

Summit Township

Recreation Plan

2013-2017 edition

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Chapter 1

Community Description

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

A priority of Summit Township is to develop a recreation plan which responds to the recreational needs and desires of its residents. Given that charge, this plan provides a clear picture of the recreation opportunities available to residents regardless of who provides them. This review includes nontraditional opportunities such as historic districts/structures and shopping opportunities as well as traditional parks and recreation facilities.

In addition to its rich network of aquatic features, Summit Township and its surroundings are home to a variety of communities, neighborhoods, and districts. The presence of trail corridors requires an intensive review of how that asset can be further integrated into the Township. With all those issues in mind, a sincere effort was spent in developing this recreation plan which represents the projected needs for recreation facilities and services during the early years of the 21st Century.

Location

Summit Township is located near the center of Jackson County, surrounding the southern two-thirds of the City of Jackson. The Vandercook Lake CDP (Census Designated Place) is located along the eastern border of the municipality and adjacent to the lake from which the name of the unincorporated settlement is derived (see Map 1, Appendix A). Summit Township is also bordered by Blackman Township to the north, the Townships of Leoni and Napoleon Township to the east, Columbia Township to the southeast, Liberty Township to the south, Hanover Township to the southwest, Spring Arbor Township to the west, and Sandstone Township to the northwest. A number of major roadways traverse the approximately thirty (30) square mile municipality: United States Highway 127 (freeway)/Meridian Road (US- 127), Brooklyn Road (M-50/BL-127), and Michigan Highway 60 (freeway) (M-60).

Jackson County is located in south-central Lower Michigan, close to the border with Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana. The Jackson Urbanized Area is located in the center of the County and covers much of Summit Township (see Map 1, Appendix A). The junction of I-94 and US-127 is located just north of the City of Jackson, earning the Area the nickname of “Crossroads of Michigan.” Those roads connect Jackson directly to Ann Arbor and Detroit to the east, Battle Creek and Kalamazoo to the west, and Lansing to the north.

A Brief Socioeconomic Summary

The composition of Summit Township's population has an effect upon its recreational needs. Pertinent demographic components are listed below along with a brief paragraph describing the local situation. Each component is described in greater detail in Appendix B of this document.

- × **Population History & Projections.** The 2010 population for Summit Township was 22,508 people. The Township's population increased significantly between 1930 and 1980, especially during the 1950's and 1960's. The population also increased between 1990 and 2010. Based upon this pattern, it is reasonable to expect that the population of Summit Township will range between 22,700 and 23,900 people in 2020 and 22,900 and 25,300 people in 2030. Approximately one-fifth (21.0%) of township residents (4,721 people) lived in the Vandercook Lake CDP (Census Designated Place) in 2012.
- × **Age & Gender of the Population.** Baby boomers (people aged 45 to 64 in 2010) and Generation X (people aged 25-44 in 2010) comprised approximately one half of the populations of Vandercook Lake (52.5%) and the rest of Summit Township (49.8%). Generation Y (people aged 10 to 24 in 2010) comprised approximately one fifth of the population of the CDP (20.0%) and the rest of the Township (19.0%). More than one-half of the residents of the Vandercook Lake CDP (51.8%) and the rest of the Township (52.8%) were female in 2010.
- × **Household & Family Composition.** Over two-thirds of households in the CDP (71.4%) and the rest of the Township (67.2%) were comprised of families in 2010. However, well over three-quarters of non-family households in Vandercook Lake (81.0%) and the rest of the Township (86.4%) were comprised of one person in 2010. Only a small portion (1.6%) of the Township's residents resided in group quarters in 2010 and none of them lived in the CDP.
- × **Racial & Ethnic Composition.** Race and ethnicity are not significant issues for recreation given that the vast majority of the residents of the Vandercook Lake CDP (95.3%) and the rest of the Township (88.1%) were white in 2010.
- × **Disabilities of Residents.** More than one-seventh (15.4%) Jackson County residents were disabled in some way in 2010.¹ Older residents were more apt to have a disability than their younger neighbors. People with ambulatory (mobility) difficulties also made up a greater percentage of those disabled as age increased.

¹ Information on disabilities was not available for the Vandercook Lake CDP or Summit Township

- × **Income.** The median income for all Summit Township households (\$52,559) was greater than the median for Vandercook Lake (\$44,153). The same is true for median family and non-family households. It should also be noted that the median incomes for non-family households were significantly less than those for family households.

The Health of Jackson County Residents^{2,3}

Almost one-third (30.9%) of Michigan residents were considered obese in 2010 (Centers for Disease Control) and the 10th most obese state in the United States in 2011 (Trust for America's Health).^{4,5} Increased physical activity and decreased sedentary behavior are associated with lower rates of obesity, and it reduces the risk for many of the diseases associated with obesity, such as diabetes and heart disease, according to the United States Surgeon General.⁶ These statistics point to a need for more active recreational opportunities in all communities. Those opportunities may include providing more walkable neighborhoods as well as the provision of actual recreational opportunities such as athletic fields (e.g., soccer, baseball, etc.) and courts (e.g., basketball, tennis, etc.).

The 2011 Jackson County Community Health Assessment indicates that nearly one-third (31.6%) of survey respondents reported being overweight and well over one-third (37.0%) reported being obese, which means that less than one-third (29.9%) of respondents reported a healthy weight.⁷ From 2008 to 2011, the percentage of those overweight decreased 5.8% and the percentage of those obese increased 4.7%, representing an undesirable trend. "Overweight and obesity substantially increase the risk for cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, hypertension, lipid disorders, stroke, gallbladder disease, osteoarthritis, sleep apnea, respiratory problems, psychological disorders, stress incontinence, and cancers of the endometrium, breast, prostate and colon," according to Promoting Healthy Weight in Michigan through Physical Ac-

² Information of health was not available for the Vandercook Lake CDP or Summit Township.

³ An earlier version of this section appeared in the 2008-2012 edition of this document and was adapted from text originally prepared for the current edition of the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan (see Appendix C).

⁴ Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (2012). Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/adult.html/#History>

⁵ Trust for America's Health (2011). Retrieved from <http://www.healthyamericans.org/report/88/>.

⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2010). *The Surgeon General's Vision for a Health and Fit Nation*. Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General.

⁷ Health Improvement Organization (2012). *Jackson County Community Health Assessment*. Publication pending.

tivity and Nutrition. A couple factors of particular relevance to community growth, development, and planning contribute to unhealthy weight, according to that report:⁸

- × “Inadequate community infrastructure limits the ability of people to be active. These include lack of accessible indoor and outdoor exercise facilities, neighborhood sidewalks, walking paths, and bicycle trails. Additionally, inclement weather, lack of adequate recreational opportunities, fear of unsafe neighborhoods, and unattractive/unpleasant local environments may prevent people from exercising.”
- × “Programs and policies are necessary to promote smart community growth and the establishment of urban and rural environments supportive of physical activity. Active community environments provide access to safe favorable conditions for physical activity and promote the development of social support networks that encourage activity.”

Promoting Healthy Weight in Michigan through Physical Activity and Nutrition recommends cooperation among state and local units of government and residents in the promotion of active environments, including the following actions.

1. “Develop walkable communities by widening and maintaining or building sidewalks, safe roadway crossings, and aesthetically pleasing areas.”
2. “Encourage bicycling by developing, maintaining, and promoting the use of bike paths.”
3. “Require [that] all urban planning and re-design incorporate the concepts of active community environments and [thereby] promote physical activity.”

The 2011 Jackson County Community Health Assessment indicates that slightly less than one-half (46.6%) of residents meet the guidelines for moderate physical activity (at least 5 times a week for at least 30 minutes) and slightly more than one-quarter (28.6%) meet the guidelines for vigorous physical activity (at least 3 times a week for at least 20 minutes). Overall, only slightly more than one-half (53.8%) of residents meet at least one of these guidelines (either moderate or vigorous physical activity). Therefore, almost one-half of the residents in Jackson County are not getting the recommended amount of physical activity.

⁸ Promoting Healthy Weight in Michigan through Physical Activity and Nutrition is part of a series entitled “Informing the Debate: Health Policy: Options for Michigan Policymakers,” published by Michigan State University’s Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) and Institute for Health Care Studies (IHS).

Chapter 2

Administrative Structure

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

Authorization

In response to identified recreation needs, the Summit Township Board formed the Recreation Planning Committee under the authority of Public Act 156 of 1917 (Recreation and Playgrounds). The Act:

- × authorizes “cities, villages, counties, townships and school districts to operate systems of public recreation and playgrounds” (emphasis added). It also allows those entities to:
 - × “operate a system of public recreation and playgrounds; acquire, equip and maintain land, buildings or other recreational facilities; employ a superintendent of recreation and assistants; [and] vote and expend funds for the operation of such system.”
 - × “operate such a system independently or they may cooperate in its conduct in any manner which they may mutually agree; or they may delegate the operation of the system to a recreation board created by any or all of them, and appropriate money, voted for this purpose, to such board.”
- × The act also allows park systems to operate on “(1) property under its custody and management; (2) other public property . . . ; [and] (3) private property, with the consent of the owners.”

PA 156 of 1917 may be viewed online at:

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(ebmra5bwaifwqzgj2orpnw\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-Act-156-of-1917](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(ebmra5bwaifwqzgj2orpnw))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-Act-156-of-1917)

Organizational Structure

The Recreation Planning Committee is charged with producing this recreation plan and advising the Township Board on recreation issues and grant opportunities. However, the Summit Township Board maintains final authority concerning local recreation issues. Staff and consultants advise the Township during the development of recreation plan updates and amendments as well as on grant applications and other recreation issues. The Township may also rely on organized volunteer labor for specific projects on an as-needed basis.

Organizational Chart



Membership on the Recreation Planning Committee consists of four township residents as well as liaisons from the Township’s Board and Planning Commission. The Township’s Supervisor, Clerk, and Treasurer, in addition to four trustees, comprise the Board. The Township’s Zoning Administrator is the primary staff person on recreation issues. Region 2 Planning Commission staff also advises the Township when requested. Summit Township may utilize volunteers for specific recreation projects.

Sources of Funding

Summit Township identifies several potential sources of revenue for recreation:

- × general tax fund dollars;
- × grants awarded for specific projects; and
- × donations from the general citizenry and philanthropic organizations.

General tax fund dollars are used for recreation, including the cost of producing this document. The Township may solicit grants for the acquisition of parkland and the development of a park or recreational facility (e.g., trails, playgrounds, picnic shelters, sports facilities, etc.). Donations to be used at the discretion of the Township or for a specific facility or program will also be accepted. A portion of the local match required of most grants may also come from the general fund or donations. Grants for parks and recreational facilities are likely to come from several sources:

- × **The Michigan Department of Natural Resources**
 - × The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
 - × The Land and Water Conservation Fund¹
- × **The Michigan Department of Transportation**
 - × Michigan Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)¹
- × **The Jackson County Road Commission**
 - × The 1% annual allocation of state transportation (Act 51) fund for non-motorized facilities.

Parks and Recreation Budgeting

Summit Township currently owns some trails, but it does not own, staff, or maintain any other recreation facilities.² Consequently, the need for full-time recreation staff is not anticipated. The Township currently contracts with the City of Jackson for trails maintenance. As maintenance responsibilities increase with the development of the trail system, the Township will continue to contract with the City, a private company, or the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Commission for trail maintenance.

Relationships with Other Public Agencies

Summit Township is not the only supplier of parks and recreational opportunities to its residents.

Schools

Vandercook Lake Public Schools serve a major population center within the Township (i.e., the Vandercook Lake CDP) and Jackson Public Schools also serve many school-aged residents (see Map 2, Appendix A). Hanover-Horton Schools, the Western School District, and East Jackson Community Schools also serve some students living along the perimeter of the Township. The Jackson County Intermediate School District (which includes Vandercook Lake and Jackson Public Schools) provides educational services to residents and local school districts. Please refer to Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of the recreational facilities and programs provided by schools.

¹ This is a Federal program administered locally by the State of Michigan.

² Summit Township is responsible for maintaining all of the roadside trails listed in Table 3-8.

Local, County, State, and Private Parks and Recreation Facilities

Jackson County and the City of Jackson are major recreation providers in and around Summit Township. Some of the nearby townships and villages also maintain parks. The State of Michigan provides a variety of recreational facilities as well in the form of nearby state game, wildlife, and recreation areas; state historic parks; and state parks throughout the State (although none of those facilities are located in the study area). A variety of private entrepreneurs and quasi-public agencies also provide recreation facilities and programs in and around Summit Township. Recreational programs take place in many of the facilities listed above. Those programs are sponsored by a variety of public, quasi-public, and private boosters. Please refer to Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of recreation facilities in the Summit Township Area.

Chapter 3

Recreation and Resource Inventories

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

Recreation Inventory

In order to plan for future parks and recreation facilities it is important to prepare a complete inventory of existing resources and facilities. The following inventory is comprised of all known parks and recreation facilities and programs available in Summit Township, not just those owned and managed by the Township. The parks, facilities, and programs were identified through local knowledge and review of current and historic documents and maps.

Park Classifications and Standards

It is also important to be able classify parks and recreation facilities in order to identify the need for additional parkland and recreation facilities in Summit Township. Park systems are comprised of several types of parks:

- × **Mini-Parks** — Small parks (less than an acre) which address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs.
- × **Neighborhood Parks** — Informal active and/or passive recreation parks which serve as the focus of the neighborhood; this park type also serves as a mini-park for the area immediately adjacent to the facility.
- × **Community Parks** — Parks which serve a broader focus than a neighborhood and may also preserve a unique landscape or open space; this park type also serves as a neighborhood park for the area immediately adjacent to the facility.
- × **Regional Parks** — Parks which serve the entire county as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces; this park type also serves as a community park for the area surrounding the facility.
- × **Connector Trails** — Linear parks which serve as non-motorized connectors among neighborhoods, business areas, parks, schools, and other destinations.

Parks and Recreation Facilities in Summit Township

Parks and recreation facilities found in Summit Township are provided by Jackson County, Vandercook Lake Public Schools, and a variety of private and quasi-public entities as well as the Township.

Summit Township Recreation Facilities

Summit Township does not own or maintain any parkland. The Township, however, does maintain the Probert Road Trail, a connector trail which extends eastward from the bike path along Francis Street into Ella Sharp Park (please see the following table and the Map 4, Appendix A).

Township Recreation Facilities

Key	Name	Description	BFA ¹
A	Probert Road Trail	Along the north side of Probert Road, extending from Ella Sharp Park (City of Jackson) eastward to Francis Street.	4

× **Accessibility** — It is important that the trail be accessible to people with disabilities. After all, an estimated one-sixth of township residents were disabled in some way during 2006-2010 and over one quarter (26%) of disabled residents 65 years of age or older had an ambulatory (mobility) difficulty. Accordingly, the trail was rated according to its level of barrier free access. The number listed under the BFA column in the above table equates to the barrier-free rating listed in the adjacent table.

Barrier-Free Access (BFA) Analysis

Key	Description
1 =	None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
2 =	Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
3 =	Most of the facilities/park area meet accessibility guidelines
4 =	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines
5 =	The entire park was developed/renovated utilizing universal design

× **Past Grants** — The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has awarded Summit Township no recreation grants.

¹ The analysis of barrier free access was provided by Summit Township, based upon its knowledge of the parks and understanding of barrier-free access. A professional analysis may produce different results.

Other Public Parks

Although Summit Township does not own or maintain any parkland, Vandercook Lake County Park —a community park— is located within the municipality as is much of Sparks Foundation (Cascades) County Park —a regional park— (please see the following table and the Map 3, Appendix A). The City of Jackson’s Ella Sharp Park — a 533 acre regional park— also borders the Township. Given the 22,508 residents in 2010 and the estimated population of 22,706-23,886 people in 2020, the parkland listed above more than satisfies the minimum acreage recommended by the National Recreation and Park Association.²

Other Public Parks in Summit Township

Key	Name	Description
B	Sparks Foundation County (Cascades) Park	Water access, an illuminated waterfall, golf courses, a banquet facility, a band shell, a fishing pier, green space, picnic areas, a basketball court, playground structures, a handicap accessible urban fishery; and modern restrooms and portable toilets – 442.8 acres
C	Vandercook Lake County Park	Water access, a swimming area, a boat launch; green space, a picnic area, ball diamonds, a playground area, kayak rental, and restrooms – 20.7 acres

Other Connector Trails

Various other trails also traverse Summit Township (please see the following table and the Map 4, Appendix A). For example, the Intercity Trail and Falling Water Trail corridor connect the City of Jackson with the Village of Concord, passing through Summit Township and the community of Spring Arbor. That non-motorized corridor will also provide access to other trails proposed for Jackson County.

