
VILLAGE OF GOODRICH

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2015 - 2020



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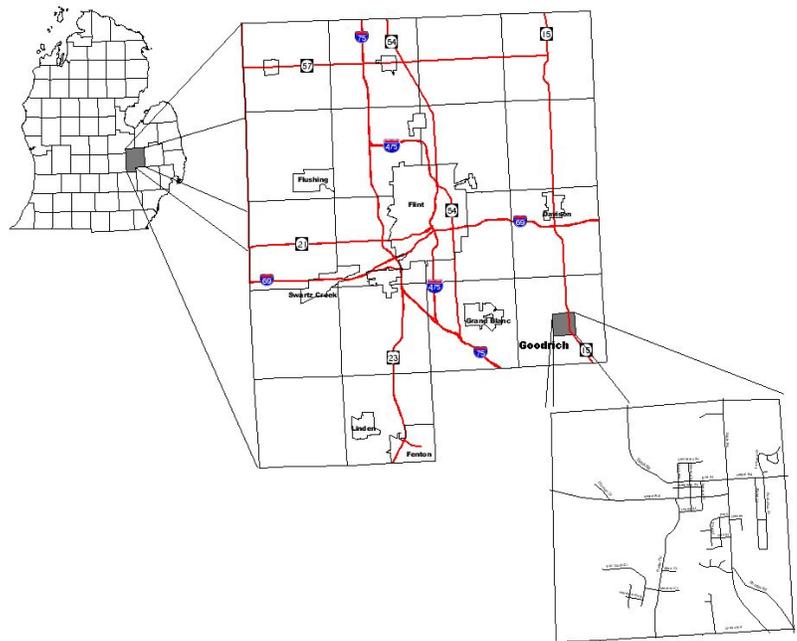
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Introduction

The Village of Goodrich is a growing community in the southeast corner of Genesee County. The Village has a lot to offer residents, including a traditional downtown, significant natural features, and excellent neighborhoods.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is intended to serve as a guide to the community in the planning of future recreation opportunities and services. While this guide was prepared by the Village of Goodrich, school facilities are shared with Atlas Township, therefore, recommendations take into consideration the needs of the Goodrich/Atlas community.



The Village adopted its first Parks and Recreation Master Plan October 9, 2000. The Village’s greatest accomplishments since the adoption of the first plan are:

- Converted one tennis court at Goodrich Commons Park to a diversified facility and creation of a full basketball court. The Village has plans to refurbish the remaining courts.
- Acquired land and developed a new Village Hall and DPW facility. The result facilitated the removal of DPW storage at Goodrich Commons Park, allowing additional land area for recreation use. The new site allowed an opportunity for a small scale recreation area for 2-5 year olds. A new accessible swing set and climbing area have been installed.
- Secured 6 acre park (Kearsley Creek Park) to be owned and maintained by the Village at the northwest edge of the downtown neighborhood as part of a new residential site condominium project. The Village plans to develop the site with playground equipment, a picnic area, trails, and preserve the remainder of the site along Kearsley Creek.
- Acquired a 40 foot by 60 foot piece of land located on the Mill Pond (Huron Street Park) to allow for public fishing and observation access to the pond. Also weed treated the pond and, with citizen involvement and initiation, worked with the MDNR to re-stock the fish to support fishing use.
- Completed additional multi-use pathway system along State Road/M-15.
- Initiated construction of a multi-use pathway along Hegel Road to link downtown Goodrich west to the school complex in Atlas Township. The path provides a significant connection to downtown and to additional recreation opportunities. Because the path is multi-use, the facility in and of itself will meet recreation demands.

The focus of this Plan update is to identify any changes in desires of residents and attempt to continue to satisfy the recreation needs of the entire community through its recommendations and Action Plan, which is summarized below:

- Strategies for land acquisition
- Guidance on new facilities to diversify system
- Accessibility and visibility of facilities
- Cooperation with Atlas Township and Goodrich School District

Section One: Community Profile

Goodrich is a small town that offers a mixture of traditional and historic downtown neighborhoods at the same time offering suburban style development with a taste of large lot rural character on the outskirts. Atlas Township, which surrounds the Village, primarily possesses a rural character. The following Section provides an overview of physical characteristics such as transportation systems and land use development patterns which define the Village. It also includes an examination of natural amenities such as vegetation that are unique to the community and can be carefully utilized and protected within the park framework. Finally, this Section identifies the opportunities and/or challenges these elements create for the communities' growth and development of future recreation facilities.

Collection and analysis of data describing the Village characteristics is an important component of the parks and recreation planning process. The evaluation and comparison of available data allows identification of established trends in the population, housing, and employment compositions of the Village which to varying degrees impact the provision of recreation services. The trends provide valuable insights to define potential future conditions based upon the historic trends and the characteristics of surrounding communities and as well as the region.

Physical Characteristics

The physical characteristics of Goodrich were evaluated in order to establish the type of land that is available for park and recreation facilities. Based on the type of land, the Village can evaluate the associated opportunities and constraints.

Transportation/Access

The Village of Goodrich is located in the southeastern corner of Genesee County and situated approximately 15 miles from Flint and 30 miles from the City of Pontiac. The Village is bisected by the state highway M-15 (more commonly referred to as State Road in Goodrich) which provides easy connection to I-75 and I-69. This comprehensive network allows Village residents efficient access to Michigan's regional recreation facilities located in the east and southeast portions of the State.

Within the Village limits, Hegel Road, Pontiac Street, and State Road/M-15 define the heart of the downtown. In and around the Village, the grid of local streets and sidewalks disperses vehicles and pedestrians and offers a variety of routes.

Land Use

The Village offers a mix of commercial, residential, office, institutional, and industrial land uses although single family and commercial uses are the most dominate. Although there are several emerging neighborhoods and daily changes to the faces of businesses, there still remains a few large tracts of land within the Village that have yet to be developed. This may include increases in population but it also presents the potential for future park land acquisition.

Major issues related to land use consist of maintaining high quality development, continued economic development, preserving the small-town residential character, continuing to improve the compatibility of land use transitions, and meeting the recreation needs of its citizens.

Single family residential neighborhoods can be categorized into three distinct areas: Village center residential which offers small lots and traditional homes; new suburban development that offers larger lot sizes, deeper setbacks, and attached garages; and large lot rural residential homes. This pattern begins at the heart of the Village with high density and slowly phases into the large lot residential areas closer to the Village limits. Nearby schools and other institutional establishments add to the residential neighborhoods.

The Village of Goodrich has two established commercial areas. The Central Business District is located along West Hegel Road between State Road and Pontiac Street. This historic downtown offers traditional elements such as on-street parking, wide sidewalks, ornamental lighting, historic buildings, and small businesses. The second commercial district is located along State Road/M-15. The Village has developed a Corridor Plan for this area to better regulate development. The desire along the corridor within the Village is to control traffic and promote a mixture of uses including office, commercial, multiple family, institutional, and single family. State Road also offers good access for existing industrial development.

Climate

Weather influences the types of recreation that an area can support. Southeast and eastern Michigan has a humid, continental climate that may be considered typical of the upper Midwest lake states region of the United States. The Great Lakes exert a powerful climatic influence throughout the State of Michigan, for example, spring is delayed and fall extended approximately one month due to the moderating effect of the lakes. Prevailing southwesterly winds, frequent and often rapid weather changes, extreme seasonal temperature variations, reasonably uniform annual distribution of precipitation, and four distinct seasons characterize the climate in the Village of Goodrich.

Soils

Native soils affect construction site cost, and are also a basis for determining the presence of a regulated wetland. The USDA released the Genesee County Soil Survey in 1972, which classifies soil and describes the suitability of native soils for various types of development. Soil suitability was judged according to limitations for foundations for building, septic tank disposal fields, highway location, and depth of seasonal high water. The Village of Goodrich is made up of primarily well and moderately suited soils and do not appear to present any significant development limitations for future parks and recreation facilities.

Topography

The rolling topography, and in some cases steep slopes, in the Village offer a visually appealing scenery and contribute to the rural character of the community. The area of greatest grade change is the northwest corner of the Village. Overall, the contours of the land direct drainage flow towards the Kearsley Creek and Mill Pond. These slopes may present development constraints and must be preserved to the extent possible.

Surface Water

Kearsley Creek and the Goodrich Mill Pond are the two main water bodies within the Village. Kearsley Creek is an important cold water trout stream in Michigan, nestled at the main entrance point to the downtown and has great potential to offer recreation to the community. The Goodrich Mill Pond is located on the west side of State Road just south of Hegel Road and Goodrich Commons Park. The pond is visible along a few segments of roadway and several homes, and represents the largest body of water in the Village. For this reason, the pond provides a unique resource that should be protected.

