

City of East Tawas Parks & Recreation Master Plan



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Acknowledgements

City Council:

Bruce Bolen, Mayor
Lisa Bolen
Joseph Cano, Jr.
David Leslie
Stephen Klenow
Duane Look
Craig McMurray

Park Board:

Mark Elliott, Chairman
John O'Connor, Vice-Chairman
Norm Klenow
David Thunberg
Sue Fountain
Craig McMurray, Council Representative

City Staff:

Ronald J. Leslie, City Manager
Blinda A. Baker, Clerk/Treasurer
Julie Potts, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
Keith Frank, Parks and Recreation Manager
Butch Short, Parks and Recreation Assistant Manager
Henry Proper, Parks and Recreation Maintenance



CARLISLE | WORTMAN, ASSOCIATES
605 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48104
734.662.2200 cwaplan.com

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Introduction

The East Tawas Parks and Recreation Master Plan articulates a vision for parks and recreation in East Tawas. The purpose of this Plan is to guide recreation planning and development efforts of East Tawas Parks and Recreation Department over the next five-year period. Once adopted, the Plan is the official document to be used by the community to guide decisions regarding parks and recreation. The revised and updated Plan is intended to meet state standards for community recreation planning that are necessary to gain eligibility for grant programs.

WHAT THIS PLAN CONTAINS

The East Tawas Parks and Recreation Master Plan follows the format suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* (2012). The first chapter, Administrative Structure, provides a description of how parks and recreation services are administered in the City including budget and funding information. The next chapter, Recreation Inventory, describes the City parks as well as regional recreation facilities located nearby. It includes an accessibility assessment and a description of previous MDNR grant-assisted park projects. The Public Participation and Needs Assessment portion of the Plan presents the input received from local officials, staff, and residents, which helped in formulating the Goals and Objectives and Action Program chapters. Finally, the Appendix includes the Community Description with a summary of the social, physical, and economic characteristics of the community as well as the Supporting Documents, which assemble the official resolutions and notices documenting the plan's adoption by City Council.

PLANNING PROCESS

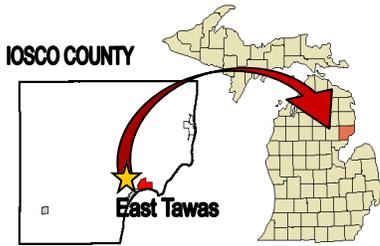
The process used to generate the plan consists of three phases: background studies, evaluation, and plan development.

1. **Background Studies.** This phase involved gathering and updating data from census data, existing documents, plans, and field observations. The information is organized into three chapters: community description (Appendix A), administrative structure, and recreation inventory.
2. **Evaluation.** The second phase in the planning process includes an evaluation and analysis of the gathered data as well as community input to determine recreation facilities and program needs. A public input session was conducted to receive residents' opinions and ideas for the park and recreation system. Input from local officials and the members of the Park Board was also used.
3. **Plan Development.** The last phase in the process involves plan development and adoption. Based on the deficiencies and needs, goals and objectives were formulated and a specific action plan developed. Strategies to implement the plan are also discussed.

The following diagram illustrates the planning process and how it corresponds to the MDNR suggested format described earlier.



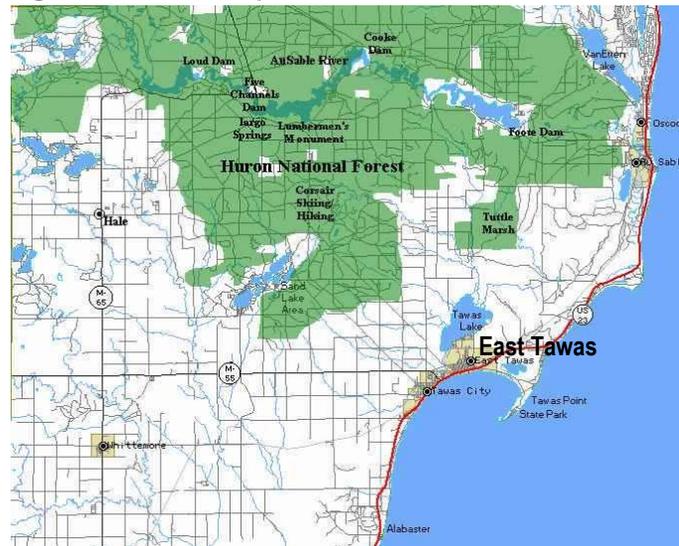
DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AREA



The City of East Tawas is located in southeastern Iosco County on Tawas Bay, one of the largest harbors on the Great Lakes. It covers approximately 3.3 square miles. The City is located approximately 65 miles south of Alpena along U.S.-23, and approximately 180 miles north of Detroit. Bordered by Tawas City and Tawas Bay to the south, Baldwin Township to the north, and Lake Huron to the east, East Tawas is located on the “Sunrise Coast” of Michigan.

Approximately 70 percent of Iosco County is within the boundaries of state and federal forest lands. The Au Sable State Forest covers 22,200 acres, and the Huron National Forest covers 112,000 acres. Iosco County ranks 64th by population in the State of Michigan. It is located in the northeastern area of the East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG) region. EMCOG is the regional planning agency that serves a 14-county region of East Central Michigan, encompassing the three urban centers of Bay City, Midland, and Saginaw.

Figure 1. Location Map



Source: Iosco County

Administrative Structure

The planning and management of parks and recreation in East Tawas are primarily accomplished by the East Tawas Parks and Recreation Department in coordination with the East Tawas Park Board.

The East Tawas Park Board was established in 1965 under Public Act 156 of 1917. The Park Board is composed of five members serving five-year terms. The term of one of the members is up for re-appointment or replacement on the first Monday of May in each year.

The Board's primary responsibilities are to establish parks and recreation policies and procedures and to advise on park improvement, maintenance, and programming.

ADMINISTRATION

The administration of parks and recreation services in East Tawas is the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department and City Council. The Department is headed by a Parks Manager, who is assisted by an Assistant Manager and a Parks Maintenance person. In addition, nine seasonal staff members provide assistance during the summer months.

FUNDING AND BUDGET

Funding for parks and recreation is supported by the East Tawas City Park campground revenues, donations, and grants.

Table 1 presents the current City budget for Parks and Recreation.



Table 1. Parks and Recreation Budget, 2012-2013

**EAST TAWAS CITY PARK
2012-13 PARK BUDGET**

INCOME/EXPENSE	ACTUAL 2010-11	BUDGETED 2011-12	BUDGETED 2012-13
INCOME			
CAMPING FEES	\$651,498.00	\$650,000.00	653,000.00
STORAGE FEES-TRAILER STORAGE	\$35,674.00	\$32,000.00	33,000.00
EXTRA CAMP FEES-CREDIT SLIPS, TRANSFERS	\$12.00	\$150.00	100.00
CONCESSIONS - POP MACHINES	\$329.00	\$250.00	250.00
INTEREST-INTEREST INCOME	\$645.00	\$1,200.00	550.00
BUILDING RENTAL-GAZEBO, PAVILIONS	\$5,435.00	\$5,100.00	5,200.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$6,395.00	\$1,000.00	1,000.00
REFUNDS/REBATES	(\$99.00)	(\$800.00)	(\$100.00)
TRANSFER OF PRIOR YEAR FUNDS	\$93,791.00	\$143,560.00	\$147,010.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$768,708.00	\$832,460.00	\$840,010.00
EXPENSES			
SALARIES & WAGES-EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION	\$182,489.00	\$191,000.00	\$195,380.00
PAYROLL TAXES & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:			
SALARIES & WAGES-F.I.C.A.	\$13,840.00	\$15,300.00	\$15,700.00
MESC-UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	\$1,970.00	\$2,300.00	\$2,000.00
HOSPITALIZATION-BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD	\$21,201.00	\$22,000.00	\$17,000.00
WORKMAN'S COMP.-COMPENSATION INSURANCE	\$4,598.00	\$5,800.00	\$5,500.00
LIFE INSURANCE	\$1,152.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,200.00
MILEAGE ALLOWANCE-EMPLOYEE RE-IMBURSEMENT	\$2,600.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
PENSION	\$10,019.00	\$10,200.00	\$10,500.00
ADVERTISING-BROCHURES, PROGRAMS, ETC.	\$878.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,000.00
DEPRECIATION	\$163,136.00	\$168,000.00	\$164,000.00
INSURANCE-INSURANCE & BONDS	\$17,063.00	\$24,000.00	\$19,000.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$1,055.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$17,193.00	\$16,500.00	\$18,500.00
PROFESSIONAL FEES & SERVICES	\$3,437.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,700.00
RENT: PORTA-POTS	\$2,040.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,700.00
REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	\$50,608.00	\$45,000.00	\$50,000.00
RUBBISH COLLECTION	\$4,320.00	\$5,400.00	\$6,500.00
UNIFORMS	\$846.00	\$2,700.00	\$900.00
UTILITIES-HEAT,LIGHT,PHONE,WATER,CABLE	\$93,737.00	\$105,000.00	\$99,750.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY: MAJOR	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY: MINOR	\$10,220.00	\$6,000.00	\$15,000.00
OTHER:			
LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS-DUES, CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,222.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,300.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	\$3,670.00	\$1,300.00	\$3,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$607,294.00	\$661,500.00	\$664,830.00
NET ORDINARY INCOME	\$161,414.00	\$170,960.00	\$175,180.00
OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE			
Other Expense			
COMMUNITY CENTER O & M PAYMENT	\$22,000.00	\$28,300.00	\$31,000.00
COMMUNITY CENTER BOND & INTEREST	\$139,414.00	\$142,660.00	\$144,180.00
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSE	\$161,414.00	\$170,960.00	\$175,180.00
NET INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Parks and Recreation Department maintains a relationship with the Tawas Area Schools. The schools use the baseball and softball fields available at the City parks for High School and Junior High School baseball and softball programs.

Other organizations run various athletic recreation programs independently from the City. They are nonprofit organizations run by a membership elected Board of Directors. The first three organizations use the sport fields available at the City parks:

- Huron East Knothole Association
- Tawas Men's Softball League
- Tawas Youth Amateur Softball Association
- Huron Hockey & Skating Association

In addition, the Tawas Area Lions Club and the Tawas Kiwanis Club have played a role in providing volunteer labor and financial support for park facilities. Other community groups use the facilities provided at the parks for various events. These groups include:

- Friends of the East Tawas Library
- Tawas Bay Arts Council
- Tawas Community Concert Band



Recreation Inventory

There are a number of regional recreational resources available to residents of East Tawas. In addition, the City offers several local park facilities. Other resources, such as schools and privately owned recreational facilities, also exist in the area. This section describes these recreational resources.

LOCAL PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Bolen Park: Located four blocks north of the central business district, Robert Bolen Memorial Park includes 17 acres of land with a baseball field, Little League baseball field, a wooden "Mackinac Bridge" play structure, a picnic pavilion with restroom and kitchen facilities, two horseshoe pits, a Lions Club building containing a small kitchen and restrooms, and three full-sized basketball courts. Paved walkways provide access to the park's activity areas. They are used by area residents for walking and jogging. The park also includes 180 parking spaces within three parking areas and incorporates the Community Center and City Hall. The park facilities and athletic fields are used by the Huron East Knothole Association and by the Tawas Area High School Varsity and Junior Varsity baseball programs for home games.

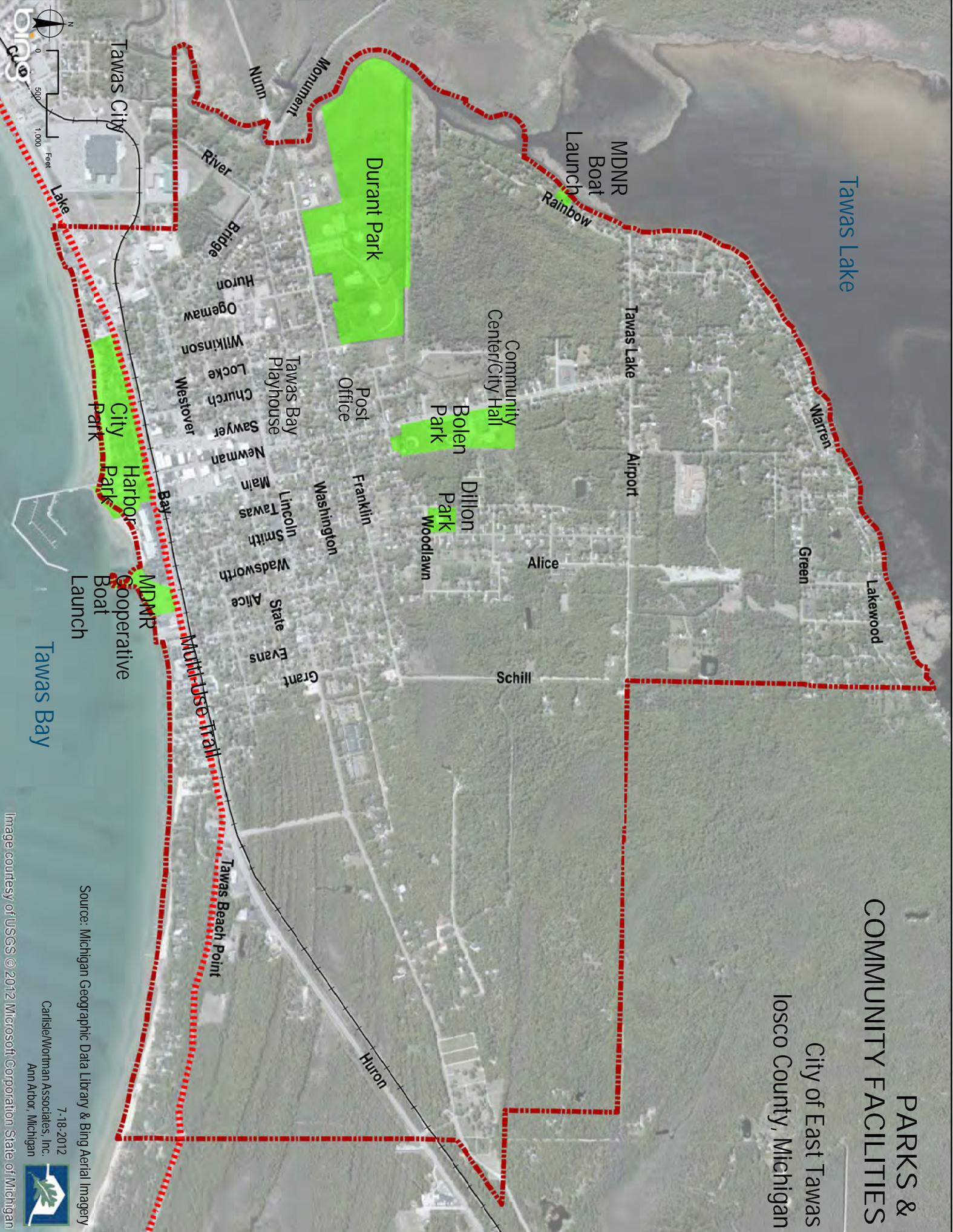


The East Tawas **Community Center/City Hall Complex** is located on the northern seven acres of the park. The building complex includes a full-size gymnasium, an elevated three-lane walking track, fully equipped kitchen, three meeting/multi-purpose rooms, the City Hall administrative offices, and City Council Chambers. The Community Center provides an attractive venue for receptions, banquets, and other formal gatherings for residents and non-residents alike.



