

**CITY OF DEXTER  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

***Tuesday, March 17, 2015 @ 7:00 PM***

**Location: City Offices, 8123 Main Street  
PNC Bank, Second Floor – Enter at rear door**

**A G E N D A**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**

Becky Murillo - Chair	Katie Koch
Randy Hermann – Vice-Chair	John Coy
Toni Henkemeyer	Julie Knight – Ex Officio
Ellen Han	
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – February 17, 2015**
- 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 5. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**
- 6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION**
  - A. Chair
    - a. 5-H Coalition
  - B. Commissioners and Ex Officio
    - a. Tree Board
    - b. City Council
  - C. Staff Report
- 7. OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. Discussion of: Edison Street Park Play Equipment
  - B. Discussion of: RFP for Rain Garden Maintenance
  - C. Discussion of: 2015 Easter Eggstravaganza
  - D. Discussion of: Park Maintenance Requests
  - E. Discussion of: 2015 – 2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update
    - a. Key Findings
    - b. Goals and Objectives
- 8. NEW BUSINESS**
- 9. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**
- 10. PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**

**ANNUAL REVIEW SCHEDULE**

*March/July – Annual Budget Review*

*November – Master Plan, Goals, Objectives and Strategies Review*

*January – Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Review*

## MASTER PLAN GOALS

### I. GOAL: (Space/Facilities) Meet present and future community needs for parks, greenways, trails, and recreation.

- A. Objective: Plan and develop a system of parks, greenways, open space, and recreation facilities that provides a minimum of 16 acres per 1,000 Village residents.
  - ✓ Current surplus in mini-parks, neighborhood parks and community parks based on July 2008 SEMCOG population estimates.
- B. Objective: Encourage the preservation of green space and the development of new parks and/or recreation assets when opportunities arise.
- C. Objective: Following removal of the Mill Creek dam, plan and develop a linear park along the Mill Creek.
  - ✓ Dam was removed in June 2008, Mill Creek Park Master Plan adopted by Council January 26, 2009
  - ✓ Various grant application applied for in anticipation of 2010 Phase 1 park construction and development

### II. GOAL: (Recreation) Encourage healthy lifestyles for Village residents through recreation.

- A. Objective: Offer Village residents a balanced program of active and passive recreation opportunities.
  - ✓ Working on developing a system of trails, implemented ice rink in 2009
- B. Objective: Offer Village residents multiple opportunities to walk, run, bike, skate, or paddle without leaving their community.
  - ✓ Grant applications for boating, walking and pedestrian connections submitted throughout 2009
  - ✓ Awarded Waterways Infrastructure grant for installation of 3 boat launches

### III. GOAL: (Accessibility) Strive to make every Village park and recreation site accessible.

- A. Objective: Design and develop a system of all-season, non-motorized pathways, trails, sidewalks, and bike paths linking Village neighborhoods with both Village and adjacent non-Village parks, greenways, pathways, recreation venues, schools, and commercial retail areas.
  - ✓ Working with County Parks and HCMA on regional trail connection and B2B Initiative
- B. Objective: Ensure that all parks and recreation assets are barrier-free and universally accessible.
  - ✓ Barrier free design was incorporated into Mill Creek Park Plan and DDA is providing funding to facilitate ADA access to Mill Creek Park via Jeffords Street.

### IV. GOAL: (Environment) Make nature and healthy ecosystems an important characteristic of our Village.

- A. Objective: In designated Village natural areas, enhance and preserve healthy ecosystems for native plants, fish, and wildlife.
- B. Objective: In Village urban areas, enhance the natural feel of each park.
  - ✓ Mill Creek Park has been planned as a passive park with a natural feel.
- C. Objective: Advocate for the enhancement and preservation of natural features within and surrounding our Village.

### V. GOAL: (Management) Use sound planning, financial, and operational management practices.

- A. Objective: Deliver on our stated goals and objectives.
- B. Objective: Ensure that our parks and recreation assets remain available for enjoyment, now and in the future.
- C. Objective: Foster smart and efficient management practices.
- D. Objective: Identify and utilize all available Village and non-Village funding resources to meet our goals.
  - ✓ Numerous funding sources were applied for in 2009.

### VI. GOAL: (Community) Foster a community-wide sense of pride in and support for our parks and recreation program.

- A. Objective: Promote parks and recreation activities in the community and our broader service area.
- B. Objective: Provide and promote opportunities for individual citizens and community groups to influence the mission, priorities, management, and operations of the parks and recreation program.
  - ✓ Mill Creek Park Master Planning Process and Westside Connector Planning engaged many parties.
- C. Objective: Deliver superior service to citizens and others seeking our help.
- D. Objective: Develop an overall parks and recreation program that makes a positive contribution to the economic sustainability of the Village.
  - ✓ Ice Rink in 2009 helped promote downtown
- E. Objective: Develop and maintain parks and recreation assets that incorporate a high degree of aesthetic appeal.
- F. Objective: Develop and maintain park and recreation assets and recreation programs that meet current industry safety standards and, where standards do not exist, develop and maintain assets and programs with careful consideration for user or participant safety.

**CITY OF DEXTER  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 17, 2015**

The regular meeting of the City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:05 pm at the City Offices, 8123 Main Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Becky Murillo, Toni Henkemeyer (arrived at 7:06 pm), Ellen Han (left at 8:23 pm), Katie Koch, and Julie Knight

Commissioners Absent: Randy Hermann, and John Coy

Other Present: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager; Kurt Augustine, Streets Foreman

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion by Knight, Seconded by Murillo to approve the minutes from January 20, 2015 as presented.

Motion Adopted

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Han, Seconded by Murillo to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Adopted

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION**

**A. CHAIR**

None

**B. COMMISSIONERS AND EX-OFFICIO**

Tree Board – None

City Council – Julie Knight reported that there would be a town hall meeting on facilities for Dexter's city hall, police sub-station, and fire facility. The meeting will be at the Dexter District Library on February 28 at 10:00am.

Julie Knight also presented information on the Border-to-Border trail signage as discussed by City Council.

**C. STAFF REPORT**

The Commission reviewed the staff report. Justin commented that he had spoken with a member of the HRWC Trail Towns Networking Group and had invited that person to give a short presentation at the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. EDISON STREET PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT**

Kurt Augustine reported that the Department of Public Works went out to scope the leveling of the proposed play structure site. Kurt discussed grading issues and the costs associated with changing the location of the structure on the site.

The Commission generally agreed that they were comfortable with the location of the structure on the site. There was also conversation regarding adding shrubbery or bushes along the neighboring fence.

Knight commented that Shawn at Old National Bank expressed support of the project and may be interested in sponsoring the community build day.

Breyer commented that he was looking into crowdfunding for the site through the MEDC. He stated that eligible projects needed to create unique placemaking opportunities. The Commission commented that the Lions were interested in building an interactive structure catered to the visually impaired, which may meet the criteria.

### **B. RFP FOR RAIN GARDEN MAINTENANCE**

Justin presented the proposed RFP for Rain Garden Maintenance. The Commission discussed the location of the rain gardens and the process by which the item would be placed out for bid.

### **C. 2015 – 2020 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

Justin Breyer reviewed the status of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update. The Commission asked Justin what information he needed to update the plan. Justin stated that he needed any information that the Commission had to provide, especially in the highlighted sections. Commission members will send their updates directly to Justin via e-mail. Justin will prepare discussion questions for key findings.

### **D. 2015 EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA**

The Commission discussed preparations for the Easter Eggstravaganza event. The commission discussed the number of supplies, volunteer duties, contacting previous years' sponsors, and event day organization.

### **E. DISCUSSION OF: PARK MAINTENANCE REQUESTS**

There was a concern about the Community Park sidewalk. Murillo mentioned that the grant for which the City applied was denied, but that the resurfacing project is budgeted for 2015 and is included in the Capital Improvements Plan.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Henkemeyer to adjourn at 8:55 pm

Justin Breyer  
Assistant to the City Manager



**CITY OF DEXTER  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

8140 Main Street • Dexter, Michigan 48130-1092 • (734) 426-8303 • Fax (734) 426-5614 • [www.Dextermi.gov](http://www.Dextermi.gov)

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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission  
FROM: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager  
RE: REPORT  
DATE: March 17, 2015

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**Huron River Watershed Council – Trail Towns**

As mentioned at the February 17, 2015 meeting, the Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) hosted their quarterly Trail Towns Networking Group at the Dexter District Library in January. I spoke with Anita Twardesky, the RiverUp! Trail Towns Coordinator, and asked her if she would be interested in attending a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to present some of the information that was provided at the HRWC meeting. At a Trail Towns meeting on March 9, Anita confirmed that Elizabeth Riggs from HRWC will be attending our April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**DIA Inside-Out**

The March 9 Trail Towns meeting was held at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA). The City of Dexter, along with HRWC, will partake in the DIA's Inside-Out program. Through this program, the City of Dexter will receive three pieces of art, which will be installed at various locations throughout the City. The art will be installed on July 29<sup>th</sup> and de-installed on October 31<sup>st</sup>. I have included installation and marketing information in this packet.

**Facilities Workshop**

The City of Dexter's Facilities Committee hosted a workshop at the Dexter District Library (3255 Alpine Street) on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. David Gassen from Partners in Architecture presented facility options and schemes for Dexter's City Hall, Fire Department, and Sheriff's Sub-Station. There were approximately 50 people in attendance, including several City Council and commission members.

**B2B 10K Run/Walk**

Washtenaw County Parks is coordinating the 2015 Border-to-Border 10K Fun Run and Walk, which will take place on May 2, 2015. The event will begin in Hudson Mills Metropark and will conclude in Mill Creek Park North. The event coordinators are looking for volunteers. If you would be interested in volunteering, please e-mail Gloria Leininger at [gl66@comcast.net](mailto:gl66@comcast.net). She will also be contacting local business for sponsorships and donations.

**Professional Rain Garden Maintenance Services**

On March 13, 2015, the City sent out the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Rain Garden Maintenance Services to local vendors. The vendor responses are due back to the City by April 9<sup>th</sup>. I have included a copy of the RFP in the March 17<sup>th</sup> agenda packet.

**Community Park Path**

On February 6<sup>th</sup>, the City issued an invitation to bid for the Department of Public Work's driveway, and a piece of the Border- to Border Trail. As an addendum to that bid, the City included the reconstruction of the Community Park Pathway, but not the pathway extension. The project completion date is June 12, 2015.

### **Open Meetings Act (OMA)**

As a public body, the Parks and Recreation Commission is governed by several federal and state rules and regulations. I know that several members are relatively new to the Commission and may not be familiar with these regulations, so I have included a State of Michigan PowerPoint presentation relating to the Open Meetings Act (OMA) in this agenda packet. These materials are for the Commission's edification, but I can answer any questions at our meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Mill Creek Park Phase 2**

At City Council's budget discussion session on Saturday, March 7, Council discussed the Mill Creek Park Phase 2 project. I think that it would be prudent for the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss the project timeline for Mill Creek Park Phase 2 and how it will interact with the timeline for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. In order to apply for MDNR grant funding, the City must have a complete Parks and Recreation Master Plan submitted. At the same time, we should have a complete concept for Phase 2 of the Park. It should also be noted that the City may have Non-Motorized Pathways federal funding in Fiscal Year 2016/2017.

### **Edison Street Playground**

Since the Commission meeting in February, the City received the grant award notice from the 5-H. We will be receiving the check closer to project start date.

I have also met with Sean Burton from the Dexter School District. Sean is the City's liaison with the School District in regards to the easement for the proposed park property. I drafted an updated version of the easement to give notice of the tentative playground area. The School Board will be discussing, and hopefully approving, the easement at their March 23, 2015 meeting. Once the School Board approves, the City will be going out to bid for the play structure. Additionally, Becky Murillo and I are planning on meeting with the adjacent property owner to inform them of what is taking place.

Finally, I received a call from Devon Shuler with BYO Playground. She was interested in the details of the project, and I provided information based on the RFP. Devon indicated that it is industry standard that once an order is placed, that it would be approximately 6 - 8 weeks for delivery.

### **Easter Eggstravaganza**

As this event is less than one month away, there are a number of updates:

- His Eye is on the Sparrow, the Senior Center, and Girl Scout Troop 40653 have agreed to stuff eggs. The items to put in the eggs have been ordered, and much of it has been received. We are still waiting on items from Sunny Bunny.
- Becky Murillo, Toni Henkemeyer, Katie Koch, and I visited the Department of Public Works building to assess the condition of the Easter Eggstravaganza supplies. The supplies seem to be in relatively good condition and should not need to be touched-up. We will need to find a source of bags/Easter baskets.
- Marketing materials have been released to many of the major local news sources. We have posted the event on Facebook and created a news article on the website.
- We have received donations from the Hermann family and the Klumpp family. Because of these donations, the first 100 tickets will be free.

### **Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update**

At the last meeting I provided proposed updates to the first three sections of the Plan. To date, I have received only a few minor comments regarding updates to the Plan. I would like to keep this project moving forward, so on March 17, I would like the Commission to discuss the Goals and Objectives section of the Plan. Until it is completed, the 2016 – 2020 Parks and Recreation Plan will be a working document. Feedback can be provided at regularly scheduled meetings or to me directly via e-mail at [Jbreyer@Dextermi.gov](mailto:Jbreyer@Dextermi.gov).

Please feel free to contact me prior to the meeting with any questions, etc.

Thank you.

## DIA Inside-Out Training Notes

- The Huron-River Watershed Council is scheduled for the Summer Calendar
  - August 1<sup>st</sup> – October 31<sup>st</sup>
- Installation to take place on Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Notification 2 weeks before
  - Approximate time and notification call to community when installers are on their way.
  - 20 – 40 minute installation per site
  - Map holder attached to the work must be requested (paperless? Littering? Trash Cans?)
  - 1 map – single exhibition for all Trail Towns communities
  - Each community must stake its sites at least one week in advance.
  - If something is vandalized, e-mail Jillian, it is not a problem to have someone come out and either clean it or replace it.
  - De-installation date is flexible if there is an event or festival taking place. Just let Jillian know. De-installation is scheduled for early November.
  - Make sure that you do or do not need certain things in advance:
    - Certificate of Insurance
    - Council approval of exhibition – Jillian can come and speak
    - Installation Agreement – each site type gets 1 agreement
      - I.e. All municipal owned sites = 1 agreement
      - 1 unique agreement for each privately owned site
- Marketing
  - DIA sends out a press release sent out 2 weeks before with information
    - They will notify certain media outlets (Fox 2)
  - Some communities do a riddle or teaser on Facebook 1 week before about which pieces of art they are getting
  - Installers do not mind having media there to take photos.
  - Let DIA and HRWC know about any programming or marketing centered around the art.
  - For anything associated with Inside-Out, must include DIA logo and Knight Foundation Logo
- Programming
  - Plein Air Co-Programming Ideas – E-mail Jillian well in advance
    - Become a Docent event @ Library – DIA comes and teaches people how to be Docents
    - Flashlight Tour
    - DIA volunteer Docent led tour
    - DIA will come and man a table at an event (Dexter Days, Plein Air, B2B Run)
    - Have DIA representative serve as a Judge @ an art show
    - Library programming around the art – would need to let Paul McCann know what pieces we are getting
    - Send Plein Air Festival information to Jillian so she can get it on the DIA's website and Facebook
    - Take a photo with the Art and submit it to the city's Facebook Page (contest of some sort)
  - Trail Towns Co-Op
    - Bus ride with Ann Arbor and Ypsi down to DIA
    - Trail-wide Kayak trip
    - 5 Docents in 1 Day

## Summer Installation: Step-by-Step

- 1.) Receive image assignments and installation agreements, Late March
  - Review image assignments
  - Review and confirm site addresses
  - Complete installation agreements
- 2.) Return signed installation agreements to the DIA, May 1
  - Confirm installation site addresses
- 3.) Receive proof of your community's map, Early June
  - Review and edit map for mistakes
- 4.) Return map with any edits to the DIA, June 15
- 5.) Schedule appointment with MISS DIG, One week prior to installation
  - Call MISS DIG at 800-482-7171 and provide addresses and cross streets for each location
  - Stake the free standing installation sites to indicate to MISS DIG where we will be digging
  - Utilities visit site over 72 hour period
  - You may receive an "all clear" call
- 6.) Receive Inside|Out maps, One week prior to installation
  - Distribute maps throughout your community
  - Reserve some maps to be distributed throughout your community's participation
- 7.) Installation Day, July 24-July 31
  - Remind sites we will be installing Inside|Out reproductions
  - Meet DIA staff member at first installation site (tbd) at installation time
  - Installation usually takes 3-4 hours
  - Post PDF Inside|Out map to your social media sites
- 8.) De-Installation Day, Early November
  - Inform site owners of deinstallation date
  - Signage contractor will remove all reproductions and remediate all installation sites

## Installation Schedule

### Spring

Monday, April 6

Fraser, 8am

Memphis, 1pm

Tuesday, April 7

White Lake, 8am

Ortonville, 1pm

Wednesday, April 8

Meadow Brook

Thursday, April 9

West Bloomfield, 8am

Birmingham 1pm

Friday, April 10

Hines Park, 8am

Saturday, April 11

Wayne State University, 8am

Osborn, 1pm

April 12-April 16

Overflow

### Summer

Friday, July 24

Eastpointe/Roseville, 8am

Macomb, 1pm

Saturday, July 25

Detroit RiverWalk, 8am

Grosse Ile, 1pm

Sunday, July 26

Detroit Community Gardens, 8am

Monday, July 27

Wolverine Lake, 8am

Clarkston, 1pm

Tuesday, July 28

Farmington/Farmington Hills, 8am

South Lyon, 1pm

Wednesday, July 29

Huron River Trail, 8am

July 30-31

Overflow

*\*\*Installation schedule subject to change*

## **Instructions for Contacting MISS DIG**

All free standing reproductions will need to be called into MISS DIG the week prior to installation.

Place a stake where you would like the artwork to be installed. Once you call in the site (each free standing location will need to be called in) you will receive a ticket number that proves you contacted the company. Then individual utilities will visit the site over a period of 72 hours and mark their utility lines. If the site is clear you may receive an “all clear” call from a utilities person, or you may not be contacted at all. It would be helpful if someone who lives in the community calls in because they may receive phone calls from utilities persons who are

- a.) lost
- b.) the stake has been removed and they do not know where to place it
- c.) there is an issue with a utilities person visiting the site – private property

## **Instructions for MISS DIG**

Call this number: **800-482-7171**

Information they will ask include the address, cross streets, any identifying features that may help them find the stake,

These are answers to questions they may ask:

Will you be using large equipment? **No, hand digging**

Will you be able to maintain clearance of power lines? **Yes, we can maintain clearance**

Can you finish the job in 21 days? **Yes**

<http://www.missdig.net/>

Please plan on contacting MISS DIG 5 days prior to the installation date. Let us know if you are uncomfortable with staking sites or have questions about contacting MISS DIG.



## A Social Media Guide

Below are helpful links to access Inside | Out on the Detroit Institute of Arts' social media platforms.

### Facebook

Facebook is an online networking site that allows you to share posts, photos, videos and more with the people and organizations you know. "Like" our pages to see our posts and interact with our followers.

- Inside | Out Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/dia.insideout>
- DIA Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/DetroitInstituteofArts>

### Twitter

Twitter is a real-time information network that connects you to the latest stories, ideas, opinions and news. At the heart of Twitter are small bursts of information called "Tweets." Each "Tweet" is 140 characters or less. Follow @DIADetroit to stay on top of the latest news from the DIA!

- [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)
- Account name: @DIADetroit
- Use the hashtag #DIAInsideOut

### Instagram

Instagram is an online mobile photo-sharing, video-sharing and social networking service that enables its users to take pictures and videos and share them on their Instagram accounts and other social networking platforms, including Facebook and Twitter.

- Account name: @DIADetroit
- Use the hashtag #DIAInsideOut

### Youtube

YouTube is a video-sharing website that allows people to discover, watch and share originally-created videos.

- [www.youtube.com/detroitinstitutearts](http://www.youtube.com/detroitinstitutearts)

## 2015 Inside|Out Calendar



Spring	Summer
<b>February 8, 2015</b> Installation Agreements Due	<b>May 1, 2015</b> Installation Agreements Due
<b>March 13, 2015</b> Map Edits Due	<b>June 15, 2015</b> Map Edits Due
<b>April 6-April 15, 2015</b> Installation	<b>July 24-July 31, 2015</b> Installation
<b>April 16- July 16, 2015</b> Inside Out Spring Season	<b>August 1-October 31, 2015</b> Inside Out Summer Season
<b>Mid July</b> De-Installation	<b>Early November</b> De-Installation

### Contact Information

Jillian Reese  
Community Relations Specialist  
[jreese@dia.org](mailto:jreese@dia.org)  
(313)833-1548

Kathryn Dimond  
Director of Community Relations  
[kdimond@dia.org](mailto:kdimond@dia.org)

Syretta Lee  
Community Relations Coordinator  
[slee@dia.org](mailto:slee@dia.org)

Vincent Massimino  
Communications Specialist  
[vmassimino@dia.org](mailto:vmassimino@dia.org)

Lara Zade  
Communications Specialist  
[lzade@dia.org](mailto:lzade@dia.org)

## Inside|Out 2015 Programming Menu

### Art Walks

Detroit Institute of Arts volunteer docents are available to give walking, bike or bus tours of Inside|Out reproductions in your community. These tours typically last about an hour, depending on the length of route.

To request a DIA docent, please email Jillian Reese with the details of your tour at least one month before the event. Please include in your request:

- Tour starting location and time
- Map of tour route
- List of reproductions in order according to desired tour route
- Contact information for event coordinator
- Estimated audience size

### Art Talk

Detroit Institute of Arts volunteer docents are available to give one hour "Behind the Seen" art talks in your community. The list of topics include:

- DIA: The essentials
- Your DIA: (R)evolution
- Picturing Music
- Through Her Eyes
- Let Me Tell You a Story
- Diego Rivera and the Detroit Industry Murals
- Ordinary People by Extraordinary Artists: Degas, Renoir and Friends
- To Die Upon a Kiss
- Cows at the Opera House and Other Museum Mysteries
- Seeking the Sacred
- In Our Own Voice: African American Art
- Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in Detroit

To request an art talk, please email Jillian Reese with the details at least one month before the event. Please include in your request:

- Date, time and location of event
- Contact information for event coordinator
- Desired time for art talk
- Art talk topic
- Estimated audience size

### Transportation

If interested, complementary bus transportation can be made available for one community event AND one event focused on senior groups. Bus transportation can be used for tours within a community, between communities, or between a community and the Detroit Institute of Arts.

To request bus transportation for an Inside|Out event, please email Jillian Reese with the details at least one month before the event. Please include in your request:

- Date, time and location of event
- Type of event
- Map of bus route
- Estimated number of riders
- Contact information for event coordinator

### **Art Enrichment**

If you would like to use community-based volunteers for any Inside|Out events, a DIA representative can give an orientation to volunteers about your community's images. During this orientation the DIA representative will review images and educational materials with participants as well as give tips on presenting art.

To request art enrichment for your community, please email Jillian Reese with the details at least one month before the orientation. Please include in your request:

- Date, time and location of orientation
- Estimated number of attendees
- Contact information for event coordinator

### **General Community Outreach**

A DIA representative is available for general community outreach. This outreach can include staffing a DIA information table at community events, giving a presentation about DIA benefits and resources for tri-county residents, or jurying a community art show.

To request a DIA representative at your event, please email Jillian Reese with the details at least one month before the event. Please include in your request:

- Date, time and location of the event
- Outreach specifics

### **Art Making and Creativity**

The Detroit Institute of Arts may be able to provide drop-in art-making workshops or DIA Away for community events. Requests are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

To request an art-making workshop or DIA Away for your community's event, please email Jillian Reese with the details by March 1, 2015. Please include in your request:

- Date(s), time and location of the event
- How art-making or DIA Away will enhance your event
- Estimated audience size
- Contact information for event coordinator

### **Additional programming collaborations**

We are open to any additional programming collaborations you wish to propose. Please email any requests to Jillian Reese.

## **Behind the Seen Talk Descriptions**

### **DIA: The Essentials**

Explore select DIA artworks to gain an appreciation of the diversity, quality, and world-class status of the museum's collection.

### **Your DIA: (R)evolution**

Exploring the history of the DIA heightens awareness of the individuals who founded the museum, built its collection, and supported the institution for over 128 years and provides the basis for understanding why the DIA is considered one of the most renowned and innovative art museums in the world.

### **Picturing Music**

Exploring the presence of music in visual art heightens awareness of the role music plays across cultures and time and provides a lens through which to explore the personal, social, and creative aspects of identity.

### **Through Her Eyes: Women Artist's in the DIAs Collection**

Viewing the work of women artists in the DIA collection heightens awareness of the creative contributions of women across cultures and time and provides a lens through which to explore issues of gender, relationships between generations, politics, and culture.

### **Let Me Tell You a Story**

Making meaning of the world around us is a basic behavior and most cultures throughout time have used art to each essential beliefs and understandings. Explore the many ways visual artists use stories as the source of inspiration for their work.

### **Diego Rivera and the Detroit Industry Murals**

Now a National Landmark, learn the complex and intriguing story behind the man and the murals.

### **Ordinary People by Extraordinary Artists: Degas, Renoir and Friends**

Some of the most important French artists of the 19<sup>th</sup> century resisted the elitist aesthetic of the academic art tradition by emphasizing the people around them and the human experience as subject matter during a transitioning moment in the modernist era. These are all works on paper by Degas, Renoir, Manet, Toulouse-Lautrec, Vuillard, Bonnard, Cezanne.

### **To Die Upon a Kiss**

Scientists have proven that when experiencing “love,” brain cells release dopamine, a natural stimulant, to many regions of the brain that affect human behavior. These areas of the brain are associated with wanting, motivation, focus, and craving. View a selection of works that explore the variety of behaviors associated with “love.”

### **Cows at the Opera House and Other Museum Mysteries**

A mystery is defined as something unexplained or inexplicable, or as a person or thing having qualities that arouse curiosity or speculation. The many mysteries of the DIA include stories and images, newly discovered meanings, and issues of authenticity.

### **Seeking the Sacred**

Compare different ways people throughout the world and throughout time have used works of art to hold, communicate and reinforce ideas about religion, spirituality and cosmology.

### **In Our Own Voice: African American Art**

Heighten awareness of the creative contributions of African Americans from the 19<sup>th</sup> century through to present day. This talk provides a lens through which to explore issues of race, gender, politics, and culture.

