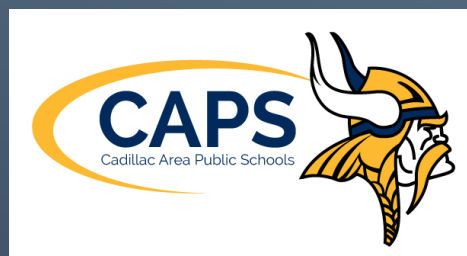
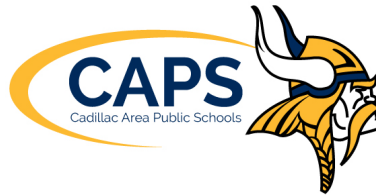




CITY OF CADILLAC/CADILLAC AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS – COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN 2024-2029





Community Recreation Plan 2024-2029

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INTRODUCTION

Cadillac, Michigan is in semi-rural Wexford County in the northwest sector of the state's Lower Peninsula. The city lies approximately 100 miles north of Grand Rapids, 50 miles south of Traverse City, and 200 miles northwest of Detroit. Cadillac is in the heartland of one of Michigan's prime outdoor recreational areas. Cadillac is within a few miles of thousands of acres of state and federal forest lands open to a variety of outdoor recreational pursuits. The city is centrally located among many prime inland lakes and streams, world-renowned cold-water trout streams, and lies near some of the region's finest skiing and snowmobiling areas.

Cadillac serves as the governmental seat for Wexford County and is the county's largest urban center having a population of 10,371 residents based on the 2020 U.S. Census. During holidays and seasonal periods, the city's population increases markedly. Cadillac is home to Mitchell State Park located in the Cadillac West Resort District between Lake Cadillac and Lake Mitchell. This highly popular campground is one of Michigan's leading recreational facilities, drawing thousands of tourists each year. Cadillac also serves as the region's commercial and industrial hub.

To maintain and improve the quality of life for its residents, it is a goal of the city and the Cadillac Area Public Schools to continuously reassess the need and delivery of recreational services to the community. This document is intended to serve as a guide in the planning and implementation of recreation opportunities and services. Demographic changes, shifts in local economic development, declining municipal revenues and changing attitudes toward leisure continue to add pressures to the current parks and recreation system, thereby advancing the need for short and long-range planning. Many of the recommendations that follow, such as those regarding maintenance issues and small recreation facility improvements, can be implemented quickly and easily and at minimal costs. Long-range proposals, particularly those for major facility expansions and/or construction, will obligate a more serious allocation of resources. Regardless, this plan provides the foundation to realize a range of recreational opportunities for all people.

The focus of the Plan is twofold. First and primarily, the multi-faceted desires of residents and the recreation needs of the community are identified. Be it noted that "community" extends beyond the city's municipal boundaries, since Cadillac has long functioned as a recreation provider for the area far beyond the city itself. The city's recreational facilities are commonly enjoyed by residents from throughout Wexford County, as well as many residents from nearby Missaukee and Osceola Counties. The areas of focus and actions in this plan attempt to:

- Spatially balance the geographic location of recreation facilities.
- Provide a range of facilities consistent with identified deficiencies and citizen needs.
- Ensure that parklands are well maintained.
- Ensure that all facilities are highly visible and accessible to all people.
- Continually evaluate and, as possible, address the needs and desires of the community pursuant to recreational services.

Secondly, the Plan inventories the parks and facilities of the community, identifies deficiencies and opportunities, and recommends an action plan for future implementation of park and recreation improvements.

Implementation strategies will be exercised and subsequently analyzed, just as new approaches may be identified, over the next five years at which time the Plan should once again be updated. The delineation of these improvements will aid the city and school in grant solicitations from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA), Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), and other funding agencies and in the initiation of long-range capital improvements. Over the next five years it is important for the city and schools to reference the Plan and make necessary modifications as conditions change and/or funding opportunities arise.

RECREATION PROGRAM GOALS

It is the desire of the parties involved in the Plan's preparation to provide activities of value, both educational and recreational, for every resident and group of individuals in the Cadillac Area. The measure of success of this undertaking greatly depends upon the cooperation between the city and public schools, as well as the surrounding townships and the county of Wexford as a whole. The foundation to act and achieve the aims of this understanding rests in well-thought out and concise planning, which is the basis of this document.

The Community Recreation Plan includes several goals, which all subsequent recreation planning, and facility development must consider. While these goals are primarily concerned with the development of new recreational assets, they also provide direction for the management and modernization of existing facilities and programs. The goals are:

1. Strengthening participation and collaboration between the Cadillac Area Public School District, the city of Cadillac, and Wexford County to provide for a more efficient allocation of services and an improved quality of life for the community.
2. To improve the walkability of the city and to promote safe bicycle trails and routes throughout the city.
3. To facilitate recreational opportunities related to our natural resource base.
4. Maintain and implement upgrades to existing recreational facilities as needed to meet the needs of residents and those who enjoy these public conveniences.
5. Build new facilities to address recreational deficiencies, and to make sure that there are recreational opportunities for all facets of the population.
6. Maintain an on-going evaluation of current and proposed recreation facilities about barrier-free accessibility. Where feasible and practicable, ensure that all facilities are designed, constructed, and maintained to be universally accessible.
7. Improve the planning, location, and development of tourism-oriented recreation facilities to strengthen the area's economy.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Introduction

As available, the profile includes data on the city of Cadillac and Wexford County. The information is principally based on the 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) and the 2020 United States Census.

Population

Table 1 provides resident population counts for the city and county. Almost one-third of the county's population is concentrated in the city. The city and abutting townships hold roughly two-thirds of the county's population. The concentration of residents in the Cadillac area, combined with a limited collection of public recreational facilities beyond the city's limits, creates significant demand for local recreation facilities.