PARKS & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

City of East Tawas
Iosco County, Michigan



Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library & Bing Aerial Imagery
7-18-2012
Carlisle/Worlman Associates, Inc.
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Image courtesy of USGS © 2012 Microsoft Corporation. State of Michigan

Dillon Park: Tom Dillon Memorial Park is a 2-acre park located on Woodlawn Street, which includes a softball field used heavily by the Huron East Knothole Association and for youth softball tournaments. The park features a picnic pavilion with restrooms and kitchen, a play structure and play equipment, and horseshoe pits.





Durant Park: Located on the west part of town on Franklin Street, Dewey Durant Park is a 24.5-acre property which features a picnic pavilion with kitchen and restrooms, three softball fields, four tennis courts, eight professional horseshoe pits, and a “Peace Train” wooden play structure. The park also includes a fishing pond, a large open space, a ¾-mile nature trail, and a wooden bridge spanning Dimmick Canal, linking the park to City-owned property on the north side of the canal, and to the Tawas Lake residential areas. The sport fields is used by the Men’s, Women’s, and Youth Amateur Softball Leagues for play and tournaments. The Tawas Area Junior High baseball team and the High School Varsity and Junior Varsity baseball programs use the sport fields for their home games.



East Tawas City Park: The 7.2-acre City Park campground is a former state facility, which is maintained as a popular tourist destination campground located on the beach. The modern 174-site campground is usually filled to capacity from early June through mid August annually and features sewer, water, electric, and cable television hook-ups on all sites. All campsites have a paved parking area. The park's winter storage program, which runs from October to May, is also very popular and helps the campground remain a very vital part of our tourist economy. The revenues generated from the campground fund the City's parks and recreation services.



The City Park day-use area includes a 3-acre property located to the west of the campground and the County Museum and Park Office, which provides a gazebo, benches, picnic facilities, playground equipment, horseshoe pits, drinking fountain, and walkways.



Harbor Park is the name for a 2-acre property facing Newman Street on the waterfront area. It includes a central plaza, which provides access to all the park facilities including the City Park campground, day-use area, a large grass festival area, and the State Dock. It features a fountain, pavilion, statues, seating, play structure, decorative paving, flagpole, lighting, with pedestrian and vehicular access from U. S. -23.



Multi-Use Pathway: A 10-mile multi-use pathway runs from Alabaster Township north through Tawas City and East Tawas along Tawas Beach Road to Tawas Point State Park in Baldwin Township.



Tawas Bay Playhouse: East Tawas purchased the Tawas Bay Playhouse on Newman Street in 1998 and leases it to the Tawas Bay Players. The building has undergone extensive renovation and includes a 150-seat theater with a permanent stage and technical room.



Iosco County Historical Museum: The Museum is located between the East Tawas City Park and the day-use area of the Park, in the former McKay house which was purchased in 1979. The back of the Museum property extending to the waterfront is owned by the City and is part of the City Park day-use area.



SCHOOLS AND OTHER RECREATION FACILITIES

The Tawas Area Schools are located outside City limits in adjacent Tawas City and Tawas Township. The following describes the recreational facilities they offer. The facilities are available to the public through their Community Education Programs and Summer Youth Recreation programs.

Clara Bolen Elementary: The school, located south of Tawas High School in Tawas Township, offers a gymnasium and playground.

Tawas High School: The high school, located on M-55, offers a full size gymnasium, football stadium, a renovated six-lane rubberized track with pole vault, high jump and long jump pits, two practice football fields, a soccer field, and a youth baseball/softball field.



Tawas Area Middle School: This school, located on 2nd Street in Tawas City, offers a gymnasium, playground equipment, and a large open play area. Three youth baseball/softball fields and the Tawas City Soccer Complex are located next to the property.



Several other facilities outside of East Tawas offer recreational opportunities to area residents. Tawas City provides a soccer complex for area youth. The Huron Hockey and Skating Association provides an enclosed and refrigerated ice rink in Tawas Township for area residents. The Oscoda Schools have a swimming pool that they make available to area residents. In addition, the townships of Oscoda and Au Sable provide recreational opportunities including public beaches, playgrounds, and ball fields.

REGIONAL RECREATION FACILITIES

In addition to the previously described recreational facilities, there are more than 140,000 acres of parkland owned by the federal, state, and county in and around East Tawas. These facilities are considered regional recreational facilities. They are typically large properties that provide opportunities such as camping, swimming, boating, hiking, or preserve forested areas, which are beyond the ability of a local municipality to provide. Figure 3 depicts the location of the regional parks. A detailed description of the regional facilities follows.

Tawas Lake Boat Launch: This facility with 200-feet of frontage on Tawas Lake is owned and operated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). It includes a parking area, rustic restroom facilities, and a dock with launch ramp for small boats, canoes, and kayaks.

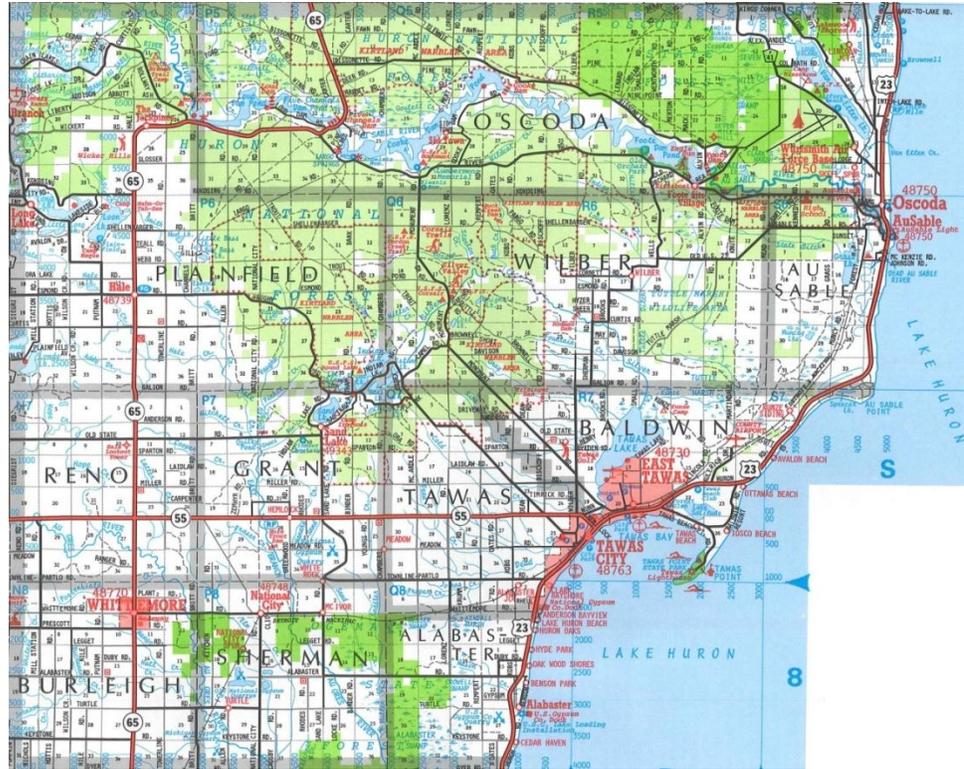
Cooperative Boat Launch: This facility, owned and operated by the MDNR Waterways Division, is located on Tawas Bay. A portion of the parking area is owned by the City of East Tawas and leased to MDNR. The boat launch consists of 4 ramps and 57 car/trailer parking spaces. The MDNR and East Tawas have a long-term lease agreement to incorporate a city-owned property into the Boat Launch Facility.



State Dock/Harbor of Refuge: This facility was originally constructed in 1932 through the Works Progress Administration. Expansion projects over the years have brought the facility to its current capacity of more than 140 slips. The Harbor of Refuge is busy from Memorial Day through Labor Day and provides the setting for many activities throughout the summer.



Figure 3. Regional Parks



Huron National Forest: Approximately 115,000 acres of the Huron National Forest lie within the northern half of Iosco County along the Au Sable River. Recreation opportunities offered include camping, ATV trails, hiking, snowmobiling, boating/canoeing, fishing, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and horseback riding. Some of the popular recreation features within the National Forest include Eagle Run cross-country skiing and hiking trails, Highbanks Trails, Iargo Springs interpretive area, Lumberman Monument Visitor Center, Tuttle Marsh, and the Corsair Trails.

Au Sable State Forest: Approximately 9,000 acres of the Au Sable State Forest are located in Burleigh, Sherman, and Alabaster Townships in the southern portion of Iosco County.

State of Michigan Forest Reserve: The northeast portion of Iosco County contains approximately 16,000 acres of state forest. Portions of the reserve include frontage on Van Ettan Lake with a campground. In addition, several miles of off road vehicle (ORV) trails are located within this area.



Tawas Point State Park: This 183-acre park is located on Lake Huron and features camping, fishing, swimming, hiking, and the Tawas Point lighthouse. The multi-use trail is linked to the park.

ACCESSIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND GRANT-ASSISTED PROJECTS

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing access to accommodate the needs of all people, including those with disabilities. The ranking system suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines (MDNR, 2009) was used to evaluate the accessibility of the area parks. The ranking system ranges from 1 to 5 as follows:

1. None of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines,
2. Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines,
3. Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines,
4. The entire park meets accessibility guidelines, and
5. The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design.

Each of the parks was evaluated using the MDNR ranking system noted. The specific elements that were evaluated include parking, paths of travel from parking to activity areas, the activity areas themselves, and support facilities such as restrooms and surfacing. Table 2 presents the results of this evaluation.

Table 2. Accessibility Assessment

Park	Rank	Description
Bolen Park & Community Center	3	Most of the park complies with ADA standards, however, an accessible route should be developed from the picnic shelter and/or pathway to the playground
Dillon Park	2	Accessible routes should be built to the park's activity areas
Durant Park	3	Accessible routes should be provided to some of the park's activity areas
East Tawas City Park	4	All waterfront parks comply with ADA standards
Multi-Use Trail	4	The trail complies with ADA standards

East Tawas has taken great strides to insure that its facilities comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. All new park construction projects in East Tawas are designed to meet or exceed the most recent requirements of the ADA while existing facilities have been brought into compliance.

The City of East Tawas has been awarded eight MDNR grants since 1976. Grant funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and other funds has been instrumental in developing recreation facilities on park properties. Table 3 presents a description of all MDNR grants received including the current use and condition of the grant-assisted park facilities.

Table 3. MDNR Grant Assisted Projects

Grant Number	Description	Grant Amount	Current Use/condition
26-00820 1976 LWCF	Durant Park Phase I	\$41,314	Development of two tennis courts, one softball field, entrance road, parking and the LWCF sign
26-01104G 1980 LWCF	McKay Property Acquisition	\$20,138	Acquisition of 66 acres of parkland
TF 397 1980 MNRTF	Evans Property Acquisition	\$50,000	Acquisition of 67 acres of parkland with 132 feet of frontage on Tawas Bay
TF88-245 1988 MNRTF	East Tawas City Park Day-use Area	\$24,900	Development of a barrier-free walkway along the waterfront, playground, picnic area, and installation of various amenities including benches, grills, drinking fountain, picnic tables, waste receptacles, bike rack, and landscaping
BF89-534 1989 BF	Newman (Bolen) Park Phase I	\$36,015	Park renovation including reconstruction of two tennis courts, construction of a basketball court, grandstand and dugout repairs, road and parking improvement, landscaping, and service building
BF91-279 1991 BF	Newman (Bolen) Park Phase II	\$50,000	Development of a pedestrian pathway and parking area
TF97-199 1997 MNRTF	Newman Street Waterfront Development	\$302,600	Development of the waterfront area including pedestrian walkways, picnic pavilion, fountain, landscaping, site amenities, irrigation, and street improvements
TF03-205 2003 MNRTF	Holiday Inn Property Acquisition	\$96,500	Acquisition of 0.27 acre of Tawas Bay frontage to provide beach access and outdoor recreation

BF: Recreation Bond Fund

LWCF: Land and Water Conservation Fund

MNRTF: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

Public Participation & Needs Assessment

An essential task in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks and recreation system. Needs expressed by the public provide the rationale for the formulation of goals and objectives as well as identify areas for capital improvements. To assess the public's desires, consideration was given to general recreation trends and a public meeting.

