

CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA
Monday, November 3, 2025 - 6:30 pm

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Presentations
- b. Citizen Comments

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda compiles routine meeting discussion points into a single agenda item. In so doing, the grouped items can be approved in one action rather than through the filing of multiple motions.

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - i. November 3, 2025, Regular Meeting
 - ii. November 10, 2025, Workshop
- b. Budget Report
 - i. None.
- c. Communications
 - i. None.
- d. Council Follow-Up List
 - i. As of 11/13/25
- e. Police Stats
 - i. None.
- f. Fire Stats
 - i. None.
- g. DPW Report
 - i. None.
- h. Special Events
 - i. None.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. None.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- a. Holiday Lights Contest

- b. Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- c. Fire Department

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

- a. Accounts Payable
- b. Departmental Expenditures

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

13. CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

15. ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, November 3, 2025 - 6:30 pm**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Voigt	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Present
Council Member Kissel	Present
Council Member Beebe	Present – Arrived late
Council Member Priest	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- Presentations
 - i. Introduction of new DPW Director – Nathaniel Johnson
Interim City Manager Steve Jones introduced Nathaniel Johnson as new DPW Director with start date of November 6, 2025.
 - ii. Proclamation – Tri-Community Veterans Day
Mayor Voigt read proclamation on behalf of the Tri-Community.
- Citizen Comments
 - i. Update on Liberty Street sidewalks from damage from DTE work.
 - ii. Ray Martin from Victoria Commons, update on recommendations for fire consultants.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Motion by Council Member Kissel, supported by Council Member Priest to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda groups' routine meeting discussion points into a single agenda item. In so doing, the grouped items can be approved in one action, rather than through the filing of multiple motions.

- Approval of Minutes
 - i. October 20, 2025 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- Budget report
 - i. As of October 20, 2025.
- Communications
 - i. None.
- Council Follow-up list
 - i. As of October 30, 2025
- Police Stats
 - i. None.

- Fire Stats
 - i. None.
- DPW Report
 - i. None.
- Special Events
 - i. Winter Fest 2025

MOTION: Motion by Council Member Kissel, supported by Council Member Priest to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Amendment to Chapter 9, Section 9.3, of the Belleville City Charter – Election Schedule

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bates, supported by Council Member Kissel to open public hearing at 6:38 PM.

Motion Carried.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bates, supported by Council Member Priest to close the public hearing at 6:39 PM.

Motion Carried.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

- None.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- a. Resolution # 25-024 – Amendment to Chapter 9, Section 9.3 of the Belleville City Charter.

MOTION: Motion by Council Member Kissel, supported by Council member Beebe, to approve **Resolution # 25-024**, as presented.

ROLL CALL:

Council Member Beebe	AYE
Council Member Priest	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Bates	AYE
Council Member Kissel	AYE
Mayor Voigt	AYE

Motion Carried.

- b. Resolution #25-031 – Corporate Benefit solutions – Employee Healthcare Benefits Proposal

MOTION: Motion by Council Member Priest, supported by Council Member Beebe to approve **Resolution # 25-031**, as presented.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Pro Tem Bates	AYE
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Council Member Beebe	AYE
Council Member Priest	AYE
Council Member Kissel	AYE
Mayor Voigt	AYE

Motion Carried.

- c. Resolution #25-032 – Participation in PFAS Phase 2 Litigation

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bates, supported by Council Member Priest to approve **Resolution # 25-032**, as presented.

Motion Carried.

- d. Resolution #25-033 – Embedded Advisor Proposal
Defer to next meeting.

- e. Resolution #25-034 – Social Media Management Proposal
Defer to next meeting.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

- Accounts Payable
- Departmental Expenditures

MOTION: Motion by Council Member Kissel, supported by Mayor Pro Tem Bates to approve Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures in excess of \$2,500, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Priest	Aye
Council Member Beebe	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Council Member Kissel	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

Motion Carried.

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

- Thank you to all that helped with Halloween, DPW for placing barricades and Fire Dept for their participation. Estimated 1500 trick or treaters. Thank you to CBC for their hard work and the businesses that participated including those that do not have store front on Main Street.
- New City Hall – garage addition progress being made. Continuation of progress inside as well. Old City Hall – appraiser was in previous week to review property and submit appraisal in a few weeks.
- Liberty Street water main project out for bid, closes on November 19, 2025, with bid opening that day at 2:00 PM. Hennessy Engineers will be here to review bids.

- Winterizing bathrooms, sprinklers have been completed

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- **Council Member Kissel**
 - Thank Chief for the year she has had, added a lot to her plate. We are in position to make a decision.
 - Welcome to Nathaniel, looking forward to him joining the city.
 - City Works update appreciated.
 - Time clock, we are using just not complete yet.
 - Good open house for Park & Recreation Plan this evening.
 - Packing update, began packing election room, assessing is packed, building files still being purged, spoke with PD regarding evidence room and the process to move that over to new building.
- **Council Member Randy Priest**
 - Grateful to Nathaniel for being here, looking forward to working with him.
 - Reminder to write in their favorite candidate for election
- **Council Member Beebe**
 - Apologized for being late.
 - Commendable to Chief Faull for handling the Police and Fire Department.
 - Council “to do” list is dwindling down, requested items completed to be removed from list.
- **MAYOR Pro Tem Bates**
 - Appreciates conversation and passion Fire Department has for the city, their crew and residents. Look forward to what develops.
 - Happy Veteran’s Day to all veterans.
 - Excited to see Winter Fest on agenda.

12. Mayor’s Comments

- Condolences to David C. Brown’s family.
- Thank you to banner crew for removing art banners and placing Veteran’s Banners.
- Harvest Fest was a cool event.
- Condolences to BHS Football team for losing district’s game.
- Received request from resident near Victory Park for leaves to be cleaned up this fall.
- Welcome Nathan, excited to have you on board and looking forward to working together.
- Good discussion with Fire Dept and appreciate their comments.
- Halloween was a hoot! Everyone and everything very orderly. Thank you to the Police Department.

13.CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Chief Faull

- Thank you, Mayor, for passing out candy.
- Sgt Schrecengost last day of work Halloween night, he stayed to pass out candy.
- New car in garage up and operational.
- Fire Dept doing pancake breakfast for seniors at 275 W. Columbia, Saturday November 8, 2025.
- Fire Dept will provide food at fire hall after Winter Fest, everyone is invited.
- I appreciate all your comments and listening to the Fire Department's frustrations.

14.ACTION ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEEING

15.ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bates, supported by Council Member Kissel to adjourn at 7:57 PM.

No objections were noted.

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by,
Steve Jones
Interim City Manager

**CITY OF BELLEVILLE
WORKSHOP SESSION
MINUTES**

Monday, November 10, 2025 - 6:30 pm

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Voigt	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Present
Council Member Kissel	Present
Council Member Beebe	Present
Council Member Priest	Present

3. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- a. Fire Department Embedded Advisor and Next Steps
 - i. Discussion held.

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Beebe to adjourn at 7:47 PM.
No objections were noted.
Motion Carried.

Task	Priority	Owner	Status	Start date	End date	Notes
City Works	In Progress	Melissa, Ken, Julie	In progress	6/30/2025	on-going	Continued use of City Works - Service Requests, work orders
Horizon Park Grant	Attention ...	Steve, Ken, Julie	Needs Rev...	10/18/2024	m/d/yyyy	Horizon Park Grant paid out 325,000 – should be 375 (1/2 of 750); next payment will be 425,000; KEN VERIFIED THAT WE ARE SET ON THE TIMELINE – grant must be completed by 2029; Hennessy now working on an updated plan after 10/10 meeting at park; expecting this asap; topographic maps provided for the 9/2/25 meeting
Stevens Disposal (8/1/24)	Attention ...	Steve, Ken, Legal	In progress	8/1/2024	10/4/2029	Kevin Shipman as verified that our number is roughly 1175, not 1600; Our invoiced amount from Stevevns has been adjusted.
New City Hall	Attention Needed	Steve and Council	In progress	2025	2026	Parking lot work ongoing , interior consctruction ongoing; carpet, tile, and epoxy picked; Windows in, Block work complete
IT Infrastructure	Attention Needed	Steve	In progress	11/13/2023	m/d/yyyy	Received a cost estimate for VC3Rinstalling all IT related items at new City Hall except wiring installation
Vac Truck	Attention ...	Steve, Melissa, and Ken	Needs Rev...	6/30/2025	m/d/yyyy	The Vac Truck to suck out the water to clean out catch basins is not functional; Best Equipment is not looking to refund money, only apply it to a very expensive new truck; Not sure what other recourse we are considering
Water Meters	Attention Needed	Steve, Melissa	Needs Rev...	4/1/2024	5/30/2025	Project over 90% complete. Less than 50 remain. Remaining meters are being installed currently
SEMOG Road Safety Grant	Hold	Jason	Hold	2024	4/17/2025	Lexipol working on SS4A and TAP Grant Applications. SSFA Grant submission on hold
Municode	In Progress	Ken and Julie	In progress	5/30/2025	2026	Contact: JR Riley (riley@civicplus.com) Jason signed 5/30 (paid 6987.00 6/5) Steve and Julie will serve as contacts; CivicPlus will be in contact once they have their team officially set – this is an 18 month process that draws from a number of funds; 150 pages were submitted for review; add any others we find; any ordinance materials have been moved to CM office; disposition list provided to Council 9/2/25
Nixle	In Progress	Steve and Krisy	In progress	2025	2026	· Krisy and Steve have access; The Nixle notifications do not pushto the GoGov MiBelleville app. Need to check this out.
Phones and Website	In Progress	Steve, Krisy, Colleen	In progress	6/30/2025	11/22/2027	· Telnet is provider; need to look at the full contract; expires in 2027; Each staff has 3 lines, and it takes many rings for lines 2/3 to go to VM; updates to messages and will be coordinated to website changes
Victory Park Renovation	In Progress	Steve	In progress	7/2/2024	8/14/2025	Restroom building is open. Victory Sation HVAC is being replaced for full completion of project

Task	Priority	Owner	Status	Start date	End date	Notes
5-year Parks Plan Refresh	In Progress	Council	In progress	2025	4/30/2025	Giffels Webster is assuming the revisions, visioning session is slated for the Oct 20 Council meeting.
Master Plan Update	In Progress	Planning Commission	In progress	10/1/2024	7/31/2025	Giffels provided DRAFT at November PC meeting.
Newsletter	In Progress	Council	In progress	2/26/2025	on-going	ONGOING - Newsletters now sent with utility bills
Sidewalk Plan	Attention ...	Steve	Needs Rev...	2025	10/1/2024	Blocks are being inspected and marked for repair.
Trees Plan	In Progress	Steve	In progress	2025	10/1/2024	Blocks are being inspected and marked for removal.
Liberty Street Repair	In Progress	Council and Steve	In progress	2025	6/16/2025	Re-bid watermain project for 26 in process, Bids due Nov 19th
Employee Handbook General Policy Manual Revisions	In Progress	Steve and Michelle	In progress	2025	2025/2026	Handbook and Policy updates and revisions will be available as completed
DPS Recycling Bin	In Progress	Council	In progress	2025	4/3/2025	Gate quote received. Clearing the site has begun.
Time Clock System	In Progress	Council	In progress	2025	12/5/2025	Beta testing in progress now to clock in/out with all employees.
EV Charging Stations	In Progress	Council	In progress	2025	2026	Meter can is needed to final install next to new City Hall, Others are installed now at Village Park parking lot pending final electrical connection
Victoria Commons Roads	In Progress	Council	In progress	2025	4/30/2025	SEMOG to conduct PASER Ratings. Roads to be reviewed for quality along with all city roads.
Staffing	In Progress	Steve	In progress	2025	2025	Continued evaluation of staffing needs
GoGov	Completed	Steve	Completed	2025	6/13/2025	GoGov app MIBelleville is available the Google Play and Apple Stores. Marking materials are in process.
Blue Cross/Health Care	Completed	Ken, Steve, Bri, Labor Atty	Completed	6/30/2025	11/7/2025	Switching to corporate Benefits Solutions
Task		≡ Name		m/d/yyyy	m/d/yyyy	Notes
Task		≡ Name		m/d/yyyy	m/d/yyyy	Notes
Task		≡ Name		m/d/yyyy	m/d/yyyy	Notes
Task		≡ Name		m/d/yyyy	m/d/yyyy	Notes

Memorandum

DATE: November 10, 2025

TO: City of Belleville City Council

FROM: Stephanie Osborn, AICP, Senior Planner & Eric Kudla, Staff Planner

SUBJECT: Draft Parks and Recreation Plan

The City of Belleville's Parks and Recreation Plan planning process is underway. We are developing this Plan to replace the City's recent "Parks and Recreation Master Plan Refresh" to better meet the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' (MDNR) standards as provided in their "[Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans](#)."

The Plan is intended to be the "road map" for the decisions made in the next five years regarding the development and management of parks and recreation facilities in the City for current and future community needs. Members of the City Council will be asked to provide feedback on the draft plan, which is included in this packet.

Specific Areas Your Input is Requested

Please review the attached Parks and Recreation Plan and make notes of changes to be made. In particular, please review the Action Program at the end of the document to ensure that the actions mentioned are aligned with the city's vision for the parks and recreation spaces and the prioritization accurately reflects the level of interest and urgency that the city may act on these items. Please also note that the city will not be held to complete any of these action items, and while they may be ideal, their timeline and prioritization should be realistic given existing funding and capacity.

