please describe the present use and provide a schedule for future development, including a list of proposed facilities.\*  
pickelball / tennis courts; boat launch; sand volleyball; playground; dog park; football fields; soccer fields; seasonal bathrooms, parking lot, walking trails

**Grant Administration CMI**  
**Organization: City of the Village of Douglas**  
**Post-Completion Self-Certification Report: 06/01/1974**

CM00-236

**2. Site Quality**

- a. Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.\* ✓ Yes No
- [https://secure1.state.mi.us/mirgs/\\_Upload/68969-EntranceSign.JPG](https://secure1.state.mi.us/mirgs/_Upload/68969-EntranceSign.JPG)
- b. Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? if no, please explain.\* ✓ Yes No
- c. Are there any features near the site which would detract from the use and enjoyment of the site or would pose a health or safety problem? If yes, please explain.\* Yes ✓ No
- d. Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, please explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.\* Yes ✓ No
- e. Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.\* ✓ Yes No
- Department of Public Works inspects daily. Routine maintenance is performed as needed. Upgrade to playground is anticipated in next 24 months.

**3. General**

- a. Is a Program Recognition plaque displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ✓ Yes No NA
- [https://secure1.state.mi.us/mirgs/\\_Upload/68969-CMIandConservationSigns.jpg](https://secure1.state.mi.us/mirgs/_Upload/68969-CMIandConservationSigns.jpg)
- b. Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.\* Yes ✓ No
- c. Is a fee charged for the use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.\* ✓ Yes No
- Boat launch has a fee \$7.00 per day
- d. What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site? \*  
year round; dawn to dusk

**Comments**

**Grant Administration CMI**  
**Organization: City of the Village of Douglas**  
**Post-Completion Self-Certification Report: 06/01/1974**

CM00-236

**Certification**

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or by the Grantee names above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

Lisa Imus  
Authorizing Official

1/30/2019  
Date



## **Appendix D – Saugatuck Township Public Input Survey Summary**

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## Memorandum

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Date: September 12, 2018

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To: Saugatuck Township Parks Commissioners

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From: Dana Burd, Park Commissioner

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Re: Summary of Saugatuck Township Parks and Community Recreation Survey

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In February of 2018, Saugatuck Township and Saugatuck Public School Community Recreation Department collaborated on a public input survey to solicit public input early in the planning process of the 5 year park plan update. Residents and visitors were asked to comment specifically on Saugatuck Township Parks and other facilities used for Community Recreation.

The survey was made available in online format through social media, posted to the Township and SPS websites, paper copies were collected throughout the tri-community area in a stationed ballot box, and paper copies were collected in person at local area events. Input was collected through May 2018. Results are summarized in this memo. Full survey results are available upon request.



The survey was approved by the Saugatuck Township Parks Commission on February 12, 2018 at their regular public meeting. Originally a Google Forms document, the survey went live on February 14, 2018. The first 5 days of the survey saw 171 responses. An additional 88 responses were received through February 28, 2018. The Google Forms survey was taken down February 28 and converted to a Survey Monkey online document. This was done because the Google Form survey had no way to limit the number of responses per person. It became clear, from date and time stamp information, that some people were abusing the ability to provide unlimited responses. The Survey Monkey form collected 66 responses between 2/28 and 5/8 at which point the survey was taken offline. Paper forms were also collected at stations around

the tri-community area including: the Saugatuck Douglas District Library, the Saugatuck Fennville Home Basketball Game, Saugatuck Township Office, Saugatuck High School, and Douglas Elementary School. The responses from the paper surveys, 51 in total, were entered into the Google Forms database to help summarize results. All results were combined into a spreadsheet. In total 376 initial responses were received. Of those, 102 were deemed invalid.

### **How valid are these results?**

Survey results are just one method to receive community input on parks and recreation planning and needs, and are by no means perfect. Results of the online surveys were carefully reviewed for validity. The inability to limit the number of responses per person of the online survey between 2/14 and 2/28 was cause for concern and investigated. Survey results recorded a date and time stamp making it fairly easy to invalidate multiple same response surveys that came in one right after the other. Distributions were compared to the paper surveys and the Survey Monkey online results.

The result of this validity check was that 102 responses were invalidated between 2/14 and 2/28, making the total number of valid responses considered as 274, which is the number used for the remainder of this memo.

### **Who filled out the survey?**

Saugatuck Township Residents accounted for 66% of responses. Remaining responses were spread among residents from surrounding cities and townships mostly within 15 miles of the area. 70% of responses were from Saugatuck Public School District residents. An additional 20% were in Fennville School District.

Age Distribution was spread out with 41% of respondents 40-60 years old, 28% 20-40 years old, and 26% over 60. 5% were under 20 years old.

### **Support for Existing Facilities?**

Of the ideas presented there was over 70% support for developing and improving: Hiking Trails (80%), Non-Motorized Pathways (71%), Lake Michigan Beach Areas (77%), and Kalamazoo River Frontage/Open Space (72%).

The least supported ideas were Marinas/Boat Docks (51%) and Disc Golf Course (49%). Other ideas were community playgrounds (67%), athletic fields (60%), sport courts (60%), Kalamazoo River Motor Boat Launch Sites (57%), sledding hills (64%), and fishing areas (59%).

Overall there was broad support for developing and improving the types of recreation facilities that already exist in the area.

## **Developing New Facilities?**

There was less widespread support for developing new facilities that do not currently exist in the area. Of the ideas presented there was only one with over 60% support for developing the types of new facilities that do not currently exist in the area: Historical/Points of interest signage/trails (61%).

Of the remaining ideas presented there was largely mediocre support. Just over 50% support: Ice Rink/Skating Area, Community Center/Gym/Indoor Pool, Mountain Bike Trails, and Groomed Cross Country Ski Trails. Just under 50% support: Skate Park, Public Swimming Pool outdoor, ropes course/zip line, splash pad.

## **Participation in current recreation programs?**

Roughly 53% of respondents said they or their family members participate in Saugatuck Community Recreation programs currently.

## **Are current facilities adequate to support Community Recreation programs? (agree/disagree)**

DES Gym (49% agree, 33% Neutral), High School Main Gym (54% agree, 32% neutral), High School Auxiliary Gym (52% agree, 34% neutral), High School Turf Field (54% agree, 31% neutral), Varsity Baseball (51% agree, 37% neutral), Schultz Park Pickleball (63% agree, 25% neutral), Schultz Park ballfield (54% agree, 28% neutral), Schultz Park outfield U6/U8 soccer (54% agree, 29% neutral), Schultz Park U10 Soccer Field (55% agree, 29% neutral), Berry Field Ballfield (50% agree, 33% neutral), Berry Field outfield (49% agree, 36% neutral), Tower Marine Pool (46% agree, 36% neutral), Laketown Township Ballfield (46% agree, 39% neutral).

## **Support for Saugatuck Township Park Priorities?**

### **For River Bluff Park**

Widen and improve the hiking trails (63% support, 16% neutral), Add a fishing pier/boardwalk on the river (63% support, 18% neutral), Add a restroom (56% support, 13% neutral), Add a playground (47% support, 28% neutral), add interpretive/nature signage (55% support, 24% neutral)

### **For Tails n Trail Dog Park**

Pave the parking lot (36% support, 32% neutral), Add a restroom (40% support, 27% neutral), Expand off leash fenced in trail area (43% support, 32% neutral), Improve shelter (36% support, 36% neutral), Add a water feature (35% support, 33% neutral), Expand sidewalk access (45% support, 34% neutral).

### **For Sundown Park**

Improve parking area (47% support, 31% neutral), Add a restroom (32% support, 30% neutral), construct a scenic overlook deck (60% support, 20% neutral), provide beach access (50% support, 20% neutral).

### **For Blue Star Veterans Park**

Improve the Parking Area (31% support, 38% neutral), provide a memorial monument (44% support 32% neutral), replace the shelter/add seating (28% support, 41% neutral).

### **For Non-Motorized Trails**

Continue the Blue Star Trail in Saugatuck Township (65% support, 11% neutral, 24% oppose), Extend trail on Old Allegan Road to River Bluff Park (61% support, 15% neutral), Extend trail on Wiley Road to Lakeshore Drive (60% support, 15% neutral), add seating and pocket parks along trails (53% support, 20% neutral).

### **For Acquiring Land**

For additional parks (56% support, 20% neutral), athletic fields (43% support, 30% neutral), Lake Michigan Beach Areas (64% support, 13% neutral), Kalamazoo River Frontage/Open Space (63% support, 16% neutral), Mountain Bike Trails (50% support, 25% neutral).