Table 1 - Population	
Geographic Entity	2020 Population (% of County Population)
City of Cadillac	10,371 (31%)
Wexford County	33,673(100%)
<i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020. Note : In certain instances, population estimates provided by the U.S. Census for certain data categories may vary slightly.</i>	

Population Distribution by Gender

Table 2 provides a breakdown of the resident population based on gender.

Table 2 – Population Distribution by Gender				
Gender	City of Cadillac		Wexford County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	5,306	50.7	16,681	49.9
Female	5,156	49.3	16,752	50.1
Total	10,462	100.0	33,433	100.0
<i>Source: U.S. Census – 2019 ACS Estimate</i>				

Population Distribution by Age

Table 3 provides a distribution of population by age group. The age categories have been assigned life-style groupings ranging from pre-school to retirement years. The groupings are provided for general reference purposes. They are not based on Census classifications.

Table 3 – Population Distribution by Age				
Age (Lifestyle Phase)	City of Cadillac		Wexford County	
	Number	% Population	Number	% Population
Under 5 Years (Pre-School)	793	7.6	2,020	6.0
5 to 14 Years (Elem./Junior High)	1,335	12.7	4,473	13.0
15 to 19 Years (High School)	284	2.7	1,909	5.7
20 to 24 Years (Post H.S./College)	663	6.3	1,786	5.3
25 to 44 Years (Family/Child Rearing Years)	2,876	27.5	7,715	23.1
45 to 64 Years (Empty Nester)	2,390	22.9	9,172	27.5
65 Years + (Retirement)	2,121	20.3	6,358	19.0
Total Population	10,462	100.0	33,433	100.0
Note: The lifestyle groupings (i.e. Pre-school, Elem./Junior High etc.) are provided for general reference comparative purposes. They are not based on Census classifications.				
Source: U.S. Census – 2019 ACS estimate				

Population Distribution by Ethnicity/Race

Table 4 offers a breakdown by ethnicity or race. Residents within both geographic sectors are predominately white (95.3% and 94.9% respectively). The second largest ethnic group, though relatively small in absolute numbers, is Hispanic and Latino representing approximately 1.7% of the city's population and 2.1% of the county's residents.

Table 4 – Population Distribution by Ethnicity/Race				
Ethnicity/Race	City of Cadillac		Wexford County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
White	9,970	95.3	31,720	94.9
Black or African American	211	2.0	287	0.9
American Indian and Alaska Native	5	Negligible	117	0.3
Asian	16	0.2	164	0.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0	31	0.1
Hispanic and Latino	177	1.7	688	2.1
Other Ethnicity/Race	83	0.1	426	0.1
<i>Source: U.S. Census – 2020 DEC redistricting data population of 10,371</i>				

Population with Unique Needs

The following, derived from the American Community Survey (ACS), provides estimates on the disability demographic of Wexford County. Information specifically for the city is not available. To obtain supplementary information contact was made with the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments and District Health Department Number 10.

Residents identified by the Census as having a “disability” status are those who experience physical, mental, or emotional conditions or limitations that affect their ability to perform major life activities. In 2010, roughly 15% (4,917 people) of the Wexford County civilian non-institutionalized population was characterized as having some type of disability. The occurrence of disabilities reported for Wexford County in the 2021 survey was 18.6% (6,230 people).

Table 5 offers a breakdown of the occurrence of disabilities for select age groups. The numbers provided for disabilities reflect the number of people experiencing one or more disabilities for the identified age range. For example, in the under 18 age range group the ACS estimates that 659 people in Wexford County experience one or more disabilities. This reflects approximately

8.5% of the total number of people with a disability in Wexford County. In some instances, a person may experience more than one disability.

Pursuant to Table 5, cognitive disability is used to describe a person who experiences certain limitations in mental functioning and in skills such as communicating, taking care of him or herself, and social skills. Ambulatory disabilities refer to limitations or restrictions one may experience in walking, climbing stairs, or similar functioning. Self-care disabilities denote problems or complications a person may experience when trying to cope with health problems or trying to improve one's health. Independent living disabilities refer to individuals unable to exercise, or fully exercise, autonomy pursuant to making and following through with one's own choices.

Older populations are prone to experiencing the highest rate of multiple disabilities. Of the older populations, ambulatory issues are particularly pronounced. As noted, ambulatory disabilities refer to limitations or restrictions one may experience in walking, climbing stairs, or similar functioning.

The incidence of a disability does not necessarily imply that participants are restricted from the use and enjoyment of recreational facilities. However, knowledge of their presence is vital in alerting recreational providers of the importance of comprehensively examining and as needed, addressing deficiencies.

Table 5 – Persons With Disabilities – Wexford County		
Disabilities and Health Challenges	Number Experiencing a Disability	Percent of Population Experiencing a Disability
With a cognitive difficulty	2,977	8.9
With an ambulatory difficulty	2,800	8.4
With an independent living difficulty	2,145	6.4
With a hearing difficulty	1,485	4.4
With a self-care difficulty	1,154	3.5
With a vision difficulty	2,675	8.0
By Age Group		
Under 18 years	659	2.0
18 to 64 years	3,360	10.0
64 years and older	2,211	6.6
<i>Notes:</i>		
1. The U.S. Census population estimate for Wexford County is 33,433.		
2. Adding the number of disabilities for a particular age group will not necessarily equal the number of individuals with a disability as some individuals experience multiple disabilities.		
3. Vision Difficulty – District Health Department 10 Report (7.19.23).		
<i>Source: Disability characteristics for Wexford County, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS)</i>		

Obesity

According to District Health Department Number 10, obesity and smoking are serious health concerns in our jurisdiction. Fairly recent studies indicate that approximately 38% of Wexford County's population falls into the obese category. According to the Health Department and other health professionals, obesity and smoking often lead to other health issues. A solid recreation program providing a range of facilities and opportunities can be greatly beneficial in helping reduce obesity and hopefully encourage declines in smoking and the use of other harmful substances.