Project Timeline and Next Steps

- November 3, 2025 5:00-6:30 pm: Open House - Completed
- November 17, 2025: City Council review of draft Parks and Recreation Plan - Tonight
- No later than December 6, 2025: Share draft plan for 30-day review period
- January 5, 2026: City Council reviews plan and adopts (January 19 can be the final adoption date if extensive edits are needed)
- No later than February 1, 2026: Submit plan on DNR website

The draft will be updated as discussed and shared with City staff for sharing publicly ahead of December 6. We will plan to attend the January 5, 2026 City Council meeting to hold the public hearing on the plan.



2026-2030
City of Belleville
Parks & Recreation Master Plan



SUBMITTED TO:

City of Belleville
City Council
2026-2030

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Prepared for the City of Belleville

CITY COUNCIL

Ken Voigt, Mayor
Kelly Bates, Mayor Pro Tem
Jeremiah Beebe
Julie Kissel
Randy Priest

PLANNING CONSULTANTS

Giffels Webster
www.giffelswebster.com

1. Introduction

Introduction

The City of Belleville has been comprehensively planning for its parks for thirty years. This process started in 1995 with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which was redone in 2003 as a collaboration between the city, the Parks and Recreation Commission, City Council, and McKenna Associates. This 2026-2030 update will serve as a guide in decision-making and aid in the targeting of available grant funding to continue the growth and improvement of the city's parks and recreation offerings.

The plan includes an update of the city's social and demographic characteristics as well as an updated inventory and review of all of the existing facilities and programs available in the city. The inventory includes City, school, county, regional, state, and private facilities.

In addition to identifying priorities in park and recreation amenities and offerings, an important goal of the plan is to establish a basis for funding the various improvement projects and programming. The city has used a variety of funding sources including general fund revenues, and grants from State and Federal agencies. It is intended that additional funding be obtained from all available sources.

Community Profile

LOCATION

The City of Belleville lies in the gently rolling terrain along the southern shoreline of Belleville Lake in the center of Van Buren Township in Wayne County, Michigan. While the city is mainly a residential community, it does contain a unique, and traditional downtown area. The city is approximately 9 miles from Detroit Metro Airport to the east, and 21 miles from Ann Arbor to the West.

POPULATION

Growth Trends and Projections

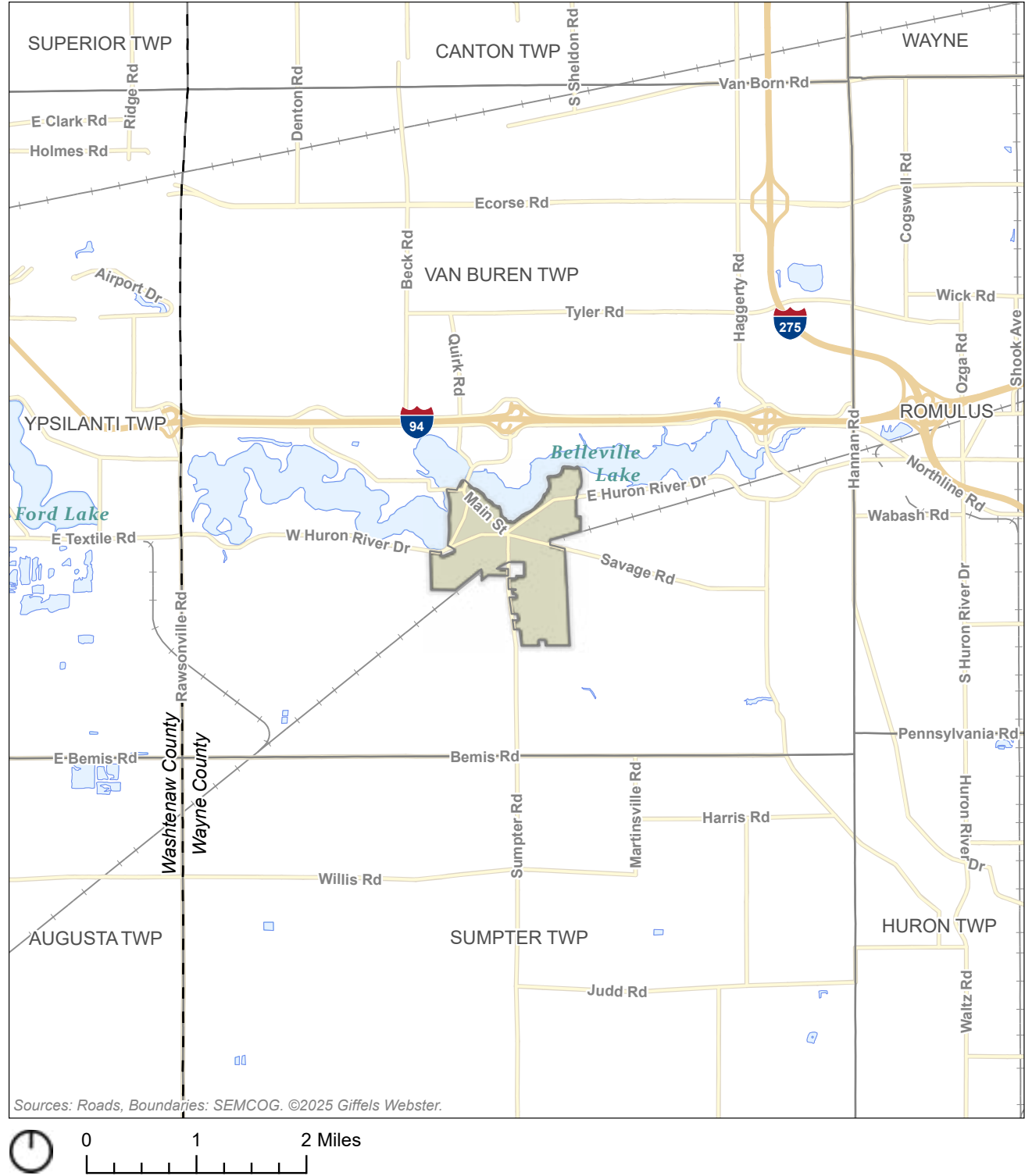
From 2010 to 2023, the city's population declined slightly by 0.7%, decreasing from 3,991 residents to 3,961. The number of households rose modestly in the first decade, from 1,775 in 2010 to 1,876 in 2020, before falling to 1,810 in 2023: a net increase of just 2.0% over the 13-year period. After a decrease in average household size from 2.26 in 2010 to 2.13 in 2020, household size grew slightly to 2.18 by 2023, reflecting a gradual stabilization. The community's median age has remained relatively steady, increasing only 0.6 years since 2010, from 40.0 to 40.6 in 2023.

TABLE 1. BELLEVILLE POPULATION, HOUSEHOLD AND FAMILY SIZE, AND MEDIAN AGE, 2010-2023

Category	2010	2020	2023	% Change 2010-2023	Total Change 2010-2023
Total population	3,991	4,008	3,961	-0.7%	-30
Total Households	1,775	1,876	1,810	2.0%	-35
Average Household Size	2.26	2.13	2.18	-3.5%	-0.8
Median Age	40.0	40.9	40.6	-	^0.6 years

SOURCE: SEMCOG

MAP 1. LOCATION MAP



PLANNING AREA
CITY OF BELLEVILLE

Age Structure

The type of recreation services needed in a community partly depends on the makeup of the population. The table below describes the sizes of the city's age groups. The under 5 age group makes up 7.7% of the population. This group relies on "tot lot" style parks and day care facilities for its recreation needs. Children aged 5 to 19 place focus more on active recreation, such as basketball, ball fields (soccer, baseball, football, etc.), swimming, and indoor facilities. This demographic represents 15.5% of the population (6.5% for ages 5-14, and 9.0% for ages 15-19). The 20 to 44 age group leans toward a hybrid of active recreation favored by the younger age groups, and passive recreation that older age groups tend to prefer. This group represents the largest age segment in the city, at 34.3%. Mature families (45-64) and retirement-aged population demand access to passive recreation, with a small need for some low-impact active recreation. These groups tend to focus on social meetings such as card games and bingo, as well as walking, jogging, and pickleball. The 45-64 age group is the second largest group in the city, at 23.0%, and the 65 and older group is the third largest at 19.9%. The largest increase from 2010 is the 65 and older age group, increasing 5.3%, followed by the 15 to 19 age group, which increased 3.2%. The city has seen the sharpest decline in the 45 to 64 age group, with a 7.4% drop, and the 5 to 14 age group, which fell 5.7% since 2010.

TABLE 2. POPULATION AGE STRUCTURE

		2000		2020		2023	
Age Group	Life Phase	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 5	Pre-School	247	6.2%	369	9.28%	306	7.7%
5 to 14	Elementary School	487	12.2%	224	5.63%	257	6.5%
15 to 19	Secondary School	232	5.8%	300	7.54%	356	9.0%
20 to 44	Family Forming	1,317	33.0%	1349	33.91%	1,359	34.3%
45 to 64	Mature Families	1,215	30.4%	998	25.09%	913	23.0%
65 and Over	Retirement	583	14.6%	738	18.55%	770	19.9%

SOURCE: SEMCOG

Racial and Ethnic Composition

Belleville is a predominantly white community, with 71.3% of the population identifying as white in 2023. This segment saw a decrease between 2010 and 2020, dropping from 78.5% to 68.98%, before rising slightly to 71.3% in 2023. Individuals who identify as Black make up 15.1% of the population, up from 13.8% in 2010, although slightly down from 16.99% in 2020. The next largest segment is those identifying as multi-racial or other, at 5.9%, which increased from 2.6% in 2010 but is slightly below 6.99% in 2020. Residents who identify as Hispanic make up 6.2% of the population, while those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander represent 0.5%.

TABLE 3. POPULATION RACIAL COMPOSITION

	2010		2020		2023	
Ethnicity	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
White	3,132	78.5%	2,744	68.98%	2,824	71.3%
Black	551	13.8%	676	16.99%	600	15.1%
Hispanic	153	3.8%	238	5.98%	246	6.2%
Asian or Pacific Islander	31	0.8%	39	0.98%	20	0.5%
Other	104	2.6%	278	6.99%	234	5.9%

SOURCE: SEMCOG

Disability

In all parks and recreation planning, accommodations for persons with disabilities are considered to ensure access to all future facilities. The US Census Bureau reports that in 2023 just less than one-quarter (22.5%) of Belleville's residents had a disability of some sort, with the most impacted population being the 65 and older subgroup. Table 4 below shows the most prevalent disabilities by type within this age group and the under 18 age group, with ambulatory, cognitive, and independent living difficulties being the most prevalent.

Ambulatory disabilities include serious difficulties walking or ascending/descending stairs, issues that limit physical activity and lead to poorer health. Cognitive disabilities are those involving limitations in mental functioning and skills such as communicating, self-care, and socialization. Disabilities associated with independent living extend beyond the ability to live alone and/or become employed to include difficulty with independent travel (e.g. using public transportation systems), managing a personal budget, dealing with insensitive and discriminatory behavior by peers, problem solving, adjusting to change, using community services, making complex decisions, and/or pursuing complex activities.

Considering these difficulties in planning for parks and recreation activities could result in positive health outcomes for a population that already experiences great difficulty on a day-to-day basis. Accommodations could include upgrades to park equipment and furnishings, installation of ramps or pavement improvements in order to ease accessibility for those who suffer from ambulatory difficulties, and installation of audible crosswalk signals.

TABLE 4. RESIDENT POPULATION WITH A DISABILITY, 2023

Disability Type	Under 18	Ages 65+	Total (all ages)
Hearing	0 (0%)	174 (22.6%)	281 (7.1%)
Vision	0 (0%)	84 (10.9%)	113 (2.9%)
Cognitive	38 (7.4%)	57 (7.4%)	334 (9.1%)
Ambulatory	0 (0%)	176 (22.9%)	329 (9.0%)
Self-Care	0 (0%)	36 (4.7%)	67 (1.8%)
Independent Living	N/A	160 (20.8%)	387 (12.3%)
Total	--	--	892 (22.5%)
*Number is lower than the sum of the preceding rows, because there is overlap among categories			

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, 2023

Economics

Income characteristics of a community reflect the economic strength or weakness of a city. Income information can help plan for improvements based on the current and projected tax base. In 2010, the median household income was \$45,664. Adjusted for inflation, that figure would equal \$63,908 in 2023 dollars, making the latest 2023 figure of \$59,929 a 6.2% decrease. This is in line with the general wage stagnation experienced by American workers since the 1970s. Incomes in Belleville are lower than elsewhere in the area and the region as a whole, though the proportion of people in poverty is significantly less than that of the region. The share of residents that are considered impoverished has more than doubled since 2000.

Despite its relatively high density of jobs, a lower share of Belleville's population participates in the labor force compared to that of surrounding communities, and the unemployment rate is above that of the Southeast Michigan region. This could be due to the comparatively older population found in Belleville, indicated by the median age and high share of households that include a senior. Approximately one-third (34.2%) of residents over the age of 25 have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to the one-quarter (26.9%) of residents in Wayne County. Educational attainment and occupations that are held by residents are closely related and linked to income and quality of life.

