

City of Harrison and Hayes Township Joint Park and Recreation Plan



2026-2030

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DRAFT

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	Page 1
2. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION	Page 3
3. COMMUNITY DATA	Page 5
4. CITY OF HARRISON	
Administrative Structure	Page 7
Recreational Facilities	Page 8
Budget	Page 13
Goals and Objectives	Page 14
Action Plan	Page 17
Grant History	Page 18
Planning Process	Page 20
5. HAYES TOWNSHIP	
Administrative Structure	Page 21
Recreational Facilities	Page 22
Budget	Page 26
Goals and Objectives	Page 27
Action Plan	Page 29
Grant History	Page 31
Planning Process	Page 32
6. APPROVAL PROCESS	Page 34

FIGURES

4.1 City of Harrison parks and Recreation Administrative Structure	Page 7
5.1 Hayes Township Parks and Recreation Administrative Structure	Page 21

TABLES

3.1 Population Changes	Page 5
3.2 Population Characteristics	Page 6
3.3 Household Income	Page 6
4.1 Recreational Facilities Located in the City of Harrison	Page 10

4.2 Park Accessibility Rating System	Page 11
4.3 City of Harrison Recreation Budget	Page 13
5.1 Recreational Facilities Located in Hayes Township	Page 23
5.2 Park Accessibility Rating System	Page 24

MAPS

1.1 Map of the State of Michigan/Map of Clare County	Page 1
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APPENDICES

Appendix A Resolution 2025-07 Dissolution of Standing Council Committees	Page 35
Appendix B Community Survey Posting	Page 37
Appendix C City of Harrison Community Park Facility Survey	Page 38
Appendix D City of Harrison Community Park Facility Survey Results	Page 41
Appendix E City of Harrison 30-day Public Review/Public Hearing Notice	Page 48
Appendix F Hayes Township Community Park Facility Survey	Page 49
Appendix G Hayes Township Survey Results	Page 51
Appendix H Hayes Township Public Notice Community Park & Recreation Plan	Page 60

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

Clare County is identified as the “Gateway to North” to mark the transition from the southern portion of the Lower Peninsula to the northern region of the Lower Peninsula. The City of Harrison is the County Seat and is surrounded by Hayes Township. They are in the eastern central portion of the County. They are located in the east-central portion of Clare County

This Recreation Plan addresses recreational facilities and plans within the boundaries of Clare County and more specifically the City of Harrison and Hayes Township. This is a joint planning process to provide for recreation planning for the City of Harrison and Hayes Township. As the City of Harrison and Hayes Township are adjoining municipalities and their residents use the facilities that are in either municipality, it was agreed upon by both communities that a joint plan would be most efficient. This plan will evaluate the recreational facilities located within the two municipalities as well as facilities in the surrounding municipalities that are also frequently utilized by the residents of the two communities.

Map 1.1 Location Map



This Plan is an update of the City of Harrison’s 2017 Plan and Hayes Township 2015 Plan and is in accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) requirements as cited in the “Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans”. This Plan is valid for five years from the date of resolution of adoption from both communities. It will serve as the basis for financial assistance through the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), the Federal Land and

Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and Recreation Passport (RP). The three programs serve as the basis for development of parks and recreational facilities.

CHAPTER 2

Community Description

The City of Harrison and Hayes Township are located in Clare County, approximately 65 miles west of Lake Huron and approximately 100 miles east of Lake Michigan. The two communities are approximately 70 miles northwest of Bay City, 45 miles west of West Branch 130 miles from Detroit, and 90 miles from Grand Rapids. Clare County is in central Michigan and has a total area of 575 square miles. The City of Harrison and is in east central Clare County, with Hayes Township surrounding the City of Harrison. Harrison is the County seat.

Playscape Equipment in City Park in Harrison



Photograph courtesy of Justin Cavanaugh

The combined area of the City of Harrison and Hayes Township is 36.2 square miles or 23,128 acres. Land area is approximately 35 square miles, or 22,400 acres and water area is approximately 1.2 square miles or 768 acres. The topography in the subject area includes numerous hills, valleys, and bodies of water, including creeks and lakes. The elevation of the subject area ranges from 980 feet above sea level to 1,340 feet above sea level, for a difference of approximately 360 feet.

There are two large lakes within the City of Harrison and Hayes Township (“planning area”). Budd Lake is a 175-acre lake and is approximately 1.5 miles long and averages 1000 feet wide. It has a maximum depth is 35 feet. Little Long Lake is a 43-acre lake with a maximum depth of 50 feet. Both lakes are used extensively for fishing, which includes black crappie, trout, bluegill, largemouth bass, northern pike, rock bass, perch, and muskie. Both lakes have a single boat launch.

Major transportation arteries include U.S. Highway 127 (north-south), M-61 (east-west) and Business Route 127. Other modes of transportation include Clare County Airport in Hayes Township and Greyhound bus routes originating in Kentwood, with stops in Grand Rapids, and Lansing. MBS International Airport is in Saginaw, approximately 60 miles southeast of Harrison.

CHAPTER 3

Community Data

The information below, including several tables, is pertinent to the recreation planning process including population, household, and income data.

Population Change

The City of Harrison had a decrease in population from 2010 to 2024 of four people or - 0.19%. Hayes Township had an increase in population of 17 people or 0.36%. Clare County had a more significant increase of 0.94% (292 people), which was still slightly less than Michigan’s 1.96% increase.

Table 3.1: Population Change

	State of Michigan	Clare County	City of Harrison	Hayes Township
2010 Population	9,883,640	30,926	2,114	4,675
2024 Population	10,077,761	31,218	2,110	4,692
Percent Change	1.96%	0.94%	-0.19%	0.36%

Source: 2010 U. S. Census, 2020-2024 American Community Survey

Population Characteristics

Harrison is the County Seat for Clare County. Hayes Township encompasses the City of Harrison. Together, they have a combined population of 6,802, which is 21.8% of the total population of Clare County. As seen in Table 3.1 above, Clare County had a moderate increase in population (0.94%) as did Hayes Township (0.36%). The City of Harrison had a small decrease in population (0.19%). However, Hayes Township and the City of Harrison had a small increase in population (0.19%). The under 20 and over 65 population for both the city of Harrison (49.5%) and Hayes Township (44.2%) coincide with the Clare County percentage (46.7%) and the State of Michigan’s percentage of (44.4%).

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that site development provide reasonable access to person with disabilities. Table 3.1also identifies the non-institutionalized civilians with ambulatory and self-care difficulties in the State of Michigan, Clare County, the City of Harrison, and Hayes Township. With the aged population (65 years +) increasing, there is also an increase in the number of people in that age group with either an ambulatory or self-care difficulty.

Table 3.2 Population Characteristics

	Michigan	Clare County	City of Harrison	Hayes Township
Percent of Population under 20	23.8%	21.1%	20.6%	17.4%
Percent of Population 65+	18.6%	25.6%	28.9%	26.8%
Median Age	40.2	49.0	47.2	52.0
Ta	7.1%	13.0%	18.3%	16.3%
Percent of Population with a self-care disability	2.7%	4.7%	7.9%	6.3%
Percent of Population with a disability	14.3%	24.3%	29.0%	25.4%

Source: 2010 U. S. Census, 2020-2024 American Community Survey

Household Statistics

The household median income for both the City of Harrison and Hayes Township is slightly over half of the State of Michigan and about \$10,000 less than Clare County. This can be a concern as the median income has fallen further behind the State of Michigan and Clare County, potentially impacting the purchasing capability of the residents of Harrison and Hayes Township. Correspondingly the poverty rate of for both the City of Harrison and Hayes Township is nearly double that of the State of Michigan and slightly higher than that of Clare County.

Table 3.3 Household Income

	Michigan	Clare County	City of Harrison	Hayes Township
Median Household Income	\$72,875	\$49,384	\$39,430	\$40,250
Poverty Status	13.2%	21.6%	25.4%	25.5%

Source: 2010 U. S. Census, 2020-2024 American Community Survey

CHAPTER 4

City of Harrison

Administrative Structure

The 2017 Harrison Parks and Recreation Plan cited the Parks Commission as the administrative agency for the parks. To ensure that all Council members receive the same information at the same time the City Council eliminated all committees. The City of Harrison Parks Commission was disbanded in 2025. (See Appendix A) The Harrison City Council is coordinating agency for decisions in the City, including all decisions regarding park activities, budgeting, and planning for future activities. The Department of Public Works is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the parks and recreational facilities. Figure 4.1 identifies the hierarchy for the City's parks and recreational facilities.

Figure 4.1 City of Harrison Parks and Recreation Administrative Structure



Administrative support may also be provided by other City staff as needed.

Recreational Facilities

A comprehensive inventory of recreational facilities was performed on existing parks and recreational areas located in the City of Harrison. Inspections were completed on all the facilities and their amenities. This inventory is an important step in the planning process. Included in these inspections was an evaluation of the condition of the existing amenities as well as inspecting them for an accessibility evaluation. These inspections also gave insight to establish goals and objectives for future projects. The inspections only included Harrison-owned facilities, which totaled nearly 50 acres. Please refer to table 4.1 for an overview of the city-owned recreational facilities.

City Park

City Park is the largest of the City's recreational facilities. Included in the amenities are two softball fields, two baseball fields, a basketball court, two tennis courts, a basketball court, four covered picnic pavilions, bathroom buildings, four pickleball courts, concession stands, horseshoe pits, multiple playground sets, including a barrier-free set. The park also includes ADA parking spaces located near each of the four ball fields.

