

APPENDIX A - PLAN ADOPTION



COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

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

Instructions: Complete, obtain certification signatures, and submit this checklist with a locally-adopted Community Recreation Plan.

All community recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and outlined in the Community Recreation Plan Guidelines provided by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). To be eligible for grant consideration, plans must be submitted to the DNR prior to the grant application deadline with a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official of the local unit of government submitting the plan.

PLAN INFORMATION

Name of Recreation Plan:
List the Community Names (including School Districts) covered by the Recreation Plan (Attach additional sheets if necessary)
County
Month and Year Plan was Adopted by the Community's Governing Body *
1.
2.
3.
4.

* Please Note: Do not submit any plan that has not been adopted by the highest level governing body for each community.

PLAN ELEMENT

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

A. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

1. Data and Discussion of Social Characteristics: All of the items below are required and must be included in the plan. All of this information must be from the most recent U.S. Census, unless otherwise noted in the plan.

- a. Community Population
b. Employment Trends
c. Number and Location of Households
d. Population Trends
e. Population Distribution (Breakdown by Age, Gender, Race and Income Level)
f. Location of Populations with Unique Needs (Persons with Disabilities, Low-Income, Senior Citizens, Ethnic Background, etc.)

2. Description and Discussion of Physical Characteristics: All of the items below (except c.) are required and must be included in the plan.

- a. Land Use Patterns
b. Topography
c. Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources (if not included in the plan, briefly explain below * why this does not apply):
d. Soils and Vegetation
e. Transportation Systems
f. Climate
g. Environmental Issues
h. Zoning
i. Maps (to illustrate the physical characteristics of a.-h.)

B. DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE: All items below are required and must be included in the plan.

- 1. Current Funding Sources
2. Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, and Capital Improvements
3. Staff Description and Organizational Chart
4. Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)
5. Relationship(s) with Other Agencies
6. Parks and Recreation Policies and Procedures

C. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS: All items below are required and must be included in the plan.

- 1. Discussion of the Plan Development Process
2. Description of the Key Persons Involved in the Process
3. Description of Public Involvement Process Used in Development of the Plan:
3a. Overall Description of Public Input Process and How Results were Used in Plan Development
3b. Description and Dates of Public Input Method(s) Used

D. RECREATION INVENTORY: Information in the plan should be current and from an inventory conducted no more than 24 months prior to the date the plan was adopted locally. All items below are **required** and must be included in the plan.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Description/Inventory of Recreation Opportunities within the Community's Political Boundaries | <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Description/Inventory of Recreation Opportunities Outside the Community's Political Boundaries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Public Properties/Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Map(s) Showing Location of Facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. School Properties/Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Description of Community's Barrier-Free Compliance Status and Unmet Needs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Private Properties/Facilities | |

E. ACTION PROGRAM, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE AND RATIONALE: All of the items below are **required** and must be included in the plan.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Action Program | <input type="checkbox"/> 2c. Priority of each Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Capital Improvement Schedule | <input type="checkbox"/> 2d. Funding Sources for each Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2a. Estimated Costs (by action/project and total by year) | <input type="checkbox"/> 2e. Map Showing Location of Proposed Actions/Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2b. Year Actions will be Undertaken | |

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

Plans **must** be adopted by the highest level *governing body* (i.e., city council, county commission, township board). If planning is the responsibility of a Planning Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Recreation Advisory Board or other local Board or Commission, the plan must **also** include a resolution from the Board or Commission recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body.

The local unit of government must submit all plans to both the County and Regional Planning Agency for their information. Documentation that this was done must be submitted with the plan to the DNR.

Items I., III., and IV. below are **required** and must be included in the plan. If II. is not included in the plan, briefly explain below why it does not apply.

APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION: For area-wide plans, resolutions must include the signature of **each** local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page.

- I. Official Resolution of Adoption by Governing Body dated: _____.
- II. Official resolution of the _____ Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the amendment by the governing body, dated: _____.
- III. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: _____.
- IV. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: _____.

OVERALL CERTIFICATION: For area-wide plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of **each** local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page.