Housing values have steadily decreased since 2010, decreasing from \$208,902 to \$162,700 in 2023 (once adjusted for inflation). During that same time, total housing units have slightly increased from 2,019 to 2,071, with the renter population steadily increasing and the owner population steadily decreasing.

Land Use & Zoning

Residential uses are the dominant land use in the city. Newly-constructed condos and single-family homes along Belleville Lake in the Doane's Landing area are zoned as a Planned Use Development. Many single-family homes are established on the east side of the city, with mixed uses emanating from the downtown area. There are two large subdivisions, Harbor Pointe to the west, and Victoria Commons to the east. To the south lies the Belle Villa neighborhood. Belle Villa Lakes is a senior community, and Belle Villa Meadows is a mobile home community. The commercial uses run through downtown and along the major arterial roads. A small industrial area extends along the south side of the railroad tracks. The city features seven parks within the city limits.

Transportation

Belleville has several transportation options within a few minutes' drive of the city. I-94 is just north of Belleville, and I-275 is two miles east. Willow Run Airport is located five miles west of the city, and Detroit Metropolitan International Airport is eight miles east. Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) buses also provide transportation.

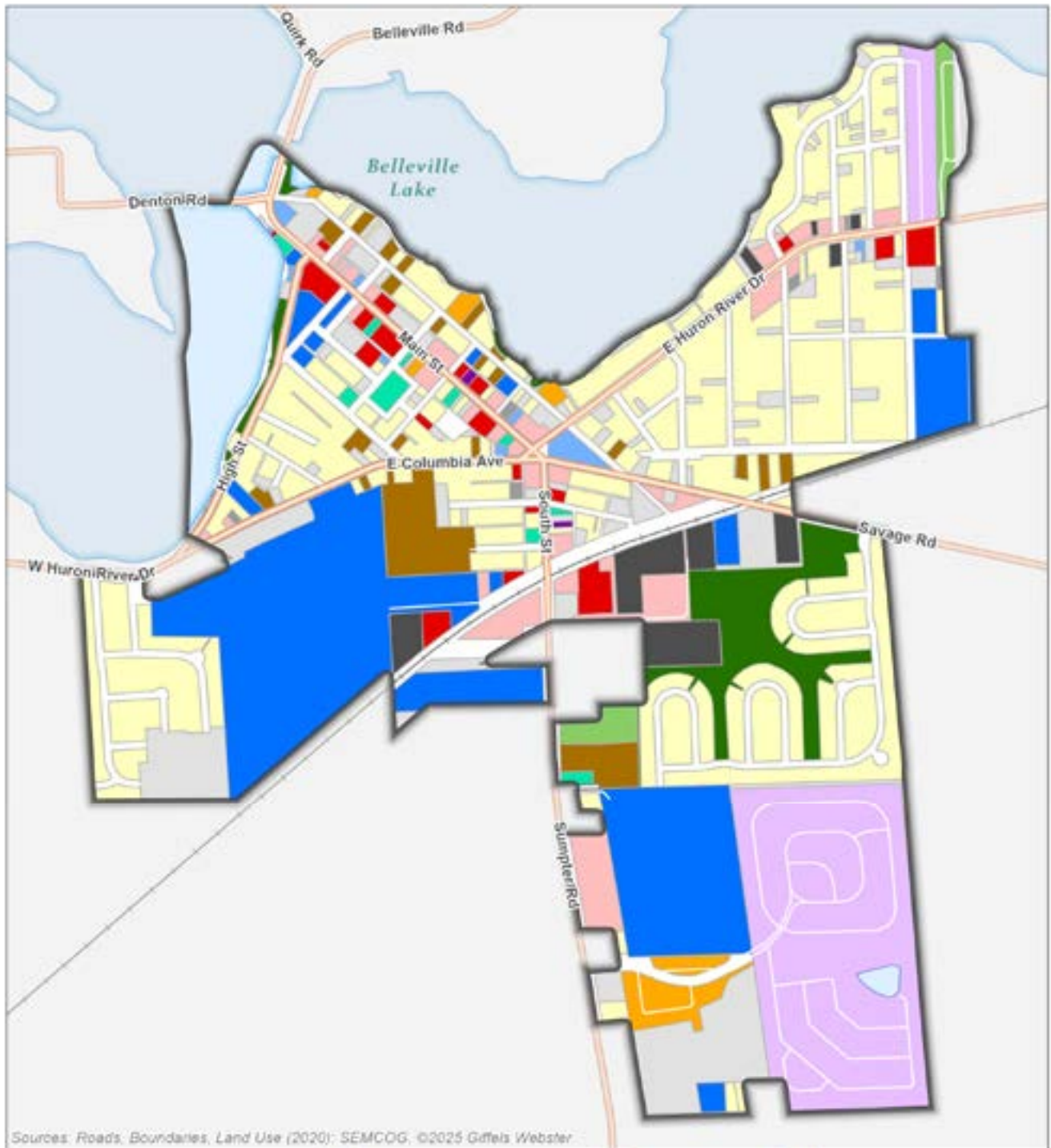
Implications

The recreational implications of Belleville's characteristics include:

- Belleville Lake provides an excellent opportunity for water-related recreational programming and facility development. Belleville Lake is a community-wide and regional recreational resource.
- Good highway connections nearby facilitate development of recreational attractions that can be used to boost tourism in the community.
- The central business district is connected to the park system and surrounding residential neighborhoods. It can provide complementary recreational facilities for the community while providing useful facilities for community visitors and business. The downtown area's proximity to Belleville Lake is an important community resource.
- Natural features that are not useful for development can be used for nature trails.
- The population makeup is such that there is a need for both active and passive recreation opportunities to satisfy the demands of all age segments. The makeup should be tracked regularly to evolve and adapt the plan to demographic changes.
- Income trends indicate the need for public facilities rather than private clubs. Pickleball courts, updated playscapes, and water resources will be well-received by this population.



MAP 2. EXISTING LAND USE, 2025



SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSING	MEDICAL	AGRICULTURAL / RURAL RES
ATTACHED CONDO HOUSING	HOSPITALITY	RECREATION / OPEN SPACE
MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING	INSTITUTIONAL	INDUSTRIAL
MOBILE HOME	RETAIL	PARKING
MIXED USE	OFFICE	VACANT

giffels
webster

Existing Land Use 2020
CITY OF BELLEVILLE

2. Administrative Structure

Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)

The Parks and Recreation Commission was active until Spring of 2020 when COVID limited meetings and eventually members stepped away or their term expired. Currently, the City is focusing on maintaining full membership on the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and Planning Commission. Should the Parks and Recreation Commission be reinstated, there will be five (5) to nine (9) members, serving for four (4-year) terms. The meetings would be held on the 4th Monday of the month. In the interim, the Planning Commission, DDA, and City Council are using committees and resolutions to continue to maintain parks and make progress on new projects related to the city's parks and recreation.

The City is run by a city manager, public safety director (police chief) who oversees fire department, clerk, and department of public works director. The city manager reports to the Mayor and City Council. Below shows the current make up of the City Council, along with their liaison roles to other committees and commissions:

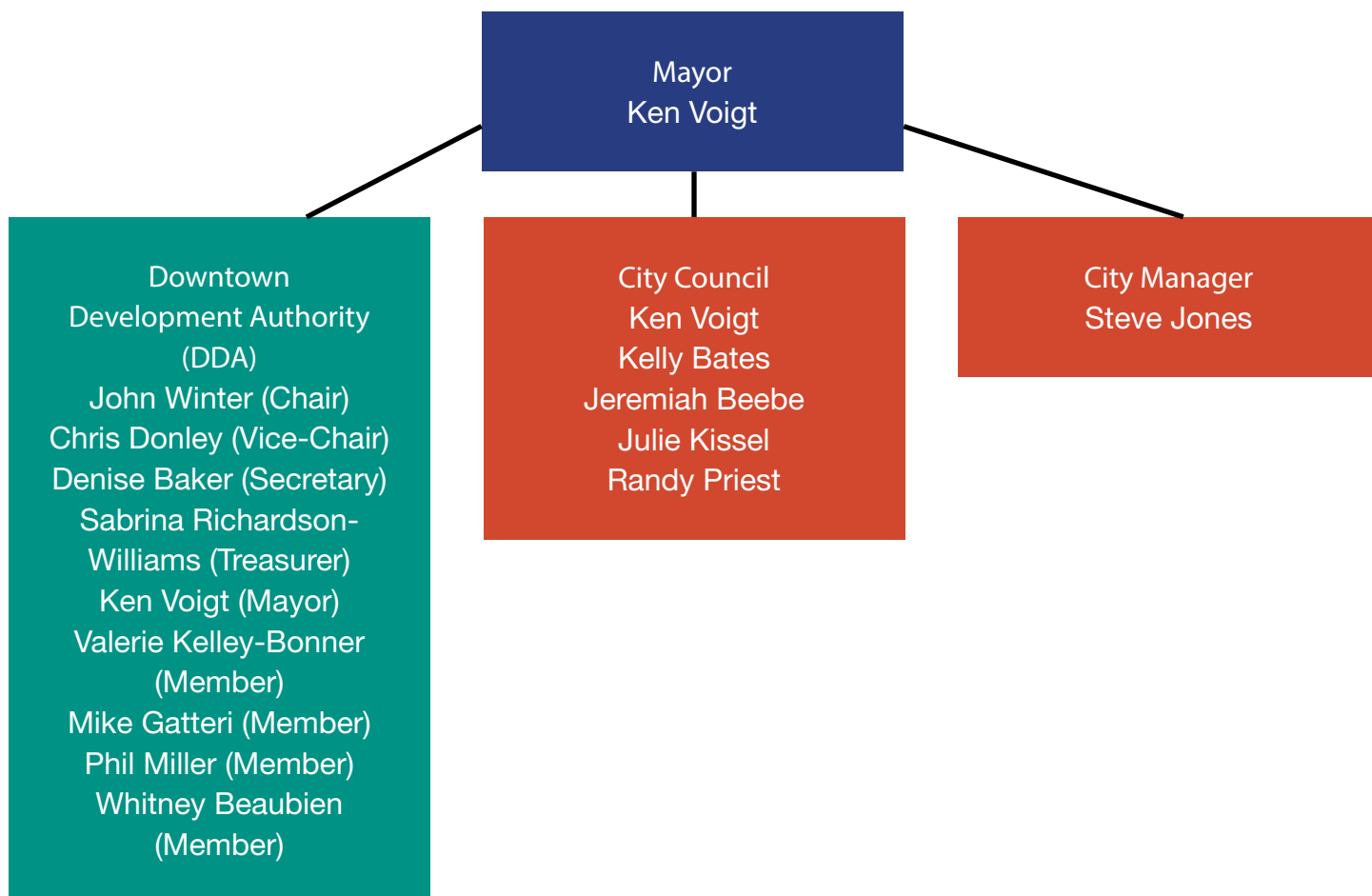
- Mayor (serves on DDA committee) Ken Voigt
- Mayor Pro-tem Kelly Bates
- Council member (Liaison to Planning Commission) Julie Kissel
- Council member Randy Priest
- Council member Jeremiah Beebe



Department, Authority, and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart

All of the parks in the City fall within the purview of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). The DDA can submit proposals to City Council for funding and support through the general fund, or it can fund special projects through its budget process. Since the Mayor is a voting member on the DDA, he helps direct this process. Essentially, small projects can be funded through the DDA, and larger projects are managed by the City Manager and City Council.

FIGURE 1. PARK AND RECREATION ORGANIZATION CHART



Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements, and Recreational Programming

Parks upkeep is assumed by the Department of Public Works (DPW). Duties include mowing, trash pick-up, bathroom cleaning, and tree maintenance. Contracts are bid out and awarded by the DDA for landscaping and mowing. Park improvements require additional funding sources. Small improvements are generally funded through the DDA's budget while larger projects are managed by City Council and the City Manager. **Will work with the city to get this information.**

TABLE 5. BUDGETS FOR OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, AND PROGRAMMING, 2025-2030

	2025 Requested	2026 Projected	2027 Projected	2028 Projected	2029 Projected	2030 Projected
DPW Costs						
DDA Contracts for landscaping and mowing						
Improvements						
Other						

Current Funding Sources

There are several existing or potential funding sources available for park and recreation facility improvements:

- **General Fund.** The general fund is the basic operating fund of the city and the traditional source of operating funds for parks and recreation. General Fund revenues are derived from property taxes, state-shared revenues, federal grants, license and permit fees, charges for services, interest on investments, and court fines or forfeitures. Any recreation program user fees are usually channeled through the General Fund.
- **Millage.** A property tax millage can be used to finance specific parks and recreation projects or for the operation of recreation facilities. The dedicated millage has gained favor in many communities because the voters are increasingly wary of approving millage increases for non-specified purposes. Approval by voters is required before a millage can be assessed. Any millage is subject to a periodic renewal by a vote of the people.
- **User Fees.** Fees can be charged by the city to the users of specific recreation facilities or for enrollment in recreation programming. User fees can provide a substantial amount of support for certain parks and recreation facilities. Other communities in the region have established user fees for certain facilities.
- **Bond Programs.** Several bond programs can be used for parks and recreation facilities:
 - **General Obligations Bonds.** General Obligations Bonds are issued for specific community projects and may not be used for other purposes. These bonds are usually paid off with property tax revenues.
 - **Revenue Bonds.** Revenue Bonds are issued for construction of public projects that generate revenues. The bonds are then retired using income generated by the project.
 - **Special Assessment Bonds.** Special Assessment Bonds are issued to pay for projects that benefit a particular segment of the population. For example, recreation improvements that benefit a defined subdivision or neighborhood could be financed using special assessment bonds, in which case the residents who receive the benefit would be assessed.
- **Create a Regional Recreational Authority.** The city should pursue an agreement with nearby communities such as Van Buren and Summit Township through the Tri-Community planning efforts to create a broader funding base. Creation of a regional authority could achieve that goal.
- **State-Level Grants.** The State of Michigan has several departments that offer grants for various programming and assets. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is a prime source of parks and recreation grant funding.