Floodplain

The 100-year floodplain within Goodrich has been determined by FEMA. Floodplains are areas where there is a 1% chance of a flood occurring within any one year. Development within a FEMA identified floodplain is restricted because of their importance as water recharge areas and natural water storage basins during periods of heavy rains or snow thaws and because the likelihood of water damage to structures is great. FEMA has identified floodplains in much of Goodrich, around the Mill Pond and around numerous wetlands and along the Kearsley Creek. Proposed park facilities must take into consideration this sensitive condition.

Wetlands

Wetlands are important aesthetically and functionally, as they filter stormwater runoff, help control flooding and erosion, and act as a habitat for birds and wildlife. Protection of these areas, particularly those regulated by the State is important in preserving the natural environment of the Village. Wetland areas are found in areas along the Kearsley Creek, in the southeast corner of the Village, in the northwest end and in a few areas west of Ridge Road. These sites present opportunities for future parkland and preservation areas.

Demographic Characteristics

According to U.S. Census Bureau information, the Village’s population has been steadily increasing. Within the last ten years, Goodrich’s population has increased by approximately 37.5%. Communities in Genesee County experienced fast population growth since 1990, the construction of sanitary sewers in 1990 significantly increased the village’s capacity for development.

As shown in Figure 1 and Table 1, modest population growth is expected to occur in the Village due to the availability of public utilities and vacant land. Atlas Township and Genesee County are both projected to lose population by 2040.

Figure 1: Population Trends and Projections

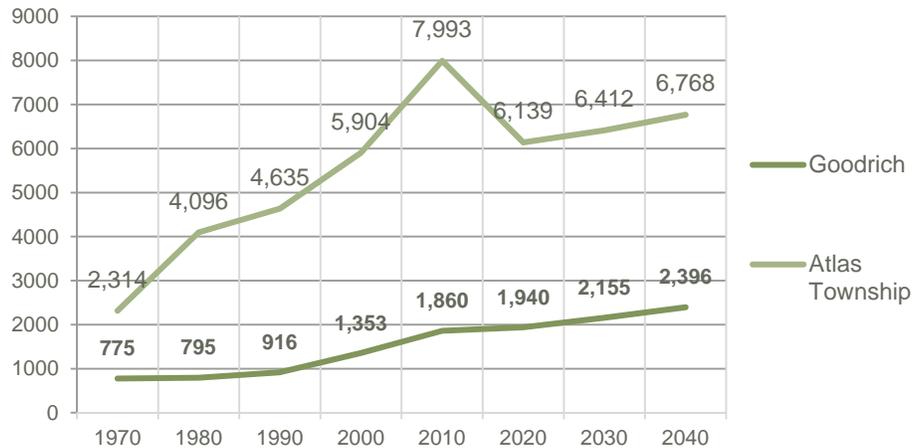


Table 1: Goodrich and Atlas Township Population Trends 1970-2010

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030	2040	Change 10-40
Village of Goodrich	775	795	916	1,353	1,860	1,940	2,155	2,396	29%
Atlas Township	2,314	4,096	4,635	5,904	7,993	6,139	6,412	6,768	-15%
Goodrich/Atlas Community	3,089	4,891	5,551	6,039	9,853	8,079	8,567	9,164	14%
Genesee County	445,589	450,449	430,459	436,141	425,790	409,210	411,749	423,030	-1%

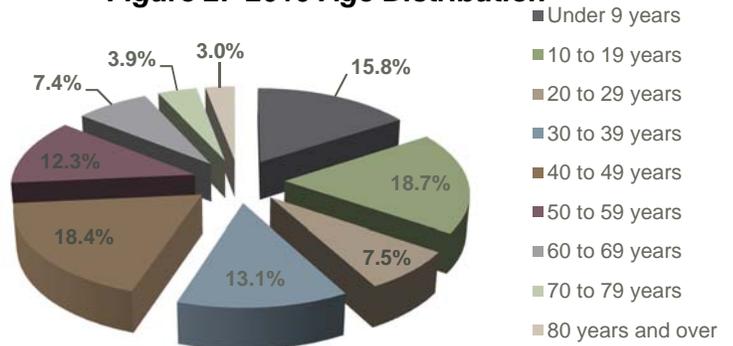
Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Forecasts by Genesee County 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan

Age Characteristics

The age distribution of the population plays an important role in planning the future, since each age group desires a different set of special facilities and services.

Analysis of the Village’s age distribution revealed a significant finding. In 2010, the largest age group in the Village of Goodrich was between the ages of 10 and 19, making up 18.7% of the population. The next largest age group was 40 to 49 years of age, accounting for 18.4% of the population.

Figure 2: 2010 Age Distribution



A fast growing segment of the population are residents over age 65. Many of these aging residents will be able to retain their independent lifestyle, but there will be an increasing demand for senior-oriented housing. A new development in the Village is responding to this demand with assisted living and memory care units. Additional demand is expected in these and other senior housing options, including less costly independent living, and units that serve the entire continuum of care needed in the later stages of life.

The projected shift of Goodrich’s population to these older age categories will generate a greater need for special services, such as a senior center to provide meals, support services and socialization. This plan expects additional demand for a range of public and/or private senior-oriented housing development in the Village. In fact, an assisted living facility has already opened in the Village, with a memory care facility planned to open in the near future.

Race and Gender Characteristics

According to the 2010 US Census, 50.3% of Goodrich residents were female. In addition, Goodrich was a racially homogenous community, with only 1.9% non-white residents.

Education

Table 2 shows the educational attainment of residents age 25 and older as of the 2010 U.S. Census. U.S. Census Bureau statistics indicate approximately 93.5% of adults age 25 and older have obtained a high school degree and almost 37% of the adult population went on to obtain a college degree.

	Number*	%
Less than 9th grade	26	2.2%
10th to 12th grade, no diploma	49	4.2%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	297	25.5%
Some college, no degree	366	31.4%
Associate's degree	122	10.5%
Bachelor's degree	211	18.1%
Graduate or professional degree	93	8.0%
<i>* Number of residents age 25 and older</i>		
<i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>		

Employment

Table 3 illustrates the distribution of occupations for employed Goodrich residents in the 2010 US Census. White-collar occupations, including managerial, professional, sales, and office accounted for 64.5% of Goodrich residents. Generally, these occupations pay average or higher than average wages, which translates into a higher than average median household income discussed in the next paragraph.

	2000	2010
Management, business, science & arts	34.4%	50.3%
Service	11.1%	15.3%
Sales & office	28.6%	14.2%
Natural resources, construction & maintenance	9.3%	13.9%
Production, transportation & material moving	16.4%	6.3%
Farming, fishing & forestry	0.3%	0.0%
<i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>		

Household Incomes

The median per capita income for the Village of Goodrich was \$30,703 in 2010, up 18% from 2000. The median household income was \$76,643, up 15% from 2000.

Key Findings of the Community Profile

- Excellent connection to major Michigan highways increases accessibility to regional recreation and recreation opportunities within the Village of Goodrich.
- Grid pattern streets and sidewalks allow easy vehicular and pedestrian access in and around the current established community.
- The Village has a variety of land uses which present a need to accommodate recreation provisions for residents and workers within the Village.
- The influx in single family residential development has and will continue to result in additional residents which suggests more demand on parks and recreation.
- There is a younger population which suggests an increased demand for active recreation, such as biking routes, roller blading and playing fields. However, an increasing aging population is also expected, so a diverse set of facilities and programming will be needed to serve the community.
- The rolling topography and other natural features in the community present development constraints and opportunities for prime recreation facilities.
- Climate conditions warrant consideration of indoor facilities and special attention to the design and quality of outdoor facilities.
- The location of the floodplain and drainage areas must be considered when locating equipment, facilities, and structures.
- Peak usage of parks and other recreation facilities is likely to occur in the evening hours or at night, during the week, on the weekend and during school vacation time due to educational and work demands on residents.
- The strong presence of a younger and older population means that their specific needs must be addressed.

Section Two: Administrative Structure and the Planning Process

The delivery of recreation services in the Village of Goodrich is made possible by joint efforts between the Village, the Township, and the school district. The Village owns and operates Goodrich Commons, the existing park in the downtown. The school district has four schools that are located in the Goodrich/Atlas community that also provide active recreation fields, play equipment, and indoor facilities. The school district also operates Community Education that offers a number of programs, classes, and activities year-round. Finally, private facilities in the area include churches, Goodrich Country Club, and Atlas Valley Golf Course. Collectively, these facilities provide a range of recreation opportunities to the Goodrich/Atlas community.

Administrative Structure

It is important to look at the administrative structure in order to understand how improvements will be accomplished, through what process, or if any modifications to the current system are needed to allow this Plan to be more effective.

Village of Goodrich

The Village Administrator, along with the Village Council and Department of Public Works (DPW) operate and maintain Goodrich Commons. The responsibilities include:

- Programming activities and coordinating times for groups that would like to use the park for an event
- Provide referrals to volunteer sports organizations
- Recommending facility expansions and additional needs
- Overseeing maintenance of facilities
- Overseeing and administering the budget

A parks and recreation committee is appointed by the Village Council. The committee was involved in preparation of this plan, and prepares requests to the Council for improvements with priorities. In addition to the committee, citizen volunteers from both the Village and Township continue to play an important role in maintaining and improving park and recreation facilities in the community.