Harrison City Park Entrance Sign



Photograph courtesy of Justin Cavanaugh

Budd Lake Boat Launch

Budd Lake Boat Launch



Photograph courtesy of Justin Cavanaugh

The Budd Lake Boat Launch is in the southeast corner of Budd Lake. The launch has approximately 15 parking spaces and two boat launches, with an overlook area to the lake that is often used by local fishermen. While there is no handicapped parking spaces identified in the lot, the launches are barrier free.

Saxton Park

Saxton Park is on the west side of Budd Lake and is accessible off Lake Street. A handicapped ramp allows access from Lake Street to the Park and the fishing dock. The Park includes a parking lot, with a designated handicapped parking space. The Park is utilized for fishing and sightseeing as it has an overlook of Budd Lake.

Saxton Park



Photograph courtesy of Justin Cavanaugh

Splash Park/Towne Square

Town Square Band Shell



Photograph courtesy of Justin Cavanaugh

Splash Park/Town Square is located on Main Street and includes a splash pad and band shell. The Splash pad is available during the summer months and the band shell is used throughout the year for concerts, movie nights, and other special events.

Phelps Nature Trail

The Phelps Nature Trail is a multi-use trail located south of the Harrison City Park and extends through the woods and around the high school/middle school complex. It includes an exercise kiosk and bicycle repair station. The Trail is 1.6 miles of paved walkable path and bike ramps. It was completed in 2022.

Phelps Nature Trail



Photograph courtesy of Justin Cavanaugh

Table 4.1: Recreational Facilities Located within the City of Harrison

Amenities																							
City-owned Recreational Facility	Acres	Handicapped Accessibility	Band Shell	Baseball Fields	Basketball Courts	Bicycle Repair Stand	Boat Launch	Concession Stand	Exercise Equipment	Fishing	Garbage Receptacles	Grills	Horseshoe Pits	Parking Lot	Pavilions/Shelters	Pickleball Courts	Picnic Tables	Playground Equipment	Restrooms	Softball Fields	Splash Pad	Tennis Courts	Walking/Bicycle Trail
City Park	40.0 ac			X	X			X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Budd Lake Boat Launch	0.8 ac						X			X	X												
Saxton Park	0.7 ac									X	X	X		X			X						
Splash Park/Towne Square	0.6 ac		X								X						X		X		X		
Phelps Nature Trail	8,468 lf					X			X														X

Table 4.2 Park Accessibility Rating System

DNR Accessibility Grading System for Parks and Recreation Facilities		
Accessibility Grade	Definition	Characteristics
1	None of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.	There are no paths connecting elements. Restrooms are not accessible. Curb cuts are not present in the roads. Play elements are not accessible and the fall surface is not accessible or out of compliance.
2	Some facilities meet accessibility guidelines.	The park may contain one or two accessible elements, but the park as a whole is not accessible. For example, the park may contain an accessible picnic table, but there is no access path connecting the picnic shelter to the accessible parking spaces or sidewalk.
3	Most facilities meet accessibility guidelines	The majority of elements are accessible, such as paths connecting elements, accessible picnic tables, and designated accessible parking, but one or two elements do not meet guidelines. For example, the play structure may not meet accessibility guidelines.
4	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.	All of the elements meet accessibility guidelines as they have been brought into compliance over time. For example, paths were added to connect elements, additional accessible play elements were added, and accessible restrooms were added.
5	The entire park was developed using the principles of universal design.	The entire park was designed and implemented with universal accessibility in mind. All elements fully comply with ADA, and may even go above and beyond requirements.

Other Local Recreational Facilities

In addition to the City-owned facilities, there is over 150 acres of recreational land owned by other agencies. Below is a review of the facilities located in Harrison.

Wilson State Park

Wilson State Park ("Park") is located on Budd Lake in the northwest section of the City of Harrison. The Park covers 36 acres and is managed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). It offers a variety of activities including a modern campground, playground equipment, offers fishing, swimming, and paddling on Budd Lake, as well as a picnic area with grills and parking.

Clare County Fairgrounds

The Clare County Fairgrounds hosts one of the oldest county fairs in the state. The Fairgrounds annually hosts over 30 events including fireworks, livestock events, craft shows, and even the circus.

Hayes Township Outdoor Park

Recently renovated with a Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Spark grant, Hayes Township's outdoor park includes playground equipment, a soccer field, basketball courts, pickleball courts, parking lot, and a pavilion.

Harrison School System

The City of Harrison School District has outdoor facilities that include: baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, a track, and has garbage receptacles along with ample parking.

Recreational facilities located outside the City of Harrison but utilized by the residents of Harrison include the following:

- Snow and Snake Ski Area-a golf and ski resort
- Tamarack Golf Course-an 18-hole golf course
- Badger Driving Range-a golf learning center
- Devil's Knob Golf Course-a 19-hole Golf course
- Brookwood Park-sports complex, ball fields
- Garfield Township Park-picnic area, swimming, pickleball
- Shingle Lake Park-boating, fishing, swimming

Budget

The City of Harrison's annual budget for 2022-2026 for recreation can be found below. The facilities is found in the Recreation Complex line item. The budget has historically been funded through the General Fund along with revenues generated through the rental of the Pavilion. Beginning in 2026, additional revenues have been generated through the renting of the baseball fields. Pavilion rentals have generated approximately \$5,000 and the rental of the baseball fields have generated approximately \$3,000 in 2026.

Table 4.3 City of Harrison Recreation Budget 2022-2026

2022 Budget	2022 Activity	2023 Budget	2023 Activity	2024 Budget	2024 Activity	2025 Budget	2025 Activity	2026 Budget	2026 Activity
\$127,950	\$124,354	\$104,041	\$107,446	\$175,175	\$142,386	\$188,560	\$199,769	\$197,875	\$121,033

The budget includes capital outlays that have varied in recent years. The purchase of new playground equipment, the story walk, and baseball field upgrades have been funded through the capital outlay line item.

To fund special projects, such as those identified in the Action Plan, the Township will seek grant funds through state and federal agencies. Programs available for recreational purposes include the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), and Recreation Passport (RP) through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Other potential sources include the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for non-motorized facilities, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), and the Friends of Clare County Parks and Recreation.

Goals and Objectives

The City of Harrison's parks and recreation priorities are focused on universal access, responsible reinvestment in existing facilities, improved public use, recreation programming, placemaking, and grant-supported capital improvements.

The City does not have a dedicated parks millage. Routine maintenance is funded primarily through the General Fund. Larger improvements are typically pursued through grants, capital improvement planning, partnerships, and other available funding sources. The action plan should remain conservative and should identify major improvements as grant-dependent or funding-dependent.

Goal 1: Improve Universal Access Throughout the Park System

Improve access to City parks, restrooms, fields, courts, playgrounds, trails, and public gathering areas for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities.

Objectives:

- Continue improving accessible routes between parking areas, restrooms, athletic fields, playgrounds, courts, trails, and gathering areas.
- Continue improving ADA-accessible parking and sidewalk connections within Harrison City Park.
- Evaluate installation of an adult-sized universal changing station in at least one City Park restroom facility, as funding allows.
- Continue addressing remaining restroom accessibility needs.
- Require universal access considerations in all future park improvement projects.
- Maintain accessibility improvements already completed at Harrison City Park.

Goal 2: Reinvest in Athletic Facilities at Harrison City Park

Maintain and improve existing athletic facilities to support youth sports, adult recreation, community events, and general public use.

Objectives:

- Renovate softball dugouts at Fields 1 and 4.
- Replace or improve aging fencing at Fields 1 and 4.
- Continue improving field access, circulation, and pedestrian connections.
- Preserve the open area near the concession building for future use as a utility athletic field.
- Evaluate opportunities for the utility field area to support both recreation use and community events.
- Continue maintaining and improving court facilities.
- Consider future basketball court resurfacing and related court improvements as funding allows.
- Continue maintaining the new concession building as a support facility for athletic and community events.

Goal 3: Expand Community Events, Placemaking, and Recreation Programming

Strengthen City parks and facilities as community gathering spaces that support events, recreation programming, downtown activity, and local quality of life.

Objectives:

- Explore development of an outdoor event space within the south side of Harrison City Park.
- Evaluate locations near the concession building, existing open space, athletic fields, and Phelps Nature Trail for future music or festival use.
- Consider stage location, utilities, parking, restrooms, universal access, crowd circulation, and maintenance needs before selecting a final location.
- Support additional adult recreation programming, including potential adult leagues or organized recreational activities based on community interest and facility availability.
- Continue using Splash Pad / Town Square for community events, including Friday Night Delight and related programming.
- Continue recognizing the Venue on Main as a City-owned community event and recreation asset.
- Support continued use of the Venue on Main for movie nights, community back-to-school events, children's activities during Street Fair, and other local events.
- Add seating, shade, and family-supportive amenities at high-use gathering areas as funding allows.

Goal 4: Improve Splash Pad / Town Square

Continue improving Splash Pad / Town Square as a family-friendly public gathering area and downtown recreation asset.

Objectives:

- Add interactive splash pad features, such as dumping buckets, spray features, water cannons, or similar water play elements.
- Add shade structures or sun sails around the Splash Pad / Town Square area.
- Add seating and family-supportive amenities.
- Continue supporting Friday Night Delight and other public events at Splash Pad/ Town Square.
- Maintain Splash Pad / Town Square as a downtown recreation, event, and placemaking asset.