## **Summary**

While no single form of public input is perfect, these results indicate there is broad support for our area parks and recreation facilities. The most supported types of facilities and ideas to improve and develop new facilities center around: Hiking Trails, Lake Michigan Access, Kalamazoo River Access, and Non-motorized Trails. These priorities should be reflected in future community action programs and plans.

For the 5 year park plan update, public input was gathered through a variety of methods including two online surveys (City of Saugatuck 2017, and this survey), and on-going public access to members of each City Council, the Township Board, Township Parks Commissioners, and Community Recreation Advisory Board. The draft updated 5 year park plan will be made available for public viewing in the coming months followed by a Public Hearing as the final form of public input for the plan. Future plans and priorities can always change. The plan is a living document which can be updated at any time in the future.



## **Appendix E – Saugatuck Township Development Plans and Supporting Information**

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# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP RIVER BLUFF PARK



Connection to Blue Star Trail.  
10-foot wide Non-Motorized  
Pathway on Blue Star Hwy.  
(constructed 2017 by Friends  
of the Blue Star Trail)

Old Allegan Road  
1900 feet to Blue Star.  
Shoulders widened on  
I-96 underpass 2015

Connection to  
Kalamazoo River  
Heritage Trail  
(Future Water Trail)

## RP-17-0004 River Bluff Park Access Improvements

### GRANT ITEMS

1. ADA / OMR Grant Recognition Sign
2. Concrete Sidewalk
3. Concrete Overlook Area with Benches
4. Chips & Fines Switchback Trail
5. Boardwalk Reconstruction
6. Chips & Fines Trail
7. Boardwalk Reconstruction
8. Chips & Fines Trail
9. Pavilion Rehabilitation
10. Chips & Fines Trail
11. Chips & Fines Overlook area with Benches
12. Timber Retaining Walls (as needed)

All Grant Items are  
Universally Accessible and  
Meet ADA Standards.

### FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS

- F-1. Trail Signage
- F-2. Swing Set Improvements
- F-3. Fitness Trail Stations
- F-4. Bluff Trail and Overlook
- F-5. Chips & Fines Trail
- F-6. Bluff Trail and Overlook
- F-7. Fishing Pier & Ramp
- F-8. River Boardwalk & Ramp

March 25, 2017

Prein&Newhof

## PARK DEVELOPMENT PLAN



- [Kalamazoo River \(Alden to Baiter Creek\)](#)
- [Kalamazoo River \(Baiter Creek to Pleasant\)](#)
- [Kalamazoo River \(Pleasant to Douglas\)](#)
- [Kalamazoo River \(Douglas to Lake Michigan\)](#)
- [North Branch](#)
- [Kalamazoo River](#)
- [South Branch](#)
- [Kalamazoo River \(Headwaters to Homer\)](#)
- [South Branch](#)
- [Kalamazoo River \(Homer to Alden\)](#)
- [Starbuck Creek](#)
- [Raccoon River](#)
- [Battle Creek River \(Charlton to Bellevue\)](#)
- [Battle Creek River \(Bellevue to Battle Creek\)](#)
- [Rice Creek](#)
- [Sun River](#)
- [Portage Creek](#)
- [Toad Phobia](#)
- [Ranger Information](#)
- [Caledonia Area Sites](#)
- [Kalamazoo Area Sites](#)
- [Pleasant Area Sites](#)
- [Douglas Area Sites](#)
- [Saugatuck Area Sites](#)
- [Craft Signs - Locations and Designs](#)

**News**

Listen to a feature story about Michigan Heritage Water Trails presented by the Grand Haven Radio Connection. All ways.



This website is supported by a grant from the American Electric Power Company

**Kalamazoo Watershed Heritage Water Trail**

**Kalamazoo River (Douglas to Lake Michigan)**

(Click here for Trail Details) - Coming Soon

Driving Directions to Saugatuck - (Saugatuck Weather)

Click the Heritage site sign labels on the maps for more information about each site.

**Legend of Map Symbols**

- Carry-In Access / Natural Area
- Boat Launch
- Camp
- Water Trail Information
- Shaded Water Area
- Designated Area or Blockage
- Heritage Site Sign
- Distance Between Heritage Site Signs
- Marina
- Park/Preserve
- Boxy
- Town/City
- Lighthouse
- Hazard
- Access Drain







4214 36th Street  
Holland, MI 49423  
616-293-9453

FAX: 616-395-0952  
[outdoordiscovery.org](http://outdoordiscovery.org)

## KALAMAZOO RIVER GREENWAY PLANNING GRANT

**Purpose** - The purpose of the Kalamazoo River Greenway Planning grant is to create a master plan to implement a greenway corridor along the Kalamazoo River in Allegan County addressing environmental restoration, recreation, conservation, and education.

**Building Upon Success - Macatawa Greenway** – The ODCMG has been the lead non-profit partner in the Macatawa Greenway along the Macatawa River in Ottawa County since 1994. In this time, there has been 19 miles of preserved river corridor, over 15 million dollars of public and private investment, 1,387 protected acres, and 20 miles of pedestrian trails. In addition, the ODCMG has been the lead agency in Project Clarity an initiative in the Macatawa Watershed to reduce phosphorus and sediment issues. To date, the ODCMG and its partners have secured more than 10 million dollars in private funding and has implemented more than 100 on-the-ground projects resulting in a 40% reduction in phosphorus.

### Kalamazoo River Greenway (KRG) Objectives

1. *Community Partners:* The ODCMG will identify and coordinate with key community partners that will promote the environmental and economic vibrancy within the Allegan County Kalamazoo Watershed.
2. *Data Collection:* The ODCMG will aggregate current and past contaminated sediment data and catalogue levels throughout the proposed Greenway corridors. This analysis will lead to the recognition of contamination hotspots including brownfield sites, ecological areas of concern, erosion and sedimentation issues, and potential disposal areas for contaminated sediments.
3. *Community Engagement:* The ODCMG will survey residents and community stakeholders to determine community needs, wants, and opportunities connected with greenway development. The process will grow community buy-in from multiple sectors including: businesses, K-12 education, local governments, and community organizations.
4. *Master Plan:* The ODCMG will develop the KRG Master Plan which will include a 5-year priority list that will provide the greatest positive impact in the most efficient time. Corresponding marketing materials to communicate the long-term vision and short-term goals will also be developed.

**How Can You Help?** We would love to hear how you or your organization can help us achieve these goals. Please contact Dan Callam [danc@outdoordiscovery.org](mailto:danc@outdoordiscovery.org) or Tracey Nally at [tracey@outdoordiscovery.com](mailto:tracey@outdoordiscovery.com).





# Work Timeline



The purpose of the Kalamazoo River Greenway planning grant will be to create a master plan to implement a greenway corridor along the Kalamazoo River in Allegan County addressing environmental restoration, recreation, conservation, and education.

## Identify Key Partners and Resources

- Community stakeholders MDEQ, MDNR, EPA
- State reps
- Obtain funding



2018  
Mar- Nov

## Collect / Analyze

### Data

- Aggregate data
- Conduct systematic review
- ID hot spots and disposal sites
- Create maps



2018  
Apr- Nov

## Community Stakeholders

- Create public survey tool
- Conduct charrettes
- Target board/commission meetings
- Compile/assess feedback
- Secure endorsements