The Village Council establishes the annual itemized budget for recreation and park maintenance and generally oversees use of the budget. The Council has the final say on large improvement projects, use of additional funds, and land acquisitions. All decisions are based on recommendations from the Village Administrator, the Planning Commission, and input from the public. Additionally, the Council approves all grant applications and adopts the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Atlas Township

Atlas Township relies primarily on the school district and Village of Goodrich to provide recreation facilities and programming. The Township, in partnership with the Goodrich Soccer Club developed two soccer fields on the 11-acre Township-owned property adjacent to Goodrich Middle School in 2012.

Goodrich Area School District

The school district's recreation facilities and Community Education program account for the majority of both parks and programming in the Goodrich/Atlas community. There is a significant amount of cooperation between the Village, Township, and the school district to provide and maintain these recreation facilities.

Planning Process

The Village of Goodrich Parks and Recreation Master Plan was prepared and adopted following a thorough planning process that involved Village staff, the Village Planning Commission, the Village Council, and the public. The process is more specifically described below.

Community Profile

The first step was to obtain a description of the area's physical and social characteristics. This included gathering information on the area's transportation system, existing land use, climate, soils, topography, and natural resources as well as population trends, the age, gender and racial distribution, types of households, employment, and income.

Recreation Inventory

The recreation inventory included site visits and written descriptions of recreation facilities within Goodrich and Atlas Township. In addition, a description of Genesee County, Oakland County, State of Michigan, and Huron-Clinton Metropark facilities within a short drive of Goodrich has also been included.

Analysis

Based on the data collected from the above steps, information was analyzed in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association guidelines, the experience of staff and consultants, the desires of the residents and potential funding sources.

Action Program

Upon completion of the analysis, goals and recommendations were determined to provide the framework for the action program. Goals and objectives were converted to specific action items organized by year over the timeframe of the five-year plan. The five-year plan offers a format which allows the reader to understand what action is to be accomplished, where it will occur, when it will occur, who will accomplish the action, how much it will cost and potential funding sources.

Public Hearing

Once the details of the Plan were updated and general goals and recommendations were drafted, a public workshop was held at a Planning Commission meeting to present the report and allow the public an opportunity to respond to the Plan.

Plan Completion and Adoption

Once consensus was reached amongst Village officials and the public on the recommendations of the Plan, the document was reviewed by the Planning Commission, then it was refined and adopted by Village Council.

Section Three: Parks and Recreation Inventory

An inventory of facilities utilized by Village and Township residents was conducted. These facilities can be categorized into mostly public facilities, however, there are a few that are privately owned and operated. In addition, independent volunteer organizations are described that privately coordinate athletic activities for residents in the community and beyond.

Parks and Recreation Facilities within the Goodrich/Atlas Community

Village of Goodrich Parks

The following is a description of park land owned and maintained by the Village:

- **Goodrich Commons Park:** Goodrich Commons Park is located along Kearsley Creek between Erie Street and Hegel Road. The park offers tennis, basketball, roller hockey, play equipment, and picnic areas. Residents utilize the park facilities and the open space areas are popular for community events, family reunions, picnics, and fund-raisers. The Department of Public Works storage shed has been removed and replaced with a shed that complements the pavillion. In fact, the Village has plans to improve the park.
- **Huron Street Park:** The Village purchased a 40 foot by 60 foot piece of land on the Goodrich Mill Pond to provide access to the pond for fishing. To enhance this opportunity the Village weed treated the pond to improve water quality and volunteers from the Village are working to replenish the fish stock.
- **Kearsley Creek Park:** In 2004, a new residential neighborhood located on the north side of Dutch Road along Kearsley Creek was approved for development. The project is a Planning Unit Development and as part of the site plan review process, the required open space area totaling approximately 6 acres was dedicated to the Village for use as a public park. The site includes frontage on Kearsley Creek, wetlands, floodplain, significant vegetation, and upland area. The park has access within the new neighborhood and within the existing neighborhood off Cemetery Street. This site is an extremely important and new asset for the Village that will assist in protecting the sensitive ecosystem along this segment of the Kearsley Creek. In the future, the Village intends to encourage similar preservation from adjoining sites that could develop.

Current park plans for the site include a trail system, play equipment near Cemetery Street, and a seating/picnic area. Due to the limited road access and usable upland, parking and drive access to the park is not planned.

- **Village Hall Site:** The Village purchased land north of the downtown along State Road and developed a new Village Hall and Department of Public Works facility. The buildings sit on three acres with some available land for possibly a small-scale passive park and the lower level of the building can be used for meetings or classes.

Goodrich Area School District

The School District operates facilities within the Village and within the Township. These sites were inventoried because they are a key source of recreation for Village residents. Reid Elementary School is located within the Village on Erie Street. Goodrich High School, Middle School, and Oaktree Elementary School are located near

the Hegel Road and Gale Road intersection. Since the last plan, the school has updated playground equipment at Reid Elementary School and Oaktree Elementary School.

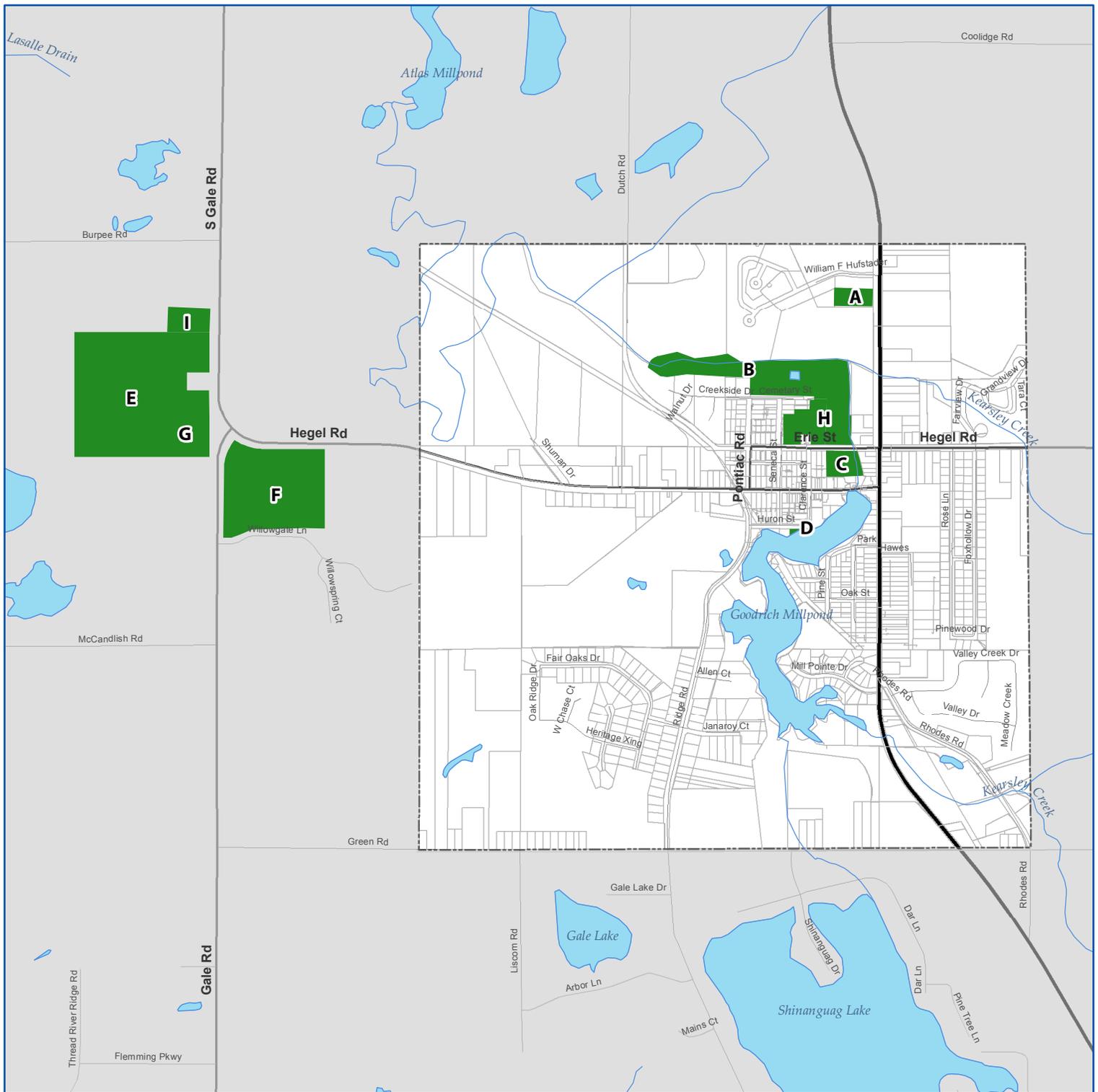
Private Facilities

Goodrich residents have access to a few privately owned facilities in the area, the majority of which are golf courses and health and fitness clubs. The key golf courses include the Goodrich Country Club and Atlas Valley Country Club, which are open to the public and offer memberships. A few of the community churches offer indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities. Finally, most of the newer subdivisions in the Village offer private park areas and open spaces for use by the residents, as required by the Zoning Ordinance.

