

Tawas City Parks & Recreation Plan



Tawas City, Michigan

Iosco County

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CITY OF TAWAS CITY

PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN 2023-2027 Acknowledgements

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**RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
TAWAS CITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN, 2023-2027
BY THE CITY OF TAWAS CITY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the City of Tawas City Council directed the Planning Commission to update the *2018-2022 Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the planning process included a community survey to ask the community questions regarding which parks are used, the purpose for using the parks, and maintenance and appearance of the parks, for the *Parks and Recreation Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the planning process also reviewed probable future needs for recreation facilities and services and developed a draft *Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan, 2023-2027* to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community's residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Tawas City Planning Commission endorsed the recreation projects as outlined in the action plan/capital improvements list section of the *Plan* and passed a resolution on September 13, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Tawas City Council conducted a public hearing on November 14, 2022. Notice of the hearing was published in The Iosco County News-Herald on September 21, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City of Tawas City Council does hereby adopt the *Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan, 2023-2027* as a guideline for improving recreation facilities and services for the City of Tawas City residents and visitors.

Moved by McMurray, supported by Russo to adopt the above resolution at the November 21, 2022 meeting of the City of Tawas City Council.

Ayes: McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich and Cook.

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

I, Michelle Westcott, Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the City of Tawas City Council at a regular meeting held on November 21, 2022.



Michelle M. Westcott, Clerk
City of Tawas City

(SBM 1733)

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CHAPTER 1

A. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The 2023-2027 City of Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan was adopted by the City Planning Commission on September 13, 2022 and adopted by the Tawas City Council on November 14, 2022 to serve as a guide and decision making document for future recreation facilities and programs. The Plan presents an inventory of existing facilities and programs within the City, as well as an evaluation of opportunities and needs, and considers the existing facilities in and near the City, as well as the anticipated demand for additional or improved facilities and programs. The Plan also includes goals, guidelines, and a list of projects to be considered as improvements.

Although the City of Tawas City works closely and cooperatively with several public and private agencies and volunteer groups that provide recreation opportunities for the citizens of Tawas City, the jurisdiction of this Parks and Recreation Plan includes only City-owned and operated recreation facilities and programs.

The Plan is also intended to enable the City to continue to apply for funding assistance from various agencies and work toward implementing the documented recommendations. This Plan provides for five years of grant eligibility with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).

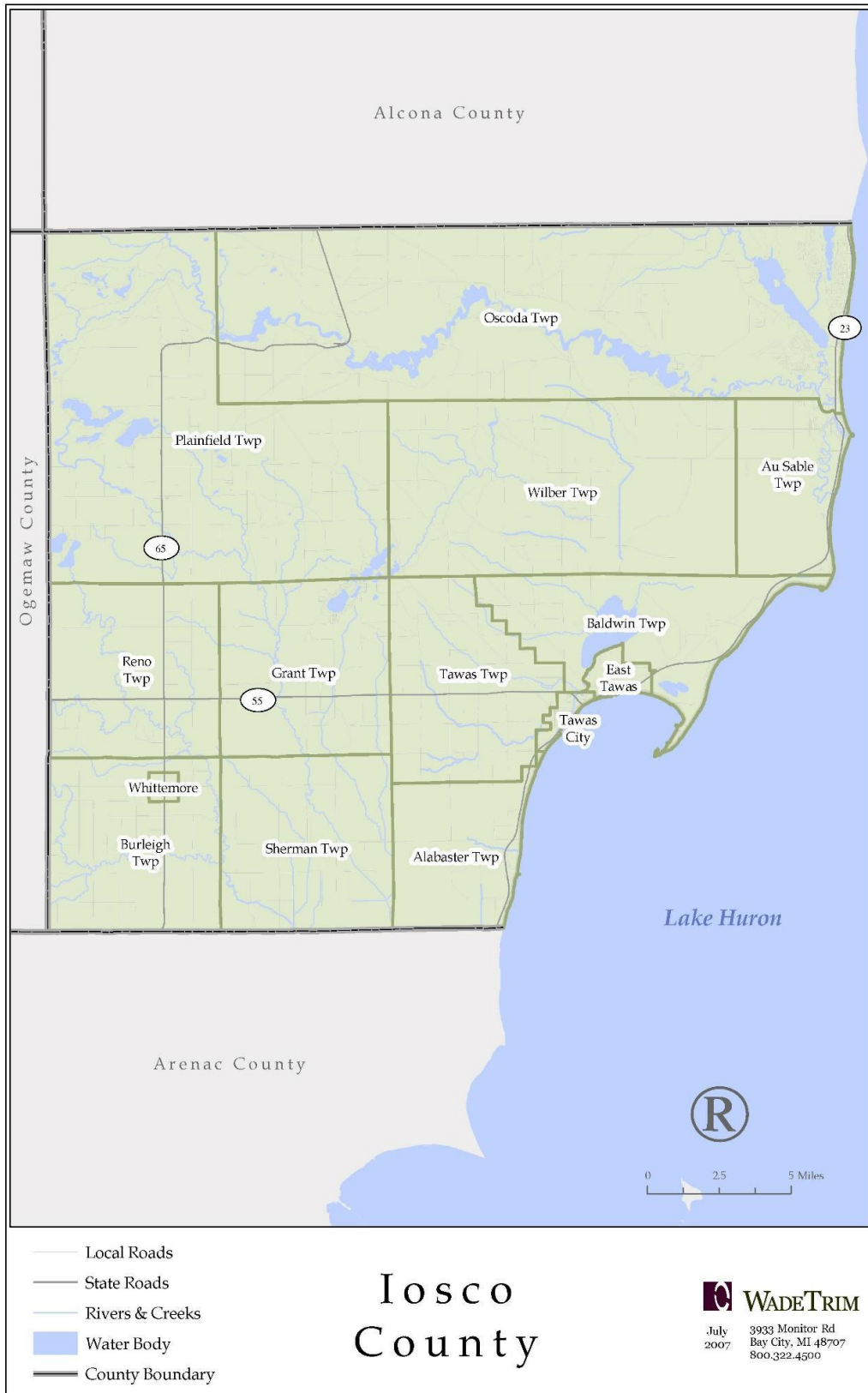
Regional Setting

Tawas City is located along Lake Huron's Tawas Bay in southeastern Iosco County in the northeastern portion of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Adjacent communities are the City of East Tawas, Baldwin Township, Tawas Township, and Alabaster Township (**Map 1.1**).

Home to the County Seat, the City encompasses 2.2 square miles, of which 0.4 square miles is composed of surface water. The City is situated equidistant (65 miles) between Alpena and Bay City, 170 miles north of Detroit, and is the first major community on Lake Huron traveling north on US-23. For the northbound traveler, only occasional glimpses of Lake Huron are evident prior to reaching Tawas City. Similarly, Tawas City is the entrance to Lake Huron for travelers originating in the central portions of the State and traveling eastbound on M-55. The City is the southernmost city directly on Lake Huron offering a full variety of recreation activities with the quality "up north" character that residents and visitors highly value.

Outdoor recreation opportunities within the area are vast including the Lake Huron shoreline, various parks, and the inland forest recreation system. The entire eastern boundary of Tawas City is Lake Huron shoreline, supporting a distinct set of features and facilities that attract visitors to the area. Parks and recreational facilities are additionally supported by tourism amenities such as lodging, food establishments, entertainment, and shops.

Map 1.1 Regional Location Map



History

Since Tawas City's founding in 1854, the community's economy has been a major factor influencing land uses and development patterns in the City. Throughout the history of Tawas City, the shoreline has served an important economic function, although the specific nature of the function has changed over time. The rich natural resource base of the area (forest lands, Lake Huron, wildlife, etc.), combined with the protection offered by Tawas Bay, provided the basis for the original founding of the City which caused the lumber industry to flourish. Tawas Bay continues to serve as a harbor of refuge that large lake freighters use to escape the adverse effects of storms on Lake Huron.

As the transition zone between land and water, the Lake Huron shoreline became the focus of the community with the City developing in a linear fashion along the shore. Commercial lumbering started in 1855. To accommodate its four sawmills, shipping, and storage needs, docks and warehouses were built along the shoreline and sometimes out over the bay.

With the opening of the Detroit and Mackinac Railway, the focus of economic activity gradually shifted away from the water to the rail depot. This industry began exporting potatoes and sugar beets via railway. The proximity of the railroad right-of-way to the shore left only a narrow strip of land between the railway roadbed and the shore and served to further divide the inland part of the community from the shoreline and business center. With the decline in water transport usage, the docks and warehouses deteriorated, and the water's edge became the backyard of the community. As lumbering depleted nearby forests, the center of activity shifted inland and the docks and sawmills on the bay were demolished after falling into disuse.

By the early 20th century, most of the logging and sawmill operations had been discontinued, and the population of Tawas City declined and then stabilized at about 1,000. The community might have remained a quiet village typical of many former "boom towns" had it not been for its natural beauty and recreational appeal. Rail excursions and later the completion of US-23 along with the growth in automobile usage resulted in tourism becoming the new economic base for Tawas City. With the shift, the lakeshore became important for shoreline development.

Transportation System

Two major highways provide regional vehicular access to Tawas City. Heritage Route US-23 is the major north/south route along coastal Lake Huron between Standish and Mackinaw City. One of the goals of the management plan for this highway is to maintain, improve, and expand recreational, cultural, and historical attributes along the highway. M-55 is the major east/west route connecting Tawas City to the western portions of the State.

Iosco County Airport located in Baldwin Township provides general aviation services for private planes and has a 4,800-foot runway. The former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda Township offers a 12,000-foot hard surface runway primarily used for cargo, light general aviation, and is available for private use.

The Iosco Transit Corporation operates a door-to-door bus service for the County on a demand/response basis. Iosco Transit Corporation is an ADA paratransit bus transportation offering fixed route service.

A non-motorized trail is available adjacent to US-23 from Baldwin Township's commercial center through East Tawas and Tawas City to Dyer Road at the southern end of Alabaster Township.

The railways of the past are still operational in Tawas City. Currently Lake State Railway Company ships products such as aggregate, rock, stone, and other industrial resources throughout the State.

Lake Huron along Tawas City is a popular boating area. Tawas City's Gateway Park has a public boat launch, and the Michigan DNR has a public launch in East Tawas. The East Tawas State Harbor offers a variety of seasonal and transient slips with additional services to accommodate boating needs. In 2021 the City reconstructed the Shoreline Park Pier to offer day docking slips. The Tawas Area also has additional private slips offered by local businesses.

Recreational Opportunities

Tawas City has a plethora of available recreational opportunities to choose from including enjoying time at many of the parks located throughout the City, shoreline beach use, boating, and water sport activities.

Social and Economic Characteristics

The Social and Economic data presented below is based upon the American Community Survey (ACS) data from 2019 and 2020 US Census information.

According to the US Census, Tawas City had a 2020 year-round population of 1,834 persons. Due to the heavy level of tourism during the summer months, the number of people in Tawas City substantially increases during that time. In addition to the thousands of tourists who visit each year, the 2020 US Census showed more than 19% of all dwellings in the City are listed as seasonal or vacation homes. Even though the number of permanent residents has not changed much over the past three decades, the number of people using its parks and recreational facilities continues to increase.

The most significant aspect of the population data is the 9.2% decrease in residents age 65 and older between 2010 and 2019 according to the American Community Survey. Census data also showed a 20.4% decrease in residents age 65 and older between 2000 and 2010 Census counts. This is also reflected in the median age decreasing from 47.4 years in 2010 to 45.3 years in 2019. The State median age for 2019 is 39.7. Although Tawas City has been an excellent retirement location, the data has presented a changing trend in the area with a 29.2% change of residents 65 and older over a nineteen year period.

There are 713 total households in Tawas City, with an average household size of 2.34 persons per household. Of the 713 total households, 640 households have a broadband internet subscription and 640 have a computer.

It is important when planning for recreational uses in Tawas City to accommodate those with disabilities. The 2019 American Community survey (ACS) shows that more than 60% of persons 65 or older have a disability. The ACS shows that the highest percentage of those with disabilities have ambulatory difficulty, comprising 8.8%. Ambulatory difficulty is related to walking and general mobility. The 2019 ACS indicates 11% of persons age 5 to 17 have a disability, and 13.3% of persons age 18 to 34. Tawas City's recreational facilities shall continue to strive in accommodating those with disabilities.

The economy of Tawas City is very diverse. While tourism is a major driving factor in the

economic base, many of its residents work in jobs not related to tourism. The median household income in 2019 for Tawas City was \$49,226, as compared to the State of Michigan with a median income of \$59,584. The family poverty rate for Tawas City was 18.8%, as compared to 14.4% for the State of Michigan.

In 2020 there were a total of 977 housing units, of which 192 were for seasonal or vacation use, and 778 homes were occupied by either the owner or a renter. Tawas City has no federally-subsidized elderly housing, but such a facility exists in East Tawas. The Bay Park Towers are two five-story buildings totaling 84 units. Two long-term care facilities are located in Tawas City including Medilodge and Lakeview Manor, and the Iosco Medical Care Facility is located in Tawas Township just outside the City limits.

Tourism

Tourism plays a very important role in the local economy. Thousands of tourists and seasonal residents flock to the area each year to enjoy recreational activities and natural resources the City has to offer. Seasonal rentals play an important role in the Tawas City economy and include cabins, cottages, and guest homes.