2018  
May- Sep

## Reports

- Semi-annual progress
- Priority list
- Final



2018  
July- Dec

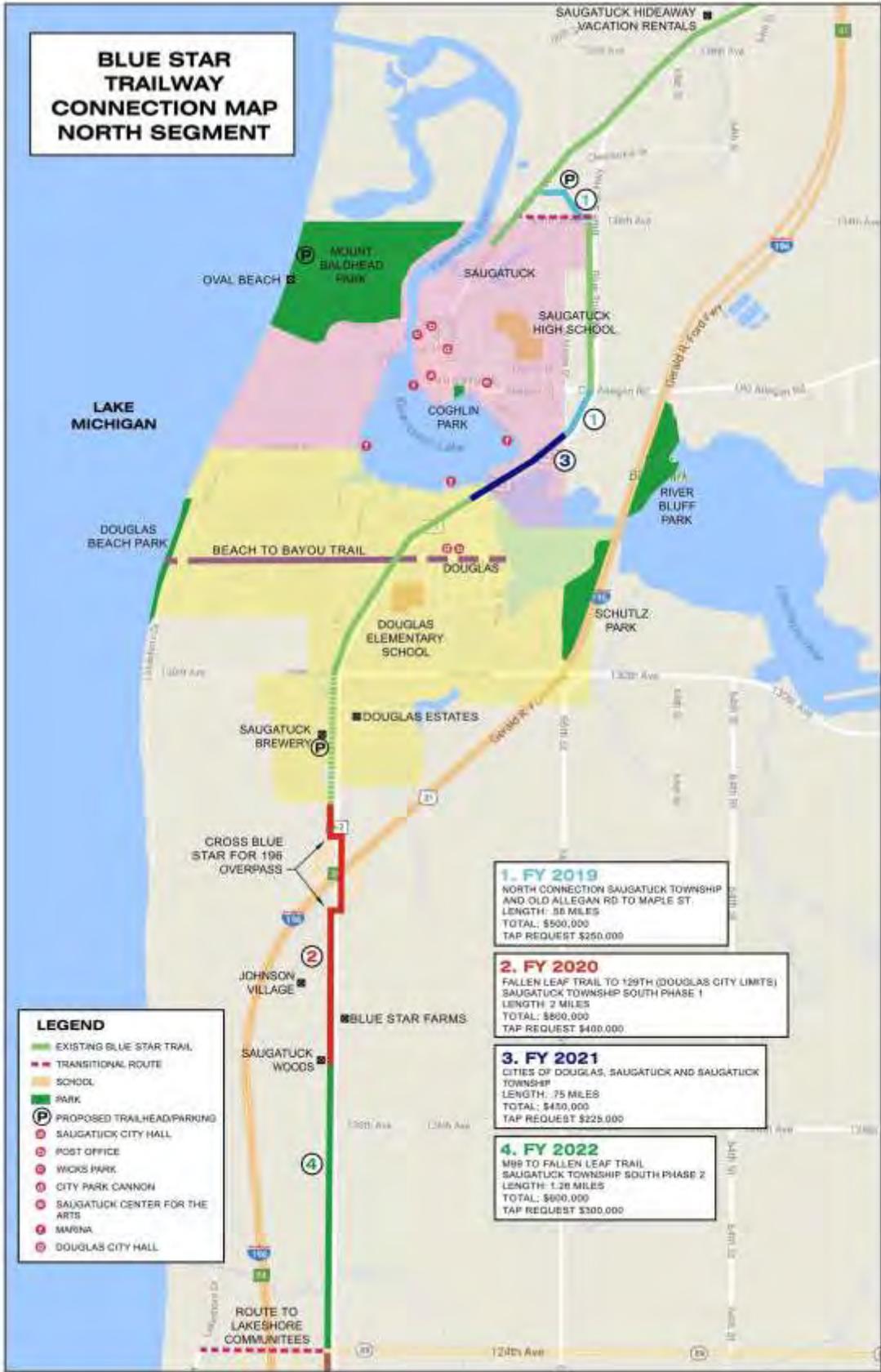
## Master Plan

- Strategize future plans and partnerships



2019

# BLUE STAR TRAILWAY CONNECTION MAP NORTH SEGMENT



- LEGEND**
- EXISTING BLUE STAR TRAIL
  - TRANSITIONAL ROUTE
  - SCHOOL
  - PARK
  - PROPOSED TRAILHEAD/PARKING
  - SAUGATUCK CITY HALL
  - POST OFFICE
  - WICKS PARK
  - CITY PARK CANNON
  - SAUGATUCK CENTER FOR THE ARTS
  - MARINA
  - DOUGLAS CITY HALL

**1. FY 2019**  
 NORTH CONNECTION SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP AND OLD ALLEGAN RD TO MAPLE ST.  
 LENGTH: 3.8 MILES  
 TOTAL: \$550,000  
 TAP REQUEST \$250,000

**2. FY 2020**  
 FALLEN LEAF TRAIL TO 129TH (DOUGLAS CITY LIMITS) SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP SOUTH PHASE 1  
 LENGTH: 2 MILES  
 TOTAL: \$800,000  
 TAP REQUEST \$400,000

**3. FY 2021**  
 CITIES OF DOUGLAS, SAUGATUCK AND SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP  
 LENGTH: 7.5 MILES  
 TOTAL: \$450,000  
 TAP REQUEST \$225,000

**4. FY 2022**  
 M99 TO FALLEN LEAF TRAIL SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP SOUTH PHASE 2  
 LENGTH: 1.28 MILES  
 TOTAL: \$600,000  
 TAP REQUEST \$300,000