### ***Coming February 2015! Special Exhibition...***

### **Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in Detroit**

1930s Depression era Detroit marked a dramatic turning point in Rivera’s and Kahlo’s careers, which resulted in Rivera’s most visionary statement for the future and Frida’s boldly personal expressive art.



# MAY 2, 2015

## B2B-WEST RIVER TRAIL



### FUN RUN/WALK

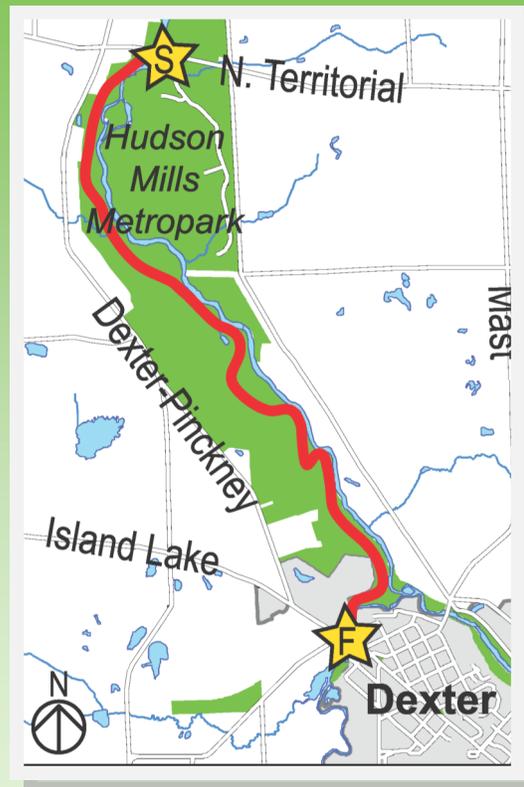
Start Time: 9:00am  
 Ages 10 and older- \$10  
 Ages 9 and under- Free

### 10K TIMED RUN

Start Time: 9:00am  
 All Ages- \$20



\*Register by 4/18 to guarantee shirt (paid participants only)



**PRE-REGISTER\* AT**  
[PARKSONLINE.EWASHTENAW.ORG](http://PARKSONLINE.EWASHTENAW.ORG)

Or register at event starting at 7:30am

**Hudson Mills Metropark**  
 8801 North Territorial Road  
 Dexter MI 48130  
 734-426-8211



Join us at Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center on May 2nd for the Border-to-Border West River Trail 10k and Fun Run/Walk. Registration begins at 7:30a.m. Race will begin at 9:00a.m. Participants will run/walk from Hudson Mills Metropark to the City of Dexter. Shuttles will be available to return participants back to Hudson Mills Between 10:00a.m. and 1:00p.m. All paid participants (prices listed on form below) will receive a T-Shirt.

Register online at [parksonline.ewashtenaw.org](http://parksonline.ewashtenaw.org) or mail registration form to:  
**Hudson Mills Metropark, P.O. Box 337, Dexter, MI 48130**

**Race Address:** Hudson Mills Metropark, 8801 North Territorial Road, Dexter MI 48130

**Entry Fee into Hudson Mills Metropark:** Daily: \$7; Annual: \$30; Annual (Senior): \$20

## 10K B2B 2015 REGISTRATION (one form per person)

Event:  10K Run\*– timed (\$20)       Fun Run/Walk\*– not timed/Ages 10 and over (\$10)  
 \*Register by 4/18 to guarantee shirt       Fun Run/Walk\*\*– not timed/Ages 9 and under (Free) \*\*Shirt not included

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  M  F

T-Shirt Size (adult sizes):  S  M  L  XL

**WAIVER:** I understand that the use of Huron-Clinton Metroparks (HCM), The City of Dexter (COD), and Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPARC) facilities or participation in its programs shall be undertaken by a participant at his/her own risk. Participant represents that he/she has disclosed in writing to the Park any physical condition that may limit his/her activities and, except as disclosed, participant is able to undertake the physical exercise and use of the facilities as provided by HCM, COD & WCPARC. However, disclosure of physical condition shall not relieve participant of sole responsibility of appropriately and safely limiting activities to take into account such physical conditions and limitations. HCM, COD & WCPARC shall not be liable for any injuries or damages to any person or property whatsoever arising out of or in connection with, the use of facilities where the same are caused by or result from actions of the participant. Participant hereby releases and discharges Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, Huron-Clinton Metroparks & the City of Dexter from all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions to any such injuries, damages or loss of property resulting from participation. I agree to abide by and adhere to the decisions, policies, and procedures set by the HCM, COD & WCPARC and its staff.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Payment:  Cash  Check  Credit Card

CC Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ CSC \_\_\_\_\_

**Request for Proposal  
Rain Garden Maintenance  
City of Dexter, MI**

Introduction

The City of Dexter is seeking candidates or firms qualified to maintain and care for the City's two (2) rain gardens. Together the rain gardens measure approximately 3,200 square feet. The firm or candidates selected will remove non-native plant species (including root systems), maintaining the rain gardens in a weed-free condition. The desired work will begin in mid-May (as necessary), and will be performed through mid-October. See a description of the work below. In 2014, the Village provided volunteer and paid staff to provide periodic weeding, but has determined the level of effort is greater than can be met by existing staff. We anticipate the first weeding in mid-May to be the most labor intensive in order to meet the specified performance standards listed below; subsequent months will be less labor intensive. Prospective bidders are invited to visit the site before submitting a proposal. The rain gardens are located along Jeffords Street, south of Main Street and adjacent to Mill Creek Park in downtown Dexter, MI.

Scope of Services

The following is a list of the minimum services to be provided:

- Provide qualified personnel to perform the desired level of service as requested.
- Staff shall be skilled in plant identification to ensure that installed plants are not removed accidentally. A complete list of installed plants and a brief overview of these plants will be provided to the contractor at the commencement of the work.
- Maintain the rain gardens in a weed-free state (including roots), resulting in an exposed mulch bed where specified plants have not provided cover.
- Utilize handwork to remove weed root systems (cutting weed flush with the ground will not be considered an acceptable level of service). Herbicides or pre-emergents are not permitted.
- Conduct an intense weeding in mid-May, which results in 95% removal of visible non-native plant species. Once work is commenced, it shall be continuous until the weeding is fully complete.
- Perform monthly weed removal thereafter, which results in 100% removal of visible non-native plant species. Once work is commenced, it shall be continuous until the weeding is fully complete.
- Give special attention to annual and bi-annual weeds that develop seed heads. Removal of these weeds shall be a priority and completed before they develop seeds.
- Tamp disturbed soil to hinder future weed growth.
- Dispose of all weeds in an orderly fashion. This may be done by either removing the weeds from the site or by disposing of the weeds in compostable bags that can be removed by the City's Department of Public Works staff.
- Provide a preliminary work schedule, which identifies the number of staff on-site along with the number of estimated work hours per month to provide the desired level of service.

Required Knowledge and Qualifications

The vendor or candidate will have detailed knowledge in the identification of grasses and forbs. Applicants must have proven experience in plant identification and work of this type.

Preference will be given to applicants experienced in native landscape maintenance and are able to perform the work as specified.



### Option to Extend

The term of this RFP is for one year, with services being performed for six (6) months of the agreement term. The City of Dexter may extend the term of this contract for one (1) year; provided that the City of Dexter gives the vendor a preliminary written notice of its intent to extend at least 60 days before the contract expires. The preliminary notice does not commit the City of Dexter to an extension.

If the City of Dexter exercises this option, the extended contract shall be considered to include this clause.

### Proposal Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated on a qualifications basis and cost. Factors to be considered include the qualifications and experience of the contractor, compatibility of the firm/individual to work with City staff and officials, familiarity with and understanding of the City of Dexter, and proposed fees. The City may elect to interview one or more candidates prior to recommending a final selection to City Council.

### Submittal Instructions

To be considered, proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope, clearly marked "RFP – Rain Garden Maintenance," and received by 2:00 pm on Thursday, April 9, 2015 by mail or hand delivery to:

Justin Breyer  
Assistant to the City Manager  
8123 Main St.  
Dexter, MI 48130

The proposal must include:

- 1) Executive Summary – This part of the response should be limited to a brief narrative describing the processes used in garden maintenance. The summary should contain as little technical language as possible and should be oriented toward non-technical personnel.
- 2) Cost Proposal - A detailed description of the costs to the City of Dexter for the proposed work to be performed.
- 3) Background – A brief description of the vendor, including: relevant experience, number of employees, technical certifications, and formal education. A resume may substitute for this requirement.
- 4) Client references – Vendors must include a list of at least three client references, preferably governmental clients within the State of Michigan. Please include the name of the client along with contact information.

### Reservations

The City reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals, to waive defects in proposals submitted in response to this request, and to select the proposal deemed to be in the best interests of the City. Issuance of this proposal does not obligate the city to award a contract.



*Sponsored By:*

LaFontaine Chevrolet | Dexter Lions Club | Dexter Senior Center | Girl Scout Troop 40653  
Girl Scout Troop 80318 | His Eye is on the Sparrow | Dexter Parks & Recreation Commission  
Klumpp Family | The Hermann Family



# *Easter Eggstravaganza*

Join us for a fun-filled family experience at the 5th Annual Easter Eggstravaganza! Easter Egg Scrambles for children both young and old will provide treats and surprises! For even more excitement, take a picture with the Easter Bunny or have your face painted by one of our many talented artists! To purchase advance tickets, please visit Dexter City Hall at 8123 Main St., Second Floor of the PNC bank building.

Cost in advance: \$2/child; \$4 for two or more children

Cost at the door: \$3/child; \$5 for two or more children

## **Saturday, April 4**

10 am - 12 pm

Location

### **Community Park**

3575 Ryan Dr.

**Additional parking is available at LaFontaine Chevrolet (entering from Dexter Ann Arbor Road).**



8123 Main Street

|

(734) 426-8303

|

[www.dextermi.gov](http://www.dextermi.gov)

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Eggstravaganza Event

The City of Dexter is proud to host the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Eggstravaganza on Saturday, April 4! Come for a fun-filled family experience with egg scrambles, pictures with the Easter Bunny, and face painting! The event will be held at Community Park (3575 Ryan Dr.) from 10 am – 12 pm.

Advance tickets are \$2 per child or \$4 for two or more children. Tickets at the event will be \$3 per child or \$5 for two or more children. To purchase advance tickets, please visit Dexter City Hall at 8123 Main St., Second Floor of the PNC bank building. The first 50 tickets are free courtesy of our generous sponsors.

This event is generously sponsored by: the Dexter Lions Club, Dexter Senior Center, LaFontaine Chevrolet, Girl Scout Troop 40653, Girl Scout Troop 80318, His Eye is on the Sparrow, the Klumpp family, the Hermann family, and the Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission.

For more information, or to purchase advance tickets, please contact:

Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager

City of Dexter

8123 Main St.

Dexter, MI 48130

[Jbreyer@DexterMI.gov](mailto:Jbreyer@DexterMI.gov)

734-426-8303 x 17

# Michigan Department of Attorney General

Open Meetings & Freedom of  
Information Acts Seminar

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

Act 267 of 1976

The basic intent of the Open Meetings Act is to strengthen the right of all Michigan citizens to know what goes on in government by requiring public bodies to conduct nearly all business at open meetings.

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

Act 267 of 1976

## Sec. 2(a)

“ ‘Public body’ means any state or local legislative or governing body, including a board, commission, committee, subcommittee, authority, or council, which is empowered by state constitution, statute, charter, ordinance, resolution, or rule to exercise governmental or proprietary authority to perform a governmental or proprietary function...”

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

Act 267 of 1976

## Sec. 3(1)

“All meetings of a public body shall be open to the public and shall be held in a place available to the general public. All persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting except as otherwise provided in this act.”

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

Act 267 of 1976

## Sec. 3(2)

“All decisions of a public body shall be made at an open meeting of the public.”

## Sec. 3(3)

“All deliberations of a public body constituting a quorum of its members shall take place at a meeting open to the public except as provided in this section and sections 7 and 8.”

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

Act 267 of 1976

## Sec. 5(1)

“A meeting of a public body shall not be held unless public notice is given as provided in this section by a person designated by the public body.”

## Sec. 3(5)

“A person shall be permitted to address a meeting of a public body under rules established and recorded by the public body.”

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

Act 267 of 1976

- 1986 PA 269 changed the act, allowing recording devices at open meetings.

## Sec. (3)1

“The right of a person to attend a meeting of a public body includes the right to tape record, to videotape, to broadcast live on radio, and telecast live on television the proceedings of a public body at a public meeting.”

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Exceptions and Exclusions

### Sec. 3(7)

“This act does not apply to the following boards, commission, or panel only when deliberating the merits of a case- examples are:

- Worker's Compensation Appeals Board
- Employment Security Appeals Board
- State Tenure Commission
- An arbitrator appointed by the Employment Relations Commission

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Exceptions & Exclusions

### Sec. 7(1)

“A 2/3 roll call vote of members elected or appointed and serving shall be required to call a closed session...”

### Sec. 8

“A public body may meet in closed session only for the following purposes:”

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Exceptions & Exclusions

- Permissible closed meetings under Sec. 8 such as:
  - To consider the purchase of real estate
  - To consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending legislation.
  - To review the contents of application for employment...if the candidate requests the application remain confidential.
  - To consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Exceptions & Exclusions

- Under Sec. 7(1), a 2/3 vote is not required to hold a closed session in the following instances:
  - Dismissal, suspension or disciplining of a public officer or employee, if the named person requests a closed hearing;
  - Dismissal, suspension or disciplining of a student...if the students' parent or guardian requests a closed hearing;

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Exceptions & Exclusions

- Sec. 7(1) exceptions, (cont.)
  - For collective bargaining negotiation sessions
  - For partisan caucuses of the state Legislature

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Violations & Penalties

### Sec. 10(2)

“A decision made by a public body may be invalidated if the public body has not complied with...section 3(1), (2), and (3)...and the courts find that noncompliance...has impaired the rights of the public under this act.”

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Violations & Penalties

### Sec. 10(5)

“...Where an action has been initiated to invalidate a decision of a public body...the body may, without being deemed to make any admission contrary to its interest, reenact the disputed decision in conformity with the act.”

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Violations & Penalties

- Litigation which seeks to challenge a decision of a public body must be started within 60 days of the approved minutes, or within 30 days for decisions involving property, money, contracts or bond issuance.
- An action for injunctive relief must be filed within 180 days of the alleged violation.

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Violations & Penalties

### Sec. 11

- OMA allows the public to sue and collect damages, and establishes criminal penalties for willful violations of the law.
- If a suit is successful, a person is entitled to court costs and *actual* attorney fees.

# Michigan's Open Meetings Act

## Violations & Penalties

### Sec. 12(1)

“A public official who intentionally violates this act is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$1000.”

### Sec.13 (1)

“A public official who intentionally violates this act shall be personally liable...for damages of not more than \$500...to a person or group bringing the action.”

# OMA, FOIA & More information

- Compiled Attorney General opinions can be accessed on the department website:

[www.michigan.gov/ag](http://www.michigan.gov/ag)

## EASEMENT AGREEMENT

**DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**, a Michigan general powers school district organized and operating under the provisions of the Revised School Code, MCL 380.1, *et seq.*, as amended, whose address is 7714 Ann Arbor Street, Dexter, Michigan 48130 (the "Grantor"), and the **CITY OF DEXTER**, a Michigan municipal corporation, whose address is 8140 Main Street, Dexter, Michigan 48130 (the "Grantee") make and enter in to this **EASEMENT AGREEMENT** (this "Agreement") on \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 (the "Effective Date"). The Grantor and the Grantee shall individually be referred to as a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties".

### Recitals:

- A. Grantor owns a parcel of land, located in the City of Dexter, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, more particularly described by the attached Exhibit A (the "Parcel").
- B. A portion of the Parcel is suitable for use as a playground and related recreational purposes, which portion is shown and described on the attached Exhibit B (the "Playground Area").
- C. Grantee desires to construct and install various pieces of playground equipment and related recreational equipment (the "Equipment") on the Playground Area for the benefit of residents of the City of Dexter and the Dexter Community School district, and Grantor is willing to allow the parcel to be used for these purposes. The term Equipment also includes any playground equipment or related recreational equipment added after the initial installation. An example of the Equipment that may be constructed and installed is attached as Exhibit C.

### Agreement:

Therefore, based on the Recitals, the mutual covenants stated below, and for the sum of One and 00/100 Dollars (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is acknowledged, and with the intent to be legally bound, the Parties agree as follows:

1. The Grantor grants and conveys to the Grantee, for the benefit of the Grantee, a nonexclusive, perpetual easement for the installation, maintenance, repair and replacement of the Equipment on the Playground Area, as well as a nonexclusive, perpetual easement for ingress and egress purposes to the Playground Area over and across the Parcel and Playground Area (the "Easement" or this "Easement").

2. After the Grantee installs any Equipment, the Grantee shall, at its sole cost and expense, maintain, repair and replace the Equipment, in good working order and in a safe condition, although the Grantee may remove any or all of the Equipment at any time.

3. The Grantee may undertake routine or general maintenance or repair of the Equipment at any time during the weekdays between the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM, without notice to the Grantor. Prior to undertaking any work to install, replace or remove any of the Equipment, and prior to any type of work to be performed by the Grantee's third party contractors, the Grantee shall provide the Grantor with notice. Notice may be given via telephone or electronic mail delivered to the number or email address provided here:

Telephone: (734) 424-4100  
Email: [timmisc@dexterschools.org](mailto:timmisc@dexterschools.org)

If the Grantor desires, the Grantee shall send a written confirmation of notice to the Grantor as follows:

Dexter Community Schools  
Attn: Superintendent of Schools  
7714 Ann Arbor Street  
Dexter, Michigan 48130-1322

-and-

Dexter Community Schools  
Attn: Chief Financial Officer  
7714 Ann Arbor Street  
Dexter, Michigan 48130-1322

The Grantee shall use good faith efforts to undertake any work at such a time as would cause the least amount of interference or disruption to the Grantor's use of the Parcel. Notwithstanding the above, if there exists some type of emergency which requires immediate work on the Equipment, the Grantee may immediately enter the Parcel and Playground Area in order to perform such work, and shall inform the Grantor, in writing, as soon as possible about the emergency condition and the Grantee's entry to perform such work.

4. To the extent permitted by law, the Grantee shall indemnify, defend and hold the Grantor free and harmless of, from and against any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, of every nature and kind whatsoever, including reasonable attorney fees and court costs, arising from or on account of any act, event, occurrence, omission or other event on, relating to or otherwise arising on account of the use of the Parcel, the Playground Area, or the Easement.

5. The Grantor, its successors and assigns, reserves the right to construct and maintain or cause to be constructed and maintained, gas, storm and sanitary sewer pipes and conduits, and other utilities ("Utilities") over, across, through and under the Playground Area and to construct and to make such other use or uses of the Playground Area consistent with the purpose of this Easement as it does not unreasonably interfere with the Grantee's use thereof. If Grantor must remove Equipment in order to construct or maintain Utilities, it shall restore the Equipment to the condition prior to removal.

6. This Easement shall cease, terminate and be discontinued at such time as this Playground Area is no longer used for playground and related recreational purposes. The Grantee shall thereafter have no further interest or rights in the Playground Area. At the Grantor's option, upon termination of this Easement, the Grantee, at its expense, shall (i) remove the Equipment and return the Playground Area to the condition it was in prior to granting this Agreement; and (ii) record a Termination of Easement in a form acceptable to the Grantor with the Washtenaw County, Michigan, Register of Deeds.

7. In the event the Grantee breaches or fails to comply with any of the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement, it shall pay all of the Grantor's costs, including without limitation reasonable attorneys' fees which the Grantor incurs as a result of the Grantee's breach or other failure to comply with the terms and conditions in this Agreement.

8. The Grantee and all users of the Playground Area shall comply, in all respects, with the Grantor's current and future policies, rules and regulations governing the Parcel, Playground Area, and this Easement.

9. This Agreement and the Easement is intended to and shall run with the land, and shall be a burden on the Parcel and bind the Grantor and its successors and assigns and shall inure to the benefit of the Grantee and its successors and assigns.

10. No termination, amendment or waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be effective unless in writing signed by the Parties. No waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be effective unless it is in writing, signed by the Party against whom it is asserted, and any such written waiver shall only be applicable to the specific instance which it relates and shall not be deemed to be a continuing and permanent waiver unless so specifically stated. The provisions of this Agreement are severable; if any section, paragraph, sentence or provision hereof shall be determined to be invalid or unenforceable, it shall not affect the validity of any remaining provisions herein and all remaining provisions shall be given full force and effect separately from the invalid or unenforceable section, paragraph, sentence or provision.

11. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and when fully executed by all Parties, shall be deemed one and the same instrument binding upon all Parties.

12. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall constitute any waiver by the Grantor or the Grantee of their rights and defenses, including without limitation, the defense of governmental immunity.

13. The Easement granted hereunder is not intended, nor shall it be construed, to create any rights in or for the benefit of the general public or any other third party, but only in the Grantee.

This document is exempt from state and county transfer taxes pursuant to MCL 207.505(h)(i) and MCL 207.526(h)(i).



**Grantee:**

**City of Dexter,  
a Michigan municipal corporation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: Shawn Keough  
Its: City President  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: Courtney Nicholls  
Its: City Manager  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF MICHIGAN        )  
  ) ss:  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, by Shawn Keough, Mayor of the City of Dexter, a Michigan municipal corporation, and by Courtney Nicholls, Manager of the City of Dexter, a Michigan municipal corporation, on behalf of the corporation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
\_\_\_\_\_ County, Michigan  
My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
Acting in \_\_\_\_\_ County

- Exhibit A     Grantor Parcel
- Exhibit B     Playground Area
- Exhibit C     Illustration of Equipment

Drafted by and after recording return to:  
Scott E. Munzel (P39818)  
Scott E. Munzel, P.C.  
603 W. Huron Street  
Ann Arbor, MI (734) 994-6610

Reviewed and revised by (11/5/14):  
Gordon W. VanWieren, Jr., Esq.  
Thrun Law Firm, P.C.  
2900 West Road, Suite 400  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823  
(517) 484-8000

**EXHIBIT A**

[Grantor Parcel]

Tax Description: LOTS 3 & 4 BLK 27 ORIGINAL PLAT.



**EXHIBIT B**

[Playground Area]



# EXHIBIT C

[Example of Potential Equipment to be installed]



*SLR*  
landscape  
structures



Better playgrounds.  
Better world.®  
play1st.com



Proudly presented by:



## Introduction

### Why Plan?

The City of Dexter's 2016 – 2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan shall serve as the guiding document for the future of Dexter's parks and recreation services. This Plan sets forth the vision, goals, property acquisition and a Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) for the next five (5) year period and maps the course for the Parks and Recreation Commission's activities.

Communities plan for a number of reasons. First and foremost, the planning process offers communities an opportunity to analyze its services and discover opportunities for growth and improvement. Regular goal-setting and service prioritization can aid municipalities in maintaining the levels of service expected by that community's residents.

In addition to serving as a planning document, Michigan municipalities also develop parks and recreation plans in order to be eligible for state funding. These plans must be reviewed, updated and adopted at least every five years in accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), which administers several grant programs. One such program is the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), which can provide up to 75% of the development costs of a recreation facility or up to 50% of the costs of acquiring recreation-related property. Applications for these grants are due April 1 and September 1 of each year.

### The City of Dexter, Roles and Responsibilities

On November 4, 2014, the residents of Dexter voted to approve a charter, transitioning the Village of Dexter into the City of Dexter. The change left Dexter's borders relatively intact, with minor changes made to allow for more contiguity. The preparation of this document began shortly after the status change, and much of the historical data contained within is held-over from the City's former status as a village.

This 2016 – 2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and the accompanying facilities analysis, shall become a component of the City of Dexter Master Plan when the latter is updated in 2017. The former 2009-2014 plan is a current part of Dexter's Master Plan. The analysis will address how the dramatic demographic, population and area changes that the City has experienced over the past two decades have and will impact the parks and recreation facility needs within the City of Dexter and the surrounding areas. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan builds upon the 1997 Parks and Recreation Plan prepared by McKenna Associates as well as the updates completed by Village staff in 2003 and 2008. This Master Plan update relied heavily on the input of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the public. This update addresses existing and future parks and recreation needs within the City of Dexter, park, greenways and open space development as well as the preservation and enhancement of the City's scenic and aesthetic features. The Plan also addresses the needs and concerns of local residents and the concerns and needs identified by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Plan also details specific improvements, costs, priorities and years of completion to better represent the long-range vision of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Picture

This City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan was prepared by City staff and the City's Parks and Recreation Commission. Pursuant to the City's General Code, the Parks and Recreation Commission is responsible for preparing, updating and maintaining the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan; advising and assisting the City Council on matters pertaining to the City's parks, specifically regarding contributions,

donations, and grants; advise the City Council on the use, development, operation and vision for the parks, as well as report information to the City Council on plan updates and resident input concerning parks and recreation in the City. The Parks and Recreation Commission is also responsible for guiding the existing and future conditions of the City’s parks and recreation facilities, with the assistance and the involvement of City administration, including the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and other local community organizations. Citizen input, through public meetings, public hearings and surveys, also provided key contributions to the information and findings presented in this report. Collaboration with neighboring governmental entities, including Webster, Scio, Dexter, Lima Townships, Washtenaw County and Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority is crucial to the implementation of this plan.

## Community Description and Background Information

### Background and Population

The City of Dexter is located approximately eight miles northwest of the City of Ann Arbor, in northern central Washtenaw County. The City is enriched by the Huron River and Mill Creek, which meander alongside the northerly and westerly limits of the community. While the City is conveniently located near urban areas, it is noted for its picturesque open space, farmlands, recreational opportunities, and historic small town appeal.

The City of Dexter is a small town characterized by its traditional town center and neighborhoods, and strong school system. In addition, the annexation of 346 acres of land over the last fifteen (15) years has added more area and population to the City's jurisdiction. The Parks and Recreation Commission and the DDA work together to maintain the City’s Midwest small town, historic feel within the downtown and the parks.

Within and surrounding the City of Dexter is the Dexter Community School District (DCS). The DCS is 87.5 square miles, has consisted of seven (7) townships since 1991, and serves Dexter City, and parts of Dexter Township, Scio Township, Webster Township, Lima Township, Putnam Township, and Northfield Township. Although the area serviced by the Dexter Community School District has not changed in many years, the surge of residential development in the townships within the Dexter School District has created a significant population and student population increase over the last decade.