PARK ACREAGE COMPARISON

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommends a minimum amount of parkland to adequately serve a given population size. The purpose of the NRPA guidelines is to provide minimum parkland standards that are applicable nationwide for recreation planning purposes. While the NRPA standards are useful benchmarks addressing minimum park acreage, a parks and recreation system should be tailored to meet the needs of the community.

According to the NRPA, parks are categorized as mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks. The mini, neighborhood, and community parks are the *close-to-home* parks, designed to satisfy the recreational needs of local communities. All the City parks are considered *close-to-home* parks. According to NRPA standards, the suggested amount of *close-to-home* parkland is 6.25 to 10.5 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Regional parks serve a broader area (about a 40-mile radius) and focus on meeting the recreation needs of the region as well as preserving unique areas. For the Tawas area, regional parks include the federal and state-owned recreation areas described in the preceding chapter. The NRPA also recognizes other types of parks such as school properties, which can contribute to the local parks and recreation system.

Table 4 presents a comparison of the NRPA suggested parkland standards with existing area parks based on a population of 2,808 in 2010. According to these standards, local parks meet the acreage for total *close to home* parkland. In addition, the Tawas area is well served by the regional park facilities provided by the federal and state governments that are located within the community and in adjacent communities.

Table 4. Comparison to Suggested Parkland Acreage Standards

Type of Park	NRPA standard Acres/ 1000 Population	Suggested Per 2010 pop - 2,808	Existing
Close to Home Parkland	6.25 - 10.5 Acres	18 – 30 Acres	56 Acres
Regional Parks	15 - 20 Acres	43 – 56 Acres	140,000 Acres+
Multi-Use Pathway	-	-	10 Miles

COUNTY, STATE, AND NATIONAL RECREATION TRENDS

Recreation trends on a national and regional level provide insights into activities that show the greatest growth in popularity and may affect the future direction of parks and recreation. The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) regularly conducts national surveys to measure participation in physical activities and track changes from previous years. Table 5 lists the top seven outdoor activities persons seven years and older participated in at least once in 2010.

Table 5. National Sports Participation, 2010

Activity	Participation
Exercise walking	95.8 million
Swimming	51.9 million
Camping	44.7 million
Bicycle riding	39.8 million
Hiking	37.7 million
Fishing	33.8 million

Source: National Sporting Goods Association

The top growing outdoor activities between 1999 and 2009 were exercise walking (86.3 to 95.8 million), running/jogging (22.8 to 35.5 million), and hiking (24.3 to 37.7 million).

These trends are consistent with trends observed in Michigan. According to a survey of Michigan residents conducted as part of the 2008-2012 Michigan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, more than half the respondents participated in one or more of the following: walking/relaxing outdoors, driving for pleasure, swimming, sightseeing, picnicking, bicycling, and fishing.

The trends are also consistent with trends observed in Iosco County. The County surveyed residents as part of their 2010 County Recreation Plan update and found that the top county recreational activities include boating, fall color tours, participating in festivals and special events, hiking/biking trails, fishing, and picnicking. Desired facilities include restrooms along trails, hiking/biking paths, winter activities, warming cabins along trails, and shore fishing.

Monitoring parks and recreation trends is important in determining how parks and recreation services should evolve. The implication of the trends noted above along with the demographic and physical characteristics of the area can be summarized as follows:

- Recreation facilities should respond to the expected increase of seniors.
- There is a need for more pathways to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian recreation use and to contribute to a healthy and walkable community. The Tawas area has been forward thinking and has made great progress with the multi-use pathway along U.S.-23.
- The Tawas Bay is the greatest natural asset for the area. Encouraging its use for recreation is a continued priority for the community.

PUBLIC INPUT

City officials strive to be responsive to residents' needs and desires for parks and recreation. A survey of residents conducted in 2012 as part of the City Master Plan effort revealed that desired park improvements include:

- Providing more access to Tawas Lake,
- Keeping children's play structures in good repair and updated,
- Keeping beaches cleaned, making canoe and kayak rentals available,
- Adding nature areas with walking/biking paths,
- Developing soccer/lacrosse fields, and
- Providing an indoor facility offering fitness/gym for seniors, an indoor pool, and an indoor play area for kids in the winter.

Residents were invited to a public input meeting which was held on September 6, 2012 at City Hall. The event was advertised in the local paper, flyers were distributed and posted at numerous locations in the City including the community website, and invitations were mailed to City officials as well as service groups and school organizations.

Following an introductory presentation which included a description of the planning process, attendees were asked to provide suggestions related to park improvement and development. The following ideas were received:

- Waterfront property acquisition
- Resort cabins
- Larger RV campsites to accommodate 40' & larger units
- Canoe-kayak rentals near resort cabins
- Bicycle rentals
- Elevated trail behind WWTP/for canoe-kayak at Dewey Durant
- Remove guard rails at City Park
- Electrical upgrade at campground with 50-Amp service on all sites
- Community pool
- Maintenance of existing facilities, age of play structure/backstop, fences, tennis courts
- Water safety classes needed at beach
- User fees are too low for the Community Center
- Connecting pathways with county-wide system
- Soccer fields in Tawas - Should some be located in East Tawas?
- Skateboard park not a priority
- Disc golf
- Art prize/events
- School art programs
- Historical signage
- Bolen Park acquisition
- Always looking for new properties to purchase
- Need for short term boat/RV parking near downtown
- Overflow parking for cars in campground
- Cooperation with State for boat ramp/harbor

PARK MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

Park maintenance and development needs were assessed by the Parks and Recreation Department Director. Table 6 details the evaluation.

Table 6. Park Maintenance and Development Needs

Park	Needs
Bolen Park	<p>Basketball courts resurfacing</p> <p>Main pavilion: painting, new roof, replacement of south door and old picnic tables</p> <p>Horseshoe pits refurbishing</p> <p>Little League Field: addition of gate in outfield fence, dugout entrances resurfacing with pea gravel/limestone, infield drainage improvements with additional lime dust, re-cutting of infield, backstop area improvement, addition of new foul poles and new garbage containers,</p> <p>Pony League Field: dugout entrances resurfacing with pea gravel/limestone, infield drainage improvement with additional lime dust, re-cutting of infield, new foul poles, grand stand repair, sign repainting, warning track widening</p> <p>Trimming trees along park boundaries</p> <p>Lions Building: repainting, building interior rehabilitation for restroom use, north and south doors replacement</p>
Dillon Park	<p>Resurfacing of entrances from Smith and Woodlawn Streets with pea gravel/limestone</p> <p>Park sign painting</p> <p>Dead tree removal</p> <p>Ball field: dugouts painting, addition of pea gravel/limestone in front of dugouts, outfield fence repair/replacement, new foul poles, planter box improvements, infield edges straightening</p> <p>Horseshoe pits refurbishing</p> <p>Improvement to swing set surface</p> <p>Pavilion: interior wood re-staining, new garbage containers, old picnic tables replacement</p>
Durant Park	<p>Field #3: pea gravel/limestone addition in front of dugouts, grass removal in front of backstop and along 1st and 3rd base lines and replacement with lime dust, infield lip leveling, new foul poles</p> <p>Workshop building: repainting, west side garage door repair</p> <p>Field #2: expansion of infield to accommodate 70' bases, new foul poles, outfield fence straightening, backstop fence fabric replacement, sprinkler head addition behind 1st and 3rd bases</p> <p>Field #1: infield edge expansion to accommodate 70' base distances, backstop fence fabric replacement, infield drainage improvement with lime dust addition, new foul poles and distance markers, resurfacing of high traffic areas with pea gravel/limestone or concrete</p> <p>Playground: addition of landscape timbers edging, new beach sand or pea gravel within fall areas, re-staining of benches</p> <p>Tennis Courts resurfacing and repainting</p> <p>Picnic pavilion: addition of concrete between parking and field #2, old picnic table replacement</p> <p>New garbage containers throughout park</p> <p>Addition of pet waste dispensers and "clean up after your pet" signs</p> <p>Completion of nature trail system</p>

Park	Needs
City Park Campground	Pavement directional arrows restriping, "no dogs on the beach" sign repainting, Observation deck re-stained Improvement of garden area (by lots 40 and 126) and planter (by lots 29 and 156) Campsite old paved pad and picnic table replacement, site marker upgrade
City Park Day-Use Area	Horseshoe pits refurbishing New garbage containers, new grills, old picnic table replacement Gazebo and bench re-staining Edging of paved pathways Weeding of beach grass area, pruning of dead and diseased branches, Improvement of decorative pilings Parking lot edging, stripe repainting

PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING

Once a draft Parks and Recreation Plan was completed, it was made available for a 30-day public review. The availability of the draft plan for public review was advertised in the local paper (page B-1) and copies were placed at various locations in the City including City Hall, the Parks Department, and the City's website.

No comments were received. After the public review period, the Park Board approved the plan and recommended City Council's adoption of the plan (page B-2).

The public input into the plan culminated in an advertised public hearing held on February 4, 2013 (pages B-3 and B-5). After the hearing, the City Council adopted the plan by resolution (page B-9).

Goals and Objectives

The City of East Tawas Park Board has formulated goals and objectives for the next five years. They are broad enough to encompass the suggestions expressed from the public, City officials, staff, as well as to meet the observed deficiencies in the recreation resources of the area. They also consider demographic changes, current and anticipated growth and development, the area's physical resources, and recreation trends.

GOALS

The City of East Tawas should provide outdoor recreational opportunities for persons of all ages and abilities that are clean, functional, and safe.

The City of East Tawas should consider the future needs of the community and take actions to dedicate parkland in order to meet future recreational needs as well as to enhance the character of the community.

OBJECTIVES

I. Continue to maintain and improve existing parks and community facilities

It is a priority of the Parks and Recreation Department to continue to maintain and improve existing park facilities to a high quality standard. This entails ensuring park facilities and equipment are safe, functional, and well-maintained.

More specifically, it includes replacing and upgrading aging park equipment and furnishings, ensuring safety surfaces under playground equipment meet regulated depth and fall zones, removing barriers to universal access, maintaining and refurbishing parking and pavement surfaces, athletic field and equipment care, and general park upkeep and stewardship. This also includes developing new outdoor facilities in response to the changing needs of City residents.

II. Acquire new parkland

Parkland acquisition has always been a major priority for the City of East Tawas to ensure a sustainable parks and recreation system that can be enjoyed by all current users and future generations.

Potential parkland acquisition continue to focus on waterfront properties providing access to Tawas Bay and Tawas Lake, on land adjacent to existing parks, and on land presenting pathway development and linkage opportunities. Coordination with the City Council, Planning Commission, and the Tax Increment Finance Authority will be necessary to acquire land for the development of parks and pathways.

III. Improve pathways and develop a continuous community walk/bike pathway system

With the success of the multi-use pathway along the US-23 Heritage Route as well as other sidewalks/pathways along City streets and within City parks, continued pathway development is recognized as a priority for the community.

This system is envisioned to form a continuous, interconnected system of walk/bike pathways linking the multi-use pathway with parks, community facilities, downtown businesses, and neighborhoods. Coordination with City Council, Planning Commission, and other groups will be necessary to realize a citywide system.

IV. Continue to offer outstanding parks and recreation services that enrich and engage the community

The East Tawas Parks and Recreation Department strives to provide exceptional services that respond to residents' desires and interests. Demographic and recreation trends indicate an increase in the number of active mature adults as well as an increase in the popularity of exercise and fitness-related activities. Continued partnerships with the various area public and private recreation providers including the state, county, schools, sport organizations, and others is desirable to get the most out of the area's recreation potential.

Increased awareness of the City's parks and recreation services through enhanced marketing may be important to promote the value and benefits of parks and recreation to East Tawas residents. At the same time, a quality park and recreation system is dependent on the prudent use of available funds. A means of generating revenues through grants, sponsorships, and donations where possible must continue to be a priority to accomplish park acquisition and development projects.

Action Program

The action program details the manner in which the goals and objectives will be met. It includes a list of specific projects to be accomplished over the next five years, as well as a suggested project schedule, timing, and strategies for implementation. These actions are generally grouped by park or facility and address the issues identified at the public meeting, current national and state recreation trends, park acreage and facility standards, and the maintenance needs of the City parks.

ACTION PLAN

The following outlines the specific projects and actions which are recommended to be accomplished during the planning period. Illustrations and plans showing the proposed park improvements and actions are also included to depict the proposed actions.