² 10 acres per 1,000 population according to: http://www.prm.nau.edu/prm423/recreation_standards.htm

Other Connector Trails in Summit Township

Key	Name	Description
D	Intercity Trail	The trail extends southeastward into the Township from Jackson to Weatherwax Road.
E	Falling Water Trail	An extension of the Intercity Trail, extending from Weatherwax Road southeast to Concord.
F	Weatherwax Road Trail	A parallel trail along the western edge of the road, extending from the Intercity Trail to Horton Road.
G	Spring Arbor Road Trail	A parallel trail along the northern side of the road, extending from east of Robinson Road (Lumen Christi) to south of Morrell Road (Pollys).
H	High Street Trail	A parallel trail along the southern side of the street (into Sparks Foundation County Park), extending from Spring Arbor Road to the Cascades Park Trail System (City of Jackson).
I	Francis Street Bike Lanes	Paved shoulders, extending between South Street and McDevitt Road.
J	South Street Bike Lanes	Paved shoulders, extending between Francis Street and M-50 (Cooper St//Brooklyn Rd.).
K	McDevitt Avenue Bike Lanes	Paved shoulders, extending between Francis Street and Old McDevitt Road, and a four (4) foot wide sidewalk, extending between Maurice Avenue and Old McDevitt Road, on the north side of the roadway.

Local Schools

Schools also provide a variety of recreational facilities (please see the following table and the Map 3, Appendix A). For example, elementary schools provide numerous playgrounds aimed at different age groups and sports fields. Middle and high schools provide football fields, ball diamonds and tennis courts. Elementary, middle, and high schools provide gymnasiums. Because of those facilities, schools generally function as community parks.

Vandercook Lake Public Schools serve students living in the CDP and all of its facilities are located in the unincorporated settlement. Jackson Public Schools serves much of the Township and one of its elementary schools is located within the municipality. Several private schools are also located in the municipality.

Schools in Summit Township

Key	Name	District	Facilities
L	Vandercook High	Vandercook Lake PS	Football fields, track, ball fields, and tennis & basketball courts – 21 acres.
M	Townsend Elementary	Vandercook Lake PS	Ball fields, basketball court, and play equipment – 18 acres.
N	Dibble Elementary	Jackson PS	Basketball court, ball field, picnic table, and play equipment – 4.5 acres.
O	Lumen Christi High	Private	Football field, tennis courts, track, softball & baseball fields, soccer fields, and basketball court – 43.5 acres.
P	Jackson Christian Elementary	Private	Ball field, basketball court, soccer fields, and play equipment – 8 acres.
Q	Jackson Christian High	Private	Soccer field – 10 acres.
R	Paragon Charter Academy	Private	Basketball court, soccer field and playground equipment.

Quasi-Public and Private Recreation Facilities

A number of quasi-public and private entities also maintain recreational facilities in Summit Township (please see the following table and the Map 3, Appendix A). For example, the Township is home to the AMF Summit Lanes and the Dahlem Center, which contains an environmental education center. Facilities provided by other quasi-public and private entities also have some recreational value. For instance, the Jackson District Library (JDL) provides access to books, films, and a variety of enrichment programs. The JDL’s Summit Branch is located in Vandercook Lake (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more detail on JDL facilities).

Other Recreation Facilities³

Key	Name	Facilities
S	AMF Summit Lanes	Bowling lanes, billiards, and child care – 7.5 acres.
T	Dahlem Center	Nature and environmental education center – 200 acres.
U	Grande Golf Club	18-hole course - 400 acres.
V	Jackson Country Club	27-hole course, pool, tennis courts, and fitness center – 550 acres.
W	Hickory Hills Golf Club	36-hole course and cross-country skiing – 250 acres.

Parks and Recreation Facilities in the Surrounding Area

Parks and recreation facilities provided by a number of public, quasi-public, and private institutions are also located in the surrounding area.

Other Municipal and County Parks

Some of the surrounding municipalities also provide parks to their residents (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more facilities).

- × **City of Jackson** — the City maintains a total of 27 parks (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more detail).
- × **Blackman Township** — Rod Mills Memorial Park
- × **Hanover Township** — Bibbins Lake Park, Perrin Park, Veteran’s Ball Field
- × **Leoni Township** — Peter Alex Ball Park, Leoni Community Park, Bender Park, and a public boat launch
- × **Napoleon Township** — Napoleon Village Park, Napoleon Lions Park, and girls’ softball field
- × **Spring Arbor Township** — Fritz Gallagher Park and Harmony Park
- × **County of Jackson** — the County maintains another 14 parks outside of the Township (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more detail).

³ Sparks Foundation County (Cascades) Park also contains the 9-hole Cascades Short Course and driving range and the 18- hole Championship Golf Course.

Other Public School Districts

Vandercook Lake Public Schools is the only district located entirely within Summit Township and all of its facilities are located in the Vandercook Lake CDP (Census Designated Place). Although Jackson Public Schools serves much of the Township, most of its schools are located in the City of Jackson. Several other public school districts also serve small portions of Summit Township although they maintain no facilities in the municipality (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more school districts).

- × **Jackson Public Schools** — covers the City of Jackson and portions of Blackman, Liberty, Napoleon, and Summit Townships. The district, maintains the following facilities outside of the Township:
 - × Bennett Elementary
 - × Cascades Elementary
 - × Dibble Elementary
 - × Frost Elementary
 - × Hunt Elementary
 - × McCulloch Academy
 - × Northeast Elementary
 - × Sharp Park Academy
 - × Middle School at Parkside
 - × Jackson High
 - × T. A. Wilson Academy
- × **East Jackson Community Schools** —covers portions of Blackman, Leoni, Summit, and Waterloo Townships. The district maintains the following facilities outside of the Township:
 - × Bertha Robinson Elementary
 - × Memorial Elementary
 - × East Jackson Middle-High
- × **Hanover-Horton School District** — covers the Village of Hanover and portions of Hanover, Liberty, Pulaski, Spring Arbor and Summit Townships. The district maintains the following facilities outside of the Township:
 - × Hanover-Horton Elementary
 - × Hanover-Horton Middle
 - × Hanover-Horton High
- × **Western School District** — covers the Village of Parma and portions of Concord, Parma, Sandstone, Spring Arbor and Summit Townships. The district maintains the following facilities outside of the Township:
 - × Bean Elementary
 - × Parma Elementary
 - × Warner Elementary
 - × Western Middle
 - × Western High
 - × Woodville Comm. Center

Local Colleges

There are several local colleges in the surrounding area. Jackson Community College's main campus is located in Summit Township. Baker College's local campus is located in Blackman Township. Finally, Spring Arbor University's main campus is located in the unincorporated village of Spring Arbor.

Many colleges provide access to collegiate sports and athletic facilities. Township residents can also avail themselves of the other recreational facilities and programs hosted by those institutions. For example, The Potter Center (Jackson Community College) "is comprised of the most versatile and complete performing arts complex in the area."⁴ The Ganton Gallery (Spring Arbor University) "is one of the largest, single-room galleries in Michigan."⁵

State Parks

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), a significant provider of regional parks and recreation facilities, maintains parkland which extends into Jackson County (please see the [City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan](#) for a full listing of state recreation facilities in Jackson County). For example, Walter J Hayes State Park—which extends into Norvell Township— provides opportunities for boating, fishing, picnicking, metal detecting, playing (i.e., playgrounds), swimming, and camping. The Waterloo Recreation Area—which extends into the townships of Grass Lake, Leoni, and Waterloo— provides opportunities for cross-county skiing, snowmobiling, boating, fishing, hiking, mountain biking, swimming, horseback riding, picnicking, playing (i.e., playgrounds), and camping. The Sharonville State Game Area—which extends into the townships of Grass Lake and Norvell— provide opportunities for hunting. Finally, the DNR also maintains eight boat launches in Jackson County.

Jackson County Fairground

The Jackson County Fair is held every August in the City of Jackson. However, it is important to note that the Fairground also hosts other special events throughout the year, including the annual 'Nite Lights at the Fairgrounds.'

⁴ <http://www.jccmi.edu/events/pottercenter/theatres.htm>

⁵ http://www.arbor.edu/edu_detail.aspx?id=37930

Golf Courses

In addition to the public courses associated with the Ella Sharp and Sparks Foundation (Cascades) County Parks, a variety of private courses are available to Summit Township residents. Many of those courses are open to the general public (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for a complete listing of golf courses in Jackson County).

Recreation and Sport Centers

The YMCA of Jackson provides a variety of sports and recreational activities. Allskate Fun Center and Optimist Ice Arena are also located in the City of Jackson. Finally, Airport Lanes, and Suburban Bowling Lanes provide opportunities for bowling.

Public and Private Facilities with Recreational Benefits

Various other facilities in the surrounding area (provided publicly and privately) also have recreational benefits:

- × **Cemeteries** — Cemeteries provide important green space. They can also be used as safe places to walk/exercise and contemplate nature (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for a listing of cemeteries in Jackson County).
- × **Sidewalks** — Existing sidewalks are used for exercise as well as transportation and may even connect with non-motorized trails.
- × **Shopping and Eating** — Many people enjoy shopping and going out to eat. Consequently, nearby local downtowns and other commercial districts provide recreation because of their restaurants and/or shops (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more on shopping and eating opportunities in Jackson County).

Resource Inventory

In addition to recreation facilities, Summit Township and the surrounding area is also home to a wide variety of cultural and natural resources. The Township is graced with a slightly rolling landscape, including some hills, low broad valleys, the Grand River and some of its tributaries, and a number of lakes and wetlands. It also has access to major transportation routes and has become increasingly urbanized. This type of landscape is amenable to the development of trails.

Recreation Events and Programs

Summit Township does not maintain any recreation programming or provide any events. However, local schools, Jackson County, and the City of Jackson do actively provide recreation programming and host events. It should also be pointed out that many of the recreation providers listed above also provide recreational programs. For example, the various bowling alleys also host bowling leagues.

Local Schools

Schools are the primary providers of recreation facilities and programs for children. Sporting teams, band programs, and school plays provide recreational opportunities for the entire community.

- × Vandercook High School is a member of the *Cascade Conference*. The *Jayhawks* regularly compete against Addison, East Jackson, Grass Lake, Hanover-Horton, Manchester, Michigan Center, and Napoleon.
- × Jackson Lumen Christi and Jackson High Schools are members of the *Capital Area Activities Conference*. The *Titans* and the *Vikings* regularly compete against Charlotte, Dewitt, East Lansing, Fowlerville, Grand Ledge, Haslett, Holt, Ionia, Jackson Northwest, Lake Odessa, Lakewood, Lansing Catholic, Lansing Everett, Lansing Sexton, Lansing Waverly, Mason, Okemos, St. Johns, and Williamston.
- × Jackson Christian High School is a member of the *Southern Central Athletic Association*. The *Royals* regularly compete against Burr Oak, Camden-Frontier, Climax-Scotts, Litchfield, North Adams-Jerome, Pittsford, Tekonsha, and Waldron.

Jackson County

The Sparks Foundation County (Cascades Falls) Park —located in Summit Township and the City of Jackson— hosts a variety of events (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more detail). The Jackson County Parks Association also hosts a variety of work-bees and recreational events in the various parks.

City of Jackson

The City of Jackson provides a wide variety of recreation programming. Those programs are available to Township residents who also reside in the Jackson Public School District (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more detail on programs).

Clubs and Organizations

There are a variety of clubs and organizations that organize recreational activities. For example, the Jackson Fitness Council organizes a variety of events aimed at active living. The Grand River Environmental Action Team (GREAT) hosts canoeing and kayaking excursions. The Cascades Cycling Club and a running club are also active in the area. The Dahlem Conservancy provides guided nature hikes on the grounds of the Dahlem Center. Finally, the Jackson County Convention and Visitors Bureau (JCCVB) promotes birding birdsinjackson.com which identifies Sparks Foundation County (Cascades) Park and Ella Sharp Park as prime bird watching locations.

Historical Sites

Historical sites are important cultural and recreational resources.

State and/or National Registers

Summit Township hosts two sites on Michigan’s register of state historic sites.

National and State Historical Sites

Structure	Address/Locion	Registers*		
		NR	SR	HM
McCain School	3517 McCain Road		✓	✓
Thomas Wilson House	3600 Vrooman Road		✓	

*NR = National Register ; SR = State Register; AND HM = Historic Marker

A total of 56 other sites are located throughout Jackson County, many within the City of Jackson. Michigan’s State Historic Preservation Office describes each site through its ‘Historic Sites Online’ database.⁶

⁶ <http://www.mcqi.state.mi.us/hso/advancesearch.asp>

City of Jackson Historic Districts

The Under the Oaks Neighborhood in nearby Jackson is a locally designated historic district. The City has also designated 42 other local historic districts. The City's Historic Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 13 of the City Code) describes each of the sites.

Transportation

Jackson County and Summit Township share a well-connected transportation system. Interstate 94 (I-94) traverses the County from east-to-west, north of the Township. I-94 provides access to the major metropolitan areas of Chicago and Detroit. United States Highway 127 (US-127) runs along the eastern edge of the Township. It provides access to the Lansing area and other points north as well as Adrian and Toledo to the south. A couple of Michigan highways (i.e., M-50/BL-127 and M-60), Horton/South Jackson Road, Francis Street, McDevitt Road, Spring Arbor Road, and a variety of other county primary roads provide access to those major roadways. The Francis Street bus line also extends into the Township as far south as Clark Street, east of Ella Sharp Park. The InterCity Trail and Falling Water Trail provide an important non-motorized corridor connecting the City of Jackson to the Village of Concord, with plans statewide to incorporate the facilities into a trail connecting Port Huron (Lake Huron) to South Haven (Lake Michigan).⁷

Water Resources

Many wetland areas and a number of lakes are located within Summit Township, the largest of which are Browns and Vandercook Lakes (see Map 5, Appendix A). This drainage system generally flows in a northerly direction into the Grand River and its tributaries. The northwest portion of the Township drains into Sandstone Creek via the McCain Drain while the remainder drains into the Grand River via the Mercedes and Ferguson Drains.

Summit Township is located entirely within the Upper Grand River Watershed, which eventually drains into Lake Michigan. However, other watersheds are located to the south of the Township within the study area (see Map 4, Appendix A). The River Raisin Watershed, located to the southeast, eventually drains into Lake Erie. The Kalamazoo River Watershed, located to the southwest, eventually drains into Lake Michigan.

⁷ See Route #1 proposed in the [Great Lake-To-Lake Trails](#) brochure.

Topography and Soils

Elevations of land in Summit Township fluctuate 172 feet in height. The low point of 926 feet above sea level is located to the northeast along the border with the City of Jackson. The high point of 1,098 feet above sea level is located near the southwest corner of the Township. Low areas throughout the Township are easy to identify as they are dominated by wetlands and are unsuitable for development.

The types of soils found in Jackson County are important to its development. For example, while agricultural land remains in Summit Township, only a small portion of the proposed agricultural preservation extends into the southwest corner of the municipality (see Map 6, Appendix A). However, a possible network of greenways which “generally follows wetland areas, drainage ways, and forested lands” is located in Summit Township (please see the City of Jackson and Jackson County Recreation Plan for more information on agricultural preservation areas and greenways).

Land Use

The ‘2025 Jackson County Land Use Plan’ map contained in the 2000-2025 edition of the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan shows a mix of residential, commercial, and industrial land uses within the City of Jackson, Summit Township, and the other surrounding townships, extending along major thoroughfares.(see Map 7, Appendix A). The map also shows a mix of residential and commercial uses in and around the County’s various villages and some of its lakes. Small concentrations (i.e., nodes) of industrial development are recognized along some of the County’s major roads. The rest of the County will continue to be primarily agricultural.

Chapter 4

Descriptions of the Planning and Public Input Processes

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

Description of the Planning Process

The steps utilized to develop the 2013-2017 edition of the Summit Township Recreation Plan included the following:

1. Summit Township recognized the need to update the Recreation Plan.
2. Summit Township administration contracted with Region 2 Planning Commission staff to facilitate the development of the 2008-2012 edition of the Plan in the **summer of 2012**.
3. Region 2 staff updated the community description; administrative structure; and recreation and resource inventories within the Plan, including new mapping, and reported the findings to the Recreation Planning Committee.
4. The Recreation Planning Committee conducted an online recreation survey in **the fall of 2012**.
5. The Recreation Planning Committee utilized the input collected from the various public involvement efforts and the information produced by Region 2 staff to develop the goals and objectives and action program included in the Plan.
6. The Recreation Planning Committee provided the plan for public review from **January 15th** through **February 15th** of **2013** and held a public hearing on **February 18, 2013**. The Plan was approved by the Committee and recommended for adoption by the Township Board after the public hearing was closed.
7. The Summit Township Board of Trustees adopted the Plan on **March 26, 2013**.

Description of the Public Input Process

A variety of methods were employed to incorporate public input into the development of this recreation plan:

Recreation Survey

An online recreation survey was conducted during **fall of 2012** at www.summittwp.com (please see Appendix E). Despite efforts to publicize the opportunity, only 17 people responded to the survey. The survey results include:

1. ***How do you rate the non-motorized trail system extending throughout Summit Township?***

17.6% Excellent	47.1% Good	17.6% Fair	5.9% Poor	11.8% No Response
-----------------	------------	------------	-----------	-------------------
2. ***How many times have you used the trail system in the last year?***

5.9% None	58.5% 1-10	0.0% 11-20	29.4% +20	5.9% No Response
-----------	------------	------------	-----------	------------------
3. ***Do you support the expansion/improvement of the trail system within Summit Township?***

29.4% Yes 64.7% No 5.9% No Response

If yes, would you be willing to financially support the expansion/improvement and maintenance of the system?