### EXHIBIT 1a TOTAL HOUSEHOLD BY COMMUNITY

Community	1980	1990	2000	2010	July 2014 SEMCOG Estimate	% Change 2010 – 2014	% Change 2000-2010
City of Dexter	588	633	1,013	1,590	1,770	11.32%	56.96%
Dexter Township	1,265	1,527	1,863	2,225	2,787	25.26%	19.43%
Lima Township	659	891	1,168	1,197	1,316	9.94%	2.48%
Scio Township	2,147	4,113	6,070	6,405	6,650	3.83%	5.52%
Webster Township	884	1,097	1,774	2,215	2,255	1.81%	24.86%
Washtenaw County	N/A	105,114	125,327	137,193	143,141	4.34%	9.47%
State of Michigan	N/A	3,424,122	3,785,661	3,872,508	N/A	N/A	2.29%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census/SEMCOG



**EXHIBIT 1A  
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE BY COMMUNITY**

Community	2010	July 2014	2040 Estimate	Current Trend
City of Dexter	2.56	2.67	2.41	↓
Dexter Township	2.71	2.67	2.45	↓
Lima Township	2.76	2.75	2.34	↓
Scio Township	2.57	2.54	2.3	↓
Webster Township	2.86	2.83	2.34	↓
Washtenaw County	2.38	2.37	2.37	↓

Source: 2010 U.S. Census/SEMCOG

The Dexter Community School District campus size has also dramatically increased since 1998. In 1998, two (2) new schools were built: Cornerstone Elementary and Mill Creek Middle School. In 2002, a new high school opened, and due to a substantial increase in middle school age students, the old high school was retrofitted into Creekside Intermediate School for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The Dexter Area School District now has two (2) Kindergarten through second grade Elementary Schools - Bates and Cornerstone; one (1) third and fourth grade Elementary School - Wylie; one (1) fifth and sixth grade Intermediate School - Creekside; one (1) seventh and eighth grade Middle School - Mill Creek; and, Dexter High School for grades nine through twelve.

**Dexter Community School District Projected Headcount (5 Yr)**

Grade	Age	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
K	5-6	239	240	240	242	246					
1	6-7	253	258	259	259	261	265				
2	7-8	256	258	263	264	264	266	270			
3	8-9	248	263	265	270	271	271	273	277		
4	9-10	255	254	270	272	277	278	278	280	284	
5	10-11	271	261	260	276	278	283	284	284	286	290
6	11-12	317	283	272	271	288	290	295	296	296	298
7	12-13	283	326	291	279	278	296	298	303	304	304
8	13-14	313	290	335	299	286	285	304	306	311	312
9	14-15	318	326	302	349	312	298	297	317	319	324
10	15-16	293	314	322	298	344	308	294	293	313	315
11	16-17	287	283	304	311	288	333	298	284	283	303
12	17-18	270	290	286	307	314	291	336	301	287	286
<b>Sub-total Ages 10-18</b>		<b>2352</b>	<b>2373</b>	<b>2372</b>	<b>2390</b>	<b>2388</b>	<b>2384</b>	<b>2406</b>	<b>2384</b>	<b>2399</b>	<b>2432</b>
<b>Total All Ages</b>		<b>3603</b>	<b>3646</b>	<b>3669</b>	<b>3697</b>	<b>3707</b>	-	-	-	-	-

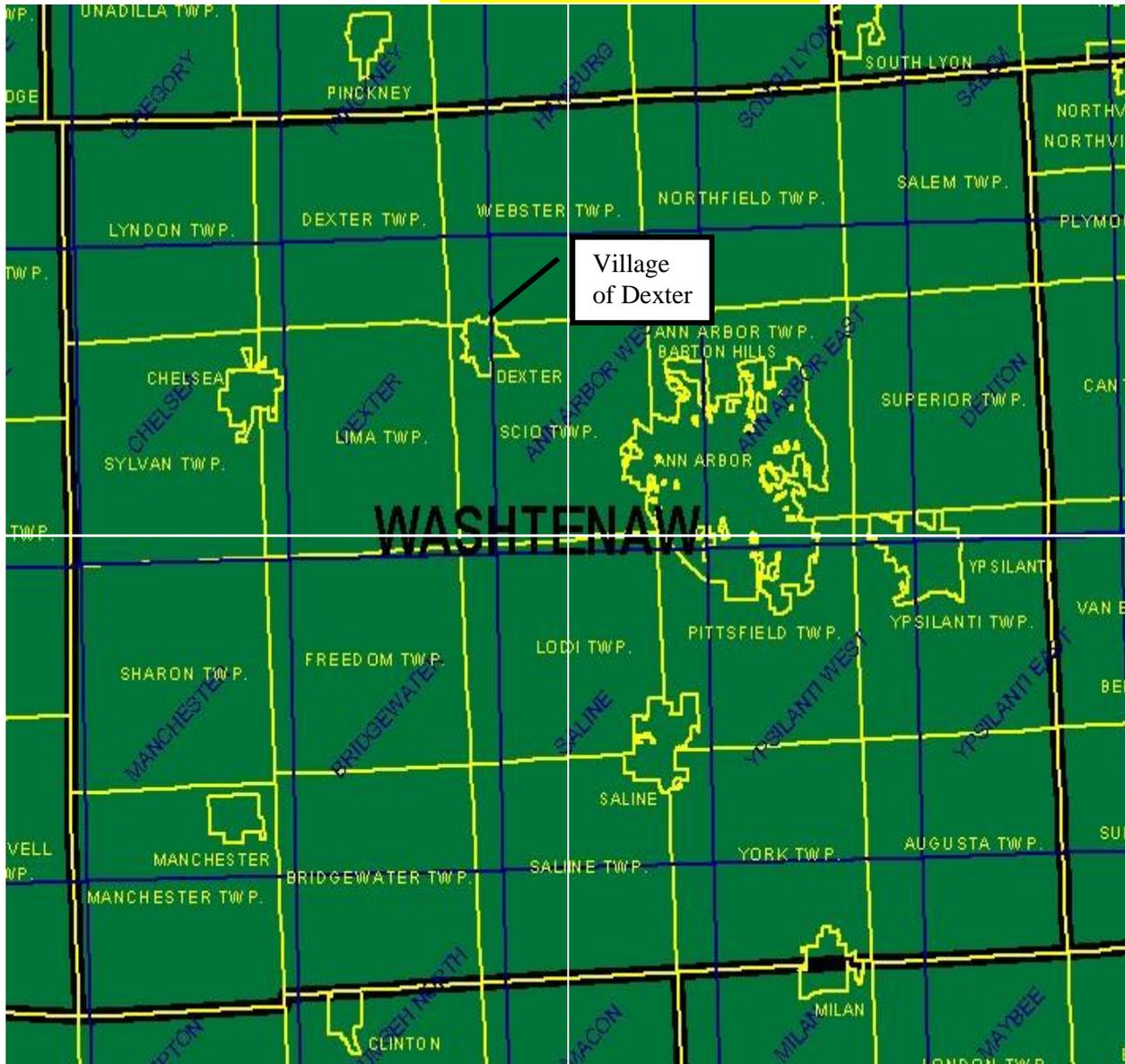
Based on the Dexter Community Schools' projected headcount data, the school age children population will continue to rise and competition for facility usage will increase. The City should work with the school to provide needed facilities that will benefit both the school district and the City without duplicating services.



### Physical Characteristics

The City of Dexter is a rural, small town that has maintained a traditional and historical character despite the growth pressures evident in the surrounding townships. The following section provides an overview of the community’s physical characteristics, such as transportation systems, historic landmarks, and land use development patterns. This section also includes an assessment of natural features, including woodlands, steep slopes, wetlands, scrub shrub, and water resources. These elements provide unique features within the City of Dexter and the City’s parks. Finally, this section analyzes the opportunities and/or threats these elements could create for the City’s future growth and development.

### EXHIBIT 2 REGIONAL LOCATION MAP



REGIONAL LOCATION MAP      ↑      1/4" = 5 miles

CITY OF DEXTER ♦ MICHIGAN

North

Base Map Source: State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources Spatial Data Library, 2003



8140 Main Street

(734) 426-8303

www.dextermi.gov

## Access and Transportation

The City center is located along Main Street, which provides east and west access through the community, as shown in Exhibit 4. Baker Road also provides access north and south from I-94. The nearby interstate interchanges also provide convenient access to surrounding communities and southeast Michigan. Dexter is serviced by a regional bus system, the Western Washtenaw Area Value Express (WWAVE). The Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA) used to provide service from the City to Ann Arbor; however funding constraints have eliminated AATA's presence in Dexter. WWAVE however does provide residents service to connect to the AATA on the west side of the City of Ann Arbor.

Monument Park, with its landmark gazebo, is the heart of the City center. Peace Park and Mill Creek Park are open space landmarks that signal entrances into the City center from the east and west and assist in further defining the community's image. Scenic routes entering the City include Mast Road from the north via a bridge over the Huron River and Main Street from the west via the Main Street Bridge over the Mill Creek. The Huron River Watershed surrounds Dexter and provides a significant natural barrier on the north and west sides of town. To the west, Mill Pond and Mill Creek connect to the Huron River. Creating a greenway corridor from the downtown and Mill Creek Park, south to the Dexter Community School District property (Shield Road) is a prioritized recreation goal for the City. It is envisioned that the pathway be incorporated into the Mill Creek Park reclamation project following the removal of the Main Street dam and replacement of the Main Street Bridge. The City has also included the Mill Creek Park reclamation project in the 2006 General Obligation Bond.

At the intersection of the Huron River and the Mill Creek, HCMA controls property that will be part of a 10-mile greenway corridor connection with the Village. Construction commenced on Phase 1 of the HCMA trail from the Hudson Mills Metropark to the Hudson Mills golf course in the winter of 2007. Phase 2 of the HCMA trail from the Hudson Mills golf course to the Village is being designed with plans to construct in 2010. The Village has included \$100,000 in the 2006 General Obligation Bond for a "Westside connector", which would be help fund a coordinated trail access from the HCMA trail to the Village of Dexter, possibly at Warrior Creek Park. Washtenaw County Parks and the Washtenaw County Road Commission are also applying for Transportation Enhancement funding for the connection from the HCMA property to the village. The Village will contribute to the project if the funding is awarded. The "Westside connector" must be included in the second series of a General Obligation bond that has been planned for by the Village Council. The Transportation Enhancement grant application includes a pathway from the Westridge of Dexter subdivision southeast to Warrior Creek Park and south underneath the new Main Street Bridge (See Exhibit 22a). The pathway connection can then go into downtown Dexter and continue south along the Mill Creek and be part of the vision for trail system into Scio Township.

A narrow one and a half-lane railroad underpass provides a unique entrance to the City from the west. The historic stone structure provides clear definition of the entrance into the City center. Meanwhile, a scenic vista of Mill Creek is offered to motorists and pedestrians entering or leaving the western end of the City. The City and the Parks and Recreation Commission have given top priority to further enhance and restore Mill Creek. This effort would provide additional passive recreation opportunities, more trail systems and open space. Another goal of the creek restoration will also be to enhance the ecosystem, provide access to the creek/waterway, provide passive walking trails and nature interpretation, improve the stormwater entering the creek, and establish riparian buffers. The 2006 General Obligation Bond authorized by the Village Council included \$500,000 for reclamation, restoration and park development of this area.

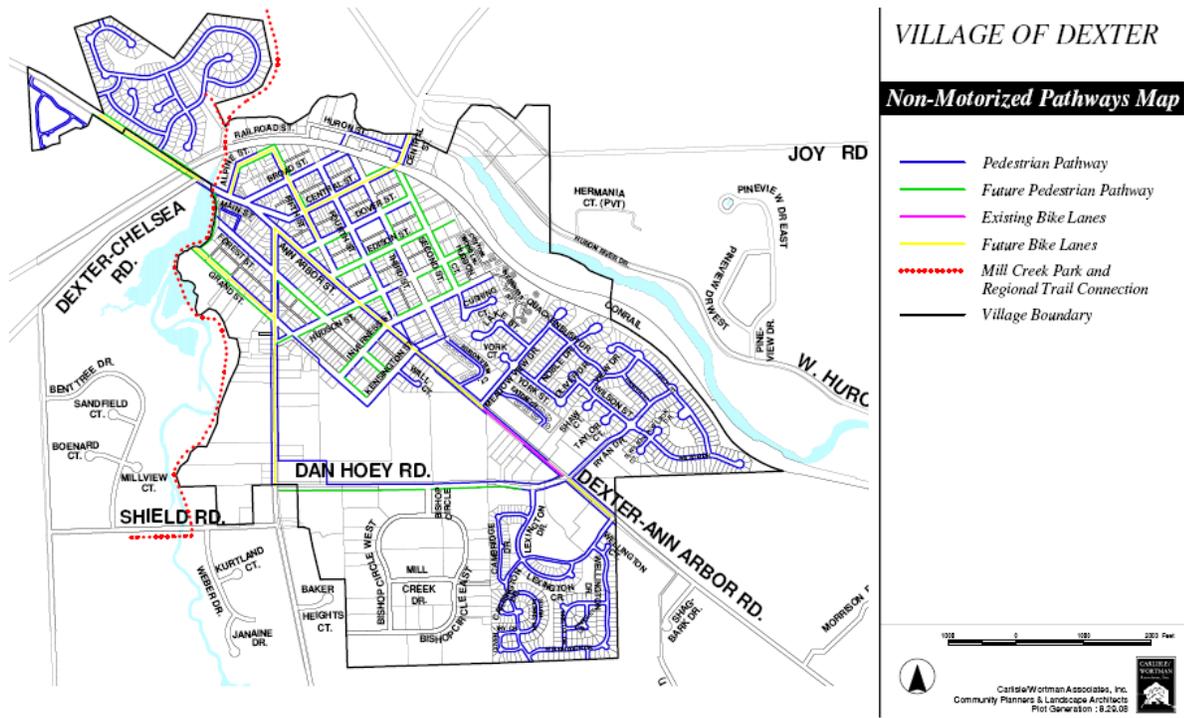
Other landmarks in and around the City include the City Fire Hall and Sheriff's substation, the Farmer's Market, Dexter Library, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Monument Park, the Historical Society Museum, the Dexter Historical Railroad Society and the historic Gordon Hall and associated conservation easements.

The local grid streets network, shown in Exhibit 4, provides convenient movement, linking the residential neighborhoods with the downtown business district. Alleys also provide secondary access to properties

throughout Dexter. Public sidewalks are located along most blocks within the City center. A Safe Routes to School study conducted in 1996 has shown where additional sidewalks are needed. In July 2002, a sidewalk survey was also completed to help determine where safe non-motorized routes were needed. Existing non-motorized paths are shown in Exhibit 5. On an annual basis, funds are set-aside in the capital budget to help with additional sidewalk construction or repair. **In FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09 the Village spent over \$80,000 repairing and replacing sidewalks.** To provide a complete pedestrian system, the City has committed to locating sidewalks along all City streets, where feasible and as funding permits. This system will also facilitate increasing connections between the parks in the City.

**EXHIBIT 4  
NATIONAL FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION MAP**

**EXHIBIT 5  
NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION MAP**



Land Uses

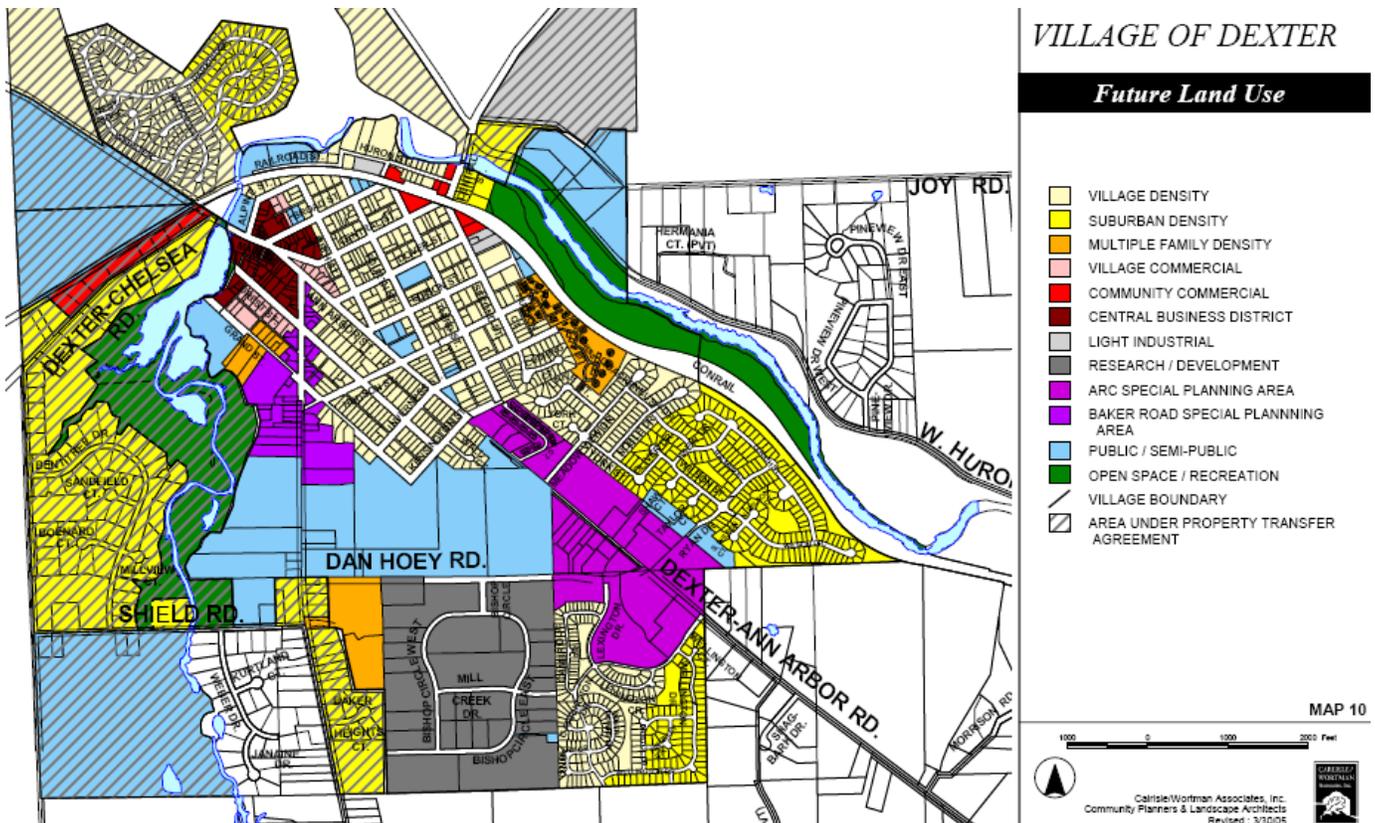
The City center offers a mix of commercial, residential and community facilities located where Main Street, Dexter-Ann Arbor Road, Central Street, and Baker Road converge. **Single-family land use is quickly beginning to dominate the City's overall acreage.** Existing land uses and the percentage of total land uses can be seen in Exhibits 6 and 7.

**EXHIBIT 6  
Existing Land Use Acreage 2008\***

Category	Acreage 2008	Percentage of Total 2008
Single & Two-Family Residential	341.1	30.5%
Multiple Family Residential	56.2	5.0%
Convenience Retail	9.6	1.0%
Comparison Retail	29.7	2.6%
Office	23.3	2.1%
Industrial	127.7	11.4%
Public	145.2	13.0%
Semi-Public	16.8	1.5%
Public Utilities	1.1	0.0%
Vacant	205.7	18.4%
Other	48.25	4.3%
<b>Total Acreage</b>	<b>1115.50</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Field survey completed January 2008.

**EXHIBIT 7  
FUTURE LAND USE MAP**

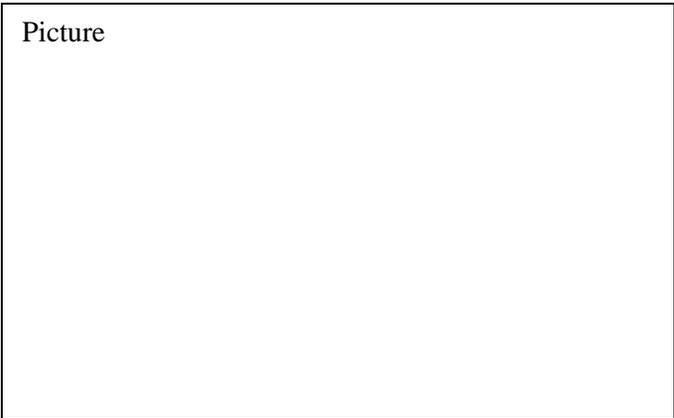


The City takes pride in its heritage and the downtown’s historic buildings. Storefronts in the Central Business District have not been significantly altered; some have been restored or rehabilitated. Streetscape improvements have been made that further enhance the character of the traditional, historic downtown and residential areas within Dexter. Additional streetscape improvements will be made in the future to further enhance the downtown area and continue the streetscape theme throughout the City of Dexter.

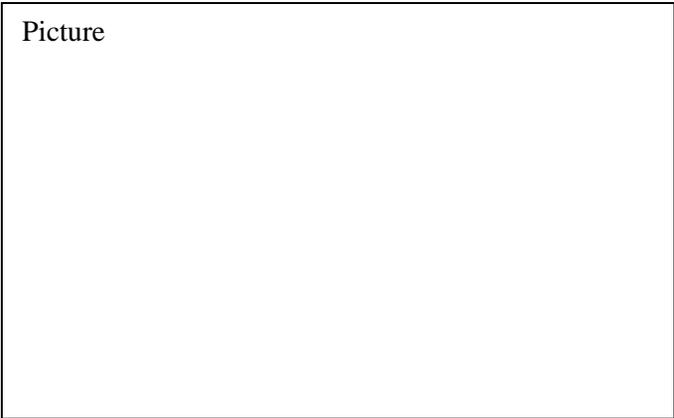
**Natural Features**

Dexter is enclosed by rural agricultural townships in southeast Michigan. Many significant natural resources exist within the City of Dexter; however, the City’s most significant natural resources are shared with the surrounding townships due to their location along Dexter’s borders. It will be important for Dexter to maintain existing natural features as development continues to occur within the City limits and in the surrounding townships.

The City of Dexter’s topography is similar to that found within southeast Michigan and the entire State of Michigan - fairly level with some low rolling hills. Two (2) bodies of water, the Mill Creek and the Huron River, surround the City, creating elevation changes in the adjacent areas. The following natural features map, Exhibit 8, shows the bodies of water and the steep slopes leading to the water bodies that surround the City. Some areas of the City, outside of the river and creek banks, have been altered by gravel excavation processes. These areas are not in their original state and have steep slopes. The City does have small areas with elevation changes, but none of them are major slopes that span across large areas.



Woodlands and wetlands also lay just outside of the City’s boundaries. Due to the lack of heavily wooded lots, the City encourages the preservation of mature trees during site development in order to help maintain a healthy urban forest. When considering land to be annexed, saving existing natural features and protecting habitats should be a priority.



Dexter is located in the Middle Huron River watershed and rests alongside the Huron River and Mill Creek, as can also be seen in Exhibit 8. Mill Creek is located on the westerly boundary of the City, and the Huron River along the northern boundary. The western border of the City along Mill Creek provides the most diverse landscape. When entering the City from the south, the City changes from an open water creek and forested wetlands to a more meandering creek with shrubbery and emergent wetlands due to the Mill Pond dam embankment. **With the removal of the dam, the natural features in this area are expected to change substantially.** On the north side of town along the Huron River, the landscape is primarily open water and forested wetlands. **As the Huron River runs east it becomes a more open channel with less shrubbery and forested wetlands.**

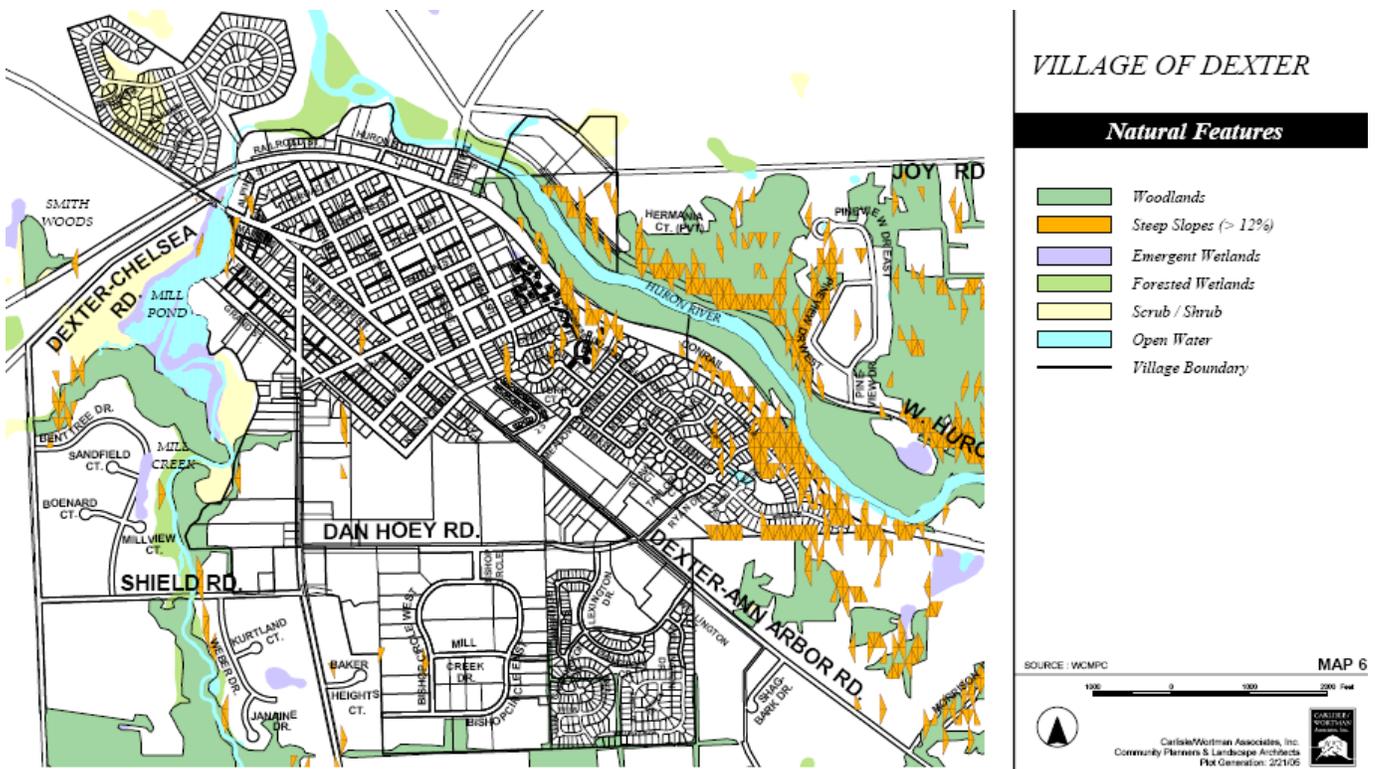
**Mill Creek provides City residents with considerable access to natural resources. Mill Pond, just west of downtown, was created when Henry Ford originally dammed the Creek in 1932 for hydropower, which was to be used in a timber mill. The Mill however was never activated. After Mill Creek was dammed, the tributary**

began to back up into the floodplain, which has resulted in significant surface water on the westerly boundary of the City.