CHAPTER 2

B. NATURAL RESOURCES

Wetlands

A wetland is land where water is found, either on the surface or near the surface, at any time during the year. Poorly drained soils and water loving vegetation also may be present. Wetlands are often referred to as marshes, swamps, or bogs. Residents of Michigan are becoming increasingly aware of the value of wetlands. Beyond their aesthetic value, wetlands improve water quality of lakes and streams by filtering polluting nutrients, organic chemicals, and toxic heavy metals. Wetlands are closely related to high groundwater tables and serve to discharge or recharge aquifers. By absorbing excess water when river levels are high and releasing water when levels are low, wetlands help prevent floods and droughts. Wetlands are also dynamic ecosystems, which are home to a wide variety of plants and animals.

There are numerous wetland areas scattered throughout Tawas City totaling more than 203 acres of the approximate 1,080 acres. Iosco County has many inland wetland areas, including Tuttle Marsh. Significant coastal wetlands are also found at the south end of its forty miles of Lake Huron Shoreline. These wetlands are important resting and feeding spots for migratory birds and help slow shoreline erosion by dissipating wave energy.

Water Resources

Tawas City has a variety of water resources located throughout the City. The City depends on its water resources for growth, recreation, and commerce.

Tawas City's water resources include a variety of streams and rivers and include Tawas River and Dead Creek. Iosco County has a wide range of natural and artificial bodies of water that range in size from under one acre to several thousands of acres. The most prominent body of water is Lake Huron, covering 41 miles of shoreline with depths ranging from 3 feet to 750 feet.

Soils

The most noticeable feature of the soils in Tawas City is their sandy texture, along with some soil types that are considered clay and silt in texture.

Soil types found in Tawas City are generally classified as sands, loamy sands, sandy loams, loams, fine sand loams, and muck or organic soils.

Topography

The topography of Tawas City is generally flat, with level plains, small areas of swampy soils, and rivers, lakes, and its tributaries. Elevations range from 580 feet above sea level along Tawas Bay to 590 feet for most of the remainder of the City.

Land Use Characteristics

Table 2.1 is a summary of land use characteristics based on field observations and data analysis using Geographic Information System (GIS). The land use analysis identifies existing uses of land within Tawas City and assists in making future determinations of park and recreation development sites.

Table 2.1 Existing Land Uses			
Land Use	Acres	Percent of Developed Land	Percent of All Land
Residential			
Single Family Residential	224.3	43.0%	20.9%
Multiple Family Residential	21.6	4.1%	2.0%
Manufactured Housing	15.3	2.9%	1.4%
Business			
Commercial	79.5	15.2%	7%
Office	17.5	3.4%	1.6%
<i>Medical Office</i>	9.7	1.9%	<1%
Industrial	35.8	6.9%	3.3%
Institutional/Governmental/Recreation/Utility			
Recreational	45.5	8.7%	4.2%
<i>Parks & Athletic Fields</i>	40.3	7.7%	3.8%
<i>Marina</i>	5.2	<1%	<1%
Institutional	67.6	14.5%	6.3%
<i>Hospital</i>	9.0	1.7%	<1%
<i>Churches</i>	11.5	2.2%	1.1%
<i>Cemetery</i>	40.7	7.8%	3.8%
<i>Tawas Library</i>	1.0	<1%	<1%
<i>Other Institutional</i>	5.4	<1%	<1%
Governmental (city hall, library, fire department, police department, county buildings)	3.8	<1%	<1%
Utility	3.3	<1%	<1%
Total			
Rights-of-Way	183.7	-----	17.1%
Developed	514.0	100%	48%
Undeveloped	374.3	-----	34.7%
TOTAL LAND	1,072.2		

Endangered Species

Iosco County is home to a number of different plants and animals that are threatened, endangered or of special concern. **Table 2.2** presents the Endangered (E), Threatened (T), plant and animal species of Iosco County. The endangered and Threatened plant and animal species are protected under the Endangered Species Act of the State of Michigan (Public Act 203 of 1974 as amended). While plant and animal species of Special Concern are not afforded legal protection under the act, many of these species are of concern because of declining or relict populations in the State. Should species continue to decline they would be recommended for the Threatened or Endangered status. Protection of Special Concern species before they reach dangerously low population levels would prevent the need to list them in the future maintaining adequate numbers of self-sustaining populations.

The primary nesting area of the very rare songbird, Kirtland’s Warbler, is found within Iosco County. This warbler winters in the Bahamas and migrates to northern Michigan nesting areas in young jack pine forests. Bird watchers from all over the world come to the area to view and study this scarce bird. Kirtland’s Warbler habitat is young jack pine forests that are 5 to 20 years old. The habitat is managed by cutting older jack pine stands and replanting them with millions of new seedlings. Protection of this habitat is critical to insure future preservation of the Kirtland’s Warbler.

Table 2.2 Iosco County Threatened and Endangered Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Type	Federal Status*	State Status**
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Northern Goshawk	Bird		SC
<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>	Lake Sturgeon	Fish		T
<i>Alasmidonta viridis</i>	Slippershell	Mussel		T
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Grasshopper sparrow	Bird		SC
<i>Appalachia arcane</i>	Secretive Locust	Insect		SC
<i>Atrytonopsis hianna</i>	Dusted Skipper	Insect		SC
<i>Bombus borealis</i>	Northern Amber Bumble Bee	Insect		SC
<i>Bombus terricola</i>	Yellow Banded Bumble Bee	Insect		SC
<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	American Bittern	Bird		SC
<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Red-shouldered Hawk	Bird		T
<i>Callophrys irus</i>	Frosted Elfin	Insect		T
<i>Cambarus robustus</i>	Big Water Crayfish	Fish		SC
<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	Bird	LE	E
<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	Black Tern	Bird		SC
<i>Cincinnatia cincinnatiensis</i>	Campeloma Spire Snail	Mussell		SC
<i>Cirsium hillii</i>	Hill’s Thistle	Plant		SC

<i>Cirsium pitcheri</i>	Pitcher's Thistle	Plant	LT	T
<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	Marsh Wren	Bird		SC
<i>Coregonus artedi</i>	Cisco/Lake Herring	Fish		T
<i>Coregonus reighardi</i>	Shortnose Cisco	Fish		X
<i>Coregonus zenithicus</i>	Shortjaw Cisco	Fish		T
<i>Cottus ricei</i>	Spoonhead Sculpin	Fish		SC
<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	Trumpeter Swan	Bird		T
<i>Cypripedium arietinum</i>	Ram's Head Lady's Slipper	Plant		SC
<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Blanding's Turtle	Reptile		SC
<i>Galearis spectabilis</i>	Showy orchis	Plant		T
<i>Gavia immer</i>	Common Loon	Bird		T
<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	Wood Turtle	Reptile		SC
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	Bird		SC
<i>Ligumia nasuta</i>	Eastern pondmussel	Mussel		E
<i>Ligumia recta</i>	Black sandshell	Mussel		E
<i>Lithobates palustris</i>	Pickerel Frog	Reptile		SC
<i>Moxostoma carinatum</i>	River Redhorse	Fish		T
<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Little Brown Bat	Bird		SC
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-Eared Bat	Bird	LT	SC
<i>Panax quinquefolius</i>	Ginseng	Plant		T
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	Bird		SC
<i>Pantherophis gloydi</i>	Eastern fox snake	Reptile		T
<i>Percina copelandi</i>	Channel Darter	Fish		E
<i>Percina shumardi</i>	River Darter	Fish		E
<i>Prunus alleghaniensis</i>	Alleghany or Sloe Plum	Plant		SC
<i>Pterospora andromedea</i>	Pine-drops	Plant		T
<i>Pyrgus Wyandot</i>	Grizzled Skipper	Insect		SC
<i>Rorippa aquatica</i>	Lake Cress	Plant		T
<i>Setophaga crulea</i>	Cerulean Warbler	Bird		T
<i>Setophaga discolor</i>	Prairie Warbler	Bird		E
<i>Setophaga kirtlandii</i>	Kirtland's Warbler	Bird	LE	E
<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>	Eastern Massasauga	Reptile	LT	SC
<i>Trimerotropis huroniana</i>	Lake Huron Locust	Insect		T
<i>Villosa iris</i>	Rainbow	Mussel		SC

Zizania aquatica	Wild-rice	Plant		T
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Source: Michigan Natural Features Inventory, Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

*LE=Listed endangered, LT=Listed threatened, PDL=Proposed for delisting, C=Species being considered for federal status.

**E=Endangered, T=Threatened, SC=Special concern, X=Probably extirpated.

CHAPTER 3

C. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Background

This section describes how recreational activities and resources are governed and administered within Tawas City. Michigan Public Act 156 of 1917 authorizes cities, villages, counties, townships, and school districts to operate systems of public recreation and playgrounds. Section 1 of the Act provides that “any city, village, county, or township may operate a system of public recreation and playgrounds; acquire, equip, and maintain land, buildings, or other recreational facilities; employ a superintendent of recreation and assistants; vote and expend funds for the operation of such system.”

The administrative structure and plan review for Tawas City’s parks and recreation programs and facilities includes four parties: City Council, Planning Commission/Parks & Recreation Board, City Manager, and Department of Public Works (DPW).

City Council

The ultimate authority for the provision of recreation in the City is held by the City Council. The City Council is made of seven elected residents, one of which is a Mayor to lead the meetings and perform other ceremonial functions. The City Council establishes the annual itemized budget for the recreation fund and generally oversees use of the budget. The City Council has the final say on large improvement projects, use of additional funds, and land acquisition. All decisions are based on recommendations from the City Manager, Department of Public Works, Planning Commission/Parks & Recreation Board, and input from the general public. Additionally, the City Council approves all grant applications and adopts the Parks and Recreation Plan.

Planning Commission/Parks & Recreation Board

The Tawas City Planning Commission was established by ordinance on November 6, 1961, with the charge of preserving and improving the quality of Tawas City’s parks.

The seven-member Board is appointed by the Mayor with consent of the City Council. One member is a representative from the City Council, and the others are interested parties. The Planning Commission meets monthly and acts in an advisory capacity with responsibility for making recommendations to the City Council on management policy and expenditures regarding the City’s parks and recreation activities. This procedure is consistent with the City Charter which gives the City authority “to construct, provide, maintain, extend, operate, and improve public parks and recreation grounds.”

The Planning Commission is also responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the Parks and Recreation Plan, obtaining public input about recreation facilities and programs, and recommending the Plan to the City Council for adoption.

City Manager & Department of Public Works

The City Manager, acting as the Chief Administrative Officer for the City government, supervises City departments, makes recommendations to City Council, and administers the City’s budget.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for the maintenance of the City's parks under the direction of the City Manager. Tawas City's Parks and Recreation Department is a division of the DPW. The DPW has seven full-time employees, including the director; all spend part of their time maintaining Tawas City's parks. The City also employs three seasonal employees in the summer.

Budget Process

The City Manager annually prepares the draft of an operating budget outline for the recreation programs and facilities as part of the City's general fund budget, based upon ongoing input from the Planning Commission.

Upon adoption of the budget by City Council, the City Charter charges the City Manager with executing the budget provisions and administering the operation and maintenance of the recreation facilities.

Revenues received as part of recreation programs are deposited into the City's General Fund. Funds for the annual budgeted operating costs, as well as minor capital costs, are appropriated from the resources of the General Fund and the Downtown Development Authority. This method is identical to that employed for other City departments and functions as authorized by State statutes and the City Charter. In this manner, funds are appropriated by need, and are not limited by fixed millage. If an emergency need arises in the recreation function, surplus or funds appropriated elsewhere of a lesser priority can be transferred by the City Council to meet that emergency need.

Resources of the General Fund include local property taxes, state revenue sharing, licenses and fees, service contracts, rents and leases, and interfund transfers.

The annual operating budget for parks and recreation services generally include the following:

1. Maintenance and upkeep of park facilities. Extra personnel are hired each summer for this purpose and are supervised by DPW employees to assure quality work.
2. Contributions to area youth sports leagues.
3. Utilities, equipment, purchased services, and miscellaneous supplies in support of the parks and recreation program.
4. On-going capital improvements.

Major capital programs for recreation, to include property acquisition and development projects, are formulated by the Tawas City Planning Commission based on citizen input and demonstrated need. Recommendations are then forwarded to the City Manager and then to the City Council for review and action.

Table 3.1 shows the Parks and Recreation budgets, as compared to the overall City budget since Fiscal Year 2011-2012. The Parks and Recreation budget for 2013-2014 included a DIG grant for \$368,682 for Shoreline Park Renovation which included expanding the parking, ADA sidewalks throughout the park, and a new playscape for a total project cost \$493,810. The 2014-2015 budget included a USDA Grant for \$80,000 for a farm market pavilion in Gateway Park for a total project cost \$114,891.

The Parks & Recreation budget for 2020-2021 included rehabilitation and a 100ft extension of the Shoreline Park Pier for a total cost of \$4,295,000. The 2021-2022 budget includes purchase of recreational property for a total cost of \$243,560 with \$175,300 coming from a Michigan Department of Natural Resource Trust Fund grant.

Tawas City’s Parks and Recreation budget varies year by year from the total percentage of the City’s total General Fund. Depending on recreational projects and grand funds obtained; the Parks and Recreation budget can range from 70% of the City’s General Fund to 4% with an average of 41% over the years.