41.2% Yes 41.2% No 17.6% No Response

4. ***Which trails and bike lanes do you use?***

Independent Trails

13.2% Inter City Trails 28.9% Falling Water Trail

Roadside Trails

2.6% Probert Rd Trail 21.2% Weatherwax Rd Trail 10.5% Spring Arbor Rd Trail 0.0% High St Trail

Bike Lanes

0.0% South St 7.9% Old McDevitt Lanes 2.6% Francis to Ella Sharp Park

Other

2.6% "other this"

5. ***Where would you like to see the trail system expanded?***

"Cascades"

"Down the whole of mcdevitt from shell to buddies"

"More places inside the township"

"Areas that reach more of the people who use the trail"

"S Jackson/Horton Rd neighborhoods to Falling Water"

"This is question answer 5"

"Question 5"

"Need to hook into Cascades area- Down Kibby Road"

"Yes please"

"None"

6. ***Are there other recreation facilities you would like to see within Summit Township? If yes, please list.***

"Scuba Diving"

"something for youth"

"Place to play pool"

"tennis"

"Disc Golf"

"Fishing"

"Scuba Diving and pet training opportunities"

"This is question answer 6"

"Question 6"

"other recreation facilities"

It should be noted that surveys conducted during the summers of 2002 and 2007 establish solid support for the development of a trail system throughout Summit Township as well as other facilities (please see the 2008-2012 edition of this plan).

Plan Review Meeting (Open House)

An open house for Summit Township residents and business owners was held on **January, 14, 2013** at the Township Hall at 7:00 pm (please see Appendix E). Potential projects suggested during the open house consisted of suggestions for improving the trail system:

- × “To make a connection from Ferguson Corners to the City on Horton Road using either the north, south or a combination of both sides,” and
- × “Make a connection to the Falling Waters Trail by way of Ridgeway from the dead end to Lowe Road to Horton Road.”

Publicizing the Planning Effort

The following efforts were made to publicize the process for updating the recreation plan (see Appendix E):

- × **September 19, 2012** and **September 20, 2012** interviews with Jim Dunn, Township Supervisor, on JTV (cable television) and WKHM (AM radio), respectively, regarding the survey;
- × **September 30, 2012** (survey), **January 3, 2013** (open house), and **January 17, 2013** (public hearing) ads in the Jackson Citizen Patriot, respectively;
- × **October 9, 2012** (survey), **January 8, 2013** (open house), and **January 22, 2013** (public hearing) ads in the Brooklyn Exponent, respectively;
- × **October 4, 2012**, article in the Jackson Citizen Patriot;
- × **December 18, 2012** article in the Brooklyn Exponent; and.
- × **January 2013** flyers on the open house and one month review period distributed by Summit Township.

One Month Review Period

The recreation plan was submitted for a one-month public comment period which began on **January 15, 2013** and ended on **February 15, 2013** (please see Appendix E). The plan was available for review in the Summit Township Office and the Summit Branch of the Jackson District Library as well as online at www.summittwp.com. No ideas were generated during the review period.

Letters of Transmittal

Letters of transmittal were sent to the County of Jackson and the Region 2 Planning Commission (R2PC) alerting those bodies of the recreation planning effort (please see Appendix E).

Committee Meetings

All meetings of Summit Township’s Recreation Planning Committee are open to the public.

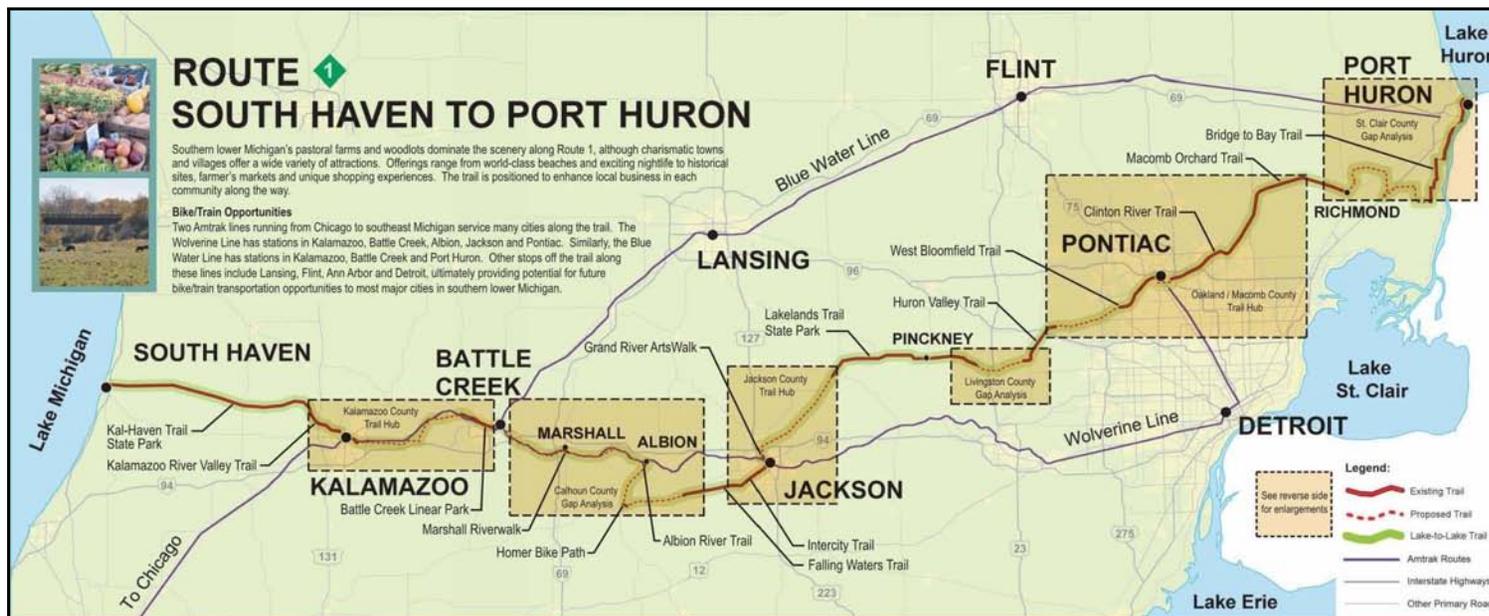
Public Hearing and Plan Approval

A public hearing on the recreation plan was held on **February 18, 2013** at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall, during a regular meeting of the Recreation Planning Committee (please see Appendix E). A Resolution of Approval was then passed by the Committee (please see Appendix E). The Township’s Board of Trustees passed a Resolution of Adoption on **March 26, 2013** at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall, during a regular meeting (please see Appendix E).

Other Planning Efforts

Comprehensive and other recent planning efforts in each of the member units of local government often included a recreation component:¹

Route #1 of The Great Lake-To-Lake Trails — The Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance’s “The Great Lake-To-Lake Trails” project was created in 2009 to accelerate the development of five cross-state trails, including Route #1, from South Haven to Port Huron



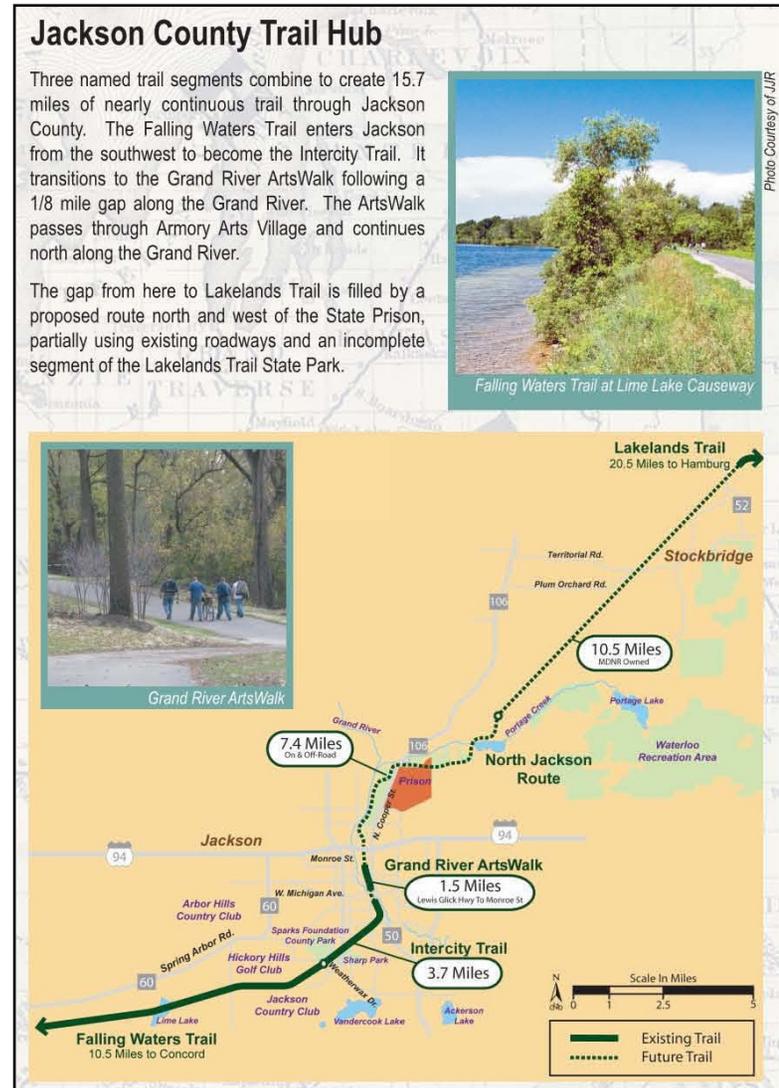
¹ Each of these planning efforts included a public involvement component.

Route #1 is proposed to traverse southern Lower Michigan, linking Greater Jackson with the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo metropolitan areas to the west and the northern reaches of Metropolitan Detroit to the east. The trail will also intersect with two Amtrak routes, creating several multimodal (i.e., pedestrians, bicyclists, and trains) recreation opportunities. Locally, Route #1 will utilize Jackson County’s Falling Waters Trail and the City of Jackson’s Intercity Trail and Grand River ArtsWalk.²

Jackson County Regional Trailway Study— Summit Township; the parks departments of Jackson County and the City of Jackson; the townships of Blackman and Spring Arbor; the Falling Waters Trail Committee; and the Lakelands Trail effort joined together in 2002 to develop the Jackson County Regional Trailway Study (please see Map A). Upon completion of background information and the development of a concept plan, public meetings were held at Blackman Township Hall, Summit Township Hall, and Jackson City Hall to present the materials and solicit public comment. Several other public meetings were also held at Jackson City Hall (2) and the Summit Township Hall to present the revisions made to the concept plan after the first series of meetings. A preliminary master plan was based upon the background information, the concept plan, and the feedback gained from the public forum. The final trailways study contains the following elements (organized to accommodate Route #1 of the Great Lake-To-Lake Trails):³

² The images concerning the Great Lake-to-Lake Trails were taken from a flyer published by the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance in January 2011.

³ Please refer the trail map in Appendix A as well as the full study for greater detail.



- × Route #1 Corridor:
 - Lakelands Trail (Extension) – 15.4 mi.
 - Henrietta Loop – 19.9 mi.
 - Portage Lake Trail – 6.5 mi.
 - Blackman Township Loop (Partial) – 8.0 mi.
 - Intercity Trail – 7.5 mi.
 - Falling Waters Trail – 11.5 mi.
- × Other trail corridors:
 - North Trail – 7.6 mi.
 - Airport Trail – 5.5 mi.
 - Hanover Trail – 8.9 mi.
 - Summit Township Loop – 7.2 mi.
 - Ella Sharp Park Trail and Cascades Park – 4.4 mi.
 - South Trail – 19.5 mi.
 - Connection to Existing Trail on Page Avenue – 0.3 mi.

Significant segments of Route #1 of The Great Lake to Lake Trails traversing Jackson County are complete. For example, the majority of the Intercity Trail was already in place at the time the Jackson County Regional Trailway Study was released (although more construction is required); the Grand River ArtsWalk, a 1½ mile extension of the Intercity Trail to the north city limits, has since been completed. A 10½ mile section of the Falling Waters Trail was also completed from the east village limits of Concord to Weatherwax Road.

Other Trail Efforts — The following recreation plans include proposed projects designed to supplement the basic framework provided by the Study:⁴

- × City of Jackson & Jackson County Joint Recreation Plan — City and County of Jackson
- × Heart of the Lakes Area Recreation Plan — Village of Brooklyn and the townships of Columbia, Napoleon, and Norvell
- × Grass Lake Area Recreation Plan — Grass Lake Township and the Village of Grass Lake
- × Leoni Township Recreation Plan — Leoni Township
- × Village of Concord Recreation Plan — Village of Concord

The other documents listed above were first catalogued in the 2010-2014 edition of the City of Jackson & Jackson County Joint Recreation Plan, an interim effort at updating the Jackson County Regional Trailway Study. The Region 2 Planning Commission — through its regional transportation program — is currently coordinating the development of the Jackson County Non-motorized Transportation Plan. The new plan will synthesize the various local and state trails efforts into a single document, replacing the original study. The Summit Township Recreation Plan contains projects that will connect its neighborhoods to the trails identified in the Jackson County Regional Trailway Study as well as Route #1 of The Great Lake-To-Lake Trails.

⁴ Please see the individual recreation plans for greater detail.

Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan — “The purpose of [the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan] is to establish policies to guide the future growth and development of the Jackson Community. These policies, established at the community-wide level, are intended to assist local units of government, including the County’s villages, townships, and the City of Jackson as they develop, amend, and implement their community plans, and zoning ordinances.” A total of 16 goals and their associated policies and actions were developed. Several of those goals had a recreation component (please see Appendix B for a full listing of the policies and actions associated with the goals):

- × Create a Walkable Community
- × Historic Preservation
- × Culture
- × Preservation of Open Space

2008-2012 edition of the Summit Township Recreation Plan — In addition to the development of a non-motorized transportation system, a goal of the previous edition of this document was:

“Collaborate with and facilitate the efforts of other providers to develop trails and other new recreation facilities which will be available to Township residents such as, but not limited to:

- × Playgrounds,
- × Natural areas, and
- × Picnic areas.”

This goal was based upon surveys conducted during the summers of 2002 and 2007 which established solid support for the development of other recreation facilities as well as a trail system (please see the 2008-2012 edition of this plan).

Chapter 5
Goals and Objectives
Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

Goals and Objectives

The following goals were developed for the recreation plan:

Goal #1

Continue to develop and augment the proposed county-wide trail system as it traverses Summit Township (please see Appendix A).

Goal #2

Collaborate with and facilitate the efforts of other providers to develop trails and other new recreation facilities which will be available to Township residents such as, but not limited to:

- × Playgrounds,
- × Natural areas, and
- × Picnic areas.

Background Information

Input into developing the goals and objectives listed above included:

- × existing recreation facilities available to Summit Township residents, regardless of the provider;
- × the health, age, and disabilities of Township residents;
- × possible funding and acquisition opportunities for land and facilities;
- × responses from Township recreation survey conducted in the fall of 2012 and the recreation open house held in the winter of 2013; and
- × Route #1 (South Haven to Port Huron) of the proposed Great Lake-To-Lake Trails; the countywide trail network proposed in the Jackson County Regional Trailway Study and expanded upon in the City of Jackson & Jackson County Joint Recreation Plan and other local recreation plans; and the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan.

Summit Township is blessed with an abundance of recreation facilities within its boundaries and the surrounding area (please see Chapter 3). For example, Vandercook Lake Public Schools, Jackson Public Schools, various private schools, Jackson Community College, and Jackson County Parks maintain a wide variety of recreation facilities within the Township. The Jackson Intermediate School District, Jackson County Parks, and the City of Jackson also provide important recreation facilities and programs within the study area. Various private entities also host notable recreation facilities within the Township and the study area.

Collaboration with Other Recreation Providers

Because of the wealth of recreation facilities available to its residents —few of which are provided directly by the municipality— Summit Township decided that the most meaningful recreation contribution it could make to the Greater Jackson Community is trail development (please see Chapter 4). This policy was established during the preparation of the 2007-2011 edition and continued through the 2008-2012 edition of this recreation plan. However, the 2007 recreation survey conducted in the Township identified a variety of public recreation facilities residents of the township desire. Amongst the most popular are playgrounds, natural areas, and picnic areas. Without any parkland of its own —other than trails— the Township continues to feel that the best way to provide those facilities is to facilitate their development in other parks by collaborating with other recreation providers whenever opportunities arise. Collaboration and facilitation will most likely take the form of technical and financial assistance in return for universal access to the new facility by Summit Township residents.

Trail Development

Route #1 of the proposed Great Lake-To-Lake Trails provides a statewide vision of a trail traversing Summit Township as it extends from Lake Michigan to Lake Huron by utilizing existing and proposed trails. The trails proposed in the Jackson County Regional Trailway Study, and expanded upon in the City of Jackson & Jackson County Joint Recreation Plan and other local recreation plans, will result in a non-motorized network which connects Summit Township to proposed countywide system and statewide trail. The Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan supports the creation of a walkable community.