I hereby certify that the content of the recreation plan for _____ includes
(Local Unit of Government)
 the required contents, as indicated above, and as set forth by the Department of Natural Resources and that the recreation plan was adopted by resolution of the governing body on _____.
(Date)

Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government

Date

This completed checklist must be signed and submitted with a locally-adopted community recreation plan to:

**GRANTS, CONTRACTS AND CUSTOMER SYSTEMS
 MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 PO BOX 30425
 LANSING MI 48909-7925**

TTY/TDD: 711 (Michigan Relay Center)

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES APPROVAL

Based solely on the certifications provided above, the _____
(Name of Plan)
 community recreation plan is approved by the Department of Natural Resources and the community (ies) covered by the plan, as listed on page 1 of this checklist, is/are eligible to apply for recreation grants through _____.
(Date)

Grants, Contracts and Customer Systems

Date

APPENDIX B - COMMUNITY SURVEY

City of Midland

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey Results

1,000 surveys distributed in October 2003
428 surveys were returned
42.8% return rate

NR = no response
green indicates values of groups combined

1) How many years have you lived in the City of Midland?

Less than 1: **2%** 1 to 4: **11%** 5 to 10: **10%** Over 10: **77%** **NR=0.23%**

2) How many people live in your household?

1: **15%** 2: **41%** 3: **15%** 4: **19%** 5+: **8%** **NR=2%**

3) Do you have children under the age of 18 living in your home?

Yes: **35%** No: **65%**

If yes, what are their ages: **average age = 9.2 years**

4) What is your age?

5-17: **0.2%** 18-24: **3%** 25-34: **11%** 35-44: **22%** 45-54: **20%**
 55-64: **20%** 65 and older: **23%** **NR=1%**

5) On average, how often do you use the City of Midland Parks during the spring and summer months, from May to mid-September?

Never: **5%** Once a year: **5%** 2 to 11 times a year: **27%**
 Once a month: **4%** 2 to 3 times a month: **17%** Once a week: **11%**
 Two or three times a week: **18%** More than three times a week: **13%** **NR=0.5%**

6) On average, how often do you use the City of Midland Parks during the autumn, from mid-September to mid-December?

Never: **18%** Once a year: **9%** 2 to 11 times a year: **22%**
 Once a month: **14%** 2 to 3 times a month: **15%** Once a week: **8%**
 Two or three times a week: **8%** More than three times a week: **5%** **NR=0.5%**

7) On average, how often do you use the City of Midland Parks during the winter, from mid-December through April?

Never: **33%** Once a year: **9%** 2 to 11 times a year: **19%**
 Once a month: **15%** 2 to 3 times a month: **9%** Once a week: **7%**
 Two or three times a week: **3%** More than three times a week: **4%** **NR=1.8%**

8) Why do you and/or your family visit the City of Midland Parks? Please check all that apply.

Walking: **66%** **NR=20%**

Children's playground equipment: **43%**

Bicycling: **42%**

Picnicking: **41%**

Sledding: **28%**

Team sports (soccer, softball, etc.): **27%**

Swimming: **22%**

Wildlife viewing: **21%**

Individual sports (tennis, golf, etc.): **21%**

Jogging: **13%**

Ice skating: **11%**

Cross-country skiing: **11%**

In-line skating: **11%**

Photography: **10%**

Fishing: **8%**

Spontaneous "pick-up" games with friends: **7%**

Other: **12%** - concerts, July 4 fireworks, art fair, family gatherings, to relax, sprayground, Fun Zone, canoeing, tobogganing, sledding, community events, skateboarding, learn about nature, walk the dog, workplace-sponsored event, school-sponsored event, softball tournaments, golfing, cycling, snowshoeing, fly kites, use playgrounds, disc golf, farmer's market

9) Which of the following City of Midland community parks have you or your family visited over the past year? Please check all that apply.

Emerson Park: **70%**

NR=6%

Plymouth Park: **70%**

The Rail-Trail: **69%**

City Forest: **41%**

Stratford Woods: **29%**

Chippewassee Park: **28%**

Barstow Woods: **19%**

Central Park: **15%**

10) Which other parks in the City of Midland have you and your family visited over the past year?