Table 9: Recreation Facility Inventory

	Acres	Playground	Tot Lot	Ballfield	Soccer Field	Football	Running Track	Tennis	Basketball Nets	Roller Hockey	Batting Cage	Picnic Areas	Shelter	Grills	Sledding Hill
Goodrich Commons Park	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	Y	Y	Y	1
Kearsley Creek Park	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Huron Street Park	.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Village Hall Site	.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goodrich Middle School	5	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goodrich High School	5	-	-	2	1	1	1	8	-	-	2	Y	Y	-	-
Oaktree Elementary School	2	Y	Y	-	2	-	-	-	7	-	-	Y	Y	-	-
Reid Elementary School	5	Y	-	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	Y	Y	-	-
Goodrich Soccer Club Fields	11	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hegel Road Multi Use Pathway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M-15 Heritage Route Pathway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		2	2	8	6	2	1	10	11	1	2	4	6	1	1

Source: Village of Goodrich



Map Six

Parks

Village of Goodrich Master Plan

- A. Village Hall Site
- B. Kearsley Creek Park
- C. Goodrich Commons Park
- D. Huron Street Park
- E. Goodrich Middle School
- F. Goodrich High School
- G. Oaktree Elementary School
- H. Reid Elementary School and ballfields
- I. Soccer Fields



May 2014
 Data Sources: MiCGI, FEMA, NWI, Wade-Trim,
 Village of Goodrich, LSL Planning, Inc.



Park and Recreation Facilities within the Region

The Goodrich/Atlas community is conveniently located to have access to a number of regional parks provided by the County, State, and independent recreation authorities. Figure Eleven describes the regional park and recreation facilities located within a 30 minute drive of the area. These facilities are provided by Genesee County, Oakland County, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and the State of Michigan. A listing of facilities is provided in the Appendix.

Programming Offered to Goodrich Residents

More facilities may be needed to accommodate growing programs. Analysis of demographics indicate those under age 20 (34.5%) and those ages 30 to 50 (31.5%) represent the largest sectors of the community. These facts indicate both a need to provide adult programs, as has been determined in the past, but also to maintain and monitor youth programs and facilities to ensure they continue to meet demand.

Community Education Program

The Community Education Program offers a variety of recreation, classes, and activities for people of all ages. Programs are offered throughout the year and are very successful. Funding for the programs is obtained through user fees and an operating budget established by the school board. Activities, classes, and programs are held at the various schools. Currently facility maintenance is conducted by the school district.

Volunteer Organizations

Outside of organized sports offered through the school, residents of the Village and Township rely on volunteer organizations. The most active groups include the Soccer Association and Baseball Association. Both sport associations offer organized games and practices for children between the ages of 6 and 14. Children and adults in the area must participate in associations outside the community for other activities such as hockey, football, and tennis. There are several other volunteer groups that have contributed to recent park improvements. One volunteer group in Atlas Township is the "Walk, Bike, Run Atlas Township" group that has helped secure funding for pathways. Atlas Township residents recently established a millage of 1/8 Mills to assist the township with expenses. Another group is the "Goodrich Village Volunteers," a local citizens group that was formed to help enhance the village and its parks. Recently this group provided funding and manpower to install a play structure and designed and built a park structure. Goodrich Village Volunteers are another resource to fund park improvements. This group also helped secure funding for a new park entrance sign. In the past, the Village had volunteers help clean up the creek. Another such volunteer event is listed as a recommendation later in the plan.



Each volunteer organization has strong leadership and participation from parents. With this support, they believe they could contribute some level of assistance to the community to better develop the facilities and aid in providing additional resources.

Section Four: Parks and Recreation Analysis

The next step in the park planning process is analysis. From the analysis, clearly defined visions and action strategies can be established. The key components considered as part of the analysis are the following:

- The profile, or characteristics of the community described in Section I
- The administrative structure and public input described in Section II
- The inventory of existing facilities described in Section III; and
- A comparison of national standards provided by the National Recreation and Parks Association

This section of the Plan focuses primarily on the national standards, however, relevant conditions discussed in other sections are noted. Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has adopted the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) standards, to determine the need for recreation facilities in each community. These standards provide recommended guidelines for:

- The amount of parkland based on population size and park type
- The geographical location of parks based on population concentrations and park service area
- The amount of specific recreation facilities based on population size

Each of these standards were applied to the existing inventory of community-wide and school district recreation facilities in the Village and the Township to determine if deficiencies are present. The NRPA standards shall be used as a baseline and adjusted upward or downward as appropriate to reflect the unique and specific characteristic applicable to the Village of Goodrich.

Park Classification

The NRPA has established generally recognized standards for classifying types of parkland. These standards provide a means for determining the primary purpose or use of existing facilities within a community.

Community Parks

Community Parks typically contain a wide variety of recreation facilities to meet the diverse needs of residents from several neighborhoods. Community parks may include areas for intense active recreation. In addition, these parks usually contain other passive recreation opportunities not commonly found in neighborhood parks. Due to their size and facilities, the school facilities and Goodrich Commons Park are classified as Community Parks.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that provide areas for intensive active recreation activities, such as field games, court games, playgrounds, picnicking, etc. Neighborhood parks generally serve a larger area beyond the adjacent neighborhood. The newly acquired Kearsley Creek Park is a neighborhood park.

Mini-Parks

Mini-parks are small, specialized parks, usually less than an acre in size, that serve the needs of residents in the surrounding neighborhood. A mini-park may serve a limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. The recently acquired Huron Street Park is a mini-park.

Regional Parks

Regional parks typically offer unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, wildlife habitats, fishing, boating, hiking and trail use. The Genesee County parks qualify as regional parks and are located nearby.

Parkland Acreage

The analysis was based on the combined Goodrich/Atlas community population of 8,610 people according to the 2000 US Census. The combined population was utilized to better understand the needs of the entire community for future joint planning efforts.

Figure 11: Existing Parkland Analysis

Parkland ²	NRPA Standard ¹	Standard for Goodrich / Atlas Community	Existing Park Acreage	Surplus or Deficiency
Mini Parks	0.25 /1,000	2.46	1	-1.46
Neighborhood Parks	1.0 /1,000	9.85	6	-3.85
Community Parks	5.0 /1,000	49.27	24	-25.27
Regional Parks	10.0 /1,000	98.53	0	-98.53

¹ Population based on the 2010 U.S. Census for the Goodrich/Atlas Community of 9,853
² Parklands include those listed in Figure Nine Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory and Goodrich Country Club and Atlas Valley Country Club
 Source of Standard: Lancaster, Roger A., Ed. 1983. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA:NRPA

Figure 11 compares existing parkland acreage in the Goodrich/Atlas community to recommended national standards. Currently, the community is deficient in all park types. The following analysis requires consideration when developing the action plan.

- **Neighborhood and Mini-Parks:** Neighborhood parks and mini-parks are important because they provide convenient, lower intensity park areas with passive recreation such as picnics and tot lots. The Village should begin with improving the recently acquired neighborhood and mini-parks and then consider accommodating this need in a manner that is evenly distributed throughout the community. These can be targeted when new subdivisions are proposed and can possibly be accommodated in the new neighborhood by the developer.
- **Community Parks:** Although there are several community parks offered, there remains a deficiency in comparison to the population they serve. The Village should begin with maximizing the potential use of Goodrich Commons Park and additional park development and land acquisition opportunities should be pursued in order to meet this need. When considering opportunities, meeting the demand for community parks should be a higher priority than neighborhood or mini-parks because the larger size presents more opportunities to meet facility needs efficiently on one site. In addition, maintenance is more efficient because the facilities are all on one site. Finally, these larger sites also allow for opportunities to preserve important natural features in the community, which has been a consistent priority of the Village of Goodrich for many years. Consideration should be given to acquiring additional sites along Kearsley Creek because it is an important water feature for the region and supports a variety of high quality plant and wildlife habitats.
- **Regional Parks:** The deficiency of regional parkland should not be considered an issue due to the presence of the Genesee County Park System 10 miles north of the Village. The county park system offers residents over 5,000 acres of regional recreation facilities, open space, and water.