Goal 5: Improve Saxton Park as a Budd Lake Access and Passive Recreation Site

Redevelop Saxton Park into a more functional and attractive lakefront recreation site.

Objectives:

- Pursue grant funding for a full Saxton Park redevelopment project.
- Remove the old well house structure if redevelopment occurs.
- Improve parking and site circulation.
- Add a pavilion or covered gathering area.

- Repair or replace retaining walls.
- Improve or replace the existing fishing dock.
- Add a public kayak launch.
- Improve picnic areas, seating, signage, and shoreline access.
- Complete minor dock repairs through General Fund maintenance when feasible.

Goal 6: Improve the Budd Lake Boat Launch

Improve the safety, function, and user experience of the Budd Lake Boat Launch.

Objectives:

- Evaluate long-term redevelopment of the Boat Launch area.
- Improve parking, circulation, staging, and lake access as funding allows.
- Pursue engineering, land acquisition, and grant funding if needed for meaningful site improvements.
- Maintain the Boat Launch as an important public access point to Budd Lake.

Goal 7: Maintain and Improve Phelps Nature Trail

Continue maintaining Phelps Nature Trail as a natural recreation asset and pedestrian connection within the City park system.

Objectives:

- Maintain trail access, signage, and user safety.
- Continue evaluating trail connections to nearby park amenities.
- Consider limited utility improvements only where necessary to support future public use.
- Preserve the natural character of the trail while supporting safe and accessible public access where feasible.
- Evaluate whether portions of the trail area could support limited community event use without negatively impacting the trail's natural character.

Goal 8: Use Conservative and Grant-Dependent Capital Planning

Match park improvement priorities with realistic funding opportunities.

Objectives:

- Identify projects as short-term, mid-term, or long-term based on funding availability.
- Use General Fund dollars primarily for routine maintenance and limited repairs.
- Pursue grants for major improvements, including Saxton Park, Boat Launch improvements, accessibility upgrades, event infrastructure, Splash Pad / Town Square improvements, and athletic facility improvements.
- Include park projects in the City's capital improvement planning process when appropriate.
- Avoid committing to major park improvements without an identified funding source.

Action Plan

Below is a list of recommended park and recreation improvements projects that have been identified for the City of Harrison, along with an explanation of each proposed project. The projects are listed in order, based on the results of the community survey. Projects will be completed as funds become available.

Add a utility ball field capable of accommodating 14U teams, with flexibility for both baseball and softball where feasible.

Complete paving and ADA access improvements around Field 1 and Field 4, including ADA parking areas and sidewalk connections to the broader park pathway system.

Add a large ADA-compliant playscape near the ball fields to provide an inclusive recreational feature for families attending games and events

Replace some or all of the older horseshoe pits with permanent cornhole courts.

Resurface and improve the basketball courts, ideally with a design and color scheme that complements the new pickleball courts.

Develop a full redesign and improvement plan for Saxton Park. The project should evaluate removal of the old concrete building/former pump house, improved parking and circulation, safer and more functional entrance access, a potential pavilion, dock replacement, and the addition of a public kayak launch to improve access to Budd Lake

Add additional interactive splash pad features, such as a dumping bucket, sprayers, or water cannon-style elements at the Splash Pad

Add shade structures or sun sails around the splash pad and Town Square area to support families, community events, and summer use

Redevelop the existing boat launch area as a larger long-term capital project. The current launch is difficult to use due to limited parking, constrained circulation, and its location directly off a 40-mph roadway. Meaningful improvement will likely require land acquisition, engineering, safer traffic flow, better staging, expanded parking, and improved access to Budd Lake

Grant History

The City of Harrison has received a total of five grants from the MDNR from 1977 to present.

Tennis Courts

Harrison received a grant in 1977 in the amount of \$5,810.96 by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for City Park to develop tennis courts and install an LWCF sign.

Recently Upgraded Tennis Courts



Photograph courtesy of Justin Cavanaugh

City Park Play Area

Harrison received a 2014 grant in the amount of \$45,000 by the Recreation Passport (RP) to construct a new play area and to provide a universally accessible playground in City Park. The installation included new age-appropriate and safe ADA-accessible equipment; along with providing a cushioning uniform safety surface that allowed

wheelchair users a more even surface. Transfer access was included as well as ground level “do it spots” and a sensory play feature.

Town Square Band Shell

Harrison received a 2015 grant in the amount of \$45,000 by the Recreation Passport (RP) to construct a Town Square Band Shell. The grant funds went towards construction of a 30’ x 30’ music/band shelter that serves multiple functions such as bandstand for music in the park, small family reunions, weddings, and other outdoor activities. Another planned improvement was an ADA-compliant sidewalk leading to the Band Shelter.

Harrison Nature Trail/Phelps Nature Trail

The City received a 2018 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant in the amount of \$300,000 for the construction of a 1.6 mile non-motorized nature trail that also includes a exercise kiosk and bicycle repair station. The trail is located adjacent to City Park.

City Park

Harrison received a 2024 DNR Spark Grant in the amount of \$747,500 for improvements to City Park. Improvements included installation of ten (10) ADA-accessible parking spaces throughout the park, ADA-accessible paved pathways, ball field seating and light fixtures, a restroom, concession stand, informational kiosk, a ball field, an 18-hole disc golf course, and sledding hill.

Planning Process

In early 2026, the City of Harrison entered into an agreement with the East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG) to complete an update to their 2017 Parks and Recreation Plan ("2017 Plan"). In the spring of 2026 EMCOG staff met with the City Council ("Council") to discuss the update process. The Park Commission, the previous planning body for the planning of activities, updating/upgrade of equipment, and maintenance of the parks in Harrison, was disbanded and the City Council is the agency for the recreation planning for the City.

At that first meeting, the Council reviewed and updated the 2017 Goals and Objectives, developed a list of potential projects, and agreed that a survey would be appropriate to get public input on the park usage and the prioritization of potential projects.

Survey Results

From late May 26 to June 19, 2026 a community-wide survey was conducted. The survey was available online, along with paper copies at City Hall, and accessible by QR Code flyers. The survey was advertised on the City Hall bulletin board, in the local paper, and was announced at city council meetings. A total of 33 responses were received.

Park Usage

The results of the survey showed that 100% of respondents use one or more of the recreational facilities in Harrison. The Harrison City Park by the respondents as the primary facility to use with trails/walking paths and playground equipment being the top two uses identified. Nearly 40% of the respondents said that they use the parks at least weekly and over 90% said that they use the facilities annually.

Park Satisfaction

When asked about overall satisfaction with their park experience, 76% of the respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied, 21% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied and only 3% of the respondents were dissatisfied. Over 65% of the respondents stated that they were satisfied with the quality and variety of the recreational facilities, and over 90% of the respondents stated that they were satisfied with the cleanliness of the facilities.

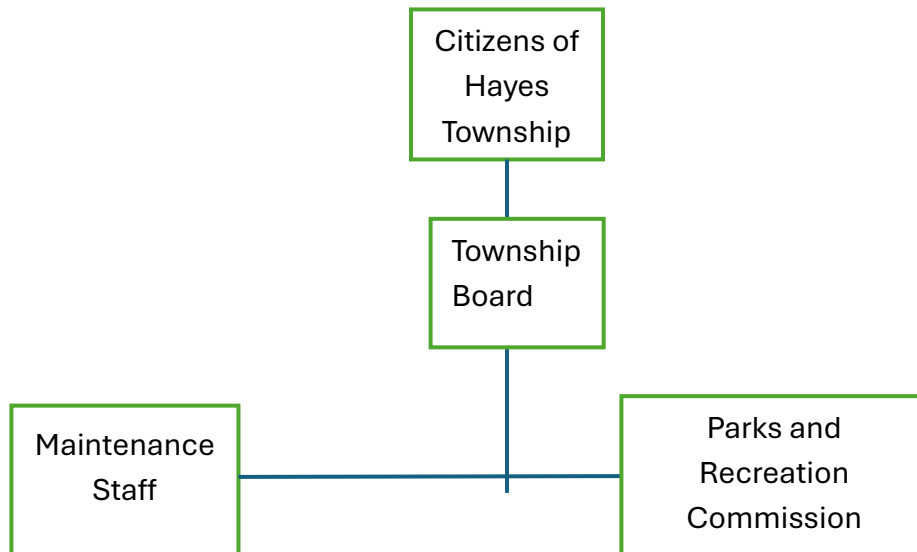
CHAPTER 5

Hayes Township

Administrative Structure

Hayes Township Parks Commission is the administrative agency for Hayes Township and is the coordinating agency for decisions in the Township. The Township Board of Trustees are the elected officials of the Township. The Board of Trustees appoints the Park Commission, who have the responsibility for the development of the recreation plan and the administration of the recreation program. The Department of Public Works staff is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the park facilities. Below is a figure that identifies the hierarchy for the Township's parks and recreational facilities.

Figure 5.1 Hayes Township Parks and Recreation Administrative Structure



Recreational Facilities

A comprehensive inventory of recreational facilities was performed on existing parks and recreational areas located in the Hayes Township. Inspections were completed on all the facilities and their amenities. This inventory is an important step in the planning process. Included in these inspections was an evaluation of the condition of the existing amenities as well as inspecting them for an accessibility evaluation. These inspections also gave insight to establish goals and objectives for future projects. The inspections included only Township-owned facilities, which totaled 17.5 acres. Please refer to table 5.1 for an overview of the city-owned recreational facilities.