1. Maintain and improve Bolen Park

As a key community park and the site for City Hall and the Community Center, Bolen Park is a main priority for future enhancement. Proposed improvements to Bolen Park include:

- A. Replace safety surface under the play structure and equipment
- B. Refurbish ball fields with infield and dugout surface replenishing, dugout painting, a new gate added to the Little League outfield fence, installation of new foul poles, sign painting, and more
- C. Resurface basketball courts
- D. Refurbish horseshoe pits
- E. Establish a pathway and nature trail on the new property connecting to Tawas Street and eventually to Dillon Park
- F. Revamp main pavilion with painting, roof replacement, south door replacement, and some picnic table replacement
- G. Renovate the Lions building with painting, remodeling, and exterior door replacements
- H. Remove dead trees or tree limbs and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance
- I. Install eave trough and downspout on north side of the Community Center building
- J. Install a generator in the Community Center as a back-up power supply system
- K. Replace furnishings in Community Center's lobby and gymnasium, replace windows and clean/repaint ductwork in the gymnasium
- L. Consider the addition of an indoor swimming pool at the Community Center
- M. Expand the Jefferson Street parking lot to Newman Street on newly acquired Brainard Property
- N. Develop a "fitness park" on recently acquired Wendy Parks Property

Figure 4. Bolen Park Proposed Improvements

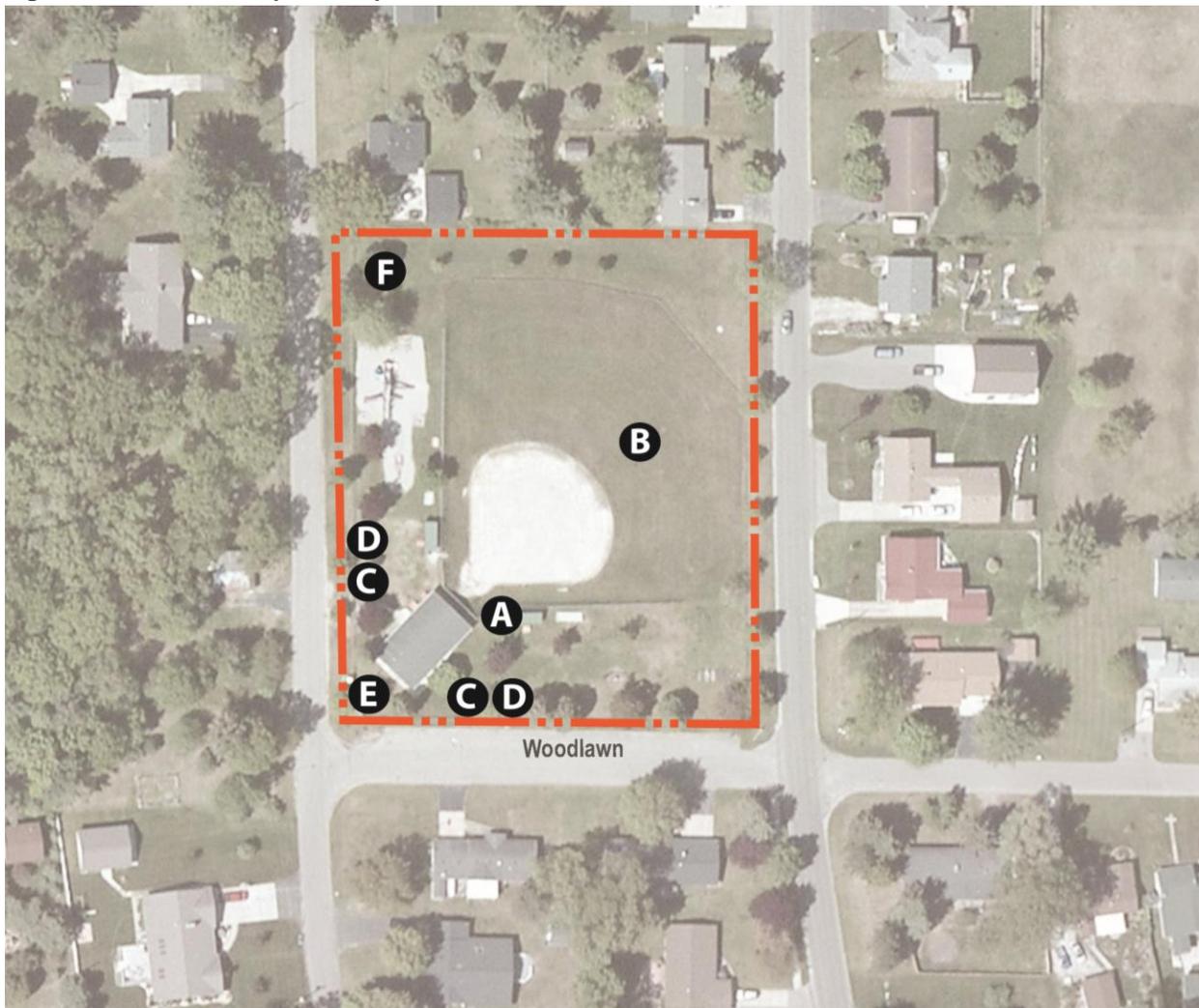


2. Maintain and improve Dillon Park

Dillon Park, located at the center of a residential area, is a perfect neighborhood park for baseball or softball practice, pick-up games, or for strolling and picnicking. Proposed improvements to Dillon Park consist of:

- A. Repair/repaint dugouts
- B. Upgrade ball field
- C. Refurbish pathway connection surfaces from Smith Street and Woodlawn Street
- D. Add accessible routes to connect the parking area to the park activity areas
- E. Repaint park sign at Woodlawn and Smith Street
- F. Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance

Figure 5. Dillon Park Proposed Improvements



3. Maintain and improve Durant Park

Durant Park is the City's largest community park used heavily by leagues for softball tournaments. The City and numerous local organizations have made considerable investments through state grants and local donations since the park's inception 30 years ago. Proposed improvements to Durant Park include:

- A. Replace safety surface under the play structure and equipment and add edging
- B. Refurbish/upgrade ball fields with infield and dugout surface replenishing, dugout painting, installation of new foul poles, fence repairs, and more
- C. Resurface tennis courts
- D. Refurbish pathway surface connections from pavilion and in high traffic areas
- E. Establish a pathway from the end of the existing one along the Dimmick Canal to Locke Street
- F. Add accessible routes to connect the parking area to the park activity areas
- G. Add "clean up after your pet" signs and pet waste dispensers
- H. Paint park workshop and repair west side garage door
- I. Replace wood framed with metal framed picnic tables, stain benches, and replace garbage containers
- J. Add nature trails
- K. Develop a disc golf course
- L. Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance

Figure 6. Durant Park Proposed Improvements



4. Maintain and improve East Tawas City Park and waterfront properties (Campground, day-use, and Harbor Park areas)

Because of its attractive location along Tawas Bay, this former state park has been kept as a primary destination for both City residents and visitors. This premier waterfront site includes a campground, a day-use area, Harbor Park, and connections to the state dock and the City's downtown. The area is a vital element of the City and a high priority for continued improvements. Proposed improvements to the waterfront properties include:

- A. Replace safety surface under the play structure and equipment
- B. Refurbish horseshoe pits in day-use area
- C. Restripe parking areas
- D. Replace/resurface the old asphalt campsite pads
- E. Re-stain gazebos, replace wood framed with metal framed picnic tables, add grills, and replace garbage containers
- F. Install pavilion/band shell in Harbor Park and add pathways connecting the parking area and City sidewalks to the pavilion
- G. Add shower facilities in campground restrooms
- H. Upgrade RV electric service from 30-Amp to 50-Amp
- I. Provide cold weather water service on some campsites to extend camping season in early spring and late fall
- J. Replace/repair information and directional signs at the campground and upgrade campsite markers
- K. Continue to implement shoreline protection measures with the extension of the steel break wall system
- L. Incorporate a boardwalk along the wall
- M. Clean-up garden areas and maintain general landscaping to a high standard
- N. Install a decorative fence and landscaping along U.S.-23
- O. Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance
- P. Develop camper cabins on recently acquired waterfront property west of the day-use area

Figure 7. East Tawas City Park and Waterfront Properties Proposed Improvements



5. Acquire future parkland and open space

Parkland acquisition has always been a major goal of the City. Proposed actions regarding parkland acquisition include:

- A. Consider parkland acquisition along Tawas Bay and Tawas Lake, adjacent to existing parks, and land providing linkages and opportunities for pathway development. This would include the continued acquisition of land adjacent to the day-use area
- B. Work with City Council, Planning Commission, and the Tax Increment Finance Authority to ensure parkland and open space dedication is considered in future development projects

6. Continue to develop a citywide walk/bike pathway system

There is a strong need and desire for walking and biking pathways in East Tawas. A citywide system would connect parks, community facilities, neighborhoods, and the downtown. Actions to establish this system include:

- A. Work with City departments and officials to plan and implement bike/walk ways with the following priority connections:
 - Sidewalk/pathway along Franklin Street from Wilkinson to Wadsworth Streets
 - Pathway from Bolen Park to Tawas Street and eventually to Dillon Park
 - Sidewalk/pathway along Lincoln Street from Grant Street to Greenwood Cemetery
 - Pathway along U.S.-23 from Tawas Beach Road to east City boundary
- B. Install holiday wreaths on multi-use path
- C. Retrofit existing lights with LED lights
- D. Install site amenities along the citywide walk/bike pathway system including benches, trash receptacles, mile markers, and signage
- E. Develop a marketing strategy to attract support and sponsors including the development of a walking brochure and club

Figure 8. East Tawas Walk/Bike System



7. Maintain high quality parks and recreation services

There is a desire to continue to facilitate and promote the use of City parks and recreation facilities by community groups including seniors, adults, youth groups, and area schools. Specific actions include:

- A. Upgrade the “Promoting Active Communities” assessment from the State Department of Community Health, the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Sports, and Health, MSU, and the Prevention Research Center of Michigan to generate ideas, interest, and support for the East Tawas parks and recreation services
- B. Continue to coordinate the shared use of facilities and develop partnerships with area sports organizations, schools, adjacent communities, Iosco County, and the state to benefit the area parks and recreation opportunities
- C. Increase public awareness of East Tawas parks
- D. Maintain adequate staff and invest in new technologies and quality maintenance equipment as necessary
- E. Continue to aggressively pursue state and federal grants for parkland and pathway acquisition and development
- F. Establish a Friends of East Tawas Parks group to provide support for park projects and funding

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Table 7 lists individual projects along with the specific tasks to be accomplished, the project goal reference, a cost estimate, and potential funding sources. The projects are organized according to when they are intended to be completed. Short-term projects (ST) are recommended for completion within one to two years, medium-term (MT) within two to five years while long-term projects (LT) may take longer to complete, within five to six years. There are also tasks that are on-going (OG).

Table 7. Project Schedule

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding source	Time Frame
Replace safety surface under play structure & equipment at Bolen Park	I	\$3,000	Parks Budget	OG
Remove dead trees or tree limbs at Bolen Park and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance	I	\$1,500	Parks Budget	OG
Repair/repaint dugouts at Dillon Park	I	\$800	Parks Budget	OG
Refurbish pathway connection surfaces at Dillon Park and add accessible routes from Smith Street and Woodlawn Street	I	\$5,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	OG
Repaint park sign at Woodlawn and Smith Street in Dillon Park	I	\$800	Parks Budget	OG
Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs at Dillon Park and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance	I	\$500	Parks Budget	OG
Replace safety surface under the play structure and equipment and add edging at Durant Park	I	\$3,000	Parks Budget	OG
Replace wood framed with metal framed picnic tables, stain benches, and replace garbage containers at Durant Park	I	\$5,000	Parks Budget	OG
Add nature trails at Durant Park	I	Tbd	Parks Budget	OG
Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs at Durant Park and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance	I	\$4,000+	Parks Budget	OG
Replace safety surface under the play structure and equipment at City Park	I	\$3,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	OG
Refurbish horseshoe pits in day-use area of City Park	I	\$250	Parks Budget	OG
Restripe parking areas at City Park	I	\$500+	Parks Budget & City Funds	OG
Re-stain gazebos, replace wood framed with metal framed picnic tables, add grills, and replace garbage containers at City Park	I	\$9,000	Parks Budget, City Funds & Donations	OG

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding source	Time Frame
Clean-up garden areas at City Park and maintain general landscaping to a high standard	I	\$5,000	Parks Budget	OG
Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs at City Park and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance	I	\$4,000	Parks Budget	OG
Consider parkland acquisition along Tawas Bay and Tawas Lake	II	Tbd	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	OG
Retrofit existing lights along path with energy saving lights	III	\$9,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	OG
Refurbish horseshoe pits at Bolen Park	I	\$500	Parks Budget, Grants & Donations	ST
Refurbish ball fields at Bolen Park with infield and dugout surface replenishing, dugout painting, new gate added to Little League outfield fence, install new foul poles, sign painting, and more	I	\$2,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	ST
Upgrade ball field at Dillon Park	I	\$2,500	Parks Budget	ST
Install eave trough and downspout on north side of the Community Center building	I	\$5,000	Parks Budget & City Funds	ST
Resurface tennis courts at Durant Park	I	\$40,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	ST
Add "clean up after your pet" signs and pet waste dispensers at Durant Park	I	\$750	Parks Budget	ST
Improve existing fence and landscaping along U.S.-23 at City Park	I	\$18,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	ST
Acquire waterfront property between the day-use area and newly acquired properties	II	\$600,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	ST
Replace/repair information and directional signs at the City Park campground and upgrade campsite markers	I	\$5,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	ST - MT
Resurface basketball courts at Bolen Park	I	\$30,000	Parks Budget, Grants & Donations	MT
Revamp main pavilion at Bolen Park with painting, south door replacement, roof replacement, and some picnic table replacement	I	\$8,000	Parks Budget	MT