In 2008, the dam will be removed along with the replacement of the Main Street Bridge. The removal of the dam will further open up recreation opportunities within the Mill Creek tributary and the Dexter area. Draining the Mill Pond will create significant changes in the wildlife and habitat of the area. The area will be returned to its natural habitat and fish passage will be restored and considerations will be given to protection of the watershed habitat in the redevelopment of the area. The Village is working on plans for the reclamation of the area and Village Council has authorized bonds to help fund the improvements. A Mill Creek Park Planning Team has been created to more thoroughly review the plans for the Mill Creek Park. The team is made up of a collaboration of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, Council Trustees, Planning Commissioners, Downtown Development Authority Representative and staff. Appendix L is the resolution establishing the team and Appendix M is the goals and objectives and concept plan established by the team. Plans for the park are to have a passive recreation area with a small entertainment/amphitheater area, habitat and ecology highlights with information kiosks, boardwalks, parking area, riparian buffer improvement and regional storm water and wetland features. After months of team meetings and public forums the committee provided a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Commission and Village Council on how to proceed. The committee also contracted with a park development consultant to help with the concept design and intends to apply for funding through the MNRTF and LWCF grant programs and many others in 2009 and beyond.

Another goal of the City, in regards to natural features, is also to provide wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities for Village residents and ensure that today's resources continue to be preserved for future generations.

### EXHIBIT 8 NATURAL FEATURES MAP



## Topography

The City of Dexter varies in elevation from 830 feet above mean sea level along the Huron River to 940 feet in the southeastern portion of the City along Main Street. The Huron River flows through Webster Township in a southerly direction and leaves the Township near the northern boundary of the City. The Huron River, along with its tributary, Mill Creek, is the most dominant topographical feature in the community. Most of the City is located south of the Huron River, sloping upward from the northwest to the southeast. The highest point is the site of the old water tower, which is now Peace Park. Most of the City is developed or in process of developing, however, some vegetation remains along Mill Creek and the Huron River. Steep slopes throughout the Village are shown in Exhibit 8.

To the southeast of the City center, gently sloping hills offer scenic overlooks and vistas, further enhancing the image of Dexter as a small, rural community. The scenic areas also contain wooded, low, wet areas that often present limitations for development. However, this undeveloped area has already experienced the growth pressures faced by surrounding communities. Residential development in surrounding communities tends to be characterized by larger lots, wider curvilinear streets, common open space areas, and uniform housing sizes and designs.

Picture

## Soils

Major soil types in the area are Oshtemo Loamy Sands (OsB), Kiddie Sandy Loam (KrC), and Miami Loam (MmB) shown in Exhibit 9. All soils types present, except Miami Loam, contain sand and have either slight or moderate limitations for urban development. Poorly drained soils typically make installation of sewer lines and septic tanks difficult, which would hinder construction. In addition, they contribute to foundation instability, which also limits development and can increase maintenance costs.

## Water

Water features are undoubtedly one of the most important physical resources in the region. Warrior Creek Park is located along Mill Creek. The Park and the old Mill Pond to its north have great recreation potential.

The City of Dexter is located within the Middle Huron River watershed area benefits from the presence of the Huron River and Mill Creek, which meander along its the northern and western boundaries. These bodies of water form a natural boundary for expansion of the City to the north and west, and assist in defining the unique character of the community. Major woodland areas line the Huron River and Mill Creek, further defining the Village edge. These water bodies are a scenic and aesthetic resource of the City of Dexter that provide visual relief, open space areas, wildlife habitat, and opportunities for recreation. With the removal of the Main Street Dam, Mill Pond has drained and the area has been restored back to its natural state. The wetland area will be replaced with a natural stream and smaller wetland area. The railroad parallels these water bodies forming a man-made boundary along the City's northern and western limits. Together, the natural resources and railroad encircle the northern and western edges of the Village providing the benefits of scenic beauty and natural open space areas, which enhance the City's character.

## Drainage

The City of Dexter is located within the Huron River Basin, which is a major drainage basin in Washtenaw County. The community is also located at the mouth of the Mill Creek sub-basin. **The Honey Creek sub-basin drains most of Scio Township.** The western half of the City is situated in the Mill Creek sub-basin, while the eastern half is situated in various creekshed basins.

## Fish and Wildlife

Generally fish and wildlife stay outside of the borders of the City due to its urbanized character as well as the natural water barriers that Mill Creek and the Huron River provide. **As part of the Mill Creek Park Plan, the City is actively planning on investing in rehabilitating fisheries in the next few years. Creation of basins, pools and wetlands throughout the City have also attracted periodic wildlife.**

## Climate

Dexter has a humid, continental climate that may be considered typical of the upper Midwest/Great Lakes States region of the United States. Prevailing southwesterly winds are frequent along with rapid weather changes, and extreme seasonal temperature variations. The City has a reasonably uniform annual distribution of precipitation, and four distinct seasons characterize the climate. The Great Lakes are a powerful climatic influence throughout the State of Michigan and moderate land temperatures are attained by cooling in summer and warming in winter. Spring can be delayed and fall extended approximately one month due to the moderating effect of the Great Lakes.

## Environmental Protection

The City of Dexter has been settled for over 100 years and has consequently experienced the removal of many natural features that were once found in the area. Although Dexter has been urbanized, areas with significant natural features still exist in close proximity to the City, including the 17-acre Smith Woods Preserve. Smith Woods Preserve was donated to the Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program in 2008 by the City of Dexter. Smith Woods is adjacent to the Miller Preserve which was purchased by the County in 2007. Together, the Miller Preserve and Smith Woods Preserve account for 28-acres to be preserved as part of the County's Natural Area Preservation Program and provides many opportunities to utilize and access nearby natural resources. **This area also has great potential for becoming a link to the Washtenaw Counties regional greenway system due to its location adjacent to the Huron River and other abundant natural resources and recreation opportunities available. The Parks and Recreation Commission hopes that one day the Miller Preserve and Smith Woods Preserve will be connected to the Gordon Hall property, the County Border to Border trail, the HCMA Hike/Bike trail (Exhibits 22 and 22a), and the City's Mill Creek linear park trails (Appendix E).**

## EXHIBIT 9 SOILS MAP



### Key Findings

The purpose of reviewing existing physical characteristics is to identify key findings that will guide parks and recreation decision-making and planning for the City of Dexter.

- The City has an active downtown, which is easily accessible to the stable historic neighborhoods through streets, sidewalks, and scenic open space areas.
- Streetscape improvements along Main Street, the Central Business District and the Dexter-Ann Arbor Road Corridor could visibly connect the parks located at each end of the downtown.
- Future streetscape improvements will provide for visible non-motorized connectivity through the City.
- The City of Dexter's parks provide the only public access to passive recreation opportunities in the immediate area.
- Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority and Washtenaw County Parks are the only other providers of public parkland within the four surrounding townships.
- The City of Dexter is centrally located amongst the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Parks within Washtenaw County. Connection to these regional facilities would provide City residents and visitors with optional access to the facilities and provide the City with economic development opportunities within the downtown.
- The City can provide parking access and other amenities to surrounding regional park facilities.
- Dexter, Webster, Lima and Scio Townships all own minimal, if any, public parkland.
- The topography creates broad rolling hills and scenic views that require protection from future development and expansion of the City to the north and west.
- Water features provide an additional level of recreation for the City. Resources should be used to enhance the public access to these water resources.
- The City only has one area where the public can access an improved area adjacent to the Mill Creek. The former Mill Pond area would provide acres of public access to the Mill Creek if it were improved.
- The City must actively pursue the preservation of existing natural features when reviewing development plans for projects within the City's boundaries.
- The City has extraordinary access and trail linkage possibilities among the areas regional trail systems and trail plans.
- The City's plan for trail development along the Mill Creek via the new linear park will add to the regions extensive future trail system.

## Socio-Economic Characteristics

Collection and analysis of the data describing the City's population, housing and economic attributes is an important component of the parks and recreation planning process. The evaluation and comparison of available data allows the identification of trends in population, housing and employment compositions of the City. The trends provide valuable insights to define potential future conditions based upon the historical trends and the characteristics of surrounding communities and the region. The data will be used to support and guide the Parks and Recreation Commission in the preparation of recommendations for the City Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan.

Three primary sources of information were used in the compilation of this information. While the 2010 U.S. Census data is the primary source, information was also obtained from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments ("SEMCOG"), and Washtenaw County.

## Trends and Projections

Exhibit 10 and 11 describes the population changes from 1970 to 2014 for the Village/City of Dexter. These exhibits also show the population estimate for 2040. Between 1970 and 1990 there was a 14 percent decrease in population, which was most dramatic between 1970 and 1980. Since 1990 the population size has dramatically increased 216% due to the annexation of land and the influx of residential development. Between 2010 and 2014, growth slowed however the population still grew 16%. As can also be seen in the table, increases are being experienced in all of surrounding areas, which ultimately impacts the Dexter Community School District.

From 2005 to 2007 the number of students enrolled in the Dexter School System increased 149 students, to 3,630, a 3% increase. The increase being felt the most is at the middle school and high school levels. In 2004 the increase was felt most at the kindergarten level. The high school, which now holds 1,183 students, has increased 14% since 2004. The schools have grown substantially over the last decade however the growth has leveled off. The increase in the amount of students has also created the need for more teachers. Since 2002 the academic staff, which includes staff such as counselors and nurses increased from 211 to 235 in 2007, an increase of 11.3%.

Picture

While the City is the second smallest municipality in a five-community area and was the second smallest municipality in 1970, the City has experienced the same large increase in the level of growth as surrounding townships. Population projections estimate that the City will have a population of 4,885 persons by the year 2040, a 3% increase from 2014. The data generally demonstrates that the Dexter area is recognized as an attractive residential location and that the population will continue to grow over the next two decades.

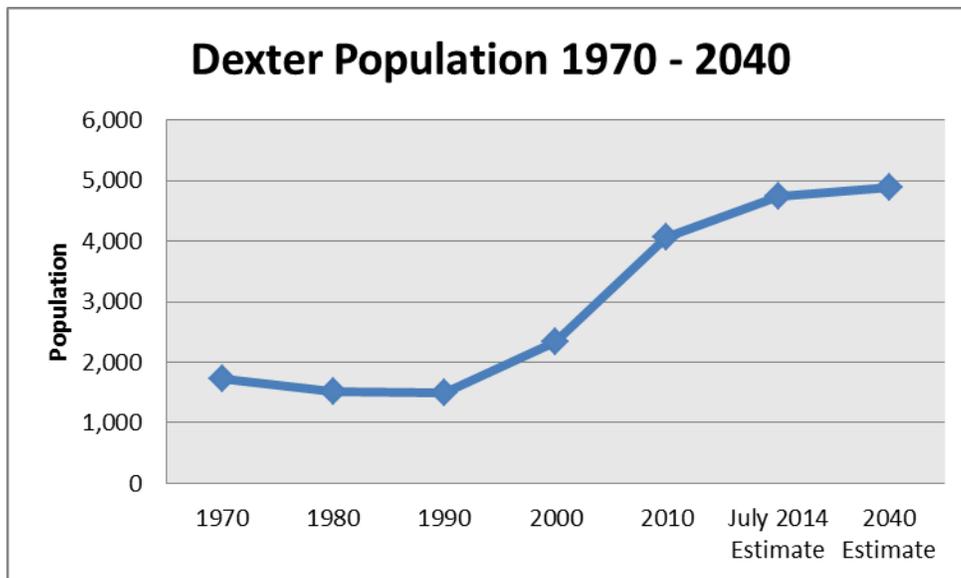
According to SEMCOG the region has lost jobs from 2001 through 2010. It is anticipated that growth will slow due to the weak Michigan economy over the last few years. SEMCOG forecasts moderate growth in the long-term, and forecasts a three percent population growth and an eleven percent job growth from 2014-2040. Overall the population and employment rates in the area will continue to grow, however not as quickly as through the 1990's. According the U.S. Census data and SEMCOG's population estimates, more than 38,048 people now reside in the Dexter vicinity compared to 20,851 in 1990 and 30,767 in 2000.

**EXHIBIT 10  
POPULATION CHANGE 1970 – 2007**

Community	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	July 2014 Estimate	2040 Estimate	% Change 2000 - 2010	% Change 2010 - 2014
City of Dexter	1,729	1,524	1,497	2,338	4,067	4,731	4,885	73.95%	16.33%
Dexter Township	2,238	3,872	4,407	5,248	6,042	6,450	6,855	15.13%	6.75%
Lima Township	1,281	2,124	2,132	2,224	3,307	3,621	4,304	48.70%	9.50%
Scio Township	5,476	6,505	9,580	15,759	16,470	16,874	20,442	4.51%	2.45%
Webster Township	1,981	2,760	3,235	5,198	6,328	6,372	5,918	21.74%	0.70%
Washtenaw County	234,103	264,748	282,937	322,895	344,791	356,801	386,235	6.78%	3.48%
State of Michigan	8,875,083	9,262,078	9,295,297	9,938,444	9,883,640	*9,895,622	N/A	-0.55%	0.12%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census/SEMCOG (\* 2013)

**EXHIBIT 11  
POPULATION CHANGE PER COMMUNITY**



Source: 2010 U.S. Census/SEMCOG

Changes in population size are often related to other changes in the household or resident attributes in the community. Exhibit 12 indicates the average household size recorded for the Dexter vicinity in 1980, 1990, 2000, 2014, and the 2040 estimate. With an average household size of 2.67 persons estimated in July 2014, the City of Dexter has a middle of the road household size of the five jurisdictions compared. In 2000 the Village of Dexter had a very low average household size, and was less than Washtenaw County's.

Average household size continues to decline throughout the nation and the documented local trends are consistent with the national variations. Several primary causes have been noted for reductions in household



sizes. Many families are choosing to have fewer children or are getting married and starting families at a later age. There are also higher incidences of single parent and single member households due to increased divorce rates or other factors of personal choice. In addition, the population is aging and older households are less likely to include children living at home. The City’s average household size is increasing. The City was the only jurisdiction that had an increase in average household size since the 2000 Census. This could be a result of younger families moving into Dexter and starting families or expanding family sizes.

**Housing**

The housing stock within the City of Dexter has changed dramatically since the 1990 U.S. Census. As shown in Exhibit 13 in 1990, the City had 676 total housing units, a 10.3% increase from the 1980 U.S. Census. By 2000, the City’s housing units had increased by 63.6%, almost doubling from 676 units in 1990 to 1,093 units in 2000. The number of housing units is still increasing in the City; however there was an increase of only 611 housing units between 2000 and 2010, and 133 housing units (7.8%) from 2010-2014.

The significant housing unit increase was primarily due to the annexation of 330 acres of land into the City in the 1990’s. Prior to the annexations, the City of Dexter had been built-out with little or no room for growth. With the annexation of the land and people’s interest in locating within the City, the population surged, resulting in a substantial increase in housing units. Since 2000, residential development has slowed significantly due to the weak economy from 2008 - 2013, however the City of Dexter continues to attract residents.

**EXHIBIT 12  
AVERAGE PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD**

Community	1980	1990	2000	2010	July 2014 Estimate	2040 Estimate	% Change 2000 - 2010	% Change 2010 - 2014
Dexter	2.60	2.36	2.31	2.56	2.67	2.41	10.82%	4.30%
Dexter Township	3.08	2.87	2.80	2.71	2.67	2.45	-3.21%	-1.48%
Lima Township	3.24	2.90	2.76	2.76	2.75	2.34	0.00%	-0.36%
Scio Township	2.00	2.69	2.59	2.57	2.54	2.30	-0.77%	-1.17%
Webster Township	3.14	2.95	2.93	2.86	2.83	2.34	-2.39%	-1.05%
Washtenaw County	N/A	2.49	2.41	2.38	2.37	2.23	-1.24%	-0.42%
State of Michigan	N/A	2.65	2.56	2.49	N/A	N/A	-2.73%	N/A

Source: 2010 U.S. Census/SEMCOG

With the possibility of new development proposals, the housing stock in the City is expected to more than double in the next 10-20 years. If new development occurs, the Parks and Recreation Commission will encourage many to provide private parks, which could help reduce the need for public facilities.



**EXHIBIT 13  
TOTAL HOUSING UNITS BY COMMUNITY**

Community	1990	2000	2010	July 2014 Estimate	% Change 2000 - 2010	% Change 2010 - 2014
Dexter	676	1,093	1,704	1,837	55.90%	7.8%
Dexter Township	1,850	2,168	2,612	2,683	20.48%	2.72%
Lima Township	802	923	1,250	1,350	35.43%	8.00%
Scio Township	3,590	5,215	6,694	6,818	28.36%	1.85%
Webster Township	1,173	1,859	2,332	2,358	25.44%	1.11%
Washtenaw County	111,256	131,069	147,573	149,424	12.59%	1.25%

Source: 2000 U.S. Census/SEMCOG

**Age Structure**

Exhibit 14 illustrates the distribution of the populations of each community by age groups. The information in the table indicates that the City of Dexter’s population is younger than the five townships compared with a median age of 36.2 years in the City. Of particular interest is the fact that 32.8 percent of Dexter’s population is less than 20 years old while this population group accounts for 26.7 percent to 29.4 percent in the other communities.

The age structure of the City indicates that many youths and young adults are living in Dexter, which has specific implications related to the types of park and recreation facilities needed. A younger population implies that more active recreation such as biking and hiking trails as well as ball fields are necessary to accommodate the residents. It also implies that the School’s facilities are more in demand, or will be more in demand, due to the desire of young residents to have more programmed activities, that required the schools facilities, through the Community Education and Recreation Program administered by the Dexter Community School District. 25.1% of the City’s population is between the ages of 20-40, which also implies that many of the residents are at childbearing years and a population increase should be anticipated. 55% of the City residents are also women. In addition, the percentage of residents 60 years and older is lower than the County and surrounding townships. This trend needs to be reviewed in relation to park and recreation facility accessibility.



**EXHIBIT 14  
PERCENT OF POPULATION BY AGE GROUP AND MEDIAN AGE**

Age Group	City of Dexter	Dexter Township	Lima Township	Scio Township	Webster Township	Washtenaw County
0-4	8.7% (354)	5.3% (322)	6.4% (211)	5.5% (906)	4.5% (287)	5.9% (19,138)
5-9	9.6% (390)	6.6% (401)	7.3% (241)	7.3% (1,195)	7.5% (475)	5.8% (20,009)
10-19	14.5% (589)	14.8% (894)	14.0% (462)	14.6% (2,402)	17.4% (1102)	14.7% (50,645)
20-29	8.5% (344)	6.3% (383)	7.9% (260)	8.9% (1,466)	4.9% (308)	19.6% (67,528)
30-39	16.6% (674)	10.0% (605)	12.1% (401)	11.2% (1,848)	8.4% (534)	12.7% (43,640)
40-49	18.9% (768)	17.5% (1,059)	15.6% (515)	16.5% (2,724)	18.8% (1191)	13.4% (46,081)
50-59	10.4% (424)	19.0% (1,149)	17.6% (582)	17.7% (2,918)	19.6% (1238)	13.1% (45,092)
60-69	6.8% (275)	12.4% (751)	12% (397)	11.7% (1,930)	11.8% (744)	8.6% (29,503)
70-79	3.3% (135)	5.0% (301)	5.4% (177)	4.2% (690)	3.7% (237)	3.9% (13,543)
80+	2.8% (114)	2.2% (135)	2.4% (79)	2.4% (391)	2.2% (140)	2.8% (9,612)
Median Age	36.2	43.8	41.5	41.6	43.8	33.3
TOTAL POPULATION	4,067	6,042	3,307	16,470	6,328	344,791
Gender	Population	%				
Male	1,853	45.00%				
Female	2,266	55.00%				

Source: 2010 U.S. Census

**Education**

Calculations from SEMCOG indicate that in 2010, the percentage of adults 25 and over that received a high school diploma was approximately 93.2% of which 54% went on to obtain a higher education degree.

**Racial and Ethnic Composition**

According to the 2010 Census the City of Dexter has a relatively homogeneous population with 95.9% being white. The remainder of the population is a combination of American Indian, Asian, African American, and others. This is important to address in assessing the availability of cultural centers and identifying the different recreation and cultural interests of the residents.



## Employment

Exhibit 15 illustrates the occupations of the City of Dexter residents. Over 60.5% of Dexter's employed residents hold high-ranking office jobs such as executive, administrative, managerial and professional specialty occupations. Additionally, another 18.7% of the population is involved in sales, technical support and administrative support jobs. Manufacturing production-related work including precision production, assembly, and inspection accounts for another 5.4% of the City's workforce. Various services, labor and other jobs account for the remaining employment.

Exhibit 15 indicates that the City of Dexter has seen a significant increase in the amount of management and professional related occupations. The number of City residents employed has also risen, as expected, with the population. Exhibit 15 also shows that the occupations of Dexter's residents appear to be following the same trends as all industries.

A majority of City residents, or 77.4 percent, are privately employed. Government employment provides jobs to 16.6 percent of the residents and the remainder are self-employed. A total labor force of 1,421 is reported with only 21 persons unemployed at the time of the 2000 U.S. Census, resulting in a very low unemployment rate of 1.1 percent. Dexter's median household income as reported in the 2000 Census was \$50,510 per year. Washtenaw County's median household income for the same period was slightly higher at \$51,990. However, both the City and County median incomes were in excess of the State's median household income of \$44,667. Households in Washtenaw County communities tend to possess substantially higher incomes as compared to other communities in Michigan. Exhibit 16 provides detailed household income data for the City.

## Persons with Disabilities

Approximately 118 or 5.0% of the City's population aged 21 to 64 years old has some type of mobility or self-care limitation. The City of Dexter has also seen the percentage of seniors with disabilities decrease from 49% in 2000 to 31.9% in 2010.

Although persons with disabilities make up only a small portion of the City's population, other citizens face some form of temporary disability during their lifetime: seniors, young children, pregnant women, individuals with broken bones, and individuals using crutches. The City shall make every effort to provide persons with accessibility limitations and disabilities with the opportunity to enjoy all recreation facilities provided by the City of Dexter.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Title II, prohibits discrimination, both intentional and unintentional, against individuals with disabilities in all programs, activities and services provided by public entities. It applies to all state and local governments, their departments and agencies and any other agencies or special purpose districts of state or local governments. Public Act 1 of 1966, as amended, also requires that all public facilities, including improved areas used for recreation, meet the barrier free design requirement contained in the State construction code.

Public recreation providers must eliminate any eligibility requirements for participation in programs, activities and services that screen out, or tend to screen out, persons with disabilities; unless they can establish that the requirements are necessary for the provision of the service, program or activity due to legitimate safety requirements. Furthermore, individuals with disabilities may not be excluded from services, programs and activities because existing buildings or park facilities are inaccessible. The Parks and Recreation Commission understands and has prioritized making the City's facilities ADA accessible.

**EXHIBIT 15  
CITY OF DEXTER BASED EMPLOYMENT**

OCCUPATION	1990	2000	2010	% TOTAL 2010
Management, professional, and related occupations	256	586	1170	60.50%
Service Occupations	119	222	187	9.70%
Sales and Office occupations	181	348	362	18.70%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	10	5	N/A	N/A
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	108	118	104	5.40%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	140	121	111	5.70%
INDUSTRY				
Agriculture, forestry and hunting, and mining	17	0	1	0%
Construction	66	90	56	3%
Manufacturing	199	241	178	9%
Whole sale Trade	27	55	52	3%
Retail Trade	122	139	231	12%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	38	19	19	1%
Information	N/A	46	41	2%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	42	58	129	7%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	124	141	383	20%
Educational, health and social services	162	448	642	33%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	30	70	114	6%
Other services (except public administration)	N/A	52	50	3%
Public Administration	13	41	38	2%
TOTAL Employed civilian population	814	1,400	1,934	1,400

Source: 2010 Census

**EXHIBIT 16  
DEXTER HOUSEHOLD INCOME**

Income Category	Households	Percent
Less \$10,000	0	0.00%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	74	4.65%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	165	10.38%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	152	9.56%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	177	11.13%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	265	16.67%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	289	18.18%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	316	19.87%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	110	6.92%
\$200,000 or more	42	2.64%
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>1,590</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$50,510</b>	

Source: 2010 Census

Alternatives municipalities may consider to comply with ADA include: alteration of existing facilities, acquisition or construction of new facilities, relocation of a service or program to an accessible facility, or provision of services at accessible sites.

The implications of the ADA for Dexter are significant. Within parks, parking, sidewalks, picnic tables, play equipment, playground surfaces, and other recreation facilities must be examined to determine if their design creates barriers that prevent use by all segments of the population.

In essence, the ADA and MDNR policies mandate that communities work toward developing "inclusive recreation programs." Inclusive recreation programs identify residents' interests and needs, then address these interests and needs with facilities and programs that are not only barrier-free, but also are adaptable so that everyone can have a pleasant recreation experience. The City will make all efforts to provide barrier free access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Access Guidelines (ADAAG).

## Key Findings

Analysis of socio-economic characteristics of the City provides insight to the needs of its residents.

- The dramatic population increase defines a clear need for structured park planning in the next 20 years.
- 56% population increase over the past decade indicates that the Village must prepare for continued population growth as it relates to the future and the populations need for more recreational facilities.
- The Village must cooperate with community organizations, the Dexter Community Schools, adjacent jurisdictions, and the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority to eliminate the duplication of services, while ensuring that appropriate parks and recreation opportunities are available to all Dexter area residents.
- A large percentage of the population remains in family forming years. A younger population implies that more active recreation is appropriate, such as hiking and biking trails.
- More mini-park playgrounds (tot lots) for small children will be necessary to decrease reliance on school facilities and to account for the increase in children that is anticipated. More community parks for young adults will become necessary to decrease the reliance on the school's facilities and to account for the increased need for active recreation facilities as the population continues to increase.
- Employment trends show residents are working "9 to 5" jobs. This implies usage of parks on weekends and weekday nights.
- Cultural centers are not a priority due to the relatively homogenous population, although a community center with diverse recreation opportunities could help meet the needs of Dexter residents now and in the future as the composition of the population changes.
- A community center or recreation center should be considered to improve access to recreation facilities, programming and arts and culture opportunities. Reliance of the school should be reduced if possible.
- Programs must be examined, too, to be certain they provide recreation and leisure opportunities to all residents, regardless of their social, economic, or physical status.
- Programs and activities for young adults should be increased.
- Accessibility, including hiking trails, boating access and educational opportunities, to valuable water resources surrounding the village must be created and improved.
- The Village should continue to evaluate accessibility and provide solutions for parks with accessibility limitations.