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).** Revenues obtained through the federal CDBG program can be used for a variety of projects, including development of recreation facilities.
- **Donations.** Businesses, corporations, private clubs, and community organizations will often contribute to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit the communities in which they are located. Private sector contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, the donation of the land, providing volunteers, or the contribution of equipment and facilities.
- **Foundations.** A foundation is a special non-profit organization that is established as a mechanism through which land, cash, and securities can be donated for the benefit of parks and recreation services. The assets are distributed by the foundation Board of Directors.

Role of Volunteers and Organizations

The City is fortunate to partner with individual groups and programs that help maintain and beautify the parks. Examples include:

- Redemption Bible Church: Volunteer cleaning/planting at Horizon Park
- Belleville Garden Club: Maintain Pump-House Park
- Belleville Yacht Club: Shore clean up and maintenance/work at Pump-House Park and Doane's Landing
- Summer Youth Program (Funding for high school students through Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN): Work at all parks throughout summer doing maintenance and beautification
- Belleville Rotary Club: Maintain and decorate Victory Park Gazebo

Interested organizations and individuals can set up volunteer activities in the parks through the City Manager.

Relationships with School Districts and Other Public Agencies Involved in Recreation

While the City maintains a close relationship with the local school district, Van Buren Public Schools, this district serves the greater 48111 zip code area which includes the Townships of Sumpter and Van Buren as well as the City of Belleville. Due to the schools serving more than just the City, there is no formal relationship between the City and schools regarding parks and recreation. This is a topic that is currently being discussed by the Tri-community Planning Commission subcommittee. Van Buren, due to its size and facilities, has robust community programming. There is great interest in extending the programming in Van Buren to Belleville residents at the rate that Township residents pay. The Tri-community Planning Commission is also exploring how Belleville can provide complementary, non-competing programming for residents in the limited outdoor locations available in the city. The subcommittee is hoping to develop a "master plan" of sorts that will help support this endeavor. This process is in the early stages, with the group's second meeting in November 2025.

The creation of Pump-house Park illustrates collaboration between city agencies and local organizations in supporting recreation. The project began when members of the Belleville Yacht Club volunteered to repair the exterior of the former pump station and clean the shoreline. The Department of Public Works prepared the soil, and the Belleville Area Garden Club planted a pollinator garden funded by a grant from the Belleville Rotary Club's Cozadd Foundation. The city added a bench and trash receptacle to complete the park, which was formally designated by City Council. This project demonstrates how civic groups, foundations, and municipal agencies can work together to develop and maintain local recreational spaces.

3. Parks & Recreation Inventory

Parks & Recreation Inventory

Belleville residents have access to a wide range of recreation opportunities offered by several organizations throughout the region. Recreation providers include the State of Michigan, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Wayne County, the City of Belleville, the Van Buren Public Schools District, and various private businesses and community organizations. A description of these opportunities is provided as follows:

State Parks and Recreation Areas

Eighteen (18) State parks and recreation areas are located in the seven-county Southeast Michigan region. These parks have a combined area exceeding 75,000 acres and provide a wide range of day use facilities. Common recreation opportunities available at these sites include hiking, swimming, fishing, boating, picnicking, camping, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling, among others. While no state parks or recreation facilities are located within Belleville or its neighboring communities, three state parks and various recreation facilities are located in Wayne County.

Regional Facilities

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) operates more than one dozen regional recreation areas in Southeast Michigan. These parks provide facilities for a wide range of recreational opportunities, which include picnicking, playgrounds, hiking, swimming, boating, fishing, golf, court games, cross-country skiing, ice-skating and sledding, among others. Four HCMA parks are located in Wayne County, with Lower Huron Metropark being located in Belleville. Additionally, there are four HCMA parks in nearby Washtenaw County.

County Facilities

Wayne County owns and operates several parks and recreation facilities, with Crosswinds Marsh in New Boston being the closest to Belleville. As Belleville borders Washtenaw County, residents also have easy access to their many facilities, including Rolling Hills Park in Ypsilanti, and Lillie Park South and Pittsfield Preserve Nature Trail Area, both in Ann Arbor.

School Facilities

Van Buren Public Schools features three schools within the city limits: Belleville High School, Owen Intermediate School (formerly South Middle School), and Edgemont Elementary School. Wayne County Community College's Western Campus sits just 4.5 miles from the city, with Washtenaw Community College 9.5 miles away. Eastern Michigan University is ten miles from Belleville, and the University of Michigan is 17 miles away.

BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Belleville High School is located within the City of Belleville on over 34 acres of land. Included on this land are three ball diamonds, a football field with bleachers and lights, a track, and eight community tennis courts, which were funded by city organizations.

OWEN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Owen Intermediate School is situated on about 29 acres. The school has a gym, football field, ball diamonds, and a soccer field that can be reserved by community organizations. This facility includes nearly five acres of dense woods and a ready-made nature study area.

EDGEMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Edgemont Elementary School is located on over 8 acres and has a playground, soccer field, and gymnasium which are used for neighborhood activities. This area provides recreation opportunities and open space for surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Recreation Programming

Van Buren Township provides recreation classes and facilities to its residents on a membership basis that Belleville residents may also participate in or use for a (higher) non-resident fee. Classes include yoga, Tai Chi, dancing, aerobics, self-defense, and pickleball. Open gym times are also available for adults and youth. Youth specific programming such as soccer, karate, and painting are also offered. Programming offered for seniors is varied, including bingo, painting, games, trivia, Scrabble, quilting, billiards, crocheting/knitting, chess, special events, and travel opportunities as well as connections to social services. The Township's Recreation Department also hosts seasonal events throughout the year, geared towards kids, teens, adults, families, and seniors.

City Facilities

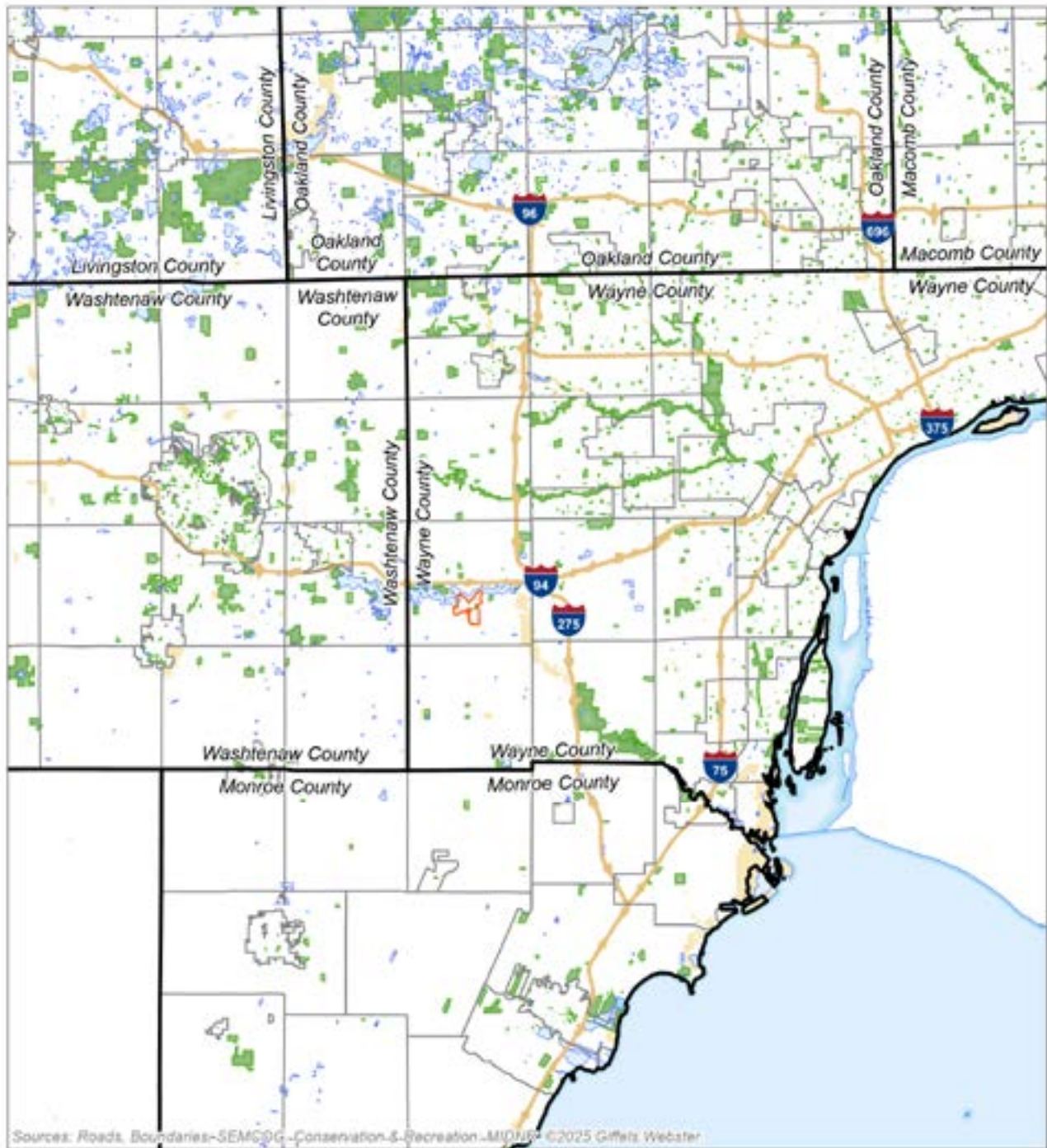
The following pages provide more details for each of the parks and recreation areas in Belleville.

Regional Planning Efforts

The Charter Township of Van Buren, City of Belleville, and Sumpter Township all participate in the Tri-Community Planning Commission. The Commission meets monthly to share updates with each other, discuss grant sources and opportunities for cooperation and collaboration, and other pertinent issues facing the communities.

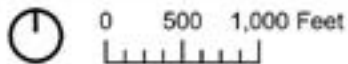
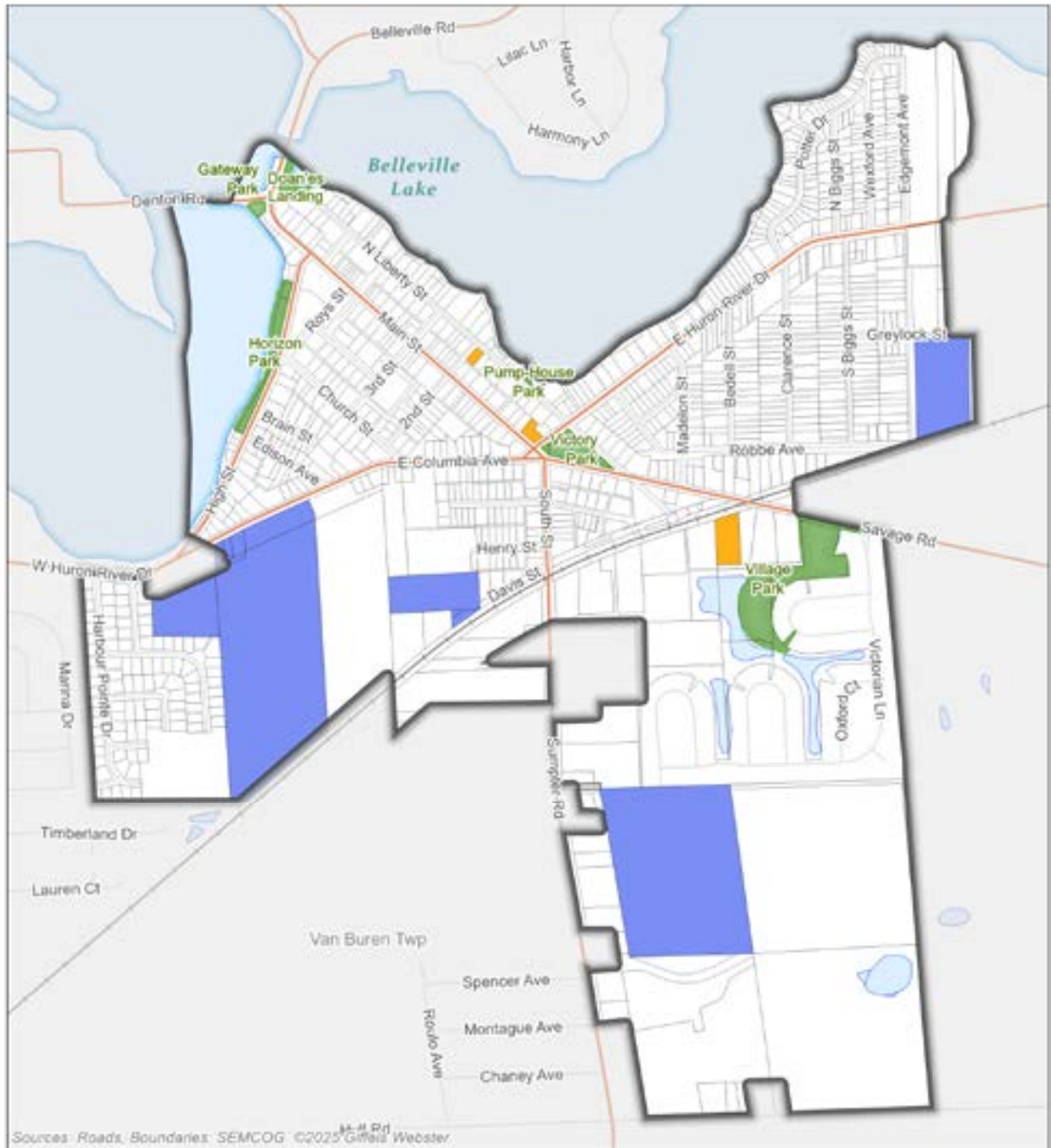
The Sumpter Road Corridor is a southern gateway to Belleville and the economic center of Van Buren Township. In 2022, Van Buren Township developed a plan to accommodate a mix of land uses along the corridor and bring in new buildings while preserving the existing semi-rural character. Van Buren Township will be a crucial partner in Belleville's goal of transforming the Sumpter Road Corridor into a cohesive, welcoming, and vibrant destination by promoting high quality design, pedestrian-oriented development, and a diverse mix of land uses that support the surrounding and regional area.