Obesity and generally being overweight are highlighted as concerns within the 2011 Jackson County Community Health Assessment and the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan. For example, the Comprehensive Plan developed the following objectives to address that issue:

- × “Sidewalks should be encouraged to be provided in neighborhoods, subdivisions, and site condominium projects; and commercial areas.”
- × “Pedestrian networks are encouraged to be developed which link subdivisions, neighborhoods, business districts, downtown areas, recreational areas; and connected to a system of regional pedestrian and bicycle trails.”
- × “Within downtown areas of the County pedestrian travel should be given priority over automobile and vehicular travel.”
- × “Several recreation plans for local units of government call for the construction of recreational trails. In addition, the Jackson County Trailways Plan recommends several additional trails and trail extensions. These recommendations should be implemented as funding becomes available. Finally, trailways should be coordinated with the plans for trails in adjacent counties.”

Chapter 6

Action Program

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

Action Program

The following trail projects comprise the recreation action program Summit Township would like to implement between 2013 and 2017 (please see Map 8, Appendix A):

1. **Vandercook Lake County Park Trail:**
 - a. Parkway Street – McDevitt Avenue to 4th Street,
 - b. Avenue A – 4th Street (north) to 4th Street (south), and
 - c. 4th Street – Avenue A to Avenue B;
2. **Spring Arbor Trail Connector to the Falling Water Trail:**
 - a. Robinson Road – Spring Arbor Road to Kibby Road, and
 - b. cross-country – Kibby Road to Falling Water Trail;
3. **Horton Road Connector to the Falling Water Trail:**
 - a. Cantabury Lane – Falling Water Trail to Lancashire Road,
 - b. Lancashire Road – Cantabury Road to Kenilworth Road,
 - c. Kenilworth Road/Dartmoor Lane – Lancashire Road to Ridgeway Road, and
 - d. Ridgeway Road – Dartmoor Lane to Horton Road; and
4. **Kibby Road Connectors to the Falling Water Trail:**
 - a. Natural Lane – Kibby Road to Falling Water Trail,
 - b. cross-country – Kibby Road to Falling Water Trail along the western Jackson City Limits

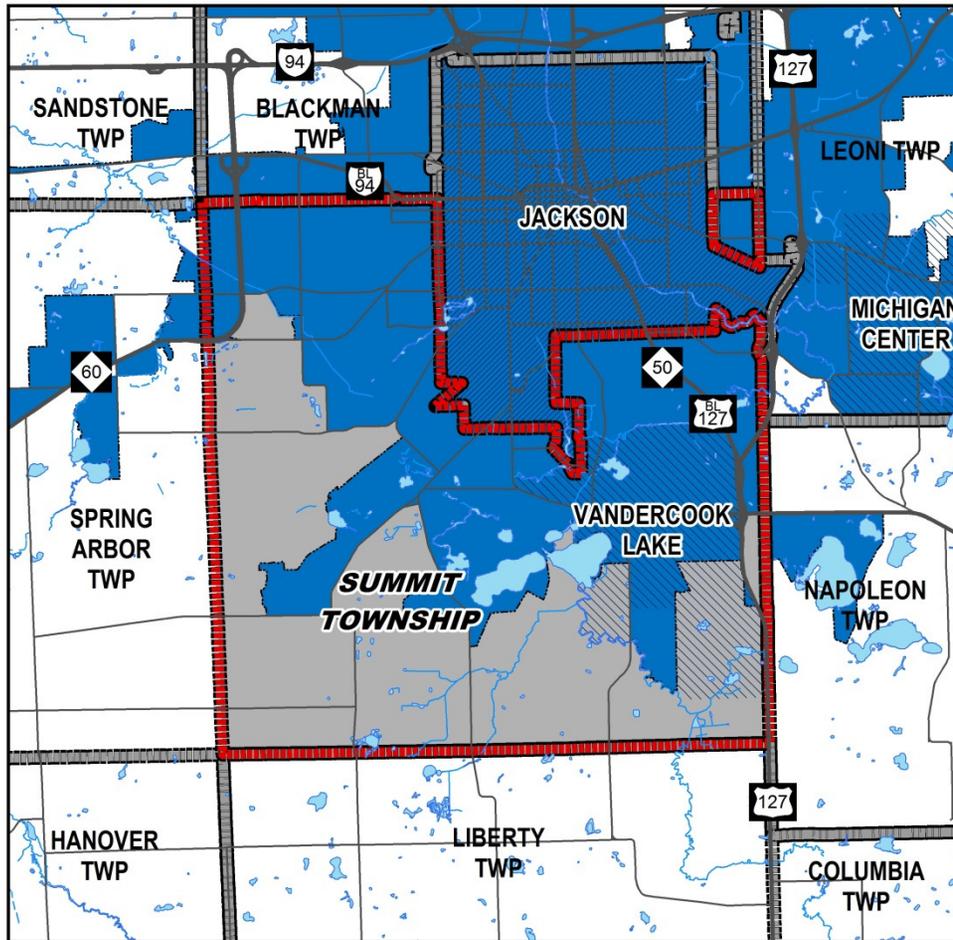
Background Information

The Plan's goals and objectives are the basis for the action program listed above. For example, the first goal espouses the development and augmentation of the countywide trail system as it traverses Summit Township. The Vandercook Lake County Park Trail provides a non-motorized connection between the county park and the community of Vandercook Lake. The other pathways connect the Falling Water Trail with its adjacent neighborhoods and other nearby non-motorized trails and recreation facilities (please see Appendix A). Please note that intergovernmental cooperation will be necessary for the successful implementation of the trail program, fulfilling the intent of the second goal.

Appendix A

Maps

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition



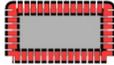
SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN

LOCATION

MAP 1

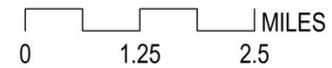
LEGEND

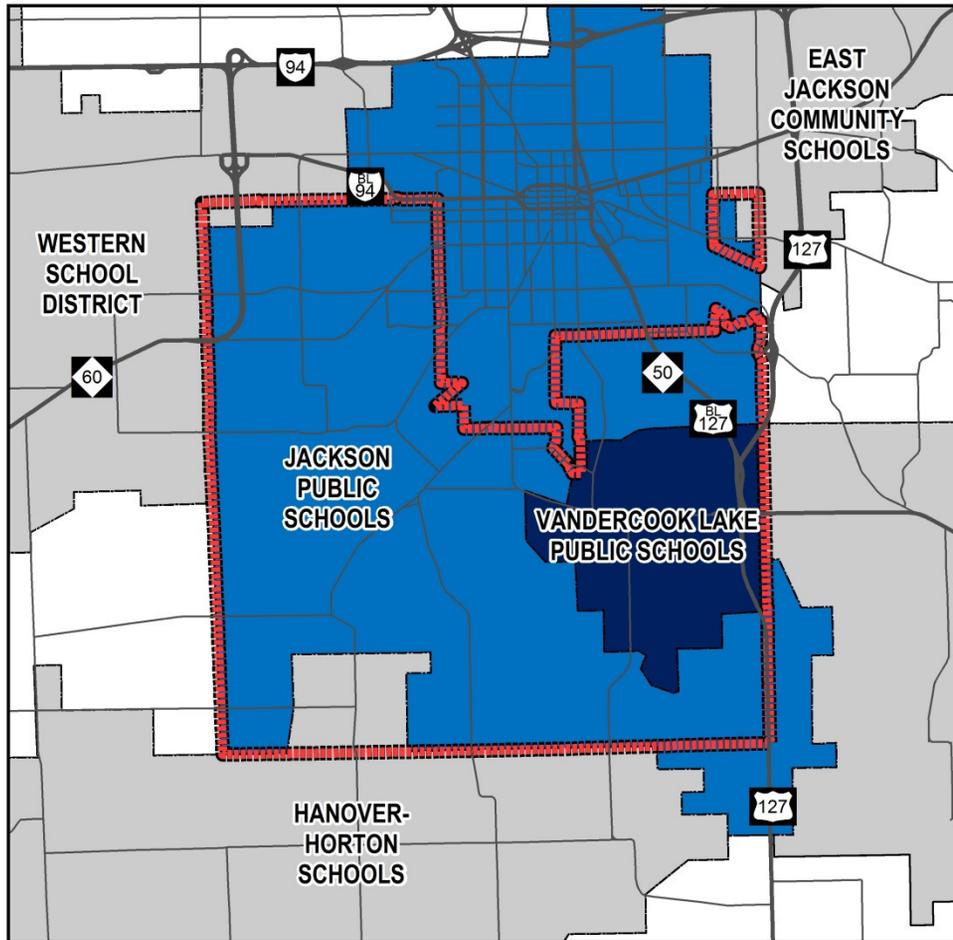
STUDY AREA

-  SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
-  CITIES & VILLAGES
-  SETTLEMENTS (CDPs)
-  TOWNSHIPS
-  JACKSON URBANIZED AREA

TRANSPORTATION

-  STATE HIGHWAYS
-  OTHER MAJOR ROADS





SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

MAP 2

LEGEND

STUDY AREA

 SUMMIT TOWNSHIP

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

 VANDERCOOK LAKE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

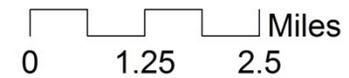
 JACKSON PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

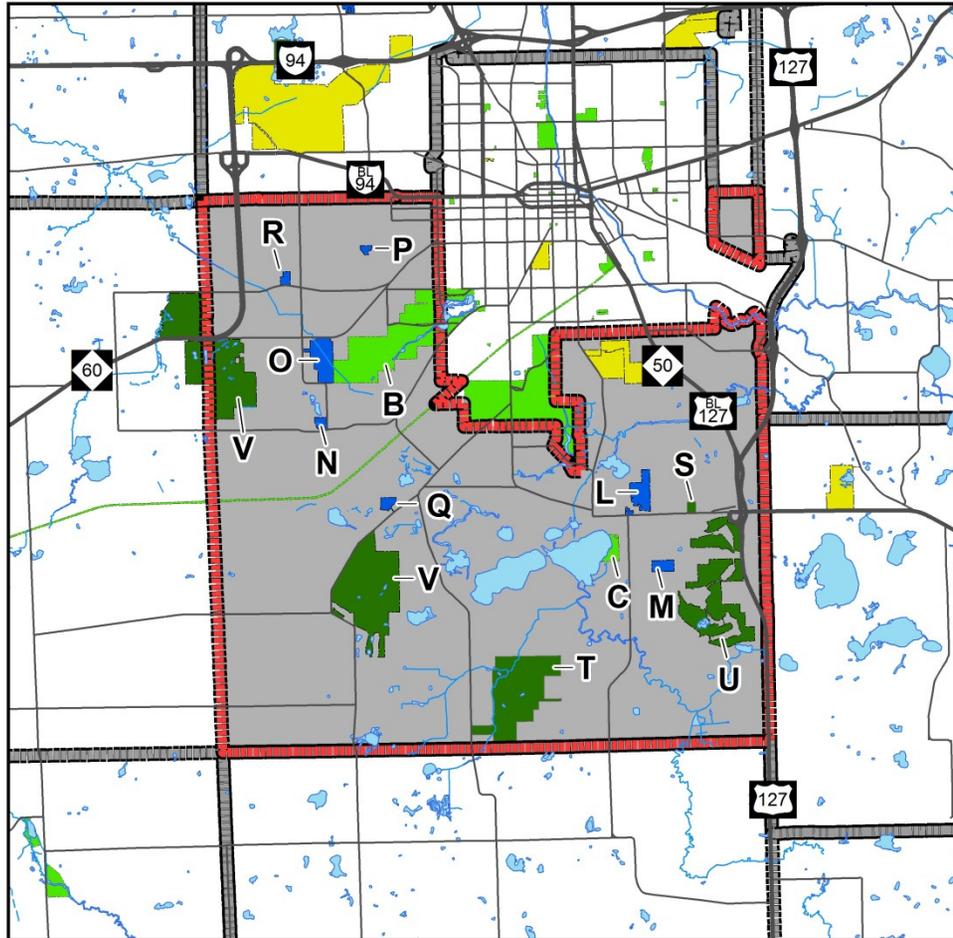
 OTHER DISTRICTS

TRANSPORTATION

 STATE HIGHWAYS

 OTHER MAJOR ROADS





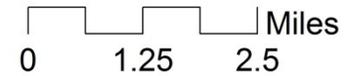
MAP 3

LEGEND

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

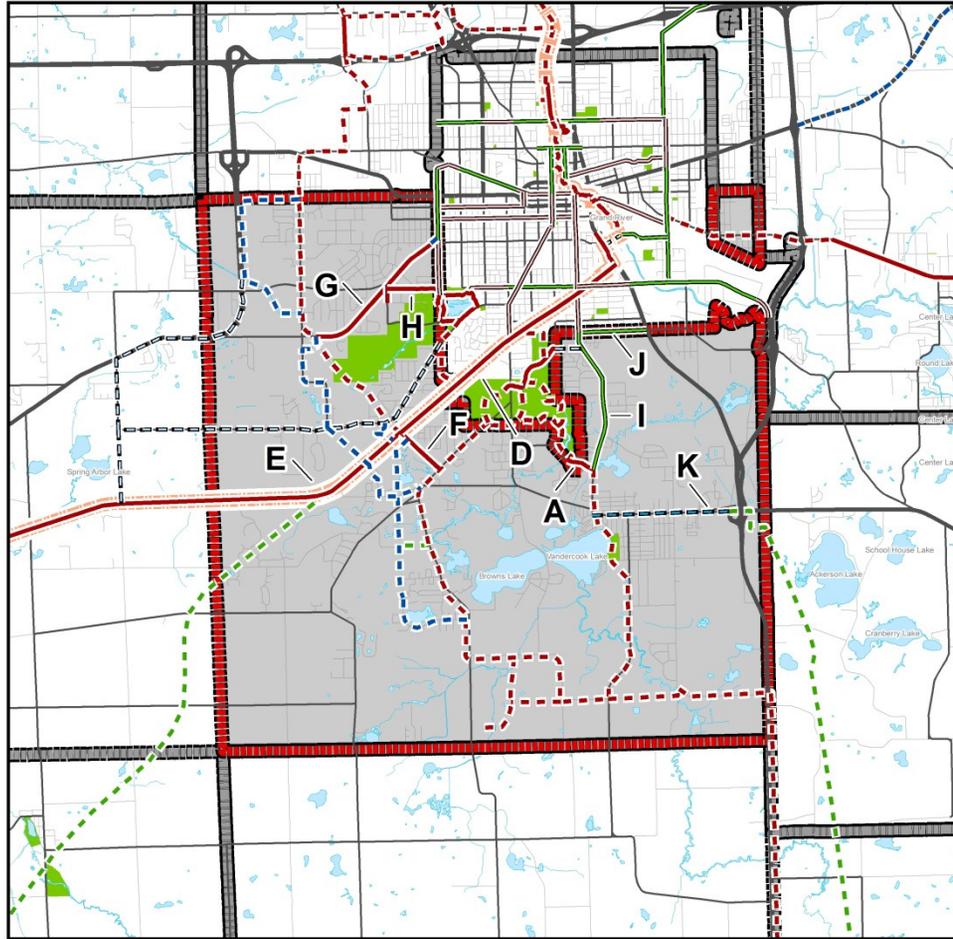
-  PUBLIC PARKS
-  SCHOOL RECREATION FACILITIES
-  GOLF COURSES AND OTHER PRIVATE FACILITIES
-  OTHER SECONDARY RECREATION FACILITIES

NOTE: THE VARIOUS PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP ARE IDENTIFIED BY A LETTER KEYED TO THE VARIOUS TABLES LISTING DETAILS OF THOSE FACILITIES IN CHAPTER 3.