Leading Causes of Death

Table 6 lists the leading causes of death in Wexford County and the State of Michigan as a rate per 100,000 residents. In some instances, these health concerns may be triggered or aggravated by obesity, smoking, and other such factors. It is a goal of our recreation program to help reduce the incidence of these and other factors.

Table 6 – Leading Causes of Death as a Rate Per 100,000 Residents

Causes of Death	Wexford County	Michigan
Heart Disease	154.5	200.8
Cancer	154.1	167.1
Alzheimer's Disease	56.5	33.8
Chronic Lower Respiratory	55.7	44.7
Stroke	43.2	39.1
<i>Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services 2016</i>		

Veterans

Both Cadillac and Wexford County have a considerable number of veterans who served in the military. In the city and county there are several veterans' organizations and private volunteer groups offering services and assistance to veterans such as the Wexford County Veterans Services Office. The office assists veterans and their families in obtaining county, state, and federal benefits to which they are entitled. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs maintains a fully serviced Veterans Clinic in nearby Haring Charter Township. Through volunteer efforts and the donation of land, a 33-acre Veterans Park located in Haring Charter Township is presently undergoing development. The park will serve as a respite location for veterans and their families.

Table 7 – Percentage of Population Who are Veterans

Community	Number of Veterans	Percent of Population Who Are Veterans
City of Cadillac	980	9.3
Wexford County	3,036	9.1
<i>Source: American Community Survey (ACS), year 2020 for the City of Cadillac and 2021 for Wexford County.</i>		

Public School Enrollment

Table 8 provides school enrollments for the Cadillac Area Public Schools for select years over the past four plus decades. As indicated, enrollment ranged from a low of 3,029 students to a high of 3,556 students. The average enrollment over the years shown is 3,200 students. The present enrollment for the 2023/2024 school year is 3,071 students. Though the average enrollment has remained relatively steady for some time, the lack of significant growth is largely attributed to the area's modest increase in overall population. Factors such as the presence of private (faith based) schools, homeschooling, and the Michigan Schools of Choice Program may also be contributing factors.

Table 8 – Cadillac Area Public Schools Enrollment

School Year	Number	Change from Preceding Period
1980-1981	3,556	N.A.
1990-1991	3,502	(-1.5%)
2000-2001	3,514	(-9.2%)
2012-2013	3,029	(-0.3%)
2013-2014	3,068	1.29%
2014-2015	3,064	(-0.14%)
2016-2017	3,143	1.89%
2018-2019	3,133	(-0.31%)
2019-2020	3,103	(-0.63%)
2020-2021	3,105	0.07%
2021-2022	3,152	1.53%
2022-2023	3,158	0.19%
2023-2024	3,071	(-2.8%)

Source: State of Michigan full-time equivalency (FTE) statistics.

Households

A household is defined as a person or group of people who occupy a housing unit. A family household consists of a householder and one or more people living together in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. A non-family household consists of a person living alone or a householder who shares the home with non-relatives only.

In 2020 Cadillac possessed 4,507 households, representing approximately 31 percent of the total households in Wexford County. As indicated by Table 9, roughly 58 percent of the city's households are family households and 42 percent are non-family. This compares to 67 percent and 33 percent respectively for the county. Approximately 30 percent of the city's family households have children less than 18 years of age. Eleven percent of the city's households and 8 percent of the county's households with children below 18 years of age are headed by a female with no husband present. Cadillac's average household size is 2.32 people. Wexford County's average household size is 2.50 people.

Table 9 – Households by Household Type

Household Type	City of Cadillac		Wexford County	
	Number	% of City HH	Number	% of County HH
Total households	4,507	100.0	13,344	100.0
Family households	2,597	57.6	8,918	66.8
Non-family households	1,910	42.4	4,426	33.2
Family households with children under 18	1,153	29.9		
Husband and wife HH with no children under 18	1,040	24.3	4,621	35.5
Female HH with children under 18	474	11.1	1,039	8.0
Householders living alone	1,536	34.1	4,363	32.7
Male householder and no spouse present	261	5.8	571	4.0
Female householder and no spouse present	592	13.1	1,317	9.2

Source: 2021 American Community Survey (ACS)

Housing Tenure

Cadillac has 4,507 occupied housing units. Wexford County has 14,344 occupied housing units. Table 10 provides a breakdown of housing tenure for occupied housing units. Sixty one percent of Cadillac's occupied housing units are owner occupied whereas 39 percent are renter occupied. These percentages change rather significantly for Wexford County. The owner to renter rates is 81 percent to 19 percent respectively. If the city's housing units are removed from the equation, the ratio of owner to renter occupied units in Wexford County is 90 percent and 10 percent respectively.

For Cadillac, between the 2010 and 2020 Census periods, the percentage of owner-occupied units remained rather consistent increasing slightly from 59 percent to 61 percent. Concurrently, renter occupied units decreased from 41 percent to 39 percent. Regionally, the city contains approximately 65 percent of the area's rental housing units.

For Cadillac, 6,632 people reside in owner occupied homes while 3,651 people live in renter occupied housing. This compares to 27,640 people and 5,980 people respectively for Wexford County. The average number of people per household for the city and county is relatively close for both owner and renter occupied housing.