CROSS BLUE STAR FOR 196 OVERPASS

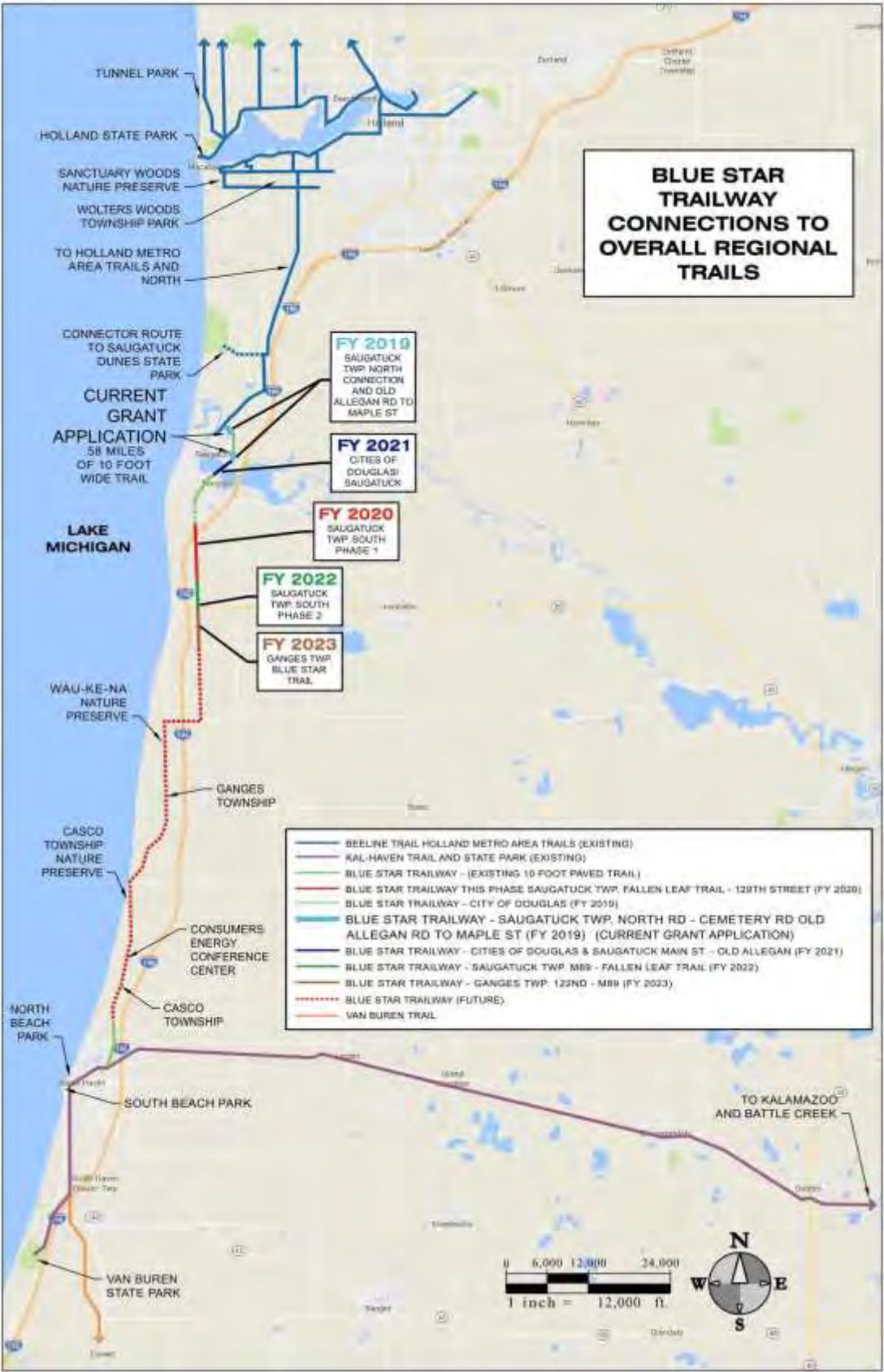
JOHNSON VILLAGE

BLUE STAR FARMS

SAUGATUCK WOODS

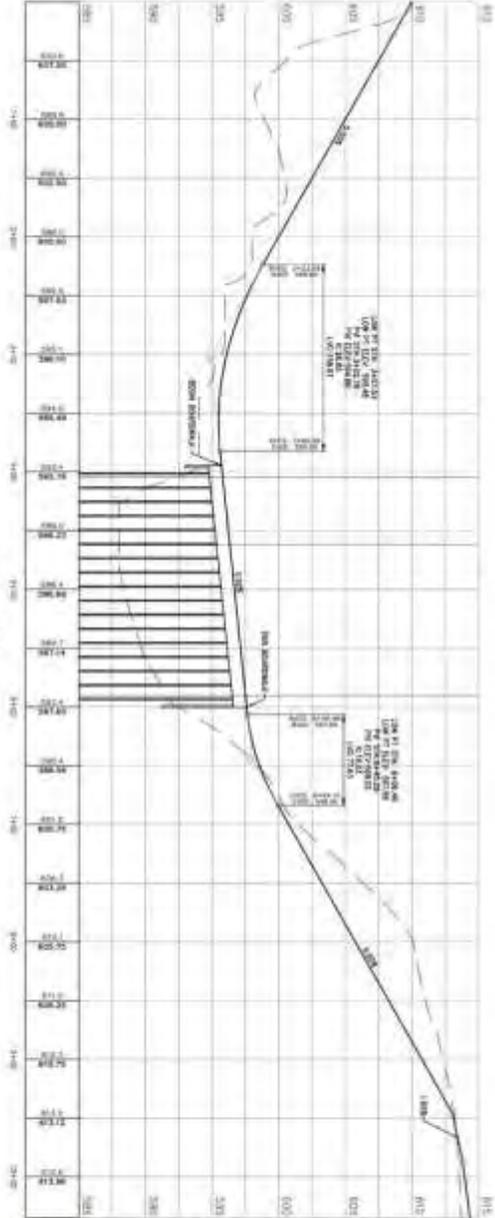
ROUTE TO LAKESHORE COMMUNITIES

# BLUE STAR TRAILWAY CONNECTIONS TO OVERALL REGIONAL TRAILS





PLAN VIEW  
SCALE: 1" = 40'



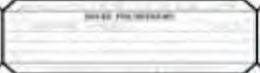
PROFILE VIEW  
SCALE: 1" = 40'

THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
1000 UNIVERSITY BLVD., SUITE 1000  
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25309  
TEL: 304.251.4000 FAX: 304.251.4001  
WWW.DOT.WV.GOV



Sheet Title: **SOUTHEAST SEGMENT STA 0+00 TO 10+35**  
Project: **BLUE STAR HWY TRAIL - NORTH RD CONN.**  
Client: **ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**

DATE: 10/15/2010  
DRAWN BY: J. H. HARRIS  
CHECKED BY: J. H. HARRIS  
SCALE: AS SHOWN



hurley & stewart, llc  
10000 STATE STREET  
FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN 48304  
248.452.1400 FAX: 248.452.1401  
WWW.HURLEYANDSTEWART.COM



## **Appendix F – Public Hearing and Plan Adoption Supporting Documents**

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CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS  
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION NO. 01-2019

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2019 THROUGH 2024 SAUGATUCK DOUGLAS AREA  
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

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At a regular meeting of the City Council for the City of the Village of Douglas, Michigan, held at the City of the Village of Douglas City Hall, Douglas, Michigan, on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Anderson, Harvath, Lion, Miller, Mooradian, Seabert

ABSENT: None

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Neal Seabert and supported by Councilperson Kathryn Mooradian.

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, The City of the Village of Douglas has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2019 through 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, The City of the Village of Douglas has entered into this planning process in collaboration with Saugatuck Township and Saugatuck Public Schools, and

**WHEREAS**, the combined area of the aforementioned local units of government constitutes the planning area, and

**WHEREAS**, The City of the Village of Douglas is of the understanding that the governing bodies of the aforementioned local units of government intend to pass a similar resolution of adoption of the Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019 - 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, The City of the Village of Douglas began the process of developing a Parks and Recreation Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

**WHEREAS**, residents of The City of the Village of Douglas were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

**WHEREAS**, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on December 17, 2018 at Douglas City Hall and again on January 2, 2019 at Saugatuck Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019 – 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, The City of the Village of Douglas has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for The City of the Village of Douglas, and

**WHEREAS**, after the public hearing, The City of the Village of Douglas voted to adopt said Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019 – 2024.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** The City of the Village of Douglas hereby adopts the Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019 – 2024.

YEAS: Council Members: Anderson, Harvath, Lion, Miller, Mooradian, Seabert

NAYS: Council Members: None

ABSTAIN: Council Members: None

ABSENT: Council Members: None

**ADOPTED** this 7th day of January, 2019

**CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS**

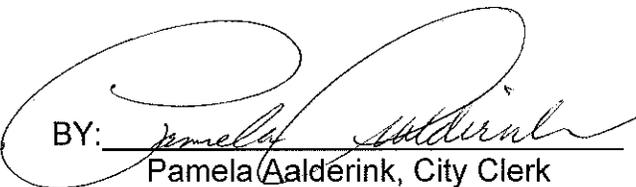
BY:   
Linda Anderson, Mayor

BY:   
Pamela Aalderink, City Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Pamela Alderink, the duly appointed Clerk of the City of the Village of Douglas, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Douglas City Council at a regular meeting held on Monday, January 7, 2019 in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

**CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS**

BY:   
Pamela Alderink, City Clerk

**THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
Monday, January 7, 2019  
DOUGLAS CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM  
86 W. CENTER STREET, DOUGLAS, MI  
7:00 PM**

1. **Call to Order** – Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** – Members present: Anderson, Greenwood, Harvath, Lion, Miller, Mooradian, Seabert  
Members absent/excused: None  
Also present: City Manager LeFevere, City Planner, Imus, and City Clerk Alderink.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Led by Mayor Anderson
4. **Consent Calendar**
  - A. Approval of Agenda for
  - B. Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December  
Motion by Mooradian, with support from Seabert, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
5. **Approval of Invoices**
  - A. Invoices dated January 7, 2019 in the amount of \$58,293.10 – roll call  
Motion by Seabert, with support from Miller, to approve payment of the invoices dated January 7, 2019 in the amount of \$58,293.10 as submitted. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
6. **Appointments/Resignations/Proclamations**
  - A. Mixed Use Market Analysis & Strategy Presentation – Sharon Woods, LandUseUSA  
Imus reported the data collected from this analysis will be extremely helpful with future projects that will occur in the city.
7. **Public Communications**
  - A. Verbal (Limit of three (3) minutes on agenda items only)  
David Setzke requested a change to the Marijuana Ordinance. The current ordinance requires a 90 video storage days, Mr. Setzke has requested the 90 days be amended to 30 days. Mayor Anderson sent the request to Planning.
  - B. Written Communications
    1. Jean Neve – Thank You
    2. David Subelsky – Whittier & Fourth Drive request. Anderson will contact Mr. Subelsky.
8. **Unfinished Business** – No unfinished business
9. **New Business**
  - A. Resolution 01-2019 Adopting the 2019 through 2024 Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Master Plan.  
Motion by Seabert, with support from Mooradian, to approve Resolution 01-2019, Adopting the 2019 through 2024 Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Master Plan. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
  - B. Resolution 02-2019 Approving the Nonexclusive Conditional Driveway Easement Agreement between the City of the Village of Douglas and Reginald & Connie Vorderman.

Motion by Seabert, with support from Miller, to approve Resolution 02-2019 Approving the Nonexclusive Conditional Driveway Easement Agreement between the City of the Village of Douglas and Reginald & Connie Vorderman. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- C. Resolution 03-2019 Approving Wade's Bayou Phase 2 Marina Development Plans & Authorize Engineering And Bidding For Construction.

Motion by Seabert, with support from Miller, to approve Resolution 03-2019 Wade's Bayou Phase 2 Marina Development Plans & Authorize Engineering And Bidding For Construction. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- D. Master Plan Meter Project – Information Item

- E. Michigan Council For Arts & Cultural Affairs Grant Program

Motion to approve Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs Grant Application. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

## 10. Reports

### A. Commission / Committee / Board Reports

1. Planning Commission – Imus reported Planning Commission will review the new proposed Library building plans at the next meeting.
2. Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority- No meeting.
3. Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority – No meeting.
4. Downtown Development Authority – Next meeting Jan. 10th
5. Douglas Harbor Authority- Next meeting Jan. 22nd
6. Fire District Board – No meeting.
7. Community Recreation – No meeting.