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

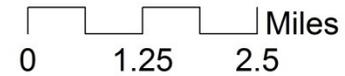


MAP 4

LEGEND

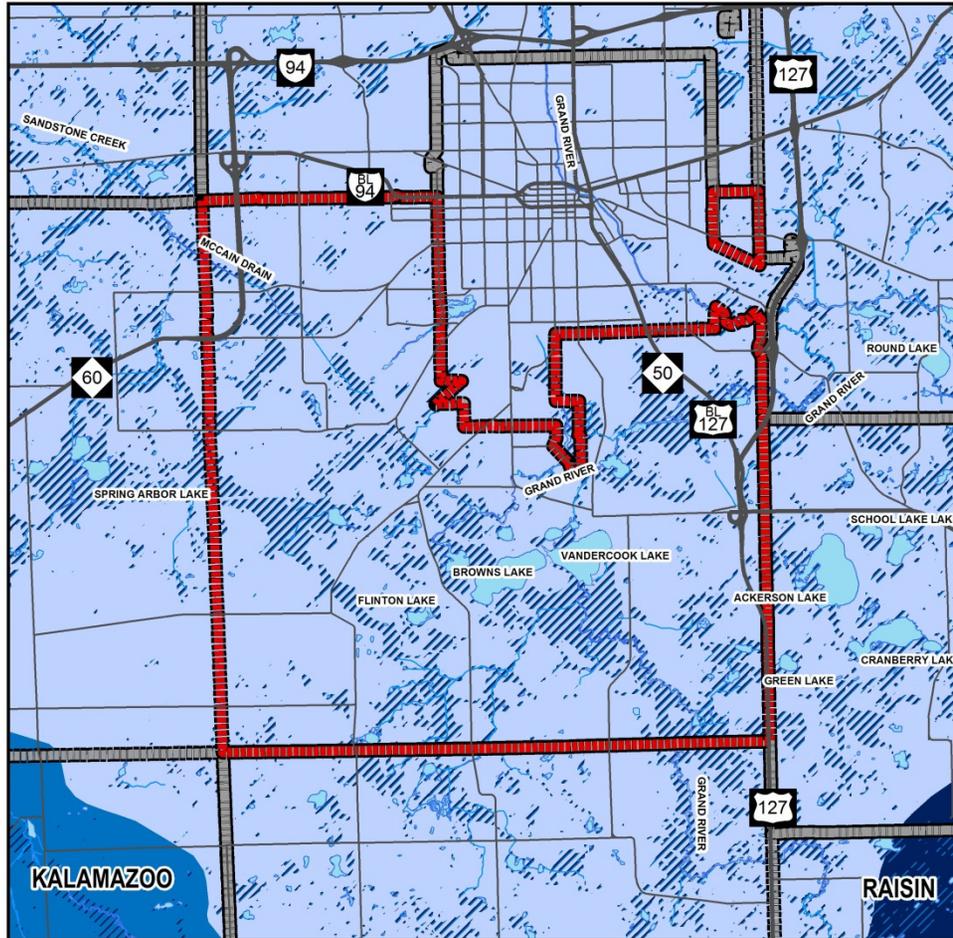
- | | |
|---|--|
| 2002 TRAILWAY STUDY AND CITY DESTINATION-BASED BIKE ROUTES | OTHER PROPOSED MUNICIPAL PATHWAYS |
| MULTI-USE PATHWAYS | MULTI-USE PATHWAYS |
| — CURRENT | — PROPOSED |
| - - - PROPOSED | BIKE ROUTES/LANES |
| - · - · - ALTERNATE (PROPOSED) | — EXISTING |
| BIKE ROUTES | - - - - PROPOSED |
| — POSTED ROUTES | GREAT LAKE-TO-LAKE TRAILS |
| — EXISTING LANES | — ROUTE #1 CORRIDOR |
| - - - - PROPOSED LANES | |

NOTE: THE VARIOUS TRAILS WHICH ARE LOCATED OR EXTEND INTO THE TOWNSHIP ARE IDENTIFIED BY A LETTER KEYED TO THE TABLES LISTING DETAILS OF THOSE FACILITIES IN CHAPTER 3.



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN

DRAFT NON-MOTORIZED PLAN



MAP 5

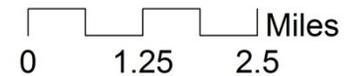
LEGEND

WATER RESOURCES

-  LAKES AND PONDS
-  RIVERS, STREAMS, AND DRAINS
-  WETLANDS
-  UPPER GRAND RIVER WATERSHED

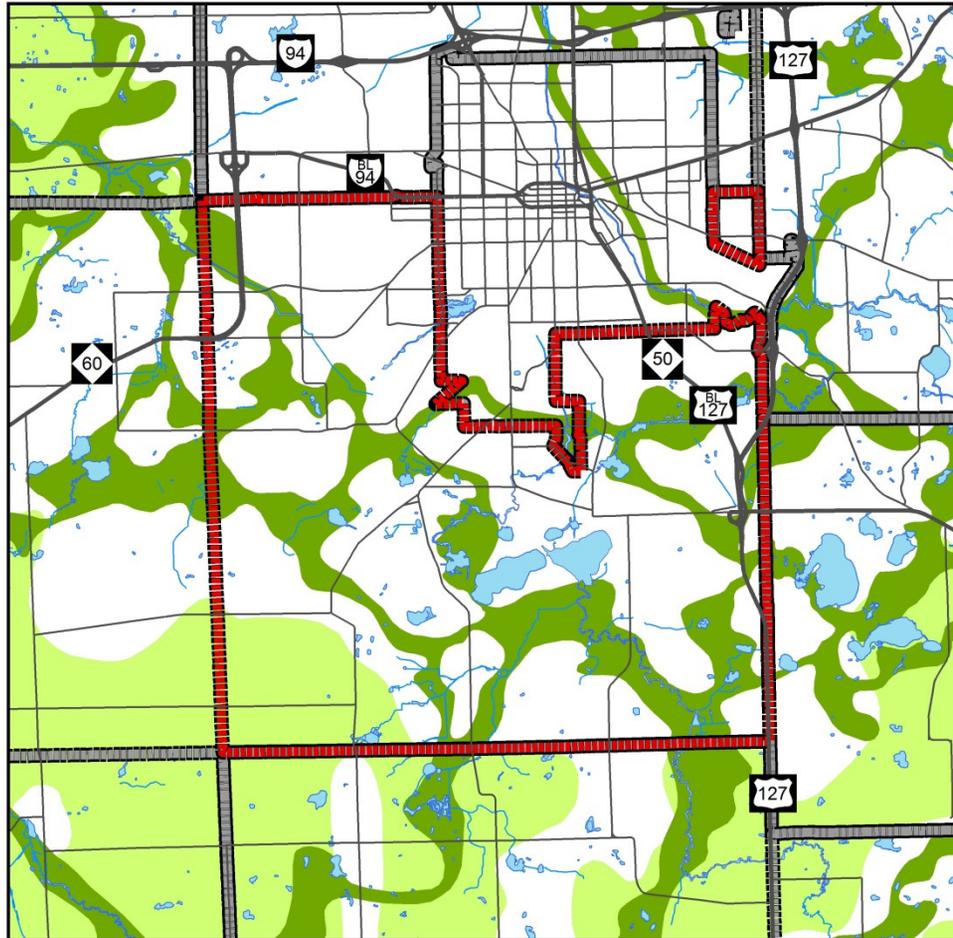
TRANSPORTATION

-  STATE HIGHWAYS
-  OTHER MAJOR ROADS



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN

WATER RESOURCES



MAP 6

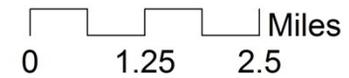
LEGEND

PRIME FARMLAND AND GREENWAYS

-  GREENWAYS
-  AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AREAS

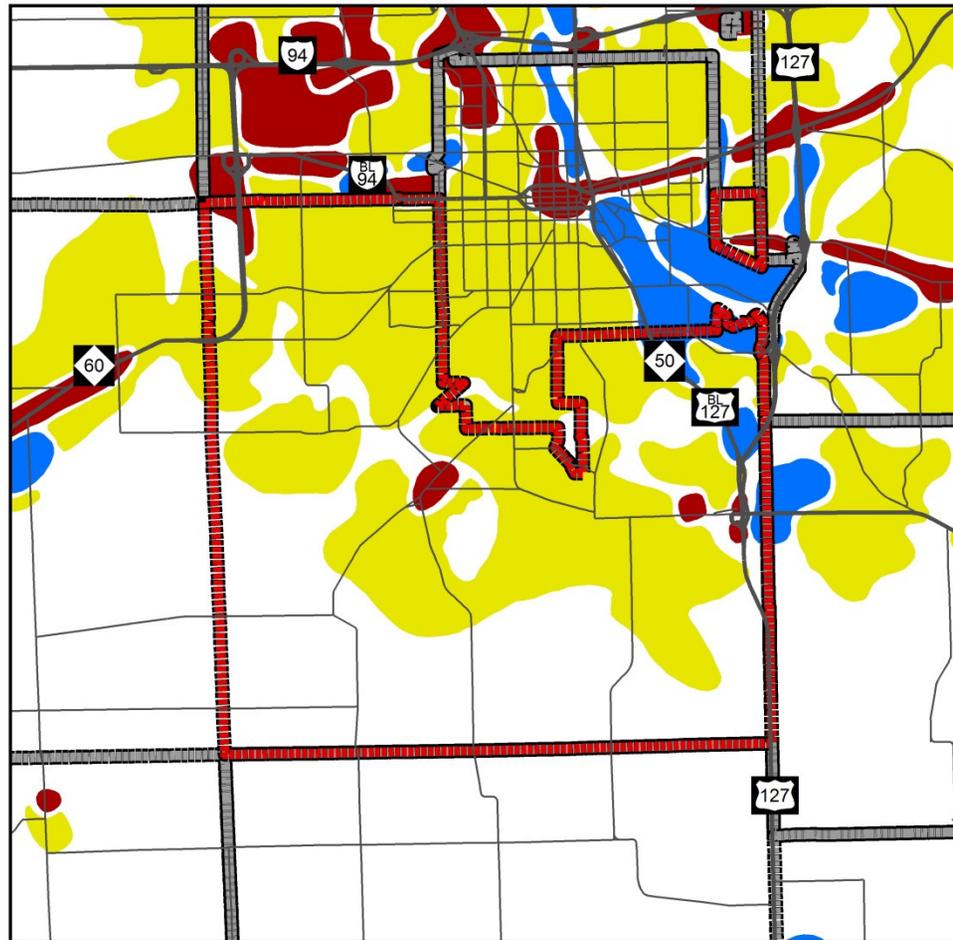
TRANSPORTATION

-  STATE HIGHWAYS
-  OTHER MAJOR ROADS



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN

PRIME FARMLAND AND GREENWAYS



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN

FUTURE LAND USE

MAP 7

LEGEND

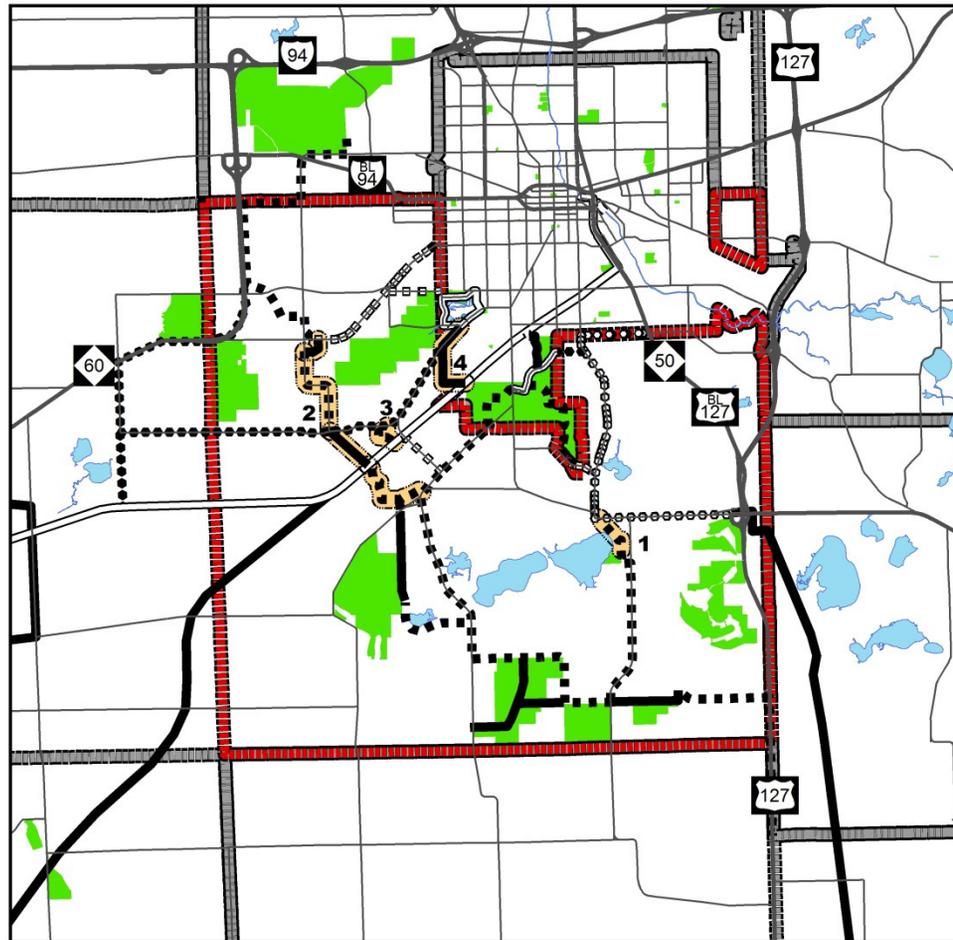
FUTURE LAND USE

-  AGRICULTURAL
-  RESIDENTIAL
-  COMMERCIAL
-  INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

-  STATE HIGHWAYS
-  OTHER MAJOR ROADS





SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN

ACTION PROGRAM

MAP 8

LEGEND

INDEPENDANT TRAILS

- EXISTING
- PROPOSED
- ACTION PLAN

ROADSIDE TRAILS

- EXISTING
- PROPOSED
- ACTION PLAN

BIKE PATHS/LANES

- EXISTING
- PROPOSED

STUDY AREA

- LAKES AND RIVERS
- RECREATION DESTINATIONS



Appendix B

Population Summary

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

Demographic details about the residents of Summit Township pertinent to the provision of parks and recreation are detailed in this appendix. For example:

- × **Population History & Projections** establish the need for general recreational facilities (standards for which are based upon the size of the population).
- × **The Age & Gender of the Population** further refines the need for general recreational facilities balanced among various age groups and gender interests.
- × **Group Quarters & Household & Family Composition** further refines the need for general recreational facilities balanced between family-oriented and individual activities.
- × **Racial & Ethnic Composition** further refines the need for general recreational facilities balanced among the various interests of racial and ethnic groups.
- × **The Disabilities of Residents** establish the need for special recreation facilities and disability accommodations to general recreation facilities.
- × **Income** illustrates the need for publicly-funded recreational facilities.

Summit Township contains the Vandercook Lake CDP (Census Designated Place), an unincorporated settlement (see Map 1, Appendix A). This affords an opportunity to also provide demographic information on the CDP and the remainder of the Township. Accordingly, the demographics for Summit Township are compared with the demographics of Vandercook Lake and the remainder of the Township.¹ The following citations regarding the sources of demographic data are used throughout the appendix:

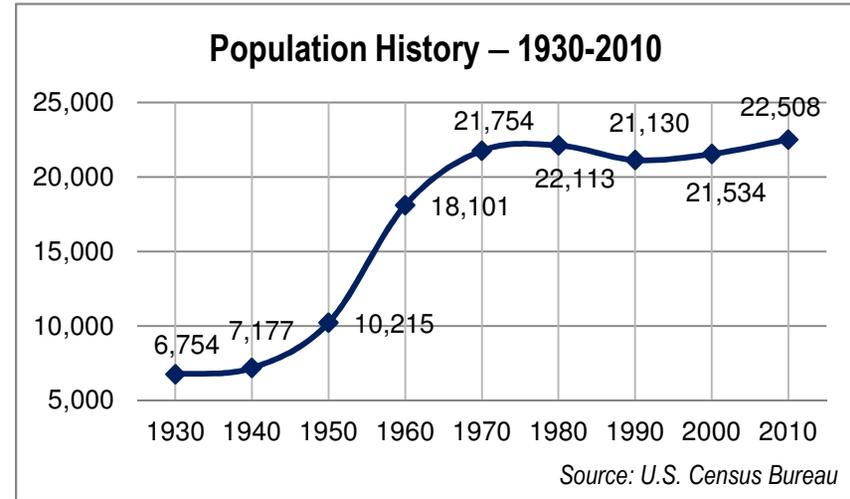
- × **U.S. Census Bureau** – the data were selected from decennial (i.e., every ten years) censuses going back to 1930.
- × **2010 U.S. Census** – the data were chosen from the 2010 census.
- × **American Community Survey** – the data were picked from the estimates compiled for the time period cited.
- × **Region 2 Planning Commission (R2PC)** – projections were made by R2PC staff, based upon past trends.

Please see the end notes for definitions which may further clarify the differences among the types of census data.ⁱ

¹ Wherever possible, the data for the Vandercook Lake CDP was subtracted from the data for Summit Township in order to more accurately portray existing conditions.

Population History & Projections

Summit Township was home to 22,508 residents in 2010, according to the US Census, with 4,721 (i.e., 21.0%) of them living in the Vandercook Lake Census Designated Place (CDP). The adjacent figure shows a significant population increase in the Township between 1930 and 1980, especially during the 1950s and 1960s. The population then declined slightly during the 1980s before growth resumed in the 1990s and the first decade of the 21st Century. It is interesting to note that the population of Vandercook Lake decreased slightly from 4,809 in the Year 2000.