## Administrative Structure

### The City of Dexter

The responsibility for City owned facilities begins with the Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission. Public Act 156 of 1917 gave the community the authority to create a Commission to advise and make recommendations to the Council regarding parks and recreational facilities in the community. Specifically, the Commission is concerned with acquisition, development, maintenance guidance, management, and planning of the parks. Maintenance and operation is done by the City's Department of Public Works. Parks and Recreation Commission activities involve conducting research on parks and recreation facilities, needs, etc. and providing recommendations to the City Council on their findings. The Parks and Recreation Commission consists of seven members, appointed by the City Council for three-year terms. One Parks and Recreation Commission member is an Ex-Officio from the City Council. Regular meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission are held once a month, with the occasional subcommittee meeting, all of which are open to the public. With the advisement of the Parks and Recreation Commission, the City Council delegates day-to-day management of parks to the City Manager, the City's Department of Public Works (DPW), and the Assistant to the City Manager. The Commission is responsible for researching and analyzing the parks and recreation facilities within Dexter and reporting their findings to the City Council.



The Department of Public Works is responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of outdoor parks and recreation facilities. Because the City does not have indoor facilities or programming, the Community Education and Recreation Department of the Dexter Community Schools plays a large role in providing recreation opportunities and meeting recreation needs. The City's parks and recreation maintenance, operations and capital improvements are financed by the general fund. Other funding for parks and recreation comes from private donations, in-kind services, fund raising and various grants, when awarded. The City has not typically bonded for parks and recreation improvements



The Assistant to the City Manager is the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison between the City's Department of Public Works, the City Manager and the City Council. As the liaison, the Assistant to the City Manager works extensively with the Parks and Recreation Commission on evaluating and implementing long term goals, funding, donations and subcommittees as well as provides information on available funding opportunities, current trends in parks and recreation, capital improvement planning and by providing information and research as needed or as requested.

The methods and manner in which the Parks and Recreation Commission carries out its business was established by City ordinance. The Parks and Recreation Commission may also establish subcommittees to conduct research on specific projects and report their findings back to the Commission. After further evaluation and consensus on the findings, the Parks and Recreation Commission Chairperson and liaison present a report to the City Council for consideration. On an annual basis, the Parks and Recreation Commission also re-

evaluates parks and recreation priorities, projects and capital improvements in order to make recommendations to the City Council for upcoming year budget considerations.

**Intergovernmental Cooperation**

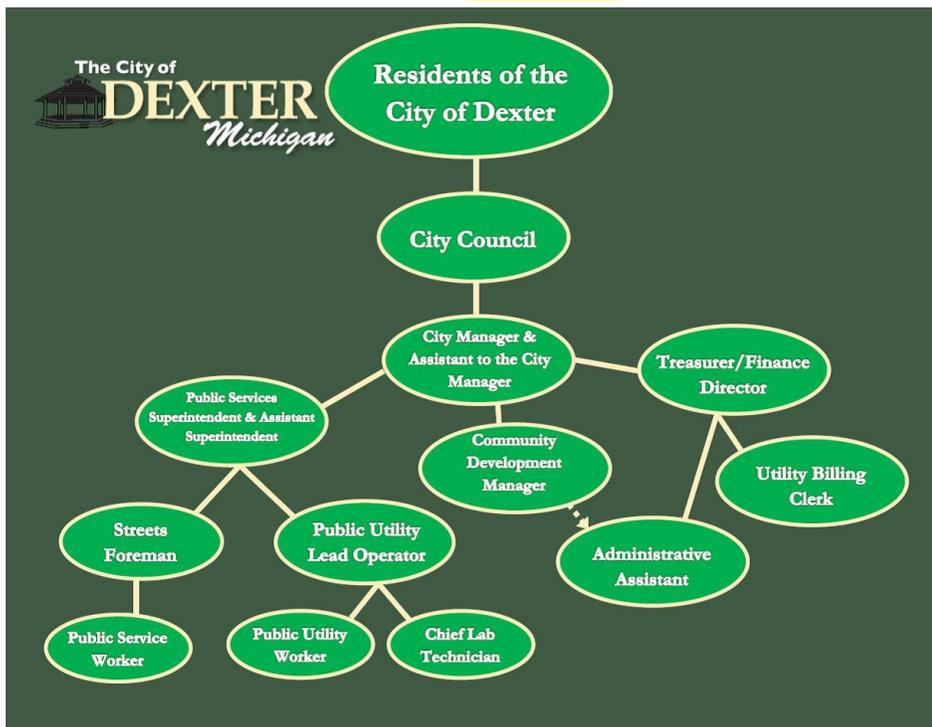
The Parks and Recreation Commission also works closely with the Dexter Community School District to further develop and enhance recreational facilities in the area. The Parks and Recreation Commission is working to improve this relationship in an attempt to develop an efficient and diverse set of recreational opportunities within the City. Consideration is also being given to adding a representative from the schools onto the Parks and Recreation Commission allowing for effective collaboration on the recreation needs of the community.

The City of Dexter and the Dexter Community School District provide recreation activities and facilities services within the City of Dexter. The City owns and maintains seven (7) park sites that primarily provide passive recreational activities throughout the City. The School District owns and maintains a large campus for the three elementary schools, the two middle schools, and the new high school, outside of the City limits. School District recreation facilities are located at each of the schools and are primarily active recreation opportunities.

The Dexter Community School District also operates a Community Education program that provides a limited selection of educational, cultural and recreational activities for District residents. The School Board delegates day-to-day management to the School Superintendent. The principals of each school along with the Director of the Community Education Program are under the authority of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent. The School's facilities are maintained by their Building and Grounds Department.

There is a significant amount of cooperation that occurs between the City and School District -- the City Manager and School Superintendent communicate regularly, the Community Education program regularly uses City parks for School District activities, and Dexter residents take advantage of District facilities when available. Although the school's facilities are generally accessible to the public, facility availability is often limited.

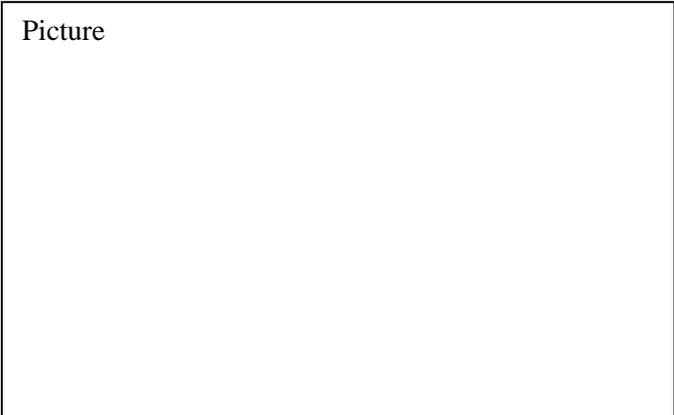
**EXHIBIT 3**



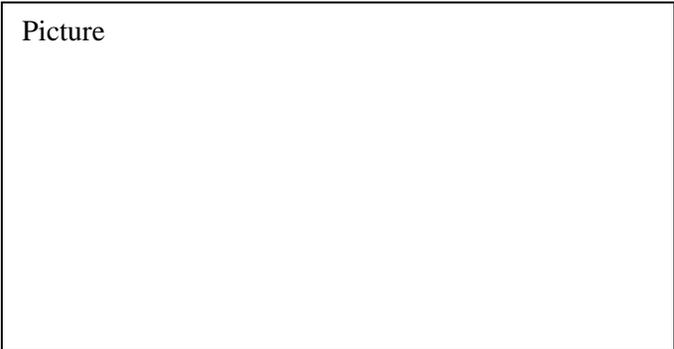
**Funding**

Park activities including acquisition, planning, development, and maintenance are funded by the City's General Fund. The FY 2014-2015 City budget for parks and recreation facilities was \$120,400.

The Parks and Recreation budget is allocated for maintenance of existing parkland, monthly operational costs of work performed by the DPW, landscaping costs, professional services, capital improvements, Parks and Recreation Commission compensation, and Parks Liaison staff time. The DPW staff consists of four employees who all work part-time on the maintenance and operations of the parks, and three seasonal employees. Parks liaison staff time is approximately 5% of the total parks budget. Volunteers help with parks and recreation facilities on a project-by-project basis. Also, volunteers help with general park clean-up and occasional equipment maintenance, such as painting or refinishing benches and picnic tables.



The Dexter Community School District budget for recreational facilities and programming is allocated between community education programs, the community pool, league sports, and summer recreational programs. The schools FY 2007-08 budget was approximately \$800,000. The City's relationship with the schools is to supplement, but not duplicate, many of the activities and facilities provided by the schools. Community sports clubs and non-profits also provide youth recreation services with separate budgets.



It is becoming more apparent to the City Parks and Recreation Commission that the population growth is putting a strain on the time that will be available for residents to use the school facilities. As the population in the Dexter area continues to grow, the residents of the City will be limited in the amount of time that they will be able to use the school facilities, and therefore shift the demand for recreation back on the City and its minimal facilities. As Exhibit 10 shows, the population in the township's surrounding the City increased almost 10,000 people from 1990 – 2000, and over 7,000 people from 2000 – December 2007. The Parks and Recreation Commission has begun to look at the available facilities and the user needs to determine how the City can more adequately provide facilities needed by the City residents.

In general, there are several existing and potential funding sources available to the City for parks and recreation facility improvements. In addition to the City providing resources to parks from the General Fund, there are other sources of funding available for parks and recreation; these include a dedicated millage, user fees, bonds, grants, donations foundations, contractual agreements and conveyances. Following is a brief description of these funding sources:

**General Fund**

The General Fund is the basic operating fund of the City and the traditional source of operating funds for parks and recreation. General Fund revenues are derived from property taxes, state-shared revenues, federal grants, license and permit fees, charges for services, interest on investments, and court fines or forfeitures. If recreation program user fees were to be implemented by the City, they would be channeled through the General Fund.



**Dedicated Millage**

A property tax millage could be used to finance specific parks and recreation projects, such as parkland acquisition or operation of recreation facilities. The dedicated millage has gained favor in many communities because voters are increasingly wary of approving millage increases for non-specified purposes. Approval by referendum is required before a millage can be assessed. A millage is subject to periodic renewal by a vote of the people.



**Recreation Millage**

A district millage through the school could be used to finance the operation costs associated with community education and recreation. This broad area millage could then be used to purchase land and build a facility that is for community use that would not be restricted by school sports and activities.

**User Fees**

Fees can be charged to the users of specific recreation facilities or for enrollment in recreation programs. User fees can provide substantial support for park facilities. Other communities in southeast Michigan have established user fees for swimming pools, tennis courts, wave pools, use of lighted athletic fields, and use of indoor facilities. User fees are a promising source of funding in the municipality if used selectively for specific facilities and services. In 2007 the Parks and Recreation Commission established a user fee for the use of one of the three (3) gazebos in the City. The user fee has been established for use of the gazebos by non-City residents only.

**Bonds**

A number of bond programs can be used to finance construction of parks and recreation facilities.

General Obligation Bonds are issued for specific community projects such as park land acquisition, and may not be used for other purposes. These bonds are usually paid off with property tax revenues.

Revenue Bonds are for construction of public projects that will generate revenue. The bonds are then retired using income generated by the project. Projects such as water main rehabilitation are paid for by water utility revenues.



Special Assessment Bonds are issued to pay for projects that benefit a particular segment of the population. For example, recreation improvements that benefit a defined subdivision or neighborhood could be financed using special assessment bonds, in which case only the residents who receive the benefit would be assessed.

### Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants

Following is a summary of the three viable recreation grant programs available through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (“MDNR”). The *Recreation Passport Grant* Program funds renovation and improvements to existing parks, along with the development of new parks. The minimum grant request is \$7,500 and the maximum request is \$45,000 with a 25% match. *Land and Water Conservation Fund* (“L&WCF”) eligible projects include community recreation and trail way improvements. These are grants of \$30,000 - \$100,000 to local units of government for development of facilities such as ball fields, tennis courts, playgrounds, trails and picnic areas; and including support facilities; renovation of existing facilities and retrofitting of existing facilities to make them accessible to persons with disabilities. Funds are provided through Federal appropriations. The local grant match basis is up to 50%. Current funding priorities are trails, community recreation, green technology, coordination and communication and universal access. *Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund* (“MNRTF”) eligible projects include acquisition of land or rights in land for recreational uses or for protection of the land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty, including additions to existing parks, forest lands or wildlife areas. Development of public outdoor recreation facilities is eligible (such as picnic areas, beaches, boating access, fishing and hunting facilities, winter sports areas, playgrounds, ball fields, tennis courts, and trails). Funds are provided through sale of oil and mineral leases on State land. Local contributions must be at least 25% of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum amount for acquisition projects. The minimum allowable grant for development is \$15,000 and the maximum is \$300,000. Funding priorities for 2014 are trails (including water trails), wildlife/ecological corridors and winter deeryard (acquisition only) and projects within an urban area.

### Creation a Regional Recreation Authority

The City Council may wish to pursue an agreement with surrounding cities, townships and villages to create a broader funding base. Creation of a regional authority could assist in this goal. The City’s neighbor, Scio Township, has expressed interest in acquiring land for the development of a regional greenway connection in the area and has adopted a Greenway Plan. The City of Dexter and Scio Township are beginning to explore coordinated planning for the implementation of both communities’ recreational goals. Eliminating the duplication of services between the City of Dexter, Webster Twp., Lima Twp. and Scio Twp., could substantially improve the recreation opportunities available for all residents in the service area.



### Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

TAP is a competitive grant program that funds projects such as non-motorized paths, streetscapes, and the historic preservation of transportation facilities, which enhance Michigan's multi-modal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options. These investments support place-based economic development by offering transportation choices, promoting walkability, and improving residents’ quality of life.

### Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan Greenways Initiative

The Community Foundation was created to help the seven counties with in southeast Michigan, including Washtenaw County, acquire and construct greenway paths and linkages throughout the region.



## Inland Fisheries Grants

The State of Michigan Fisheries Division awards grants to municipalities to rehabilitate degraded inland fisheries. These grants also encourage education and interpretive programs in fisheries, and protect, maintain and enhance aquatic environments. The Inland Fisheries Grants are provided from the Game and Fish Protection Fund through Part 5, Public Act 451 of 1994, as amended. This grant requires a minimum of 50% local match. This grant has been suspended for 2008.

## Waterways Program Grants

The Parks and Recreation Bureau annually appropriates grant money to applicants requesting funds for the design, construction, engineering, and improvement of recreational boating facilities and boating access facilities.

## Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) – Clean Michigan Initiative

The MDEQ offers funding for implementing water quality protection or improvement activities in approved watershed management plan areas which emphasize protection of high quality waterways.

## Great Lakes Soil and Sedimentation

This program provides \$35,000-100,000 in funding for soil erosion management including vegetation and seeding efforts that may be needed following a dam removal, stream bank restoration, stream bank stabilization, etc.

## Great Lakes Fisheries Trust

This program provides funding for projects that increase access to water including access to fishing opportunities.

## Urban and Community Forestry Program

This program provides funding for forest activities, such as tree inventories, management plans, planting and other maintenance activities. This program is appropriated annually by the Michigan legislature from funds through the United States Department of Agriculture-Forest Service. The Village has received this grant in the past.

Picture

## Arbor Day Mini Grants

Funds provided to local governments and other groups for urban and community forestry activities related to Arbor Day. Funds come from the United States Department of Agriculture-Forest Service and are appropriated annually by the Michigan Legislature.

### DTE Energy Tree Planting Grants

Municipalities within the DTE service area are awarded funds to increase the overall number of properly planted, good condition and health, trees in an area. DTE Energy provides the funds through an annual partnership with the Urban and Community Forestry Program. The City has received this grant in the past.

### Donations

Businesses, corporations, private clubs, and community organizations, and individuals will often contribute in-kind and financially to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit the communities in which they are located. Private sector contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, the donation of land, the provision of volunteer services, or the contribution of equipment or facilities. The Village currently has an endowment fund for any monetary contributions made to the parks.

### Foundations

A foundation is a special non-profit legal entity that is established as a mechanism through which land, cash, and securities can be donated. The assets are disbursed by the foundation Board of Directors according to a predetermined plan. Funding for recreation facilities through foundations is very limited.



### Lease or Contractual Agreements

The City may increase the availability of recreation facilities to its residents by leasing sites and facilities from other recreation providers. For example, the City could agree to help maintain school recreation facilities in exchange for guaranteed availability of the facility to the public. The City could also contract with private entrepreneurs to provide services at City-owned park facilities, such as recreation programming, food service, or facility maintenance. Privatization of services can increase recreation opportunities available to residents, while minimizing City administrative costs.

### Public Use Conveyances

Administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, this program provides State lands, acquired through delinquent taxes, for local government units for public use. Acceptable uses of land acquired under this program include development of local parks.

## Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory

### Parks Classification System

The City of Dexter manages more than XXX acres of parkland, including XXX existing parks, XXXXX, and XXXXX. Parks range in size from XXXXX to XXXXXXXX acres and contain a variety of amenities. The following Summary of Municipal Recreation Resources table and Parks and Recreation Facilities Map summarize the system of Parks and Recreation facilities in Dexter.

For recreation planning purposes, it is useful to categorize parks based on their use potential, these standards are derived from the National Recreation and Park Association (NPRA). For the purposes of this plan, parks are classified as follows:

#### Mini Park

General Description – Mini parks serve the immediate sub-neighborhood depending on their use. These serve a variety of purposes such as tot lots, block parks, play lots, or even a public garden. They are small, usually about the size of the average residential building lot. If equipped for the use of small children, parks should not be situated so that children are required to cross heavily traveled streets to get to them.

Service Area – Less than ¼ mile distance in residential setting.

Size Criteria – Between 2500 square feet and one acre in size.

#### Neighborhood Park

General Description - The neighborhood park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Tables, benches, lawn area, play equipment and play fields are generally the basic facilities. Non-league ball diamonds, skating facilities, and sledding areas may also be included.

Service Area – ¼ to ½ - mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.

Size Criteria – Small neighborhood parks should be between 1 and 5 acres in size, while large neighborhood parks should be 5 to 10 acres in size.

#### Community Park

General Description - Varied environmental conditions exist in community parks, which may be designed to provide areas for intense, active recreational opportunities such as sanctioned football, swimming or baseball meets or games. They may also serve only passive recreational uses. Community parks may include areas of significant natural features, land suitable for intense recreational development, and parks used for community-wide events. Where both are included, sufficient acreage must be made available to protect the fragile areas often associated with natural features from over or inappropriate use.

Service Area – Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and a 1 to 2 mile radius.

Size Criteria – As needed to accommodate desired uses. Approximately 30 to 50 acres.

#### Special Purpose Park

General Description - Special purpose parks cover a broad range of parks and recreation facilities, which may be oriented toward single-purpose use, such as historic preservation or downtown open space. The historical, cultural, environmentally sensitive or other unique resources of the City of Dexter are included in this category as well as plazas, squares, parkways, etc. in commercial areas.

Service Area – Variable; dependent on specific use. No applicable standard.

Size Criteria – Variable

#### Urban Green Space

General Description – Generally lands set aside for preserving drainage corridors, wetlands or other significant community natural resource areas.

Service Area – Variable

Size Criteria - Variable

Source: National Parks and Recreation Association Classification Standards

**City of Dexter Parks and Recreational Components**

Analysis of the City of Dexter’s recreational needs requires evaluation of its present parks and recreational facilities on both the local and regional levels. To provide adequate information for this analysis, this inventory provides information regarding parklands and the availability of facilities/activities whether or not these are located in parklands. Inventory, analysis, and planning must take place within a defined geographic area; this is called the service area. Recreational opportunities may be active or passive. Active recreation often refers to games and athletic activities that are planned or require registration. All other recreational activity is passive.

The City of Dexter has grown in population and in the recreational needs to serve that population. The City has increased its parkland since the 2009 Park and Recreation Facilities Master Plan update due to the development of Mill Creek Park. The City (Village at the time) lost a net of 16 acres of park land between the 2003 and 2009 Master Plan updates due to the donation of the Robert and Nancy Smith Woods to the Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program. In 20XX and 20XX, the City has however created two new parks – Lion’s and First Street - from existing property that it owned. The combined property of Lion’s Park and First Street Park is slightly more than one acre.

The City of Dexter Parks and Recreational Facilities now consists of six (6) parks - Community Park, First Street Park, Lion’s Park, Mill Creek Park, Monument Park, and Peace Park. In total, the Mill Creek Park area is the largest at approximately 24 acres. Monument Park, Mill Creek Park, Lions Park and Peace Park are close to the City’s downtown district and are frequented by many City and non-City residents. With the exception of Mill Creek Park and Community Park, all of the parks are passive, open space parks. Monument Park and Lions Park have signature City gazebos and Mill Creek and Community Park have play structures, swings, grills, picnic tables and benches. Community Park is an active park with an asphalt path, play structures, a gazebo, basketball court, grills, picnic tables, swings, spring toys and benches. First Street Park has been developed as a horseshoe-throwing park.

Local recreation areas serve residents of a specific community. They may also be publicly or privately held, and may be designed to provide for a single recreational activity or multiple recreational activities. For the purpose of the Village of Dexter’s Plan, Exhibit 20 defines the local service area, size, and level of service standard per 1,000 population according to park type. Along with this table is the inventory of existing park facilities in Dexter. The location of these local facilities is shown in Exhibit 21.

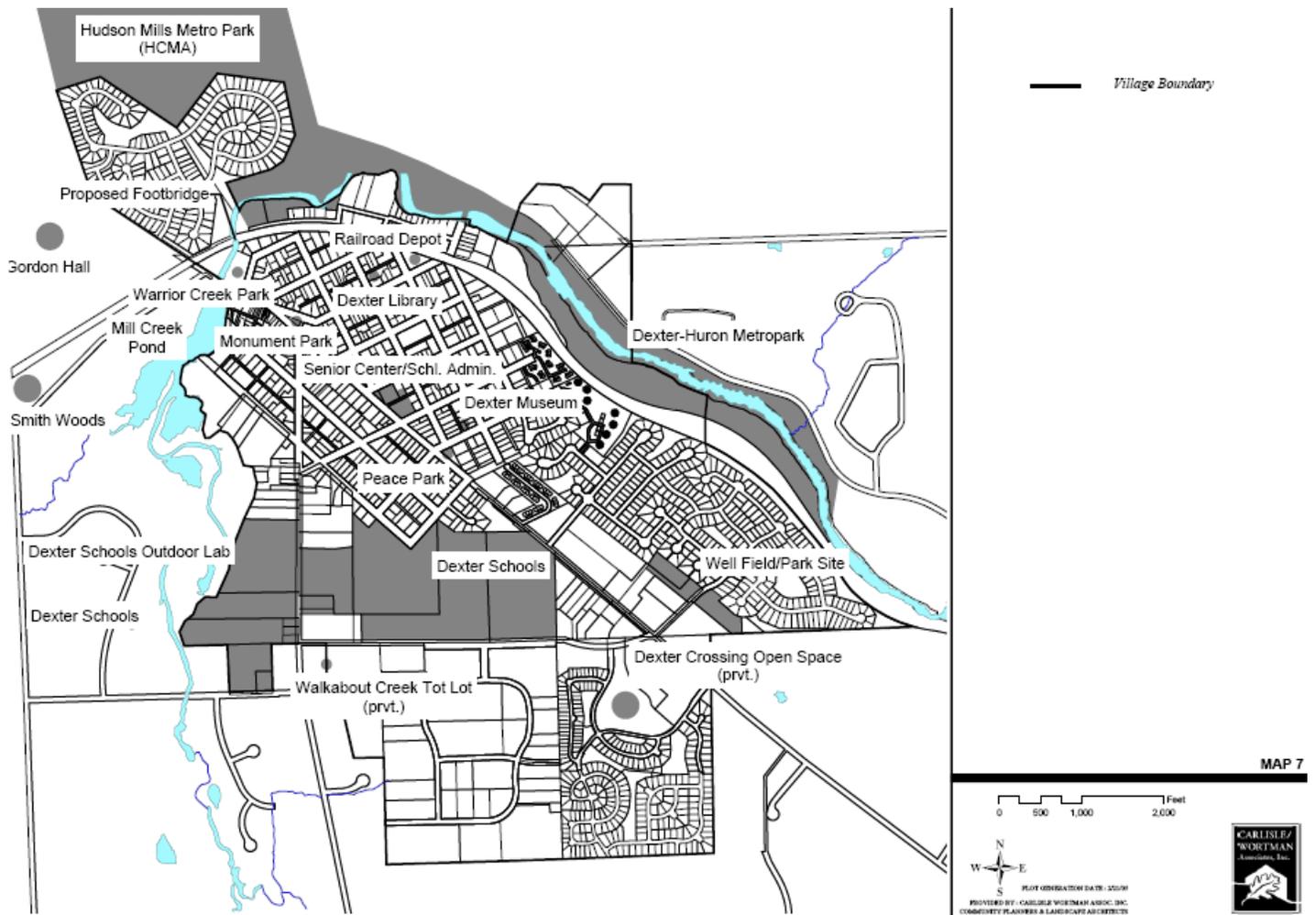
**EXHIBIT XXXXX  
CITY PARK CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS**

City Owned Parks	Park Type	Recommended Size	Actual Size	Outdoor Facilities
Monument Park	Mini-Park	0.05 – 1 acre	0.3 acres	Picnic Area, Benches, Drinking Fountain, Gazebo/Bandstand
Lion’s Park	Mini-Park	0.05 – 1 acre	0.25 acres	Small gazebo, benches
First Street Park	Mini-Park	0.05 – 1 acre	0.94 acres	Horseshow pits, picnic tables, Porta-Johns, grill
Peace Park	Mini-Park	0.05 – 1 acre	0.2 acres	Picnic Areas, Benches, Reflection Areas
Community Park	Neighborhood Park	2-10 acres	5 acres	Pavilion, picnic tables, walking trail, basketball court, fun hoops, grills, play equipment, swings, benches, Porta-Johns
Mill Creek Park	Community Park	10-50 acres	24 acres	Playground Equipment, Picnic Areas, Scenic Viewing Areas, 2 Porta-Johns

**Source:** January 2008 Inventory, Village Staff and Dexter Community Schools.



**EXHIBIT 21  
CITY OF DEXTER – FACILITY LOCATIONS MAP**



**EXHIBIT XXXX  
PRIVATE PARK CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS**

Private Parks/ Open Space	Park Type	Recommended Size	Actual Size	Outdoor Facilities
Westridge of Dexter	Neighborhood Park	2-10 acres	2 acres	Benches, play structure, swings, picnic tables, gravel walking pathway
Huron Farms	Mini-Park	0.05 – 1 acre	1.5 acres	Benches, play structure, swings
Dexter Crossing	Neighborhood Park	2-10 acres	7 acres	Benches, picnic tables, play structure, asphalt walking path

**Source:** January 2008 Inventory, Village Staff and Dexter Community Schools.

### Community Park

Location: Ryan Drive off of Dexter Ann Arbor Road

Area: 5 Acres

Designation: Neighborhood Park

Amenities: Pavilion, picnic tables, walking trail, basketball court, fun hoops, grills, play equipment, swings, benches, Porta-Johns.