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding source	Time Frame
Expand Jefferson St. parking lot to Newman St. on new property at Bolen Park	I	\$24,700	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Establish a pathway and nature trail on new property at Bolen Park connecting to Tawas Street and eventually to Dillon Park	I	\$2,500	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Refurbish/upgrade ball fields at Durant Park with infield and dugout surface replenishing, dugout painting, installation of new foul poles, fence repairs, and more	I	\$37,500	Parks Budget	MT
Refurbish pathway surface connections at Durant Park and add accessible routes from pavilion and in high traffic areas	I	\$15,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Establish a pathway at Durant Park from the end of the existing one along the Dimmick Canal to Locke Street	I	Tbd	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Paint park workshop and repair west side garage door at Durant Park	I	\$800	Parks Budget & City Funds	MT
Add shower facilities in campground brown restroom at City Park	I	\$30,000	Parks Budget, City Funds & Donations	MT
Upgrade RV electric service from 30-Amp to 50-Amp at City Park	I	\$500,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Develop camper cabins on newly acquired property east of day-use area at City Park	I	\$200,000+	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Provide new holiday decorations on multi-use path	III	\$8,000	Parks Budget, City Funds & Donations	MT
Develop a marketing strategy to attract support and sponsors including the development of a walking brochure and club	III	\$2,500	Parks Budget	MT
Install a generator in the Community Center as a back-up power supply system	I	\$90,000	Parks Budget & City Funds	MT - LT
Replace/resurface the old asphalt campsite pads at City Park	I	\$30,000	Parks Budget & City Funds	MT - LT
Develop sidewalk/pathway along Franklin Street from Wilkinson to Wadsworth Streets	III	\$40,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT - LT
Develop pathway from Bolen Park to Tawas Street and eventually to Dillon Park	III	\$35,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT - LT
Replace furnishings in Community Center's lobby and gymnasium and replace windows in gymnasium	I	\$37,500	Parks Budget & City Funds	LT

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding source	Time Frame
Renovate the Lions building at Bolen Park with painting, remodeling, and exterior door replacements	I	\$2,500	Parks Budget & Donations	LT
Consider the addition of a swimming pool at the Community Center	I	Tbd	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Develop fitness park on new property at Bolen Park	I	\$7,500	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Develop a disc golf course at Durant Park	I	\$9,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Install pavilion/band shell in Harbor Park and add pathways connecting the parking area and City sidewalks to the pavilion	I	\$200,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Provide cold weather water service on some campsites at City Park to extend camping season in early spring and late fall	I	Tbd	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Continue to implement shoreline protection measures at City Park with the extension of the steel break wall system	I	Tbd	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Incorporate a boardwalk along the wall at City Park	I	Tbd	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Develop sidewalk/pathway along Lincoln Street from Grant Street to Greenwood Cemetery	III	\$40,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Develop pathway from Tawas Beach Road to east City boundary	III	Tbd	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Install site amenities along the citywide walk/bike pathway system including benches, trash receptacles, mile markers, and signage	III	Tbd	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT

OG: On-going, ST: Short term, MT: Medium term, LT: Long term, Tbd: To be determined

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. The current budget provides a limited amount of money for parks and recreation facilities. Therefore, the following strategies are recommended in order to proceed as planned.

Apply for Federal Funding

At the federal level, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) funds Transportation Enhancement (TE) activities. To be eligible, a project must fall into one of the 12 TE activities and relate to surface transportation. A minimum 20 percent local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis. Activities which may apply to the City of East Tawas include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles including new or reconstructed sidewalks, walkways, curb ramps, bike lane striping, wide paved shoulders, bike parking, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges, and underpasses; and
- Provision of safety and educational programs for pedestrians and bicyclists designed to encourage walking and bicycling.

Apply for State Funding

At the state level, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) continue to be the primary funding sources for parkland acquisition and development. The new Recreation Passport grant also offers some state funding to local units of government.

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase and development of parkland for natural resource-based preservation and recreation.

Grant proposals must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the minimum funding request was \$15,000 and the maximum was \$300,000 in 2012. Applications are typically due April 1st.

The LWCF is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, which distributes funds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program has recently been on trailway systems and other community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields, and walking paths. Minimum grant requests were \$30,000 and maximum grant requests were \$100,000 in 2012. The match percentage is 50 percent of the total project cost. Applications are typically due on April 1st.

The Recreation Passport grant program offers funding for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Minimum grant requests were \$7,500 and maximum requests were \$45,000 in 2012. The local match obligation is 25 percent of the total project cost. Applications are usually due on April 1st as well.

Other funding provided in partnership with the MDNR is available through other state government divisions, such as the Fisheries Division (Inland Fisheries Grants) and the Forest Resources Division (Community Forestry Grants).

The Inland Fisheries programs consider projects that enhance habitat and fisheries, riparian property for public fishing use, water quality, and ecology. While not currently offered for 2012-2013, they may become available in the future.

Municipalities may use Community Forestry grants to develop a management plan for a municipal forest which would include a component targeting outreach to private landowners. Grant requests may be up to \$20,000 depending on the project type and applications are usually due in the middle of the summer. Consumers Energy also offers tree planting grants for up to \$3,000 to local municipalities in its coverage area.

The Coastal Zone Management program provides financial and technical assistance to local units of government to address shoreline issues and improve their coastal resources. This annual funding is the result of a federal and state partnership established through the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. Funding for the program is provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration through the MDNR Coastal Management Program.

Apply for Other Grant Funding

There are also a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways/pathways or greenway-related facilities such as Bikes Belong Coalition. The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds projects in three categories: facility, education, and capacity building. Requests for funding can be up to \$10,000 for projects such as bike paths, trails, lanes, parking, and safe routes to school. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Seek Other Sources of Funding

The City of East Tawas should investigate additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund-raising events, and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that should continue to be pursued aggressively to raise funding for parkland acquisition and development.

Appendix

Appendix A: Community Description

In planning for the future, it is essential to understand both the community of people to be served and the physical resources that the community has to offer. The purpose of this chapter of the Master Plan is to provide an overview of the human and physical resources of East Tawas with the goal of understanding the unique features and opportunities the community offers.

Population, Households, and Housing Units

Past, present, and future growth patterns are a driving force and strong indicator of the overall health of a city. They help to define existing problems along with socioeconomic resources and represent the current and future demands of those available resources. The sustainability of a city is dependent upon how well the city meets the future needs of its residents.

The City of East Tawas counted:

- 2,372 people in 1970,
- 2,584 people in 1980,
- 2,887 people in 1990,
- 2,951 people in 2000, and
- 2,808 people in 2010.
- 2,550 people in 2035 (*MDOT Estimate*)

Population and Households
EMCOG projections for the year 2035 predict a continuing decline in population from current estimates over the next 25 years.

The 2010 U. S. Census determined 2,808 people currently live in East Tawas. EMCOG projects that 2,550 people will live in the City in 2035. This data indicates a population decline for the City for the next 25 years. This would continue a slight population decline trend experienced throughout Iosco County that began in the early 1990’s with the closure of Wurtsmith Air Force Base. The City had 1,382 households in 2000, and 1,332 households in 2010.

In summary, there has been a slight increase in population and households in the City between 1990 and 2000 and a decrease since 2000. Future projections conducted by EMCOG demonstrate that numbers will continue to decrease for both population and households. Meanwhile household size will continue to decrease. Decreasing household size reflects many factors, including families with fewer children, aging population, and changes in the mix of households.

Table A1. Population and Household, 1990-2035

	1990 Census	2000 Census	2010 Census	2035 Forecast
Population	2,887	2,951	2,808	2,550
Households	1,274	1,382	1,332	n/a
Household Size	2. 23	2. 14	2. 06	n/a
Household Types				
Households with Children	n/a	815 (59%)	756 (56.8%)	n/a
Households without Children	n/a	567 (41%)	576 (43.2%)	n/a

n/a: not available, Source: U. S. Census Bureau, EMCOG

As noted in Tables A1 and A2, the City of East Tawas experienced a slight decrease in population between 2000 and 2010. This was consistent with population throughout the County, region, and State. EMCOG 2035 population projections for Iosco County and the City of East Tawas forecast a slight population decrease.

Table A2. East Tawas, Neighboring Communities, County, and State 1970-2010

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	Change 2000-2010
City of East Tawas	2,372	2,584	2,887	2,951	2,808	-4.84
City of Tawas City	1,666	1,967	2,009	2,005	1,827	-8.9%
City of Whittemore	460	438	463	476	384	-19.3%
Alabaster Township	280	371	394	503	487	-3.2%
Au Sable Charter Township	1,876	2,198	2,312	2,230	2,047	-8.2%
Baldwin Township	953	1,393	1,670	1,726	1,694	-1.8%
Burleigh Township	569	761	695	775	787	+1.5%
Grant Township	607	1,043	1,154	1,560	1,546	-0.89%
Oscoda Charter Township	11,578	11,386	11,958	7,248	6,997	-3.46%
Plainfield Township	2,036	3,160	3,490	4,292	3,799	-11.48%
Reno Township	294	566	572	656	590	-10.06%
Sherman Township	422	465	502	493	448	-9.13%
Tawas Township	1,253	1,463	1,465	1,465	1,744	+19.04
Wilber Township	359	554	638	740	729	-1.48%
Iosco County	24,905	28,349	30,209	27,339	25,887	-5.31%
State of Michigan	8,875,083	9,262,078	9,295,297	9,938,444	9,883,640	-0.6%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Iosco County Historical Population Data, EMCOG

The housing stock is relatively new in East Tawas with over 40% of the housing stock in the City constructed since 1970 and only 17% constructed prior to 1939. There has been very little growth in the City's housing stock between 2000 and 2010. U. S. Census estimates indicate the number of housing units has increased by 372 units, or 2.1%, between 2000 and 2010 while the population has decreased by 4.9% during the same period.

Table A3. Housing Tenure, 2000-2010

	City of East Tawas		Iosco County	
	2000 Census	2010 Census	2000 Census	2010 Census
Occupied Units	944(68.3%)	939(70.6%)	11,727(57.4%)	9,609(81.7%)
Renter Occupied Units	438(31.7%)	393(29.5%)	2,112(18%)	2,148(18.3%)
Vacant Units	309(18.3%)	396(22.9%)	8,705(42.6%)	8,686(42.5%)
Total Housing Units	1,691	1,728	20,432	20,443

Source: EMCOG

The City experienced a modest increase in population from 1990 to 2000, and a slight increase in total housing units as shown in Table 3. With the change in population the City also experienced a 4% increase in vacant units which was slightly higher than the regional level. The population segment 65 and over accounts for 28% of the overall population in the City. These seniors, upon retirement, are converting their summer cottages to primary residences. This was evidenced by the increased single-family redevelopment activity occurring in the City, especially along the shores of Tawas Lake in the 1990's. Table A4 provides population projections from EMCOG and MDOT. These estimates suggest a slight decrease in population through 2035.

Table A4. Population Projections, 2000-2035

	2000 Census	2010 Census	2020 Projection	2035 Projection
City of East Tawas	2,951	2,808	2,600	2,550
Iosco County	27,300	25,600	25,000	24,700
State	9,955,300	9,945,700	10,139,500	10,549,600

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from Michigan Department of Transportation Planning.

As noted in Table A5, the median age in the City of East Tawas increased from 44.2 years in 2000 to 50.9 years in 2010. This is a 6.7 year, or a 15 percent increase in a ten year period; as opposed to a 2.6 year, or a 6.2% increase between 1990 and 2000.

Table A5. Median Age, 1970-2010

Census	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
City of East Tawas	42.1	41.6	41.6	44.2	50.9
Iosco County	25.0	29.2	32.6	44.2	51.0
State	26.3	28.8	32.6	35.5	37.2

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

Another element of population trends is the age of the population as it directly affects the availability of a workforce and the types of both public and private services needed. EMCOG estimates show that the median age of the entire region is increasing. In the City of East Tawas, there was a 26.2% increase in the median age between 1980 and 2010. Table A6 shows that in 2010, 65% of the City's population was 40 years of age or older.

Table A6. Age Distribution

	City of East Tawas	Iosco County	State of Michigan
Total population	2,808	25,887	308,745,538
Under 5 years	114	1,025	20,201,362
5 to 9 years	142	1,201	20,348,657
10 to 14 years	162	1,421	20,677,194
15 to 19 years	155	1,428	22,040,343
20 to 24 years	87	1,038	21,585,999
25 to 29 years	94	999	21,101,849
30 to 34 years	118	999	19,962,099
35 to 39 years	115	1,100	20,179,642
40 to 44 years	171	1,456	20,890,964
45 to 49 years	204	1,871	22,708,591
50 to 54 years	214	2,160	22,298,125
55 to 59 years	233	2,185	19,664,805
60 to 64 years	226	2,249	16,817,924
65 to 69 years	162	2,103	12,435,263
70 to 74 years	166	1,660	9,278,166
75 to 79 years	137	1,311	7,317,795
80 to 84 years	154	944	5,743,327
85 years and over	154	737	5,493,433

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

The City of East Tawas is predominantly white (96%), while blacks, Native Americans, Asians, and other races make up the balance of the population. Hispanics of any race comprise 2% of the population.