Recreation Facilities

The analysis of national standards, in combination with community input and community conditions, revealed the following key findings:

Figure 12: Existing Recreation Facilities Analysis

Facilities ²	NRPA Standard	Standard for Goodrich / Atlas Community	Existing Facilities	Surplus or Deficiency
Playgrounds	1/3,000	3	2	-1
Multi-Use Court	1/10,000	10	1	-9
Basketball Courts	1/5,000	2	6.5 (13 nets)	5
Volleyball Courts	1/5,000	2	0	-2
Ballfields	1/5,000	2	8	6
Soccer Fields	1/10,000	1	6	5
Golf Course– 18 Hole	1/50,000	0	2	2
Football Fields	1/20,000	0	2	2
Running Track (1/4 mile)	1/20,000	0	1	1
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	0	0	0
Ice Hockey	1/50,000	0	0	0

¹ Population based on the 2010 U.S. Census for the Goodrich/Atlas Community of 9,853

² Facilities include those listed in Figure Nine Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory and Goodrich Country Club and Atlas Valley Country Club

Source of Standard: Lancaster, Roger A., Ed. 1983. *Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*. Alexandria, VA:NRPA

- **Large Scale Facilities:** Provision of large scale and costly recreation facilities are not a priority for this planning effort due to demands already met, lack of need based on population, and lack of resources. These facilities include golf courses, football fields, running tracks, swimming pool, and ice hockey arenas.
- **Court Sports:** Court facilities offered by the Village include a tennis court and basketball court located at Goodrich Commons Park. In general, existing court facilities meet demands for the community. In the future if additional parkland is acquired for active recreation, additional court facilities, tennis and basketball in particular, should be provided at the new park to maintain diversity in facilities. Volleyball courts are deficient, however, indoor gym space at the schools will meet this demand.
- **Fields:** Based on national standards, soccer and ball fields exceed recommended numbers. If discussions with athletic organizations, children and parents, it was evident that additional field space is needed to meet the demands of growing programs and growing population counts. When new opportunities emerge for land acquisition, criteria in evaluating sites should include the ability to accommodate formal athletic fields. In addition, coordination between the school, Atlas Township, Goodrich, and the volunteer organizations that use the fields is necessary to address maintenance of the fields. This is due to limited man power and other resources of the Village to meet this need.
- **Playground Equipment:** Guidance for the provision of these facilities is not strictly defined. It is more appropriate to gauge the demand based on input from the public. During this planning process, it was

clear there is a need for playground equipment near neighborhoods. Even with the new barrier free facilities provided, changes in the age make-up of the community is increasing demand for playgrounds. The Village should place a priority on installation of new playground equipment at their parks.

- **Trails and Pathways:** Consistent with the previous plan, non-motorized circulation and recreation is important to the Goodrich/Atlas community. While extensive efforts and investment has been made to meet demands and link important facilities, there continues to be a need for pathway connections. The emphasis should continue to be on development of pathways within road right-of-way due to ease of implementation. If an opportunity presents itself to acquire land that can preserve significant natural features, a trail system within that site should be considered for nature observation and interpretation. Because of their size, Atlas Township and Genesee County have recently been more active in pathway and trail development for the area. The Village of Goodrich will continue to work with the Township and County to bring additional connections to Goodrich.



Where dedicated pathway easements cannot be obtained, the Village is in favor of using public right-of-way to accommodate non-motorized travel, where it can be provided safely. The Village supports the principles of Complete Streets, in that the needs of all modes of travel should be evaluated and appropriately accommodated as part of regular road improvement projects. In addition, an access management plan was created by MDOT for M-15/State Street, which is adopted by the Village. Applying access management on State Street will help eliminate conflict points between motorists and pedestrians and bicyclists.

Service Area Analysis

The NPRA establishes a standard service area for each park classification. By locating the various facilities on a map and overlaying the service area criteria, neighborhoods within a community that may be under served by parkland are revealed. National standards dictate that the service area for neighborhood parks and mini-parks is within 0.25 to 0.50 miles and the service area for community parks is 1-2 miles. The collective service radius of the five public parks covers the entire Village and a large portion of the Township. North and south corners of the Township are far removed from facilities.

The issue of greatest concern is that the majority of the service area is met by school facilities. Although the school parks are a significant asset in meeting location needs, they are controlled by the school district, not the Village. Therefore, school activities and events take priority over daily recreation needs of residents.

It has already been established that the amount of parkland should be increased to meet population demands. New parkland acquisition decisions should also be based on the presence of residential concentrations and accessibility to proper infrastructure. For instance, within the Village of Goodrich boundaries, emphasis should be placed on new parkland opportunities on the south side and west side of the Village where neighborhoods continue to develop, such as along Ridge Road, Hegel Road and Dutch Road.

Section Five: Parks and Recreation Action Plan

Planning for the Village's parks and recreation facilities involves a thorough process at the onset of Plan development and throughout the Plan's five year cycle. This portion of the Plan is the culmination of a comprehensive Planning effort involving existing parks and recreation opportunities in the Goodrich/Atlas community.

This section provides four key components described below:

- **Parks and Recreation Plan Goals:** The first section lists the overall Parks and Recreation Plan Goals established by the community. The goals will serve as guiding principles over the next five years as decisions and Plans are made regarding recreation in the community.
- **Recommendations:** These recommendations provide an overview of all strategies developed as part of the planning process. These are tasks that need to be accomplished in order to meet the goals of the Plan. Recommendations include project ideas, on-going coordination efforts, and policy items for consideration.
- **Five Year Plan:** The Five Year Plan outlines a list of highest priority capital improvements for the Village. This will allow officials to allocate funding as appropriate in order to accomplish the strategies of the Plan.
- **Implementation Tools:** As the Village considers both the Recommendations list and the Five Year Plan it is important to understand potential implementation tools that are available for assistance. This section provides a convenient outline of these resources.

Parks and Recreation Plan Goals

- To provide diverse parks and recreation activities and facilities that are well maintained and serve the needs of the Goodrich/Atlas Community.
- To expand the current park system in a manner that will improve accessibility to park and recreation for residents, support a variety of recreation opportunities, and protect the natural environment of the community.
- To promote parkland as focal points to neighborhoods and commercial areas as a place for the community to gather and interact.
- To provide comprehensive programming that offers activities, events, and educational programs for a variety of interests and age groups.
- To offer programs that will encourage more interaction and integration of the community.
- To utilize parkland, pathways, and open spaces to physically link key areas of the community.
- To establish a cooperative relationship between the Village of Goodrich, Atlas Township, the School District, and civic organizations.

Recommendations

In order to meet the goals listed on the previous page there are several strategies that must be considered and prioritized. This section lists out all the recommendations the community developed as part of the parks and recreation planning process. Some are long term ideas while others are short-term ideas, but they are all tasks the community aspires to accomplish in order to meet the parks and recreation needs of its residents.

Goodrich Commons Park

Goodrich Commons Park is a valuable asset to the community. The park has the potential to serve as a focal point to downtown Goodrich. However access and visibility, as well as other elements, need to be improved. There are many things that can be done to better ensure the park continues to be an asset to the community and to better utilize the space.

The Village recently conducted a study of the Mill Pond Dam, which is located at the south end of the park. The study recommended several improvements to maintain the dam, including reconstructing the spillway to control water flow and improve recreational access to Mill Pond as well as pedestrian access from Hegel road. A concept plan was prepared that can serve as a point of reference when the detailed Plan is prepared (see next page). The recommendations in this concept plan are intended to demonstrate the development potential of the site and an ideal scenario for the future, a more detailed construction plan will be necessary in determining feasibility.

Recommendations from the Goodrich Commons Concept Plan include the following:

- Maintain existing tennis courts, basketball courts, and multi-use activity areas
- Improve barrier free accessibility into and within the park
- Install new play equipment for a range of ages
- Install an additional seating area/picnic shelter
- Install a restroom facility
- Improve open space areas to promote use for family activities, events, and informal recreation
- Provide a pathway/stairway link between the park and Downtown Goodrich at W. Hegel Road
- Install the sign planned for the park on Erie Street (the Hegel Road sign is installed) so that visitors of downtown and the school and residents are more aware of the park
- Provide ornamental light poles, consistent with the downtown lights, in the park for improved lighting and safety after sundown
- Reconstruct the old Mill Pond Dam to provide a spillway and cascade water feature with pedestrian promenade, fishing access and canoe launch area

Huron Street Park

While small and limited to potential use, the new site located along the Mill Pond should be improved with the following enhancements:

- Clear scrub and other overgrown areas that may hinder use
- Install official Village park sign that can include name, hours, and associated rules
- Install a boardwalk to serve as an overlook
- Provide seating/picnicking area
- Install a pathway connection between the site and the Village sidewalk network; improve barrier free access
- Install railing or decorative fencing for safety and to delineate boundaries of the park

Kearsley Creek Park

This park is a welcome addition to the Village and has the opportunity to provide the desired mix of active and passive recreation opportunities along with preservation of a natural resource in the community.