MAP 3. REGIONAL PARK FACILITIES



- Belleville
- Interstate Hwy
- Parks
- Public Conservation and Recreation

MAP 4. BELLEVILLE COMMUNITY FACILITIES



Horizon Park

Horizon Park (1.31 acres)	Amenities
Horizon Park is located between High Street and Belleville Lake and provides exquisite views of the lake. It is also home to the Belleville War Memorial. A favorite activity of area residents is watching the sun set over the lake at Horizon Park. Previous proposals to increase use have included the planting of spreader shrubs to prevent soil erosion at the bank, and a natural amphitheater.	• Picnic pavilion • Arbor • Benches and tables • Restrooms • Lakeside boardwalk • Boat docks • ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch • Public restroom



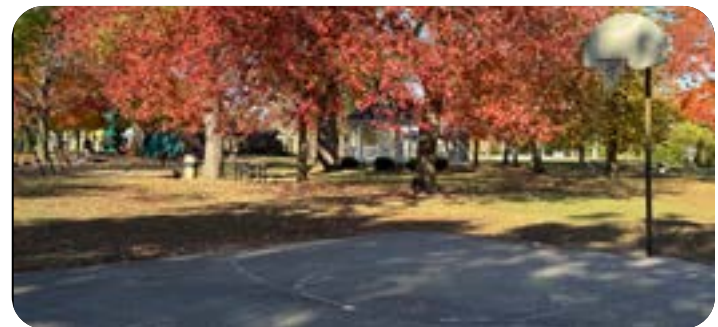
Doane's Landing

Doane's Landing	Amenities
At the foot of the Belleville Bridge, Doane's Landing is a community place for both individual quiet time and for fun events offering lakefront vistas.	• Benches • Bicycle racks



Victory Park

Victory Park (1.75 acres)	Amenities
Victory Park is located in the heart of Belleville, at the intersection fondly known as “Five Points”. It is home to the newly renovated Victory Station building, and features a statue of the famous explorer LaSalle. Victory Station is available to rent for meetings and special events.	• Play area • Picnic facilities • Gazebo • Basketball court • Public restrooms



Village Park

Village Park (24 acres)	Amenities
Village Park is located on the east side of the City and connects to the Aberdeen, Waterbury, and Thornhill Court neighborhoods. The northeastern portion of the park has a playscape, open field, and restrooms. A paved walking/biking path extends southwest to basketball courts, newly added pickleball courts, and sand volleyball courts. A large pond surrounded by a paved walking path is a main feature of the park.	• ADA accessible children's playground • ADA accessible main path • Walking trails • Basketball courts • Sand volleyball courts • Pickleball courts • Public restroom



Gateway Park

Gateway Park	Amenities
Gateway Park is located on the east side of Belleville Road as it becomes Main Street at the north entrance to Belleville. The park was officially designated as such in 1983 and has been maintained as a scenic greenspace. The site has Belleville Lake frontage with excellent views, and it is home to the “Booville” signage during the month of October.	• Benches



Fourth Street Square

Fourth Street Square	Amenities
Fourth Street Square serves as the central point for events and programming within the Central Business District. It is the epicenter of most activities including the Farmer's Market, Christmas Parade, Lake Fest, and Winter Fest.	• Seating



Pump-house Park

Pump-house Park	Amenities
Pump-house Park is a small lakeside green space created from the site of the city’s old pump station. Restored through community efforts, it offers benches, lake views, and peaceful spots to relax. It’s a quiet stop perfect for enjoying the water and Belleville’s charming downtown atmosphere.	• Benches



Grant Assisted Facilities

The city has identified the following projects as having received grant funds and in-kind donation of time, materials and supplies. The City is currently exploring a public/private partnership with the Belleville Yacht Club to provide new docks and day slips at Doane's Landing. No projects have received funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to date, but funding and support for parks has come from a variety of other sources, as noted in the table below.

TABLE 6. GRANTS RECEIVED FOR PARK AND RECREATION PROJECTS

MDNR			
Park	Number	Purpose	Status
Other Funding and Support			
Village Park	Community Development Block Grant	New pickleball courts	Complete
Victory Park	State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)/American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	Upgrade to Victory Station, new bathrooms, new fence	Complete
Horizon Park	State grant	Bank stabilization	In Progress
Pump-house Park	Belleville Yacht Club, Belleville Garden Club, and Belleville Rotary	Park creation and maintenance	On going

Barrier Free Analysis

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing barrier-free access to accommodate the needs of visitors with physical and/or mental disabilities. Barrier-free access includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that adequate barrier-free parking spaces, sidewalks, trails, picnic tables, and playground equipment are provided for renovated or new recreational facilities. Standards from The Accessibility Checklist, a guidebook founded upon the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) and the codes and standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), were used to verify barrier-free compliance.

The MDNR Guidelines require that a barrier-free ranking be given to each facility for assessing its accessibility for people with disabilities. The assessment considers the accessibility of both the facilities themselves as well as the access routes to them. The following system, provided by the MDNR Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans (01/27/06), was used to assess each park:

Rating Score 1:	None of the facilities / park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
Rating Score 2:	Some of the facilities / park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
Rating Score 3:	Most of the facilities / park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
Rating Score 4:	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.
Rating Score 5:	The entire park was developed / renovated using the principals of universal design.

Accessibility

The U.S. Access Board is designated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as the agency responsible for developing minimum accessibility guidelines to ensure that new construction and alteration of facilities covered by ADA are accessible and usable by people with disabilities. The Access Board has published the following guidelines that should be used by Access to Recreation applicants to determine the criteria they must exceed to achieve universal accessibility:

Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) 2002:

www.access-board.gov/adaag/html/adaag.htm

Recommendations for Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas:

www.access-board.gov/outdoor/outdoor-rec-rpt.htm

The National Center on Accessibility is a collaborative program of Indiana University and the National Park Service and also provides information on access for people with disabilities in recreation.

www.ncaonline.org

Accessibility: Barrier Free Analysis

Horizon Park

Overall rating: 3 (see details on page 25)

Doane's Landing

Overall rating: 3 (see details on page 26)

Victory Park

Overall rating: 2 (see details on page 27)

Village Park

Overall rating: 2 (see details on page 28)

Fourth Street Square

Overall rating: 4 (see details on page 28)

Gateway Park

Overall rating: 3 (see details on page 29)

Pump-house Park

Overall rating: 3 (see details on page 30)

Improvements to Target

In Belleville, there are general improvements that could be made to each park that would make them more accessible:

- Develop paved or stabilized pathways to all amenities within the parks; make all paths of sufficient width for two people to walk side-by-side or pass
- When making playground improvements, provide ramps and transfers, and use “poured-in-place” or rubber tiles under equipment, rather than loose fill material such as wood chips; as playground equipment requires replacement, provide ramps and transfers to all play components
- Provide accessible seating spaces near sports courts

Park Name: Horizon Park		Overall Park Rating: 3	
Parking			
Y	Accessible parking spaces are provided and marked with International Symbol of Accessibility		
Y	Accessible parking is as near to the park entrance as possible		
Y	Signs designating accessible parking spaces are 60" high		
Play Areas			
N/A	There is an accessible route (60 inches wide) to the entrance of the play area with a slope no steeper than 1:16		
N/A	For playground equipment, at least one turning space is provided on the same level as play components		
N/A	Play area surface is firm and stable (mulch/wood chips, sand and gravel are not accessible surfaces)		
N/A	Where multiple swings in a swing bay are provided, one swing is located on an accessible route		
N/A	For court sports, at least one accessible route connects both sides of the court		
Park Amenities			
Y	Picnic tables provide at least one wheelchair space for each 24 linear feet of usable table surface perimeter. The aisles between chairs and tables are 3 feet wide		
N/A	Drinking fountain spout outlets are a maximum of 36 inches above the finish floor or ground		
Y	Safety is promoted by good street lighting		
N	Ramps are non-slip		
?	If public restroom facility present, there is at least one fully accessible restroom		
Trails and Sidewalks			
Y	There is a path of travel that does not require the use of stairs		
N	Bike paths are separate from pedestrian walkways		
Y	Sidewalks are free of obstruction, wide enough for wheelchairs, solid (not made of dirt), and have curb cuts		
Y/N	All stairways feature a railing and stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step		
Y	Handrails are provided on both sides of a ramp		
Y	Accessible routes connect all park amenities and coincide with general circulation paths		
Notes: - The stairways have a railing, but do not have stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step - There is a ramp, but it is not non-slip			

Park Name: Doane's Landing		Overall Park Rating: 3	
Parking			
N	Accessible parking spaces are provided and marked with International Symbol of Accessibility		
N/A	Accessible parking is as near to the park entrance as possible		
N/A	Signs designating accessible parking spaces are 60" high		
Play Areas			
N/A	There is an accessible route (60 inches wide) to the entrance of the play area with a slope no steeper than 1:16.		
N/A	For playground equipment, at least one turning space is provided on the same level as play components		
N/A	Play area surface is firm and stable (mulch/wood chips, sand and gravel are not accessible surfaces)		
N/A	Where multiple swings in a swing bay are provided, one swing is located on an accessible route		
N/A	For court sports, at least one accessible route connects both sides of the court		
Park Amenities			
N/A	Picnic tables provide at least one wheelchair space for each 24 linear feet of usable table surface perimeter. The aisles between chairs and tables are 3 feet wide		
N/A	Drinking fountain spout outlets are a maximum of 36 inches above the finish floor or ground		
Y	Safety is promoted by good street lighting		
N/A	Ramps are non-slip		
N/A	If public restroom facility present, there is at least one fully accessible restroom		
Trails and Sidewalks			
Y	There is a path of travel that does not require the use of stairs		
N/A	Bike paths are separate from pedestrian walkways		
Y	Sidewalks are free of obstruction, wide enough for wheelchairs, solid (not made of dirt), and have curb cuts		
N/A	All stairways feature a railing and stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step		
N/A	Handrails are provided on both sides of a ramp		
Y	Accessible routes connect all park amenities and coincide with general circulation paths		
Notes: • There is no parking at the park • Walkway is steep, and may be challenging for someone with mobility differences to go up or down independently			

Park Name: Victory Park		Overall Park Rating: 2	
Parking			
Y	Accessible parking spaces are provided and marked with International Symbol of Accessibility		
Y	Accessible parking is as near to the park entrance as possible		
Y	Signs designating accessible parking spaces are 60" high		
Play Areas			
Y	There is an accessible route (60 inches wide) to the entrance of the play area with a slope no steeper than 1:16.		
Y	For playground equipment, at least one turning space is provided on the same level as play components		
N	Play area surface is firm and stable (mulch/wood chips, sand and gravel are not accessible surfaces)		
N	Where multiple swings in a swing bay are provided, one swing is located on an accessible route		
N	For court sports, at least one accessible route connects both sides of the court		
Park Amenities			
N	Picnic tables provide at least one wheelchair space for each 24 linear feet of usable table surface perimeter. The aisles between chairs and tables are 3 feet wide		
Y	Drinking fountain spout outlets are a maximum of 36 inches above the finish floor or ground		
Y/N	Safety is promoted by good street lighting		
N/A	Ramps are non-slip		
?	If public restroom facility present, there is at least one fully accessible restroom		
Trails and Sidewalks			
Y	There is a path of travel that does not require the use of stairs		
N	Bike paths are separate from pedestrian walkways		
Y	Sidewalks are free of obstruction, wide enough for wheelchairs, solid (not made of dirt), and have curb cuts		
Y/N	All stairways feature a railing and stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step		
N	Handrails are provided on both sides of a ramp		
N	Accessible routes connect all park amenities and coincide with general circulation paths		
Notes: - Stairs going into the gazebo have a railing but the stair tips are not painted - Street lighting is provided along E. Columbia Ave and S. Liberty St. where there is parking, but does not directly illuminate the park. There is no lighting along the pathway between the parking area and Victory Station			