Table A6. Race

	City of East Tawas			Iosco County			State of Michigan		
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
White	2,858	2,886	2,687	28,966	26,496	24,965	7,756,086	7,966,053	7,803,120
Black	3	1	5	632	111	122	1,291,706	1,412,742	1,400,362
American Indian	18	13	8	228	181	170	55,638	58,479	62,007
Asian	6	13	30	269	126	126	104,983	176,510	238,199
Pacific Islander		2	4		14	15		2,692	2,604
Other Race	2	3	21	114	63	106	86,884	129,552	147,029
Multi-Racial	n/a	33	53	n/a	348	383	n/a	192,416	230,319
Hispanic Origin	9	22	57	357	269	403	201,596	323,877	436,358
Total	2,887	2,951	2,808	30,209	27,339	25,887	9,295,297	9,938,492	9,883,640

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

Socio-Economic Characteristics

Educational Achievement

One indicator of the economic viability of a city is the educational attainment level of the population living there. Between 2000 and 2010, the proportion of the City's population without a high school diploma has decreased. This decrease is consistent with a decline experienced at the EMCOG regional, State, and National levels. EMCOG has also reported a rise in educational attainment at all levels throughout the region.

Income

According to Census 2010, the median income for a household in the City of East Tawas was \$30,229. This is 33% below the State median household income (\$44,667) and 3% below the County median household income (\$31,321).

Poverty is a strong indicator of the economic health and sustainability of the population of an area. Table A8 shows the level of poverty within the EMCOG region for 2000 and 2010 as compared to Iosco County, the State, and the Nation.

Table A8. Poverty Level 2000-2010

	2000 percentage of Population	2010 Percentage of Population
City of East Tawas	n/a	n/a
Iosco County	12.7%	14.3%
EMCOG Region	12.3%	17.0%
Michigan	11.3%	14.5%
United States	11.3%	13.5%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

Natural Features

An inventory of significant natural features is important for several reasons. It can help determine which areas of the City are most suitable for development and which may be the most cost effective to develop. Further, a natural features inventory can provide an indication as to which areas of the City would provide maximum amenities without having adverse impacts on natural systems and is often useful in the review of the proposed development plans.

Since the development of land can significantly impact the natural environment, special attention must also be given to the preservation of natural and environmentally sensitive areas in long-range planning. Environmentally sensitive areas can be defined as land areas whose destruction or disturbance will immediately affect the life of the community by either:

- Creating hazards such as flooding;
- Destroying important resources such as wetlands and woodlots; and
- Wasting important productive lands and renewable resources.

Significant Site Features

Significant site features are those surface characteristics that “shape the community.” For instance, poorly drained soils, steep elevations, or floodplains may discourage or preclude development, while flat, well drained lands may attract certain land use activities over others.

Climate

The climate of the City of East Tawas is modified somewhat by Lake Huron. The lake provides a cooling effect during the summer months and a warming influence during the winter months. The mean annual temperature is 44°F. The warmest month of the year in the City of East Tawas is July, with an average maximum temperature of 80°F and an average minimum temperature of 56°F.

Conversely, the coldest month is January, with an average maximum and minimum temperatures of 29°F and 11°F, respectively.

The average annual precipitation is 30 inches, with an average snowfall of 53 inches per year. Fifty-nine percent of the precipitation is received between April and September. There have been several instances of monthly rainfall in excess of seven inches.



Given these climatic conditions, the growing seasons last, on average, 120 days.

Topography

The topography of the City of East Tawas is generally flat, as the area is a former glacial lakebed. Land elevations range from 580 feet above sea level along Tawas Bay to 590 feet for most of the remaining areas of the City. Elevation contours for the City are depicted on Map 1, Natural Features.

Floodplain

The Tawas River floodplain encompasses a significant area on the City's west side and to a lesser degree on the City's north side. A second floodplain occupies a narrow, linear path along Tawas Bay. Development in the floodplains of the City has been limited, except at Tawas Lake. Many of the dwellings along Tawas Lake may be susceptible to flooding during periods of high lake levels. Along the shoreline of Tawas Bay, most development is above the floodplain.

In an effort to reduce hazards to people and property as a result of flood conditions, compliance with the provisions and requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program, in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, and rules and regulations promulgated in furtherance of this program by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is required of developments in the City.

Watercourses

Tawas Bay, Tawas Lake, and the Tawas River present natural boundaries for the City limits on the south and north sides. A few small lakes are also located within the City.



Source: Tawas Bay Michigan Weather Station

Woodlands

Woodland areas in the City are depicted on Map A1, Natural Features. Woodland areas are located in the eastern half of the City, as well as in its northwest quadrant.

Woodlands are not only aesthetically pleasing, but also provide valuable habitat for wildlife. Climatic conditions such as flooding and high winds are moderated by

woodlands through their protection of watersheds from siltation and soil erosion caused by storm water runoff or wind. Woodlands also play a role in improving air quality by absorbing certain air pollutants and in buffering noise sensitive sites from noise generators.

The layout of future development should be sensitive to the preservation of woodland areas to the maximum extent feasible.

Wetlands

Wetlands are an important, though commonly overlooked, natural resource that provide both aesthetic and functional benefits. Through the years, over 70% of Michigan's wetlands have been destroyed by development and agricultural activities. Therefore, Michigan enacted the Goemaere-Anderson Wetland Protection Act (Michigan Public Act 203 of 1979) to protect the remaining wetlands.

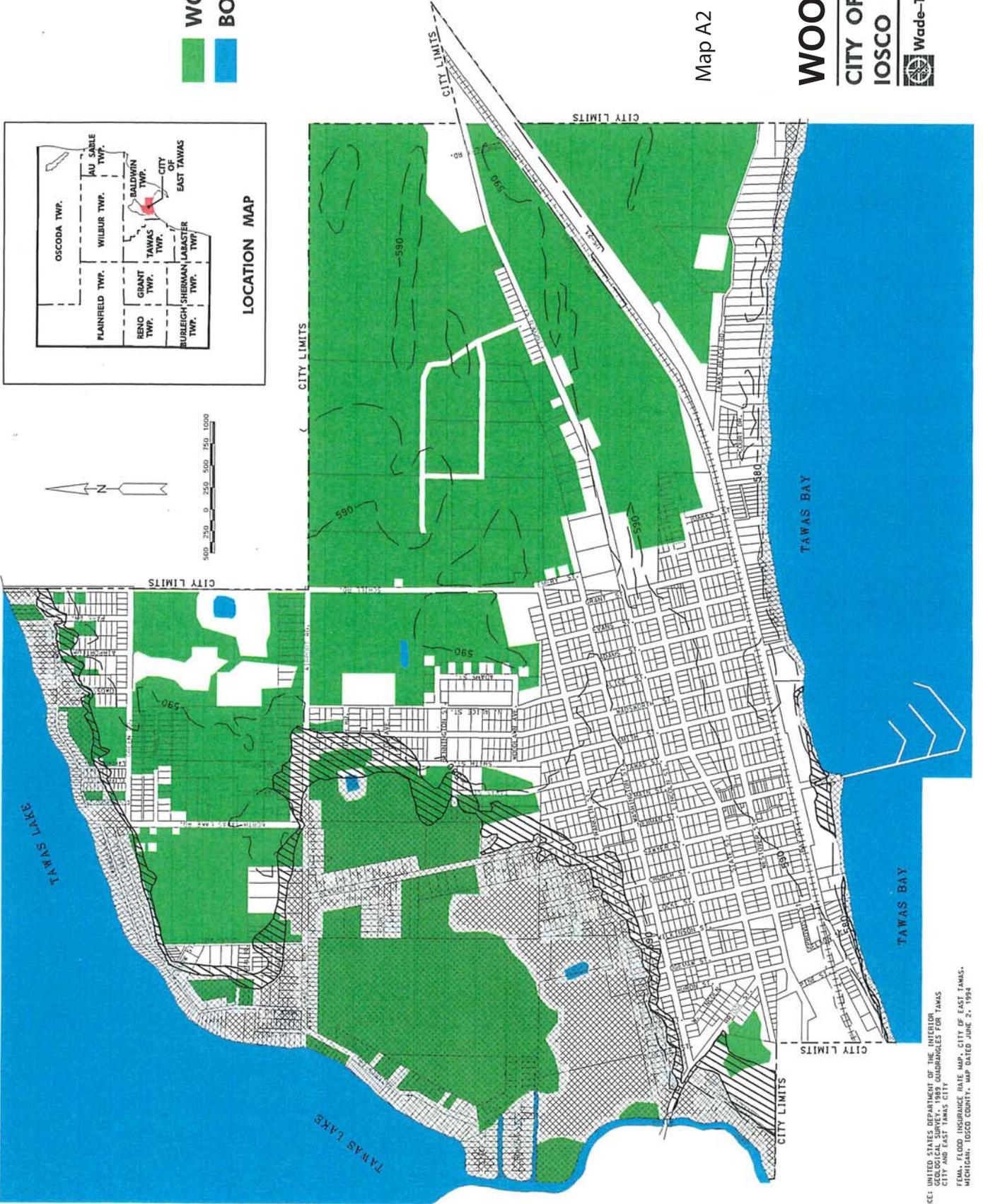
The wetland act authorizes the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to preserve certain wetland areas. MDNR may require permits before altering regulated wetlands and may prohibit development in some locations.

MDNR defines wetlands as "land characterized by the presence of water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances does support, wetland vegetation or aquatic life and is commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh, and which is any of the following:

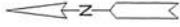
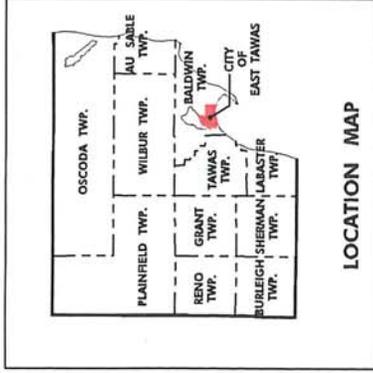
- Contiguous to the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream;
- Not contiguous to the Great Lakes, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream; and more than five acres in size; except this subdivision shall not be of effect, except for the purpose of inventorying, in counties of less than 100,000 population until the department certifies to the Department of Natural Resources it has substantially completed its inventory of wetlands in that county;
- Not contiguous to the Great Lakes, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream; and five acres or less in size if the department determines that the protection of the area is essential to the preservation of the natural resources of the state from pollution, impairment, or destruction and the department has so notified the owner; except this subdivision may be utilized regardless of wetland size in a county in which the above subdivision is of no effect; except for the purpose of inventorying, at the time. "

Among the criteria used by MDNR when conducting a wetland determination:

- Presence of standing water (at least one week of the year);
- Presence of hydric soil types that are saturated, flooded, or ponded sufficiently to favor wetland vegetation (usually black or dark brown);
- Predominance of wetland vegetation/plant material, or aquatic life, such as cattails, reeds, willows, dogwood, elderberries, and/or red or silver maple trees;



WOODLANDS
 BODIES OF WATER



Map A2

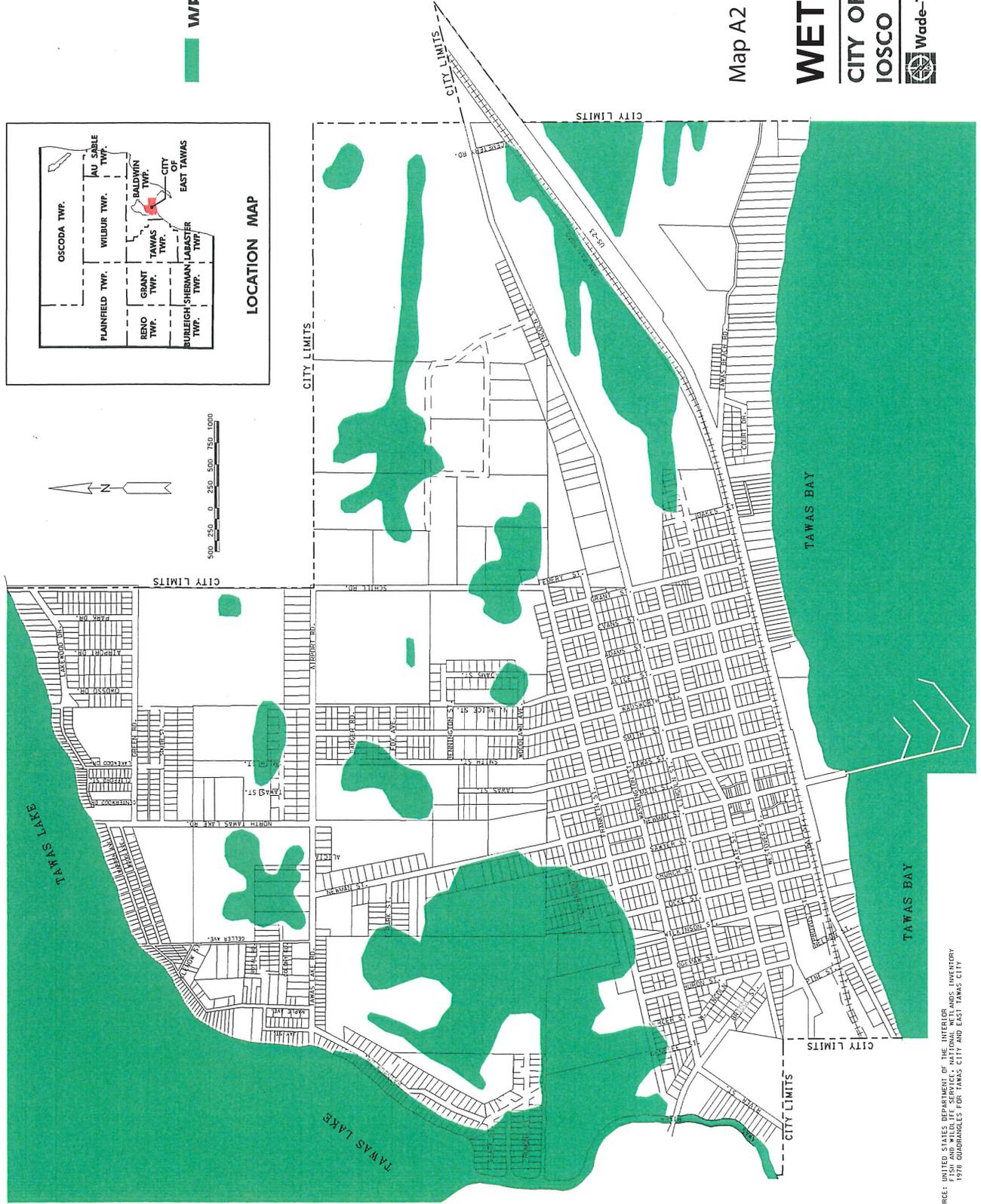
WOODLANDS

CITY OF EAST TAWAS

IOSCO COUNTY, MICHIGAN



SOURCE: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, 1989 QUADRANGLES FOR TAWAS
 CITY AND EAST TAWAS CITY
 FEMA, FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP, CITY OF EAST TAWAS,
 MICHIGAN, IOSCO COUNTY, MAP DATED JUNE 2, 1994



Map A2

WETLANDS

CITY OF EAST TAWAS

IOSCO COUNTY, MICHIGAN



SOURCE: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 1978 QUADRANGLES FOR TAWAS CITY AND EAST TAWAS CITY

-
- Presence of important or endangered plant or wildlife habitat or a rare ecosystem;
 - Area serves as an important groundwater recharge;
 - Size and location – minimum size to be state regulated is five acres unless the wetland is contiguous to a lake, pond, river or stream, or is considered “essential” to the preservation of natural resources of the state.