Table 3.1 Parks & Recreation Budget 2011-2022

Fiscal Year	General Fund	Parks & Rec
2011-2012	\$1,594,985	\$112,800
2012-2013	\$1,604,023	\$66,955
2013-2014	\$1,961,362	\$545,404
2014-2015	\$1,639,062	\$143,862
2015-2016	\$1,693,249	\$125,827
2016-2017	\$1,969,418	\$333,977
2017-2018	\$2,271,180	\$275,442
2018-2019	\$4,019,470	\$2,129,397
2019-2020	\$6,691,191	\$4,210,859
2020-2021	\$7,709,535	\$5,349,955
2021-2022	\$2,199,370	\$448,257

CHAPTER 4

D. RECREATION AND RESOURCE INVENTORY

Introduction

Developing a complete inventory of recreation facilities, programs, and events is an essential component of a Parks and Recreation Plan. It provides a base of information to use in developing the Action Program. Understanding what facilities, programs, and events are available to the residents of the City of Tawas City will assist in decision-making processes.

This portion of the plan includes several components. The first component is a description of the recreation facilities and programs that Tawas City owns and operates. Recreation, social, and cultural facilities located within the City but owned and operated by outside agencies such as the public school district were also inventoried. A description of regional recreation facilities, including those found in adjacent communities, is also provided. The recreation facilities inventory is followed by an assessment of the barrier-free compliance status of City-owned park facilities. Lastly, this chapter includes a description of the facilities that were partially or completely acquired and/or developed using State recreation grant funding.

City Owned Recreational Facilities

As a starting point for the inventory of recreation facilities, the inventory from the 2018-2022 Parks and Recreation Plan was updated to reflect current amenities. However, in order to include the most up-to-date facility information, a field survey of parks and recreation facilities was conducted in March of 2022. After the field survey, the previous recreation inventory table was updated, and a new version of the table was prepared. **Table 4.1** and **Map 4.1**, City of Tawas City, City-Owned Recreation Facilities Inventory, is provided on the following page.

In total, the City of Tawas City features public recreation facilities totaling approximately 70 acres of land and approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of Lake Huron shoreline and Tawas River frontage. The location of each facility is shown on the Recreation Inventory Map and aerial photos for each park are included after the Recreation Inventory **Map 4.1**. A profile of each facility is included on the following pages.

All Tawas City Park and Recreation facilities are available for use by the general public. Parks along the Lake Huron waterfront are also frequented by tourists and travelers passing by on scenic US-23.

Map 4.1 Tawas City Parks Map

Tawas City Parks

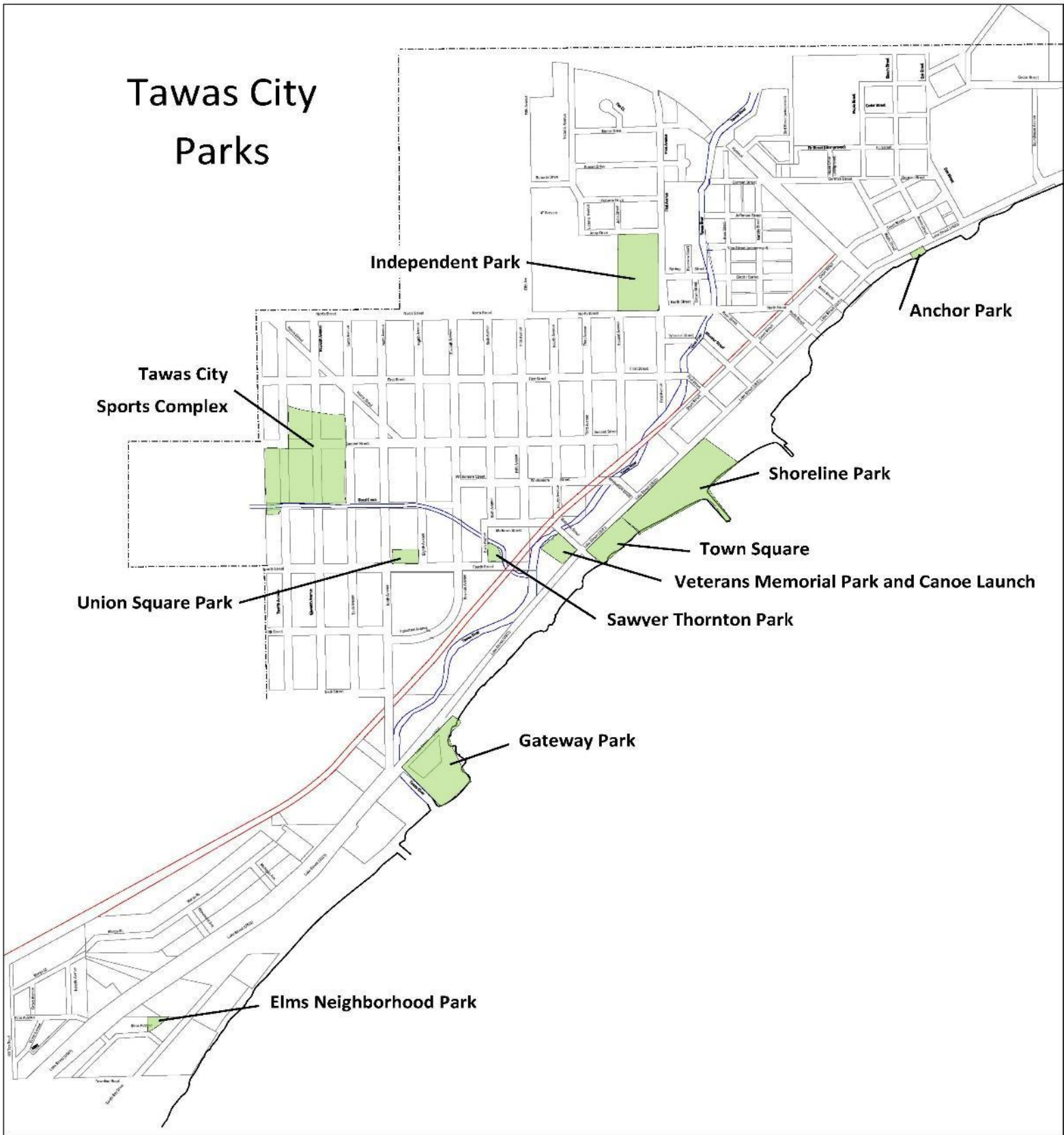


Table 4.1 City Owned Recreation Facility Inventory

Recreation Facility	Types of Parks	Estimated Acres	Entrance Sign	Off-Street Parking	Indoor Restrooms	Portable Restrooms	Benches/Seating Area	Picnic Tables	Picnic Shelter/Pavilion	Barbecue Grills	Concession Stand	Public/Private Art	Boat Launch/Docking (Canoe/Kayak)	Lake Swimming	Shore/Pier Fishing	Shoreline Trail	Hiking/Jogging Trail	Playground Equipment	Softball/Baseball Field	Performance Stage	Basketball Court	Soccer Field	Volleyball Court	Pickle Ball Court
Gateway Park and Boat Launch	CP	7.8	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Anchor Park	CP	.56		X	X		X	X								X	X							
Town Square Park	CP	3.32	X	X	X		X	X		X				X	X	X	X	X		X				
Shoreline Park	CP	8.2	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X						
Union Square Park	NP	1.5		X																				
Independent Park	SC	6.5	X	X		X	X	X				X						X	X		X			X
Elms Neighborhood Park	MP	.3						X										X						
Tawas City Sports Complex	SC	12.8	X	X	X		X	X	X		X							X	X			X		
Sawyer Thornton Park	MP	.4	X	X				X							X									
Tawas City Nature Preserve	NR	27.6															X							
City Hall / Veterans Park	CP	1.8	X	X			X						X		X	X								

Legend: MP=Mini-Park, NP-Neighborhood Park, CP=Community Park, SC=Sports Complex, NR=Natural Resource Area, SU=Special Use.

Gateway Park

Gateway Park was constructed in 1982 with the purpose of stabilizing, beautifying, and preserving the Tawas River mouth property for public access and multi-recreational use. The site was named Gateway Park because it is virtually the first major regional exposure to Lake Huron for traffic northbound on US-23, making it the southern entrance to the Lake Huron coastal system. Gateway Park features several concrete playground animal sculptures that were constructed by Gordon Clute, a local artist, and either purchased by or donated to the City.



In addition to the children’s playground, visitors may enjoy picnicking or fishing off the pier at the mouth of the river. Parking is available. In 2010, an ADA-compatible fishing pier was added to the park, along with a new ADA-compatible boat launch which accommodates two boats up to 28 feet long. In 2014, a 3,200 square foot pavilion was built for the Northeast Michigan Regional Farm Market to use for their farm market. In 2015, a portion of the park along the lake shore was designated as a dog friendly beach. In 2017, new ADA-compatible restrooms were constructed in the park. The parking lot was paved allowing more mobile vending units, signage added, and shoreline improvements were made in 2020. In 2022, the shoreline was restored at the end of the fishing pier.



Tawas City Municipal Boat Launch

The Tawas City Boat Launch was relocated to Gateway Park on the east side of the Tawas River near the mouth of the river in 2010. The public boat launch is ADA- compliant and can accommodate two boats up to 28 feet long.

As the Lake Huron level changes from year to year, there are years when dredging may be necessary at the mouth of Tawas River to the boat launch.



Gateway Park & Municipal Boat Launch Aerial



Anchor Park

Anchor Park is located at 402 East Lake Street and was established in 2018. The City acquired the property in 1948 and it was used as the location for the Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce. In 2018 the Chamber relocated its office, and the .565 acre property was converted to a public park. It has been leased to Charlie Horse Electric Bikes since 2021. The property is located along a non-motorized path that extends from Alabaster Township to Baldwin Township. The building is 800 square feet with a large deck that overlooks Lake Huron and a bathroom that is available for public use.

Anchor Park Aerial



Town Square Park

Town Square Park was constructed shortly after this lakefront property was purchased from two gas stations in the early 1990's. This is adjacent to Shoreline Park, giving the community nearly 1,500 linear feet of uninterrupted Lake Huron shoreline. Town Square Park includes a small open-air building that is used for weddings, concerts, and other events. The property has a memorial honoring Lt. William Bowen, a Tawas City resident who died while serving his country in the South Pacific in World War II. In 2020, the City purchased an additional .124 acres to add to the park. In 2022, the shoreline was restored and deck along water was removed.



Town Square Aerial



Shoreline Park

Adjacent to Town Square Park, this park's recreational identity comes from the 450-foot long pier, with an additional 100 feet added in 2021 to create a L-shaped pier. The pier also received lighting, bench upgrades, and the addition of 9 boat slips for day docking. The presence of the pier encourages active as well as passive recreational opportunities. Aside from the pier, Shoreline Park is equipped with two picnic pavilions, a food concession stand, restrooms, a sidewalk along the beach, and a playscape for children. In 2012, the concession stand was remodeled with new log siding and a steel roof. In 2013, the park was renovated with a DIG Grant and the parking lot area was doubled, a new ADA compatible sidewalk that runs across the length of the park was constructed, and a new playscape, an electric car charging station, benches, bike rack, new lighting and new signage were installed. In 2015, two crosswalks were installed to cross Lake Street (US-23.) In 2016, the existing restroom was razed and replaced with a new restroom and an additional restroom was constructed at the south end of the park. In June 2017, the City contracted with a consultant to perform a condition assessment of the pier to determine future rehabilitation project. In 2021, two additional car charging stations were added at the south end of the park.



Tawas Point Lighthouse is visible from this park. Shoreline Park is the host to the Annual Shoreline Arts and Crafts Show on Memorial Day weekend, the Annual Tawas Bay Waterfront Fine Arts Festival, and the Labor Day Arts and Crafts Show on Labor Day weekend. These events attract thousands of visitors.



Shoreline Park & Pier Aerial



Shoreline Park Pier Redevelopment



Union Square Park

Established in 1992, Union Square Park is the site of the former Tawas City Department of Public Works building and is named for Union soldiers who fought in the Civil War. The park is set in a residential area where residents can play Frisbee, kickball, and other games.

Improvements have been made over the years, including rail fencing and new trees.



Union Square Park Aerial



Sawyer Thornton Park

Established in 2015, the Sawyer Thornton Park's property was acquired in 1989. The park is named after the families of local historian, Neil Thornton. The property was originally owned by Mr. Thornton's grandfather, Ben Sawyer, and then his parents, Percy and Edith (Sawyer) Thornton.

The park is set in a residential area. A picnic table is located here for relaxation while residents enjoy fishing on the bank of Dead Creek, picnicking, or playing games.



Sawyer Thornton Park Aerial



Independent Park

This facility contains the main baseball field in Tawas City and is heavily used during the season. The field includes dugouts, bleachers, fencing, a portable restroom, and picnic tables. In 2011-2012, the backstops received improvements. The Tawas City Library and an open play field are also located onsite. In 2008, a pocket park was built next to the library which included a pergola and several concrete cartoon figures that were built by Gordon Clute, a resident artist. In 2015 the deteriorating tennis courts were reconfigured to create two basketball courts, and in 2017 they were striped to create two pickleball courts, creating a multi-use area for basketball and pickleball enthusiasts. In 2014-2016, the baseball field was improved, fencing upgraded and extended, and dugouts rebuilt. In 2016, the library parking lot was expanded and is adjacent to the baseball field and a new sign was installed. In 2022, playground equipment was added.