Hayes Township Community Park

Pickleball Courts



Source: EMCOG staff

The Hayes Township Community Park was recently upgraded from a grant through the DNR Spark Grant Program. Included in the park are basketball courts, pickleball courts, a soccer field, playground equipment, and a pavilion. Additionally, many accessory facilities, such as picnic tables, garbage receptacles, benches, and restrooms were also included in the improvements.

Table 5.1 Recreational Facilities Located within Hayes Township

Park Name (Owner)	Hayes Township Civic Center and Community Park (Hayes Township)
Amenities	
Acres	17.5
Handicapped Accessibility	3
Basketball Courts	X
Park Benches	X
Concession Stand	X
Garbage Receptacle	X
Parking Lots	X
Pavilion with Electricity	X
Pickleball Courts	X
Picnic Tables	X
Playground Equipment	X
Restrooms	X
Soccer Field	X
Walking/Bicycle Trail	X

Table 5.2 Park Accessibility Rating System

DNR Accessibility Grading System for Parks and Recreation Facilities		
Accessibility Grade	Definition	Characteristics
1	None of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.	There are no paths connecting elements. Restrooms are not accessible. Curb cuts are not present in the roads. Play elements are not accessible and the fall surface is not accessible or out of compliance.
2	Some facilities meet accessibility guidelines.	The park may contain one or two accessible elements, but the park as a whole is not accessible. For example, the park may contain an accessible picnic table, but there is no access path connecting the picnic shelter to the accessible parking spaces or sidewalk.
3	Most facilities meet accessibility guidelines	The majority of elements are accessible, such as paths connecting elements, accessible picnic tables, and designated accessible parking, but one or two elements do not meet guidelines. For example, the play structure may not meet accessibility guidelines.
4	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.	All of the elements meet accessibility guidelines as they have been brought into compliance over time. For example, paths were added to connect elements, additional accessible play elements were added, and accessible restrooms were added.
5	The entire park was developed using the principles of universal design.	The entire park was designed and implemented with universal accessibility in mind. All elements fully comply with ADA, and may even go above and beyond requirements.

Other Local Recreational Facilities

The township also operates a gym as part of the Civic Center. The Township operates numerous programs within the Center.

In addition to the Township-owned facilities, there is over 35 acres of recreational land owned by other agencies within the Township. Below is a review of the facilities located in Hayes Township.

Harrison RV Family Campground

The Harrison RV Family Campground is open year-round, with the summer camp season being from May 1st through September 30th. It has both seasonal and short-stay sites. The Campground has a basketball court, playground equipment, picnic tables, grills, and is within walking distance to Wilson State Park on Budd Lake, where swimming and fishing is enjoyed by many of the local residents.

Hidden Hill Campground

The Campground provides a full range of activities for the campers utilizing the facility. There are 44 full hookup sites and 12 rustic sites. Included in the amenities are various playground facilities, hiking trails, basketball court, horseshoe pits, laundry facilities, and modern restrooms with showers.

Badger Driving Range

Badger Driving Range is a golf practice facility that provides an opportunity for golfers to practice their wood and iron play.

Harrison Moose Lodge

The Lodge provides sites for campers. Horseshoe pits are available for recreation. Campers can also use facilities at Wilson State Park.

Recreational facilities located outside the Hayes Township but utilized by the residents of the Township include the following:

- Harrison City Park-a 30-acre park that includes playground equipment, ballfields, horseshoe pits (see entire list of amenities on page 7).
- Wilson State Park-a 36-acre park that offers a variety of activities including a modern campground, playground equipment, offers fishing, swimming, and paddling on Budd Lake, as well as a picnic area with grills and parking.
- Budd Lake boat launch-boat launch allowing boat travel on the Lake.
- Saxton Park-fishing and sightseeing are available
- Splash Park/Towne Square-a splash pad for children and a band shell for entertainment, restrooms are also available
- Phelps Nature Trail-1.6 miles of paved walkable path and bike ramps
- Snow and Snake Ski Area-a golf and ski resort
- Tamarack Golf Course-an 18-hole golf course
- Badger Driving Range-a golf learning center
- Devil's Knob Golf Course-a 19-hole Golf course
- Brookwood Park-sports complex, ball fields
- Garfield Township Park-picnic area, swimming, pickleball
- Shingle Lake Park-boating, fishing, swimming

Budget

The Hayes Township annual budget for outdoor recreation facilities is found in the Recreation Complex line item. These funds are used for regular maintenance and upkeep of all their facilities. When repairs beyond normal are required, a budget amendment is adopted.

Budget Line Item	Fiscal Year	Approved FY'25/26	Amended FY'25/26	Approved FY'26/27
Recreation Complex		10,260.00	\$7,300.00	\$9,500.00

The amended FY25/26 budget was reduced based on actual expenditures during the fiscal year. The approved budget for FY26/27 is less than the budgeted amount from the previous year but is more than what was expended in FY25/26. This figure is anticipated to be greater than the previous year due to additional facilities that were installed through the Spark grant.

To fund special projects, such as those identified in the Action Plan, the Township seeks grant funds through state and federal agencies. Programs available for recreational purposes include the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), and Recreation Passport (RP) through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Other potential sources include the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for non-motorized facilities, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), and the Friends of Clare County Parks and Recreation.

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1

Expand and Enhance Recreation Facilities to Meet the Evolving Needs of the Community

Basis for Goal: Hayes Township has made significant investments in recreation since the adoption of the 2015 Recreation Plan, including the construction of a new inclusive playground, pavilion, outdoor pickleball courts, improvements to the park grounds, and continued enhancements to indoor recreation facilities. As the community continues to grow and recreational interests evolve, the Township is committed to expanding amenities that provide diverse, year-round opportunities for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities.

Objective 1A: Continue to improve, maintain, and expand Township parks and recreational facilities through phased capital improvements that address community needs and enhance year-round recreational opportunities.

Objective 1B: Pursue grant funding, partnerships, and public input to support the development of new recreational amenities and the long-term sustainability of existing recreation assets.

Goal 2

Improve Accessibility and Connectivity

Basis for Goal: Safe, accessible, and connected recreational facilities encourage participation and allow residents of all ages and abilities to enjoy Township parks. Future improvements will focus on increasing accessibility while expanding opportunities for walking, biking, and outdoor recreation.

Objective 2A: Expand and improve the Township's nature trail system while evaluating opportunities to increase accessibility and connectivity.

Objective 2B: Improve accessibility throughout Township parks by incorporating barrier-free features, wayfinding signage, seating areas, and other user-friendly amenities where feasible.

Goal 3

Provide diverse recreation programs and community events that strengthen community engagement.

Basis for Goal: Community events create opportunities for residents to connect, encourage park use, and strengthen community pride. Hayes Township has successfully expanded its recreational programming through family-oriented events and educational partnerships and will continue building upon those efforts.

Objective 3A: Continue to expand and enhance community events, recreational programming, and educational opportunities that encourage participation, healthy lifestyles, and family engagement.

Objective 3B Strengthen partnerships with local organizations, schools, libraries, businesses, and community groups while promoting Township recreation opportunities through effective communication and outreach.

Goal 4

Promote Sustainable Recreation Planning and Long-Term Stewardship of Township Assets

Basis for Goal: As Hayes Township continues to invest in parks and recreational facilities, maintaining these assets for future generations remains a priority. Sustainable recreation planning includes responsible maintenance practices, preservation of natural resources, ongoing evaluation of community needs, and strategic investment to ensure Township facilities remain safe, functional, and beneficial to residents and visitors.

Objective 4A: Develop and implement maintenance, improvement, and replacement strategies that support the long-term preservation and sustainability of Township recreation facilities and natural resources.

Objective 4B: Continue to evaluate recreation needs, gather community feedback, and prioritize future projects based on available resources, changing demographics, and emerging recreational trends.

Community Center Playground Equipment



Source: EMCOG Staff

Action Plan

Below is a list of recommended park and recreation improvements projects that have been identified for the Hayes Township, along with an explanation of each proposed project. The projects are listed in order, based on the results of the community survey and approval of the Township Board of Trustees. Projects will be completed as funds become available.

1. Add sunshade covering for the soccer field or concession stand area.

Add a permanent sunshade structure along the fence line to the right of the existing concession building and soccer field, providing a covered area without covering the field itself. The space could include picnic tables, benches, or other seating in the future, providing a shaded area for spectators, families, and participants during soccer games, practices, and other park activities. This improvement would make better use of the existing open space and provide a more comfortable gathering area for residents and visitors.

2. Grade current walking trail and extend paving to make ADA accessible.

Grade and improve the existing walking trail to address uneven terrain and bring the trail up to current ADA accessibility standards. Continue paving the existing trail where needed to provide a safer, smoother, and more accessible surface for individuals of all ages and abilities.

3. Add sensory components along the walking trail.

Incorporate sensory features along the walking trail to create a more engaging and inclusive experience for children, families, and individuals of all abilities. Sensory elements could encourage visitors to interact with and explore the natural surroundings while providing additional opportunities for learning, play, and family recreation.

3. Make playground ADA accessible.

Continue improvements to the recently installed playground to provide a more fully accessible play area for children of varying abilities. This could include expanding the area to the northeast of the existing playground and adding accessible surfacing, pathways, play components, and seating while building on features already in place, such as the accessible transfer area and four-person teeter-totter. The goal would be to create a more inclusive playground area where children and families with different abilities can participate and enjoy the space together.