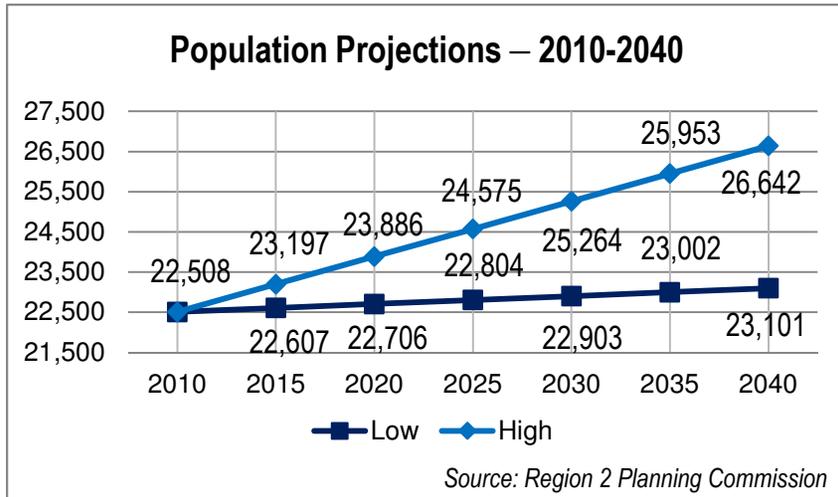


Population projections are estimates, usually based on past trends of real growth. The period of time used in this study is 2010 through 2040 (30 years from the official 2010 census data). Various factors play a role in the future population of a given area (e.g., births, deaths, in-migration, and out-migration). A change in one factor affects the others. In the following figure, population has been projected at five year intervals which can easily be changed as situations occur (nationally as well as locally) which affect local migration patterns, such as a new industrial or housing development.

A simple projection model has been used to estimate population growth that might reasonably be expected in the future for the Township. The *Linear Method* is based upon the following formulas.²

$$P_n = P_o(1 + r) \quad r = \left(\frac{P_o - P_m}{P_m} / Y1 \right) Y2$$

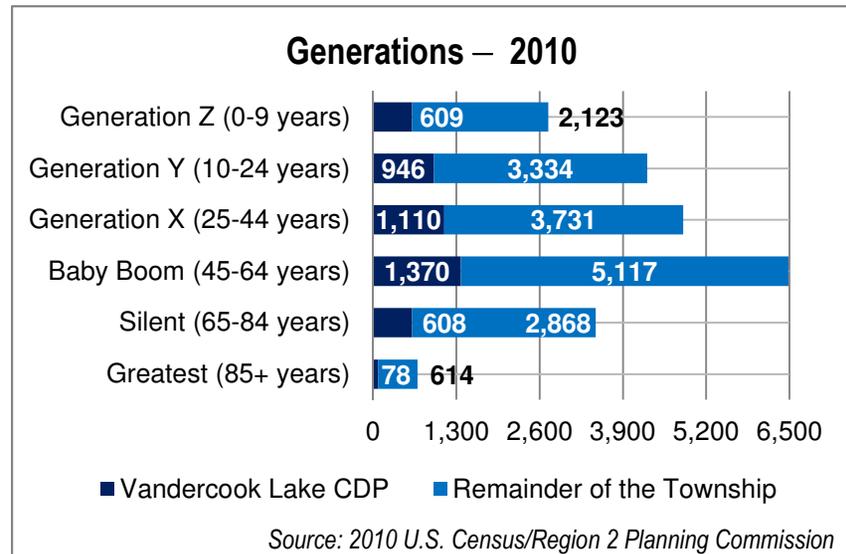
² “Pn” is the future population level, “Po” is the base population level, “r” is the growth rate, “Pm” is the past population, “Y1” is the historic time period (20 years), and “Y2” is the future time period (5 years).



This model describes a pattern of population growth in which the population level will continue to change at a given rate based upon changes in population preceding 2010. A minimum population projection was determined using the growth rate between 1980 and 2010, including the net loss of population in the Township which occurred during the 1980s. A maximum population projection was based upon the population gain which occurred between 1990 and 2010. Based upon this information, it is reasonable to expect that the population of Summit Township will range between approximately 22,700 and 23,900 people in 2020 and 22,900 and 25,300 people in 2030.

Age & Gender of the Population

The median age of a Summit Township resident in 2010 was 42.8 years, higher than the 40.1 years for the Vandercook Lake CDP but less than the 43.6 years for the rest of the Township. 'Baby boomers' accounted for over a quarter of the populations of the Township (28.8%), Vandercook Lake (29.0%), and the rest of the Township (28.8%). 'Gen X' accounted for almost a quarter of residents in the Township (21.5%), the CDP (23.5%), and the rest of the Township (21.0%). 'Gen Y' accounted for approximately a fifth of the population of the Township (19.0%), Vandercook Lake (20.0%), and the rest of the Township (19.0%). 'Gen Z' accounted for approximately an eighth of the residents in

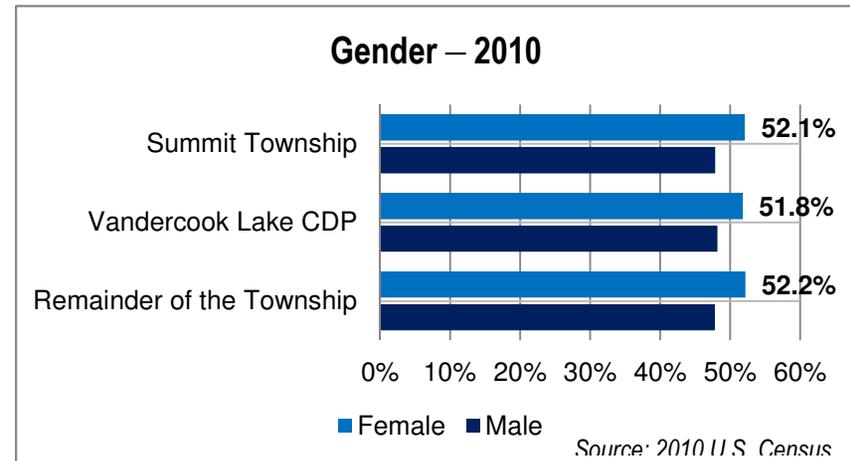


the Township (12.1%), the CDP (12.9%), and the rest of the Township (11.9%). Members of the ‘Greatest’ and ‘Silent’ Generations accounted for less than a fifth of the population of the Township (18.5%), Vandercook Lake (14.5%), and the rest of the Township (19.6%).

Age – 2010

	Vandercook Lake CDP	Remainder of Twp.	Summit Township
Total population	4,721	17,787	22,508
Under 5 years	287	980	1,267
5 to 9 years	322	1,143	1,465
10 to 14 years	352	1,187	1,539
15 to 19 years	341	1,267	1,608
20 to 24 years	253	880	1,133
25 to 29 years	272	815	1,087
30 to 34 years	242	906	1,148
35 to 39 years	283	939	1,222
40 to 44 years	313	1,071	1,384
45 to 49 years	363	1,202	1,565
50 to 54 years	402	1,346	1,748
55 to 59 years	331	1,390	1,721
60 to 64 years	274	1,179	1,453
65 to 69 years	214	922	1,136
70 to 74 years	152	686	838
75 to 79 years	139	671	810
80 to 84 years	103	589	692
85 to 89 years	60	383	443
90 years and over	18	231	249

Source: 2010 U.S. Census

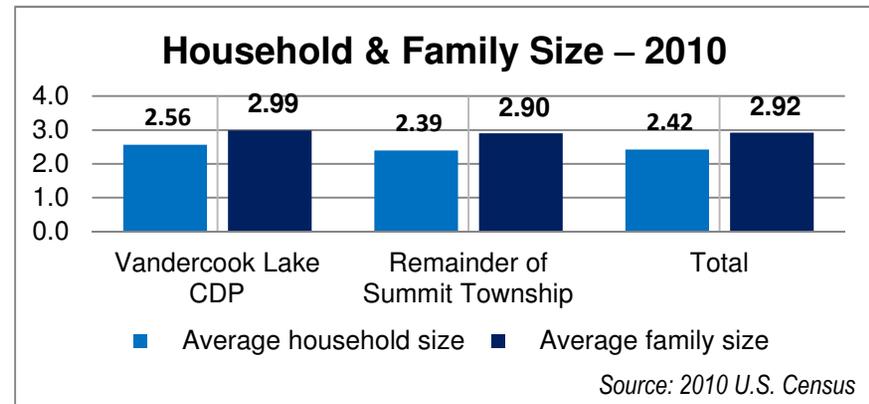


More than half (52.1%) of Summit Township residents were female in 2010. This observation also holds true for the Vandercook Lake CDP (51.8%) and the remainder of the Township (52.2%). The median age of women was greater than males in the Township (44.5 and 41.1, respectively), Vandercook Lake (41.4 and 39.1, respectively), and the remainder of the Township (45.3 and 41.7, respectively).

Group Quarters & Household & Family Composition

Almost all of the residents of Summit Township lived in households in 2010. For example, only a small portion (1.6%) of the Township’s 22,508 residents lived in group quarters. None of the 4,721 residents of the Vandercook Lake CDP lived in group quarters and only a small portion of the population of the remainder of the Township (2.0%) lived in group quarters. It should be noted that more than one third (38.7%) of those residents living in group quarters were institutionalized in 2010 (i.e., under formally authorized supervised care or custody in an institution).

There were 9,149 households in Summit Township in 2010, with 1,842 (i.e., 20.1%) of them located in Vandercook Lake. Over two-thirds of the households across the Township (68.2%), the CDP (71.4%), and the rest of the Township (67.2%) were comprised of families. However, the overwhelming majority of non-family households across the Township (85.5%), Vandercook Lake (81.0%), and the rest of the Township (86.4%) were comprised of a householder living alone. The average household size was 2.42 people and the average family size was 2.92 people across the Township. The average household size was 2.56 people and the average family size was 2.99 people in the CDP. The average household size was 2.39 people and the average family size was 2.90 in the rest of the Township.

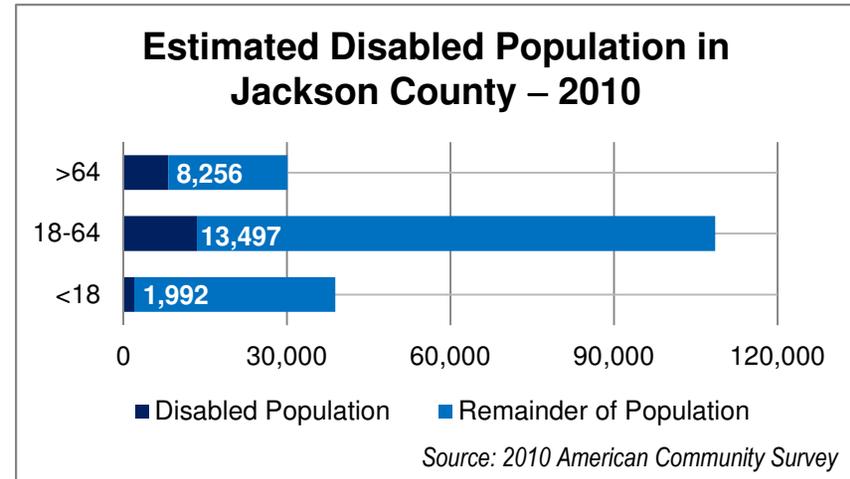


Racial & Ethnic Composition

The overwhelming majority of the populations of the Township (89.6%), the Vandercook Lake CDP (95.3%), and the rest of the Township (88.1%) were white in 2010. African Americans were the most populous minority comprising small but significant portions of the populations of the Township (5.3%), Vandercook Lake (1.3%), and the rest of the Township (6.3%). Mixed race residents were the next most populous minorities in the Township (2.5%), the CDP (2.3%), and the rest of the Township (2.6%). Finally, Hispanics (i.e., Latinos/Latinas) also comprised small but significant portions of the populations of the Township (2.7%), Vandercook Lake (2.3%), and the remainder of the Township (2.8%).

Disability of Residents

It is estimated that significant segments of the population of Jackson County had some type of disability in-2010.^{3,4} For example, an estimated one-sixth (15.4%) of residents were disabled in some way. The rate of disabilities increases with age. Over one-third (37.8%) of residents aged 65 years or older were disabled. In comparison, only one-twentieth (5.4%) of residents under the age of 18 years were disabled. Disabled residents with an ambulatory (mobility) difficulty also increased with age: essentially none (0%) under the age of 18, approximately one out of thirteen (7.7%) between 18 and 64 years of age, and over one quarter (26%) for those 65 years of age and older.



Income

The estimated median income for all households in Summit Township (\$52,559) from 2006 through 2010 was greater than the median income for Vandercook Lake CDP households (\$44,153).⁵ The estimated median income for all family households in Summit Township (\$66,134) during the same time period was also greater than the median income for all family households in Vandercook Lake (\$55,893). Fi-

Estimated Median Income – 2006-2010

	Vandercook Lake CDP	Summit Township
All Households	\$44,153	\$52,559
All Family Households	\$55,893	\$66,134
Married Couple Family Households	\$63,636	\$73,901
Non-Family Households	\$21,625	\$29,703

Source: 2006-2010 American Community Survey

³ Information on disabilities was not available for the Vandercook Lake CDP or Summit Township

⁴ A disability is “a long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition,” according to the U.S. Census Bureau. “This condition can make it difficult for a person to do activities such as walking, climbing stairs, dressing, bathing, learning, or remembering. This condition can also impede a person from being able to go outside the home alone or to work at a job or business.”

⁵ Median income means that ½ of the household incomes were greater and ½ were less than the stated amount.

nally, the estimated median income for non-family households in Summit Township (\$29,703) was greater than the median income for non-family households in the CDP (\$21,625).

End Notes

¹ These following definitions are excerpted from the [glossary](#) webpage of [American FactFinder](#), the website of the U.S. Census Bureau:

- **American Community Survey** – *The American Community Survey is a large, continuous demographic survey conducted by the Census Bureau that will eventually provide accurate and up-to-date profiles of America's communities every year. Questionnaires are mailed to a sample of addresses to obtain information about households -- that is, about each person and the housing unit itself. The survey produces annual and multi-year estimates of population and housing characteristics and produces data for small areas, including tracts and population subgroups.*
- **Census (Decennial)** – *The census of population and housing, taken by the Census Bureau in years ending in 0 (zero). Article I of the Constitution requires that a census be taken every ten years for the purpose of reapportioning the U.S. House of Representatives.*
- **Continuous Measurement System** – *This system is a re-engineering of the method for collecting the housing and socio-economic data traditionally collected in the decennial census. It provides data every year instead of once in ten years. It blends the strength of small area estimation from the census with the quality and timeliness of the continuing surveys. This system includes a large monthly survey, the American Community Survey, and additional estimates through the use of administrative records in statistical models. It was in a developmental period that started in 1996 and, in 2005, began full-scale national implementation. This survey [replaced] the 'long-form' for the 2010 decennial census of population and housing.*
- **Long Form** – *The decennial census questionnaire, sent to approximately one in six households for the 1980, 1990, and 2000 censuses, contains all of the questions on the short form, as well as additional detailed questions relating to the social, economic, and housing characteristics of each individual and household. Information derived from the long form is referred to as sample data, and is tabulated for geographic entities as small as the block group level in 1980, 1990, and 2000 census data.*
- **Sample Data** – *Population and housing information collected from the census long form for a one in six sample of households in the United States and Puerto Rico, and on a continuous basis for selected areas in the American Community Survey.*
- **Short Form** – *The decennial census questionnaire, sent to approximately five of six households for the 1980, 1990, and 2000 censuses. For Census 2000, the questionnaire asked population questions related to household relationship, sex, race, age and Hispanic or Latino origin and housing questions related to tenure, occupancy, and vacancy status. The 1990 short form contained a question on marital status. The questions contained on the short form also are asked on the long form, along with additional questions.*

Appendix C

Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan 2000-2025

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

Selected Health Concern – Overweight and Obesity Risk Factors¹

“Many argue that ‘urban sprawl’ has contributed to ‘waistline sprawl’ in that it supports an automobile-friendly environment rather than an environment where other modes of active transport (walking, cycling, and other non-motorized vehicles) are encouraged.”

“The US Surgeon General has called for action to prevent and decrease overweight and obesity. The Health consequences of overweight and obesity have been labeled as ‘a public health issue that is among the most burdensome faced by the nation.’ This national health problem manifests itself in premature death and disability, high health care costs, loss of productivity, and social stigmatization. According to the Surgeon General’s call to action ‘To Prevent and Decrease Overweight and Obesity, 2001,’ there are many factors which cause overweight and obesity. ‘For each individual, body weight is determined by the combination of genetic, metabolic, behavioral, environmental, cultural, and social economic influences. Behavior and environmental factors rare large contributors to overweight and obesity and provide the greatest opportunity for actions and interventions designed for prevention and treatment.”

“The availability of data regarding overweight and obesity specific to the area of Jackson County is lacking. Data regarding obesity for the State of Michigan is available through the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS, 2001). The data reveals that in 1991, 15.2% of the State’s population was obese. At that time, Michigan’s rate of obesity was tied for third highest in the Nation with the State of West Virginia. Only the states of Mississippi and Louisiana exceeded Michigan in the rate of obesity. In the year 2001 Michigan’s rate of obesity had climbed to 24.4%, the third highest state in the nation, following the states of Mississippi and West Virginia. Sixty-one percent of Michigan’s population is either obese or overweight.”