The Dexter Community Park is located on Ryan Drive and is open to the public. In the past few years, a walking path, gazebo, benches, basketball court and other improvements have been made to this park.



### First Street Park

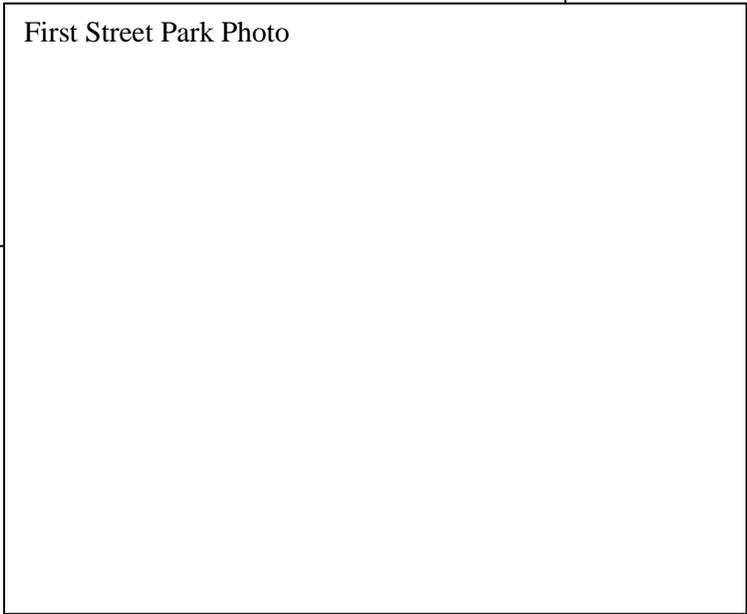
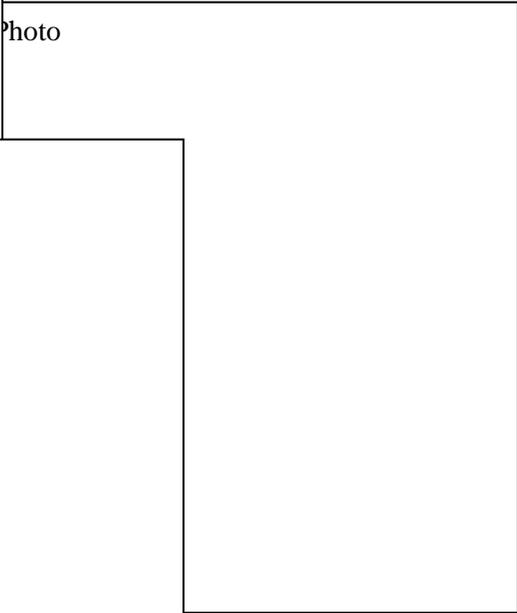
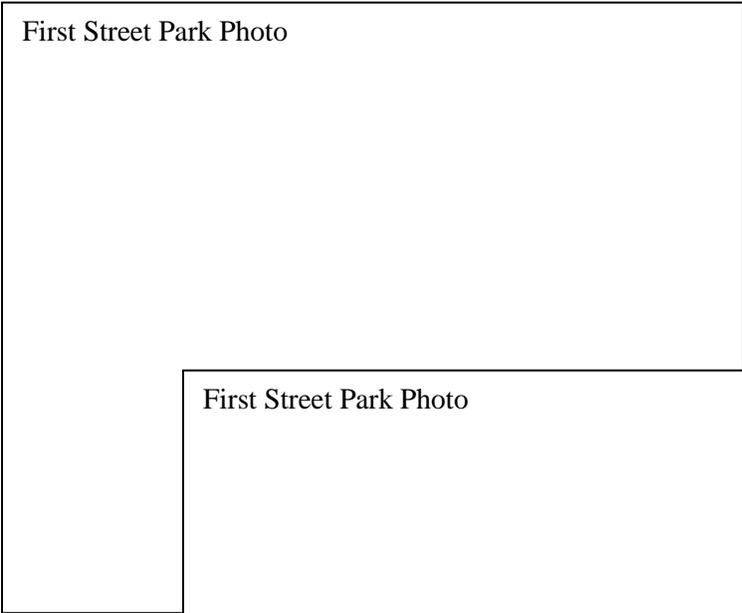
Location: 2<sup>nd</sup> Street near Dover

Area: .94 acres

Designation: Mini-Park

Amenities: Horseshoe tossing, porta johns, picnic tables and grills.

The First Street Park is located at the end of Edison Street along the railroad tracks. The park is equipped with horseshoe pits, picnic tables and a porta potty during the summer months.



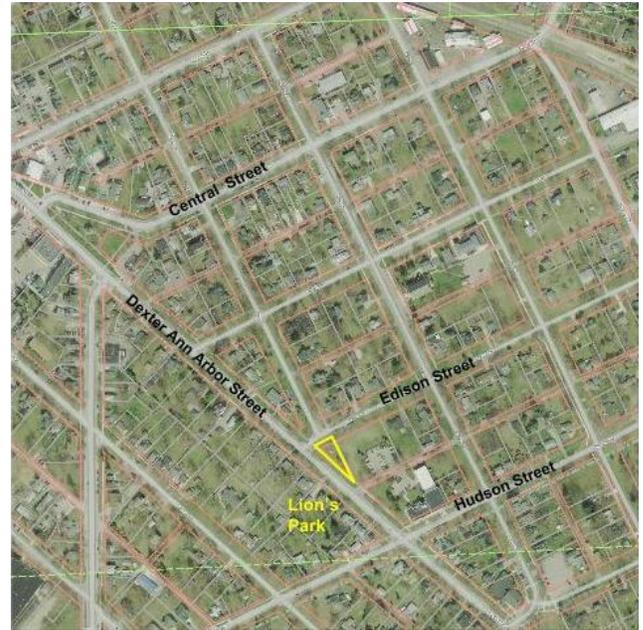
### Lion's Park

Location: Ann Arbor Street and Edison Street

Area: .25 acres

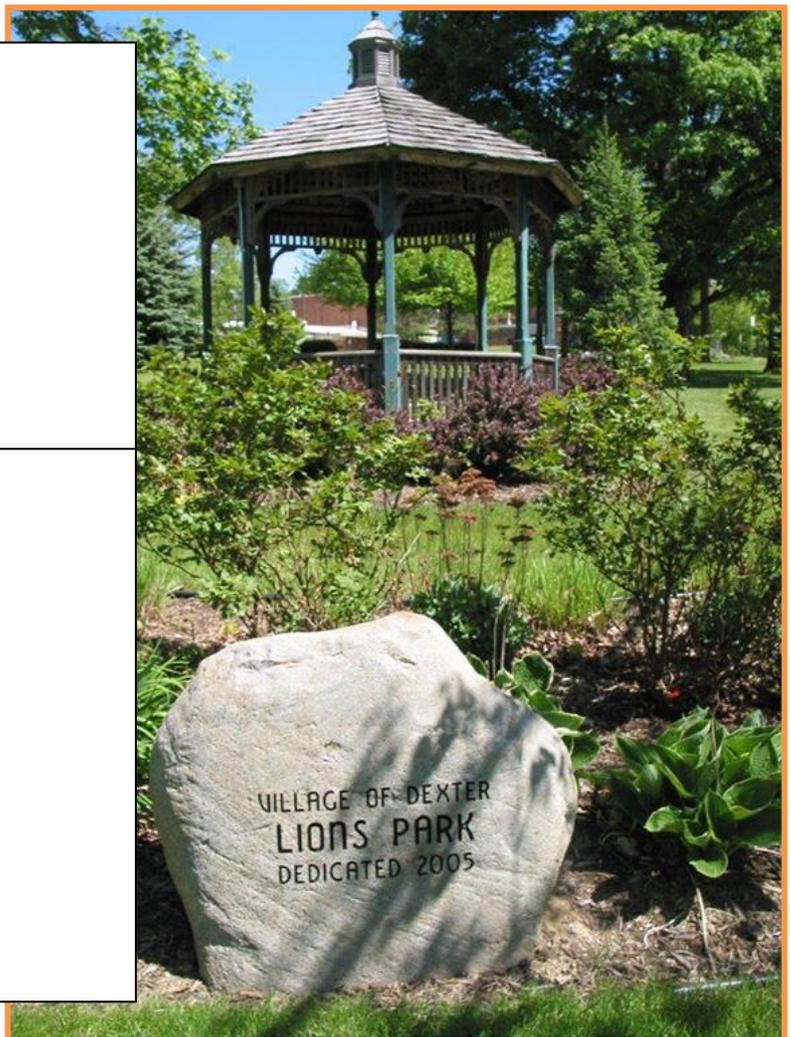
Designation: Mini-Park

Amenities: Small gazebo, benches, landscaping, sidewalks.



Lion's Park Photo

Lion's Park Photo

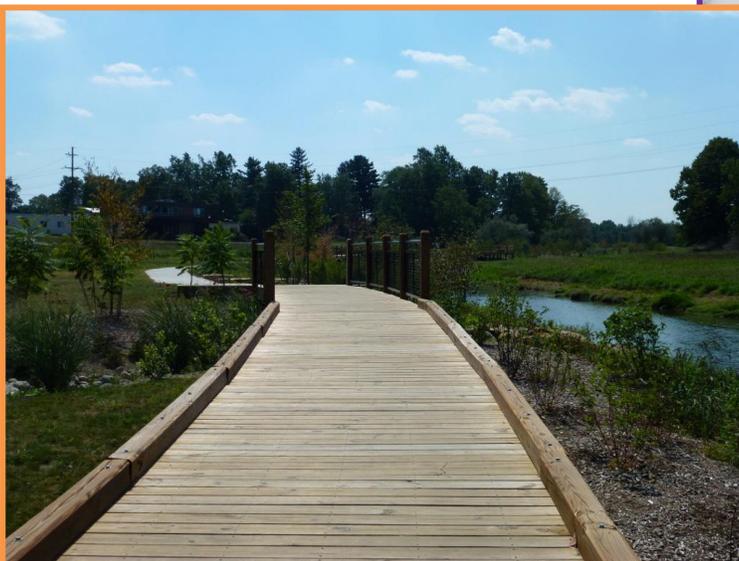
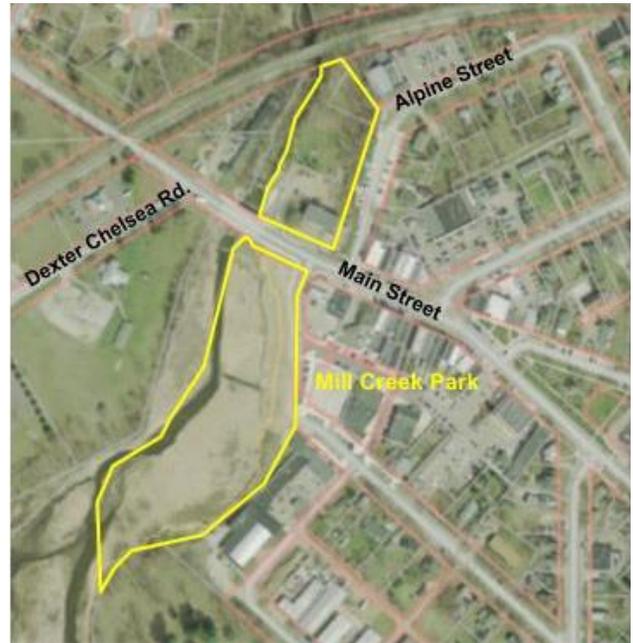


**Mill Creek Park**

Location: Alpine Street and Jeffords at Main St.  
 Area: 27 acres  
 Designation: Community Park  
 Amenities: Playground Equipment, Picnic Areas, Scenic Viewing Areas, 2 Porta-Johns.

Mill Creek Park on the north side of main Street (formerly Warrior Creek Park) is a 2.15 acre park located behind the fire station and next to the Mill Creek, which flows northeast into the Huron River. In 2012, north side of the Main Street Bridge, a pedestrian bridge was constructed. The 1/4mile pedestrian path leads visitors across the Mill Creek and through wetland habitat before exiting into the Westridge of Dexter neighborhood. An additional 5 miles of trail was constructed along the Huron River, connecting the City to the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authorities (HCMA) Hudson Mills Park. A wooden stairway was added to provide access from the park up the steep hillside to connect to the Dexter District Library and the Farmer’s Market.

Mill Creek Park, on the south side of Main Street, is approximately an additional 4 acres of the park developed in the former Mill Pond Dam impoundment. The City received a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant and a Waterways Infrastructure Grant in 2009 to develop non-motorized boat launches, a trail network, natural features and fishing docks to reconnect people with the Mill Creek. Park development started in 2011 and the grand opening was held on August 11, 2012.



### Monument Park

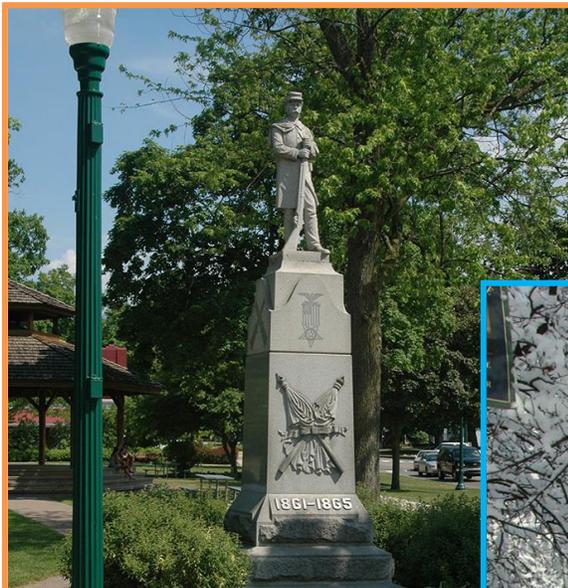
Location: 8558 Ann Arbor Street

Area: .3 acres

Designation: Mini-Park

Amenities: Gazebo, drinking fountain, benches, picnic tables, special events, sidewalks.

Monument Park is the City's .3-acre town center, where community celebrations such as Dexter Daze, Apple Daze and Victorian Christmas are held. It has a gazebo for concerts and other cultural events, providing a community gathering place in the downtown district. In the winter, there is also an outdoor ice rink located within the park.



### Peace Park

Location: Ann Arbor Street and Inverness Street

Area: .2 acres

Designation: Mini-Park

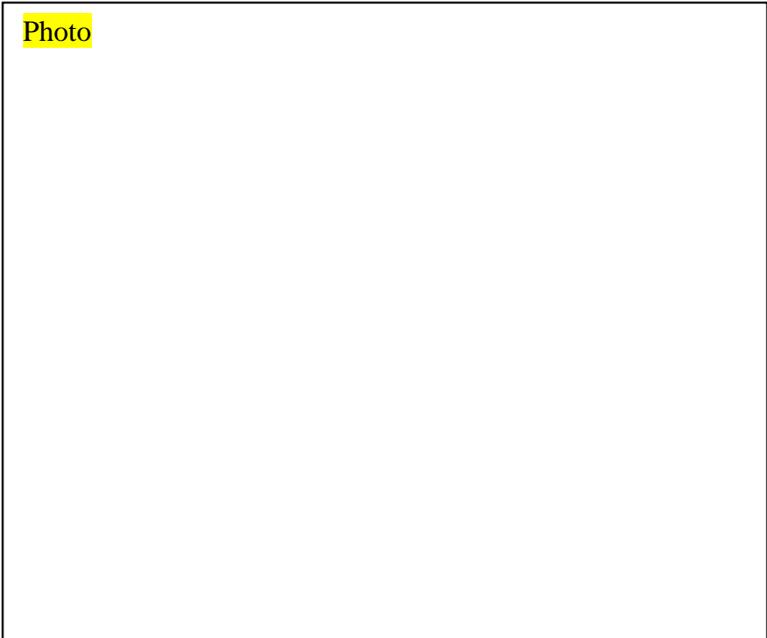
Amenities: benches, picnic tables, perimeter sidewalk and peaceful landscape design.

Peace Park is a .2-acre mini-park at the corner of Ann Arbor and Inverness Streets and is east of downtown. It has picnic tables and benches for residents to enjoy. The mission of Peace Park is to encourage residents to relax and reflect on the cultural and social diversity of the City.



**Dexter School District Facilities**

The School District is the major source of active recreation programs and facilities. Aside from the yearly team sports that they provide for the students, the schools provide a Community Education and Recreation Department that facilitates a wide variety of activities for City and School District residents of all ages. For example, they offer basic sports programs, aerobics, arts and crafts courses, martial arts classes, swim lessons, and many other activities. These are all operated with user fees.



Dexter also has many community organizations. These clubs include (but are not limited to) the Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, American Business Women’s Association, Boy Scouts, Dexter Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association, Think Dexter First, Dexter Rotary Club, Senior Citizens Group, Dexter Community Band, Dexter Area Historical Society, Faith in Action and the Domestic Violence Support Group. Annual events that take place in the City include Dexter Daze, Apple Days, Victorian Christmas, and an Ice Cream Social. Additional events throughout the summer months include the Summer Series events, which provide various types of entertainment in the downtown parks. The Community Education and Recreation Department also hosts many events each year, including craft fairs, auctions, and parties for community groups.

The Dexter Community School District has built three (3) new schools over the last ten years; a middle school, an elementary school and a new high school, and the former high school being retrofitted to an intermediate school for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Additional parks and recreation facilities were provided at each new school and old facilities were retrofitted as necessary.

**EXHIBIT XX  
Dexter School District Recreational Facilities**

School	Location	Site Size (Acres)	Type	Outdoor Facilities
Cornerstone Elementary School	7480 Dan Hoey Rd.	5 Acres	Public School/ Neighborhood Park	Playground Equipment, Walking path
Wylie Elementary School	3060 Kensington St.	10 Acres	Public School/ Neighborhood Park	Playground Equipment, Walking Trail, 1 baseball, 1 softball, Indoor Community Pool
Creekside Intermediate School	2615 Baker Rd.	25 Acres	Public School/ Neighborhood Park	Playground equipment, 3 football/soccer, 2 softball, 1 baseball field
Mill Creek Middle School	7305 Dexter Ann Arbor Rd.	5 Acres	Public School/ Neighborhood Park	6 tennis courts, 2 soccer fields, 2 softball fields
Dexter High School	2200 North Parker Rd.	30 Acres	Public School/ Neighborhood Park	10 tennis courts, 3 soccer fields, 3 basketball courts, 2 baseball and 1 softball field, Indoor Pool

**Source:** January 2008 Inventory, Village Staff and Dexter Community Schools.

## EXHIBIT 25

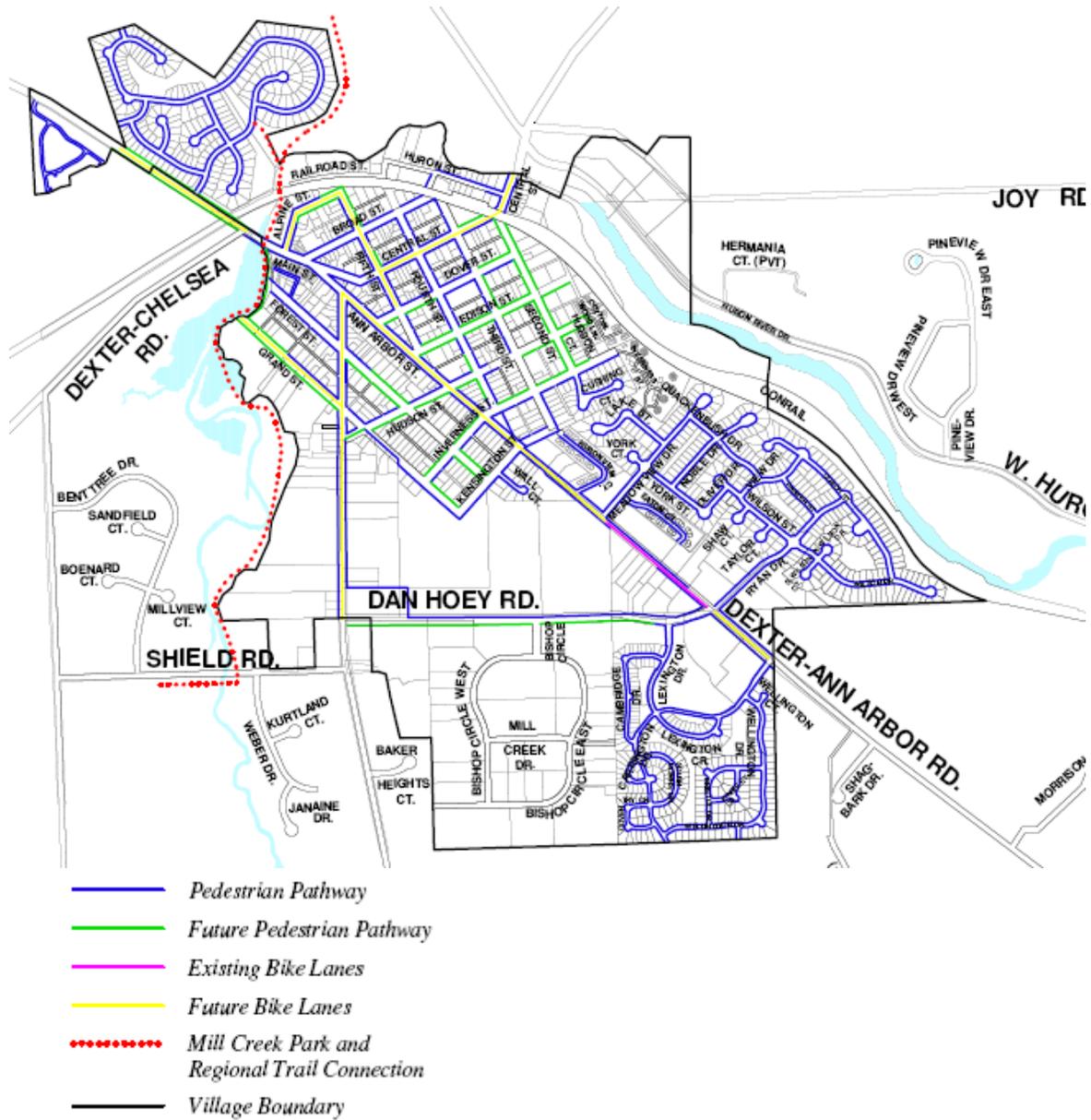
## RECREATION FACILITIES – CITY OF DEXTER AND DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

	Recommended Standard	Existing Municipal/ Public Facilities	Existing School Facilities	Total Existing Public Facilities	Recommended Need in Dexter	Surplus/(Deficiency) in Dexter
Basketball Courts (3,5)	1 / 5,000	1	9	10	1	10
Tennis Courts	1 / 2,000	0	14	14	3	11
Volleyball Courts	1 / 5,000	0	3	3	1	2
Baseball Fields	1 / 5,000	0	4	4	1	3
Softball	1 / 5,000	0	6	6	1	5
Football Fields	1 / 20,000	0	2	2	1	1
Soccer Fields	1 / 10,000	0	7	7	1	6
Golf Course, 9-hole	1 / 25,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Golf Course, 18-hole	1 / 50,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Driving Range	1 / 50,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Swimming Pool – Indoor	1 / 20,000	0	2	2	1	1
Swimming Pool – Outdoor	1 / 40,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Ice Rinks – Indoor	1 / 50,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Ice Rinks – Outdoor	1 / 20,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Archery Range	1 / 50,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Running Track (1/4 mile)	1 / 20,000	0	1	1	1	0
Playgrounds	1 / 3,000	2	4	6	1	5
Picnic Areas	None Published	4	0	4	N/A	N/A
Cross Country Ski Trails (miles)	1 / 10,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Nature Trails (miles)	1 / 20,000	1	1	2	1	1
Sledding Hills	1 / 40,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Bicycle Trails (miles)	1 / 40,000	0	0	0	1	(1)
Horseback Riding Trails (miles)	1 / 50,000	0	0	0	1	(1)

## Notes

- 1 Recommended number of each facility per unit population (National Recreation and Park Association/Michigan Recreation Opportunity Standards)(Appendix Q).
- 2 Based on July 2008 SEMCOG population estimate of 3,593.
- 3 Two backboards were considered to be equal to 1 court for the purposes of this analysis.
- 4 All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.
- 5 Not regulation courts – (located at elementary schools, ½ courts, etc.)
- 6 Indoor/Outdoor

**EXHIBIT 22b**  
**CITY OF DEXTER – NON-MOTORIZED PATHWAYS MAP**



## Non-Public Recreational Facilities

Private recreation developments are important because they can relieve the demand and use pressures on public facilities. These include for-profit and not-for profit facilities and clubs and can address a wide range of interests.

Due to a recent trend in Michigan, many residential developments have come before the City with proposals to develop neighborhoods and incorporate their own private open space/park area (see Appendix F). This type of development is called cluster or open space development and is possible by clustering homes on to smaller lots. The remaining property is preserved as common land for the residents of the neighborhood. More opportunity for this method of development was created by the annexations to the Village in the 1990's. **The City will encourage this type of park development in the future and has adopted standards for 50% open space in future subdivision communities.**

### EXHIBIT XX DEXTER NON-PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Dexter Private Facilities		
Facility	Type	Street
CrossFit Dexter	CrossFit Studio	3219 Broad St.
Dancer's Edge	Dance Studio	3115 Broad St.
Michigan Academy of Dance & Music	Dance Studio	7035 Dexter-Ann Arbor Rd.
Stuido 3 Performing Arts Center	Dance Studio	7200 Dan Hoey Rd.
Curves	Gym	7200 Dan Hoey Rd.
Dexter Wellness Center	Gym	2810 Baker Rd.
Snap Fitness	Gym	7007 Dexter-Ann Arbor Rd.
B C Yu Martial Arts Center	Martial Arts	5204 Jackson Rd.
Choi Kwang Do	Martial Arts	7200 Dan Hoey Rd.
Dexter Karate Academy	Martial Arts	3115 Broad St.
Master Lockman's Black Belt Academy	Martial Arts	8110 Main St.
Dexter Crossing	Private Park	Neighborhood
Huron Farms	Private Park	Neighborhood
Orchard River Hills	Private Park	Neighborhood
Westridge of Dexter	Private Park	Neighborhood
Encore Musical Theater	Theater/Theatre	3126 Broad St.