Throne Park: **8.7%**

Currie Golf Course: **8.7%**

Gerstacker Riverfront System: **8.1%**

Gerstacker Spray Park: **7.6%**

Playgrounds at various schools: **6.4%**

Neighborhood parks: **5.8%**

St. Charles Park: **4.7%**

Other: **50%**

NR=70%

11) Which of the following is the biggest factor impacting your decision to visit the City of Midland parks?

Convenient location: **54%**

Maintenance and upkeep: **31%**

Excellent facilities: **31%**

A sense of safety: **26%**

Attractive landscaping: **15%**

Do not visit any parks: **4%**

Specific park facility or element: **18%** - Rail Trail (23.1%), Fun Zone (10.6%), softball diamond (7.7%), golf (7.7%), playground for children (6.7%), spray park (5.8%)

Other: **4%** - community events, impulse, open space, privacy, walking

NR=81%

12) If you do not use any of the parks in the City of Midland, which of the following is the biggest factor impacting your decision?

I use and visit parks in the City of Midland: **36%** **NR=54%**

Not interested in parks: **5%**

Other: **3% - no pavement for strollers, too busy, no children, out of town, don't know where they are**

Locations are not convenient: **1%** Not accessible: **1%**

Poorly maintained: **1%** Feel unsafe: **0%**

13) What should be the priority of the City of Midland Parks and Recreation Department over the next five years? Please rank each one, where 1 is most important and 6 is the least important?



14) What are the three most-needed recreation facilities or activities in the City of Midland?

Ice rink/area/facility: **12.9%** **NR=46%**

Pool/swimming: **12.4%** Bike trails/paths: **5.9%** Walking/hiking trails: **5.9%**

Golf: **5.3%** Skating & sledding: **4.2%** Activities for teens: **3.7%**

Softball/baseball: **3.7%** Playgrounds: **3.7%** Event facility/center: **3.1%**

Other: **39.2%**

15) Is there a disabled person in your household? If so, which of the following would make the park system more user-friendly for you or your disabled household member? Please check all that apply.

Flatter or easier grades: **4%** Paved trails: **5%** Accessible parking: **5%**

Fishing platforms: **3%** Accessible restrooms: **6%** Accessibility to playgrounds: **1%**

Easier access to water, i.e. ramps to river's edge: **2%** Variety of accessible equipment: **1%**

No disabled family members at this household: **58%** Other: **1%**

NR=32%

16) What do you like best about parks and recreation in the City of Midland?

well-maintained/beautiful/attractive/clean	32.9%	spread throughout City	0.7%
variety/abundance	16.5%	picnic tables/pavillions	0.7%
location/convenient/close to home	16.1%	places to walk/trails	0.7%
safety	9.1%	good lighting/night use	0.5%
Rail Trail	3.4%	pool/swimming	0.5%
good/quality facilities	2.6%	parking	0.2%
variety of activities	2.6%	quality handicapped playground group	0.2%
availability	2.4%	skate park	0.2%
open area/wildlife/natural area	1.9%	proposed BMX rack	0.2%
free	1.7%	Fun Zone	0.2%
privacy/uncongested/not crowded/relaxing	1.4%	that people actually use the parks	0.2%
neighborhood/pocket parks	1.2%	cross-country skiing	0.2%
kids activities	1.0%	golf course	0.2%
Cooperative officials/great management by City	1.0%	softball	0.2%
playgrounds	1.0%		
			NR=24%

17) What do you like least about parks and recreation in the City of Midland?

See attached

NR= 60%

18) Overall, what is your opinion of the City of Midland Parks system?

Very satisfied: **40 %** --- **88%** --- Satisfied: **44%**

Neutral: **10%**

Disappointed: **3%** --- **3%** --- Very disappointed: **0.2%**

NR=3%

19) Any other comments?