**Obesity Trends, Michigan
1991-2001**

Year	% Obese
1991	15.2
1995	17.7
1998	20.7
1999	22.1
2000	21.8
2001	24.4

Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2001

¹ This section was excerpted from the Demographics Chapter of the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan 2000-2025.

Actual Causes of Death in the United States, 2000.

“The National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, an agency of the Center for Disease Control provides data on the actual causes of death in the United States for the year 2000. The category ‘Poor Diet / Physical Inactivity’ ranks second, in terms of the percentage of all deaths, at 16.6%, closely behind tobacco use at 18.1%.”

Factors Contributing to Unhealthy Weight

“The report ‘Health Policy Options for Michigan Policy Makers: Promoting Healthy Weight in Michigan Through Physical Activity and Nutrition’ identifies factors which contribute to unhealthy weight. While several factors contribute to this problem, the report identifies factors which are of particular relevance to community growth, development, and planning. The report notes:

‘Physical and Social environmental barriers are present in Michigan that negatively affect physical activity and nutrition. Inadequate community infrastructure limits the ability to be active. These include lack of accessible indoor and outdoor exercise facilities, neighborhood sidewalks, walking paths, and bicycle trails. Additionally, inclement weather, lack of adequate recreational opportunities, and unattractive or unpleasant local environments may prevent people from exercising.’

‘Programs and policies are necessary to promote smart community growth and the establishment of urban and rural environments supportive of physical activity. Active community environments provide access to safe favorable conditions for physical activity and promote the development of social support networks that encourage activity.’²

“The report notes that various state departments, community planners, and community members should work together to promote active environments. The report also lists a series of policy recommendations, including the following specific recommendations relative to what the report labels ‘active community environments.’³

**Actual Causes of Death, United States
1990 and 2000**

Cause	% Of Deaths	
	1990	2000
Tobacco	19	18.1
Poor diet and physical inactivity	14	16.6
Alcohol Consumption	5	3.5
Microbial Agents	4	3.1
Toxic Agents	3	2.3
Motor Vehicles	1	1.8
Firearms	2	1.2
Sexual Behavior	1	0.8
Illicit Drug Use	<1	0.7

Source: National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

² Kreulen Pg. 10

³ Kreulen Pg. 18

1. Develop walkable communities by widening and maintaining our building sidewalks, safe roadway crossings, and aesthetically pleasing areas.
2. Encourage bicycling by developing, maintaining, and promoting the use of bike paths.
3. Require all urban planning and re-design - incorporate the concepts of active community environments and there by promote physical activity.”

Issues, Goals, Policies & Actions⁴

“The purpose of [the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan] is to establish policies to guide the future growth and development of the Jackson Community. These policies, established at the community-wide level, are intended to assist local units of government, including the County’s villages, townships, and the City of Jackson as they develop, amend, and implement their community plans, and zoning ordinances.”

“The policies formulated and adopted as a result of the process in preparing the Jackson Comprehensive Community Plan primarily address land use and development issues which either transcend the boundary lines of local units of government, or are county-wide in nature. This regional perspective is critical. The strength of our governmental structure which is comprised of 19 townships, 6 villages and the City of Jackson, is the ability to deliver local government that is close to the people. Within the planning process this governmental structure provides each local unit the opportunity to determine how its community should grow and develop, and ultimately, the shape and form of the future community. The weakness in this arrangement of local units of government is the tendency to overlook the implications of decisions which have regional significance.”

A total of sixteen land use issues were identified. Issues with a recreation component are reprinted in their entirety:

- | | |
|---|--|
| × Create a Walkable Community | × Urban Development |
| × Farmland Preservation | × Overzoning and Strip Commercial Development |
| × Historic Preservation | × Protection of Ground and Surface Water Quality |
| × Planning Coordination | × Wetlands |
| × Maximum Housing Choice | × Preservation of Open Space |
| × Open Ethical Governance and Citizen Participation | × Economic Diversity |
| × Sewer and Water Extension | × Innovative Planning and Zoning |
| × Culture | × The Movement of People and Goods |

⁴ This section was excerpted from the Issues, Goals, Policies & Actions Chapter of the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan 2000-2025.

Create a Walkable Community

“The automobile is firmly embedded in our culture. It simultaneously offers a measure of freedom; and yet also limits the freedom of movement both for the younger and older segments of our population, and to our citizens generally, through traffic congestion. In our urban areas, space is consumed for parking which negates the possibility for the creation of compact pedestrian-oriented development patterns. The automobile allows us freedom to work in distant places and live in rural areas, but also requires an expansive network of roads and highways to get us there.”

“Considerable attention has been focused recently on the health of our citizens. Physical inactivity and obesity of our citizens has been defined by health professionals as a serious threat to community health and well-being. While it is acknowledged that every citizen is free to make individual choices regarding means and mode of transportation, there is a need to insure that our communities are walkable. Indeed, within the concept of community, social contact and interaction, the sense of human scale, and community identity, are elemental.”

Goal: *“Community plans, development decisions, and ultimately the shape and form of our communities shall offer the opportunity for employment, commerce, recreation, and social interaction within community centers and neighborhoods which are walkable.”*

Policies and Actions

1. “Within defined community centers and neighborhood areas as identified in this plan, and the plans of local communities of government in Jackson County, development should be promoted which is compact and which fosters higher densities.”
2. “Sidewalks should be encouraged to be provided in neighborhoods, subdivisions, and site condominium projects; and commercial areas.”
3. “Pedestrian networks are encouraged to be developed which link subdivisions, neighborhoods, business districts, downtown areas, recreational areas; and connected to a system of regional pedestrian and bicycle trails.”
4. “Parking shall be encouraged to be located in areas that do not impede pedestrian travel.”
5. “Within downtown areas of the County pedestrian travel should be given priority over automobile and vehicular travel.”
6. “Local communities should review their commercial zoning districts to promote commercial uses which thrive on pedestrian traffic to be grouped together, and to assure that commercial uses which are oriented toward vehicular traffic are established as permitted uses in separate commercial zoning districts. Small commercial areas which offer goods and services to neighborhood areas should be encouraged.”
7. “Communities should review their patterns of residential distribution and attempt to promote and strengthen neighborhoods which offer parks, elementary schools, and neighborhood commercial areas within walking distance.”

8. "Several recreation plans for local units of government call for the construction of recreational trails. In addition, the Jackson County Trailways Plan recommends several additional trails and trail extensions. These recommendations should be implemented as funding becomes available. Finally, trailways should be coordinated with the plans for trails in adjacent counties."

Historic Preservation

"The community of today grew out of the community of the past. Current development patterns, street networks, neighborhoods, clusters of buildings, and single buildings themselves are reflective of the unique mix of culture and history in which the Jackson Community grew and developed. This unique history gave the community identity and is a reflection of community heritage."

"Today's mass culture, and the influence of the mass media, in conjunction with the consolidation and growth of businesses and industries within the economy has resulted in development which is a replica of development which is occurring in communities across the nation. Forces of community development today tend to result in ubiquity. Sameness results in a loss of identity."

"As our economy has grown nationally, and the implications of this growth have been experienced locally, both the benefits and the liabilities of such growth become manifest. While products have become more varied and accessible, the commercial delivery system which provides these products through "big box" stores, and drive-thru "fast-food" restaurant has tended to reduce the diversity and appearance of the urban landscape. As a result, the importance of historic preservation has never been greater, and over time becomes more and more important to maintain community identity and diversity. The preservation of historic buildings and structures provides a vital link to our heritage."

Goal: *"Jackson County communities shall identify historic and cultural resources and develop policies, programs, and regulations to promote their continued use and survival."*

Policies and Actions

1. "Historic and unique community features, structures, and buildings should be identified, mapped and preserved."
2. "Jackson County communities should educate developers, and the public at large, about the availability of tax credits offered through the State of Michigan for historic preservation, and encourage this application of these credits."
3. "Local planning commissions should consider the impacts of development decisions on historic and cultural resources."

Culture

“The concept of a community implies more than simply a place to live, work, engage in commerce, and play. Communities are places of social interaction, where people meet face to face. Communities provide the structure necessary for cultural growth and development.”

“Communities are places where governance occurs. They’re places where people pray. They’re places where information is exchanged. Communities are elementally important in our cultural system, acting as clearinghouses for all that makes people human. They are the bartering places for the exchange of ideas and cultures. The Comprehensive Plan should support this important role.”

Goal: *“Community Centers should facilitate social interaction and assemblage, and provide a space for, and enhance, culture.”*

Policies and Actions

1. “Buildings and structures which facilitate or enhance our culture: city, township, and village halls; schools; libraries; museums; and churches should be identified, mapped, and protected.”
2. “Indoor and outdoor places of public assemblage and opportunity for public gathering should be promoted within our community centers.”
3. “Communities should inventory, promote, and maintain their public spaces, and promote their use and safety.”

Preservation of Open Space

“To many citizens in Jackson County, the rural areas of the County are appealing because of the open space which exists there. Many residents have, in fact, selected home sites in rural areas because of the open rural quality such areas afford. Obviously, with additional development in rural areas comes a loss in open space and the values which attracted rural development in the first place.”

Goal: *“Preservation of Open Space shall be encouraged.”*

Policies and Actions

1. “Local units of government are encouraged to apply cluster-zoning provisions to preserve open space and maintain rural character.”
2. “Policies contained within this report to encourage development to be located within existing urban and developed areas and to encourage higher densities should be implemented.”

The Community Plan⁵

“The Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan is intended to provide guidance for the future growth and development of the Jackson County area. The Plan was prepared in accordance with generally accepted practices for the development of comprehensive plans.”

1. “The Plan is long-range. The Plan provides a policy guide for growth and development from the date of adoption of the Plan in 2005, through the year 2025. It is intended to provide a long-range vision for the Community based upon anticipated economic growth, population and household projection, the existing pattern of development, and preferred growth and development patterns.”
2. “The Plan is intended to be general in nature rather than specific. Because the Plan is a statement of policy, it is expressed as a generalized, or conceptual, plan for future land use, rather than indicating specific land uses for specific parcels of land.”
3. “The Plan is intended to be flexible. The Plan can be amended following the adherence to legal requirements as established in state law. Communities, and the events which affect them, are subject to change over time. The Plan is not intended to be static, but can be revised as needed to respond to change in circumstance.”
4. “The Plan is a statement of policy. It is advisory in nature, setting forth the vision for the future.”

Greenways Plan

The “Greenways Plan’ for the Jackson Community, identifies a network of greenways proposed throughout Jackson County. This network generally follows wetland areas, drainage ways, and forested lands (see Appendix A). The network recognizes these areas as a part of Jackson County’s natural system which should be preserved. The preservation of this system helps to assure high quality surface water, wildlife habitat and movement, diversity, and can be used to help define urban growth.”

“Much of the Greenways Plan tends to be self-implementing. Development in wetland areas is limited by the practical difficulties associated with the development of these of lands. Soils in these areas are wet, compressive strength to support development is lacking, and the cost of developing in wetland areas is high. In addition, wetlands are protected by the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994.”

“The prohibition of all forms of development within this area is not necessary. Some very low-density development can be incorporated without damage to the integrity of the greenway. Roads and highways transect the network at numerous locations throughout the County. As this Plan is further developed and implemented it may be likely that there are strategic

⁵ This section was excerpted from the Plan Chapter of the Jackson Community Comprehensive Plan 2000-2025.

points within the network that require some type of preservation action. In some locations the width of the greenway is very narrow. Conservation easements may be a good means of assuring continuity in these areas.”

“The Greenways Plan sets a foundation for the development of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan within the natural system which exists in Jackson County. In some instances greenways may help to define urban areas and separate these urban areas from rural areas of the County.”

“For all of the foresaid reasons and simply so citizens have the opportunity for contact with nature, the implementation of the Plan would significantly improve the quality of life in Jackson County.”

The Land Use Plan

The “Land Use Plan sets forth a spatial vision for the future growth and development of the Jackson Community (see Appendix A). It is intended, generally, to promote future development within areas which are currently developed. These areas tend to contain the infrastructure necessary to support growth and development. They are areas where higher densities and intensities of land use are to be encouraged. The Plan recognizes the importance of making the urban areas which exist within the County better places to live. The Plan focuses cultural amenities within these areas, and encourages beautification and redevelopment programs, and special attention to the provision of parks in neighborhood areas, and the provision of a network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways. Generally, as a matter of governmental policy, development within rural areas is to be discouraged.”

“The Plan identifies industrial, commercial, residential and agricultural and open space areas. Industrial areas are clustered within the community at locations where existing industrial land uses already exist, and where infrastructure is sufficiently provided, or proposed to be provided to accommodate these intense uses. As such, industrial areas are located along major transportation arteries which afford access to jobs for the residents of Jackson County, as well as transportation to other regions of the state and nation for receipt seat of materials for the production process, and the distribution of goods and products produced in the Jackson area.”

“Proposed commercial areas follow existing patterns of commercial development, and allow for commercial expansion within, and adjacent to, these commercial areas. Continued growth and development of small commercial areas in rural villages and population settlements is encouraged. Small commercial development which would serve neighborhoods, though not shown on the Plan Map, are encouraged to be developed. The Plan supports the development of commercial areas which are intensive and compact in which many commercial services are offered to customers within in a small area. This pattern of commercial development will reduce the need for automobile travel.”

“The principles which have been applied to the location of industrial and commercial uses on the land use plan also apply to residential uses. Generally, areas proposed for higher intensity residential development are located in areas of existing residential development. These areas are associated with the urban area of the City of Jackson, and urbanizing portions of Blackman, Leoni, Spring Arbor, and Summit Townships.”

“Additional urban development is proposed in lakes areas where sewer systems exist or are planned, and in the Village areas of Brooklyn, Concord, Grass Lake, Hanover, Parma and Springport. Further development is proposed in the unincorporated areas of Michigan Center, Spring Arbor and Vandercook Lake.”

“Residential development in rural areas will continue, but should not be encouraged. Within rural areas local townships should pursue and encourage clustered housing with secured, permanent open space to be preferred over large lot single family development.”

“Existing agriculture should be encouraged in rural areas of the County, particularly where there are prime soils, or productive farms.”

Appendix D

Recreation and Resource Inventories

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

NRPA PARK STANDARDS

TYPE OF AREA	USE	SERVICE AREA	SIZE	ACRES/ 1,000	SITE FEATURES
Mini-Park	Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens.	Less than 1/4 mile radius	1 acre or less	.25 to .50	Within neighborhoods and in proximity to apartment complexes, townhouses or housing for the elderly.
Neighborhood Park or Playground	Area for intense recreation activities, such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus area, skating, picnicking, wading pools, etc.	¼ to ½ mile radius to serve a population up to 5,000 - a neighborhood.	15 acres	1 to 2	Suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood populations geographically centered with safe walking and bike access. May be developed as a school park facility
Community Park	Area of diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such athletic complexes, large swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation, such as walking, viewing, sitting, AND PICNICKING. May be any combination of the above, depending upon site suitability and community need.	More than one neighborhood 1 to 2 mile radius	15+ Acres	5 to 8	May include natural features, such as water bodies, and areas suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood served.

Source: Roger A. Lancaster, Ed; 1983. Recreation, Park and Open space Standards and Guidelines, Alexandria, Virginia: National Recreation and Park Association, p. 56-57.

Jackson County Park Inventory Matrix

Park	Greenspace	Water Features	Benches	18-hole GC	9-Hole GC	Driving Range	Camping ^①	Ball Diamonds	Volleyball	Tennis	Basketball	Playgrounds	Winter Sports ^②	Restaurant	Restrooms	Rec. Center/Gym	Pathways	Picnic Shelters	Picnic Area	Grills	Markers	Swimming	Boat Launch	Fishing
Clark Lake	•	•	•									•			•	•			•	•		•	•	•
Clear Lake	•	•										•						•	•	•		•		
Gillett's Lake	•	•	•								•	•						•	•	•		•		
Grass Lake	•	•	•							•		•			•			•	•	•		•	•	•
Lime Lake	•	•										•						•	•	•		•	•	•
Little Wolf Lake	•	•	•									•						•	•	•		•		
Minard Mills	•	•	•									•						•	•	•				•
Pleasant Lake	•	•	•				•				•	•			•		•	•	•	•		•		•
Portage Lake	•	•										•						•	•	•		•	•	•
Round Lake	•	•										•						•	•	•		•	•	•
Alfred A. Snyder	•	•	•									•						•	•	•				•
Sparks Found	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Swains Lake	•	•	•				•				•	•			•		•	•	•	•		•	•	•
Vandercook Lk	•	•	•					•				•			•			•	•	•		•	•	•
Vineyard Lake	•	•	•									•						•	•	•		•	•	•

① Sixty modern campsites with water and electricity; hot showers, restrooms, a sanitary dump station & water.
 ② Sledding & toboggan hill, skating pond & warming house, cross country skiing.