### B. Staff Reports

1. **Community Development / Planning / Zoning** – Imus stated there were 70 new building permits issued in 2018
2. **Finance / Budget** – No report
3. **Manager's Report / Comments** – LeFevere received an updated pavement management assessment that will be forwarded to the Council. The City has secured additional CMAC funding in the amount of \$490,000. A goal setting workshop should be scheduled for the first part of February.

11. **Public Communications** - Verbal (Limit of three (3) minutes on general business of the City) - None

## 12. Council Comments

Miller appreciated being a part of the Marketing Analysis Study meeting.

Lion reminded all members of the upcoming MML conference.

Harvath is happy to see a draw for Street Performers.

Seabert would like to see 6-7 more volunteers for the Center St. gardens; he will be ordering flowers shortly.

## 13. Mayor's Report / Comments

Anderson reminded all present that the empty Council seat must be filled at the next meeting. The City Manager search will be moving forward.

**14. Closed Session**

Motion by Harvath, with support from Mooradian, to go into Closed Session in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of the Open Meeting Act to consider City Attorney written opinion. (8:36 P.M.)

Motion by Harvath, with support from Seabert, to end the closed session and return to the regular meeting. (9:40 P.M.)

**Adjournment – Motion to adjourn the meeting, Harvath/Seabert. Motion carried by voice vote**

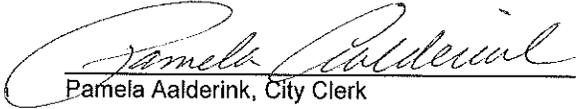
Respectfully submitted by:



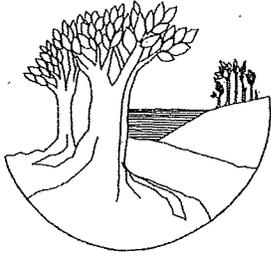
Pamela Alderink, CMC  
City of the Village of Douglas Clerk

Certification of Minutes

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of the Village of Douglas held on January 7, 2019, I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

  
Pamela Aalderink, City Clerk

  
Date



# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP

WWW.SAUGATUCKTOWNSHIP.ORG

3461 BLUE STAR HIGHWAY  
SAUGATUCK, MI 49453

PHONE (269) 857-7721  
FAX (269) 857-4542

## SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2019-01

### RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS AREA PARKS & RECREATION PLAN 2019-2023.

#### TOWNSHIP OF SAUGATUCK ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

*WHEREAS, Saugatuck Township has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2019 through 2023, and*

*WHEREAS, Saugatuck Township has entered into this planning process in collaboration with the City of the Village of Douglas and Saugatuck Public Schools, and*

*WHEREAS, the combined area of the aforementioned local units of government constitutes the planning area, and*

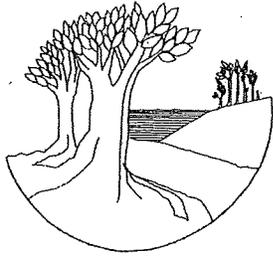
*WHEREAS, Saugatuck Township is of the understanding that the governing bodies of the aforementioned local units of government intend to pass a similar resolution of adoption of the Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019 - 2023, and*

*WHEREAS, Saugatuck Township began the process of developing a Parks and Recreation Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and*

*WHEREAS, residents of Saugatuck Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and*

*WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and*

*WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on December 17, 2018 at Douglas City Hall and again on January 2, 2019 at Saugatuck Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019 – 2023, and*



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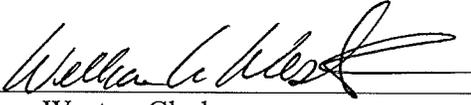
*WHEREAS, Saugatuck Township has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for Saugatuck Township, and*

*WHEREAS, after the public hearing, Saugatuck Township voted to adopt said Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019 – 2023.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Saugatuck Township hereby adopts the Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019 – 2023.*

## CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township of Saugatuck, Allegan County, Michigan, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting of the Township Board held on the 2nd day of January, 2019. I further certify that public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Michigan Act 267 of 1976, as amended and that the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by the Act.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Wester, Clerk  
Saugatuck Township

Members voting yes: *Roelzig, Helmreich, Bigford, Aldrich*

Members voting no:

Saugatuck Township Board Meeting  
Wednesday January 2, 2019, 6pm  
Saugatuck Township Hall, 3461 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck, MI 49453  
Draft Minutes

Supervisor Roerig called the meeting to order at 6pm

All board members present with the exception on William Wester (Clerk)

**Guest Speaker, State Representative, Mary Whiteford, Legislation update**

Chair of the DEQ subcommittee for past 2 years. Found 150K for in order to have Kalamazoo Greenway. Please check out the presentation from the Outdoor Discovery center. Unredeemed bottles and cans totaling 25 million to state budget. The DEQ can use 20 million of that for cleanups. In the excess \$ from that found 1 million to use for rural recycling grants. Found 2 million to do lead remediation testing and grants. In next term chair of Health and Human Services budget. Biggest problem in MI is our health care is not sustainable. Providers get paid 45 cents on the dollar compared to Medicare. Wants to reimburse properly. Is aiming for 75 cents on the dollar. On leadership team/Assistant floor leader. Rural broadband, has been dealing with it for 2 years. Starting a pilot program this year. Is going to keep working on this issue. Mental health – is working on improved access, both inpatient and outpatient care. Set up a psychiatric hospital open bed registry that is now a law. Got a 3 million dollar hotline pilot approved. The hotline would connect people in need of mental health services with providers. Does have office hours on the 14<sup>th</sup> in Salem Township. Greenway engineering study is finished should hit the ground soon. Asian carp update- Illinois refused Michigan money to fight this. Deadline for pilot grants on internet – she will send it out to us as soon as she finds out. Will no longer be Chair of DEQ will be Chair of DHHS.

**Public Comments**

Scott Bosgraaf with North Shore. 3754 Saugatuck Beach Road. Is concerned about Jon Helmrich being involved in the process involving North Shore/Costal Dune Alliance litigation. Prepared a hand out citing 10 reasons Jon should “step aside”.

**Approval of Agenda**

*Aldrich moved to approve the agenda. Bigford supported. No discussion. Agenda approved 4-0.*

**Invoices**

Some additional bills that were vouchered after the packet was prepared  
Total amount of bills as of 1.2.19 \$279,422.13. *Helmrich moved to pay bills submitted. Aldrich supported. No discussion. Approved 4-0.*

**Treasurer Report**

Through December 31<sup>st</sup> – there is a small negative balance right now, but is not raising any concern as property taxes are pouring in. Does not have any line by line items to report on. We have not paid dispersements to the Library of Fire Department since early October. We need to catch up with that. Has made dispersement payments to the schools and the County.

**Approval of Minutes**

November 16, 2018 – Bigford cited a minor correction. *Roerig moved to adopt the minutes from the Special Board Meeting on November 16 as amended by Bigford. Aldrich supported. No discussion. Approved 4-0.*

November 29, 2018 – Bigford moved to adopt the minutes from the Special Board Meeting on November 29. *Aldrich supported. No discussion. Approved 4-0.*

December 5, 2018- Bigford cited 3 minor corrections. *Bigford moved approve the minutes from the Special Board Meeting on December 5 with the noted corrections. Roerig supported. No discussion. Approved 4-0*

December 19, 2018 - Bigford made the addition to add the information that she (Bigford) recorded the minutes. *Roerig moved to accept the minutes from the Special Board Meeting on December 19 as amended by Bigford. Aldrich supported. No discussion. Approved 4-0.*

### **Correspondence**

Letter from Lake Michigan Shore Association. Represents about 175 households on the lakeshore. Concerned about the poor condition of Lakeshore Drive. Asking the Township Board to take a look at improving Lakeshore Drive. Letter is on file.

### **Cemetery Sexton**

Update. Roerig established a temporary compensation for Lori Babinski. Babinski has taken on this role. Roerig stated that he forwarded this information to the Board. Aldrich suggested we revisit this when a manager is hired. Helmrich stated that some townships contract this role out and that is an option. Roerig stated Babinski is not opposed to having someone else take this role on.