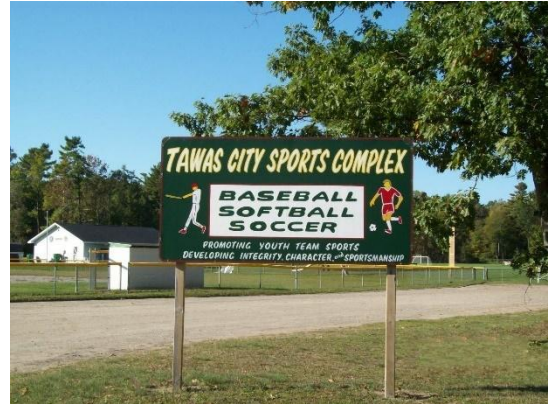


Independent Park Aerial



Tawas City Sports Complex

The Tawas City Sports Complex includes two youth baseball/softball fields, six soccer fields, a concession stand/pavilion, restrooms, picnic area, storage facilities, and playground equipment.



Soccer Fields

Soccer fields were constructed in early 1990 with funds from Tawas Area Soccer League, City of Tawas City, Lions Club, and Kiwanis Club. The league is mostly responsible for the operation and maintenance of the grounds, which consist of six irrigated playing fields. While the City owns the complex, the soccer association operates the concession stand and restroom facility.

The soccer fields are adjacent to the baseball and softball fields. The two facilities share the concession stand, restrooms, picnic area, and playground.



Baseball and Softball Fields

Baseball and softball fields are adjacent to the former Tawas Middle School and the Tawas City Soccer Fields. The complex's two fields are primarily used for Little League games. In 2013, the grounds received improvements to the fields, dugouts, backstops, and fencing.

Other amenities include a concession stand/pavilion/restroom building, playground equipment, picnic tables, and storage facilities.



Tawas City Sports Complex Aerial



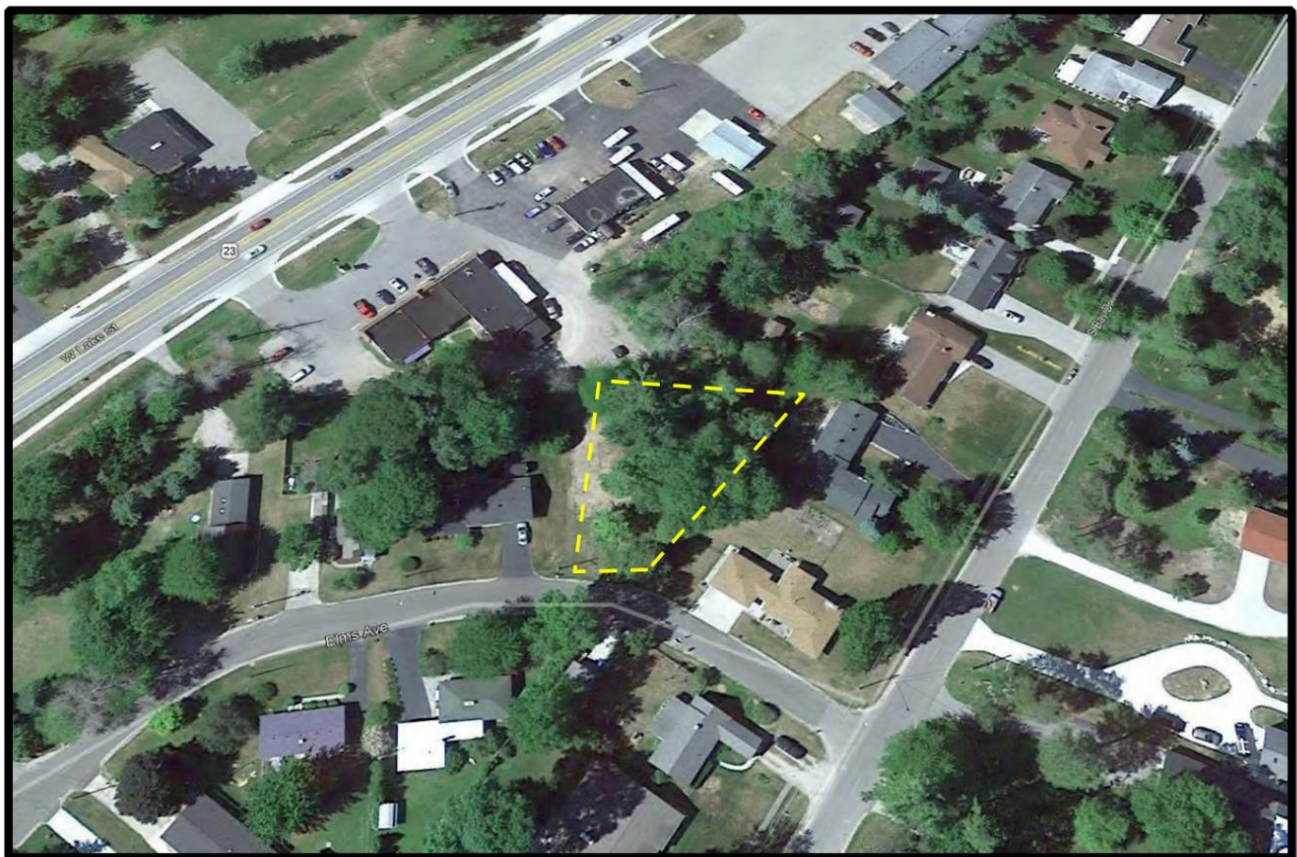
Elms Neighborhood Park

Elms Neighborhood Park is a small park that acts primarily as an open space and buffer. In 1983, the park was almost abandoned and reverted to the heirs of the person who originally donated the land to the City. However, after citizen opposition to this proposal, the City kept the park and continues to maintain it as open space and buffer.

In recent years, a picnic table has been added. Mature trees make the park a comfortable place to visit on a warm summer day. In 2022, a slide was added to the park.



Elms Neighborhood Park Aerial



Tawas City Nature Preserve

The Tawas City Nature Preserve is adjacent to the Sports Complex on the north and west sides, and it encircles the Tawas City Cemetery. The Nature Preserve contains a nature trail with abundant wildflowers, various other natural plants, significant woodlands, and extensive wetland areas. Birds and wildlife common to Iosco County are common in this area.

City Hall Boardwalk & Veterans Park

The City Hall was constructed in 2009 on the north side of Mathews Street, just off Lake Street (US-23) and adjacent to the Tawas River. The site includes parking and a boardwalk along the river.

Veterans Park was established in 2009 along the Tawas River. The Park is adjacent to City Hall, creating additional parking, a boardwalk along the river for fishing, and access to launch a canoe or kayak.



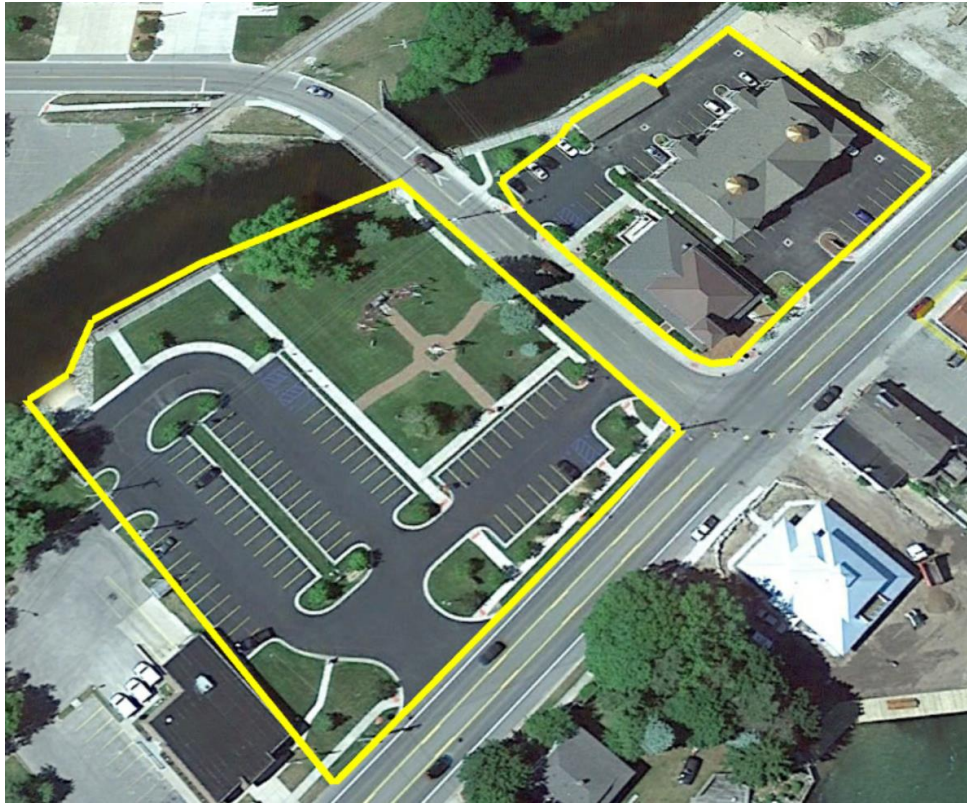
In 2012, the City dedicated the Veterans Recognition Plaza, a “War Dead” memorial representing Veterans from Iosco County who lost their lives while defending our freedom. In 2014, brick pavers were installed to create a “Walk of Honor”. In 2018, the “Honor Roll of Iosco County Veterans” memorial, which honors men and women who entered the service from Iosco County, was added and included the installation of three granite tablet Honor Rolls with an additional fourth Honor Roll installed in 2021. The park also includes benches that were purchased by families for honoring military service members. Veterans Park and the Canoe & Kayak Launch property combine for 210 feet of Tawas River frontage.

The park also contains a plaque for Peter Lemon who was a Tawas Area Graduate who received the Congressional Medal of Honor, two Bronze Star Medals, two Air Medals, a Purple Heart, and an Army Commendation Medal, and additional honors for his conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty.

The park is a frequent visiting place for remembering those who served, and aids in supporting the military. Services are held at the park each year on Memorial Day and National POW/MIA Day by the American Legion Post 211.



City Hall Aerial



Veterans Park, Canoe & Kayak Launch



Tawas Area Schools

The Tawas Area School System owns the following facilities, and they make their facilities available to the general public through community education programs and summer youth recreation programs. School playgrounds and playing courts are available for public use when school is not in session.

Clara Bolen Elementary School

This school serves young fours through fourth grade and is located near the high school facility. The facility offers a gymnasium and playground.



Tawas Area Middle School/High School

Tawas Area Middle School/High School serves fifth grade through twelfth grade students. In 2016, the high school was expanded to relocate the middle school to this campus which includes fifth grade through eighth grade students.



School athletic programs offered during the regular school year include:

- Football
- Soccer
- Golf
- Cross-country
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Baseball
- Track
- Cheerleading
- Volleyball
- Softball
- Wrestling
- Hockey



Recreational facilities at this school campus include two full-size gymnasiums, football stadium, six-lane rubberized track, two practice fields, soccer field, and little league field.



Tawas City Area Private Recreational Facilities

Several privately-owned recreation facilities within the Tawas City area are significant in terms of the recreation opportunities they provide for Tawas City residents. A description of each facility is provided below.

Tawas Bay Condominium Marina

This private marina is located on Lake Huron near the mouth of the Tawas River. It has individually owned boat slips, and a clubhouse is available for use by boat slip owners.

Tawas Axe-N-Lanes

Located on US-23, this six-lane bowling and axe throwing center is a popular indoor recreation facility with sponsored leagues.

Family Theater

Located in the City of East Tawas, the Family Theater is the local cinema serving the entire Tawas area.

Tawas Bay Players Community Theater and WE Players

Local amateur theater groups present numerous productions each year for residents and visitors to enjoy.

Tawas Bay Ice Arena

This quasi-private ice facility, located about 1 ½ miles west of US-23 on M-55 was built and is maintained by the Huron Hockey and Skating Association, a nonprofit organization. It is used for figure skating, hockey leagues, and the high school hockey team. When the facility isn't being used by a scheduled activity, it is open to the public.

Red Hawk Golf Club

This golf course serves Tawas area, as well as visitors to the area. Located approximately six miles north of Tawas City, the course features 18 holes, and a bar and grill, all with a scenic woodland setting.

Tawas Creek Golf Course

Located on Monument Road approximately three miles northwest of Tawas City, this golf course offers 18 holes of golf and a bar/grill.

Brown's Landing RV Park

Located on Lake Huron about six miles south of Tawas City, this park has 80 campsites, a boat launch, and a dock.

Shady Oaks Campground

This campground is located about 11 miles west of Tawas City off M-55 and features 70 shaded campsites, restrooms, showers, and a playground.

Tawas River Trailer Park

This facility, located in Tawas City just outside the business district on the Tawas River, caters to 55 permanent Trailer Park residents. It also has 100 large seasonal campground sites with canoe/kayak/small boat access to the river.

Tawas RV Park

This 69-site seasonal campground is located approximately two miles west of Tawas City on Townline Road.

Tawas Tennis Association

Located on Miller Road, this one-court indoor tennis facility provides its members year round access for tennis.

Tawas City Area and Iosco County Clubs and Organizations

The Clubs, Organizations and Recreational Programs listed are in the Tawas Area which includes the *City of Tawas City.

For Adults

American Legion Post 211

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veteran's organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

AuSable Valley Audubon

AuSable Valley Audubon members live in the Alcona and Iosco counties area. Programs cover a wide range of subjects including birds, wildlife, plants, and environmental issues.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 130

Dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity.

*Friends of Tawas City Library

Tawas City Library Friends Book Store, open 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. on Saturdays at the library.

Friends of East Tawas Library

Friends of the East Tawas Library sponsors several events throughout the community to support the library.