**Source:** January 2008 Inventory, Village Staff and Dexter Community Schools.

**EXHIBIT XX**  
**ANN ARBOR REGIONAL NON-PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

Ann Arbor Private Facilities			
Facility	Type	Facility	Facility
Ann Arbor country Club	Country Club	PKSA Karate	Martial Arts
Liberty Sports Club	Country Club	Quest Martial Arts	Martial Arts
Arts in Motion Dance Studio	Dance Studio	Shorinji Kempo	Martial Arts
Dance Theatre Studio	Dance Studio	Thrive Martial Arts and Fitness	Martial Arts
Kenville Studios Dance & Creativity	Dance Studio	URSA Academy	Martial Arts
Swing City Dance Studio	Dance Studio	Planet Rock	Rock Climbing
Sylvia Studio of Dance	Dance Studio	Ann Arbor Civic Theatre	Theater/Theatre
Ann Arbor YMCA	Gym	Arbor Opera Theatre	Theater/Theatre
Anytime Fitness	Gym	Arthur Murray Theatre	Theater/Theatre
Anytime Fitness	Gym	Community Theatres	Theater/Theatre
Bally's Total Fitness	Gym	Goodrich Quality 16	Theater/Theatre
COVAL Fitness	Gym	Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre	Theater/Theatre
LA Fitness	Gym	Michigan Theater	Theater/Theatre
One on One Athletic Club	Gym	State Theater	Theater/Theatre
Planet Fitness	Gym	A2 Yoga Works	Yoga Studio
Studio West Fitness	Gym	Bikram Yoga	Yoga Studio
Wideworld Sports Center	Gym	Center for Yoga	Yoga Studio
Ann Arbor Ice Cube	Ice Arena	Harmony Yoga of Ann Arbor	Yoga Studio
Veterans Memorial Ice Arena	Ice Arena	Ita Yoga Studio	Yoga Studio
Arctic Coliseum Inc.	Ice Arena	Russayog Yoga Studio	Yoga Studio
Yost Ice Arena	Ice Arena	Siddha Yoga Meditation Center	Yoga Studio
Keith Hafner's Karate	Martial Arts	The Yoga Room	Yoga Studio
Okinawan Karate	Martial Arts	The Yoga Space	Yoga Studio
		Yoga Focus	Yoga Studio

**Source:** January 2008 Inventory, Village Staff and Dexter Community Schools.

## Regional Parks and Recreational Opportunities

Regional recreation areas generally serve residents from the various communities in the regional service area. They may be publicly or privately held and may be designed to provide for a single recreational activity or multiple activities. A list of regional recreational opportunities is found in Exhibit 17. The location of regional facilities located in Southeast Michigan is shown in Exhibit 18.

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation (WCPAR) role within the City of Dexter is to be an active liaison to local governments and to assist local units in providing facilities and opportunities that local governments cannot. The WCPAR's mission is: "To enhance the quality of life in the County by promoting active lifestyles, efficiently providing high quality facilities and programs reflective of current and anticipated recreational needs of the County residents and visitors, with particular emphasis on preserving fragile lands, water quality, wildlife habitat, creating pedestrian and greenway connections and providing high quality services to those of all backgrounds." The WCPAR currently owns and operates 29 parks (14 parks and 15 preserves) with over 2,930 acres of parkland, including a 160-acre park at Independence Lake just 5 miles north of the Village and the recently acquired Robert and Nancy Smith Woods Preserve donated by the Village of Dexter. Washtenaw County parks included areas for field games, gardening, skiing, nature interpretation, picnicking, swimming, hiking and biking.

The Southeast Michigan region is serviced by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA), which controls approximately 24,000 acres of land within five (5) counties. Washtenaw County has three regional parks all within 7 miles of the Village limits, totaling 1,800 acres. Hudson Mills Metropark, the largest of the three, 1,595 acres, provides multiple recreation, learning, and group facilities and activities. Dexter-Huron Metropark, a 120-acre park, also provides many recreation and family recreation opportunities. Delhi Metropark, a 53-acre Metropark also along the Huron River provides play areas, picnicking, non-motorized boat and canoe rental. All of the HCMA parks within Washtenaw County are along the Huron River Corridor and are planned to be part of the Border to Border trail initiative being led by Washtenaw County Parks.

The HCMA is the largest provider of parkland surrounding the Village of Dexter. The HCMA is also actively working towards increasing parkland around Dexter through park connections within the County's regional corridor and greenways project. The Village of Dexter is working with the HCMA and Washtenaw County Parks to connect the Village with a regional trail system, and to link the Village's parks into the regional system along the Huron River. The Village and the schools are also working together to extend the system along the Mill Creek south of the Village from Warrior Creek Park to the school's future nature corridor and outdoor lab (Shield Road). Exhibit 19 is an inventory of Metro Park facilities.

Regional parks are auto oriented; that is, at a minimum, adequate parking for park facility users is provided. They offer a variety of recreational activities providing access to active and/or passive pursuits such as: court games, field sports, picnic facilities, play equipment, shelter and restroom facilities. Ideally, significant, local natural resources will be included, and thereby these resources will obtain some protection, within these parks.

Within the Village of Dexter boundaries, there are no regional parks. As mentioned previously, residents are served by the various regional parks in the Washtenaw County area, which can all be accessed via waterways and roadways surrounding the Village and Warrior Creek Park.

**EXHIBIT 17  
INVENTORY OF REGIONAL RECREATION FACILITIES**

Regional Public Facilities	
1. Portage Lake Public Access	6. Pinckney Recreation Area
2. Whitmore Lake Public Access	7. Chelsea State Game Area
3. Ann Arbor City Recreation System	8. Waterloo Recreation Area
4. Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Education and Recreation	9. Metroparks
5. Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation	a. Delhi Parks
a. Albert Miller Preserve	b. Dexter Huron Park
b. Robert & Nancy Smith Preserve	c. Hudson Mills Park
c. Burns-Stokes Preserve	10. University of Michigan
d. Brauer Preserve	a. Libraries
e. Devine Preserve	b. Museums
f. Osbourne Mill Park	c. Theaters
g. Independence Lake Park	d. Sports Facilities

Source: January 2008 Inventory, Village Staff

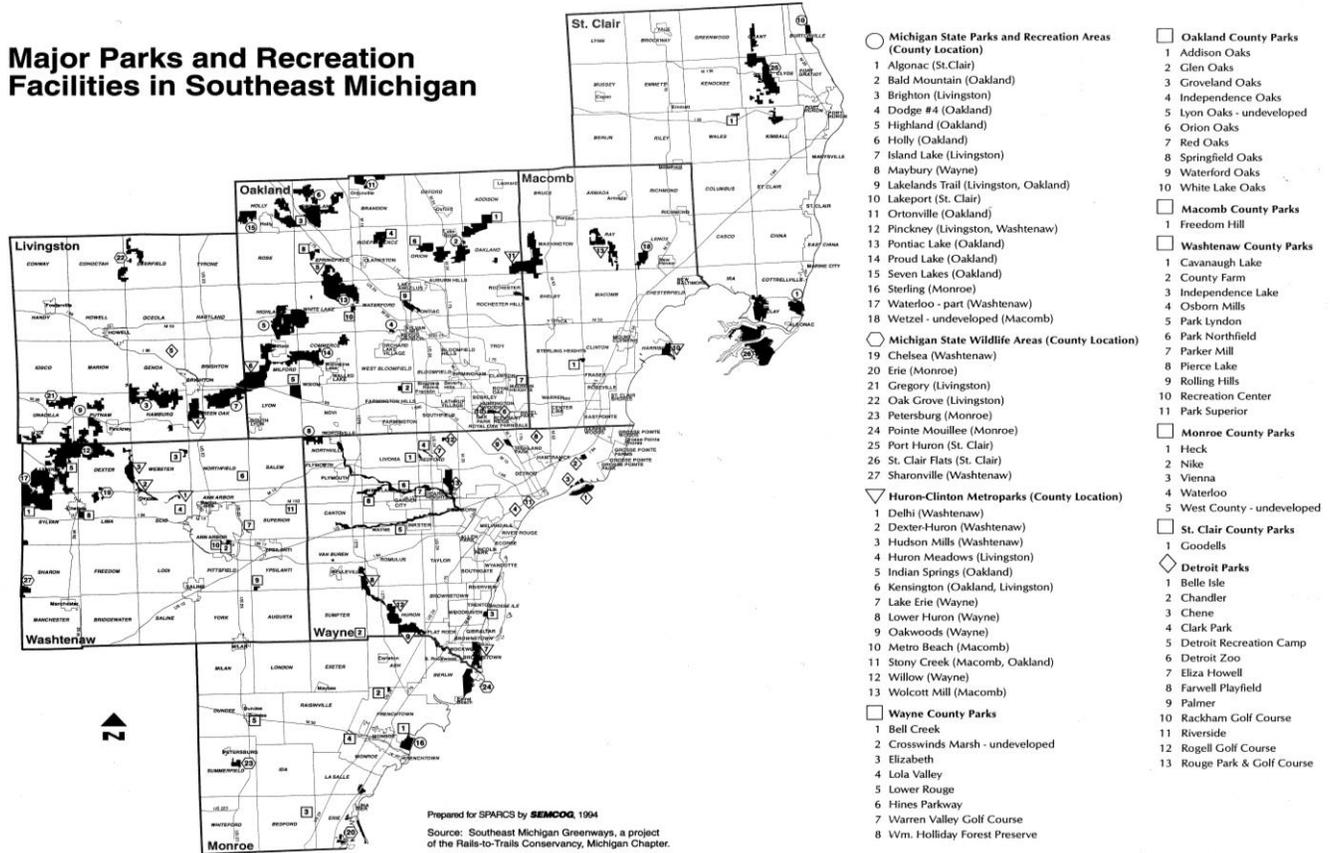
**EXHIBIT 19  
INVENTORY OF HURON CLINTON METROPOLITAN PARKS**

Metro Park Facilities Activities	Hudson Mills	Dexter-Huron	Delhi
<b>Size</b>	1,595 Acres	120 Acres	53 Acres
<b>Picnicking</b>	P	P	P
<b>Drinking Water/Toilets</b>	WT	WT	WT
<b>Rental Shelters</b>	RS	RS	RS
<b>Play Areas-Adventure Play</b>	PAP	P	PAP
<b>Bathhouse-Food Service</b>	FS		
<b>Boat or Canoe Rental</b>			CR
<b>Canoeing</b>	C	C	C
<b>Group Rental Facility</b>	GF		
<b>Outdoor Entertainment Program</b>	EP		
<b>Geocaching</b>	G	G	G
<b>Fishing</b>	F	F	F
<b>Golf</b>	G		
<b>Court Games</b>	CG		
<b>Hike-Bike Trail</b>	BH		
<b>Hiking and Fitness Trail</b>	H	H	H
<b>Nature-Discovery Trails</b>	NT		
<b>Cross-Country Skiing</b>	S	S	S
<b>Cross-Country Ski Rental-Food</b>	SRF		
<b>Scenic Views</b>	V	V	V
<b>Interpretive Programs</b>	IP		

Source: Huron Clinton Metropark Guide 2006

**EXHIBIT 18**  
**REGIONAL FACILITIES LOCATION MAP**

**Major Parks and Recreation Facilities in Southeast Michigan**



**Regional Trail Systems**

- Trail Towns
- B2B
- Washtenaw County
- Governor's Trail

**State Parks and Recreation Components**

The State of Michigan is the largest provider of recreational lands with approximately 15,800 acres within Washtenaw County, primarily located northwest and northeast of the Village in the Pinckney and Waterloo Recreation Areas. The State of Michigan's role in parks and recreation is more specialized than that of local or regional government. Washtenaw County's largest provider of parks and recreation facilities is the State with 15,800 acres of land containing a variety of activities, many of which are near the Village of Dexter. The State's strongest asset is their ability to acquire and develop property for unique parks that other entities may not be able to do. The State's goal is to acquire property near urban areas to preserve open spaces and undisturbed areas.



The following are the types of parks that the NPRA uses to evaluate park facilities based on service area and park amenities:

## Linear Parks

Linear parks, also called greenways, are lands developed to provide varying means of recreational travel generally between important elements of a service area. They may also serve to protect and/or provide access to various recreational resources including the various types of parklands previously discussed. Modes of travel can include hiking, biking, skiing, snowmobiling, horseback riding, canoeing, and driving.

Linear parks can serve as links between various parks, neighborhoods, schools, libraries and the commercial areas and can therefore include elements from wooded trails to sidewalks. Linear parks may be built along road or utility rights-of way, rivers, or bluff lines. There is no recommended size requirement but they should be wide enough to protect any natural features and promote usage. There is a need and potential for open space connections in the Village of Dexter and the surrounding area.

Development of a greenway system would enhance the village character of the area and create continuity for residents between uses within the community and the surrounding townships. The Village has also prioritized the need for a greenway corridor linkage with the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Parks and Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation. The Village has begun to look into ways to connect fragmented annexed areas across the Mill Creek and Huron River at Warrior Creek Park and has jointly pursued funding with the Washtenaw County Road Commission and Washtenaw County Parks. The following Hudson Mills Metro Park map and the Washtenaw County Border to Border trail map, Exhibit 22 and 22a, shows the proposed Hike/Bike Trail greenway system, and demonstrates what a linear park may look like. The Village hopes to connect the Hike/Bike pathway in the Village with a Village linear pathway from the Main Street Bridge and Warrior Creek Park south to the Dexter Community Schools property and Shield Road as part of the Mill Creek linear park following the removal of the Main Street dam. The Village's pathway vision is also shown in Exhibit 22b.

## Conservancy

A conservancy primarily provides for protection of a natural, cultural or historical (including pre-historic) area and only secondarily may be considered for recreational use. Smith Woods Preserve is a Washtenaw County conservancy within ½ mile of the Dexter park system.

## Park and Recreation Facilities Inventory

Exhibit 24 identifies the Village of Dexter's public parks and recreation areas with the facilities each area provides. This information will be used later in the plan to determine whether there are any deficiencies in the level of service based upon the population of the Village. Additional local recreation opportunities not considered include Dexter Area Library, Dexter Museum, Dexter Mill, Dexter's Historical Railroad Station, various private exercise center's and Tot Lots throughout the Village.

**EXHIBIT 22**  
**EXISTING HUDSON MILLS HIKE/BIKE TRAIL**



**EXHIBIT 22a**  
**PROPOSED HIKE/BIKE AND BORDER TO BORDER TRAIL CONNECTIONS**



**Basis For Plan**

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has adopted a set of standards, based upon those developed by the National Parks and Recreation Association (NPR), to determine the need for recreation facilities in each community. These standards establish 1) the specific recreation facilities such as tennis courts or soccer fields, which should be available based upon the population of the community; and 2) the “service areas,” or number and type of parks that should be available to residents within a certain distance of their homes. Each of these standards will be applied to the existing inventory of community-wide and school district recreation facilities to determine if deficiencies are present. The results of this analysis will be incorporated into the Action Plan.

**Evaluation of the Village’s Parks and Recreation Facilities**

The National Parks and Recreation Association (NPR) has developed standards to help communities across the country determine park and recreation facility needs based on population. The standards are used much less now due to the varying needs and composition of different communities, although the standards are still used as a guide. The Village of Dexter still uses the standards as a guide, although the standards are generally for much larger communities, because no other standards currently exist.

The Village’s available recreation relies heavily on the Dexter Community Schools for many of its facilities. With the Village having only approximately 33 acres of public parkland and approximately 10 acres of private parkland, the schools provide multiple indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities. The Dexter Community

Schools provides the Village with between 75 and 80 acres of community parkland, although 30 to 40 of those acres are at the new high school located outside the current Village limits. The schools outdoor recreation facilities are always open to the residents of the Village, with the exception of the indoor pool and other indoor recreation facilities that are used on a daily basis by the school and the Community Education Program. The Community Education Program administered through the Dexter Community Schools is open to the residents of the Village although space and schedule limitations do exist.

The Village currently has adequate parks and recreation facilities when the schools facilities are considered, but it should be noted again that use of the school facilities is somewhat limited. The Village and the Parks and Recreation Commission would like to become self-sufficient with the ability to provide the substantial portion of the variety of recreation opportunities for all age residents, within the context of limited resources and the desire to avoid the duplication of services. The schools provide four (4) baseball fields, six (6) softball fields, seven (7) soccer fields, two (2) football fields, including one track, ten (20) tennis courts, three (3) outdoor basketball courts, three (3) indoor regulation size gyms, three (3) other non-regulation gyms, and two (2) indoor pools all administered through the school's Community Education and Recreation Department.

One of the goals of the Village of Dexter and the Parks and Recreation Commission is to facilitate providing indoor recreation opportunities for Village and area residents. It is unlikely that the Village or Parks and Recreation Commission will build an indoor recreation center however the Village understands and commits to facilitating the availability of indoor recreation for Village residents via easily accessible alternative venues.

### Recreation Deficiencies

A review of recreation facilities serving the Village of Dexter and School District, applying MDNR standards, is provided in Exhibit 25. Finally, service area boundaries are graphically represented for existing facilities in Exhibit 24. These comparisons provide a general idea of deficiencies, but it must be understood that the MDNR standards are not intended to be followed to the letter. Needs of the population vary from one community to the next and should be considered.

Exhibit 25 shows a surplus or adequate amount of the listed recreational facilities. Primarily, all active recreation is provided by the Dexter Community Schools. Deficiencies in active recreation include hiking, biking, skatepark, inline skating cross country skiing and other related type of trails.

### EXHIBIT 24 EXISTING PARK SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY

## Analysis Of Existing Facilities And Service Areas

Analysis of existing park and recreation facilities is summarized in Exhibit 27. The table is a compilation of comments and recommendations based on the preceding exhibits, which compare the Village's facilities to NPRA standards.

The exhibits that follow take a calculated look at existing parks and recreation facilities in Dexter. This portion of the overall assessment has provided the Village with a starting point for further investigation of the recreation needs in the Village.

The evaluation of existing park and recreation facilities was based on NPRA standards is outlined in Exhibit 25. A comparison of existing parkland acreage to accepted standards are defined in Exhibit 26. The service area boundaries, as interpreted by the NPRA, are graphically represented for existing facilities in Exhibit 24.

### EXHIBIT 27 ANALYSIS OF EXISTING FACILITIES – CITY OF DEXTER AND DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## Comments/Recommendations

### Mini-Parks

The NPRA recommends 0.25 to 1 acre per 1,000 residents. Currently, the Village has sufficient mini-park acreage with or without the inclusion of private parkland.

The current mini-parks should continue to be maintained and upgraded as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Funding is budgeted annually for equipment replacement and landscaping maintenance. The equipment replacement inventory is used to determine what and when equipment is replaced in each of the parks.

The Village should continue to require private developments to have private parks for use by the residents and to help meet the needs of the population in the immediate area. As land becomes available throughout the village the Parks and Recreation Commission should consider acquisition for addition public mini-park land throughout the village.

The Village is also planning for the development of a skatepark. Preliminary research (Appendix P) shows that a 5,000 square foot skatepark would likely service the Village's population and skatepark needs.

### Neighborhood Parks

The village has 2 public neighborhood parks and 2 private neighborhood parks consisting of 16.15 acres.

Community Park and Warrior Creek Parks are public neighborhood parks that provide picnic areas and play areas. Development in these parks is primarily complete, however Warrior Creek park will be further developed with the development of the Mill Creek Park.

Private neighborhood parks within the village consist of 9 acres, which includes walking paths, play structures, benches and picnic tables.

Some of the schools facilities could be considered neighborhood parks, however, since they are primarily located in one area are classified as a community park.

Five (5) acre neighborhood parks are recommended as a minimum per 1,000 residents. The Village of Dexter is deficient if 5 acres is used as a minimum, however with all other considerations and including private neighborhood parks the village has sufficient neighborhood parks. Considering only public neighborhood parks there are portions of the village that are not served by neighborhood parks. This must be considered when evaluating land acquisition possibilities.

The Parks and Recreation Commission current consideration of a skatepark would help reduce the deficiency of public neighborhood parks, however additional property would have to be acquired.

A winter ice skating rink should also be considered for Warrior Creek park to utilize the parks year round.

### Community Parks

The Village of Dexter does not have any Community Parks. Pursuant to the recommended size for Community Parks the village will not likely have any Community Parks. Community Parks are more likely to be provided by a regional recreation and open space provider.

The village does hope to create the Mill Creek Park (approximately 24 acres) which will essentially address the recommended Community Park needs per population. There will still be a slight deficiency; however there will be linear connections to a much larger Community and Regional Park network.

Primarily all active recreation is provided by the Dexter School District on their property, mostly within the Village limits, and some outside the Village limits at the new High School. The schools facilities include ball fields of all types and as well as indoor activities. These facilities can be utilized through school teams and programming offered through Community Education and Recreation.

The NPRA's standard requirement for Community Parks is 20-50 acres per 1,000 residents. Active recreation facilities are provided by the Dexter School District. Some of this property is within the Village limits so it is easily accessible for all residents, but the facilities at the new High School are not. Dexter Community Schools students' usage of the facilities also takes priority over the usage of the residents of Dexter Village.

Development of the Mill Creek area following the removal of the Main Street dam will provide Village and regional residents with a unique opportunity to access the Mill Creek and the unique open space landscape created by the dam removal.

The Village should continue to explore acquisition opportunities to complement the Mill Creek Park development along the Mill Creek and south. The Village should also continue to work with regional recreation providers, HCMA and Washtenaw County Parks, to add to the recreation and open space available to area and Village residents.

### Special Use/Natural Resource Areas

The Village of Dexter does not have any special use or natural resource areas. The only park near the Village of Dexter that would be classified in this category are Washtenaw County's Miller and Smith Preserves located less than 1 mile outside of the village boundary. The Miller and Smith Preserves protect the 40-50 year old trees in the oak barren with a nature trail and unpaved parking area. The Miller Preserve and Smith Woods contain 28-acres of woodlands that provide one of the only remaining undeveloped, habitats and sanctuaries in the area for plants and animals. The property also contains various wetland areas.

Washtenaw County recently purchased the Miller Preserve through the County Natural Areas Preservation Program. The Village then donated the Smith Woods Preserve. Plans for improvement include upgraded parking (completed in 2008); signage to identify the preserves and nature trails throughout the 28-acre park.

The Village should continue to coordinate with the County to publicize the park area and encourage pedestrian connections to downtown, the Mill Creek and Warrior Creek Parks as well as the County Border to Border trail and HCMA Hike Bike trail.

The Village should consider property acquisition in the area surrounding the Mill Creek and connections to the Smith and Miller Preserve to expand the linear park and open space network.

### Passive Parks

Monument Park and Peace Park were developed as passive parks, as well as private open space or common areas in residential developments are classified as passive recreation areas. The Gordon Hall property, west of the Village, was recently acquired by the Dexter Historical Society. DHS goal is to further enhance the historical features and monuments that have existed within the Village for the past 100 years and preserve the Gordon Hall property as public open space. General maintenance of these parks is most important. A common connection between them would create a more cohesive park system and pedestrian network. This can be accomplished through signage, lighting, benches, pathways and sidewalks. Pathway connections throughout the Village should be evaluated to increase accessibility to parks and elsewhere.

The Village will work with the Dexter Historical Society to preserve the historic Gordon Hall and the property on which it is located. Sidewalk connections must be made to assure pedestrian access to and from the Village's parks and the historical asset just outside the Village's border.

### Linear Parks

Built along natural corridors, such as utility right-of-ways, abandoned railroad easements, vegetation patterns, rivers and streams, and roads that links other components of recreation systems or community facilities, such as schools, libraries, commercial areas, and other park areas and desirable site characteristics may be developed into linear parks.

The Village's goal is to develop a linear park along the Mill Creek following the removal of the Main Street dam. The goals for the park development are included in Appendix E. The linear Mill Creek Park will connect to the school property to the south and the Washtenaw County Border to Border Trail and HCMA Hike / Bike Trail to the north and east.

Development of the linear Mill Creek Park is a top priority for the Village.

A linear park of some sort would be an exciting tool for creating connections within the existing park system. For example, a linear park along Main Street/Ann Arbor Street could connect the three anchors – Peace Park, Monument Park and Warrior Creek Park. A linear park would also be located along a natural feature such as the Mill Creek and Huron River as planned by the Village of Dexter, Washtenaw County and HCMA.

Linear parks can include bike paths, hiking paths, boardwalks, benches, information kiosks, fishing and water access and non-motorized boat linkages.

The Village places high priority on the Mill Creek Park trail network to provide connection to the Metro-Parks across the Huron River and the Washtenaw County Border to Border trail heading east along the Huron River. This would also provide a pedestrian linkage that is needed within the Village for the protection of pedestrians and visitors, and to provide more universal access to Warrior Creek Park and the downtown district. Warrior Creek Park and another location in the downtown as a trail heads would link downtown to the parks and the regional trail network and promote health, fitness, and economic development, as well as safe pedestrian access within the Village and the parks. Development of the trail system to the south to the school property will also create a valuable passive recreation opportunity to Village residents on property already owned by the Village.

Several residential subdivisions under construction have small open space areas within the development. These private facilities function as mini-parks as they provide recreational facilities for the neighborhood residents.

### Additional Deficiencies

This analysis provides useful information on quantity; the raw numbers do not address the *quality* of existing parks and recreation facilities. Upon closer examination, deficiencies or limitations in the Village Parks and Recreation system become apparent. These deficiencies are due to a number of reasons, including the following:

### Increased Population Projections

The analysis of deficiencies does consider future demand generated by projected population increases in the Village due to growth and new developments. Based on SEMCOG 2030 Regional Development Forecasts, projections and an analysis of local trends, the population in the Village is projected to increase an additional 53% by 2030. This must be taken into account when acknowledging the validity of the facilities evaluation; such an increase in population requires a re-evaluation of existing facilities based on future needs. This is addressed in the Action Plan portion of this report.