See attached

NR= 91%

#17

absence of basketball nets, bathrooms need to be updated
all the drinking
bathroom, poorly lighted, dirty
bathrooms
bathrooms
bathrooms and locker rooms at some parks
bathrooms conditions
bathrooms dirty
bathrooms lack of cleanliness
bathrooms often closed
better basketball facilities
better maintained
better restrooms
better snow plowing
better upkeep of bathrooms
blacktop at Plymouth
can't swim in rivers
central park band shell
children's playground equip. is out dated
city forest trails need more grooming
civic arena needs more upkeep
clean up and trees trimmed @ Blessed Sacrament Park
close bathrooms to early on the rail trail
crab grass
decreasing open spaces
developed structures
difficult to watch kids while they play in structure
difficulty in getting picnic shelters
dog dirt
dog poop all over
dog poop, kids under 18 smoking near high school
dog waste
dog waste, out dated play equipment
dogs into the spray park
drinking
dusty, no paved surface
Emerson park
entrances/exits not easy to find
Failure to maintain the new golf course
fence in fun zone
fun zone needs a fence for toddlers
funzone is not contained
have to drive to rail trail
hockey rink in bad shape
horsed in the city forest
horses @ city forest
ice arena and pool not maintained
ice arena shabby
ice rinks in very poor condition
inadequate maintenance of golf course
inconsiderate walker on rail trail
Inconvenient for working people location is out of the way
kids on skate board are inconsiderate of people walking
lack of adequate signs
lack of affordable summer things for kids
lack of creative activities
lack of needs for the children
lack of outdoor swimming facilities
lack of published info on facilities
lack of security on rail trail
large brush @ times conceals problems

limited activities
litter
littering and vandals
little variety
location of parking in the fun zone
long drive to statford
maintaining equipment
maintenance
maintenance at park play scape
maintenance needs to be improved
maintenance not good enough
maintenance of pool and locker room
maintenance of some parks
manage reservations better
more bathrooms
more covered areas for picnicking
more maintenance
more waling trails in the wooded areas
need more barriers from city streets
needed restrooms in Chippewassee park
no heated outdoor pool
no horse back riding
no place to operate motorize equipment
no security, people abuse the parks
no trails with hills
none
not all parks maintained well
not always safe
not clean
not clean
not enough close parking or benches
not enough open space
not enough pavements for strollers
not enough pavilions
not enough restrooms
not enough safe sledding
not enough scenic spots
not much variety of equipment
nothing
old equipment
old ideas, midland planners need to be replaced
open later during summer
over crowding
overuse by thrashers and vandals
paths become muddy after rain
pave roads at Plymouth
people don't clean up after their dogs
people not cleaning up after themselves or their dogs
play equipment is aging and needs replacement
play equipment is old
Plymouth park is poorly maintained
Plymouth park pool
Plymouth pool dirty
policy of anti-gun
Pool and locker rooms
poor condition of the civic arena
poor conditions of ice arena
poor conditions of ice arena
poor monitoring
poor use of recourses
poorly lit

poorly maintained and landscaped
rail trail bridges are dangerous
regular restrooms
restrooms
restrooms are poor or none
restrooms not always available
road maintenance at city forest
seagulls
single entrance to Emerson park
skate board park too dangerous
skate board park, bad language used
skate park
skateboard park, no supervision
smaller parks are not maintained well
smaller parks need upgrades and maintenance
softball diamonds need more hand work
softball fields better condition
some are nicer than others
some roads are muddy
some space is wasted
sometimes maintenance is poor
stops sign at rail trail not enforced
tax burden
taxes to support parks
the parks are to dry in the summer, grass is dry and picky on bare feet
Throne not kept up
Throne park closes too soon for the season
too many ball parks
too many ball parks
too much emphasis in adult softball
too much emphasis on softball and not soccer
too small
too busy with organized sports
too many neighborhood parks
too many people
too much attention on softball
too much attention on softball
too much emphasis on softball
too much team sports
too oriented to special interest groups
traffic & young teen ages
treatment by golfers to the course
ums, trash and crime safety an issue
unlighted facilities
unpaved road at Plymouth park. More benches/picnic tables
upkeep of them
user fees at Stratford woods
vandalism
working fountain unaccessibility
Wyndemer park not maintained

#19

Water park not wheelchair accessible - need play equipment for physical needs.

Better communication about location of activities.

Children's playground equipment should be plastic not metal or wood.