Iosco County Sportsmen's Clubs

The Iosco Sportsmen's Club was established in 1947 for the purpose of fostering conservation, promoting, and educating in the areas of sportsmanship, camaraderie, fairness, and safety in all aspects of outdoor sports.

Iosco County Historical Society

An organization to collect, preserve, and share the history of Iosco County. The society is committed to inspiring audiences of all ages and interests with local legacy of family, community, and commerce.

*Kiwanis Club of Tawas

A global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

Knights of Columbus Council #2709

A fraternal order of Catholic men dedicated in faith and operating continuously since 1929 in the Tawas area.

*Northeast Michigan Regional Farm Market

This market runs rain or shine from mid-May through October. Great vendors offer heirloom veggies, organically grown greens, meats, berries, honey, maple syrup, prepared foods, pastries, eggs, herbs, bouquets, plants, and much more.

Michigan's Iron Belle Trail

The Sunrise Side Pathway portion of the Iron Belle Trail bicycling route generally runs parallel to US-23 and the Lake Huron Shoreline in eastern Iosco County.

*Sunrise Side Master Gardener Association

Master Gardeners from Michigan's Sunrise Side (Lake Huron coastline in Northeast Michigan).

Rotary Club

Covers seven counties that include the following communities: Waters, Hale, Roscommon, St. Helen, Houghton Lake, Prudenville, Grayling, Frederic, Gaylord, Johannesburg, Lewiston, Atlanta, Comins, Fairview, Mio, Rose City, West Branch, Lupton, Skidway Lake, Sand Lake area, Glennie, Oscoda, East Tawas, Tawas City, and National City.

Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce

A network organization comprised of businesses, civic nonprofit groups, publicly funded entities, and individuals who work together toward a common vision: Prosperity in Business. Strength in Community.

Tawas Area Elks Lodge #2525

Members invest in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug-free, meet the needs of today's veterans, and improve the quality of life.

*Tawas Area Pickleball Association

Pickleball is played on outside courts at the East Tawas Community Center and at the Tawas City Independent Park. Tawas Area Pickleball Association has more than 65 members.

Tawas Bay Art Gallery

Inspiring and nurturing the creativity in our community. Events sponsored by the Tawas Bay Art Council.

Tawas Bay Eagles F.O.E 2588

The F.O.E. 2588 was established in Tawas in 1947 and has grown in membership since then to more than 700 members.

Tawas Bay Ice Arena

Open skate and hockey times available.

Tawas Bay Players

The purpose of the Tawas Bay Players is to promote and encourage theatre in our community by providing quality educational and/or entertaining productions, utilizing talents within the local area.

Tawas Bay Tourism & Convention Bureau

History, adventure, fun and hospitality frame every visit to the area.

Tawas Community Concert Band

Created in 1980, this concert band plays patriotic, pop, Dixieland, polkas, Broadway, classical, waltzes, marches, Latin, disco, and more.

*Tawas Masonic Lodge 274 F. & A.M.

This Lodge is chartered through the Grand Lodge of Michigan, F & M, which in turn, is recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England.

Quota International of Iosco County

A nonprofit organization empowering woman, children, the deaf, hard-of-hearing, and speech-impaired in local communities around the world.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5678

Ensuring that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

Walleyes for Iosco County

This organization raises walleye in a pond and then later releases them in the surrounding lakes.

Youth

Boy Scouts – Several Troops

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the largest scouting organizations and one of the largest youth organizations in the United States, with about 1.2 million youth participants.

Girl Scouts – Several Troops

Girl Scouts of the United States of America, commonly referred to as simply Girl Scouts, is a youth organization for girls in the United States and American girls living abroad.

Iosco County 4-H

Offering a diverse range of topics and interest areas, 4-H is the largest youth development organization in Michigan.

Ravens Football & Cheerleading

This organization is for fifth and sixth graders.

Tawas Area Little League - Baseball/Softball

Little League Baseball and Softball is a nonprofit organization based in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania, United States, which organizes local youth baseball and softball leagues throughout the United States and the rest of the world.

Tawas Area Soccer Association

AYSO Region 942 and Tawas Area Soccer Association. Youth soccer for U6, U8, U10, and travel teams for U12 and U15.

Tawas Bay Ice Arena

Open skate and hockey times available

YMCA/YWCA Camp Nissokone

Summer camp. For many individuals, no matter their ages, the words evoke memories of long sunny days or even longer rainy ones, making lifelong friends, hiking, sports, campfires, telling stories, camp songs, water activities, games, crafts – and all the other experiences.

Tawas City Recreational Events

Independence Day Celebration

Each year the Chamber of Commerce organizes and conducts a parade through East Tawas and Tawas City and the fireworks show on Tawas City Pier over Tawas Bay. This annual program is partially funded by Tawas City and attracts thousands of spectators.

Memorial Day and Labor Day Arts and Crafts Shows

Tawas City allows the use of Shoreline Park at no charge for Memorial Day and Labor Day arts and crafts shows. These shows bring hundreds of people to the area.

Tawas Area Youth Athletic Programs

The City partially funds operations and maintenance of the municipally-owned sports complex and independent ball field for youth softball and baseball fields and soccer fields.

Tawas City Library

The library is available to the public for community-oriented activities. The Friends of the Tawas City Library occupies a portion of the building.

School District Recreation

The school district contributes the use of its high school and elementary school gymnasiums throughout the school year to local groups, churches, and organizations that plan athletic and recreational-oriented events.

Annual Events

January

Hale Yes! Winterfest – Hale
Corsair Cross Country Ski Trails
Tawas Bay Players Productions

February

Corsair Cross Country Ski Trails
Perchvillie, USA
Michigan Free Fishing Weekend
Tawas Bay Players Productions

March

Spring Job Fair
Tawas Bay Players Productions

April

Tawas Bay Players Productions

May

Iosco County Historical Society Quilt Show
Shoreline Arts & Crafts Shows
Memorial Day Parade
Northeast Michigan Regional Farm Market
Gourmet Delights – Quota International
Heritage Coast Sail Days
Tawas Point Migration – Bird Watching
Tawas Bay Players Productions

June

Michigan Free Fishing Weekend
Tuesday Night Live Street Dance – Downtown East Tawas every Tuesday Night
Northeast Michigan Regional Farm Market
Tawas Community Concert Band Series - Weekly
Eagles Cup Sailboat Race – Tawas Bay Yacht Club
Tawas Bay Players Productions

July

Independence Day Parade from East Tawas to Tawas City along US-23
Independence Day Fireworks – Tawas City Shoreline Park Pier
Tuesday Night Live Street Dance – Downtown East Tawas every Tuesday Night
Northeast Michigan Regional Farm Market
Iosco County Fair – Fourth Week in July
Tawas Community Concert Band Series - Weekly
Summerfest
Dawn Patrol Fly-In
Classic Car Show
Harry Curley Memorial Canoe Race - Oscoda
AuSable River Days & Canoe Marathon – Starts in Grayling ends in Oscoda
Tawas Bay Players Productions

August

Tuesday Night Live Street Dance– Downtown East Tawas every Tuesday Night
Tawas Bay Waterfront Fine Art Show
Blues by the Bay Blues Festival
Northeast Michigan Regional Farm Market
Sand Lake Festival
Sidewalk Sale Days on Newman Street
Tawas Uncork'd Wine, Ale & Food Festival
Tawas Community Concert Band Series - Weekly
Tawas Area Elks Golf Scramble – Tawas Creek Golf Course
Tawas Bay Players Productions

September

Shoreline Arts & Crafts Shows
Northeast Michigan Regional Farm Market
Women's Softball Tournament
Paul Bunyan Days - Oscoda
Sunrise Side Triathlon – 3 Disciplines
Men's Softball Tournaments
Quota Club 50s-60s Dance
Tawas Bay Players Productions

October

Fall Color Tours
Tawas Point Haunted Lighthouse
Tawas Bay Players Productions

November

East Tawas Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting
Tawas Bay Players Productions

December

Corsair Cross Country Ski Trails Open
Festival of Lights
Christmas at the Museum
Community Christmas Eve Carol Sing
Annual Christmas Home Walk
Tawas Bay Players Productions

Barrier-Free Status

With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), all areas of public service and accommodations became subject to barrier-free requirements, including parks, recreation facilities, and programs. An accessible playground is “one that, when viewed in its entirety, may be approached, entered, and used by persons with varied disabilities.

To evaluate the status of the existing public parks and recreation facilities owned by the City of Tawas City, each was inventoried for their accessibility status as defined by the MDNR during a field survey conducted in October 2021. Each facility was given a rating of 1 through 5 with the following definitions.

1. None of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines.
2. Some of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines.
3. Most of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines.

4. Entire park meets guidelines.
5. Entire park was developed/renovations using principals of universal design.

As can be seen in **Table 4.2**, two of the City’s parks are fully ADA compliant. The barrier-free deficiencies generally revolve around parking, walkways, and restroom facilities.

Table 4.2 Facilities Accessibility Ratings

Park	Type	Accessibility Rating
Gateway and Boat Launch	CP	3
Town Square	CP	3
Shoreline	CP	4
Union Square	NP	1
Independent	SC	3
Elms	NP	1
Sawyer Thornton	NP	2
Sports Complex	SC	2
Nature Preserve	NR	1
City Hall/Veterans Park	CP	4
Anchor Park	CP	3

Legend: MP=Mini Park; NP=Neighborhood Park;
 CP=Community Park; SC=Sports Complex;
 NR=Natural Resources Area; SU=Special Use.

Tawas City Recreation Grant History

When preparing a Recreation Plan, the MDNR requires that information be provided concerning grants that have been received in the past for acquisitions or development of recreation facilities. A summary of past grants received is shown in **Table 4.3**. According to MDNR, all projects were successfully completed, and grant money was used for its intended request.

Table 4.3 Recreation Grant History

Grant # Year Awarded	Project Name	Type of Project	Grant Amount
MSC-217029-CDI-2021	Tawas City Pier Renovation	Development	\$3,589,949
TF18-0092-2021	Tawas City Property Acquisition	Acquisition	\$175,300
RBEG 10-769-2014	Farm Market Pavilion	Development	\$60,000
CF 10-769-2014	Farm Market Pavilion	Development	\$20,000
DIG MSC- 21201- 2013	Downtown Parking & Walkway Improvement Project	Development	\$368,682
WRG 431848-75-2008	Tawas City Downtown Redevelopment	Development	\$60,000
TF 08-038-2008	Gateway Park Renovation	Development	\$134,000

TF 91-319-1991	Shoreline Park Expansion	Acquisition	\$168,800
TF 86-167-1986	Tawas City Park Expansion	Acquisition	\$65,000
26-00440-LWCF-1973	Tawas City Catwalk	Development	\$5,400
26-00116-LWCF-1968	Tawas City Park South Addition	Acquisition	\$15,175

National Planning Standard

In the process of determining and prioritizing needs, it is not only important to understand the national trends in terms of participation levels and popularity, but it is also imperative to compare the provision of local recreation facilities to published standards. This comparison of existing facilities to standard acreage and facility recommendations is another tool to assist in determining needs within the City of Tawas City. However, it should be noted that the latest available national standards were developed in the 1970's and 1980's and may not fully reflect today's needs and trends.

Acreege Standards

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) provides a recommended park classification system that recognizes the fact that open space serves people at differing levels. The system categorizes open space as mini-park, neighborhood park, or community park. The desirable characteristics relative to size, function, amenities, and acreage provisions per 1,000 people are identified in the following table.

Table 4.4 National Recreation and Parks Association Classification System

Mini-Parks	
General Description	Used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs
Location Criteria	Less than ¼ mile distance in residential setting
Size Criteria	Between 2500 sq. ft. and 1 acre
Acres/1000 Population	0.25 to 0.5 acres
Neighborhood Parks	
General Description	Remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation
Location Criteria	¼ to ½ mile distance and un-interrupted by non-residential roads and physical barriers
Size Criteria	5 acres is considered min. size, 5 to 10 acres is optimal
Acres/1000 Population	1.0 to 2.0 acres
Community Parks	

General Description	Serves a broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces
Location Criteria	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3 mile distance
Size Criteria	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Between 30 and 50 acres
Acres/1000 Population	5.0 to 8.0 acres

These acreages standard have been applied to the existing park acreage in the City to determine the needs in terms of property. For the purpose of this analysis, the acreage standards will be applied to the City population of 1,834 according to the 2020 US Census.

Table 4.5 Tawas City Classified Recreation Facilities

Mini-Parks	
Elms Neighborhood Park	0.3 acres
Sawyer Thornton Park	0.4 acres
Neighborhood Parks	
Union Square Park	1.5 acres
Community Parks	
Gateway Park/Boat Launch	7.8 acres
Town Square Park	3.32 acres
Shoreline Park	8.2 acres
Independent Park	6.5 acres
City Hall/Veterans Park	1.8 acres
Tawas City Sports Complex	12.8 acres
Tawas City Nature Preserve	27.6 acres

Anchor Park	.56 acres
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In this chapter recreational facility classifications compatible with MDNR plan development requirements were used. The Independent Park and Tawas City Sports Complex were both classified as a “sports complex,” and the Nature Preserve was classified as a “natural resource area.” For the purpose of this exercise, all three will be classified as community parks, because they are utilized by residents of the entire City.

Mini-Parks

Two mini-parks are found within Tawas City. Elms Neighborhood Park and Sawyer Thornton Park cover approximately 0.7 acres.