Table 10 – Housing Tenure and Household Size of Occupied Units						
Community	Owner Occupied Housing Units	Population in Owner Occupied Units	Average HH Size Owner Occupied Units	Renter Occupied Housing Units	Population in Renter Occupied Units	Average HH Size Renter Occupied Units
City of Cadillac	2,765 (61%)	6,632 (64%)	2.40	1,742 (39%)	3,651 (36%)	2.08
Wexford County	11,655 (81%)	27,640 (82%)	2.37	2,689 (19%)	5,980 (18%)	2.22
Notes: 1. Percentages reflect a comparison of the ration of owner to renter units for the identified community. 2. The information does not include housing of an institutional character such as elder care or dependent care housing.						
Source: 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) for Cadillac, 2021 ACS for Wexford County.						

Employment

Cadillac serves as a regional center for employment and business opportunities. Estimates indicate the city's daily population increases by almost 69 percent due to the inflow of people commuting to the city for employment purposes. Conversely, the county's daytime population (minus the city of Cadillac) drops by approximately 50 percent. Table 11 provides a breakdown of employment by occupational category for the employed population 16 years of age and older.

Table 11 – Employment in Wexford County	
Occupational Category	Wexford County Estimates
Total number of civilians over 16 employed	14,365
Management, business, science, & arts	29.7%
Service occupations	15.5%
Sales & office occupations	19.0%
Natural resources, construction & maintenance	9.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving	26.7%
Source: 2020 American Community Survey (ACS)	

Income and Poverty Status

Recreational activities requiring large monetary investments may be out of the reach of individuals and families with limited incomes. As such, recreational facilities and programs provided by the city and schools become extremely important. Table 12 provides income detail for the city and county. As noted, per capita, household and family income levels in the city are below those of the county. The number of families in the city experiencing poverty is greater.

The income Poverty Thresholds according to the 2020 US Census Bureau are as follows:

- One person under the age of 65 \$13,465
- Two people with the householder under the age of 65 \$17,413
- Three people \$20,591
- Four people \$26,496

Table 12 – Income and Poverty Status

Community	Median HH Income	Mean HH Income	Median Family Income	Mean Family Income	Population Below Poverty
City of Cadillac	\$40,309	\$54,362	\$48,100	\$66,698	20.4%
Wexford County	\$50,335	\$66,423	\$59,652	\$77,247	15.2%
<i>Source: 2020 American Community Survey (ACS), U.S. Census Quick Facts</i>					

Community Organizations and Volunteers

A range of community organizations, volunteer groups, and citizens assist in the programming, development, and maintenance of recreational facilities. Examples include:

- Wexford Garden Club - Maintain the Sound Garden during warm months and assist in the Parks Clean Up Day each spring.
- Viking Softball Association - Help maintain the local Kysor Softball Fields.
- City Residents – Annually, city residents and corporate organizations volunteer to participate in the annual spring Parks Clean Up Day.
- Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce – The Chamber Leadership Program, sponsored by local private organizations, has assisted in the funding and development of recreational facilities such as the picnic pavilion located in Kenwood Park.
- The following groups sponsor a flowerbed around the lake and downtown:
 - Hitesman-Holdship
 - Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Elenbaas
 - Brandon Wiggins Memorial
 - Women’s Club
 - Zion Lutheran Church
 - 5/3 Bank

- Robb Munger
- Serendipity
- Wexford Herb Society
- Youth Advisory Committee and Rotary Club
- Mark and Maureen Vandenberg
- Linda Anderson
- Edgeview Condo Association
- Youth Council
- Brinks Frames

Private Partnerships and Organizations

Historically, the Cadillac area has experienced significant participation by private parties and organizations in the programming, development, and maintenance of recreational programs and facilities. Representative examples of such assistance include:

-Lake Cadillac Invasive Species Management Millage – The citizens and taxpayers of the city approved a city-wide special multi-year millage for the control of invasive species impacting Lake Cadillac. Funds from that program were sufficient to accommodate program needs for an extended period.

-Keith McKellop Walkway Pickleball Courts – Cliff Sjogren, a long time Cadillac resident, donated \$100,000 for the construction of the pickleball courts located near the west end of the Keith McKellop Walkway.

-Diggins Hill Tennis Courts – Through the efforts of private citizens, the Diggins Hill tennis courts were approximately 75 percent funded by private citizens and corporate donations.

-Diggins Hill Disc Golf Course – The disc golf course, including the purchase and installation of the course, was fully funded by the Cadillac Area Kiwanis Club.

-Pavilion Bathrooms, Lakefront ADA Playground, Sound Garden Sundial, and other community projects – These and other projects have been funded by the Cadillac Area Rotary Club through the solicitation of private donations and fundraising activities.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS – ENVIRONMENT/TRANSPORTATION/LANDUSE

Introduction

The provision of leisure time opportunities, especially outdoor activities, is strongly influenced by a community's physical character. Factors such as topography, vegetation and wildlife, soils, water resources, and climate help dictate the range of potential recreation opportunities a community may experience.

Topography

Land in Cadillac varies in elevation. East of Mitchell Street (US-131BR), elevations approach 1,400 feet. Similar elevations are found to the south, near the Maple Hill Cemetery. In contrast, most of the land west of Mitchell Street is relatively low in elevation, not much greater than that of Lake Cadillac at 1,289 feet with only modest topographical differences throughout.

These elevation differences generally create a sense of pleasant change within the city resulting in a variety of aesthetic views and development opportunities. A general topography map of the city is included as Appendix A.

Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources

The city's predominant natural feature is Lake Cadillac, a freshwater inland lake slightly over 1,150 acres in area with 34,960 lineal feet of shoreline. Over one-third of the shoreline frontage is in public ownership comprised of lands owned by the city, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Michigan Department of Transportation.



Lake Cadillac provides a variety of recreational opportunities including boating, swimming, fishing, and waterfowl viewing. Primary fish species include large and smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye, crappie, and sunfish. Common waterfowl species include mallards and Canada geese. Waterfowl hunting is not permitted on the lake, or elsewhere in the city. Bald eagles are occasionally observed soaring over the lake and an occasional black bear or white tail deer may be observed within the limits of the city. Other animals common to the area include raccoon, opossum, coyote, skunk, rabbits, and other such species found to reside in Northwest Michigan. The city is host to a variety of birds attracted to the numerous feeders found in residential areas throughout the city.

Lake Cadillac empties into the Clam River near the northeast corner of the lake. The Clam River is classified as a cold-water trout stream. A small dam positioned on the river near Chestnut Street helps regulate the level of the lake. The office of the Wexford County Drain Commissioner controls the dam and associated water levels. The Clam River flows through the northeast sector of the city between Lake Cadillac and the 13th Street/Plett Road Intersection. At its western end, Lake Cadillac is connected to nearby Lake Mitchell via a channelized waterway approximately 1,500 feet in length. The channel passes under State Trunk-line M-115 and is navigable by small watercraft. Collectively, Lakes Cadillac and Mitchell possess approximately 3,700 acres of surface area. Roughly 1,760 lineal feet of Lake Mitchell shoreline is located in the city. The remaining shoreline frontage is contained in the city's neighboring townships. Mitchell State Park, a very popular Michigan



State Park with over 200 camping sites and related amenities, is situated between the two lakes.

In 2005 Lake Cadillac experienced a heavy infestation of Eurasian watermilfoil, an invasive aquatic plant species. Based on field surveys completed during 2005, the plant had invaded approximately 300 acres of the lake making full recreational use of the lake difficult. The origin of the plant is unknown but was likely introduced via plant fragments originating from watercraft brought into the lake following their use in infected lake systems. Milfoil is known to spread through plant fragmentation. Plant fragments are capable of quickly rooting in shallow lake areas. In 2006 the city retained the services of an aquatic management consultant to assist with lake management efforts. An aggressive management program combining biological and chemical treatments was employed to help curb the incidence of milfoil. That program has been generally successful and continues through the present period. Annual treatment, consulting and other program costs are budgeted at around \$100,000 but can vary annually depending on program needs. The city currently funds lake management efforts from the general fund and continues to explore other funding options.

Soils

Although a large majority of the city's original soils have been modified by urban development, twelve basic soils classifications may be identified. For ease of analysis, these have been grouped according to natural drainage ability (class). The soil groups include:

- Poorly Drained Soils – soils having a capacity for extended water retention. Such soils are often associated with wetland areas.
- Well-Drained Soils – soils in which water is removed readily, but not rapidly. Water is in the soil sufficient time for plant use throughout the growing season. Soils are medium textured.
- Excessively Drained Soils – soils in which water is removed very rapidly. Soils are coarse in texture and tend to be sandy in type.

Generally, poorly drained soils are not conducive to construction activity or septic systems. They often require modification prior to use. In certain instances, poorly drained soils such as those associated with a wetland may not be used for development due to State or Federal regulation. The city possesses several areas of poorly drained soil. These are generally located near Lakes Cadillac and Mitchell and various low-lying areas. Wetland soils are found in the city's extreme western and northwestern sectors and south of Lake Cadillac. Poorly drained soils often restrict development but are very important, especially those associated with wetlands. Wetlands serve as natural detention areas helping to control area-wide flooding. Wetlands serve as natural environmental filters removing sediments and contaminants before entering the ground water or large water bodies such as Lake Cadillac. Wetlands also provide important wildlife habitat.

Most of the city's geographic area is comprised of well drained and excessively drained soil conducive to most forms of building activity. The wide presence of municipal sanitary sewers also precludes the general need of septic systems.

A Cadillac soils map is included under *Appendix B*.

Vegetation

Much of the city's native vegetation has been modified over time due to urban development activity. Mature varieties of oaks, maples and a range of evergreens are common throughout the city's residential sectors. Trees are afforded special recognition within the city. They are considered an important environmental resource and critical to a quality community character. All trees located in public rights-of-way are inventoried for type and condition. Diseased, such as ash trees infected with emerald ash borer, and dead trees are quickly replaced with healthy specimens to ensure the ongoing presence of quality stock.

The city's tree management efforts have gained Cadillac the distinction as a "Tree City U.S.A." by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Cadillac's tree program is managed by the Forestry Supervisor, an employee of the Cadillac Public Works Department (Park Division). For many years the city has instituted a program whereby property owners may request the planting of one or two trees in the (public) tree lawn areas abutting their private sites and nearby streets. Thus far the program is offered free to property owners and has been highly effective in increasing the number of trees found throughout the city. In most years the request for trees exceeds the city's ability to supply them due to limited program funding.

Climate

Cadillac has a humid, continental, climate typical of the upper Midwest Lake states. Normally, spring is slightly delayed, and fall is extended due to the moderating effect of the prevailing southwesterly winds off Lake Michigan, approximately 55 miles to the west. Table 13 provides detail on average temperatures and precipitation levels. The average annual snowfall is 81.6 inches which normally includes zero amounts in June through September. Prevailing winds, frequent weather changes, extreme seasonal temperature variations, uniform annual distribution of precipitation and four distinct seasons characterize the climate in Cadillac. Notwithstanding the above, at the initial timing of this plan, Cadillac was experiencing record high temperatures for the months of February and March resulting in limited snow levels and a lack of ice on Lake Cadillac.