The determination that a site contains a regulated wetland can have several consequences:

- MDNR may issue a permit to fill the wetland;
- MDNR may require mitigation, such as replacing the wetlands (sometimes this involves increasing the overall on-site wetland acreage two- or threefold);
- MDNR may prohibit development in the wetland area if it is determined that there is a “prudent” alternative.

Map A2, Wetlands, delineates significant wetlands in the City, but not necessarily all of the wetlands regulated under the State Wetland Act. Where this map or on-site observation indicates the likelihood of a regulated wetland, sources (soil survey, MDNR maps, or U. S. Fish and Wildlife maps) should be referenced to further determine if the wetland has the physical and biological characteristics that place it under the jurisdiction of the MDNR. A formal written determination by a qualified wetland consultant and/or staff of MDNR may be required.

Local wetland protection can help preserve these important resources and can be achieved in a variety of ways. Foremost is ensuring that developers have received any necessary MDNR reviews or made permit application prior to final local action on proposed development projects.

There are several techniques that the City could use to assist in local wetland protection. Some of these could be incorporated into existing land development regulations. Other techniques, specifically a local wetland ordinance that addresses wetlands smaller than the five-acre minimum regulated by the MDNR, would not be cost effective in the City of East Tawas due to administrative demands.

Among options that the City could consider are:

- Revise pertinent provisions in the Zoning Ordinance with more specific language to preserve wetlands and other sensitive natural features;
- Amend the Zoning Ordinance to require a 25 to 100 foot building and parking lot setback from regulated wetlands;
- Add policies to this Master Plan providing for directing incompatible future land uses away from wetlands (consider such factors as land use type, intensity, density, extent, distribution, and location of allowable uses);

-
- Encourage preservation of natural features by directing clustered development to the most buildable portion of the site while retaining the overall density (some communities offer a density bonus as an incentive for this technique);
 - Establish public education programs regarding the importance of wetlands.

Wildlife

Woodlands and water bodies in and around the City of East Tawas support a variety of wildlife including land mammal (e.g., whitetail deer, fox, beaver, rabbit, muskrat, and mink), bird and waterfowl, and fish species.

Although the U. S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service has determined there are presently no federally listed endangered, threatened, or proposed species in the City of East Tawas, preservation of areas for unlisted wildlife habitat should be considered when reviewing development plans.

Soils

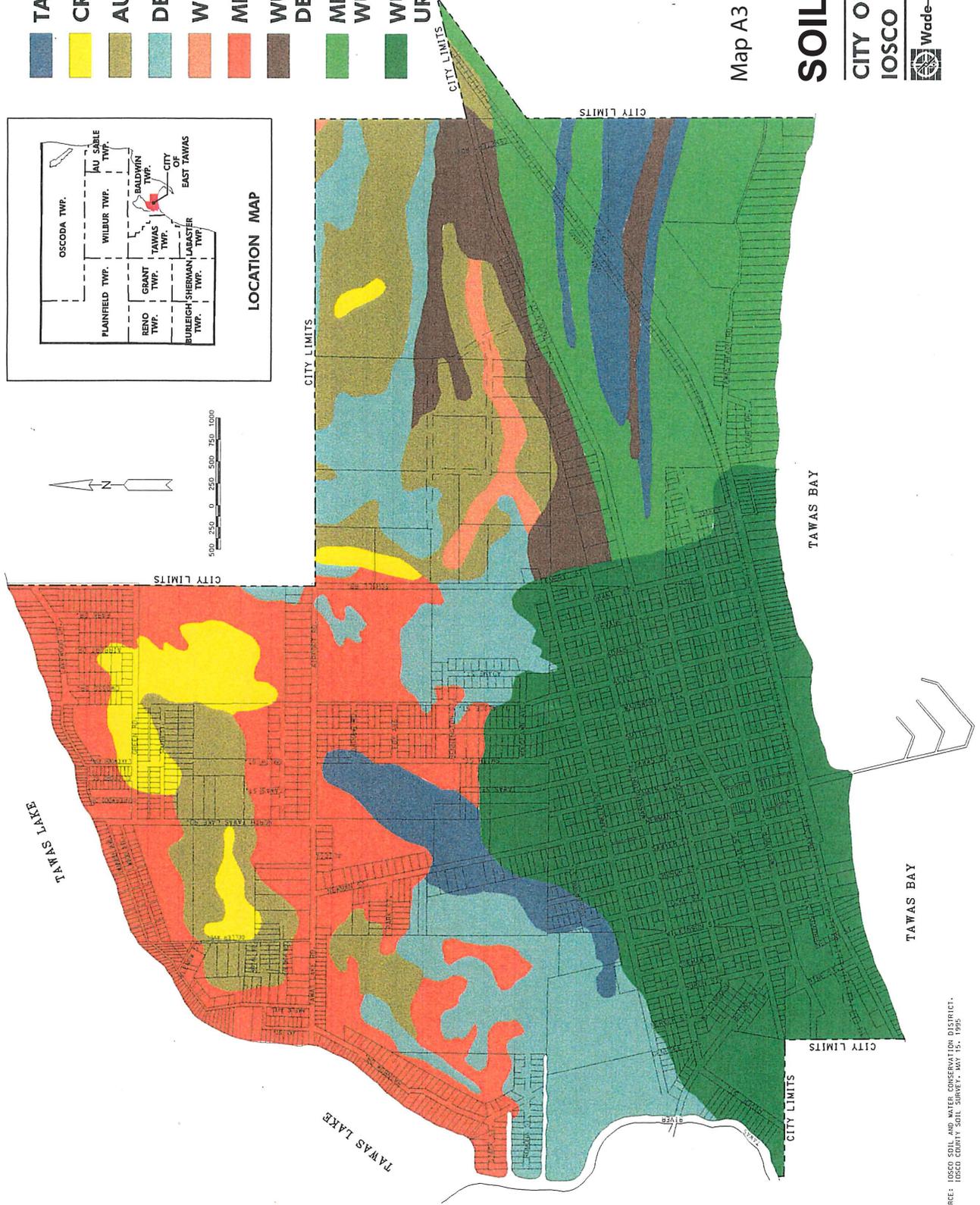
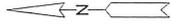
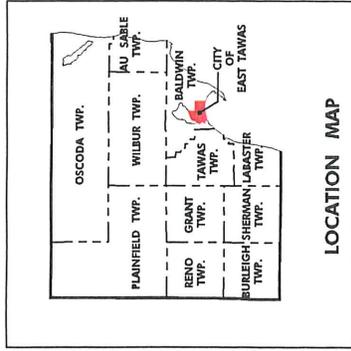
Map A3, Soils, depicts soil types present within the City. There are nine different classifications. The majority of City acreage that remains unbuilt is generally classified as Mechan Sand, Deford Muck or AuGres Sand.

Soil characteristics may limit building site development to one degree or another. Soil limitations that affect shallow excavations, dwellings with and without basements, small commercial buildings, roads, and lawns and landscaping are considered slight if soil properties and site features are generally favorable for the indicated uses, and limitations are minor and easy to overcome.

Limitations are considered moderate if soil properties or site features are not favorable for the indicated use and special planning, design, or maintenance are needed to overcome or minimize the limitations.

Building site development limitations are considered severe if soil properties or site features are so unfavorable or so difficult to overcome that special design, significant increases in construction costs, and possibly increased maintenance costs are required. Special feasibility studies may be required where the soil limitations are severe.

- TAWAS-LUPTON MUCKS
- CROSWELL SANDS
- AU GRES SAND
- DEFORD MUCK
- WURTSMITH SAND
- MEEHAN SAND
- WURTSMITH-MEEHAN-DEER PARK SANDS
- MEEHAN-TAWAS-WURTSMITH COMPLEX
- WURTSMITH-MEEHAN-URBANLAND COMPLEX



Map A3

SOILS

CITY OF EAST TAWAS
 IOSCO COUNTY, MICHIGAN



SOURCE: IOSCO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT.
 IOSCO COUNTY SOIL SURVEY, MAY 15, 1995.

Review of State Regulations

There are several state acts and programs that regulate various aspects of development in and around natural features, which are summarized in the following:

- Goemaere-Anderson Wetland Protection Act, PA 203 of 1979, regulates filling, dredging, and construction in wetlands over five acres, contiguous to a lake or stream, or considered to be ecologically important. Activity in areas determined to be wetlands require MDNR permits or may be prohibited
- Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act, PA 347 of 1972, regulates modification to the terrain within 500 feet of a lake or stream. The MDNR reviews requests to determine if a permit is required.
- Inland Lakes and Streams Act, PA 346 of 1972, regulates dredging, culverts, dock construction, and other activities. A permit for these activities must be received from the MDNR.
- Michigan Environmental Protection Act, PA 127 of 1970, is intended to prohibit pollution and activities that endanger lakes, streams, and wetlands. The act allows individuals and organizations to take their concerns about protecting the environment to court. Michigan courts have ruled that this act should be considered when making land use and zoning decisions.
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) gives MDNR the authority to regulate the discharge of wastes from point sources, such as pipes draining into a pond. However, non-point sources, such as fertilizers, septic system leakage, etc., are not strictly regulated.

Appendix B: Supporting Documents

Notice of Draft Plan Availability for Public Review

Proof of Publication

STATE OF MICHIGAN }ss

John Morris

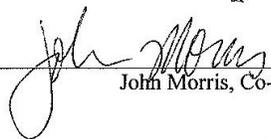
County of Iosco

being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the co-editor of the IOSCO COUNTY NEWS HERALD, a newspaper published and circulating in the County of Iosco, in said State; that the annexed printed notice has been published in said newspaper at least once each week for two weeks preceding the 30th day of January, 2013 mentioned in said notice, and the first insertion hereof was on the 26th day of December, 2012 and the last insertion was on the 2nd day of, January 2013.

NOTICE

A draft copy of the City of East Tawas Recreation Plan for 2013 to 2018 will be on display for public review and comment beginning Thursday, December 27, 2012. Copies of the draft plans will be available at the East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas and at the East Tawas City Park office located at 407 West Bay Street (behind the Museum), East Tawas. You can also access a copy on the City of East Tawas website by using the following link: http://easttawas.publishpath.com/Websites/easttawas/images/EastTawas_Rec_Plan_latest_draft_12-11-12.pdf The draft plan will be available for public review for 30 days from the above date.

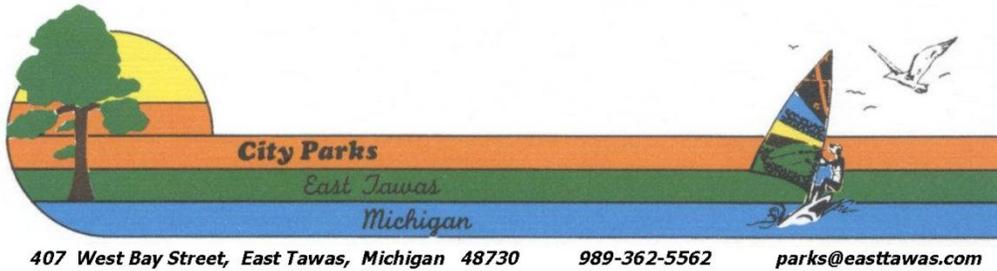
Keith M. Frank, Manager
East Tawas City Park


John Morris, Co-Editor

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of January A.D. 2013.


Natalie A. Rigg, Notary Public for Iosco County, Acting in Iosco County, Michigan
My Commission expires April 30, 2014.

