



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
SERVICES**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2005/2006**



# ***Department of Public Services 2005/2006 Annual Report***

Marty McGuire, Director

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## ***Staff:***

Brett Ireland, Assistant Director for Operations  
Karen Murphy, Assistant Director for Administration  
Jan Yuergens, Administrative Assistant

## ***Supervision:***

### ***Public Works Division***

Ron Harper, Solid Waste & Streets Supervisor  
Lew Saxton, Solid Waste & Streets Supervisor  
Dave Benner, Solid Waste & Streets Supervisor

### ***Parks Division***

Dave Glesner, General Supervisor, Parks & Forestry  
Dave Rossman, General Supervisor Golf Course  
Bob Grubich, Parks Supervisor

### ***Recreation Division***

Jim Morgan, Recreation Coordinator  
Greg Burrell, Recreation Coordinator

### ***Equipment Management Division***

Craig Barnt, Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor  
Chris Hockaday, Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor

Recreation staff provides service through:

- Administrative and operational support of competitive sports
- Special events and community programs
- Playground programs
- Civic Arena operation
- Seasonal activities

**Local competitive sports**

Administrative and operational services were provided to adult and youth softball teams in FY 05/06. Services include game scheduling, official scheduling, field maintenance, fee collection and daily operations. Each group is assessed a fee based upon the amount of support service provided. Fees are recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission and approved by City Council.



Sport	Number of Teams Supported
Softball	
⚾ Adult summer league	<b>223</b>
⚾ Fall 2005 Coed league	<b>42</b>
⚾ Youth girls league	<b>69</b>

Field maintenance and scheduling services are also provided to independent little, big and senior baseball leagues through a cooperative effort with the Midland Public Schools.

**Special events and community programs**

The recreation staff coordinates a wide variety of seasonal and special events. These activities include weekly summer concert series, fireworks displays and walking programs. Special events offered in FY 05/06 included:

- Michitario friendship games with Sarnia, Ontario offered competition to 300 participants.
- The local Punt, Pass and Kick qualifier and sectional, with 22 participants competing.
- Halloween’s haunted forest at the City Forest “haunted” 1,242 people.

## ***Playground programs***

Supervised activities are offered at ten public school playground sites for elementary age children. A program for developmentally disabled adolescents and young adults is offered in the evenings at various locations.

<b>Summer 2006</b>			<b>Summer 2005</b>		
<b>Youth Registered</b>	<b>Average Attendance</b>	<b>Percentage of Registrants Attending</b>	<b>Youth Registered</b>	<b>Average Attendance</b>	<b>Percentage of Registrants Attending</b>
<b>591</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>16 %</b>

## ***Aquatics***

Parks and Recreation operates Plymouth pool, Stratford Woods beach and the canoe livery.

<b><i>Revenue comparison</i></b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>
Discount pool passes	<b>\$18,190</b>	<b>\$7,385</b>
Swim lessons	<b>\$10,130</b>	<b>11,590</b>
Daily pool admission	<b>\$38,227</b>	<b>28,706</b>
Canoe livery	<b>\$828</b>	<b>802</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$67,375</b>	<b>\$48,483</b>



Plymouth Park Pool and the pool building were completely renovated for the 2006 season. The pool building has all new showers and changing facilities with handicap accessible dressing rooms. The pool itself was extended 12 feet in the shallow area to create a zero depth entry and special spray features. The deep end of the pool was increased to accommodate competitive racing and new starting blocks.



**Handicap Accessible Dressing Rooms**



**Renovated Locker Rooms**



**Zero Depth Entry With Spray Features**

## Winter activities – City Forest

The City Forest offers a wide range of choices for winter, including two toboggan runs with toboggan sled rental, sledding, ice skating, cross-country skiing with ski rental and an A-frame chalet. Revenues were down in 2006 for winter sports due to poor weather conditions which limited the days of operation to 38 as compared to 57 the previous year.



<b>Revenue comparison</b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>
Chalet rental	\$4,213	\$3,554
Toboggan rental	\$3,686	7,307
Skate rental	\$273	582
Ski rental	\$946	1,772
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$9,118</b>	<b>\$13,215</b>

## Civic Arena operations

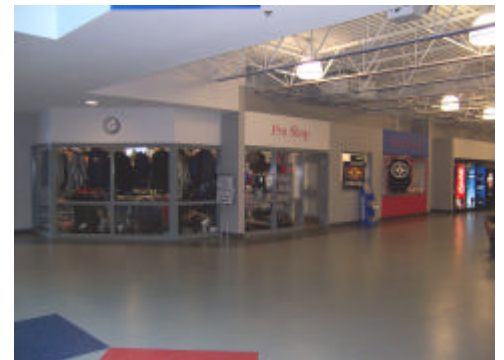
The Midland Civic Arena, located at 405 Fast ice Drive opened its doors in September of 2005. The 107,000 square foot facility features three ice surfaces; two NHL size and an Olympic size rink. The Arena also includes a full service Pro Shop, a concession area and is home to the Midland County Sports Hall of Fame. The ice rinks are programmed extensively by the Midland Figure Skating Club, the Midland Amateur Hockey League, Midland Speed Skating Club, the Northwood University Hockey Club and Midland Public Schools.