Table 13 Average Temperatures and Precipitation - City of Cadillac													
Month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Average High °F Years on record 52	26	27	36	52	65	75	80	78	69	57	41	30	53
Average Low °F Years on record 52	11	9	18	30	41	52	56	54	48	38	27	17	33
Average Precipitation (inches)	1.7	1.6	1.9	2.7	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.5	2.8	2.7	1.7	30.4
Source: Weatherbase.com 11-9-2022													

Environmental Issues

The city is very cognizant of the importance of protecting the environment and has implemented or participated in a variety of programs oriented to that end. Among these include:

- Cadillac operates a groundwater treatment facility which cleans contaminated groundwater located in the Cadillac Industrial Park. This facility is expected to operate through the year 2025.
- The city has a hazardous household waste collection program, which has been funded in part by EGLE, designed to reduce the number of hazardous contaminants entering landfills.
- The city has prepared a Storm Water Management Plan used as a guide in the management of storm water.
- The city employs an “Environmentally Friendly” fertilization program for city owned land including shoreline park properties on Lake Cadillac.
- The city is helping facilitate a long-term management strategy for the protection of Lake Cadillac.
- The city continues to work with the Lake Mitchell Association pursuant to the development and implementation of management strategies leading to the long-term health and preservation of Lakes Cadillac and Mitchell.
- The city administers an invasive species management program for Lake Cadillac. The program largely deals with the annual control of Eurasian watermilfoil.
- The city in 2013 started a curbside recycling program for its residents. Recyclables are picked up at curbside twice monthly.
- The city regularly generates public informational flyers and/or uses its web and social networking sites to educate the public on environmental issues.
- In 2011 the city implemented a shoreline restoration demonstration project along the north shore of Lake Cadillac in which a segment of shoreline was converted from lawn to that of a natural shoreline with native vegetation. The project continues to exist demonstrating the importance of natural shorelines.

Transportation

Transportation facilities and services are an integral part of the economic, social, and physical fabric of the Cadillac area. The location of the city at the apex of several major highways is a critical element in its economic development since Cadillac is easily accessible for commercial, industrial, and tourism-related purposes. The roadway systems include US-131, Mitchell Street (US-131BR), M-115, and M-55. All are under the ownership and management of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). These roadways offer access to downstate population centers such as Grand Rapids and Detroit. They also link to major freeway systems serving the Midwest and points beyond. Table 14 offers 2022 average daily traffic counts for each of above systems as measured by MDOT. Seasonal periods and holidays commonly add to these levels.

The city’s Community Development Department will be working with various organizations such as the Cadillac Downtown Development Authority (US-131BR), the Cadillac West Corridor Improvement Authority (M-115/M-55), MDOT, and others undertaking analysis of select roadway segments traversing historic pedestrian business districts for purposes of

future improvements. These include that portion of Mitchell Street (US-131BR) traversing the city core downtown and that portion of M-115 and M-55 in and around the Cadillac West business and Mitchell State Park areas. Both areas experience high levels of pedestrian movement, much of centered around recreational uses.

Table 14 - Area Trunkline Traffic Counts 2022

System	Location	Count
US-131	North of M-115 Interchange	16,686
US-131	South of Boon Road Interchange	12,621
Mitchell Street (US-131BR)	North of Cass Street	14,366
Mitchell Street (US-131BR)	North of E. River Street	21,882
Mitchell Street (US-131BR)	North of Granite Street	11,742
M-115	South of M-55	13,920
M-115	Mitchell State Park	13,927
M-55	West of M-115	7,846
M-55 (East Division)	West of US-131 Interchange	8,826
Source : MDOT Michigan Traffic AADT Map, 2022		

In addition to the major roadways, a highly developed series of local, collector, and arterial streets serve the city. All of the city's recreation facilities are accessed by improved streets. A map of the city's street network is attached as Appendix C.

Rail Service - The Great Lakes Central Railroad, headquartered in Owosso, Michigan operates approximately two train trips per weekday through Cadillac, primarily serving the needs of local industries. The company maintains an office and maintenance yard in the city. Periodically, pleasure trips are scheduled allowing passengers to enjoy a railroad experience while viewing the city and nearby countryside. These trips normally occur during the fall season. Efforts are currently underway exploring the potential for bringing passenger rail service to Cadillac and points north. Locally, the efforts are being spearheaded by the Cadillac/Wexford Transit Authority in concert with the Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, the State of Michigan, and the U.S. Department of Transportation

Air Service - The Wexford County Airport, operated by the Wexford County Airport Board Authority, is in the northern part of the city, south of Boon Road and west of Mitchell Street. The airport is open to the public and serves general aviation needs, the commercial needs of local businesses, industries, and provides pilot training. United Parcel Service (UPS) makes two daily cargo flights to Cadillac. The airport does not possess regularly scheduled passenger service.

The Wexford County Airport maintains a 5,000-foot improved runway and a 2,000-foot turf runway. The airport has a Category 3, Instrument Landing System capable of directing pilots in zero visibility conditions. Annually the airport handles between 3,000 and 5,000 flight operations. The airport is used for a variety of public safety programs by the Civil Air Patrol, the Drug Enforcement Administration Aviation Division, and the Michigan State Police Aviation Unit. Mobile Medical Response/MMR medical patient transport is also a user of the airport.