City of Jackson Park Inventory Matrix

Park	Green Space	Water Feat	Benches	18-hole GC	9-Hole GC	Driving Range	Camping*	Ball Diam.	Volleyball	Tennis	Basketball	Playground	Wint. Spts.	Restaurant	Restrooms	Rec Ctr./Gym	/Pathways	Picnic Shelt.	Picnic Area	Grills	Markers	Swimming	Boat Launch	Fishing
Beech Tree	•																							
J.J. Best Ballfield								•																
Blackman Park		•	•																					
Gov. Austin Blair Memorial.	•		•																					
Bloomfield Park								•		•	•	•							•	•				
Betsy Butterfield		•	•					•				•							•					
Norm Creger Memorial.			•									•							•					
Exchange Park								•		•	•	•						•						
Bucky Harris	•	•	•																					
Martin Luther King Ctr.			•					•		•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•			
Kiwanis								•				•						•	•	•	•			
Laurel Lane Playground											•	•							•					
Leekes	•		•														•		•					
Lions								•		•	•	•						•	•	•	•			
Loomis			•					•		•	•	•	•			•		•	•	•	•	•		
Nixon Memorial								•			•	•						•	•	•		•		
Optimist								•			•	•						•	•	•			•	
Partnership			•									•							•	•	•			
Rotary								•		•	•	•							•	•	•			
Ella Sharp				•		•		•		•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Under the Oaks																						•		
Withington	•		•															•				•		
Inter-City Trail																		•						
New Leaf																		•						
Downtown Riverfront			•															•				•		

Appendix E

Description of the Planning and Public Input Processes

Summit Township Recreation Plan
2013-2017 Edition

Online Survey Promotion

Summit Township Parks and Recreation Committee is updating its recreation plan and asking Township residents to take part in the on-line survey on our website at www.summittwp.com. We encourage your participation as your input will be appreciated.

Jackson Citizen Patriot, Sunday, September 30, 2012, page A6

NOTICE:

Summit Township Parks and Recreation Committee is updating its recreation plan and asking Township residents to take part in the on-line survey on our website at www.summittwp.com. We encourage your participation as your input will be appreciated.

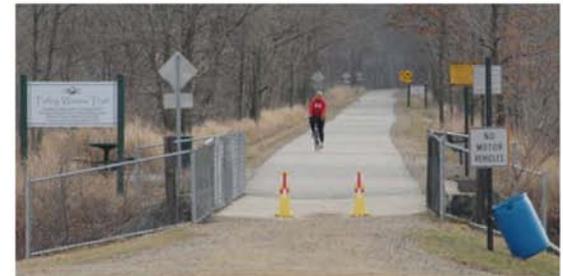
Brooklyn Exponent, Tuesday, October 9, 2012, page 3

Summit Township asks for resident input on recreation plan, non-motorized trail



By [Lisa Satayut](mailto:Lsatayut@mlive.com) | Lsatayut@mlive.com
 on October 04, 2012 at 8:30 PM, updated October 04, 2012 at 8:31 PM

SUMMIT TWP., MI— Summit Township officials want to know just how important the non-motorized trail is to the township and if residents would be willing to pay for future improvements or expansion of it.



A bicyclist uses the Falling Waters Trail near Concord. The trail extends southwest of Jackson City, from Summit Township to Concord.

The township Parks and Recreation Committee posted an **online survey** on the township website with questions that primarily focus on the current use of the trail.

Summit is in the process of updating its parks and recreation plan, and in the past, the non-motorized trail was the major interest for residents.

“It seemed to be what most people were interested in when we did past surveys,” Parks and Recreation Committee Chairman Kurt Rudolph said.

In an ideal situation, Rudolph said all the non-motorized trails in the county would connect. This is just one opportunity for public input on the recreation plan, but Rudolph said there would be others.

An up-to-date recreation plan also keeps the township eligible for capital improvement funding through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Plan Review Meeting (Open House) Promotion

**SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN REVIEW**

January 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

**Summit Township Hall
2121 Ferguson Road**

**Open to Public for Review of
Recreation Plan and
Existing/Proposed Trail Maps**

*Jackson Citizen Patriot, Thursday,
January 3, 2013, page B7*

**SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PLAN PREVIEW**

January 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Summit Township Hall
2121 Ferguson Road

Open to Public for Review of Recreation Plan and
Existing/Proposed Trail Maps

Brooklyn Exponent, Tuesday, January 8, 2013, page 3



Summit Township Recreation Plan Review

January 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Summit Township Hall

2121 Ferguson Road

*Open to Public for Review of Recreation
Plan and Existing/Proposed Trail Maps*



Summit officials hope to continue deer culling

By Jeff Steers

Brooklyn Exponent editor

Members of the Summit Township board will hope to control the deer population in the township by extending the deer culling operation with the City of Jackson.

Members of the board voted unanimously to extend the deer population control with Jackson during its meeting last Tuesday. The five-year agreement with the city ended last year.

Under the old agreement, 80 deer were culled each year by Aaron's Animal Control in which Summit Township paid one-third of the cost. Board members approved \$4,000 to be spent on the operation and for township Supervisor Jim Dunn to meet with city officials to extend the plan.

The operation was supported by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Dunn noted that the price of the culling – which had remained the same for the length of the last contract – will increase approximately 20 percent.

In other news, Bill Hestwood, Jack Jackson and Jim Sykes were re-appointed to the township's board of review. The terms will be for two years.

The board also re-appointed Randy Purvis to the Jackson Transit Authority.

Township officials will host a recreation plan review on Monday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. in the Summit Township Hall, 21221 Ferguson Road. Those attending will be able to review the recreation plan and any proposed trail maps.

The above article appeared on page 5 of the Tuesday, December 18, 2012 edition of the Brooklyn Exponent.

One Month Review Period

The adjacent flyer, providing an opportunity to review and comment upon the draft recreation plan, was posted at the following locations:

- × Lumen Christi Catholic High School,
- × Vandercook Lake Public Schools,
- × the Summit Branch of the Jackson District Library, and
- × the Summit Township Office.

The flyer shown on page E-3 was posted at the same locations. The draft plan was available for review at the following locations:

- × the Summit Township Office,
- × the Summit Branch of the Jackson District Library, and
- × www.summittwp.com – the Summit Township Website.

Letters of Transmittal

The letters of transmittal to the following are located on the next two pages of this appendix:

- × Jackson County
- × Region 2 Planning Commission



Summit Township Recreation Plan Draft

The Recreation Plan Draft is available for review for a 30 day period beginning January 15, 2013.

The Plan Draft can be viewed at:

*Summit Township Office
2121 Ferguson Road*

*Jackson District Library - Summit Branch
104 W. Bird Street, VCL*

*Summit Township Website
www.summittwp.com*





February 11, 2013

Mr. Brandon Ranson, Parks Director
Jackson County Parks and Recreation Commission
1992 Warren Avenue
Jackson, MI 49203

Subject: Summit Township Recreation Plan, 2013-2017 edition

Dear Mr. Ranson:

Local units of government must have recreation plans approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in order to maintain eligibility for federal and state funding for recreation projects. Local units must also provide copies of the document to the County of Jackson and the Region 2 Planning Commission. The following link to the Region 2 Planning Commission website (www.region2planning.com) provides access to the most current draft of the 2013-2017 edition of the Summit Township Recreation Plan:

http://www.region2planning.com/website/imagenavigation/Recreation_Plan/Jackson/13-17SummitRecPlanDft.pdf

Please contact me at (517) 768-6711 if you would prefer to receive a hard copy of the document or have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Grant E. Bauman".

Grant E. Bauman, AICP
Principal Planner

120 West Michigan Avenue • Jackson, Michigan 49201 • ☎ (517) 788-4426 • 📠 (517) 788-4635



February 11, 2013

Mr. Steven Duke, Executive Director
Region 2 Planning Commission
120 W. Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201

Subject: Summit Township Recreation Plan, 2013-2017 edition

Dear Mr. Duke:

Local units of government must have recreation plans approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in order to maintain eligibility for federal and state funding for recreation projects. Local units must also provide copies of the document to the County of Jackson and the Region 2 Planning Commission. The following link to the Region 2 Planning Commission website (www.region2planning.com) provides access to the most current draft of the 2013-2017 edition of the Summit Township Recreation Plan:

http://www.region2planning.com/website/imagenavigation/Recreation_Plan/Jackson/13-17SummitRecPlanDft.pdf

Please contact me at (517) 768-6711 if you would prefer to receive a hard copy of the document or have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Grant E. Bauman, AICP
Principal Planner

120 West Michigan Avenue • Jackson, Michigan 49201 • ☎ (517) 788-4426 • 📠 (517) 788-4635

Public Hearing Noticing

The Summit Township Recreation Planning Committee will hold a Public Hearing to adopt the 2013 Recreation Plan for the Township on Monday, February 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township meeting hall.

*Jackson Citizen Patriot,
Thursday, January 17, 2013*

**The Summit Township
Recreation Planning Committee
will hold a Public Hearing**
to adopt the 2013 Recreation Plan
for the Township on
Monday, February 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
in the Township meeting hall.

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Brooklyn Exponent, Tuesday, January 22, 2013, page 6C

Summit Township Recreation Planning Committee
Summit Township Recreation Plan, 2013-2017 edition
Resolution of Approval

WHEREAS, Summit Township formed a Recreation Planning Committee for the purpose of developing a five-year recreation plan which describes the physical features and existing recreation facilities of the Township and the surrounding area, and the desired actions which can be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2013 and 2017, and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Planning Committee solicited suggestions and questions from the general public through an online recreation survey and an open house, and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Planning Committee developed the Recreation Plan for the benefit of the residents of Summit Township and the surrounding area and to assist Summit Township in meeting the recreation needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, after the one-month review period, held between January 15th and February 15th of 2013, and the public hearing held on February 18, 2013, the Recreation Planning Committee of Summit Township voted to approve the 2013-2017 edition of the Summit Township Recreation Plan and to recommend its adoption by the Summit Township Board of Trustees.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Recreation Planning Committee of Summit Township hereby approves the 2013-2017 edition of Summit Township Recreation Plan and to recommend its adoption by the Summit Township Board of Trustees.

I, Kurt Rudolph, Chair of the Recreation Planning Committee, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Recreation Planning Committee of Summit Township at a meeting thereof held on the 18th day of February, 2013.



Kurt Rudolph, Chair
Summit Township, Michigan

18 February 2013

Date

Recreation Planning Committee

February 18, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kurt Rudolph, Chairman; Michael Way, Township Board Liaison; Natalie Stopyak, Planning Commission Liaison; Charles Neese, Aaron Bush, Jim Guerriero, and John Worden, Summit Township Zoning Administrator

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marilyn Waite

The meeting was called to order by K. Rudolph, Chairman, on Monday February 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall Meeting Room.

A motion was made by J. Guerriero, supported by C. Neese, to approve as written the November 19, 2012 minutes of the Recreation Planning Committee. The motion was carried unanimously. Note: the minutes of January 14, 2013 Open House were not available and will be on the agenda for approval at the May 2013 meeting.

Election of Chairman – A motion was made by Michael Way, supported by J. Guerriero to retain K. Rudolph as Chairman. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Public Hearing for adoption of the 2013 – 2017 Recreation Plan was opened by K. Rudolph, Chairman. There was no public comment. It was recommended by the Committee that Michael Way be added to the Recreation Advisory Committee as Township Board Liaison and Todd Emmons name reflects past Township Board Liaison. There were no other comments or input. A motion was made by Michael Way, supported by N. Stopyak to adopt the Resolution of Approval for the Summit Township Recreation Plan 2013-2017 edition. The motion was approved on roll call vote. Voting for approval were Kurt Rudolph, Michael Way, Natalie Stopyak, Jim Guerriero, Aaron Bush, and Charles Neese. Absent: Marilyn Waite.

There was discussion on the Horton Road path and the Safe Route to Schools projects. Aaron Bush stated that the application for the Safe Route to Schools will be submitted by March 2013. He also noted that some of the changes in the requirements will make the proposal cover less area than had been originally envisioned.

On March 26, 2013 the Township Board of Trustees will consider the recommendation of the Recreation Planning Committee on the 2013 – 2017 Recreation Plan

Motion by J. Guerriero, supported by M. Way, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

John Worden, Recording Secretary

**Summit Township Board of Trustees
Summit Township Recreation Plan, 2013-2017 edition
Resolution of Adoption**

WHEREAS, Summit Township formed a Recreation Planning Committee for the purpose of developing a five-year recreation plan which describes the physical features and existing recreation facilities of the Township and the surrounding area, and the desired actions which can be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2013 and 2017, and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Planning Committee solicited suggestions and questions from the general public through an online recreation survey and an open house, and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Planning Committee developed the Recreation Plan for the benefit of the residents of Summit Township and the surrounding area and to assist Summit Township in meeting the recreation needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, after the one-month review period, held between January 15th and February 15th of 2013, and the public hearing held on February 18, 2013, the Recreation Planning Committee of Summit Township voted to approve the 2013-2017 edition of the Summit Township Recreation Plan and to recommend its adoption by the Summit Township Board of Trustees.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Summit Township Board of Trustees hereby approves the 2013-2017 edition of Summit Township Recreation Plan and to recommend its adoption by the Summit Township Board of Trustees.


Janie Hildebrandt, Clerk
Summit Township, Michigan

March 26, 2013
Date


Jim Dunn, Supervisor
Summit Township, Michigan

3/26/2013
Date

I, Janie Hildebrandt, Clerk of Summit Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Summit Township Board of Trustees at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 26th day of March, 2013


Janie Hildebrandt, Clerk
Summit Township, Michigan

March 26, 2013
Date



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management
**COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND
 GREENWAY PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST**
*By Authority of Parts 19, 703 and 716 of Act 451, P. A. 1994, as amended, submission of this
 information is required for eligibility to apply for grants*

**APPENDIX H. COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND GREENWAY
 PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST**

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete, obtain certification signatures and submit this checklist with a locally adopted recreation plan. All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). To be eligible for grant consideration, plans must be submitted to the DNR prior to the grant application deadline with a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan.

PLAN INFORMATION

Name of Plan:		
List the community names (including school districts) covered by the plan	County	Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body
Summit Township	Jackson	March, 2013

PLAN CONTENT

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION (Chapter 1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s) (pgs. 2-2 & 2-3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart (pg. 2-3) Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming (pg. 2-4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current Funding Sources (pgs. 2-3 thru 2-4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Role of Volunteers (pg. -2-3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations (pgs. 2-4 & 2-5) Regional Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only <input type="checkbox"/> Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities <input type="checkbox"/> Articles of Incorporation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. RECREATION INVENTORY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory (pg. 3-2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities (pg. 3-3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required) (Appendix A) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessibility Assessment (pg. 3-3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities. (pg. 3-3)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL) (pgs. 3-10 thru 3-14)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS (pg. 4-2)

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS (pgs. 4-2 thru 4-8)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, Including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment</p> <p>Date of Notice <u>January 15, 2013</u></p> <p>Type of Notice <u>Flyer (also a flyer for an open house on 1-14-2013)</u></p> <p>Plan Location <u>Schools, Library, twp. office, online (see page E-3)</u></p> <p>Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at least 30 Days) <u>1/15/2013-2/15/2013</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)</p> <p>Date of Notice <u>1/17/2013 & 1/22/2013</u></p> <p>Name of Newspaper <u>Jackson Citizen Patriot & Brooklyn Exponent</u></p> <p>Date of Meeting <u>February, 18, 2013</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (Chapter 5)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8. ACTION PROGRAM (Chapter 6)</p>
PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION	
<p>Plans must be adopted by the highest level governing body (i.e., city council, county commission, township board). If planning is the responsibility of a Planning Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Recreation Advisory Board or other local Board or Commission, the plan should also include a resolution from the Board or Commission recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body.</p> <p>The local unit of government must submit the final plan to both the County and Regional Planning Agency for their information. Documentation that this was done must be submitted with the plan to the DNR.</p> <p>Items 1, 3 and 4 below are required and must be included in the plan.</p> <p>APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION: For multi-jurisdictional plans, each local unit of government must pass a resolution adopting the plan. Prepare and attach a separate page for each unit of government included in the plan.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: <u>March 26, 2013</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Official resolution of the Recreation Planning Committee or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: <u>February 18, 2013</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: <u>2/11/2013</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: <u>2/11/2013</u></p>	
OVERALL CERTIFICATION	
<p>NOTE: For multi-jurisdictional plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of each local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page for each unit of government included in the plan.</p> <p><i>I hereby certify that the recreation plan for</i> <u>Summit Township</u> <i>includes the required content, as indicated above and as set forth by the DNR.</i> (Local Unit of Government)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  <u>3/26/2013</u> Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government, Date </p>	
<p>This completed checklist must be signed and submitted with a locally adopted recreation plan to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GRANTS MANAGEMENT MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PO BOX 30425 LANSING, MI 48909-7925</p>	
<p>By: _____ Date _____</p> <p>Grants Management _____ Date _____</p>	<p>The recreation plan is approved by the DNR and the community (ies) covered by this plan, as listed on page 1 of this checklist (are eligible to apply for recreation grants through _____)</p>