### **New Business**

Roerig – Public hearing – **Joint Public Hearing 2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Parks and Recreation Plan.** The draft plan has been available for over 30 days. *Roerig moved to open the joint public hearing for comments on the Saugatuck Douglas area 5 year parks and recreation plan for 2019-2023. Supported by Helmrich. Roll call vote: All vote yes. Motion passes 4-0.*

Public comment (same rules apply):

Jim Searing (lead person for parks and recreation) 6787 Old Garden Road. Invited Dana Burd (also on the park commission) to come up as well. This plan has been in motion for the last 6 months. This hearing is the final step to give individuals an opportunity to give input on the plan. They will take comments into consideration. The parks plan is instrumental in applying for grants.

Dana Burd 6871 Wiley Road –the hearing is the last form of public input. The commission had put out a survey in 2018 to collect information on park priorities. After the public hearing the board is being asked to pass a resolution to adopt the plan so it can be submitted to the DNR which will allow them to apply for grants.

Kirk Harrier – 6422 Pall Meadow Court - Asked the Township trustees to add some information to section one. Had prepared a statement to be added that outlined that the plan is an advisory document and a starting point, not a mandate. The statement was distributed to the board members.

Roerig closed the public comment section.

*Roerig made a motion to adopt the resolution as submitted. Helmrich supported.* Discussion: Jim Searing reported that the statement from Kirk Harrier had not been submitted prior to tonight. Clarified that the City of Saugatuck is not part of the plan. Searing stated that the document does not commit funds, it is just a proposal: all expenditures would require board approval. Bigford believes that the document does include language that states that it is a live document and a guide. Aldrich asked if the city of Saugatuck, not being in the plan, could still collaborate on projects/seek grants with the township/school/Douglas. Searing said that Saugatuck has their own plan, but that does not disqualify

them from collaborating on projects. Searing said that the plan can be added to. Dana advised that Douglas has not adopted the plan they will likely vote on this in January. They had a public hearing before the holidays. Only received a couple of comments. The school board does not need to vote a resolution. They just participate. The township and Douglas need to submit the plan to the DNR by Feb first to be eligible to apply for grants. *Roerig read the resolution to adopt the 2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Parks and Recreation Plan (this resolution was part of the packet). Roll call vote: all vote yes. Resolution adopted 4-0.*

### **Clerk's request of leave of absence**

Roerig gave history on this subject –Wester tendered his resignation on 12.15.18. Upon review it was discovered that this would leave the township without a clerk to preform key duties like check signing. On 12.18.18 Wester amended his resignation and stated he would request a leave of absence until another clerk was appointed. Attorney advice: legitimate request. Board has discretion on this. Deputy/administrative clerk can perform all duties except voting. Wester's salary can be eliminated as requested (by Wester). *Roerig moved to accept the letter from Wester dated 12.18.18 requesting a 6-12 month leave of absence without pay. This motion further directs the township open the search for applicants to fill the anticipated open Clerk position should Bill Wester resign. When an applicant is chosen for the anticipated open Clerk position, Bill Wester will be asked to convert his leave of absence request to a resignation even if that occurs prior to the expiration on 6 months. Supported by Bigford.* Discussion: Helmrich shared information from MTA: the day a clerk or deputy resigns the deputy goes with them. Both a clerk and treasurer are needed to sign checks. MTA advised that there is no such thing as a "leave of absence" for an elected official. Deputies are appointed for that purpose. Helmrich does not believe that we need to vote on this as Wester is still the clerk even if he is not currently doing the duties. Helmrich also shared that the board can appoint someone to fill vacancies up to 30 days prior to the effective date of the resignation. A new clerk would have to appoint a deputy. The Clerk can vote on their replacement. Roerig shared that there is a township policy to open vacancies to the public for application. Bigford said that the "leave of absence" wording is a non-issue for her as it really means that he is utilizing his deputy. Bigford believes the position of clerk should be opened up. Bigford advised that she would like to be considered for the clerk position. *Roll call vote: Roerig, Bigford vote yes. Aldrich, Helmrich vote no. Motion fails 2-2.*

Aldrich and Helmrich both stated that they believe Bigford should be appointed to the clerk position as it is an essential function and that they would like to then open up the trustee position for applicants. Roerig believes we should follow the policy of opening up every position for applicants. Roerig read the actual policy regarding this subject. Helmrich made 2 points: 1- Bigford has been endorsed recently by the public through recent vote to be part of the board. 2- open Zoning/Manager position. *Helmrich moved to appoint trustee Bigford to the position of clerk to take effect immediately upon the date that the current clerk, Bill Wester, is comfortable resigning. Supported by Aldrich.* Discussion: Roerig believes he represents 2900 voters, not just 1000 or so. He stated he will not vote for it. Bigford reviewed that she is already helping with clerk duties and holding office hours and that she would like to be considered. Bigford also stated that she would like to follow the procedure that has been in place to further transparency. Roll call vote: Roerig, Bigford vote no. Aldrich, Helmrich vote yes. Motion fails 2-2.

### **Recording Secretary**

Helmrich highlighted need for recording secretary until such time a clerk is appointed. Bigford checked with Wester. He has approved Bigford to act as recording secretary. Bigford will either take the pay of \$50 per meeting or complete recordings at her \$20 per hour office wage.

### **Proposal for Saugatuck Township Preliminary Water Service Line Inventory**

Roerig- we need to replace lead and galvanized water lines at a cost to the township. Inventory required by January 1<sup>st</sup>. Dana Burd is the township engineer with Prein and Newhof. They made a proposal to conduct that study. This should be paid out of our water fund and we have the funds to pay for the study. Roerig does not know if the funds will be sufficient for the remediation phase. This is mandated by the state. Dana Burd -summarized proposal (part of packet). Roerig enquired about a forecast regarding the cost of replacement. A cost estimate was added to the proposal and will be part of it. Roerig – we cannot choose to not do this. *Roerig moved to accept the township engineering firm Prein and Newhof's proposal and professional service agreement dated 12.21.18 in the amount of \$5,500. Supported by Helmrich.* Discussion: Roerig- we want to weigh other projects against this as we move forward. Aldrich –the fire board recommends to replace the 8inch pipes with 12 inch pipes from 135<sup>th</sup> to the North Shore development. It would increase water pressure by 42%. Roerig: \$165,000 cost to this. Would have to run the line under Blue Star. Roerig would like to weigh this against other projects and look at if we have the funding for this. Believes that at some point someone will need 12 inch lines and that they should shoulder that financial obligation. Helmrich- asked Roerig to clarify his statement about the line at Linus' property. Roerig: it is an 8 in line. Dana – if only an 8 in were recommended, it could just be extended off of that, but because of the township's master plan it's recommended that that line be upsized to a 12in. Helmrich asked if the cost would be 165K to 180K. Dana said he does not know if that would be the cost. Roerig- we can spend engineering dollars to confirm cost if you think it is necessary. He said he does not think we need to, and he thinks we should wait to extend until a time when someone else will fund it. *Motion passes 4-0.*

### **Resolution to approve participation in and cost sharing for master meter project**

Daryl VanDyke (manager for Kal-Lake Sewer) -in 2012 it was agreed by all communities (Douglas, Saugatuck, Saugatuck Township and Laketown Township) involved that the sewage amount deposited from each community be metered to insure fairness in cost. Put forth a draft resolution regarding metering project. The bids will be in likely next week. When that dollar amount is reached it will be inserted in the resolution. Is hoping that the Township Board will vote on this in about 2 weeks when the cost is known. Roerig- will send the report out for legal review. It may need to be voted on at a special meeting prior to our next board meeting. VanDyke reviewed meter locations.

### **Proclamation Commemorating Saugatuck Township School Choice Week**

Bigford read the School Choice Week Proclamation (part of the packet). *Roerig moved to adopt the School Choice Week Proclamation. Supported by Aldrich. Motion passes 4-0.*

### **Update on Search firm contract for Manager/ZA**

Roerig- he and Bigford did interview Frank Walsh regarding his proposal. Walsh speculated that it would take 60-75 hours of his time. Walsh can service only one client at a time. He would be available mid-January to start with us if needed. Walsh does believe that we may have some good candidates already and will not need his services. Depending on the outcome of our current search we may utilize Walsh or another consultant. Helmrich – Walsh is flexible. We have identified that filling the Zoning/Manager position is a top priority.

### **Update on Zoning and Planning Consultant**

Helmrich -We agreed last week that it might make sense to bring in the zoning firm in Grand Rapids that is run by Lynee Wells/Williams and Works for support. He and Bigford had a conversation with Wells and one of her associates. They revised their proposal to include a 2 day a week schedule. No term

assigned, can be month to month. Roerig- as things develop and we need these services we could utilize them. He would like the planning commission to sound in on this.