- Install official Village park sign that can include name, hours, and associated rules
- Install pathway system; improve barrier free access
- Install seating/picnic area
- Maintain hill for sledding
- Install interpretive signage system along trail
- Provide upgrades to the trail such as seating and fitness stations

Village Hall

Land area for recreation is limited on the Village Hall site, primarily due to topography. Consideration should be given to the potential for a small gathering area for civic events that will complement the flag. The lower level of the building is used for classes and events. With the recent extension of the pathway system along State Road, there is convenient non-motorized access between the Village Hall and downtown Goodrich.

Parkland Acquisition

According to national standards and input from the public, additional parkland is needed to serve the existing and future population of the Goodrich/Atlas Community. Acquiring parkland, however, is a difficult and costly process that requires research, education, and public involvement. Atlas Township recently purchased parkland, but there will be a need for more in the future. The community must first establish a set of criteria when reviewing potential purchases to ensure a site will effectively accomplish, or satisfy, community needs and goals. Based on public input and analysis of national standards there are a variety of needs that should be considered:

- Preservation of natural features such as Kearsley Creek
- Preservation of historical sites such as the Hegel Farm
- Providing additional active recreation facilities for the community
- Minimizing the gaps in park service area and provide an even balance in park location

- Ensuring surrounding land uses are compatible and conducive to a peaceful and relaxing environment

Alternatives to Public Land Acquisition

It is possible that the purchase of one large tract of land can address a majority, if not all of the criteria. It is more likely that it will take a few different sites. In this case, the community must set priorities as to what is most important. They must also explore other methods of accomplishing this criterion, such as:

- More efficient, or creative, use of existing public land
- Lease agreements with property owners such as churches and schools
- Requiring the preservation of open space and natural features in residential developments
- Continue to encourage county parkland acquisition in the Goodrich/Atlas community
- Encourage continued partnerships, both among municipalities, schools, churches and private recreation providers

Pathway Connections

The Village has been diligently installing a comprehensive pathway system along major roadways either at their own expense, through grants, and through assistance from developers.

- **State Road/M-15:** The primary focus of the efforts has been along State Road, the main state road in the Village. This project is part of a regional effort under the M-15 Heritage Route designation. The long term vision is to create a non-motorized link from Clarkston to Bay City. Additionally, the proposed Iron Belle Trail will go along M-15 from Ortonville to Goodrich. Goodrich has generally completed their segment of the pathway. Future efforts should focus on competing gaps in the system leading to the route and providing an additional pathway link at the north side of the Village.
- **Hegel Road Route:** A pathway along Hegel Road was constructed in 2005. This pathway was a regional effort between the Village and Township and will link Downtown Goodrich and adjoining neighborhoods to the schools and playgrounds in the Township. Future efforts should focus on completing gaps in the system leading to the route.
- **Link to Village Hall:** West of the Village Hall is a large wetland system that adjoins Kearsley Creek. The south side of Kearsley Creek is the new Kearsley Creek Park site. Pathway connection opportunities should continue to be explored for the future either through easements or land acquisition that would create a large loop between Village Hall, State Road, Downtown, Kearsley Creek and other natural areas, and west-side neighborhoods.

Variety of Facilities and Programs

A greater variety of facilities are needed to serve various segments of the population. The following should be considered when evaluating additional facilities and expansion of programs:

- Expand youth programs to cover more age groups and more interests. The key is variety to ensure the programs accommodate as many children as possible. The crucial time to address is after school, on weekends, and during vacations. These programs should be somewhat structured and directly supervised by younger adults that can better relate to the youths.
- To promote a volunteer event to clean up the creek, similar to past events of this nature.
- Continue to support and expand programs for seniors to include more classes, seminars, and trips.

- Expand recreation programs to address a greater range of age groups.
- Plan for hiking and biking trails within new park sites for the more active residents.
- Encourage increased use of the Mill Pond for fishing and non-motorized watercraft access.
- With the future development of neighborhoods parks either by the Village, Township, or by private developers of residential subdivisions, require playground equipment.
- Continue to monitor interest in various additional programs and improvements as opportunities and resources allow. A recreation survey conducted by the Goodrich Volunteers revealed the following “wish list” from the community:
 - Activities such as movie nights, concerts, musical acts
 - Improved pathways to enter Commons park (stairs, paved paths)
 - Permanent restroom facilities at Commons park
 - Ice rink in Commons park
 - Lighting in Commons park
 - Bike racks
 - Drinking fountains
 - More playground equipment for older children
 - Tennis courts
 - Outdoor exercise equipment
 - shoe pits
 - Outdoor volleyball courts
 - More playground equipment for preschool age children
 - Shuffleboard
 - Pickleball

Five Year Plan

Table Thirteen provides a recommended capital improvement schedule of recreation projects. The Plan is intended as a guide, not a rigid year-by-year list of improvements. Priorities should be reviewed by the Village Council on an annual basis. Actual timing of projects will depend upon successful award of grants or private donations.

<i>Table 13: Five Year Action Plan</i>		
Project Description	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
GOODRICH COMMONS PARK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All improvements shown in Concept Plan Implement recommendation from Mill Pond Dam Modifications Feasibility Study 	\$160,000 (park) \$2,080,345 (dam)	<i>Grants, MDNR, MSHPO, FEMA, General Fund, Donation, Special Millage</i>
HURON STREET PARK Phase 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear scrub on-site Install official Village Park Sign Provide seating area Install railing 	\$25,000	<i>Grants, General Fund, Donation, Special Millage</i>
Phase 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install a boardwalk/overlook Install a pathway connection and other barrier free accessibility improvements Install play structure Install seating area 	\$70,000	
KEARSLEY CREEK PARK Phase 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install a sign Install pathway loop and other barrier free accessibility improvements Install a play structure 	\$50,000	<i>Grants, General Fund, Donation, Special Millage</i>
Phase 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements for a sledding hill Install interpretive signage Complete trail upgrades 	\$35,000	
STATE ROAD PATHWAY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install pathway link to the north 	\$7,000	<i>Grants, TEA-21, Special Millage, General Fund</i>
VILLAGE HALL TO KEARSLEY CREEK PARK TRAIL CONNECTION Phase 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities for land/easements to create pathway link Install pathway connection up to the creek 	\$10,000 + staff time	<i>Grants, TEA-21, Special Millage, General Fund</i>
Phase 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install bridge over Kearsley Creek and complete pathway link to Kearsley Creek Park 	\$250,000	
EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARKLAND ACQUISITION	Staff time	<i>General Fund</i>

CONTINUED PATHWAY INSTALLATION	\$25,000	Grants, TEA-21, Special Millage, General Fund
Total Costs:		\$2,712,345 plus staff time

Implementation Tools

There are a number of useful recommendations included in this document. They will remain as recommendations, however, until the Village initiates implementation. This section outlines strategies for the community to realize its objectives.

Cooperation between Key Players

There is potential to provide expanded cooperation and joint venturing between the Village, Township and school district to offer a more comprehensive and efficient delivery of services. Each entity has a lot to offer the other that would create a well-structured program.

Another key relationship should be between the Goodrich/Atlas Community and the Genesee County Parks Commission. The County has more resources and may consider the potential for a County park in the community. It would be up to the Village and Township to initiate discussion and possibly offer potential sites.

A joint effort would not be a difficult transition for many residents because currently schools, churches, civic organizations and other groups provide a well-integrated mixture of Village and Township residents. Further, there was support for an expanded program expressed at the public workshop.

Neighborhood Group/Civic Organization Partnerships

There are a number of public park improvement recommendations outlined in the Plan. The Village is fortunate to have the "Goodrich Village Volunteers," a group of citizen volunteers who help with the village and park improvements and maintenance, and several recreation-minded groups such as the Goodrich Soccer Club and "Walk, Bike, Run Atlas Township". The Village should continue to enlist the assistance of such groups and civic organizations to offset the demand for additional Village resources. These groups can offer input on the design, contribute man power and donate materials or money to assist in accomplishing the improvements. These groups have a vested interest in the park as it develops into a focal point to the community, and their role may transform into a more formal one as their participation in the community grows.

Goodrich Commons

The Village is committed to improving parks and recreation programming, it has designated the planned Kearsley Creek Dam Project as a priority project. It will provide a visible and accessible recreation area that is expected to elevate the Village's image and attractiveness to families and those seeking recreation opportunities. Planned at the Goodrich Commons Park, this project could include installation of 2 playground areas, picnic pavilion, enhanced entrance, kayak livery/pier, gazebo for pond viewing, and other park sign and landscaping amenities.



Parks and Recreation Committee

Recently created to help maintain plan; oversee regular updates to parks and recreation plan and its implementation.