5. Resurface and repair current outdoor basketball courts.

Repair cracks, uneven areas, and other surface damage on the existing outdoor basketball courts and resurface the courts to provide a safer, smoother, and more durable playing surface. Improvements would help extend the life of the courts and provide a better playing experience for community members of all ages.

6. Provide additional covered waste receptacles.

Add additional covered waste receptacles throughout the recreation complex to provide convenient locations for visitors to dispose of trash. Increasing the number of receptacles would help maintain a cleaner, more attractive park environment and support the continued use of the recreation facilities.

7. Expand the walking trail around the complex and soccer field.

Improve and extend the existing nature trail to create a continuous walking route around the recreation complex and soccer field. The expanded trail would improve connectivity between recreation areas and provide additional opportunities for families and individuals to explore and enjoy the natural surroundings.

8. Update the outdoor drinking fountains to current concession building to add water bottle refill option and more eco-friendly water drinking.

Upgrade the outdoor drinking fountain at the concession building to a modern, accessible water fountain with a bottle-filling station. This improvement would provide a more convenient and environmentally friendly option for park visitors to refill reusable water bottles while reducing reliance on disposable plastic bottles.

9. Add seating and historical information to the wetland overlook.

Improve the existing wetland overlook by adding comfortable seating and interpretive signage featuring information about the wetlands, surrounding natural area, and local history. These improvements would create a more inviting place for visitors to rest, learn, and enjoy the scenic surroundings.

Grant History

Hayes Township has received a total of three grants from the MDNR from 1980 to present.

Hayes Township has all three grants in conjunction with the development of the Township Hall Recreation Center. **Project 26-01148** was a grant awarded in 1980 to acquire 35 acres of land for outdoor recreation. The grant was \$20,000.

Project 26-01616 was awarded in 2003 for the development of an outdoor sports complex on a 15-acre parcel. The grant was \$280,500 and included the development of a skate/ rollerblade facility, volleyball, tennis, and basketball courts, a walking trail, soccer field, bathrooms, and concession stand.

In 2024 the Township was awarded a grant not to exceed \$722,500 from the third round of **Spark grant funding**. The grant included site work, purchase and installation of playground equipment, resurfacing and converting the tennis courts to pickleball courts, and the construction of a pavilion.

Planning Process

In early 2026, Hayes Township entered into an agreement with the East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG) to complete an update to their 2015 Parks and Recreation Plan ("2015 Plan"). In the spring of 2026 EMCOG staff met with the Parks Committee ("Committee") to discuss the update process.

At that first meeting, the Committee discussed the 2015 Goals and Objectives, discussed the inventory of township-owned recreational facilities, and privately-owned recreational facilities. A tour of the township facilities was then taken by EMCOG staff and members of the Committee.

EMCOG staff advised the committee that a community survey should be used to secure public input on the plan and potential projects. Township staff agreed that a survey would be completed. EMCOG staff worked with Township staff on the format of the survey. On May 26, 2026 the survey was reviewed approved by the Township Board of Trustees.

Survey Results

From late May 2026 to June 19, 2026 the community-wide survey was conducted. The survey was available online, along with paper copies at City Hall, and accessible by QR Code flyers. The survey was advertised on the City Hall bulletin board, in the local paper, and was announced at city council meetings. A total of 11 responses were received.

Park Usage

The results of the survey showed that over 90% of respondents use one or more of the recreational facilities in the Township. The respondents identified the picnic areas/pavilions as the most often used facility, followed by trails/walking paths and playground equipment. Nearly 40% of the respondents said that they use the parks at least weekly and over 90% said that they use the facilities annually.

Park Satisfaction

When asked about overall satisfaction with their park experience, 100% of the respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied. Nearly 65% of the respondents stated that they were satisfied with the quality and variety of the recreational facilities, and over 100% of the respondents stated that they were satisfied with the cleanliness of the facilities.

Project Priority

The respondents were asked to rank the nine (9) projects in order of priority to complete them. The voting was scattered and very close in the final tabulations. Their top choice was to add sunshade covering the soccer field concession stand area. This was followed by grading and extending the pavement of the current walking trail and making it ADA accessible.

CHAPTER 6

Approval Process

APPENDIX A



CITY
of
HARRISON
MI

2105 Sullivan Drive
Harrison, MI 48625
989-539-7145 fax 989-539-2292
<https://cityofharrison-mi.gov>

"The City of Harrison is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider"

Resolution 2025-07 Dissolution of Standing Council Committees

WHEREAS, the City of Harrison has historically maintained several standing committees of the City Council, including:

1. Police & Fire Committee
2. Cemetery
3. Parks & Recreation Committee (including Beautification initiatives)
4. Administration Committee (covering Personnel, Property, and Budget)
5. DPW Committee (covering Water, Sewer, Streets, and Facilities); and

WHEREAS, these committees were originally formed to assist with informal discussion and guidance on operational matters; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Open Meetings Act (Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended) requires that any committee of a public body empowered to make recommendations or deliberate toward a decision is subject to its public notice, open meeting, and recordkeeping requirements; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the need to ensure that all members receive the same information and participate equally in discussions and decisions affecting City operations, policy, and finances; and

WHEREAS, disbanding standing committees in favor of full-Council deliberation promotes transparency, consistency, and compliance with both legal requirements and the Council's commitment to open governance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Harrison hereby dissolves the following standing Council committees, effective immediately:

- Police & Fire Committee
- Parks & Recreation Committee
- Cemetery
- Administration Committee
- DPW Committee

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all future discussion and recommendations concerning matters previously reviewed by these committees shall occur

Resolution 2025-07

during regular or special meetings of the full City Council in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Resolution Duly Adopted.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Harrison on this 21st day of April, 2025.

Daniel F. Sullivan

Signed: _____ Mayor, Daniel F. Sullivan

Attested: *Justin Cavanaugh*

City Manager & Clerk, Justin Cavanaugh



Resolution 2025-07

APPENDIX B

**City of Harrison, Michigan**
May 26 · 🌐

The City of Harrison wants your input!

The Harrison Community Park Facility Survey is your chance to help shape the future of our parks, recreation spaces, and community facilities. Whether you use the parks regularly or just want to support future improvements, your feedback matters.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and share your thoughts on what you'd like to see in our community parks and recreational areas.

Take the survey here:
<https://www.opinionstage.com/.../4887bd80-b138-40e8-a614...>

Thank you for helping make Harrison an even better place to live, visit, and enjoy. [See less](#)

 **Opinion Stage**

OPINIONSTAGE.COM
Fill in this Opinion Stage Survey



APPENDIX C

The City of Harrison Community Park Facility Survey

How often do you use our parks and recreation facilities?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Rarely or never

Which park facility do you use most often?

- ☐ Playgrounds
- ☐ Sports fields
- ☐ Trails and walking paths
- ☐ Picnic Areas/Pavilions
- ☐ Splash pad

Please rate your overall satisfaction with cleanliness and maintenance.

- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Very satisfied

Please rate the quality and variety of recreational programs and activities offered.

- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Very satisfied

Please rate the friendliness and professionalism of our parks and recreation staff.

- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Very satisfied

The City of Harrison Community Park Facility Survey

How many people are in your household?

What are the ages of the members of your household? (Enter the number of family members in each age bracket.)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ☐ 0-5 | ☐ 30-39 |
| ☐ 6-10 | ☐ 40-49 |
| ☐ 11-19 | ☐ 50-59 |
| ☐ 20-29 | ☐ 60+ |

How concerned are you regarding the safety in using the park facilities?

- ☐ Very concerned
- ☐ Concerned
- ☐ Neither concerned or dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Unconcerned
- ☐ Very unconcerned

Please rank the proposed projects in order of importance.

- ☐ Add a utility ball field capable of accommodating 14U teams, with flexibility for both baseball and softball where feasible.
- ☐ Complete paving and ADA access improvements around Field 1 and Field 4, including ADA parking areas and sidewalk connections to the broader park pathway system.
- ☐ Add a large ADA-compliant playscape near the ball fields to provide an inclusive recreational feature for families attending games and events.
- ☐ Replace some or all of the older horseshoe pits with permanent cornhole courts.
- ☐ Resurface and improve the basketball courts, ideally with a design and color scheme that complements the new pickleball courts.
- ☐ Develop a full redesign and improvement plan for Saxton Park. The project should evaluate removal of the old concrete building/former pump house, improved parking and circulation, safer and more functional entrance access, a potential pavilion, dock replacement, and the addition of a public kayak launch to improve access to Budd Lake.
- ☐ Add additional interactive splash pad features, such as a dumping bucket, sprayers, or water cannon-style elements at the Splash Pad.

The City of Harrison Community Park Facility Survey

- ☐ Add shade structures or sun sails around the splash pad and Town Square area to support families, community events, and summer use.
- ☐ Redevelop the existing boat launch area as a larger long-term capital project. The current launch is difficult to use due to limited parking, constrained circulation, and its location directly off a 40-mph roadway. Meaningful improvement will likely require land acquisition, engineering, safer traffic flow, better staging, expanded parking, and improved access to Budd Lake.

Please rate your overall park experience.

- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Very satisfied

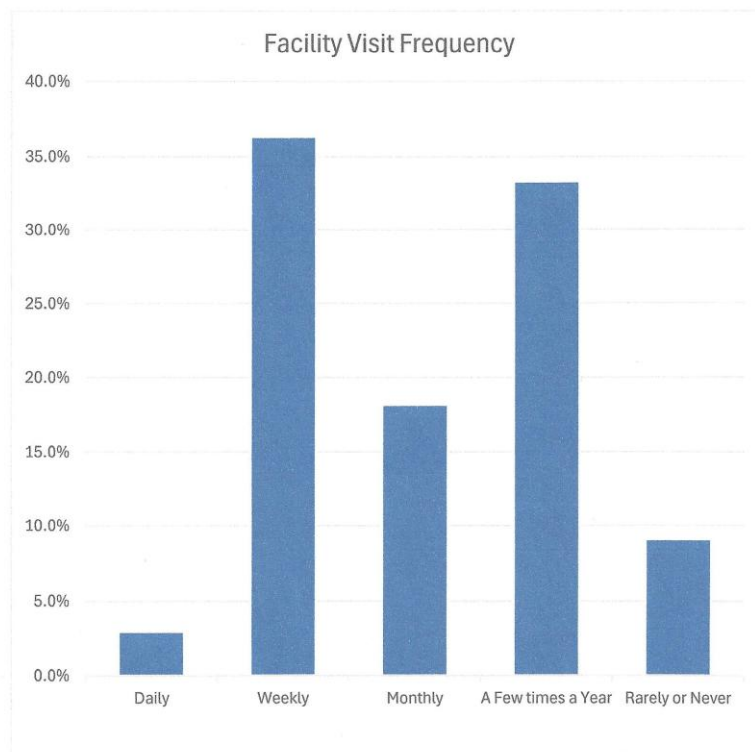
APPENDIX D

The City of Harrison Community Park Facility Survey Results

City of Harrison Survey Results

1. How often do you use our parks and recreational facilities?

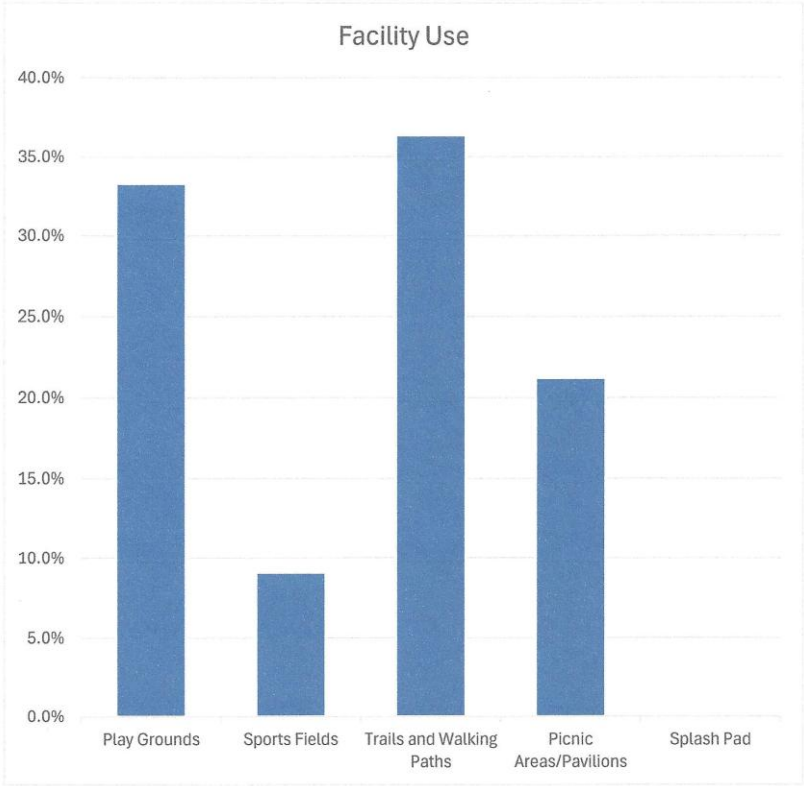
Daily	3.0%
Weekly	36.4%
Monthly	18.2%
A Few times a Year	33.3%
Rarely or Never	9.1%



City of Harrison Survey Results

2. Which park facility do you use most often?

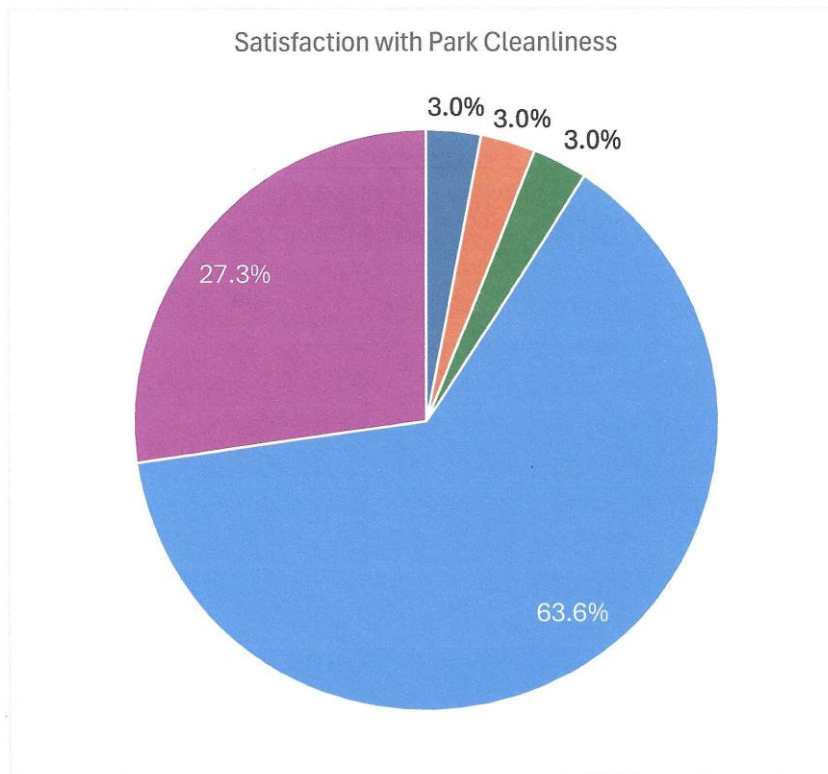
Play Grounds	33.3%
Sports Fields	9.1%
Trails and Walking Paths	36.4%
Picnic Areas/Pavilions	21.2%
Splash Pad	0.0%



City of Harrison Survey Results

3. Please rate your overall satisfaction with the cleanliness and maintenance.

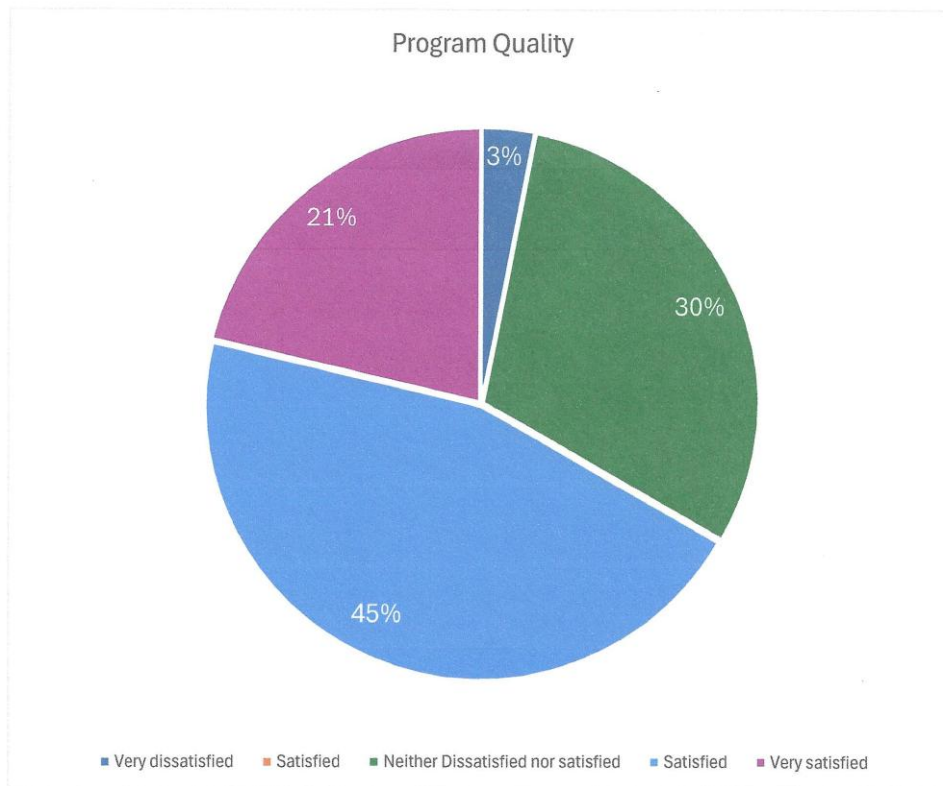
Very dissatisfied	3.0%
Satisfied	3.0%
Neither Dissatisfied nor sa	3.0%
Satisfied	63.6%
Very satisfied	27.3%