Public Transit – WexExpress (formerly CWTA), located on Casa Road in Haring Charter Township north of Cadillac, operates a demand response public transit system providing door-to-door service throughout the county and portions of nearby Missaukee County. The transit authority also provides contract transit services for special events. Due to its door-to-door service and handicapped equipped vehicles, WexExpress can readily assist the transportation needs of residents with physical challenges. Currently WexExpress operates the door-to-door service weekdays from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4: p.m. Special events are handled as needed.



The Indian Trails regional bus line operates a customer station (bus depot) from the offices of WexExpress. Indian Trails provides weekly passenger services to locations throughout Michigan and the United States via connecting lines.

Land Use Patterns

Table 14 provides a land use breakdown for the city of Cadillac. As a mature community, a large percentage of the city is developed. A broad range of development types, consistent with developed urban areas, characterizes the city's land use composition. These include parkland, a range of residential and commercial uses, and a mix of light and general industrial development. Unique for the city is the presence of Lake Cadillac. Lake Cadillac, an approximately 1,150-acre freshwater inland lake, is fully located within the city's geographic boundaries. A land use map is found under Appendix D.

Table 14 – Existing Land Use – City of Cadillac		
Land Use	Acreage¹	Percent of Total Acreage (rounded)
Residential (single and multiple-family)	1,030	19.0
Commercial	153	3.0
Industrial	351	7.0
Public/Semi-Public ²	355	7.0
Right-of-Way ³	1,165	22.0
Vacant	1,080	20.0
Lake Cadillac	1,150	22.0
Total	5,284	100.00
Notes: 1. Based on the city's GIS aerial photos and field surveys. 2. Government facilities, schools, parks, churches, etc. 3. Streets and railroad property.		
<i>Source: Cadillac Community Development Department</i>		

Zoning

Cadillac is a zoned community. Due to the city's developed character, the various zone districts largely reflect existing land use patterns. The zoning ordinance is updated as the need warrants. The current zoning map (Appendix E) indicates that approximately 7% of the city is zoned for parks and open space. Much of that land is strategically located in residential neighborhoods and along the Lake Cadillac shoreline. The present zoning ordinance is being fully updated. As such, efforts are being made to upgrade site design standards with the goals of enhancing non-motorized pedestrian movement, preservation of natural areas, and improving sites as placemaking centers.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

This section provides an overview of the administrative structure for the planning, funding, and administration of recreational services.

Funding Sources

Recreational funding occurs through a variety of programs and sources ranging from general fund dollars; special assessment programs oriented to recreation; grants or gifts from the public, local foundations and civic organizations; loans and grants from the state and federal governments; and other sources. The city and schools continually monitor funding sources and attempt to leverage local dollars with other funding sources whenever possible.

Annual and Projected Budgets, Parks and Recreation Operations, Maintenance and Capital Improvements

The 2023-2024 parks budget and the 2024-2025 proposed park budget for the City of Cadillac are shown in Table 15 below.

Table 15 – General Fund – Parks Budget – 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 Proposed		
Fund Details	2023/2024 Adopted	2024/2025 Proposed
Parks		
Salaries	\$55,000	\$46,000
Salaries – part-time	\$60,000	\$67,500
Fringes	\$43,000	\$47,000
Operating Supplies	\$25,000	\$25,000
Utilities	\$35,000	\$40,000
Repairs and Maintenance	\$30,000	\$40,000
Equipment Rental	\$25,000	\$35,000
Contractual Services	\$32,500	\$25,000

Rental Building	\$1,500	\$1,500
Capital Outlay	\$95,500	\$17,500
Total Parks	\$402,500	\$344,500
<i>Source: City of Cadillac Operating Budget Fiscal Year 2025</i>		

The six-year Capital Improvements Program for the city from 2025 to 2030 is shown in Table 16.

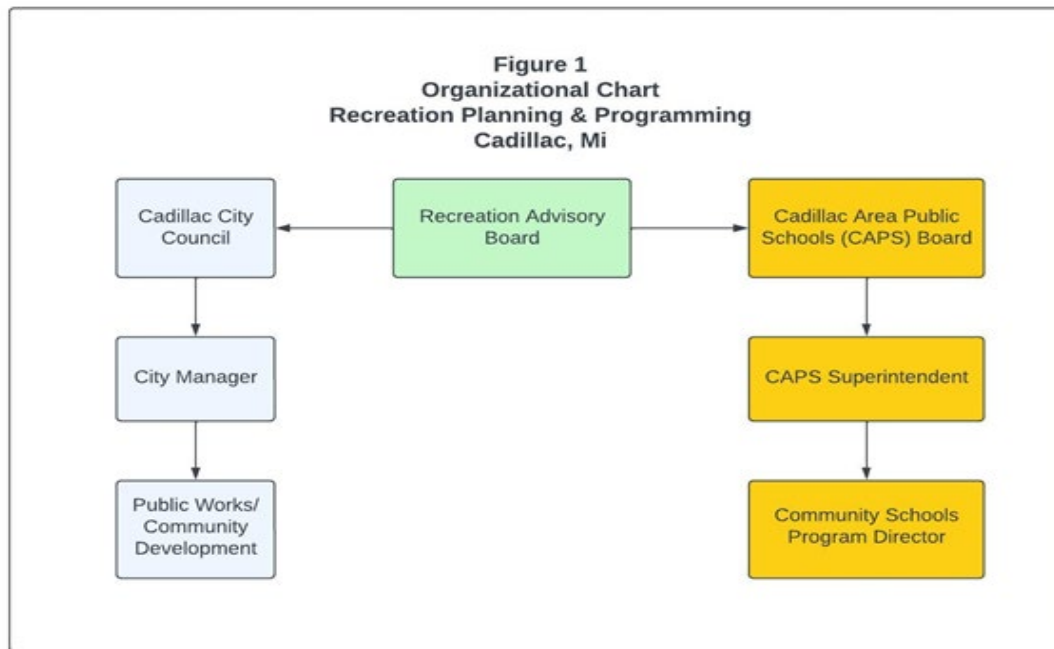
Table 16 – Capital Improvement Schedule – 2025 to 2030		
Fiscal Year	Project	Amount
2025 (Year 1)	Skatepark Lighting	\$10,000
	Shoreline Stabilization	\$7,500
2026 (Year 2)	Playground Equipment	\$25,000
	Riding Lawn Mower	\$8,000
	Parking Lot Upgrade	35,000
2027 (Year 3)	Kenwood Parking Lot	\$60,000
	Skate Park Equipment	\$40,000
2028 (Year 4)	Riding Lawn Mower	\$8,000
	Shoreline Stabilization	\$7,500
2029 (Year 5)	Riding Lawn Mower	\$8,000
2030 (Year 6)	Riding Lawn Mower	\$8,000
Total		\$217,000
Note: Fiscal periods are subject to change based on funding opportunities and constraints.		