### **Township Representative to the Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority**

Helmrich – Monday was Sheridan’s last day at the township. Believes we need representation. Roerig believes it should be the township manage, and Sheridan should continue until a manager is hired. Helmrich thinks Sheridan continuing is inappropriate as he is no longer an employee and that he is receiving complaints about Sheridan being the township’s representative. Helmrich asked that Roerig attend the 2 January Kal Lake meetings as a temporary representative. Roerig said he might attend as a non-appointee. *Helmrich moved to acknowledge that Aaron Sheridan is no longer our representative on the Kalamazoo Lake Water and Sewer Authority and that we will endeavor to seek his replacement with an official representative as soon as possible. It is the hope that at least one member of the board would attend the 2 January meetings. Supported by Aldrich.* Discussion: Roerig advised against this as it would leave the township without any good representation on the Kal Lake board. Bigford- asked if there are other options besides Sheridan or Roerig. Roerig said that he believes Sheridan is the most qualified. *Roll call vote: Roerig votes no. Aldrich, Bigford and Helmrich vote yes. Motion passes 3-1.*

### **Planning Commission**

Helmrich - Met on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Our Attorney Nick Curcio was there. The only agenda items were issues related to Medical marijuana. Our planning commission voted to approve 3 of the 5 categories of licenses and businesses. Approved production/growing, provisioning centers, and safety and compliance centers. Voted against transportation and product manufacturing. Nick is working on amending a draft he had completed last year. Next step is a public hearing. Then it will be presented to the township board. Voted to opt out of recreational marijuana at this time.

### **Road Commission**

Bigford – no report. Bigford and Roerig will meet with Craig Atwood at the County on January 8 to get updated and go over road priorities.

### **Interurban**

Lori Babinski reports that they approved to purchase a new administrative vehicle. Approved for grant for federal money to improve air quality. They were approved for 2 buses using alternative fuels that should arrive 2020. Board approved new computer equipment for automatic dispatch.

### **Fire Board**

Aldrich- Fire district on track for historic high numbers for incident call volume 907 emergency incidents (2018) compared to 813 in 2017. Incident call volume is up 94 incidents from 2017. Motor vehicle accident call volume saw an increase of 23% from 2017. Special events 52 for 2018. Overlapping calls up 40%. Encouraged all to visit the Fire District’s website.

### **Parks commission**

Jim Searing - Permit approved to build culvert at River Bluff Park. Good for 5 years.

### **Public Comments**

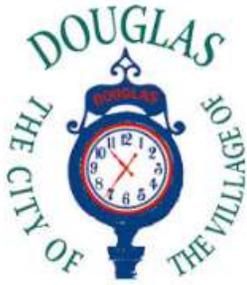
Brenda Marcy- 3221 Lorimar Lane- Happy as a taxpayer that the township joined the MTA. Thought it would save legal costs. Her question was could we start with the MTA when seeking information on legal matters rather than always calling the township’s legal counsel. Who are the subject matter experts and whose advice takes precedence? Suggestion in light of the fact that there has been so much

upheaval and the deputy is just learning her job, and in light of the fact that the clerk is a very important job, and in light of the fact that no one stepped up to run for these trustee positions including the people that are on the applicant list - recommends that the board appoint Bigford to the clerk position and use the policy process to fill the trustee position. Would offer some stability.

Dana Burd – appreciates the townships confidence in him to represent on the Kal Lake board, but would not serve on that board as he believes it is a professional conflict of interest.

**Adjourn** Roerig adjourned at 7:53pm

Recording Secretary: Abby Bigford  
Saugatuck Township Trustee  
January 14, 2019



**SAUGATUCK  
TOWNSHIP**  
WWW.SAUGATUCKTOWNSHIP.ORG

## NOTICE

### **2019-2023 SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS AREA FIVE YEAR RECREATION PLAN UPDATE**

Saugatuck Public Schools, The City of the Village of Douglas, and Saugatuck Township are working together to update a joint SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS PARKS & RECREATION PLAN for 2019-2023. Please see below for important information.

A draft *2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Five Year Recreation Plan* has been developed and opinions and comments are being sought from all area residents and property owners. The plan will be available for review **November 26, 2018 through January 1, 2019** online at [saugatucktownship.org](http://saugatucktownship.org), [ci.douglas.mi.us](http://ci.douglas.mi.us), or [saugatuckpublicschools.com/community-recreation/](http://saugatuckpublicschools.com/community-recreation/) and at their respective offices. Please direct any comments to Kimberly Jongsma, planning consultant, [kjongsma@preinnewhof.com](mailto:kjongsma@preinnewhof.com), 616-362-8491.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**City of the Village of Douglas**

**City Council**

The Douglas City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, **December 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm, at the City offices** at 86 W. Center Street, Douglas, Michigan 49406 to hear public comments on the draft *2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Five Year Recreation Plan*. The plan is available at the City of the Village of Douglas offices for public examination and review during normal business hours. Interested persons may submit comments in writing up to and during the public hearing on December 17, 2018 or appear in person at the public hearing to

become part of the record of the hearing. The City of Douglas will provide for necessary and reasonable aids and services for disabled persons upon 7 days prior notice to the City Offices at 269-587-1438.

**NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING**  
**SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS AREA PARKS & RECREATION PLAN**  
**City of the Village of Douglas, Saugatuck Township, & Saugatuck Public Schools**

A Joint Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, **January 2, 2019 at 6:00 pm**, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Saugatuck Township Board, at Saugatuck Township Hall, 3461 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453. The purpose is to hear public comments on the draft *2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Five Year Recreation Plan*. All residents from Saugatuck, Douglas, Saugatuck Township, and surrounding areas are welcome to attend the Public Hearing.

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This public hearing is required by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to make our communities eligible for several grants. A resolution to adopt the plan is also required by each community. Thank you in advance for your input.

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Lynne Gallagher, being duly sworn, states that she is the person in charge of the business office for The Local Observer, a weekly newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local news and intelligence and for the dissemination of legal news in Allegan County, Michigan. Attached is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date(s):

City of the Village of Douglas – Help Load the Humvee – 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30

City of the Village of Douglas – Holiday Gingerbread House Contest – 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30

City of the Village of Douglas – Leaf, Brush and Yard Waste Pick up – 11/9

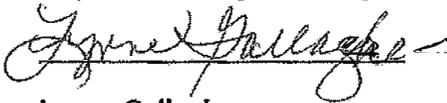
City of the Village of Douglas – Planning Commission – Notice of Public Hearing – 11/9, 11/23, 11/30

City of the Village of Douglas – Ordinance to Amend Chapter 50: Water Service – 11/16

City of the Village of Douglas – Five Year Recreation Plan Update – 11/23

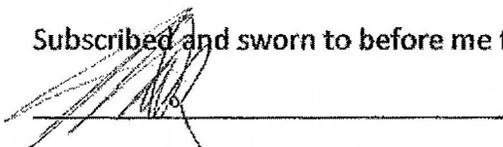
City of the Village of Douglas – Planning Commission – Notice of Public Hearing – 12/14

City of the Village of Douglas – Job opening – City Council – 12/14



Lynne Gallagher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this DEC 14, 2018



Mark G. Kinnaman, Notary Public

Allegan County, Michigan

My commission expires: 10-15-2025

Acting in Allegan County

PERSPECTIVE MEDIA CORP.

DBA The Local Observer

728 East 8th Street, Suite 1

Holland, MI 49423

# Special Assessment I

## e Lines Approved By Douglas

### City Of Douglas

#### NOTICE

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#### Hearing.

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A resolution to adopt the plan is also required by each community. Thank you in advance for your input.

**THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
Monday, December 17, 2018  
DOUGLAS CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM  
86 W. CENTER STREET, DOUGLAS, MI  
7:00 PM**

1. **Call to Order** – Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** – Members present: Anderson, Greenwood, Harvath, Miller, Seabert  
Members absent/excused: Lion, Mooradian  
Also present: City Manager LeFevere, City Clerk Neve, Finance Director Carpenter,
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Mayor Anderson
4. **Consent Calendar**
  - A. Approval of Agenda for December 17, 2018
  - B. Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2018
  - C. Approval of Committee of the Whole Work Session Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2018Motion by Harvath with support from Seabert to approve the consent calendar as presented.  
Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.
5. **Approval of Invoices**  
Motion by Harvath with support from Seabert to approve invoices dated December 17, 2018 in the revised amount of \$61,257.39  
Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.
6. **Appointments/Resignations/Proclamations**
  - A. Retiring City Clerk Neve gave the oath of office to appointed City Clerk Pam Aalderink.
7. **Public Communications**
  - A. Verbal (Limit of three (3) minutes on agenda items only)  
No comments were heard..
  - B. Written Communications
    1. Thank you letter to Steve Gras, Department of Public Works
    2. Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority Letter RE: PFAS
    3. City of Douglas advertisement for Councilmember
    4. *Where do your tax dollars go* visual
    5. Douglas City Police Department Chief's Report for November ActivityCouncil members thanked Steve Gras for his actions to aid a resident who had fallen in the street.  
Written communications noted as received and filed..
8. **Unfinished Business**  
None
9. **New Business**
  - A. Public Hearing: 2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Five Year Recreation Plan  
Motion by Seabert with support Miller to open the Public Hearing for comments on the 2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Five Year Recreational Plan.  
Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.  
Planner Imus related the plan is updated every five years and is essential for being eligible for grants. Saugatuck City is opting out and doing their own separate plan. The fact that they will opt-out and the schools dedicated mileage will have no effect on the plan that the schools, Saugatuck Township and Douglas develop.

Engineer Nate Williams indicated that any errors in the current draft will be corrected once all the information is collected and approved.

No comments were heard from the public.

Motion by Seabert with support from Harvath to close the public hearing. Motion carried.

## 10. Reports

### A. **Commission / Committee / Board Reports**

1. **Planning Commission-Imus**  
The Planning Commission reviewed the Vorderman request for a license agreement to use Fourth Street driveway until road is completed. This request will come back to City Council at the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.
2. **Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority-LeFevere**  
Further discussion on the Master Metering program as Saugatuck agrees to a 50-50 split of costs. The project needs to start before April but have no fixed dollar amount yet. The municipalities will not be proceeding until all costs are in and approved. All agreed to go through two summer cycles before a "true-up" is implemented.  
Beginning the budget process. There seems to always be personnel issues holding on to employees/operators.
3. **Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority – Greenwood**  
Meeting is cancelled for December.
4. **Downtown Development Authority – Lion**  
Anderson reported for Lion. Held a retreat to work on strategic planning. Reviewed committees and what was accomplished during 2018. Will work on evaluations individually. Merchants received a survey looking for suggestions.
5. **Fire District Board – Miller, Mooradian**  
No report.
6. **Community Recreation – Seabert**  
No meeting.
7. **Douglas Harbor Authority**  
No meeting.

### B. **Staff Reports**

1. **Community Development / Planning / Zoning - Imus**  
Sharon Woods, LandUseUSA, is preparing for a January 7<sup>th</sup> "Kick-off" meeting. Time and location information will follow but anyone interested should make plans to attend.
2. **Finance / Budget - Carpenter**  
2018 Winter tax bills were mailed out December 3<sup>rd</sup> and collection has started.  
Successfully transferred some investment CD's to an institution paying higher interest.
3. **Manager's Report / Comments – LeFevere**  
Still trying to work through all the regulations of the EPA to tie down permits for the 66<sup>th</sup> Street property.  
Thank you to Councilperson Greenwood for the years of service on council and harbor authority.  
Thanks to retiring City Clerk Neve.  
Happy Holidays to all.

- 11. Public Communications - Verbal** (Limit of three (3) minutes on general business of the City)  
No comments were heard.

**12. Council Comments**

- Seabert: Always like to look back and review what was accomplished during the year. Many good things during 2018 included the bike path, Wade's Bayou improvements, Special Assessment Districts approved, purchased the 66<sup>th</sup> Street property, the root beer barrel is again serving food and root beer, our Treasurer completed a great audit and Point Pleasant project is moving forward. We have a lot of work ahead for 2019 for which the market study will be most helpful.  
Thanks to Lisa Greenwood for her service and to City Clerk Jean Neve for 14 years.  
Happy Holidays to all. Let's begin the new year with renewed energy.
- Greenwood: Feels like resignation was the best thing for herself and the city. Thanks for opportunity to serve. Likes that local politics is not based on two political parties but serving for the good of the community.
- Harvath: Thanks to Lisa Greenwood for many years of service.  
Looks like we are still experiencing problems with lighting on Center Street.  
Consider looking at other small communities for signage ideas.
- Miller: Appreciated have Lisa on Council. Healthy debate is always good. Thanks for first year on council.

**13. Mayor Report / Comments – Anderson**

Thank you to Lisa for serving. Congratulations to Pam Alderink.  
Happy Holidays.

**14. Closed Session**

Motion by Greenwood with support from Seabert to go into closed session in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of the Open Meetings Act to consider purchase, sale/lease of real property.  
Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote at 7:50 p.m.

Motion by Harvath with support from Seabert to end the closed session at 8:16 p.m.  
Motion carried.

**15 Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Jean E. Neve, CMC  
City of the Village of Douglas Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Anderson, Mayor

Certification of Minutes

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of the Village of Douglas held on December 17, 2018, I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean E. Neve, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

January 22, 2019

Ms. Brandy Gildea  
Parks Coordinator at Allegan County Parks and Recreation  
3255 122nd Avenue, Suite 103  
Allegan, MI 49010

RE: City of the Village of Douglas and Saugatuck Township 5 Year Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Gildea:

On behalf of the City of the Village of Douglas and Saugatuck Township, we are submitting the 2019-2023 Saugatuck-Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan. The City of Saugatuck elected to not participate in the joint recreation plan. Saugatuck Public Schools participated in the creation of this plan, but it is not a requirement of MDNR for them to formally adopt the plan.

Enclosed is a copy of the plan for your files. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires that a copy of the plan is submitted to the Regional Planning Agency and the County to allow cooperation and coordination of efforts.

If you have any questions or comments please send them directly to the respective community's attention.

Sincerely,

**Prein&Newhof**

Kimberly Jongsma  
Planning Consultant

January 22, 2019

Mr. Dave Bee  
West Michigan Regional Planning Commission  
1345 Monroe Ave. NW, Suite 255  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

RE: City of the Village of Douglas and Saugatuck Township 5 Year Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. Bee:

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Sincerely,

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Kimberly Jongsma  
Planning Consultant



# COMMUNITY PARK AND RECREATION PLAN

## CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

By Authority of Parts 19, 703 and 716 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, as amended, submission of this information is required for eligibility to apply for grants

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete, obtain certification signatures and submit this checklist with a locally adopted recreation plan.

All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park and Recreation Plans* provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Plans must be submitted to the DNR through MiRecGrants **with** a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan. Plans may be submitted at any time of the year, but no later than February 1 of the year the local unit of government is applying for grants.

### PLAN INFORMATION

Name of Plan:

Saugatuck Douglas Area Parks & Recreation Plan 2019-2023

List the community names (including school districts) that are covered under the plan and have passed a resolution adopting the plan.	County	Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body
Saugatuck Township	Allegan	01/2019
City of the Village of Douglas	Allegan	01/2019
Saugatuck Public Schools	Allegan	n/a

### PLAN CONTENT

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please check each box to certify that the listed information is included in the final plan.

**1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION**

**2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

- Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)
- Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart
- Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming
- Current Funding Sources
- Role of Volunteers
- Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations

**Recreation Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only:**

- Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities
- Articles of Incorporation

**3. RECREATION INVENTORY**

- Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory
- Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities
- Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)
- Accessibility Assessment
- Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities
- Waterways Inventory (if applicable)

**4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)**

**5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS**

**6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS**

- Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received
- Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment
  - Date of the Notice November 23, 2018
  - Type of Notice Newspaper
  - Plan Location Online and Municipal Offices
  - Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) 35 days
- Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)
  - Date of Notice November 23, 2018
  - Name of Newspaper The Commercial Record & The Observer
  - Date of Meeting January 2, 2019
- Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

**7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**8. ACTION PROGRAM**

**9. POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT(S)**

**PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION**

**APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION:** For multi-jurisdictional plans, **each** local unit of government must pass a resolution adopting the plan. Prepare and attach a separate page for each unit of government included in the plan.

- 1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: January 2, 2019
- 2. Official resolution of the \_\_\_\_\_ Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: January 22, 2019
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**OVERALL CERTIFICATION**

**NOTE:** For multi-jurisdictional plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of each local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page for each unit of government included in the plan.

*I hereby certify that the recreation plan for*

Saugatuck Township (Local Unit of Government) *includes the required content, as indicated above and as set forth by the DNR.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government      1/22/19  
Date

**This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.**



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above and as set forth by the DNR.

*includes the required content, as indicated*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government

1-29-2019  
Date

**This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.**