The Arena was built after an extensive public process at a cost of \$10 million. The operating goal was set for the Arena to annually recover all of its operating costs and all but \$200,000 of its debt service, which come from a City subsidy.



The capital project came in within the \$10 million budget and the first year's operation actually exceeded the goal with a subsidy of \$25,000 under the original projection.



The Public Works division maintains and repairs the City’s infrastructure. This includes:

- Refuse, recycling, yard waste and fall leaf collection
- Street maintenance
- Sidewalk maintenance

**Combined residential refuse and yard waste collection**



<b>Fiscal year comparison</b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>
Compacted cubic yards collected	<b>64,316</b>	<b>62,994</b>
Dollars expended	<b>\$908,103</b>	<b>\$866,614</b>
Cost per cubic yard	<b>\$14.12</b>	<b>\$13.75</b>

**Brush and heavy item collection**

Heavy household items and brush are collected monthly according to a pre-established schedule.

<b>Fiscal year comparison</b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>
Cubic yards collected	<b>70,946</b>	<b>57,605</b>
Dollars expended	<b>\$1,018,315</b>	<b>\$833,880</b>
Cost per cubic yard	<b>\$14.35</b>	<b>\$14.48</b>

**Fall leaf collection**

During a five-week period, residents can rake leaves into the street for collection. Each area of the City receives at least two collections.

<b>Fiscal year comparison</b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>
Cubic yards of leaves collected	<b>67,872</b>	<b>70,160</b>
Dollars expended	<b>\$179,630</b>	<b>\$181,136</b>
Cost per cubic yard	<b>\$2.65</b>	<b>\$2.58</b>



**Street maintenance**

\$2.13 million dollars were expended in FY 05/06 to maintain over 200 miles of roadway. Street maintenance activities include: roadway surface maintenance, guardrail repair, street sweeping, shoulder maintenance, roadside drainage, curb and gutter repair, roadside cleanup, dust control, bridge and dike maintenance, and snow and ice control on all major and local city streets as well as on portions of the state trunklines that traverse the city.



**Sidewalk maintenance**



\$362,816 was expended in FY 05/06 for removal and replacement of damaged sidewalks. The sidewalk maintenance program consists of two components: Systematic replacement is based on an annual inspection and prioritization of the sidewalks as conducted by the street supervisors. Spot replacement is done based on citizen response and request. Smaller maintenance jobs are handled by city crews while the longer stretches of sidewalk removal and replacement are done by contractors.

The Parks division provides four areas of service to Midland through:

- Forestry services
- Parks maintenance and picnic reservations
- Currie Golf complex
- Midland Cemetery

### ***Forestry Services***

Parks and Forestry staff plant, maintain and remove outlawn trees. They are also responsible for planting, watering and weeding flower beds located throughout the City for community beautification.

**Tree removal:** 237 outlawn trees were removed.

**Tree planting:** 147 street trees were planted during the fall 2005 and spring 2006 planting periods.

**Tree trimming:** 517 street trees were trimmed to reduce damage from trucks and to facilitate pedestrian use of sidewalks. Additional trimming occurred upon citizen request.



**Work orders:** Forestry staff responded to approximately 218 work orders in FY 05/06. These work orders address individual site problems including trimming, removals, inspection and general information questions.

**Emergency calls:** The parks staff responded to 178 emergency calls during the ice storm of 2006.

### ***Parks Maintenance and Picnic Reservations***

The Parks staff maintains 72 City parks, covering 2,700 acres of parkland, playgrounds and picnic areas. Sixty-six parks and softball fields received mowing services ranging from twice per week to every other week. Park staff also provides maintenance services for Stratford Beach, Gerstacker Sprayground, Longview Sprayground and the BMX Track at Stratford.



Picnic reservations are available in nine sheltered areas and seven open areas throughout Emerson, Plymouth, Barstow, Chippewassee and Stratford Parks. A fee structure was initiated in FY 04/05, requiring users to pay between \$10 - \$50 to reserve the various picnic area. Parks and Recreation staff accommodated 758 reservations this fiscal year, resulting in approximately 18,950 visitors to City parks and \$14,024 in Parks revenue.

## ***Park Enhancements in 2006***

Replacement of old style playground equipment in three parks was begun in 2004/05. This process continued in 2005/06, with the replacement of older equipment in seven additional parks.