The NRPA standard for mini-parks stipulates a desired standard of 0.25 to 0.5 acre per 1,000 people, and was applied to Tawas City population of 1,834. Based on the NRPA standard, the City should have between 0.5 and 1.0 acre of mini-parks. The City’s current 0.7 acre satisfies the mini-park standard.

According to the NRPA standard, mini-parks have an approximate ¼ mile radius. The City’s mini-parks satisfy the NRPA ¼ mile radius standard.

Neighborhood Parks

Two city parks are classified as a neighborhood park; Union Square Park covering approximately 1.5 acres, and Anchor Park at .565 acres.

Neighborhood parks are designated as such because of their size, location, amenities offered, or how they function within the community. The NRPA standard for neighborhood parks of 1.0 to 2.0 acres per 1,000 people was applied to the Tawas City population of 1,834. Based on the NRPA standard, the City should have between 2.0 and 4.0 acres of neighborhood parks. The City’s current 2.65 acres is above NRPA standards.

According to the NRPA standards, neighborhood parks have an approximately ¼ to ½ mile radius service area, this being a bit larger coverage than that of a mini-park.

Tawas City Neighborhood Parks allow nearby residents to live a healthier life, promoting community wellness and exercise.

Community Parks

Eight City parks are classified as community parks, comprising a total of 68.58 acres of land. The NRPA standard for community parks stipulates a standard of 0.5 to .08 acres per 1,000 people. Based on the City’s existing population of 1,834, the NRPA standard would require between 9 and 15 acres of community park-land. Even without the Sports Complex and nature preserve, there is almost double (27.5 acres) the NRPA standard for community parks. Therefore, lack of land for community parks is not an issue.

Facility Standards

The NRPA has also published typical recreation facility standards that specify facility service

areas, the number of facilities needed to service the population, as well as the land area needed. Standards for facilities usually located within neighborhood and community parks are provided. These standards can be used in conjunction with the acreage standards to further identify Tawas City’s recreation needs.

Table 4.7 provides a comparison of the City’s public park facilities against published recreation facility standards. Based on the standards, the only deficiency noted is a community swimming pool.

This data can be used in conjunction with other factors contained within this Plan for planning and recreational facilities. Additional data includes results of the public workshop, City Council and staff recommendations, and Planning Commission input.

Table 4.6 Recreation Facility Standards

Activity/Facility	Minimum Space Requirements	Units per Population	Service Radius	Location Notes
Basketball Court (Outdoor)	2,400-3,036 sq. ft. (youth) 5,040-7,280 sq. ft. (high school)	1 per 5,000	¼ - ½ mile	Outdoor courts in neighborhoods and community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings.
Ice Hockey	22,000 sq. ft.	1 per 100,000	½ - 1 hour travel time	Climate is an important consideration, including travel time, affecting the number of units.
Tennis & Pickle Ball Court	7,200 sq. ft./court 2 acre/complex	1 per 2,000	¼ - ½ mile	Best in batteries of 2-4. Located in neighborhoods and community parks, or adjacent to school sites.
Volleyball Court (Outdoor)	4,000 sq. ft.	1 per 5,000	½ - 1 mile	Outdoor courts in neighborhoods and community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings.
Ballfields: Baseball Little League Softball	3-3.85 acres 1.2 acres 1.5-2 acres	1 per 5,000 1 lighted field per 30,000	¼ - ½ mile	Part of a neighborhood complex. Lighted fields part of a community complex. Softball fields may also be used for youth baseball.
Football Field	1.5 acres	1 per 20,000	15-30 minutes travel time	Usually part of baseball, football, or soccer complex in community parks or adjacent to high school
Soccer Field	1.7-2.1 acres	1 per 10,000	1-2 miles	Number of units depends on popularity. Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to schools or neighborhood parks.
Swimming Pool	1-2 acres	1 per 20,000	15-30 minutes travel time	Located in a community park or school site.
Source: Data from Roger A. Lancaster, Ed. <i>Recreation Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines</i> , Alexandria, Virginia: National Recreation and Park Association, 1983, pages 60-61.				

Table 4.7 Recreational Facility Deficiencies

Facility/Standard	Total/Standard	Existing Use	Deficiency
Basketball Court (outdoor) 1/5,000	0.4	1 City-owned 2 Elem. School 3 East Tawas Comm. Center 3 East Tawas Community Center 1 Elem. School	No
Ice Hockey 1/100,000	0.02	1 in Tawas City	No
Tennis & Pickle Ball Court 1/2,000	1.0	4 at East Tawas Comm. Center	No
Volleyball Court 1/5,000	0.4	3 on East Tawas Beach/Park	No
Ballfield 1/5,000	0.4	3 in Tawas City	No
Football Field 1/20,000	0.1	1 at High School	No
Soccer Field 1/10,000	0.2	7 in Tawas City	No
Swimming Pool 1/20,000	0.1	1 at Oscoda High Area High School (approx. 18mi) 1 at Standish High School (approx. 36mi)	No

CHAPTER 5

E. PLANNING & PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Purpose

Development of a community recreation plan involves interaction and input from citizens and community groups. The Tawas City Planning Commission was the lead entity in developing the City's parks and recreation plan. This chapter provides a general description of the planning and public input process used for the City of Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan to provide input on the future goals and objectives for Tawas City's parks and recreational facilities.

Planning Process

The necessary data to begin the formulation of the background studies for the plan was collected from various sources including City staff, the Planning Commission, the most recent 2018-2022 Plan, US Census Bureau, State of Michigan departments' websites, and field observations.

Chapter 1, "Community Description", includes a brief introduction to the City of Tawas City, the jurisdiction of the Plan, and the focus of the Plan. This chapter also includes a description of the City's setting within the region and Iosco County, a brief history, social and economic characteristics, and natural resources and transportation inventory.

Chapter 3, "Administrative Structure", describes how recreation is governed and operated within the City. This includes information gathered from the City and outlines staff responsibilities, the function of the Planning Commission and City Council, and a fiscal analysis as it relates to recreation over the prior ten years.

Chapter 4, "Recreational and Resource Inventory", provides an inventory of the recreation facilities within Tawas City. This inventory was collected through a field survey conducted in March of 2022. The location of each recreation facility was photographed, described, and mapped, as well as the various programs, activities, and events offered throughout the City. This Chapter also includes a brief description of the public school district and its corresponding recreational facilities, nearby private recreational facilities, and regional public recreational facilities in the Tawas City vicinity.

The Planning Commission met on June 7, 2022 to review the draft 2023-2027 Parks and Recreation Plan and survey results. Information was obtained regarding future and current standing projects, and input from citizens and community groups.

Planning Schedule

September 2021	City Officials contract with Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) to assist in drafting a recreation plan for Tawas City.
October 2021	NEMCOG reviewed past plans and made updates to community description, natural resources, administrative structure, and recreation inventory.
October 6, 2021	NEMCOG assisted in the development of a public survey and was published on the City of Tawas City's website, tawascity.org .
March 2022	NEMCOG staff conducted on-site visits to each recreational facility in the City and conducted barrier-free assessment.
June 7, 2022	The City of Tawas City Planning Commission reviewed the survey results to assure the local goals aligned with the community input.
September 13, 2022	The Planning Commission voted to approve the draft of the Tawas City Recreation Plan and to put the plan out for the 30-day review period.
September 21, 2022	A public notice appeared in the Iosco County News Herald. The Parks and Recreation Plan was available for review at the Tawas City Library, Tawas City Hall, and on the Tawas City Website.
September 21, 2022	A public notice appeared in the Iosco County News Herald advertising a public hearing to be held on November 14, 2022.
November 14, 2022	The Tawas City Council held a public hearing on the Parks and Recreation Plan. Any comments received from the public through e-mail, mail or in person were incorporated into the plan.
November 21, 2022	The Tawas City Council passed a Resolution of Adoption.

Community Input

A Parks and Recreation Survey was created and reviewed by the Planning Commission. The survey was then posted on the Tawas City website on October 6, 2021, and paper copies were available at City Hall. Tawas City also mailed information regarding the survey with the winter tax bills.

The survey contained questions regarding which parks are used, the purposes for using the parks, and maintenance and appearance of the parks. In addition, they were asked to prioritize

improvement projects in the parks and to present any other suggestions. The responses were incorporated in the development of the goals and capital improvement list. The summary of the results from the community questionnaire, along with the initial questionnaire, the Planning Commission's list of park improvements, and the results of the prioritized projects from both the Planning Commission and City Council are included in Appendix.

Planning Commission Adoption

Once the Planning Commission members were satisfied with the draft Plan, a resolution was approved on September 13, 2022 and members recommended adoption by City Council. September 21, 2022

Public Hearing

Notice of the public hearing and availability of the draft Plan for review was published in the losco County News Herald on September 21, 2022. The Plan was available for inspection for more than 30 days at Tawas City Hall and the Tawas City Library.

The public hearing was held on November 14, 2022 during a regular Tawas City Council meeting. Public comments were offered and no changes to the draft Plan were recommended.

Adoption

The Tawas City Council passed a Resolution of Adoption for the *Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan, 2023-2027* at the regular November 14, 2022 meeting.

Required Transmittals

The Parks and Recreation Plan process is in accordance with the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Act 33 of 2008, as amended, including but not limited to the following transmittals: Michigan Department of Natural Resources, losco County Parks Commission, and East Michigan Council of Government on December 16, 2022.

CHAPTER 6

F. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION PLAN

Basis for Action Plan

The Basis for Action Plan section of the Plan analyzes factors inside and outside of the City that may have an effect on the direction of recreation over the next five years. This portion of the Plan provides the rationale for the goals and recommended capital improvement projects.

The City has 370 residents ages 5 to 19 based on the 2020 American Community Survey (ACS), accounting for nearly 20.3% of the total population. Based on the 370 younger residents, a need is shown for expansion and improvements at the Tawas City Sports Complex and additional recreation opportunities to serve the youth and nearly 1,824 people living in Tawas City.

Ambulatory disability is any impairment that prevents or impedes walking. The City has approximately 7.6% of its population having ambulatory difficulty, with 17.2% of residents having some sort of disability. The City will continue to expand its parks and non-motorized trail system for all residents and continuation of ADA-compliant parks, adult and senior play equipment, trails, and recreation areas to assure that the need of all residents is met.

Tawas City is centrally located along the eastern shore of Lake Huron with US-23 intersecting the City northerly and southerly and M-55 intersecting easterly and westerly just outside of the City. Being centrally located with major thoroughfares provides tourists and pedestrians with many recreational opportunities within the City.

Action Plan

The Action Plan outlines the direction Tawas City would like to take over the next five years in order to maintain, improve, and expand recreational opportunities within the community. As was described in the Basis for Action Plan section, the City evaluated recreation trends, national standards, existing facilities, community opinions, and demographic trends. The findings and results summarized in the Basis for Action Plan were utilized to develop a set of goals and capital improvements schedule detailed on the following pages.

The Plan must also support the overall goals and objective for the City as a whole. Statements of parks and recreation-specific goals will guide the implementation of the Plan. These goal statements are expressions of agreement on the Plan, as established by City Staff and the Planning Commission, based on input from the public, and as adopted by the City Council.

Recreation Goals

Recreation goals were developed to assist in providing direction to City Staff and City Council. Goals are statements that describe how the City views its own future. They are long-term ideal or end products that are desired. Goals should meet the following:

- Provide guidance, but not be too detailed
- Be realistic and achievable
- Inspire people to take action

Statements of specific goals are intended to guide the formulation and implementation of the Recreation Plan. Goals are intended to be as significant as the capital improvements schedule and serve to provide further direction to the City over the next five years. The goals were;

- Coordinate with other recreation providers and entities in order to provide the community with diverse program and facility opportunities that are cost effective and efficient.
- Seek opportunities to improve existing recreation facilities and park amenities when specific needs are identified.
- Coordinate with other park and recreation providers and supporters to ensure quality, diverse, accessible, and affordable programs for all Tawas City residents.
- Support and encourage non-motorized transportation links within the community as well as to adjacent communities, including regional trail systems.
- Preserve and protect the natural resources and environmentally sensitive lands within the City while maintaining public use, access, and enjoyment. In particular, clean-up and on-going maintenance of the Tawas River from the mouth to the City limits as needed.
- Strive to ensure effective and efficient operation and maintenance of public parks and facilities within the City.
- Seek alternative funding sources and partnership to assist in implementing the goals and capital improvements over the next five years.
- When planning for the improvements to recreation facilities and programs consider the needs and desires of the traveling public and promote recreational opportunities to enhance the local recreation and tourism industries.

Capital Improvement List

Potential capital improvements for this Plan have been established not only to provide a guide and foundation for decision makers, but also to enable the City to apply for grant funding for proposed projects. The capital improvements list is not a fixed element and is neither all-inclusive nor exclusive. The list reflects the results of discussion with City Staff, Planning Commission, City Council, input from the community questionnaire, and a public hearing.

It is very likely that the schedule and Plan will be amended at some point during its life due to unanticipated circumstances such as private donations, changing recreation trends, community opinion, and/or available funding. The list should be supportive of the established goals of this Plan. The following capital improvement list provides an outline and guide to the desires of the community.

The projects listed below in the action plan were identified by both the 2018 plan and reviewed by the Planning Commission in conjunction with the public survey results, and cost. Based on the ranking of the past plan and Planning Commission input projects were prioritized with #1 being the most important and 15 being the least important.