Funding Sources

It is intended that the variety of recreation improvements proposed can be financed solely through volunteer efforts, general fund proceeds or a combination of funding sources, such as grants. Other than the township pathway millage, the Village does not intend to create any new taxation to support the projects in this Plan. Therefore the Village will explore opportunities within the existing budget and from outside sources. In general, there are several existing and potential funding sources available to the Village for parks and recreation facility improvements. The following is a brief description of these potential funding sources:

- **General Funds.** Allow a healthy budget for recreation programming and to accommodate the recommended improvements to the Village park.
- **Special Millage.** A property tax millage can be used to finance specific park and recreation projects such as parkland improvements and facility upgrades. A millage is an effective method to divide costs over time amongst all the taxpayers in the community to provide matching grant funds or finance projects out-right. A millage allows more flexibility in how the money is utilized than a bond. One example of a millage is the recently established millage of 1/8 Mills by Atlas Township residents.
- **Recreation Bond.** A number of bond programs can be used to finance construction of parks and recreation facilities. General Obligation Bonds are issued for specific community projects, such as park land acquisition, and may not be used for other purposes. These bonds are usually paid for with property tax revenues. These bonds are issued for construction of public projects that generate revenues. The bonds are then retired using income generated by the project.
- **Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).** The MAP-21 Act was enacted in 2012 to help expand transportation choices and enhance the transportation experience for all types of travel. MAP-21 funds road improvement projects, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and safety projects, scenic and historic highway programs, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation and environmental mitigation. The Village of Goodrich showed its support for Complete Streets by passing a resolution.
- **MDOT: Transportation Alternatives Program.** Funding is available for non-motorized enhancements through grants. Atlas Township was recently awarded a grant to extend the existing Hegel Road Pathway.
- **Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF).** MNRTF provides funding assistance for state and local outdoor recreation needs, including land acquisition and development of recreation facilities. This assistance is directed at creating and improving outdoor recreational opportunities and providing protection to valuable natural resources. These are grants between \$15,000 and \$500,000 with a required minimum local match of 25%. This grant is ideal for land acquisition and park development goals in the future.
- **Michigan Natural Resources Tree Planting Grants.** Through the MDNR, there are three tree planting grant programs that will assist in funding landscape enhancements at the parks and re-forestation projects.

- **Cooperative Resources Management Initiative.** This program supports tree planting programs that improve tree species diversity, age/class diversity, reduce current and long-term maintenance costs, increase awareness, education and technical knowledge of trees and natural resources, provide wildlife habitat, improve aesthetics, encourage community/volunteer participation, increase water and air quality, and expand/improve tree cover throughout communities.
- **Urban Community Forestry Program- Arbor Day Mini-Grants.** This mini-grant program is designed to provide information and technical assistance to municipal governments and volunteer groups for urban and community forest activities related to Arbor Day.
- **Urban Community Forestry Program.** This program provides the same services as above plus management plans, inventories, and maintenance activities. These activities do not have to be related to Arbor Day.
- **Arbor Day Foundation.** Becoming a member of the Arbor Day Foundation will provide the Village with additional resources related to tree planting and maintenance.
- **The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21).** TEA-21 provides funding for numerous types of projects that support the enhancement of transportation facilities and promote safe and efficient multi-modal transportation methods. This is a reimbursement program that originally comes from the federal level and is administered by Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). Under this program, the Village is eligible to apply for funding to implement their non-motorized pathway priorities and some enhancement projects related to transportation.
- **Donations/Sponsorship.** Businesses, corporations, private clubs, community organizations, and individuals will often contribute to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit the communities in which they are located. Private sector contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, the donation of land, the provision of volunteer services, or the contribution of equipment or facilities. Often, communities show their appreciation by providing a plaque of some sort to signify the contribution.
- **Foundations.** A foundation is a special non-profit legal entity that is established as a mechanism through which land, cash, and securities can be donated for the benefit of parks and recreation services. The assets are disbursed by the foundation Board of Directors according to a predetermined Plan.
- **Lease or Contractual Agreements.** The Village may increase the availability of recreation facilities to its residents by leasing sites, facilities, and services from other sources in order to meet demands. Churches are a great resource because they often have large sites and are also interested in recreation facilities for their parishioners.
- **Conservation Easements.** A conservation easement is a method of preserving open space without purchasing all rights to a parcel of property. Rather than obtaining fee simple, or complete ownership, an organization or community can purchase or acquire by gift an 'easement' to the property. This technique is recommended to preserve open space if it is not feasible for the Village to acquire the land.
- **Public-Private or Public-Public Partnerships.** Implications of reduced funding at the public and private sector have created a need for various partnerships between public and private entities as well as two

public entities on the development of projects. Similar partnerships such as this may be possible between the Village and the County, the local school districts, and abutting communities in order to accommodate large-scale recreation demands such as an ice arena or community pool.

- **Crowd Funding.** Crowdfunding is a source of alternative financing. Crowd funding is usually done online at sites like, Go Fund Me or Indiegogo. Funds are raised by personal contributions to the site and can help fund projects around the Village. Recently communities have used crowd funding to raise funds for pop up parks, benches, signage and other amenities.
- **Safe Routes to School.** In conjunction with MAP-21, Safe Routes to School activities are eligible for funding under the Transportation Alternatives program. FHWA eligible infrastructure treatments include sidewalk treatments, bicycle facilities, driver feedback signage and lighting, among others.
- **Atlas Township.** Coordination with Atlas Township on improvements could be integral to funding improvements throughout Goodrich. The recently passed millage in Atlas Township is a great example of coordinated funding to improve Goodrich Parks and Recreation facilities.
- **MML MiPlace.** The MiPlace Toolkit, found at misplace.org/resource/funding, outlines an assortment of grant opportunities, each with specific guidelines and requirements.
- **Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC).** Patronicity is the MEDC version of crowdfunding. Municipalities are able to use matching funds of up to \$50,000 to fund projects that focus on “activation of public spaces and community places,” including park enhancements or plazas. Once the municipality has chosen a specific project the community could apply to the MEDC to conduct a crowdfunding campaign. The MEDC will match locally generated funds up to \$50,000.

Appendix A: Regional Parks and Recreation Facilities

<i>Appendix: Regional Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory</i>		
Park Name	Jurisdiction	Facilities Provided
Addison Oaks	Oakland County	
Buell Lake Park	Genesee County	Snowmobile area, picnic area, fishing, radio-controlled model airplane field and ball fields
Davison Roadside Park	Genesee County	Beginners sledding hill and picnic area
Dodge No. 4 State Park	State of Michigan	Facilities include picnic equipment, playground, a beach house and a boat launch. Activities include picnicking, swimming, fishing and snowmobiling.
Flushing Park	Genesee County	Tennis courts, picnic area, cross country ski area, ball field
For-Mar	Genesee County	Nature preserves, arboretum, and guided nature hikes
Genesee Recreation Area (includes Mott Lake)	Genesee County	Bluebell and Goldenrod Beaches, bicycle paths, boat launches, Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad, fishing, off-road vehicle area, snowmobile area, Genesee Belle Riverboat, and a campground
Groveland Oaks	Oakland County	The park has nearly 500 campsites, beach and swimming area, 63-foot water slide ride and picnic areas. Islands within the lake are also used for day picnicking by groups.
Highland Recreation Area	State of Michigan	Facilities include 30 rustic campsites, a horseman's camp, an organization camp, cabins, picnic equipment, playgrounds, beach house, boat launch and nature trails. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking and horseback riding.
Holloway Reservoir Regional Park	Genesee County	Buttercup Beach, canoe and boat launching sites, equestrian complex, fishing, toboggan hill and a campground
Holly Recreation Area	State of Michigan	Facilities include 161 modern campsites, an organization camp, cabins, mini-cabins, tent rentals picnic facilities, playgrounds, and a boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing and horseback riding.
Independence Oaks	Oakland County	Lewis E. Wint Nature Center with exhibits and educational programs, Rubach Sensory Herb Garden, Cohn amphitheater. Other activities include picnicking, camping, swimming, fishing, hiking, cross-country skiing and boat rentals.
Indian Springs	Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Facilities	Situated at the headwaters of the Huron River and encompasses the Huron Swamp, most of the park activities focus on the preservation and interpretation of the natural environments. Features include a 18-hole golf course and driving range, nature and paved trails, picnic area, tot lot, baseball diamond and volleyball court.
Linden Park	Genesee County	Clover Beach, intermediate sledding and toboggan hills, tennis courts, snowmobile area, picnic area, playground and ball field
Orion Oaks	Oakland County	
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area	State of Michigan	Facilities include 176 modern campsites, horseman's camp, organization camp, tent rentals, picnic facilities, a beach house and boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing,

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		snowmobiling, hiking and horseback riding
Richfield Park (within Genesee Recreation Area)	Genesee County	Ball diamonds, bicycle motocross track, canoe launching site at Flint River, picnic areas, snowmobile areas and tennis courts
Rose Oaks	Oakland County	The park is undeveloped but features hiking and fishing. Future plans may include boating, swimming, picnicking and cross-country skiing.
Seven Lakes	State of Michigan	Facilities include modern camping sites, picnic equipment, playgrounds, a beach house and boat launch. Activities include swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking and cross-country skiing.
Springfield Oaks	Oakland County	The park offers an activity center, golf course, pro shop, cart rentals, soccer fields, picnic area, horse riding areas, and bar and grill. Parties, both large and small are accommodated in the activity building with kitchen, 800-person auditorium, and dance floor.
Stony Creek	Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Facilities	
Waterford Oaks	Oakland County	This facility offers a wave pool and a two-flume water slide. Other facilities include lighted platform tennis, shuffleboard and horseshoe courts and a bicycle motocross (BMX) track. The activity center provides space for banquets, receptions and parties as well as dancing and educational classes. Waterford Oaks is also home to the 'Fridge', a refrigerated toboggan run.
White Lake Oaks	Oakland County	18-holes of challenging golf, banquet facilities for up to 260 people, bar and grill, pro shop and clubhouse.