Park Name: Village Park		Overall Park Rating: 2	
Parking			
Y	Accessible parking spaces are provided and marked with International Symbol of Accessibility		
Y/N	Accessible parking is as near to the park entrance as possible		
Y	Signs designating accessible parking spaces are 60" high		
Play Areas			
Y	There is an accessible route (60 inches wide) to the entrance of the play area with a slope no steeper than 1:16.		
Y	For playground equipment, at least one turning space is provided on the same level as play components		
Y/N	Play area surface is firm and stable (mulch/wood chips, sand and gravel are not accessible surfaces)		
N	Where multiple swings in a swing bay are provided, one swing is located on an accessible route		
N	For court sports, at least one accessible route connects both sides of the court		
Park Amenities			
N	Picnic tables provide at least one wheelchair space for each 24 linear feet of usable table surface perimeter. The aisles between chairs and tables are 3 feet wide		
N/A	Drinking fountain spout outlets are a maximum of 36 inches above the finish floor or ground		
Y	Safety is promoted by good street lighting		
N/A	Ramps are non-slip		
?	If public restroom facility present, there is at least one fully accessible restroom		
Trails and Sidewalks			
Y	There is a path of travel that does not require the use of stairs		
N	Bike paths are separate from pedestrian walkways		
Y	Sidewalks are free of obstruction, wide enough for wheelchairs, solid (not made of dirt), and have curb cuts		
N/A	All stairways feature a railing and stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step		
N/A	Handrails are provided on both sides of a ramp		
Y	Accessible routes connect all park amenities and coincide with general circulation paths		
Notes: - There are several accessible parking spaces located near the paved trail. It would be helpful to move at least one of these spaces to the other side of the parking lot near the restrooms and playground - Some parts of the playground have firm and stable surfacing, but the majority of it is wood chips			

Park Name: Fourth Street Square		Overall Park Rating: 4	
Parking			
Y	Accessible parking spaces are provided and marked with International Symbol of Accessibility		
Y	Accessible parking is as near to the park entrance as possible		
Y	Signs designating accessible parking spaces are 60" high		
Play Areas			
N/A	There is an accessible route (60 inches wide) to the entrance of the play area with a slope no steeper than 1:16		
N/A	For playground equipment, at least one turning space is provided on the same level as play components		
N/A	Play area surface is firm and stable (mulch/wood chips, sand and gravel are not accessible surfaces)		
N/A	Where multiple swings in a swing bay are provided, one swing is located on an accessible route		
N/A	For court sports, at least one accessible route connects both sides of the court		
Park Amenities			
N/A	Picnic tables provide at least one wheelchair space for each 24 linear feet of usable table surface perimeter. The aisles between chairs and tables are 3 feet wide		
N/A	Drinking fountain spout outlets are a maximum of 36 inches above the finish floor or ground		
Y	Safety is promoted by good street lighting		
N/A	Ramps are non-slip		
N/A	If public restroom facility present, there is at least one fully accessible restroom		
Trails and Sidewalks			
Y	There is a path of travel that does not require the use of stairs		
N	Bike paths are separate from pedestrian walkways		
Y	Sidewalks are free of obstruction, wide enough for wheelchairs, solid (not made of dirt), and have curb cuts		
N/A	All stairways feature a railing and stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step		
N/A	Handrails are provided on both sides of a ramp		
Y	Accessible routes connect all park amenities and coincide with general circulation paths		

Park Name: Gateway Park		Overall Park Rating: 3	
Parking			
N	Accessible parking spaces are provided and marked with International Symbol of Accessibility		
N/A	Accessible parking is as near to the park entrance as possible		
N/A	Signs designating accessible parking spaces are 60" high		
Play Areas			
N/A	There is an accessible route (60 inches wide) to the entrance of the play area with a slope no steeper than 1:16		
N/A	For playground equipment, at least one turning space is provided on the same level as play components		
N/A	Play area surface is firm and stable (mulch/wood chips, sand and gravel are not accessible surfaces)		
N/A	Where multiple swings in a swing bay are provided, one swing is located on an accessible route		
N/A	For court sports, at least one accessible route connects both sides of the court		
Park Amenities			
N/A	Picnic tables provide at least one wheelchair space for each 24 linear feet of usable table surface perimeter. The aisles between chairs and tables are 3 feet wide		
N/A	Drinking fountain spout outlets are a maximum of 36 inches above the finish floor or ground		
Y	Safety is promoted by good street lighting		
N/A	Ramps are non-slip		
N/A	If public restroom facility present, there is at least one fully accessible restroom		
Trails and Sidewalks			
Y	There is a path of travel that does not require the use of stairs		
N	Bike paths are separate from pedestrian walkways		
Y	Sidewalks are free of obstruction, wide enough for wheelchairs, solid (not made of dirt), and have curb cuts		
N/A	All stairways feature a railing and stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step		
N/A	Handrails are provided on both sides of a ramp		
Y	Accessible routes connect all park amenities and coincide with general circulation paths		
Notes: There are no parking spaces at this park			

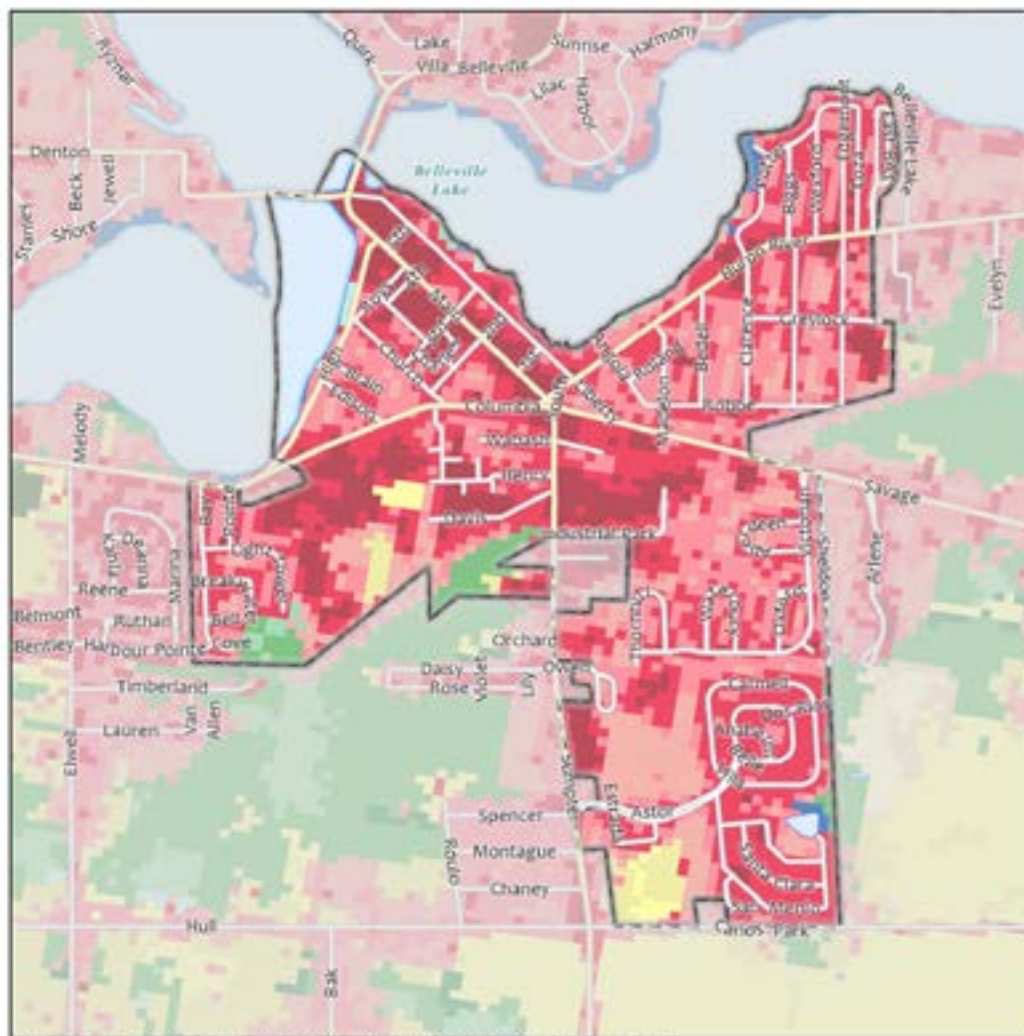
Park Name: Pump-house Park		Overall Park Rating: 3	
Parking			
N	Accessible parking spaces are provided and marked with International Symbol of Accessibility		
N/A	Accessible parking is as near to the park entrance as possible		
N/A	Signs designating accessible parking spaces are 60" high		
Play Areas			
N/A	There is an accessible route (60 inches wide) to the entrance of the play area with a slope no steeper than 1:16		
N/A	For playground equipment, at least one turning space is provided on the same level as play components		
N/A	Play area surface is firm and stable (mulch/wood chips, sand and gravel are not accessible surfaces)		
N/A	Where multiple swings in a swing bay are provided, one swing is located on an accessible route		
N/A	For court sports, at least one accessible route connects both sides of the court		
Park Amenities			
N/A	Picnic tables provide at least one wheelchair space for each 24 linear feet of usable table surface perimeter. The aisles between chairs and tables are 3 feet wide		
N/A	Drinking fountain spout outlets are a maximum of 36 inches above the finish floor or ground		
Y	Safety is promoted by good street lighting		
N/A	Ramps are non-slip		
N/A	If public restroom facility present, there is at least one fully accessible restroom		
Trails and Sidewalks			
Y	There is a path of travel that does not require the use of stairs		
N	Bike paths are separate from pedestrian walkways		
Y	Sidewalks are free of obstruction, wide enough for wheelchairs, solid (not made of dirt), and have curb cuts		
N/A	All stairways feature a railing and stair tips that are painted to distinguish each step		
N/A	Handrails are provided on both sides of a ramp		
Y	Accessible routes connect all park amenities and coincide with general circulation paths		

4. Natural Features Inventory

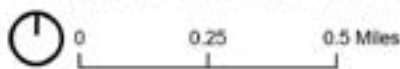
Natural Features Inventory

In a community such as Belleville, Michigan, where recreation and daily life are closely connected to the surrounding natural landscape, maintaining an inventory of natural resources is an important tool for identifying potential opportunities for conservation and recreation. These maps can also guide planning efforts for open space preservation beyond recreational uses. The following pages illustrate watersheds and waterways, wetlands, and woodlands within the Belleville area as well as the impervious surfaces and tree canopy.

MAP 5. LAND COVER



Data Source: Land Cover: USA NLCD; Roads: SEMCOG; Map Exported: April 08, 2023; ©2023 Giffels Webster



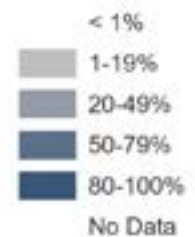
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LAND COVER
CITY OF BELLEVILLE

MAP 6. IMPERVIOUS SURFACES



Data Source: Land Cover: USA NLCD, Roads: SEMCOG. Map Exported: April 08, 2023. ©2023 Giffels Webster.

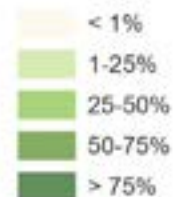
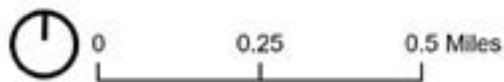


IMPERVIOUS SURFACES
CITY OF BELLEVILLE

MAP 7. TREE CANOPY



Data Source: Land Cover: USA NLCD, Roads: SEMCOG. Map Exported: April 08, 2023. ©2023 Giffels Webster.



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TREE CANOPY
CITY OF BELLEVILLE

5. Recreation Needs Analysis

Recreation Needs Analysis

To analyze the recreational needs of Belleville residents and determine deficiencies within recreation programs, it is helpful to consider standards for recreation service areas, land needs based on future population, and the ultimate size and extent of recreation facilities and their location.

These recreation planning standards are a useful tool in assessing future recreation needs. Standards may be used effectively only as a means for comparing present conditions to what is thought to be suitable or desirable, and as a general guide toward estimating future needs and demands.

The following organizations have developed guidelines for recreation that could be used as benchmarks for understanding Belleville's recreation facilities and needs:

- **Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service (HCRS).** The HCRS recommends standards based on compiled data on standards used or recommended by various city, county, metropolitan, state, and federal park and recreation agencies.
- **Urban Land Institute (ULI).** The ULI, a private research organization concerned with planning and development of land, recommends standards for recreation areas for community and neighborhood development.
- **National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).** The NRPA developed recommended standards and guidelines for recreation, parks and open space.