City of Harrison Survey Results

4. Please rate the quality & variety of recreation programs and activities offered.

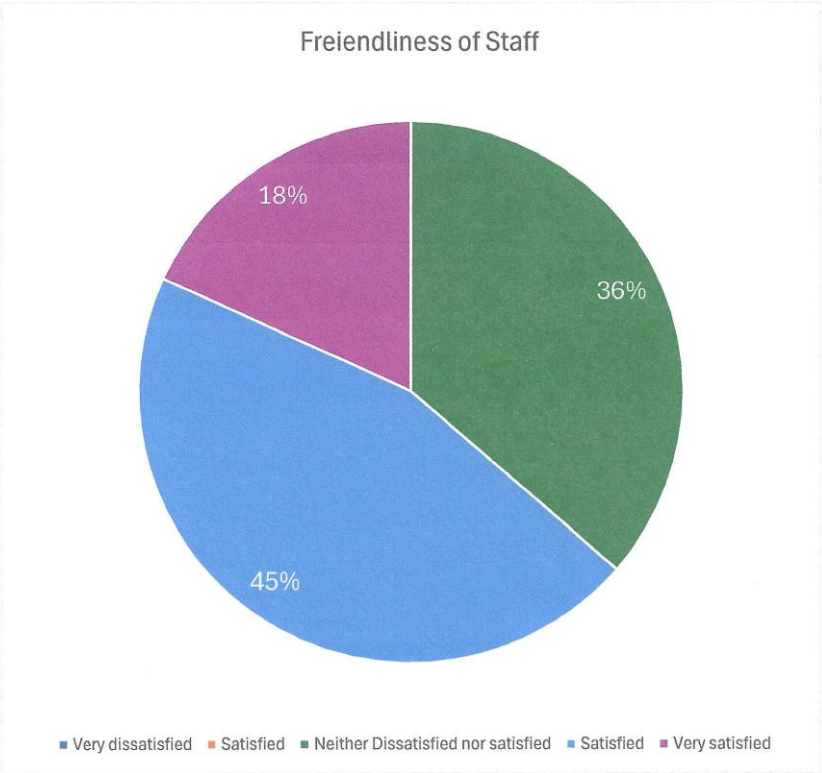
Very dissatisfied	3%
Satisfied	0%
Neither Dissatisfied nor satisfied	30%
Satisfied	45%
Very satisfied	21%



City of Harrison Survey Results

5. Please rate the freindlinesand professionalism of our parks and recreation staff.

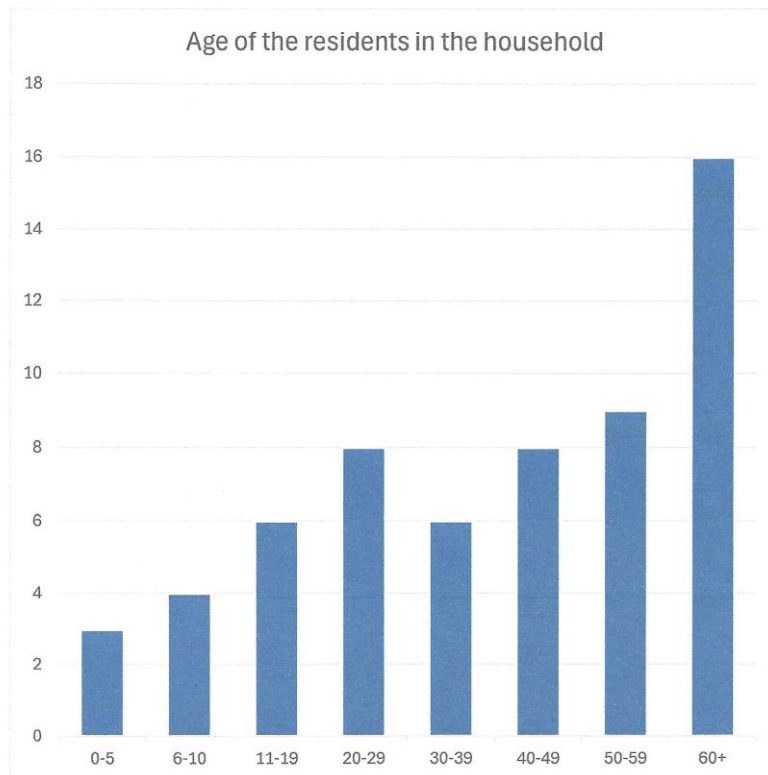
Very dissatisfied	0%
Satisfied	0%
Neither Dissatisfied nor satisfied	36%
Satisfied	45%
Very satisfied	18%



City of Harrison Survey Results

6. What are the ages of the people in your household?

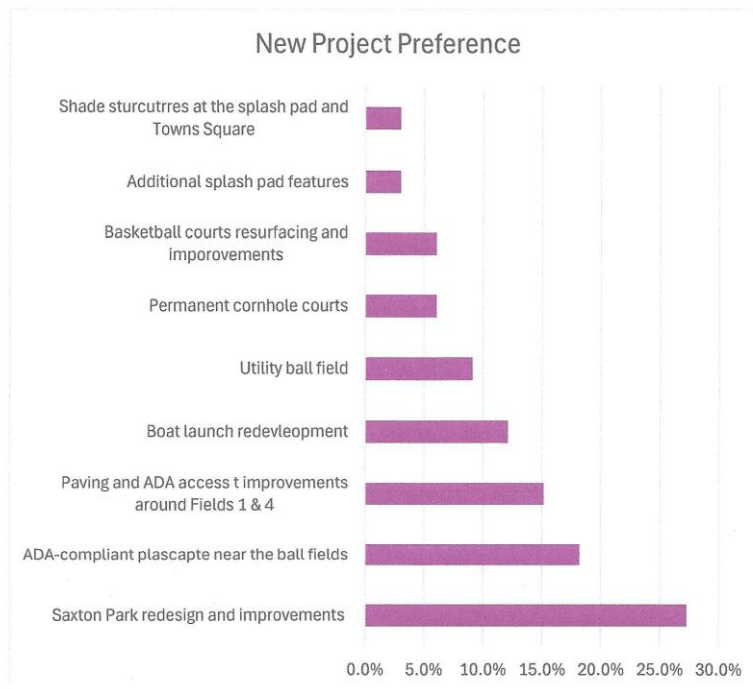
0-5	3
6-10	4
11-19	6
20-29	8
30-39	6
40-49	8
50-59	9
60+	16



City of Harrison Survey Results

7. Which project would you like to see completed?

Saxton Park redesign and improvements	27.3%
ADA-compliant playground near the ball fields	18.2%
Paving and ADA access improvements around Fields 1 & 4	15.2%
Boat launch redevelopment	12.1%
Utility ball field	9.1%
Permanent cornhole courts	6.1%
Basketball courts resurfacing and improvements	6.1%
Additional splash pad features	3.0%
Shade structures at the splash pad and Towns Square	3.0%



APPENDIX E



**PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF HARRISON
30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING
DRAFT PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN**

The City of Harrison's draft Parks and Recreation Plan will be available for public review and comment beginning upon publication of this notice through 5:00 p.m. Monday, September 21, 2026.

The draft plan may be reviewed during regular business hours at Harrison City Hall, 2105 Sullivan Drive, Harrison, MI 48625, or online at cityofharrison-mi.gov under Notices.

Written comments may be submitted in person or by mail to City Hall, or by email to manager@cityofharrison-mi.gov.

A public hearing will be held during the Harrison City Council's regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Harrison City Hall. The City Council may consider adoption of the plan following the public hearing.

APPENDIX F

Hayes Township Community Park Facility Survey

How often do you use our parks and recreation facilities?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Rarely or never

Which park facility do you use most often?

- ☐ Playgrounds
- ☐ Sports fields
- ☐ Trails and walking paths
- ☐ Picnic Areas/Pavilions

Please rate your overall satisfaction with cleanliness and maintenance.

- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Very satisfied

Please rate the quality and variety of recreational programs and activities offered.

- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Very satisfied

Please rate the friendliness and professionalism of our parks and recreation staff.

- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied

- ☐ Very satisfied

How many people are in your household?

What are the ages of the members of your household? (Enter the number of family members in each age bracket.)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ☐ 0-5 | ☐ 30-39 |
| ☐ 6-10 | ☐ 40-49 |
| ☐ 11-19 | ☐ 50-59 |
| ☐ 20-29 | ☐ 60+ |

How concerned are you regarding the safety in using the park facilities?

- ☐ Very concerned
- ☐ Concerned
- ☐ Neither concerned or dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Unconcerned
- ☐ Very unconcerned

Please rank the proposed projects in order of importance.

- ☐ Grade current walking trail and extend paving to make ADA accessible.
- ☐ Add seating and historical information to the wetland overlook.
- ☐ Add sensory components along the walking trail.
- ☐ Resurface and repair current outdoor basketball courts.
- ☐ Make playground ADA accessible.
- ☐ Expand the walking trail around the complex and soccer field.
- ☐ Update the outdoor drinking fountains to current concession building to add water bottle refill option and more eco-friendly water drinking fountains.
- ☐ Add sunshade covering for the soccer field or concession stand area.
- ☐ Provide additional covered waste receptacles.

Please rate your overall park experience.