Action Plan

Project Ranking	Recreation Project	Estimated Cost *based on 2017 Cost	Potential Funding Sources
--	Routine maintenance of all City parks and recreation facilities (Annually)	TBD	GF
1	Resurface pathway along US-23 and update lights; possibly work in coordination with East Tawas and with MDOT reconstruction of US-23	\$410,000	GF, MNRTF, TAP, Michigan Iron Bell Trail Grant -DNR
2	Gateway Park – enhance and expand additional pavilion space for the Farm Market	\$110,000	GF, MNRTF, USDA- RD
3	Upgrade play equipment, picnic tables, benches at all parks. (review annually)	TBD, depends on amount of equipment replaced	GF, MNRTF
3	Shoreline Park – expand play scape	\$100,000	GF, MNRTF, MRPA, PSCP
3	Install Adult and Senior playscape equipment at various parks.	\$5,000-\$20,000	GF, MRPA, Sports Organizations
4	Expand trash receptacles and recycling receptacles throughout the community parks.	TBD	GF
5	Independent Park – develop and/or enhance beach volleyball courts, pickleball courts, and basketball courts.	\$200,000	GF, MNRTF
6	Town Square – redesign with an amphitheater	\$300,000	GF, MNRTF, PSCP
7	Veterans Park – Finalize the Veterans Recognition Plaza	\$30,000	Donations
8	Sports Complex – redevelop sports complex, including parking lot improvements. Such as pave driveway and parking area to ADA standards.	\$500,000	GF, MRPA, Sports Organizations
9	Gateway Park – install irrigation	\$30,000	GF, MNRFT, PSCP
10	Develop a dog park at Union Park	\$80,000	GF, Donations
11	Promote recreational facilities/events through advertising, website, signage, events schedules (Annually)	\$5,000-\$10,000	GF
12	Acquire and redevelop the current mobile home park located along M-55 into a campground	\$800,000	GF, MNRTF

13	Work with Lake State Railway Co. to develop a recreational use area along the river including trails and campgrounds.	\$1,500,000	GF, MNRTF
14	Town Square – install irrigation	\$15,000	GF, MNRTF, PSCP

Key: TBD=to be determined; GF=General Fund; MNRTF=Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; MRPA=Michigan Recreation and Park Association; TAP=Transportation Alternatives Program; PSCP=Public Spaces Community Places; USDA-RD= United States Department of Agriculture/Rural Development Grant; CDBG= Community Development Block Grant; CMG=Coastal Management Grant (NOAA); BIG=Boating Infrastructure Grant

APPENDIX

Survey Publicity

City of Tawas City 2023-2027 Parks and Recreation Plan Survey

October 6, 2021 in [NEWS, NOTICES](#)

The Tawas City Planning Commission is in the process of updating the city's Parks and Recreation Plan. As a member of our community, we would like your input regarding our facilities and the amenities that we currently offer, as well as your ideas for the future. Please take the time to complete this questionnaire, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FMSLQ8Q>. Your responses will be considered by the Planning Commission and will help direct the course of developments in the City over the next several years. If you have any questions or would like more information on the Parks and Recreation Plan, please feel free to contact City Hall at (989) 362-8688 or [email](#). We value your interest in the future of the City of Tawas City!

Notice of Draft Plan Availability for the 30 day Review Period and Public Hearing Notice

Proof of Publication

STATE OF MICHIGAN }ss
_____ County of Iosco

John Morris
being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the 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 on the following date, to wit:

September 21, 2022

City of Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027

On September 13, 2022 the City of Tawas City Planning Commission approved the Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027 for a 30-day public review and comment period and recommended the City Council approve the plan.

The required 30-day public review and comment period will begin on September 21, 2022 and will end on October 21, 2022.

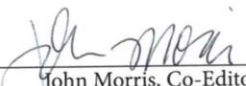
An electronic copy of the Parks and Recreation Plan can be viewed on the Northeast Michigan Council of Government (NEMCOG) website:

http://www.discovernortheastmichigan.org/downloads/city_of_tawas_recreation_plan_final_draft_9922.pdf

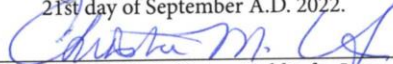
A physical copy of the plan is available at the **Tawas City Library**, 208 North St W., Tawas City, MI 48763.

The Tawas City Council will hold a Public Hearing to adopt the proposed Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027 at its regular meeting at 7:00 pm on November 14, 2022 at Tawas City Hall located at 550 West Lake Street, Tawas City, MI 48763.

Written comments may be submitted to Eric Szymanski (NEMCOG) – eszymanski@nemcog.org or via mail at PO Box 568, Tawas City, MI 48764.


John Morris, Co-Editor

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
21st day of September A.D. 2022.


Christine M. York, Notary Public for Iosco
County, Acting in Iosco County, Michigan
My Commission expires March 6, 2023

Public Hearing Minutes

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF TAWAS CITY COUNCIL November 14, 2022

Mayor Cook called the regular meeting of the Tawas City Council to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chamber of Tawas City Hall.

Council Members Present: Ken Cook, Chuck Klenow, Dave Lesinski, Ed Nagy, Jackie Masich, Brian McMurray, and Mike Russo
Council Members Absent: None
Others Present: Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Westcott, City Manager Annge Horning and Fire Chief Steve Masich

Members offered the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of meditation.

Nagy moved, Russo seconded, CARRIED, to approve the November 14, 2022 agenda as presented. Yes: Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo and Cook.

Masich moved, Klenow seconded, CARRIED, to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2022 Council regular meeting minutes as presented. Yes: Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow and Cook.

McMurray moved, Russo seconded, CARRIED, to receive and file the minutes of the October 4, 2022 Huron Shore Regional Utility Authority meeting; the October 11, 2022 Tawas Utilities Authority regular meeting, and the October 25, 2022 special meeting; and the September 29, 2022 and November 1, 2022 Election Commission meetings. Yes: Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Lesinski, Klenow and Cook.

Nagy moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to receive and file the TUA violation notice from EGLE dated November 4, 2022, and the TPA MERS quarterly statement through September 30, 2022. Yes: McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Lesinski, Klenow, Masich and Cook.

Councilwoman Masich and Councilman Nagy reviewed the invoices and found everything to be in order. Masich moved, Nagy seconded, CARRIED, to approve checks issued from October 14, 2022 to November 9, 2022 in the amount of \$123,511.97. Yes: Nagy, Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray and Cook.

McMurray moved, Russo seconded, CARRIED to receive and file the Financial Reports through September 30, 2022 as presented (SBM 1730). Yes: Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy and Cook.

Russo moved, Lesinski seconded, CARRIED, to open the public hearing at 7:05 pm on the Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027. Yes: Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo and Cook.

The Parks and Recreation Plan is required to be updated every five years. The City Hall staff and Planning Commission have updated the plan with input gathered through a community questionnaire regarding our facilities and amenities. The Planning Commission has reviewed the plan and recommended it to the Council for review and adoption.

No public comments were received.

Councilman Nagy stated it would be nice to have dates when projects would be achieved on the project ranking page at the end of the plan.

Masich moved, Russo seconded, CARRIED, to close the public hearing at 7:09 pm on the Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027. Yes: Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow and Cook.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF TAWAS CITY COUNCIL
November 14, 2022

No public comments were received on agenda items.

No public comments were received on non-agenda items.

Fire Chief Masich reported the Fire Department received four portable and four mobile 800 MHz radios from Iosco County that were purchased with their ARPA funds. Iosco County is in the process of changing from VHS to 800 MHz and eventually the rest of the Fire Department's radios will have to be replaced. The Fire Department had eight hours of manpower into last week's half hour windstorm.

City Manager Horning reported the Department of Public Works had a lot of clean up from the windstorm and will begin working this week on the holiday decorations. She commended and thanked Consumers Energy for making sure power was restored to all the polling places after the windstorm by Election Day. The City's street paving projects are complete for this year. The new police officer, Devin Yaklin, will be starting tomorrow. The TUA has not scheduled a special meeting to discuss the TUA EGLA violation notice for the wastewater treatment plant, but Councilmembers will be informed of any meetings.

Discussion was held on the pros and cons of marihuana facilities in the City; the revenue the City would receive from marihuana facilities; possible improvements to properties; and that marihuana is legal in the state. McMurray moved, Masich seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Ordinance 327, Marihuana Facilities and Establishments as presented. Yes: Masich, McMurray, Klenow and Cook. No: Nagy, Russo and Lesinski.

The State of Michigan requires the City to complete the City, Village, and Township Revenue Sharing (CVTRS) reports to receive revenue sharing each year. The reports include the Performance Dashboard, Projected Budget Report, Debt Service Report, and the Citizen's Guide. The Citizen's Guide will be provided by the Michigan Department of Treasury with their MiCommunity Financial Dashboard which will be linked to the City's website. Masich moved, Russo seconded, CARRIED, to accept the Performance Dashboard, Debt Service Report, and Projected Budget Report required for the CVTRS program to receive revenue sharing for fiscal year 2022-2023 as presented (SBM 1731). Yes: McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich and Cook.

The Huron Shore Regional Utility Authority's 2023 draft budget is presented to the governing bodies that make up the Authority for approval. The total operating revenue is \$1,382,795, which is an increase of \$96,200 over the 2022 budget. Tawas City's share of the budget is \$183,938, for a decrease of \$8,523 from last year. Nagy moved, Russo seconded, CARRIED, to approve the Huron Shore Regional Utility Authority's 2023 budget as presented (SBM 1732). Yes: Nagy, Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray and Cook.

Cook moved, Lesinski seconded, CARRIED, to appoint Darrin Wilson to the vacant position on the Planning Commission for the term that expires on March 31, 2025. Yes: Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy and Cook.

Russo moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to go into closed session at 7:38 pm to discuss a potential property purchase under Section 8(1)(d) of the Open Meetings Act. Yes: Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo and Cook.

Returned from closed session at 7:54 pm.

Council comments were received.

The next regular meeting of the Tawas City Council is scheduled for Monday, November 21, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF TAWAS CITY COUNCIL
November 14, 2022

Russo moved, Lesinski seconded, CARRIED, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm. Yes: Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow and Cook.



Michelle Westcott
Tawas City Clerk/Treasurer

Minutes to Pass Resolution

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF TAWAS CITY COUNCIL November 21, 2022

Mayor Cook called the regular meeting of the Tawas City Council to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chamber of Tawas City Hall.

Council Members Present: Ken Cook, Chuck Klenow, Dave Lesinski, Ed Nagy, Jackie Masich, Brian McMurray, and Mike Russo

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Westcott and City Manager Annge Horning,

Members offered the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of meditation.

Mayor Cook requested to add 12c. Property Purchase – Closed Session to the agenda under New Business. Russo moved, Lesinski seconded, CARRIED, to approve the November 21, 2022 agenda as amended. Yes: Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo and Cook.

Nagy moved, Masich seconded, CARRIED, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2022 Council regular and closed session meeting minutes as presented. Yes: Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow and Cook.

No correspondence was received.

Councilwoman Masich and Councilman Nagy reviewed the invoices and found everything to be in order. Lesinski moved, Nagy seconded, CARRIED, to approve checks issued from November 10, 2022 to November 16, 2022 in the amount of \$169,046.83. Yes: Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow, Lesinski and Cook.

No public comments were received on agenda items.

No public comments were received on non-agenda items.

McMurray moved, Russo seconded, CARRIED, to adopt the resolution adopting the City of Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027 as a guideline for improving recreation facilities and services for the City of Tawas City residents and visitors (SBM 1733). Yes: McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich and Cook.

The City received an email from Christopher Martin, Baldwin Township Supervisor, requesting a letter of support from Tawas City Council for Baldwin's SPARK Grant application. The grant will be used to improve the bike path that extends from East Tawas through Baldwin Township to Tawas Point. Nagy moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to authorize and approve sending the letter of support to Baldwin Township for their SPARK Grant application. Yes: Nagy, Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray and Cook.

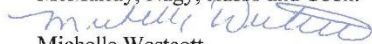
Masich moved, Russo seconded, CARRIED, to go into closed session at 7:05 pm to discuss a property purchase under Section 8(1)(d) of the Open Meetings Act. Yes: Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, and Cook.

Returned from closed session at 7:31 pm.

No council comments were received.

The next regular meeting of the Tawas City Council is scheduled for Monday, December 5, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Russo moved, Lesinski seconded, CARRIED, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 pm. Yes: Klenow, Lesinski, Masich, McMurray, Nagy, Russo and Cook.


Michelle Westcott
Tawas City Clerk/Treasurer

Resolution of Adoption

**RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
TAWAS CITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN, 2023-2027
BY THE CITY OF TAWAS CITY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the City of Tawas City Council directed the Planning Commission to update the *2018-2022 Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the planning process included a community survey to ask the community questions regarding which parks are used, the purpose for using the parks, and maintenance and appearance of the parks, for the *Parks and Recreation Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the planning process also reviewed probable future needs for recreation facilities and services and developed a draft *Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan, 2023-2027* to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community's residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Tawas City Planning Commission endorsed the recreation projects as outlined in the action plan/capital improvements list section of the *Plan* and passed a resolution on September 13, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Tawas City Council conducted a public hearing on November 14, 2022. Notice of the hearing was published in The Iosco County News-Herald on September 21, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City of Tawas City Council does hereby adopt the *Tawas City Parks and Recreation Plan, 2023-2027* as a guideline for improving recreation facilities and services for the City of Tawas City residents and visitors.

Moved by McMurray, supported by Russo to adopt the above resolution at the November 21, 2022 meeting of the City of Tawas City Council.