City should not construct a 3 ring ice arena.

Clean up area and restrooms at Stratford Lake.

Consider hiring a landscaper for linking some parks with trails.

I enjoy taking the grandchildren to the parks.

Focus on better maintenance on the parks rather than new facilities.

Ice arena should be built by Midland, not Bay County.

Ice arena should be financed by the users, not tax payers.

Should be inspected for graffiti and vandalism regularly.

Is there a way to integrate parks and rec organization w/ public schools & community center?

Keep up the good work: Our parks are an asset to the community.

Love parks - and friends are impressed w/ what Midland has to offer its residents.

Love skateboard park - good way to keep kids out of parking lots.

Love the spray ground, but needs a better restroom.

Maintenance at Plymouth Fun Zone - broken equipment.

Maintenance of current facilities .

Make a paintball park or laser tag park.

Midland needs a new skating arena - this will bring in extra monies for Midland and serve the children better.

Midland parks are a step above most cities.

More maintenance of the parks.

More restrooms on the Rail Trail.

Need ice arena.

Need more awareness of all the parks.

New golf course is a welcome addition.

Not a major use for senior citizens.

Parks are excellent and the City does a great job taking care of them.

Parks near schools need to be monitored for vandalism.

Play equipment needs to be checked.

Shade pavilion overlooking the Stratford Woods beach.

Sign saying no dogs in park or dog run - new play equipment.

Situation at City Forest should be addressed.

St. Mary's park should be developed.

Too crowded in the summer at Plymouth pool.

Too much boat traffic at Sanford Lake.

Use tax money for better fire and police dept. and reliable public transportation instead of more hockey and soccer.

Very proud of the City Parks and Recreation Commission - don't sell to builders.

Very well maintained.

APPENDIX C - COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION

City of Midland - Parks and Recreation Master Plan: 2004 - 2009

Community Input Session - Wednesday, November 4, 2003

Baseball/Softball

- Northeast Little League: only have two fields now (Plymouth Park circa 1950s); Pursuing rehabbing but need more space
- Overall, a big demand for little league fields.
- Work with city to identify new land or possibly refurbish existing softball field at Plymouth.
- Need to repair/improve circulation around ball diamonds (prevents cars/the guardrails), keep vehicles out

Greenway Around City

- Create a greenway, looping around the City, using the Rail Trail as a segment
 1. Work with Beautification Committee to determine feasibility, route, pursue funding
 2. Coordinate with Entryways Initiative
 3. Coordinate with new development (the mall)
 4. Will most likely need regional cooperation (surrounding townships, county, Greenways Initiative) in terms of regional trailways, land use planning
 5. Coordinate infrastructure improvements: Plan/realize potential impact of improvements/expansion
- Look at acquisition priorities in terms of parkland, or even in terms of open space, easements, etc (look at connections needed now and in the future) - allows for pursuit of MNRTF grants
- Balance of active versus passive parkland acquisition
- Need to identify bike/pedestrian connections to the Rail Trail through the City
- How else to provide internal trail system?

Disability/Accessibility Issues

- Playgrounds - universally accessible
- retrofitting existing playground with accessible equipment
- need to ensure ball field access to all points of use
- nature trails great, but would be nice if paved or otherwise accessible
- Programming - great, including evening programs. Would be great if some way to involve in typical recreation activities
- Perhaps team with others willing to mentor in golf, tennis, etc.
- Accessible basketball/wheelchair basketball

- Look at possibly improving signage (symbols, Braille)
- Contact ARC, others to assist in identifying ways to improve accessibility in terms of parks and programming
- When training volunteers and summer help, give best practices on how to best work with people with disabilities
- Be sure to use all resources available to include all kids (Growing Up included, etc, through
- Main shelter at Plymouth Park at Fun zone – there isn't a ramp from parking lot to the picnic shelter where the restrooms are by the main enclosed shelter.
- Needs to have better access to any ramps that are there.
- Ramp can help families with children in strollers and Amigos.
- Shelter area at Tridge – there is no direct route.
- Rail Trail lookout point is not accessible – has regular steps (trail is accessible though).
- There is a need to create paved connections/connectors from accessible trails to park amenities such as shelters, restrooms, etc.
- Practicality versus beautification – *or* – function v. design
- Possibly have a shelter that is exclusively designed for accessibility – issues with overbooked shelters and available