### Reliance on School Sites

Most community park facilities in the Village are located on School District property. Cooperation between the community and school district provides for efficient use of the land. Nevertheless, there are limitations associated with having many of the community park facilities on school sites, because use of these facilities are first available to school athletic teams and scheduled programs and then open to the general public on a request basis only.

### Distribution of Existing Parks



Exhibit 24 illustrates how the Village is served by the existing park facilities. While some areas in the Village are not well serviced others have access to a variety of park and recreation facilities. The distribution of parkland should be a consideration in future recreational land acquisition.

The northeast portion of the Village will soon be developed into residential neighborhoods. The recreation area in these developments will range from passive, natural open space to private mini-parks to public land developed with active recreation facilities. These new recreational developments will serve only the needs of the adjacent residential subdivisions, but they will also address some of the existing deficiencies within the newer areas.

### **Barrier-Free Facilities**

Many of the existing playgrounds located at park and school facilities are not accessible to residents with disabilities. Modern equipment with transfer points and ramps, resilient surfacing, and universally accessible pathways are required to ensure “integrated play” by all residents of the community. Universal accessibility is a priority in park development over the next 5 years and beyond. The Village Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission and the DDA are working together to provide ADA access to Warrior Creek Park via the reconstruction of the Main Street Bridge however accessibility will likely continue to be a problem without future improvements to Mill Creek Park. Accessibility standards for equipment can be found in Appendix D.

Since the Village has placed a high priority on providing access to existing park and recreation facilities, providing access to Warrior Creek Park, and a future connection to the proposed Mill Creek linear park, is one of the Village highest priorities.

### **General Maintenance**

Though Village owned parks adequately serve the existing population, park maintenance is an important component to providing desirable recreation opportunities for residents. In general, Warrior Creek is in need of basic maintenance to improve their appeal to the Village residents. In particular, lighting and uniform signage is needed in most of the parks, as well as parking facilities at Warrior Creek Park. Parking improvements would address safety and access concerns. Parking improvements along Alpine Street have been completed as part of the Farmer's Market project however access and parking to Warrior Creek Park is still not sufficient.

Residents' walking their dogs has also become a problem. Installation of doggie bag dispensers has been a priority, but continued education is important. Installation of bag dispensers may encourage owners to pick up after their pet as well as decrease the risk of pollution and disease transmission. As the population increases in Dexter, so will the number of residents and dogs in the Village parks.

### **Non-Motorized Accessibility**

Non-motorized pathway connections seem to be lacking between all facilities. A pathway system between all parks, schools, and public buildings, such as the Farmer's Market, Dexter Library, Dexter Museum, Railroad Depot, and even churches, would provide safe and convenient accessibility for pedestrians. The Village is lacking pedestrian linkages throughout the existing pedestrian system and to some Village parks.

### **Visual Connections**

Similar lighting and signage that is consistent with the traditional village design in the downtown area should distinguish all public parks. The Parks and Recreation Commission has established a signage theme that will be carried out throughout the Village's parks. The Village hopes to have uniform signage in all parks by 2010.

The Village has also installed information “I” kiosks throughout the Village. The kiosks are in place to provide visual connections throughout the Village’s walking destinations and to display maps and other park, Village and community information.

Where possible greenways and pathways will also visually connect the parks and recreational facilities available to the public. The Downtown Development Authority is also interested in helping to create visual connections through the Village and create a “gateway” at each Village entrance. The east entrance to the Village has been improved by a developer and the Village and Parks and Recreation Commission hopes to continue the theme at each Village entrance.

### Access to Natural Resources

Dexter is in a prime location nestled between the Huron River and its tributary the Mill Creek. The Village plans to take advantage of these waterway assets and also improve access to the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) through the proposed Hike /Bike Trail and bridge connection. Phase 1 of the HCMA trail has started construction and the Village is committed to working with HCMA to connect the trail system to the Village’s downtown and proposed Mill Creek linear park. An application for Transportation Enhancement funding was applied for in 2008 in an effort to facilitate completion of a connection across the Mill Creek and into Warrior Creek and the proposed Mill Creek linear park that would link the village with the HCMA trails and Washtenaw County’s Border to Border trail.

The Village has also placed top priority on the planning, development, and conversion of the Mill Pond property into the proposed Mill Creek linear park upon removal of the Main Street Bridge dam to extend access to the natural resources available along the Mill Creek Tributary. The vision for the area is to extend a trail system along the Mill Creek to the south highlighting the significant natural resources, ecology and habitats along the waterway.

### Reliance on Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Park Land

Due to the close proximity of the Huron Clinton Metro Parks, just across the Mill Creek, Dexter residents readily use the facilities. The Metro Parks provide easy access to a variety and natural resources that are not accessible within the Village limits. However, as the population of Dexter and the surrounding communities increase, the Metropark may begin to congest. As this growth occurs, the Village will need to improve its park and recreation facilities to accommodate the needs of its residents from within rather than being entirely reliant on Metro Parks system. The HCMA’s proposed Hike / Bike trail may help alleviate some of the congestion that the Village residents create on the regional parks and will also provide additional recreation opportunities for an even larger service area. The proposed trail is shown in Exhibit 22 and 22a along with a map of the Westside Connector. The Village will need to be prepared for additional parking needs if the downtown area and the proposed Mill Creek linear park becomes a major trailhead to the Metroparks greenway corridor. A non-motorized pathway bridge at the historic railroad bridge, or vicinity, accessing Warrior Creek Park and the proposed Mill Creek Park would also provide a pedestrian link, for Village residents and visitors of the Metro-Parks, to a regional trail system and to Washtenaw County’s Border to Border trail system, Exhibit.

### Diversify Village Owned Facilities

The majority of Village owned facilities tend to be passive parks. As opportunities arise to acquire additional facilities or re-develop existing property, the Village should provide more active recreation for the residents, such as tennis courts and ballfields. Trends and projections show a younger population occupying the Village in the future. Therefore, creating a more diverse recreation base will increase and maintain usage by the Village residents. The Village should begin to explore a community recreation center or encourage a private

developer to build a recreation to meet additional active recreation needs that may present themselves in the near future as the population escalates as it has over the last decade.

### Reliance on the Dexter Community Schools

All of the active recreation facilities available to Village of Dexter residents are through the school district. Scheduling conflicts and sporting events severely limit the availability of these facilities to residents and residents are dependent on the Dexter Area School District for all classes and activities. The Village should not duplicate the schools facilities, but should work closely with them to ensure that both entities recreation goals are met, and that the needs of the Village residents and district residents are fulfilled. A community center in collaboration with the Dexter Community Schools should be explored. The village should also collaborate with the schools Community Education Program to assure that active recreation opportunities are offered through programming.

### Limitation of Site Size

Most of the existing village parks are adequate in terms of size based on accepted standards. However, as the population increases, these parks could be subject to overuse and will no longer adequately serve the recreational needs of the residents. The Village puts high priority on making the existing facilities accessible to all individuals who want to use them and on the development of the Mill Creek Park which will provide an additional 15 plus acres of parkland and provide trail/pathway access from the southern to the northern border of our community.

### Increase Communication

The Village governing bodies need to increase communication with each other to create awareness of each commission's goals and objectives. This plan can be utilized to "spread the word" to the Village administrators and elected officials, as well as its residents about the importance of parks and recreation in the Village of Dexter and the Dexter vicinity. This type of implementation will facilitate more change and an increased knowledge of the important issues the Village faces, as addressed in this plan.

The Parks and Recreation Commission needs to engage the public into the park planning process for residents to feel a sense of ownership in the parks. The Parks and Recreation Commission should also keep the public posted on potential projects to encourage more public input and participation. The Village currently works with the local paper, The Dexter Leader, on a regular basis to involve the public. The Ann Arbor News also provides information on park activities, events and park planning projects. The village's website calendar keeps interested residents informed of public meetings and special events and all Parks and Recreation Commission meeting agendas and minutes are posted online. The Village will also continue to include the surrounding entities in recreation planning and implementation.

The Parks and Recreation Commission and the DDA will continue to collaborate on projects that impact both groups in an effort to accomplish the goals and vision of each entity. The Parks and Recreation Commission will continue to update the DDA, the Village Council and other community organizations interested in helping achieve a vision for the Village of Dexter Parks and Recreation Facilities.

### Conclusions

The Village of Dexter (excluding schools) currently has recreational deficiencies. Deficiencies exist in active recreation, such as ball fields, tennis courts and other active recreation facilities. With the donation of Smith Woods to Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program the Village's Community Park acreage has also decreased resulting in additional passive recreation deficiencies. Portions of the Village are under served

by existing parkland and various types of parkland; however with the inclusion of private parkland within residential developments the Village has sufficient Mini-Parks and Neighborhood Parks. Village residents also feel as though there is a lack of universally accessible parks and passive interpretive, walking and biking trails.

Active recreational deficiencies are being supplemented by the school facilities and nearby regional facilities. However, as the population of the Village continues to increase, as it is projected based on current development trends, reliance on other facilities will not accommodate deficiencies. The proposed development of the Mill Creek linear park following the removal of the Main Street dam, will also address some of the deficiencies in passive recreation and fill the village's deficiencies in community parkland. Diversity in Village owned facilities, land acquisition/planning and enhancement of existing and reclaimed facilities to serve residents better would have to be a top priority, as is the development of more active and universally accessible recreation for the entire Village population.

For this five-year plan the Village must put a high priority on development of the Mill Creek Park. Awareness has been established and support is prevalent for the long-term goals of greenway and corridor connections with the HCMA Hike Bike Trail, Washtenaw County's Border to Border Trail, Scio Township's Greenway Plan and the Dexter Community Schools. High priority has also been placed on providing more active and passive recreation around Warrior Creek Park, Mill Creek Park, and Community Park. Continued maintenance and improvements to existing parkland is also important to provide recreation facilities that appeal to the residents of the Village.

## Goals and Objectives

### **I.GOAL: (Space/Facilities) Meet present and future community needs for parks, greenways, trails, and recreation.**

#### **A. Objective: Plan and develop a system of parks, greenways, open space, and recreation facilities that provides a minimum of 16 acres per 1,000 Village residents.**

1. *Strategy: Identify desirable parcels within or adjacent to the Village and evaluate for park system inclusion.*
2. *Strategy: Seek to provide required space or facilities through the development of partnerships, or the purchase of easements or property.*
3. *Strategy: Consider the location of existing parks and facilities when choosing new sites in order to provide a balanced distribution.*
4. *Strategy: Encourage the development of parks and facilities in areas which are pathway accessible and will serve a large number of Village residents or a priority targeted group.*
5. *Strategy: Provide park and recreation facilities that are consistent with NPRA standards and guidelines and that coincide with the needs of the Village.*
6. *Strategy: Develop park and recreation assets with safe, universally accessible pathway linkages as a priority consideration.*

#### **B. Objective: Encourage the preservation of green space and the development of new parks and/or recreation assets when opportunities arise.**

1. *Strategy: Encourage park projects that honor and preserve local history and historic architecture.*
2. *Strategy: Promote the integration of our goals with the Village Planning Commission and their development review process to ensure that projects meet increased parks and recreation needs.*
3. *Strategy: Use the development review process to encourage the clustering of dwellings facilitating more space for parks, recreation, pathways, open space, or linear parks.*
4. *Strategy: Encourage large developments to dedicate a minimum of 30% of their project as green open space, exclusive of stormwater detention/retention ponds and paved surfaces.*
5. *Strategy: Encourage small developments to provide green open space for small mini-parks.*
6. *Strategy: Encourage developers to preserve green open space and mature trees in their projects, to protect significant ecosystems, and to use greenways and linear parks to buffer their projects, to provide for the safe movement of wildlife, and to connect to the linear parks or greenways of adjacent jurisdictions.*
7. *Strategy: Encourage developers to provide pathways connecting their project with the Village's system of pathways and the pathways of adjacent parks, trail systems, or jurisdictions.*
8. *Strategy: Encourage developers to meet the recreation demands created by their project through the construction of new neighborhood parks and active recreation facilities.*
9. *Strategy: Encourage developers to contribute to the restricted parks and recreation endowment commensurate with the size of their project and estimated population.*

#### **C. Objective: Following removal of the Mill Creek dam, plan and develop a linear park along the Mill Creek.**



1. *Strategy: Seek Village Council creation of a Mill Creek Park Planning Team, with Parks and Recreation Commission representation, to formulate goals, objectives and related criteria to guide the planning and development process.*
2. *Strategy: Collaborate with the Mill Creek Park Planning Team to develop an environmental framework and master plan for the new park.*
3. *Strategy: Coordinate linear park and pathway connections with regional and local jurisdictions including the planned Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Hike-Bike Trail, Washtenaw County's Border-to-Border Trail, other adjacent Washtenaw County Parks and Preserves, and with the master plans of neighboring townships.*
4. *Strategy: Select a consultant through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to help develop detailed plans for the park's development.*
5. *Strategy: Secure approval and funding from Village Council to engage the services of preferred consultant to develop a Master Plan for the Mill Creek linear park.*
6. *Strategy: Apply for funding from both Village and non-Village sources to help execute the Mill Creek Park plan and park development.*
7. *Strategy: Execute the park development plan in phases as funding allows.*
8. *Strategy: Encourage adjacent jurisdictions to collaborate when appropriate.*



## II. GOAL: (Recreation) Encourage healthy lifestyles for Village residents through recreation.

### A. Objective: Offer Village residents a balanced program of active and passive recreation opportunities.

1. *Strategy: Develop and promote a program of active and passive recreation activities and local events that are affordable and provide good value to citizens of all ages.*
2. *Strategy: Make pathway and passive recreation development first priority in order to achieve the highest utilization and return on investment.*
3. *Strategy: Develop active recreation facilities secondarily but as required to meet specific high priority needs.*
4. *Strategy: Collaborate with the Dexter Community Schools and other public and private interests in the planning and delivery of recreation opportunities while eliminating duplication.*
5. *Strategy: Evaluate the feasibility of developing passive facilities in support of birding, photography, and environmental education.*
6. *Strategy: Evaluate the feasibility of developing active facilities in support of a skateboarding/inline skating, outdoor ice skating, outdoor rock climbing, fishing, and paddle sports.*

### B. Objective: Offer Village residents multiple opportunities to walk, run, bike, skate, or paddle without leaving their community.

1. *Strategy: Identify, promote, and help develop longer outings via additional pathway and water trail linkages to adjacent parks, trail systems, greenways, and waterways owned and operated by other jurisdictions.*
2. *Strategy: Build the proposed west side connector and other linkages to the Washtenaw County Border-to-Border Trail and the Miller/Smith Preserves.*
3. *Strategy: Develop a pathway system within the boundaries of the proposed linear park at Mill Creek.*
4. *Strategy: Develop a Mill Creek water trail from Shield Road to the Huron River.*



### III. GOAL: (Accessibility) Strive to make every Village park and recreation site accessible.

**A. Objective: Design and develop a system of all-season, non-motorized pathways, trails, sidewalks, and bike paths linking Village neighborhoods with both Village and adjacent non-Village parks, greenways, pathways, recreation venues, schools, and commercial retail areas.**

1. *Strategy: Develop a pathway system within the boundaries of the proposed linear park at Mill Creek that will serve as a central hub connecting to other pathway systems.*
2. *Strategy: Construct the proposed west side connector from WestRidge to the proposed Mill Creek linear park.*
3. *Strategy: Identify and develop bicycle lanes on all major roads and streets in the Village.*
4. *Strategy: Segregate bicycle and pedestrian traffic from motorized traffic where appropriate and feasible.*
5. *Strategy: Collaborate with the Dexter Community Schools to establish pathways connecting the High School and Intermediate Schools with the proposed linear park at Mill Creek.*
6. *Strategy: Coordinate park and trail planning with the State of Michigan, specifically with the goals of the Michigan State Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).*
7. *Strategy: Coordinate park and trail planning with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation, especially their regional Border-to-Border Trail Initiative.*
8. *Strategy: Coordinate park and trail planning with the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, especially their Hike-Bike Trail initiative.*
9. *Strategy: Proactively invite other Village and/or regional groups involved in planning to enhance linkages to Village parks and recreation for a broader regional system.*

**B. Objective: Ensure that all parks and recreation assets are barrier-free and universally accessible.**

1. *Strategy: Review all plans, for new parks and recreation facilities, for compliance with current ADA standards.*
2. *Strategy: Develop and implement strategies to make existing parks and recreation facilities compliant with current ADA standards.*
3. *Strategy: Explore securing funding assistance for ADA-related improvements.*



#### **IV. GOAL: (Environment) Make nature and healthy ecosystems an important characteristic of our Village.**

##### **A. Objective: In designated Village natural areas, enhance and preserve healthy ecosystems for native plants, fish, and wildlife.**

1. *Strategy: Develop and implement a comprehensive management plan, including environmental framework, to enhance and sustain the above.*
2. *Strategy: Prioritize invasive species and minimize their impact where practical.*
3. *Strategy: Identify desirable species and provide supportive habitat.*
4. *Strategy: Periodically repopulate desirable native species where and when appropriate.*
5. *Strategy: Perform maintenance as required within natural areas and waterways to enhance the environment for native species.*
6. *Strategy: Encourage the Village to maintain best practice stormwater solutions to increase water quality.*
7. *Strategy: Promote and maintain riparian buffers to reduce erosion and lower water temperatures.*
8. *Strategy: Promote and maintain sufficient ability for fish to move upstream.*
9. *Strategy: Educate community about habitat, plants, wildlife, fishery, and their value.*
10. *Strategy: Educate community about potential for pet damage to habitat, plant life, wildlife, fishery, and water quality.*
11. *Strategy: Develop and promote identification and education programs in our natural areas using citizen volunteers, teachers, or partnering with non-Village organizations.*
12. *Strategy: Promote the use of our natural areas by residents in an effort to increase their sense of ownership and support.*
13. *Strategy: Develop a volunteer stewardship program in support of our natural areas, including school-based programs to educate and nurture interest.*

##### **B. Objective: In Village urban areas, enhance the natural feel of each park.**

1. *Strategy: Integrate the use of native plants with non-native perennials and annuals.*
2. *Strategy: Use bioretention islands, bioswales, rain gardens, and other innovative water retention strategies when appropriate.*
3. *Strategy: Add and maintain features or structures that invite and support wildlife, e.g., hummingbird gardens, birdhouses, bat houses, etc.*
4. *Strategy: Consider integrating large boulders, water features, or other natural-style hardscape.*

##### **C. Objective: Advocate for the enhancement and preservation of natural features within and surrounding our Village.**

1. *Strategy: Promote the preservation of scenic vistas, natural land buffers, greenways, and waterways.*
2. *Strategy: Promote the preservation and enhancement of important wildlife habitat and migration routes, including aquatic, in and through the Village.*
3. *Strategy: Promote increased public access to adjacent waterways, greenways, and public lands.*



## V. GOAL: (Management) Use sound planning, financial, and operational management practices.

### A. Objective: Deliver on our stated goals and objectives.

1. *Strategy: Develop and annually review the development plan for each Village park and recreation site.*
2. *Strategy: Annually maintain and implement project priorities as listed in the 5-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP).*
3. *Strategy: Develop an annual plan for meeting program objectives through the implementation of specific strategies, both CIP and non-CIP items.*
4. *Strategy: Review progress quarterly on the implementation of our annual plan to keep on track.*
5. *Strategy: Annually review degree to which prior year's plans were implemented and recommend adjustments for the future.*

### B. Objective: Ensure that our parks and recreation assets remain available for enjoyment, now and in the future.

1. *Strategy: Develop a parks and recreation master plan and update it at a minimum of every 5 years.*
2. *Strategy: Annually secure adequate funding for operations and maintenance.*
3. *Strategy: Establish and promote a restricted parks and recreation endowment fund.*
4. *Strategy: Leverage outside funding, partnerships, and other assets whenever possible.*
5. *Strategy: Consider opportunities for the development of parks and recreation revenues from user fees, rentals, and/or other direct services when appropriate and desirable, e.g., gazebo rentals, facility and equipment rentals, concessions, etc.*
6. *Strategy: Periodically consider asking citizens to provide a dedicated and stable revenue base through a renewable millage.*
7. *Strategy: Annually develop and submit a budget and capital improvement plan.*
8. *Strategy: Fully implement and live within the authorized operating and capital improvement budgets.*
9. *Strategy: Build effective working relationships with Village Council, staff, and other Village and non-Village agency representatives as required.*
10. *Strategy: Develop community support as required.*

### C. Objective: Foster smart and efficient management practices.

1. *Strategy: Ensure appropriate staff and volunteers are educated in relevant current best practices of the parks and recreation profession.*
2. *Strategy: Ensure that appropriate staff and volunteers are provided the resources and support of Village government to be successful.*
3. *Strategy: Stay abreast of changing trends and add this information to our discussions.*
4. *Strategy: Recommend investment in assets and programs that satisfy community needs and values while staying true to our mission and goals.*
5. *Strategy: Develop and implement appropriate asset maintenance schedules, reflective of the investment and projected long-term value of the asset.*
6. *Strategy: Participate in Village and regional groups involved in planning that would impact Village parks and recreation.*
7. *Strategy: Partner with other public and private entities where duplication could be eliminated or to help provide new programs and facilities for Village residents.*



**D. Objective: Identify and utilize all available Village and non-Village funding resources to meet our goals.**

1. *Strategy: Identify and apply to funding sources that may serve as alternatives or supplements to Village funds.*
2. *Strategy: Consider selling park, facility, hardscape, or equipment sponsorships as a part of any funding campaign.*
3. *Strategy: Develop and promote efforts to fund a Village Parks and Recreation Endowment, e.g., Dexter Parks & Recreation Guide to Giving, raffle-style giveaway, or other fundraising device.*

**VI. GOAL: (Community) Foster a community-wide sense of pride in and support for our parks and recreation program.**

**A. Objective: Promote parks and recreation activities in the community and our broader service area.**

1. *Strategy: Request amendment from Village Council to change existing name from Parks and Recreation Commission to Parks and Recreation Commission.*
2. *Strategy: Communicate with the Village Planning Commission and Village Council the importance of parks and recreation initiatives in the community.*
3. *Strategy: Meet with the Downtown Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce, and other local civic organizations about our initiatives.*
4. *Strategy: Develop and consistently use a Village Parks & Recreation brand including logo, marketing message, etc.*
5. *Strategy: Develop a Parks & Recreation branded website as part of the Village site, e.g., [www.villageofdexter.org/parksandrec](http://www.villageofdexter.org/parksandrec).*
6. *Strategy: Produce an integrated set of branded print and PDF brochures promoting our parks and recreation assets and programs.*
7. *Strategy: Promote our parks and programs through participation in major downtown events.*
8. *Strategy: Promote our parks and programs through branded wayfinding and activity promotion signage and advertising.*
9. *Strategy: Communicate our annual plan to the general public.*
10. *Strategy: Communicate our success and shortfalls to the general public annually.*
11. *Strategy: Provide periodic updates through a combination of communication channels, e.g., Village newsletter, website, brochures, Dexter Leader.*
12. *Strategy: Work with other public and private agencies to promote our parks and recreation program through shared mailings and/or joint sponsorship, e.g., education, recreation, events, etc.*

**B. Objective: Provide and promote opportunities for individual citizens and community groups to influence the mission, priorities, management, and operations of the parks and recreation program.**

1. *Strategy: Regularly survey residents to measure program and service quality, user satisfaction, and to collect citizen input.*
2. *Strategy: Establish an online comment form and email address for suggestions or feedback.*



3. *Strategy: Regularly invite residents to attend and participate in Parks and Recreation meetings.*
4. *Strategy: Invite citizens to volunteer in support of Parks and Recreation objectives.*
5. *Strategy: Understand the importance of engaging the public and local community organizations.*
6. *Strategy: Identify and promote project opportunities for voluntary community participation.*
7. *Strategy: Meet annually with the Downtown Development Authority, Dexter Community Schools, Washtenaw County Planning and Recreation Departments, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and other local units of government within the Dexter vicinity.*
8. *Strategy: Meet annually with local civic organizations and neighborhood groups to inform them of our goals and projects and to invite their feedback and participation.*
9. *Strategy: Annually review citizen feedback, incorporating desired ideas.*

**C. Objective: Deliver superior service to citizens and others seeking our help.**

1. *Strategy: Commit to serving residents with warmth, courtesy, and respect in all matters.*
2. *Strategy: Communicate with residents regularly to enhance timeliness of information, transparency of process, and support for parks and recreation in our Village.*
3. *Strategy: Make ease of use and affordability priorities when developing recreation programs.*

**D. Objective: Develop an overall parks and recreation program that makes a positive contribution to the economic sustainability of the Village.**

1. *Strategy: When developing park and recreation assets and programs, maximize how each will contribute to the local economy consistent with our mission and goals.*
2. *Strategy: When possible and appropriate, consider improvements that will support efforts to build “Dexter as a Destination”.*
3. *Strategy: Stay abreast of, influence, and support the activities and objectives of other Village organizations, e.g., DDA, Chamber of Commerce, Dexter Community Schools, Historical Society, when consistent with our mission and goals.*

**E. Objective: Develop and maintain parks and recreation assets that incorporate a high degree of aesthetic appeal.**

1. *Strategy: Engage the services of appropriate design professionals when developing or upgrading parks and recreation assets.*
2. *Strategy: Develop and implement design standards for all park and recreation assets.*
3. *Strategy: Periodically review existing assets for appearance and invest as necessary to elevate to desired standard.*
4. *Strategy: Utilize or compliment other design standards used in the Village by other departments and organizations.*

**F. Objective: Develop and maintain park and recreation assets and recreation programs that meet current industry safety standards and, where standards do not exist, develop and maintain assets and programs with careful consideration for user or participant safety.**

1. *Strategy: Engage the services of appropriate safety or risk assessment professionals when developing or upgrading parks and recreation assets.*



2. *Strategy: To assure safety of users, require that current industry standards be identified and met when developing any design or bid specification.*
3. *Strategy: Work with local law enforcement personnel to develop appropriate design safeguards and post-implementation strategies.*
4. *Strategy: Where identifiable, clearly indicate potential risks to participants or users and any limits to participation or use, e.g., signage.*
5. *Strategy: Follow recommendations of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA).*





**CITY OF DEXTER  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission  
FROM: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager  
RE: Discussion Questions for Key Findings Sections  
DATE: March 17, 2015

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Pages with Key Findings:

- Pg. 12, 20, 64

Discussion Questions:

- Are any of the existing Key Findings still relevant?
- How would you describe the City's topography?
- What are the key physical characteristics of the City's downtown and neighborhoods?
- What do these physical characteristics mean for long-term active/passive recreation?
- What is the current condition of parks and recreation facilities in surrounding communities?
- What upcoming projects will have an impact on the City's parks and recreation facilities?