Ayes: McMurray, Nagy, Russo, Klenow, Lesinski, Masich and Cook.

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

I, Michelle Westcott, Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the City of Tawas City Council at a regular meeting held on November 21, 2022.


Michelle M. Westcott, Clerk
City of Tawas City

(SBM 1733)

Transmittal Letters



Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
80 Livingston Blvd Suite U-108 | PO Box 457 | Gaylord, MI 49734 | Voice: 989.705.3730 | Fax: 989.705.3729 | nemcog.org

December 12, 2022

Karen Idalski, Planning Commission Member
ATTN: Iosco County Planning Commission
C/O Jamie Soboleski
Via Email

Dear Ms. Idalski & Ms. Soboleski:

On behalf of the City of Tawas, we are pleased to inform you that the Township has approved and adopted a 5-year Recreation Plan. This plan received public input from online surveys and a public hearing.

Please see the FINAL Adopted Recreation Plan attached to this email.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the Recreation Plan.

Sincerely,

Eric Szymanski
Regional Planner
Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG)

Regional
Cooperation
Since
1968

Alcona * Alpena * Cheboygan * Crawford * Emmet * Montmorency * Oscoda * Otsego * Presque Isle

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Equal Opportunity
Employer



Northeast Michigan Council of Governments

80 Livingston Blvd Suite U-108 | PO Box 457 | Gaylord, MI 49734 | Voice: 989.705.3730 | Fax: 989.705.3729 | nemcog.org

December 16, 2022

Sue Fortune, Executive Director
Eastern Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG)
3144 Davenport Avenue, Suite 200
Saginaw, Mi, 48602
Via E-Mail

Dear Ms. Fortune:

On behalf of the City of Tawas, we are pleased to inform you that the Township has approved and adopted a 5-year Recreation Plan. This plan received public input from online surveys and a public hearing.

The FINAL Adopted Recreation Plan is attached to this e-mail.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the Recreation Plan.

Sincerely,
Eric Szymanski
Regional Planner
Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG)

Regional
Cooperation
Since
1968

Alcona * Alpena * Cheboygan * Crawford * Emmet * Montmorency * Oscoda * Otsego * Presque Isle

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Gateway Park Post Completion Forms



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: (Please select one) MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND RECREATION PASSPORT BOND FUND
City of Tawas City - Iosco County

GRANTEE: 26-01209 Development

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01209 PROJECT TYPE: Development
Tawas Rivermouth Gateway Park

PROJECT TITLE: Tawas Rivermouth Gateway Park
 PROJECT SCOPE: Develop: Revetment, fill, wood pile and timber groins, paved entrance

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
City of Tawas City	Annge Horning	City Manager
Address	Telephone	
550 W. Lake Street	989-362-8688	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
Tawas City, MI 48763	manager@tawascity.org	

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? Yes No
 If yes, please describe change(s).
The site layout changed in 2011 when the fishing pier/boat launch were added and again in 2014 when the pavilion was added. See attached site plans from 2011 and 2014.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) Yes No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. Yes No

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. Yes No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. Yes No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. Yes No

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. Yes No
Park is maintained on a daily basis

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site? Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year	
<p>Project Scope continued: w/deceleration lanes, gravel access drive and parking, lawn, picnic, playground equipment, timber access ramp, and permanent LWCF plaque.</p> <p>Site Development continued: In 2022, a damaged portion of the pier was removed and armour stone placed along the shoreline to secure areas damaged by high water and wave action.</p> <p>Gateway Park Maintenance Schedule Daily park maintenance includes emptying trash cans, cleaning grills, cleaning restrooms, walking the entire park and picking up trash, cleaning tables as needed, and various other tasks, Weekly maintenance includes mowing the grass, cleaning the pavilion, inspection of playground equipment and grooming the beach. The swings are removed for the winter months and replaced in the spring. The restrooms are winterized yearly.</p>	

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Annge Horning, City Manager

Please print

Michelle Westcott, City Clerk

Annge Horning
Grantee Authorized Signature

15 Dec 2022
Date

Please print

Michelle Westcott
Witness Signature

12-15-2022
Date

Send completed report to:

**POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925**



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: (Please select one) MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND RECREATION PASSPORT BOND FUND
City of Tawas City - Iosco County

GRANTEE: TF08-038 Development

PROJECT NUMBER: TF08-038 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Gateway Park Renovation

PROJECT SCOPE: Development a 300 ft fishing pier along Tawas River to Tawas Bay

Name of Agency (Grantee) City of Tawas City	Contact Person Annge Horning	Title City Manager
Address 550 W. Lake Street	Telephone 989-362-8688	
City, State, ZIP Tawas City, MI 48763	Email manager@tawascity.org	

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? Yes No
 If yes, please describe change(s).
The site layout changed in 2014 when the pavilion was added. See attached site plan from 2014.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) Yes No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. Yes No

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. Yes No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. Yes No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. Yes No

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. Yes No
Park is maintained in a daily basis

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site? Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year	
Site Development continued: In 2020 a portion of the pier was damaged from high water and wave action. In 2022, the damaged area was removed and the shoreline was secured with armour stone.	
Gateway Park Maintenance Schedule: Daily park maintenance includes emptying trash cans, cleaning grills, cleaning restrooms, walking the entire park and picking up trash, cleaning tables as needed, and various other tasks, Weekly maintenance includes mowing the grass, cleaning the pavilion, inspection of playground equipment and grooming the beach. The swings are removed for the winter months and replaced in the spring. The restrooms are winterized yearly.	

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D
Annge Horning, City Manager

Please print
Michelle Westcott, City Clerk


Grantee Authorized Signature

15 Dec 2022
Date

Please print


Witness Signature

12-15-2022
Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS**
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

Gateway Park MDNR Plaques





Shoreline Park Post Completion Forms



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND RECREATION PASSPORT BOND FUND

GRANTEE: City of Tawas City - Iosco County

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-00116 **PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: Tawas City Park (Southern Addition #1)
Acquisition of 1.5 acres, in four tracts, addition to the existing
PROJECT SCOPE: park

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)		
Name of Agency (Grantee) City of Tawas City	Contact Person Ange Horning	Title City Manager
Address 550 W. Lake Street	Telephone 989-362-8688	
City, State, ZIP Tawas City, MI 48763	Email manager@tawascity.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT
Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <u>The site layout changed in 2014 as the whole park layout was renovated. See</u> <u>attached as built from 2014. The pier was renovated and L shape added in 2021.</u>
Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____ _____
Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____ _____

SITE QUALITY
Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No _____ _____
Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No _____ _____
Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____ _____

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. Yes No
Park is maintained on a daily basis

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) Yes No N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. Yes No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. Yes No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?
Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

Tawas City Shoreline Park (previously known as Tawas City Park)
Daily Park maintenance includes emptying trash cans, cleaning grills, cleaning the restrooms, walking the entire park, and picking up trash, cleaning tables as needed, walking the pier and various other tasks. Weekly maintenance includes mowing the grass, cleaning the pavilion and gazebo, inspection of playground equipment and grooming the beach. The swings are removed for the winter months and replaced in the spring. The restrooms and irrigation system are winterized yearly.

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D
Annge Horning, City Manager

Please print
Michelle Westcott, City Clerk


Grantee Authorized Signature

15 Dec 2022
Date

Please print


Witness Signature

12-15-2022
Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS**
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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: (Please MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
select one) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND RECREATION PASSPORT BOND FUND

City of Tawas City - Iosco County

GRANTEE:

TF86-167

Acquisition

PROJECT NUMBER:

PROJECT TYPE:

Tawas City Shoreline Park Expansion

PROJECT TITLE:

Acquisition of one lot downtown Tawas City adjacent to Tawas City
PROJECT SCOPE: Park.

Name of Agency (Grantee) City of Tawas City	Contact Person Annge Horning	Title City Manager
Address 550 W. Lake Street	Telephone 989-362-8688	
City, State, ZIP Tawas City, MI 48763	Email manager@tawascity.org	

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? Yes No
If yes, please describe change(s).
The Site layout changed in 2014 as the whole park layout was renovated. See attached as built from 2014. The pier was renovated and L shape added in 2021.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) Yes No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. Yes No

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? Yes No
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. Yes No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. Yes No

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. Yes No
Park is maintained on daily basis

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site? Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year	
Tawas City Shoreline Park (previously known as Tawas City Park) Daily Park maintenance includes emptying trash cans, cleaning grills, cleaning the restrooms, walking the entire park, and picking up trash, cleaning tables as needed, walking the pier and various other tasks. Weekly maintenance includes mowing the grass, cleaning the pavilion and gazebo, inspection of playground equipment and grooming the beach. The swings are removed for the winter months and replaced in the spring. The restrooms and irrigation system are winterized yearly.	

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D
Annge Horning, City Manager

Please print
Michelle Westcott, City Clerk


Grantee Authorized Signature

Date 15 Dec 2022

Please print


Witness Signature

Date 12-15-2022

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS**
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: (Please select one) [X] MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND [] CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE [] LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND [] RECREATION PASSPORT [] BOND FUND
City of Tawas City - Iosco County

GRANTEE: TF91-319 Acquisition
PROJECT NUMBER: PROJECT TYPE:
PROJECT TITLE: Shoreline Park Expansion
PROJECT SCOPE: Acquisition addition of 2 lots (120 feet of Lake Huron frontage) to Park

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email. Row 1: City of Tawas City, Annge Horning, City Manager, 550 W. Lake Street, 989-362-8688, Tawas City, MI 48763, manager@tawascity.org

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? [X] Yes [] No
If yes, please describe change(s).
The site layout changed in 2014 as the whole park layout was renovated. See attached as built from 2014. The pier was renovated and L shape added in 2021.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) [] Yes [X] No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [] Yes [X] No

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. [X] Yes [] No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. [X] Yes [] No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. [] Yes [X] No

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. [X] Yes [] No
Park is maintained on a daily basis

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site? Open 24 hour a day, 365 days a year	
Tawas City Shoreline Park (previously known as Tawas City Park) Daily Park maintenance includes emptying trash cans, cleaning grills, cleaning the restrooms, walking the entire park, and picking up trash, cleaning tables as needed, walking the pier and various other tasks. Weekly maintenance includes mowing the grass, cleaning the pavilion and gazebo, inspection of playground equipment and grooming the beach. The swings are removed for the winter months and replaced in the spring. The restrooms and irrigation system are winterized yearly.	

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D
Annge Horning, City Manager

Please print
Michelle Westcott, City Clerk

Annge Horning
Grantee Authorized Signature

15 Dec 2022
Date

Please print

Michelle Westcott
Witness Signature

12-15-2022
Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS**
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

Shoreline Park MDNR Plaques & MEDC Funding Signage





Town Square Post Completion Form



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: (Please select one) MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND RECREATION PASSPORT BOND FUND
City of Tawas City - Iosco County

GRANTEE: _____
TF 18-0092 **Acquisition**
 PROJECT NUMBER: _____ PROJECT TYPE: _____
Tawas City Property Acquisition of 541 West Lake Street
 PROJECT TITLE: _____
Acquire 1/2 of lot 3 block 4 to combine with Town Square Park
 PROJECT SCOPE: _____

Name of Agency (Grantee) City of Tawas City	Contact Person Annge Horning	Title City Manager
Address 550 W. Lake Street	Telephone 989-362-8688	
City, State, ZIP Tawas City, MI 48763	Email manager@tawascity.org	
Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). In 2022, armour stone was placed along the shoreline to secure areas that were damaged in 2020 from high water levels. A nonmotorized boat launch was added.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. Park is maintained on a daily basis		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site? Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year	
Tawas City Town Square Daily Park maintenance includes emptying trash cans, cleaning grills, walking the entire park, and picking up trash, cleaning tables as needed, walking the pier and various other tasks. Weekly maintenance includes mowing the grass, cleaning and inspection of the open air building. The irrigation system is winterized yearly.	

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D
Annge Horning, City Manager

Please print
Michelle Westcott, City Clerk


Grantee Authorized Signature

15 Dec 2022
Date

Please print


Witness Signature

12-15-2022
Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS**
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

Town Square Park MNDR Plaque



Mathews Catwalks Post Completion Form



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND RECREATION PASSPORT BOND FUND

GRANTEE: City of Tawas City - Iosco County

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-00440

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: Tawas City Catwalks

PROJECT SCOPE: Development of 2 catwalks located in Tawas City, Iosco Co.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)		
Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
City of Tawas City	Annge Horning	City Manager
Address	Telephone	
550 W. Lake Street	989-362-8688	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
Tawas City, MI 48763	manager@tawascity.org	
SITE DEVELOPMENT		
Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<u>In May 2021, the original catwalks were rebuilt and new guardrails were installed with bridge rehabilitation on Mathews Street.</u>		
Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
SITE QUALITY		
Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
<u>The catwalks are narrow fishing platforms on the Mathews Street and First Street bridges.</u>		
Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. Yes No

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) Yes No N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. Yes No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. Yes No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

Site Development continued: In June 2022, the original catwalks were rebuilt and new guardrails were installed with bridge rehabilitation on First Street.

First Street and Mathews Street Catwalk Maintenance Schedule:
The catwalks that are attached to the bridges are visually inspected throughout the year and necessary repairs are performed. The catwalks are also inspected by an engineer during the bi-annual bridge inspections. If any repairs are needed they are done in a timely manner.

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Annge Horning, City Manager

Please print

Michelle Westcott, City Clerk


Grantee Authorized Signature

15 Dec 2022
Date

Please print


Witness Signature

12-15-2022
Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925**

Mathews Catwalk MDNR Plaque