Golf

- Golf Courses - East Course
- level and enlarge many of the tee areas - too small
- A couple of greens are too "slope-y" - could be corrected with possible placement of holes or adjusting slopes #6 and #10
- Widen fairway areas, relatively narrow especially for a municipal course (5-10 yards)
- Consider "sculpting" fairways
- Consider mowing the grass at a higher level at the tee areas and the fairways too.
- Consider having someone (designer) review and/or evaluate the course
- West Course - #3, #7, #17 - portions of each are soggy - what could be done?

City of Midland - Parks and Recreation Master Plan: 2004 - 2009

Community Input Session - Wednesday, November 4, 2003

Ice Arena

- Ice arena - need adequate locker facilities
- 3 rinks, with proper management
- Bay City runs 30+ adult leagues (hockey)
- "third" rink, if properly designed, could double for arts/entertainment uses - a true "civic" area
- Room for expansion in men's hockey league
- Olympic size rinks recommended by governing board of Amateur Hockey and U.S. Speed Skating
- Flooding of neighborhood parks in winter for skating - would like to see, weather permitting
- Cannot bring in a national or North American meets to Midland because we lack an Olympic rink
- No place for people to practice archery (used to be at Midland City Forest)
- Potential re-use of existing ice facility for indoor soccer, indoor archery, weddings, civic events, table tennis tournaments, basketball, etc.
- Ice arena in poor state
- Need three rinks, risk losing tournaments
- Potential for re-use of existing ice arena, (roller hockey, turf arena, winter driving range)
- M.S.S Club is the 6th largest in the U. S. with existing skating facilities. It is not out of the question that Midland could be the largest speed skating club and powerhouse if we had an outdoor, metric Olympic track. With this, we could be Olympic training center.
- Curbed concrete track, 400 meters in length, near Rail Trail or skate park, where facility could be used by rollerbladers in summer and ice speed skaters in winter. Has the potential to reduce chronic maintenance costs
- Important that City focus building a new 3-sheet ice facility in order to meet the needs of the growing hockey league as well as the needs of the other users in the City of Midland
- Outdoor roller blade rink doubles as a outdoor ice rink in the winter – is their enough synergies/interest to have a second rink at Emerson? Admittedly, the existing one at Emerson is quite small and not made for hockey, but would it make sense to build another regulation one on the other side of Emerson park (in the area of the dead space)?

- Ice Arena
 1. new - essential
 2. 2 or 3 sheets - financial
 3. private management - open
 4. allow private advertising
 5. allow private ownership of concession

Concerns for Specific Parks

- City Forest: concerns about sprawl and residential development to the north to the park; in the next ten years City Park could be like NYC's Central Park; need to vision City Forest: consider traffic, schools, etc
- Fitness trail in Central Park has been there for about fifteen years - needs repair
- Trail is overgrown with weeds
- We need a small outdoor pool for children in this area - Community Center is too expensive - would serve day campers
- Leave hill - Civic Arena "hill" is used by a number of groups for sledding
- Need more trash receptacles in Plymouth Park, Rail Trail, and Emerson Park
- What happened to statue at Plymouth Park? All placards on statues are missing
- Civic Arena: need more types of users, greater utilization - bring in more sports/events; location of this facility is important, so is site selection and site design.
- St. Charles Park; Have had issues with vehicles tearing up fields, some sort of barrier would prevent this (bollards, or even some snow fence)
- St, Charles Park long-term goals: lights (even willing to pick up old lights), possibly host tournaments (but would need two fields)
- Better access for disabled people to parks