Recommended Community Recreation Facilities

The major types of community recreation facilities recommended by the above organizations include:

- **Playgrounds/Mini-Parks.** Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population, or specific groups such as small children or senior citizens. For example, suggested recreational amenities for an individual mini-park include a tot lot, two picnic tables and open space.
- **Playfield or Athletic Fields/Neighborhood Park.** Neighborhood parks should offer a variety of activities to accommodate a range of ages, physical abilities, and recreational interests. Therefore, it is recommended that neighborhood parks should be comprised of approximately 50% active uses (fields, courts, playgrounds, skating, etc.) and 50% passive uses (trails, picnic areas, etc.). In an urbanized community such as Belleville, parking occurs on the street.
- **Community Parks.** Community-wide parks include larger parks with diverse environmental quality. A variety of passive and active uses are provided, including athletic fields, sledding hills, trails, picnic areas, and playgrounds. Typically, uses are separated by activity and age group to limit potential conflicts between different types of users. Other potential facilities include lighted spectator-type athletic fields and off-street parking.
- **Connector Trails.** Connector trails would include a multi-use trail to give non-motorized access to parks and other uses throughout the City, and would also provide connections to regional bike lanes. Modes of travel include walking, biking, and in-line skating. These trails would by necessity be located within the road rights-of-way. There are no current standards for trails within/around a community.

NRPA Annual Agency Review

Each year, the NRPA surveys parks and recreation agencies across the US and shares this data to help communities benchmark their programs and facilities against similar-sized peers. The NRPA recognizes that applying standards and guidelines often prove challenging due to the variety of populations served and funding sources available. This could also be a useful resource for the City in determining what, if any, additional recreation facilities or amenities are needed.

State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

The DNR includes a Recommended Classification System for Local and Regional recreation Open Space and Trails (see Table 7) for the development of recreation plans. On the pages that follow, these standards outline recommendations for developed recreation acreage and for the various types of recreation activities; however, it should be noted that these standards are guidelines and the city should consider other recreation opportunities within the area as well as the ability to maintain community facilities. These standards are compared with the recreation opportunities provided by the city in the table on the following pages.

TABLE 7. MDNR RECOMMENDED CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL RECREATION OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS

Classification	General Description	Location Criteria	Size Criteria	Acres / 1,000 Population (Min)	Acres / 1,000 Population (Max)
Mini-Park	Used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs.	Less than ¼ mile distance in residential setting.	Between 2500 sq. ft. and one acre in size.	0.25	0.5
Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood park 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.	¼- to ½-mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	5 acres is considered minimum size. 5 to 10 acres is optimal.	1	2
School-Park	Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex and special use.	Determined by location of school district property.	Variable-depends on function.		Variable
Community Park	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3-mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually between 30 and 50 acres.	5	8
Large Urban Park	Large urban parks serve a broader purpose than community parks and are used when community and neighborhood parks are not adequate to serve the needs of the community. Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves the entire community.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 50 acres, with 75 or more acres being optimal.		Variable
Natural Resource Areas	Lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering.	Resource availability and opportunity.	Variable.		Variable
Regional Metropolitan Park	Land set aside for preservation of natural beauty or environmental significance, recreation use or historic or cultural interest use.	Located to serve several communities within 1 hour driving time.	Optimal size is 200+ acres, but size varies based on accommodating the desired uses.	5	10
Greenways	Effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Resource availability and opportunity.	Variable.		Variable
Sports Complex	Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities to larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community.	Strategically located community-wide facilities.	Determined by projected demand. Usually a minimum of 25 acres, with 40 to 80 acres being optimal.		Variable

TABLE 8. EXISTING BELLEVILLE RECREATION AMENITIES COMPARED TO MDNR RECOMMENDED CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL RECREATION OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS

Classification	Belleville 2010 Population		Belleville 2050 Projected Population		Existing (acres)	Existing Parks	Recommendations
	3,991		3,776				
	Min (acres)	Max (acres)	Min (acres)	Max (acres)			
Mini-Park	1	2	1	2		Gateway Park Pump-house Park Doane's Landing	Explore opportunities to acquire new developments to incorporate recreational open space into neighborhood plans
Neighborhood Park	4	8	4	8	24	Village Park	Explore opportunities to acquire new developments to incorporate recreational open space into neighborhood plans
School-Park		Variable		Variable			The city currently utilizes several school facilities to meet the recreation needs of the residents; additional opportunities should be explored
Community Park	20	32	19	30		Victory Park Horizon Park 4th Street Square	Explore opportunities to develop city-owned land as development increases
Large Urban Park		Variable		Variable			Not needed
Natural Resource Areas		Variable		Variable			Opportunities to add natural resource areas could be explored
Regional Metropolitan Park	20	40	19	38			Lower Huron, Willow, and Oakwoods Metroparks nearby offer some recreation amenities within close proximity for city residents.
Greenways		Variable		Variable			Add trails/shared use paths and consider water trail opportunities
Sports Complex		Variable		Variable			Explore partnerships with nearby communities, school districts, and organizations to provide indoor sports opportunities

Parks for an Aging Population

While there are no general standards for parks aimed at the aging population, many communities and other organizations are recognizing the importance of keeping older adults active as well as socially engaged. In addition to ensuring parks are accessible for those of all ages and abilities, equipment and facilities aimed at older adults are being recommended for inclusion in parks and recreation facilities.



Example of adult playground equipment" that provides an opportunity for both physical activity and social interactions.



6. The Planning Process

Planning Process

The recreation planning process in Belleville is intended to involve individuals who represent a broad cross-section of the community's population. City Council is responsible for implementing the Recreation Plan and providing input, analysis, and recommendations. The planning process began with an inventory of all Belleville's parks facilities. A survey was then developed and shared online.

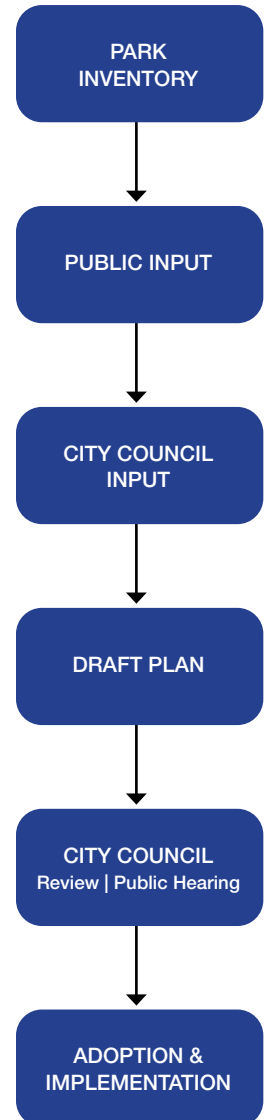
Using the inventory and survey findings, this Recreation Plan identifies strengths and opportunities of the current parks' facilities, along with goals for the future. The draft plan and 5-year action program of priority projects was reviewed by City Council. The draft plan was available for public review and comment for at least 30 days prior to formal adoption by City Council, and notice of the public review period was provided in the local newspaper. This plan was presented at a public hearing held by City Council. Copies of the notices announcing the review period and public hearing are included in the [Appendix](#).

Public Input – Online survey

The Belleville Parks & Recreation Plan online survey, open from late June through mid-October 2025, collected six responses and offered insights into resident priorities for the city's parks and recreation system. The survey asked about familiarity with existing parks, frequency and reasons for visits, perceived gaps in facilities, preferred locations for increased walkability and a new recreation center, funding priorities, and desired features for both indoor and outdoor recreation. Respondents expressed strong support for a variety of facilities, including swimming pools, arts centers, a family recreation center, nature trails, boating and fishing access, and dog parks, while also raising concerns about water quality, limited shoreline access, inadequate park maintenance, and accessibility challenges for seniors and people with disabilities. They emphasized the need for programs that serve teens, adults, and seniors, particularly those focused on community-building, health, and inclusivity, and favored funding through grants, donations, or user fees rather than tax increases. Overall, the survey underscored the community's interest in well-maintained, accessible parks and recreation opportunities that meet the needs of all age groups.

Public Input – Open House

The Belleville Parks & Recreation Open House on November 4, 2025 offered residents a chance to share their thoughts on the city's parks and recreational opportunities. Attendees, primarily adults between the ages of 35 and 64 years old, highlighted Horizon Park, Victory Park, and 4th Street Square as their most-visited locations. There was strong enthusiasm for enhancing and maintaining parks, improving lake water quality, and providing amenities that serve all age groups, including playgrounds for older children and teens, dog parks, and community gardens. Residents also emphasized safety, accessibility, and environmental stewardship, calling for better sidewalks, lighting, crosswalks, and repairs to waterholes. During the budgeting exercise, priorities centered on park maintenance, recreation programming, pavilions, and indoor facilities, along with funding for sidewalks and waterfront improvements. Overall, the feedback underscored a shared vision of welcoming, safe, and well-maintained parks that offer recreational opportunities for everyone in the community.



7. Goals & Objectives

Goals & Objectives

Goals and objectives formulated by the city of Belleville are the basis of the recreation planning process. They form the framework for public and private decision-making regarding recreational facilities and programs in the city. This Recreation Plan seeks to pursue long-range recreational goals and objectives through specific short-range actions on the part of the city, county, and state as well as private entities. The goals and objectives are intended to support the following recreation policies established by the Belleville City Council:

- Continue to enhance and improve the City's parks by expanding the range of features for each facility as appropriate within the existing park footprints.
- Ensure that the needs of all age groups, such as teens and senior citizens, are addressed.
- Promote nonmotorized transportation and connections to recreational facilities.
- Maintain existing parks.
- Improve the water quality of the lake.

WHAT ARE GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTION ITEMS?

- **Goals** are general guidelines that explain what the community wants to achieve. Goals are usually long-term and represent global visions such as "protect the City's natural resources." Goals define the "what" but not the "how."
- **Objectives** identify the milestones that mark progress in achieving goals – more of the "how." For example, the goal of "protect the City's natural resources" could be measured in terms of "Maintain the City's tree cover." Objectives are plan-specific and are included here.
- **Action items** are more specific and define the steps to accomplish objectives and attain the identified goals – these could be considered the "who" and "when." The most effective action strategies will include who will tackle that task and when it should be accomplished.

Recreation Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives offer guidelines and milestones for parks and recreation planning. The following objectives have been established in order to more clearly understand the city's goals and how to achieve them.

Goal 1: Continue to enhance and improve the City's parks by expanding the range of features for each facility as appropriate within the existing park footprints.

Objectives

- Use survey results to prioritize desired features for each park.
- Identify funding sources for new amenities.
- Improve accessibility of park features and amenities.

Goal 2: Ensure that the needs of all age groups, such as teens and senior citizens, are addressed.

Objectives

- Continue to work in partnership with Van Buren and Sumpter Townships, Wayne County, and the State of Michigan to provide recreational programming and special events for all age groups.
- Explore public/private partnerships or an agreement with the school system to provide indoor facilities to offset the limited space available, particularly for a new indoor recreation facility.

Goal 3: Promote nonmotorized transportation and connections to recreational facilities.

Objectives

- Create a wayfinding program.
- Enhance connectivity and safety between schools, parks, and trails.

Goal 4: Maintain existing parks.

Objectives

- Ensure funding exists for basic park maintenance via City budget line item.
- Identify funding sources for repair of park amenities, as needed.
- Consider starting a Park Commission to advise on park-related issues, spearhead larger clean up days in the spring, and support maintenance efforts throughout the year.

Goal 5: Improve the water quality of the lake.

Objectives

- Consider starting a "Friends of Belleville Lake" group, a partnership with a science or environmental club at the high school, or other volunteer organization to monitor water quality, champion educational efforts, and conduct clean up days.
- Collaborate with the Huron River Watershed Council to address some of the concerns and implement the ideas presented at the listening sessions in January 2025 including:
 - Educating youth on water stewardship.
 - Engaging local businesses to host shoreline clean up events.
 - Raising awareness of aquatic invasive species and mitigation techniques through signage and boat cleaning equipment at boat launches.
 - Promoting safe boating habits via signage that provides information about speed limits, shallow areas, lake hazards, and directionality.
 - Developing a centralized platform for water quality and health/safety information, including bacterial contamination and algal blooms.
- Educate shoreline residents about best management practices via landscaping techniques and erosion control.
- Educate residents on stormwater management and how it impacts the lake, as well as mitigation strategies such as use of native plantings, shoreline plantings, bioswales and rain gardens.

8. Action Strategies

Action Strategies

The action plan outlines Belleville's approach to implementing the goals and objectives identified in the previous chapter. These strategies are intended to provide guidance for planning and budgeting purposes for the next five years. They suggest priorities generally, but are not intended to be set in stone or limit additional creative approaches. Generally, parks and recreation action strategies should consider the following when outlining a strategy to implement goals and objectives:

- Are there immediate health, environmental, and safety concerns that need to be addressed?
- What are opportunities that exist to partner with other groups towards a common goal?
- Is there a person or group who can champion specific goals/objectives?
- Are there multiple goals that can be achieved by implementing a project?
- What projects affect the greatest number of people in the community and/or address the greatest need?
- How can projects be broken down into phases for a multi-year approach?
- What funding opportunities exist for implementation of certain goals?

PLANNING ACTIONS (P) reflect strategies aimed at identifying an approach, including cost estimates, to achieving certain goals and objectives. These are activities that can be undertaken at a variety of levels, including the Planning Commission and the City Council, and, possibly in the future, a Parks Commission.