Appendix B: Public Survey Results

Goodrich Village Volunteers Parks & Recreation Survey 2014 Results

48 surveys compiled

1. What is your residential status?		
34	72%	I live in the Village of Goodrich
0		I own a business in the Village
13	28%	I live in Atlas Twp, but not in the Village
1		Other - I grew up in goodrich
2. What is your age?		
1	2%	Under 15 years
0		15 - 24 years
26	54%	25-44 years
15	31%	45-64 years
6	13%	65 years and over
3. What is the age range for members in your household?		
7	15%	Under 5 years
16	34%	5-10 years
18	38%	11-17 years
10	21%	18-24 years
32	68%	25-54 years
18	38%	Over 55

4. How often do you or a member of your household use the following Goodrich park or recreation facility?								
Total group					Village Only			
None	1-10	11-20	20+		None	1-10	11-20	20+
8	20	2	17	The bike/walking paths on M-15 or Hegel	5	#	2	15
35	7	2	1	Fishing at the Mill Pond	24	6	2	1
40	3	1	1	Fishing in the Goodrich Commons park	30	1	1	1
34	8	3	0	The Goodrich Commons park basketball court	27	4	2	0
16	28	3	0	The Goodrich Commons park pavilion	11	#	3	0
17	25	2	1	The Goodrich Commons park picnic tables	12	#	2	1
41	4	0	0	The Goodrich Commons park grills	32	1	0	0
17	21	3	4	The open area in the Goodrich Commons park	11	#	3	4
18	18	2	7	Other park use such as dog walking, relaxing	13	#	1	7

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, rank each item that you would like to see developed or improved in the Goodrich Commons park? 1 is not interested, 5 is very interested						
1	2	3	4	5	Avg	
6	9	8	8	16	3.4	Ice rink in Commons park

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3	3	7	10	24	4.0	Activities such as movie nights, concerts, musical acts
3	4	13	10	16	3.6	Permanent restroom facilities at Commons park
3	6	5	6	26	3.9	Improved pathways to enter Commons park (stairs, paved paths)
5	7	10	9	14	3.3	Lighting in Commons park
10	10	12	5	9	2.8	Horse shoe pits
13	11	9	5	10	2.8	Outdoor exercise equipment
8	10	11	9	10	3.1	Bike racks
14	11	8	5	6	2.3	Shuffleboard
20	11	8	4	3	2.1	Pickleball
4	10	6	8	17	3.4	Sledding hill
8	8	8	5	15	3.0	Drinking fountains
11	12	8	8	7	2.7	Outdoor volleyball courts
7	13	11	7	9	3.0	Tennis courts
14	7	13	6	5	2.5	More playground equipment for preschool age children
8	7	13	9	9	3.0	More playground equipment for older children

Arranged by priority							
Total Group							Village Only
1	2	3	4	5	Avg		Avg
3	3	7	10	24	4.0	Activities such as movie nights, concerts, musical acts	4.0
						Improved pathways to enter Commons park (stairs, paved paths)	4.3
3	6	5	6	26	3.9	Permanent restroom facilities at Commons park	3.7
6	9	8	8	16	3.4	Ice rink in Commons park	3.4
4	10	6	8	17	3.4	Sledding hill	3.4
5	7	10	9	14	3.3	Lighting in Commons park	3.4
8	10	11	9	10	3.1	Bike racks	3.3
8	8	8	5	15	3.0	Drinking fountains	3.2
8	7	13	9	9	3.0	More playground equipment for older children	3.3
7	13	11	7	9	3.0	Tennis courts	2.9
13	11	9	5	10	2.8	Outdoor exercise equipment	2.8
10	10	12	5	9	2.8	Horse shoe pits	2.8
11	12	8	8	7	2.7	Outdoor volleyball courts	2.8
14	7	13	6	5	2.5	More playground equipment for preschool age children	2.7
14	11	8	5	6	2.3	Shuffleboard	2.4
20	11	8	4	3	2.1	Pickleball	2.1
						1 it would be nice to have nets for the tennis courts. many people play there with out the nets. Not interested in lighting, that would increase nighttime visitors which may not be ideal for the community.	
						2 Disk Golf	
						3 Teeter totter	
						4 Connected bike path	
						5 splash pad for kids and or dogs	
						6 Disk golf	
						7 water park or splash pad	

8 outdoor musical instruments

6. Which of the following would you like to see developed elsewhere in the community? Please rank each item on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 = not interested and 5 = very interested

Total Group							Village Only
1	2	3	4	5	Avg		Avg
22	5	4	5	11	2.5	Fishing pier/platform on the Mill Pond	2.6
16	2	8	8	13	3.0	Quiet viewing platform on the Mill Pond	3.2
4	2	3	10	27	4.1	Woodchip walking or hiking trails	4.1
25	4	4	6	9	2.4	Boat launch for small non-motorized boats on the Mill Pond	2.4
1	4	3	7	32	4.4	Expand bike/walking paths	4.4

7. Would you like to see the Goodrich Commons park's asphalt court area repaired and repurposed for:

15	33%	Shuffleboard
28	62%	Winter ice skating
14	31%	Tennis courts
8	18%	Pickleball courts
11	24%	Volleyball courts
11	24%	Tricycle play for young children
23	51%	Basketball court improvement
		Another use:
	1	Disk Golf
	2	Volleyball court should be made of sand, not asphalt
	3	Walking path
	4	skateboarding

8. How do you or members of your family travel to the Goodrich Commons park?

27	car
17	bike
32	walk
0	skate

9. What would encourage you to use the Goodrich Commons park more often?

1	tennis courts fixed. nicer potty we do visit often now.
2	Presentation/cleanliness/maintenance of park
3	Shade in the summer is important for children that want to play on play equipment, Reid Elementary lacks the shade and the Commons lacks the equipment. Free or low cost activities would draw more people into the park (like movie night & concerts). A sledding hill / skating rink would be a huge improvement, right now in the winter we have to drive to Grand Blanc for those activities. Stairs or a platform at the creek would allow access without serious erosion. Kids love playing in the creek.
4	Entertainment
5	Better/more walking paths
6	If the village put in side walks from the east side of M-15, it would make the park more accessible for people.
7	The above mentioned activities. I'd really like to see fishing options and a canoe launch.
8	bike trail
9	More safe fishing areas for spring with kids. Winter, ice skating

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10	cleaner & bigger grassy area
11	Having something to do down there for families
12	More activity items.
13	Long trails for biking and hiking
14	Bathrooms, lighting, and volleyball courts
15	More police to watch the kids that damage everything now there!
16	The improvements indicated above
17	better playground and a splash pad. Maybe improve the overall look of the park and pavilion. Looks a little run-down.
18	Community events
19	Sidewalks/bike path through entire village for ease of walking there
20	Any improvement
21	More family activities/ resources
22	If it were cleaned up, tables out of the creek & dumpster behind a fenced area.
23	Better walking path, nice sitting area, drinking fountain
24	better maintenance of park, broken glass swept up etc - posted park rules - cars confined to a small parking area rather than driving through park.- dumpster moved to more remote/disguised

10. Comment here if you would like to suggest or comment on a parks and recreational issue that may not have been on this survey.	
1	Thank you for creating ideas. It is exciting to think of the possibilities.
2	If any of this increases my taxes. I am NOT interested.
3	It's on the survey but I think an ice rink in the park would be a welcome addition to the kids having something constructive to do in the winter that promotes exercise and outdoor activities!
4	Trails through woods or not off main rd are best
5	I don't like the fact that cars are being parked in the commons right next to the basketball courts. It is tearing up the grass and leaving huge ruts in the lawn. We really need parking spaces or else block the entrance off and make people park across the road at the bus garage. I'm all for using the park, but come on, it's just plain laziness that people think they have to park right next to the courts! If you want to play basketball fine, you can park across the street and walk!
6	Police patrol during summer evenings to keep bored teens on their best behavior.
7	Thanks for survey!
8	great idea, great survey
9	More natural areas to go to and just walk or sit. No glitz - just quiet natural areas.

Appendix C: Notice of Public Hearing

Appendix D: Public Hearing Notes

Appendix E: Village Council Resolution of Adoption