City of Midland - Parks and Recreation Master Plan: 2004 - 2009

Community Input Session - Wednesday, November 4, 2003

Upgrades at Specific Parks

- Connecting Jefferson Avenue over the highway to City Forest
- Improve pool and shower facilities at Emerson
- St. Charles Park: Would like a sign, visible from the road, preferably with changeable copy
- Rugby (currently at St. Charles softball area): like the facility but would like improvements, contour the field for better drainage, domed shape like a football field
- Need more trash cans in Plymouth, Emerson, and Rail Trail
- Increase skate park area: over crowded, high level of use
- Plymouth Park pool – locker room area needs some renovation – it is older. Public pool is a place where children can play. Limited opportunities for children to enjoy skating. Swimming is lifelong skill. Can reach out to children with disabilities. About half the price of new hockey facility.
- Restrooms in Chippewassee Park
- Improve pool at Plymouth Park
- Picnic shelter at Emerson Park - small (for horseshoe and shuffleboard)
- 2nd outdoor pool at community center or expand Plymouth park pool for young children. Improve quality of structure. Possible private management.
- In general, improve facilities at all non-softball related parks (they need to be cleaner) Stratford, Chippewassee, etc.
- Chippewassee Park – Why not an entrance on the M-20 side? Doesn't seem to be going on there. (But don't cut down the green space.)
- Stratford Park – The cut out the fishing pier but ought to be replaced. Only pier in town leans into the lake.
- Neighborhood Parks – could have sledding hills in more of them. Brings families out to play more in the wintertime.

Safety

- Possible camera to reduce vandalism
- lock doors, both front and back (Plymouth Park)

Improvements & New Facilities

- Signage: need more directional signs to lead people to the parks
- Indoor soccer fields
- Ultimate Frisbee open play field
- Added bike path connections
- Bicycling conditions have gotten worse on City/County roads
- Need bicycling improvements in terms of safety and ease of use
- Bicycle path through/around Plymouth Park
- Other things that the City needs – designated archery area
- One thing we can't do in Midland is grill out at the parks. Only available near the pavilions. Why not have grills by the river so that people can enjoy the river and grill at the same time.
- Skating areas - Dual summer roller blade/winter ice skating roles
- Neighborhood parks – families go to the parks with programming, the ones with wooden ship structure (need to have more interesting play equipment or at least update it). Can add more things to make it more interesting.
- Would like a croquet course. And to have it like have it like you would find tennis courts. The sport is growing like tennis. 9 wickets, and two stakes, two benches, and they are fitting that go in the ground – makes the course permanent. Has the potential to grow, growing membership like a golf club or tennis club.
- Dog Park. Example – Minneapolis. Asset to the community – for dog owners. Large fenced area, \$20, key card, have to have canine health records, immunizations, etc. Dog Park – The city could benefit from having a designated dog run area. Needs to be a big enough area so that dogs can run.

City of Midland - Parks and Recreation Master Plan: 2004 - 2009

Community Input Session - Wednesday, November 4, 2003

New Organized Activities

- Ultimate Frisbee: coed. Playing fields are 50 yards by 100 yards and ate low maintenance, flat.
- Need to have more park programming that are geared towards getting families outside and get active during the winter months.

Water Access

- Move access to rivers for canoeing and kayaking
- Access to rivers - canoeing

Trails

- Added bike paths
- Connection to Bay City and Saginaw
- We should treasure the little walkways in Midland

The Environment/Open Space

- How can Midland further develop the rivers as a natural resource that everyone can enjoy? City to work to save its greenspace – and have programming to include, for example, biking trails, extending trails to Chippewa nature center, etc, there is a lot of open space that is a resource that could be made nice – keep it wild and put in a mountain biking path. Make connections to go to places – to have more pathways for people who want to fish, want to on a loop and come back home.
- Preserve green space. What about City Forest, but it is away from people – ironic that we have to drive out there to use it. Can we make connections to the City Forest? City Forest is an asset – the freeway disconnects it from the City. If an asset, we should try to funnel people to it, but safely.

Other

- Concern with overgrown fence on Palm Ranky Road
- Pave Palm Ranky Road to Orchard Drive
- City Forest overlooked by City - mitigated wetlands
- against skate parks and spray parks
- work naturalist to approve fun
- interests of the elderly
- Enough parks already, just make more connections without getting into the car to drive everywhere.
- Don't necessarily need more parkland in Midland.
- Love the slides and chairs at Plymouth Park