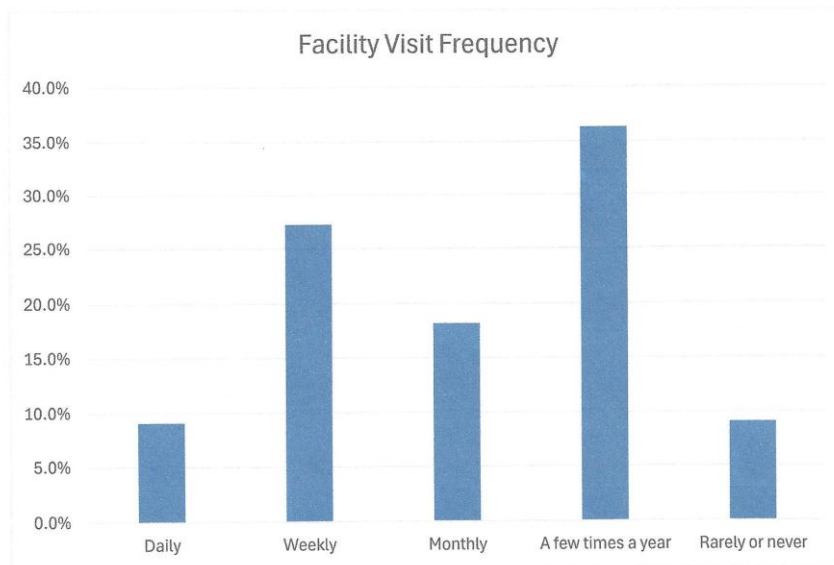
- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Very satisfied

APPENDIX G

Hayes Township Survey Results

1. How often do you use our parks and recreation facilities?

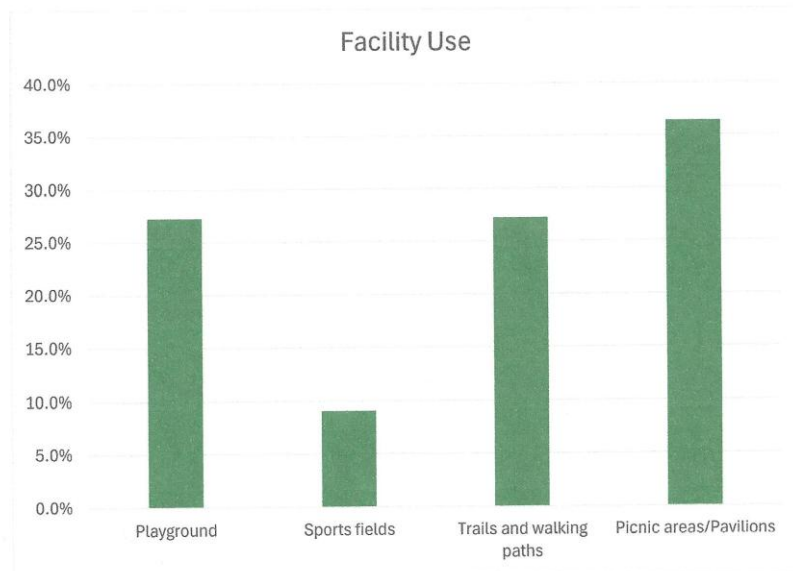
Daily	9.1%
Weekly	27.3%
Monthly	18.2%
A few times a year	36.4%
Rarely or never	9.1%



Hayes Township Survey Results

2. Which park facility do you use most often?

Playground	27.3%
Sports fields	9.1%
Trails and walking paths	27.3%
Picnic areas/Pavilions	36.4%



Hayes Township Survey Results

3. Please rate your overall
satisfaction with cleanliness and

Very Satisfied	45.5%
Satisfied	54.5%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	0.0%
Dissatisfied	0.0%
Very Dissatisfied	0.0%



Hayes Township Survey Results

4. Please rate the quality and variety of recreational programs and activities offered.

Very Satisfied	9.1%
Satisfied	54.5%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	36.4%
Dissatisfied	0.0%
Very Dissatisfied	0.0%



Hayes Township Survey Results

5. Please rate the friendliness and professionalism of our parks and recreation

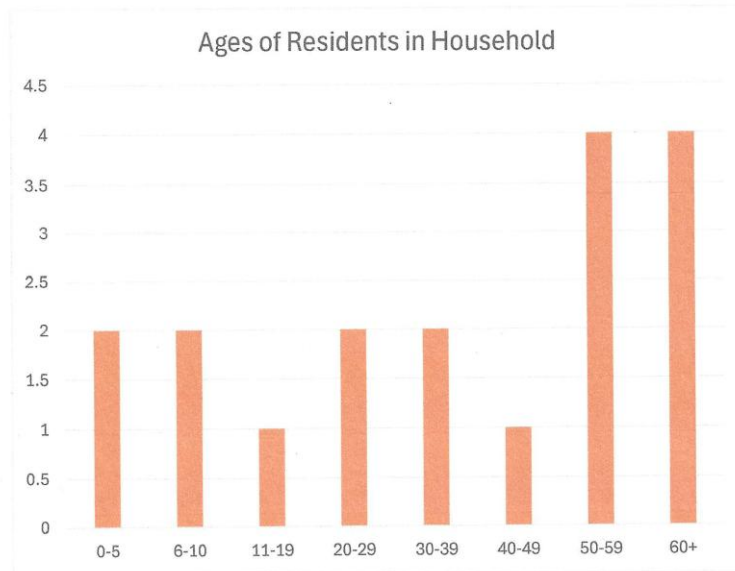
Very Satisfied	36.4%
Satisfied	36.4%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	27.3%
Dissatisfied	0.0%
Very Dissatisfied	0.0%



Hayes Township Survey Results

6. What are the ages of the members of your household?

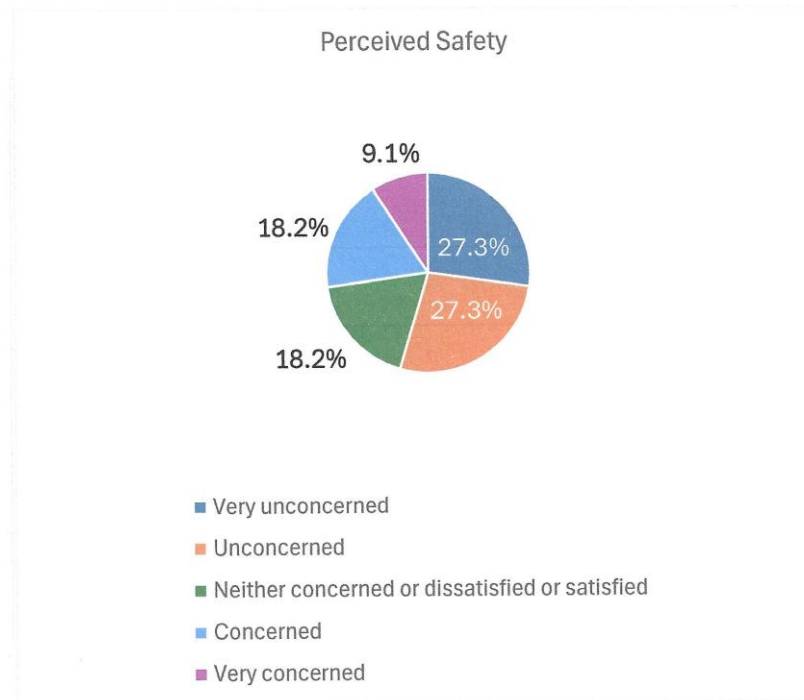
0-5	2
6-10	2
11-19	1
20-29	2
30-39	2
40-49	1
50-59	4
60+	4



Hayes Township Survey Results

7. How concerned are you regarding the safety in using park facilities?

Very unconcerned	27.3%
Unconcerned	27.3%
Neither concerned or dissatisfied or satisfied	18.2%
Concerned	18.2%
Very concerned	9.1%



Hayes Township Survey Results

8. Please rate your overall park experience.

Very Satisfied	36.4%
Satisfied	54.5%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9.1%
Dissatisfied	0.0%
Very Dissatisfied	0.0%



Hayes Township Survey Results

9. Please rank the proposed projects in the order of importance (1-9)

Project	Final ranking as ranked by the public and as approved by Township Board of Trustees
---------	--

Add sunshade covering for the soccer field or concession stand area.	1
--	---

Grade current walking trail and extend paving to make ADA accessible.	2
---	---

Add sensory components along walking trail.	3
---	---

Make Playground ADA Accessible.	3
---------------------------------	---

Resurface and repair current outdoor basketball courts.	5
---	---

Provide additional covered waste receptacles.	6
---	---

Expand walking trail around the complex and soccer field.	7
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current concession building to add water bottle refill option and more eco-friendly water drinking fountains.	8
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Add seating and historical information to the wetland overlook.	9
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APPENDIX H

PUBLIC NOTICE

HAYES TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DRAFT JOINT COMMUNITY PARK AND RECREATION PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the draft **City of Harrison and Hayes Township Joint Park and Recreation Plan** is available for public review and comment. The plan outlines goals, objectives, and proposed capital improvements for park facilities and recreational programs within the Township of Hayes.

Public Comment Period:

The 30-day public comment period begins on **Thursday, August 20, 2026**, and will conclude at 3:00 PM on Monday, September 21,

2026. Location of Draft Plan for

Inspection:

Physical copies of the draft plan are available for public inspection during regular business hours at:

- **Hayes Township Hall**, 2055 E. Townline Lake Rd, Harrison, MI 48625

An electronic copy of the draft plan is also available online at www.hayestwpclaremi.gov or by contacting Hayes Township.

Submission of Comments:

All interested persons are encouraged to review the draft plan and submit written comments before the public comment period ends. Comments may be submitted by mail or email to:

- **Email:** treasurer@hayestwpclaremi.gov
- **Mail/In-Person:**

Attn: Savannah Cavanaugh Hayes Township
PO Box 310
Harrison, MI 48625

Following the 30-day public comment period, a public hearing will be scheduled before the Hayes Township Board for final consideration and adoption of the plan.

Hayes Township

Published: August 20, 2026