Stratford Woods Park



Red Coat's Softball Complex



Greenfield Park

Families identified the need for a changing area at **Gerstacker Sprayground**. Pictured below are the cabanas that were built in 2006, which also feature baby changing stations.



**The Dog Park** opened in Chippawassee Park in September of 2005. The park is approximately 9 fenced acres of wooded and open play areas for man's best friend. The park also features agility stations and a separated fenced area for smaller dogs.



## ***Currie Golf Complex***

The Currie Golf Complex includes two eighteen-hole courses and a nine hole par-3 course. The East eighteen was established in 1954. The West course originally opened in 1963 as a nine-hole layout. In 2001, a project was undertaken to



build an additional nine holes and renovate the original nine. The project was funded by the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation and the Charles J. Strosacker Foundation. In addition, the Currie family donated a new clubhouse to serve the complex, and the new West Course with clubhouse was opened late in September of 2002. In total, 80,000 rounds of golf were played at the Currie Complex in fiscal year 2005/2006.

### **Midland Cemetery**

Two new sections were developed and platted in FY 03/04. Both of the new sections are now open for use, adding an additional 1,968 available spaces at the cemetery.



<b>Interment Comparison</b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>
Adult interments	104	107
Child interments	6	0
Infant interments	2	4
Cremation interments	47	47
Disinterments	3	4
Reinterments	4	1

<b>Lot sale comparison</b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>	<b>Spaces remaining for sale*</b>
Adult single space	127	132	2190
Infant single space	1	3	238
Cremation double space	15	7	21**
Veteran single space	1	2	0***
Grave ownership transfers	6	32	-----
Traded	0	0	-----

\* Grave spaces shown above as “remaining for sale” are in sections that are platted and developed.

\*\* Forestview Cremation Section now has 334 double spaces available.

\*\*\* 34 spaces are now available in Hillcrest Soldier Section.

## ***Equipment Management Division***

*Fiscal Year 2005/2006*

The Equipment Management division provides maintenance and fuel for the City's vehicle and equipment fleet. Equipment replacement is also a part of this division's responsibilities. The departments serviced by the Equipment Management division include Police, Fire, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, Dial-A-Ride, Water, Wastewater, Landfill, Senior Housing, Library, Engineering, Building, Assessing, Clerk and Planning.

<b><i>Fiscal year comparison</i></b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>	<b>FY 03/04</b>
Vehicles and equipment maintained	<b>423</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>417</b>
Diesel fuel dispensed, gallons	<b>239,529</b>	<b>233,021</b>	<b>214,861</b>
Gasoline dispensed, gallons	<b>129,214</b>	<b>125,112</b>	<b>111,703</b>
Propane dispensed, gallons**	<b>800</b>	<b>2,667</b>	<b>1,491</b>
Work orders processed	<b>4,113</b>	<b>3,553</b>	<b>3,533</b>
Motor oil used, gallons	<b>2,361</b>	<b>2,374</b>	<b>2,403</b>
Hydraulic oil used, gallons	<b>1,862</b>	<b>1,503</b>	<b>1,395</b>
Used oil recycled, gallons	<b>3,200</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>3,550</b>

\*\*Due to the replacement of several propane-powered units with diesel-powered models, the garage's propane use dropped such that it was not economical to maintain a filling station. As such, the city no longer dispenses propane fuel but rather purchases it from a local distributor on an as-needed basis.



## Dial-A-Ride Division

Fiscal Year 2005/2006

Dial-A-Ride provides demand-response public transportation with a low user fee to City residents. Over 70% of the system's riders are senior citizens or persons with a disability, many of whom depend on Dial-A-Ride as their only source of transportation to work, shop, doctor appointments, attending community events, etc.

The City of Midland Dial-A-Ride receives a 38% subsidy from The State of Michigan and a 17% subsidy from the federal government. Note that these subsidy percentages vary from year to year.

<b>Fiscal year comparison</b>	<b>FY 05/06</b>	<b>FY 04/05</b>	<b>FY 03/04</b>
Total passengers	161,497	154,553	144,992
• regular	45,267	44,279	42,696
• persons w/disability	102,846	97,820	92,195
• elderly	12,826	11,774	8,950
• elderly w/disability	558	680	1,151
Vehicle miles	486,584	467,229	446,657
Vehicle hours	37,509	36,907	36,565
Cost of operation**	\$1,711,440	\$1,424,498	\$ 1,318,296
Cost per passenger	\$10.60	\$9.22	\$ 9.09
Cost per vehicle hour	\$45.63	\$38.60	\$ 36.05
Revenue	\$137,465	\$119,672	\$ 118,886
Revenue per passenger	\$0.85	\$0.77	\$ 0.82

\*\*The increase in cost of operation for FY 05/06 is due largely to increases in the cost of fuel and vehicle maintenance parts.



Dial-A-Ride received two replacement busses in December 2005 from federal & state grants.