MAINTENANCE ACTIONS (M) address those issues identified in the plan as needing upgrades, attention, or repair, whether for safety or appearance. These activities will likely be addressed by the Public Works department, but may also include assistance by various community groups.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS (A) will pursue strategies that keep an inventory of recreation facilities, programs and events for the city. Strategies developed through planning actions will be implemented and/or coordinated through administrative efforts.

FUNDING ACTIONS (F) will actively pursue local, cooperative and grant funding approaches to implement the goals and objectives of the plan.

CONSTRUCTION ACTIONS (C) will take place once a plan has been finalized, funding has been obtained, permits have been acquired and the project is 'shovel ready'.

OPENNESS TO OPPORTUNITY

Though the action plan includes many specific items, it cannot anticipate every possible opportunity to improve Belleville's recreational facilities and programming.

Action Strategies

The action strategies in this plan focus on future improvements in the township that respond to implementing and supplementing other projects of regional significance, addressing findings from the needs analysis, and reflecting goals and objectives.

TABLE 9. ACTIONS BY CITY PARK, 2026-2030

2026 - 2030 Park-Specific Action Plan				
Park	Action	Action Type	Year	Priority (1-5, 1 = Low, 5 = High)
All Parks	Develop a plan to upgrade lighting at existing facilities for safety reasons and a possible increase in night-time park programs	P	2028	3
	Develop a plan to create nonmotorized pathways that connect parks and key destinations	P	2029	3
Horizon Park	Replace boardwalk/pier stairs and ramp; include nonstick surfaces in ramp replacement	C	2026	5
	Update restroom facilities to include an ADA accessible facility	P	2030	2
	Add or update interpretive signage about the lake	P	2030	1
Doane's Landing	Add interpretive signage about the lake	P	2030	1
	Explore opportunities to partner with the Belleville Yacht Club or other groups to provide new docks and day slips	P	2026	4
Victory Park	When updating playground structures and equipment, update to accessible options	P	2030	3
	Update surfacing near playstructure to be accessible	P	2028	3
	Add surfaced pathway to basketball court and gazebo	P	2030	1
Village Park	Replace entryway signage	M	2029	1
	When updating playground structures and equipment, update to accessible options			
	Update surfacing near playstructure to be accessible	P	2028	3
	Add paved walkway from main path to basketball courts, pickleball courts, and volleyball court	P	2030	1

2026 - 2030 Park-Specific Action Plan				
Park	Action	Action Type	Year	Priority (1-5, 1 = Low, 5 = High)
Fourth Street Square	Add a drinking fountain	P	2029	2
Gateway Park	Add interpretive signage about the lake	P	2030	1
Pump-house Park	Add interpretive signage about the lake or the history of the site	P	2030	1

TABLE 10. GOAL-SPECIFIC ACTION PLAN, 2026-2030

Goal-Specific Action Plan			
Action	Action Type	Year	Priority (1-5, 1 = Low, 5 = High)
Goal 1: Continue to enhance and improve the City's parks by expanding the range of features for each facility as appropriate within the existing park footprints.			
Objective 1: Use survey results to prioritize desired features for each park.			
As funding opportunities become available, refer to this plan and the survey results to identify new features to implement at the city parks.	P	Ongoing	3
Objective 2: Identify funding sources for new amenities.			
Monitor opportunities made available through the MDNR, EGLE, the County, and others to implement the goals of this plan.	A	Ongoing	5
Explore opportunities for public/private collaboration and projects to implement the goals of this plan.	A	Ongoing	5
Objective 3: Improve accessibility of park features and amenities.			
As upgrades to equipment and facilities are needed, consider options that improve accessibility such as paved pathways to park amenities, solid surfaces around play structures, and accessible equipment.	P	Ongoing	5
Goal 2: Ensure that the needs of all age groups, such as teens and senior citizens, are addressed.			
Objective 1: Continue to work in partnership with Van Buren and Sumpter Townships, Wayne County, and the State of Michigan to provide recreational programming and special events for all age groups.			
Continue to be involved in the Tri-Community planning efforts	A	Ongoing	5
Explore opportunities for Belleville residents to use recreation facilities in Van Buren and Sumpter Townships at reduced rates	A	2026	5
Explore opportunities to partner with Wayne County to provide recreation programming and events for children, youth, adults, seniors, and families	A	2026	3
Objective 2: Explore public/private partnerships or an agreement with the school system to provide indoor facilities to offset the limited space available, particularly for a new indoor recreation facility.			
Consider opportunities to trial public use of the schools for one-time events, short camps during school breaks, etc.	P	2027	4
Explore how space at the new city hall could be used for recreation	P	2027	4

Goal-Specific Action Plan			
Action	Action Type	Year	Priority (1-5, 1 = Low, 5 = High)
Goal 3: Promote nonmotorized transportation and connections to recreational facilities.			
Objective 1: Create a wayfinding program.			
Identify key destinations in the City and nearby, as well as critical areas for wayfinding signage to be posted.	P	2027	3
Develop branding and design for wayfinding program.	P	2028	3
Install wayfinding program.	P	2030	3
Objective 2: Enhance connectivity and safety between schools, parks, and trails.			
Apply for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding to improve key routes from neighborhoods to schools.	F	2026	4
Identify routes to school and safety challenges, such as missing crosswalks, needed sidewalk repairs, etc.	P	2026	4
Collaborate with schools to train students on safe transit to and from school.	A	2026	3
Goal 4: Maintain existing parks.			
Objective 1: Ensure funding exists for basic park maintenance via City budget line item.			
Maintain a budget line for general park maintenance needs.	A	2026	5
Objective 2: Identify funding sources for repair of park amenities, as needed.			
Maintain a budget line for general park repairs.	A	2026	5
Objective 3: Consider starting a Park Commission to advise on park-related issues, spearhead larger clean up days in the spring, and support maintenance efforts throughout the year.			
Identify a champion to lead the Park Commission.	P	Ongoing	4
Post a public call for additional Park Commissioners with information about the group, meeting dates, time commitment, etc.	P	2028	4

Goal-Specific Action Plan

Action	Action Type	Year	Priority (1-5, 1 = Low, 5 = High)
Goal 5: Improve the water quality of the lake.			
Objective 1: Consider starting a “Friends of Belleville Lake” group, a partnership with a science or environmental club at the high school, or other volunteer organization to monitor water quality, champion educational efforts, and conduct clean up days.			
Identify a champion to lead the “Friends of Belleville Lake” group.	P	Ongoing	4
Post a public call for additional members with information about the group, meeting dates, time commitment, etc.	P	2030	4
Connect the group with resources, such as the Huron River Watershed Council and the Detroit River Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area (DR-WLE CWMA)	P	2030	3
Objective 2: Collaborate with the Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) to address some of the concerns and implement the ideas presented at the listening sessions in January 2025 including:			
• Educating youth on water stewardship. • Engaging local businesses to host shoreline clean up events. • Raising awareness of aquatic invasive species and mitigation techniques through signage and boat cleaning equipment at boat launches. • Promoting safe boating habits via signage that provides information about speed limits, shallow areas, lake hazards, and directionality. • Developing a centralized platform for water quality and health/safety information, including bacterial contamination and algal blooms. • Educate shoreline residents about best management practices via landscaping techniques and erosion control. • Educate residents on stormwater management and how it impacts the lake, as well as mitigation strategies such as use of native plantings, shoreline plantings, bioswales and rain gardens.			
Show support for and collaborate with the HRWC and the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds by sharing events, educational materials, and connecting these groups to interested groups in the city.	A	Ongoing	4
Recognize local businesses who host shoreline clean up events.	M	Ongoing	4
Install interpretive signage about aquatic invasive species and mitigation techniques.	M	2028	3
Install signage to remind boaters of safe boating habits	M	2028	3
Provide a link on the city's website to the HRWC's Chemistry and Flow Monitoring program and Chemistry Dashboard, and the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's MiEnviro Portal - BeachGuard website, and the Alliance of Downriver Water.	A	2026	2
Support the implementation of green stormwater management practices by residents, such as the use of native plants, implementation of rain gardens, and not using synthetic fertilizers or pesticides on lawns by leading by example in park and other city spaces when landscaping is updated	P	2027	3
Support the implementation of green stormwater management practices by residents by City Council making a resolution that these techniques are encouraged.	A	2027	3

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Resolution of adoption

Public notices

Meeting minutes

DNR Post-Completion Certs

Survey results



ACCOUNTS PAYABLE EXPENDITURES
COUNCIL MEETING ON
NOV 17 2025

DATE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	G. TOTAL
11/17/2025	\$51,478.58	EFT	\$51,478.58
11/17/2025	\$38,865.44	CHECKS	\$38,865.44

GRAND TOTAL

\$ 90,344.02

CHECK REGISTER FOR CITY OF BELLEVILLE

CHECK NUMBER 8605 - 8623

BANK CODE: CHA2 - CHASE NEW ACCOUNT - CHECK TYPE: PAPER CHECK

Check Date	Bank	Check	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
Bank CHA2 CHASE NEW ACCOUNT					
Check Type: Paper Check CHA2					
11/10/2025	CHA2	8605	BADGER METER	ORION CELLULAR LTE SERV UNIT	1,153.60
11/10/2025	CHA2	8606	BATCO, INC.	DPW TRAINING	300.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8607	BELLEVILLE AREA INDEPENDENT	ADVERTISING	612.50
11/10/2025	CHA2	8608	CARDMEMBER SERVICE	CITY CREDIT CARD BILL	11,927.05
11/10/2025	CHA2	8609	DEWOLF AND ASSOCIATES	TRAINING COURSES PD	495.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8610	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	GOAT SCULPTURES	1,094.24
11/10/2025	CHA2	8611	DTE ENERGY	STREET LIGHTING 9100-4050-3245	6,554.17
11/10/2025	CHA2	8612	DTE ENERGY	46785 DENTON RD 910006765127	1,036.43
11/10/2025	CHA2	8613	ELECTION SOURCE	ELECTION SUPPLIES-CLERK	586.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8614	HOWARD L SHIFMAN PC	LEGAL SERVICES THROUGH OCT 2025	165.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8615	MACQUEEN	FD - SUPPLIES & MAINT	560.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8616	MICHIGAN STATE FIREMEN'S ASSO	FD ASSOC DUES 2026	100.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8617	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CENTERS	DOT PHYSICAL	490.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8618	QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC	COVERAGE PERIOD 12/4/25 TO 3/3/26	512.31
11/10/2025	CHA2	8619	UNISTRUT MIDWEST	MAJOR/LOCAL ROADS - SUPPLIES/MAINTENANC	1,170.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8620	WAYNE COUNTY DEPT OF ENVIRONM	2025 JUDGMENT LEVY 2007 B COMPLETION BO	8,429.51
11/10/2025	CHA2	8621	WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER-M.H.T.	BELLE VILLA LAKE MOBILE HOME TAX OCT 20	440.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	8622	WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER-M.H.T.	BELLE VILLA MEADOWS OCT 2025	612.50
11/10/2025	CHA2	8623	WCA ASSESSING	APPRAISAL SERVICES OCT 2025	2,627.13
Total Paper Check:					38,865.44
CHA2 TOTALS:					
Total of 19 Checks:					38,865.44
Less 0 Void Checks:					0.00
Total of 19 Disbursements:					38,865.44

CHECK REGISTER FOR CITY OF BELLEVILLE

CHECK NUMBER 1552 - 1569

BANK CODE: CHA2 - CHASE NEW ACCOUNT - CHECK TYPE: EFT

Check Date	Bank	Check	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
Bank CHA2 CHASE NEW ACCOUNT					
Check Type: EFT Transfer CHA2					
11/10/2025	CHA2	1552(E)	BLUE-WATER SOLUTIONS, LLC	WATER METER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	6,199.96
11/10/2025	CHA2	1553(E)	CINTAS	DPW (EYEWASH STATION)	317.53
11/10/2025	CHA2	1554(E)	COMCAST	FD - INTERNET SERVICES 11/6 to 12/5/202	305.90
11/10/2025	CHA2	1555(E)	HENNESSEY ENGINEERS INC	85321 HORIZON PARK BANK STAB.	4,167.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	1558(E)	HYDROCORP	INSPECTION & REPORTING SERVICES OCT 202	432.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	1559(E)	MILLIMAN, INC.	GASB 75 & GASB 74	3,150.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	1560(E)	PLANTE AND MORAN PLLC	ACCOUNTING SERVICES RENDERED	11,324.50
11/10/2025	CHA2	1561(E)	QUILL CORPORATION	CITY HALL SUPPLIES & MAINT	162.55
11/10/2025	CHA2	1562(E)	STEVENS DISPOSAL & RECYCLING	NEW CITY HALL (60YD EXCHANGED) 330 CHAR	22,370.00
11/10/2025	CHA2	1563(E)	SUMPTER ACE HARDWARE	FD - PROPANE	133.53
11/10/2025	CHA2	1568(E)	TELNET WORLDWIDE	CITY PHONE SERVICES	675.61
11/10/2025	CHA2	1569(E)	VC3, INC	COMPUTER SUPPORT	2,240.00
Total EFT Transfer:					51,478.58
CHA2 TOTALS:					
Total of 12 Checks:					51,478.58
Less 0 Void Checks:					0.00
Total of 12 Disbursements:					51,478.58