Park Board Resolution



CITY OF EAST TAWAS RECREATION PLAN RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION PARK BOARD OF THE CITY OF EAST TAWAS

WHEREAS, the Park Board of the City of East Tawas has developed the update of its Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2013 and 2018, and

WHEREAS, the plan has been developed for the benefit of the entire community as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, a public comment session was held on Thursday, September 6, 2012 to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Park Board of the City of East Tawas hereby approves the City of East Tawas Recreation Plan 2013-2018 as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of the City of East Tawas and do hereby request and encourage the East Tawas City Council to adopt said plan.

Yeas: Fountain
Thunberg
O'Connor

Nays: None

Absent: Elliott
Klenow

I, Blinda Baker, East Tawas City Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the East Tawas Park Board at a Special meeting thereof held on the 31st day of January, 2013 and that such meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said act.

Blinda A. Baker
East Tawas City Clerk

Proof of Publication

STATE OF MICHIGAN }ss

John Morris

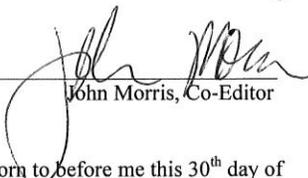
_____ County of Iosco

being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the co-editor of the IOSCO COUNTY NEWS HERALD, a newspaper published and circulating in the County of Iosco, in said State; that the annexed printed notice has been published in said newspaper at least once each week for one week preceding the 4th day of February, 2013 mentioned in said notice, and the first insertion hereof was on the 30th day of January, 2012 and the last insertion was on the 30th day of, January 2013.

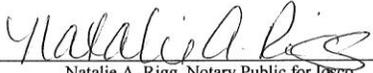
NOTICE

The City of East Tawas will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 4, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the East Tawas City Hall Council Chambers located at 760 Newman Street, East Tawas, MI. The purpose of the public hearing is to seek public comments on the final draft of the 5-year City of East Tawas Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Anyone wishing to comment on the plan is urged to attend. The City Council will consider adoption of the Master Plan following the public hearing.

Keith Frank, Park Manager


John Morris, Co-Editor

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of January A.D. 2013.


Natalie A. Rigg, Notary Public for Iosco
County, Acting in Iosco County, Michigan
My Commission expires April 30, 2014.

Minutes of Public Hearing

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF EAST TAWAS CITY COUNCIL FEBRUARY 4, 2013

Meeting called to order by Mayor Bruce Bolen at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the East Tawas City Hall.

Present: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.
Absent: Cano and Klenow.
Excused: Look.

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered.

UDAG Loan Request was added to the agenda as item d. under New Business. L. Bolen moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to approve the agenda as amended.

The Public Hearing on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was called to order by Mayor Bolen at 7:02 p.m. There were no public comments and the hearing was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

There were no public comments on agenda items.

Public comments on non-agenda items: Sal Agnello asked the Council if drinking is allowed in the City parks and on city streets. Park Manager Frank indicated that alcohol is not allowed in the parks by ordinance although alcohol is allowed when the pavilions at the various parks are rented. Alcohol is also allowed when events are held in the various parks and the organizers have acquired a liquor license for the event. Open alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the streets unless there is some type of approved event. Mr. Agnello indicated that the East Tawas Business Association (ETBA) has completely taken over Tuesday Night Live and he is no longer involved. He stated that he would like to provide a similar event on a different night of the week. He noted that the City's downtown street closing policy required approval from ETBA before the Council would agree to close the street. He asked if the City Council can approve this without having to get an okay from ETBA. Mayor Bolen explained the process for street closing requests and asked Mr. Agnello to provide his request in writing before the Council can make a decision.

Leslie moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2013 regular meeting as presented.

The following correspondence was noted: information concerning a proposed Little Caesars in the City, the Press Release concerning the Heritage 23 boat on display at the Community Center, a plan for the garage at 600 Newman Street, a Notice of Intent to Plan from the Iosco County Planning Commission, and the 2012 report from District Health Department No. 2 on sampling of bathing beach waters at the East Tawas City Park beach.

There were no Committee reports.

Staff reports - City Manager Leslie reported that a representative from Verizon will be at City Hall on February 19th to provide information on discounts for employees. He noted that the southbound lane of

Newman Street will be closed on Wednesday, February 6th for investigation of the fire that destroyed the Freel and Freel P.C. office and Chick'n Dots.

Park Manager Frank reported that the Park Board has been getting prices for the installation of eaves troughs and down spouts for the City Hall/Community Center. Previous estimates had been in the \$8,000 to \$10,000 range but Eastwind Construction Services will do the project for \$1,620. This quote was just received and hasn't been approved by the Park yet. He also noted that heat tape will not be reinstalled on the roof but it will be necessary to install heat tape on the new gutters. This project cannot be completed during the winter but will be done in the spring.

Chief Deckett reported that Ron Klinger has been calibrating the explosive meters for both the Fire Department and the Department of Public Works for many years. Ron's ability to calibrate these meters has resulted in a substantial cost savings to the City.

Clerk/Treasurer Baker reported that the Economic Vitality Incentive Program report on Consolidation had been filed with the Department of Treasury and will soon be available on the City's website.

L. Bolen moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to receive the minutes of the January meeting of the Tawas Police Authority, the minutes of the January 30, 2013 meeting of the Urban Development Action Grant Reuse Board, and the minutes of the January 31, 2013 special meeting of the Park Board.

Randy Look presented highlights from the 2012 Fire Department Annual report. Mayor Bolen thanked Randy for the excellent report. Mayor Bolen asked that Fire Chief Deckett relay the Council's appreciation for all the volunteer work that the firefighters perform on behalf of the City. Council members expressed gratitude for the great job our Fire Department and the Fire Departments from the surrounding areas did in fighting the fire at the Freel building which resulted in the fire being contained and saving the rest of the block. They also expressed appreciation for the firefighters commitment to training. City Manager Leslie noted the importance of the ladder truck which helped to prevent the spread of the fire in our downtown but has also contributed to saving the downtown in Oscoda, West Branch and Rose City. Mayor Bolen also thanked John Morris for opening the Isco County News Herald office to firefighters could get out of the cold and for providing them with coffee.

City Manager Leslie's report on the request for a special assessment for aquatic weed control at Tawas Lake was reviewed. Mayor Bolen indicated that the ideal situation would be to have a complete lake study, however this doesn't seem feasible since it also involves Baldwin Township and would include a lot of vacant property. McMurray moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to adopt a resolution to tentatively determine that the subject improvement (mechanical aquatic weed harvesting) will create a clearer view of Tawas Lake and enhance access to and recreational opportunities for use of the Lake and is therefore a necessary improvement; that the cost of the improvement shall be paid entirely by the owners of specifically benefitted properties comprising the proposed Assessment District; that the City shall pay no part of the cost of the improvement except in its capacity as owner of benefitted property within the proposed District; that the proposed Assessment District shall be all of those lakefront properties from Lot 4, Block 5 of Tawasentha Subdivision to Lot 89, Tawas Lake Park of the City of East Tawas Subdivision; that the cost of the improvement shall be equally divided amongst each of the estimated 93 owners of property within the proposed District, regardless of how many parcels therein any such owner owns; that all information

pertaining to this proposed Special Assessment shall be maintained in a file in the office of the City Clerk where the same may be found for examination; that the Clerk shall give notice of a public hearing on the proposed improvement and Special Assessment, at which time and place opportunity will be given any interested person to be heard; that such notice shall be made and given by one publication in the Iosco County News Herald, and otherwise in conformity with and as provided by the provisions of MCLA §§ 211.741-211.746, as amended. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.
City Manager Leslie reported that no bids for either the dump trailer or well point pump system were received by mail after the 4:00 p.m. deadline on January 21st so the two items were not rebid and that he and DPW Superintendent Lixey opened the bids on Tuesday, January 22nd.

City Manager Leslie reported that there were four bids received for the dump trailer as follows: Beck's, from St. Johns, MI \$8,277.99; Woodland Industries from Kawkawlin, MI \$7,839.00; Felling Trailers, Minnesota, with Bill Britt from Tawas City representing the company \$12,997.00; and Kelly & Sons Trailers, Carleton, MI \$7,699.00. City Manager Leslie and DPW Superintendent Lixey reviewed the bids and recommended that the low bid from Kelly & Sons Trailers for \$7,699.00 be accepted. McMurray moved, Leslie seconded, CARRIED, to accept the bid from Kelly & Sons Trailers and purchase the new dump trailer at a cost of \$7,699.00. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.

City Manager Leslie reported that only one bid was received for the well point pump system. The lone bid was from Mersino from Gaylord for \$35,945.00. City Manager Leslie and DPW Superintendent Lixey reviewed the bid and recommended that the bid from Mersino be accepted. L. Bolen moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to purchase the well point pump system from Mersino at a cost of \$35,945.00. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.

Bills and transfers having been properly presented, McMurray moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, that these transactions be approved with the exception of an invoice from Bolen Trucking. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.

Leslie moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to adopt a resolution adopting the City of East Tawas Recreation Plan 2013-2018 as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of the City of East Tawas. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.

Leslie moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to adopt a resolution urging Governor Snyder and Michigan legislators to save taxpayer dollars, save lives, and improve our economy by making the necessary investments to repair our roads and bridges so that our transportation systems can function at peak performance. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.

City Manager Leslie reported that the Park Board has negotiated with the owners of waterfront properties at 601 West Bay Street and 605 West Bay Street to purchase the two properties contingent on a successful application for grants from the Natural Resources Trust Fund. The Park Board has asked the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) Reuse Board to agree to pledge \$175,000 as the local match for the grant that would be in the form of a UDAG loan to the Park Board if the Park Board is awarded the grant. The UDAG Reuse Board met and is recommending that the Council approve the pledge for the \$175,000 zero interest loan to the Park Board as the local match for the grant. McMurray moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to follow the recommendation of the Urban Development Action Grant Reuse Board and approve the pledge of \$175,000 as the local match for a grant application to purchase waterfront property located at 601 and 605 West Bay Street. The pledge of \$175,000 would be in the form of a zero interest loan to the Park Board. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.

City Manager Leslie reported that a site plan for a Little Caesars Restaurant at the corner of Pine Street and US 23 will be on the agenda for the February meeting of the Planning Commission.

Mayor Bolen offered congratulations to John Morris for his performance in the recent Tawas Bay Players play.

Councilman McMurray complimented the Chamber of Commerce for the great job with Perchville 2013.

Councilwoman Bolen complimented the Tawas Police Authority for doing a great job making their presence known during Perchville 2013 in a positive manner. She also questioned the Schriber time line for fixing the garage and 600 Newman Street. City Manager Leslie was asked to send a letter to Pat Schriber accepting the proposal to have the garage repaired by June 19, 2013.

Mayor Bolen requested that Tawas Beach Road traffic signal be removed from the Status Report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Blinda A. Baker
Clerk/Treasurer

DRAFT

City Council Resolution

City of East Tawas

760 Newman Street ♦ PO Box 672 ♦ East Tawas, Michigan 48730-0672
989.362.6161 ♦ fax 989.362.6736 ♦ cityhall@easttawas.com

www.easttawas.com

CITY OF EAST TAWAS RECREATION PLAN RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST TAWAS

At a regular meeting of the East Tawas City Council held on the 4th day of February 2013 the following preamble and resolution were offered by Councilman Leslie and seconded by Councilwoman Bolen.

WHEREAS, the City of East Tawas Park Board has undertaken the update of its Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2013 and 2018, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on Monday, February 4, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the City of East Tawas Park Board has developed the plan for the benefit of the entire community and to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the East Tawas City Council hereby adopts the City of East Tawas Recreation Plan 2013-2018 as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of the City of East Tawas.

Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, and McMurray.
No: None.
Absent: Cano, Klenow, and Look.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

I, Blinda A. Baker, Clerk of the City of East Tawas, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the East Tawas City Council at a regular meeting held on February 4, 2013 and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.



Blinda A. Baker, Clerk

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Or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay)

Letters of Transmittal to Regional Agencies



February 11, 2013

Jeff Matthews
Chair,
Parks and Recreation Commission
Iosco County
420 W. Lake Street
Tawas City, MI 48763

Dear Mr. Matthews:

The attached City of East Tawas Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by the East Tawas City Council on February 4, 2013. The plan will be sent to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for their review and approval.

The plan will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the City of East Tawas Park Board and City Council.

Please feel free to contact the City of East Parks and Recreation Department or myself if you have any comments regarding this plan. The Grants Section requests that you copy any comments directly to them at: Grants Management, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909-7925.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lucie Fortin, RLA
Carlisle/Wortman Associates, Inc.

cc. Keith Frank, Parks Manager, City of East Tawas Parks Office, 407 West Bay Street, East Tawas, MI 48730

Richard K. Carlisle, *President* R. Donald Wortman, *Vice President* Douglas J. Lewan, *Principal* John L. Enos, *Principal* David Scurto, *Principal*
Benjamin R. Carlisle, *Associate* Sally M. Elmiger, *Associate* Brian Oppmann, *Associate*



CARLISLE

WORTMAN
associates, inc.

605 S. Main Street, Ste. 1
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

(734) 662-2200
(734) 662-1935 Fax

February 11, 2013

Sue Fortune
Executive Director
Regional Review Office
East Michigan Council of Governments
3144 Davenport Avenue, Suite 200
Saginaw, MI 48602

Dear Ms Fortune:

The attached City of East Tawas Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by the East Tawas City Council on February 4, 2013. The plan will be sent to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for their review and approval.

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Thank you for your consideration,

Lucie Fortin, RLA
Carlisle/Wortman Associates, Inc.

cc. Keith Frank, Parks Manager, City of East Tawas Parks Office, 407 West Bay Street, East Tawas, MI 48730

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