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation fall under the direction of two elected boards, the Cadillac Area Public Schools Board of Education (CAPS) and the Cadillac City Council. The two bodies share expenditures and oversee broad-based policy and programming decisions regarding recreation. In turn, directives by the School Board and City Council are assigned to the School Superintendent and the Cadillac City Manager respectively. The Superintendent and Manager rely on support staff to assist in the administration of program activities.

Basic recreation programming is planned and managed by the Community Schools Program Director. Serving as a liaison between the Community Schools Program Director and the city is the Cadillac City Manager. City staff such as the Director of Public Works assists the City Manager. The City Manager and staff are responsible for coordinating administration of the city's involvement in providing community recreation, including preparation of updates of the Community Recreation Plan and grant writing for recreation projects. Additionally, various local organizations are employed for gathering and assessing information about community recreation needs.

Figure 1 is an organizational chart governing the planning and programming of recreational projects.



Cadillac Recreation Advisory Board

One of the most important local bodies for providing input on recreation is the Cadillac Recreation Advisory Board composed of persons representing various recreation-focused organizations approved via a city/school recreation agreement.¹ The individuals representing these organizations are appointed independently by their respective participating group. The Advisory Board collectively gathers input and makes recommendations to the city and CAPS on established and proposed programming and facilities. They are involved in the preparation and review of the Recreation Plan and for ongoing input on recreational matters.

Parks and Recreation Policies and Procedures

The Cadillac City Code governs the use of city parks. The code provides regulatory standards for park hours, permitted uses, commercial operations, fireworks, alcoholic beverages, open fires, ice fishing structures, and related matters.

¹ The City of Cadillac has an agreement with Cadillac Area Public Schools to provide recreation programming to City residents. A copy of this agreement can be found in Appendix F.

Access to the city parks is not regulated regarding resident versus non-resident use. The parks are free and open for use by all individuals and groups, regardless of origin, race/ethnicity, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, or disability status.

All recreation facilities and programs offered through the Cadillac/Community Schools Agreement are open to all participants, including people residing outside the Cadillac Area. The opportunity for non-area residents and visitors to use local facilities and services does result in increases to administrative and maintenance costs due to the additional wear on facilities. However, it has been a longstanding policy of the city and schools to provide an “open door” approach to the provision of recreational opportunities. Given increased programming costs, combined with declining state and federal revenue, in the future it may be necessary to review past practices.

In a few instances, user fees are required for those participating in some of the structured Cadillac/Community Schools programs. Where required, user fees typically range from \$15 to \$35. An additional \$5 per program is charged to non-city residents and another \$5 if the person is also an out-of-school district resident. The cost differential is designed to help create partial equity between those who pay property taxes to support the City of Cadillac/Community Schools programs and those that do not. Grants and funding assistance are commonly available to participants unable to afford program fees and/or equipment fees.

PLANNING PROCESS

Staff from the Community Schools Program and the city of Cadillac oversee the Recreation Plan development process. Plan development (draft and final) includes extensive collaboration with different committees, groups, agencies, and the public to solicit input and feedback regarding past and future recreation initiatives. Following completion of a draft plan the following series of steps occur:

Step One: Cadillac Recreation Advisory Board (RAB) Review – The draft plan is submitted to the Cadillac Recreation Advisory Board (RAB) members for review and input.

Step Two: Public Review - Following RAB member review, a public meeting is held to solicit input regarding the plan. The Cadillac Planning Commission hearing called for in Step Three may suffice as the public meeting.

Step Three: Public and Planning Commission Review/Hearing - The draft plan is submitted to the Cadillac Planning Commission for review and recommendation. This step includes an advertised public hearing for receipt of public comment. Changes to the draft plan may occur as the result of public input obtained from this step.

- Step Four: Cadillac Area Public School (CAPS) - The draft plan is submitted to the CAPS Board for review and approval. If necessary, revisions are made.
- Step Five: Public Comment Period - The plan is subject to a thirty (30) day public comment period. The comment period is noted via notice in the Cadillac News and on the Cadillac City Website.
- Step Six: Cadillac City Council - The draft plan is forwarded to the Cadillac City Council for public hearing purposes and Council review and approval.
- Step Seven: Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) - Following City Council approval, the plan is forwarded to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
- Step Eight: Plan Distribution - Copies of the approved plan are forwarded to various public agencies and repositories. These include the Wexford County Planning Commission, City Library, Cadillac City Clerk, public school library, Cadillac Public Schools, and local officials charged with the oversight of public recreation programs and facilities. A free copy is also made available on the city website.

RECREATION FACILITIES INVENTORY

Field Inventory

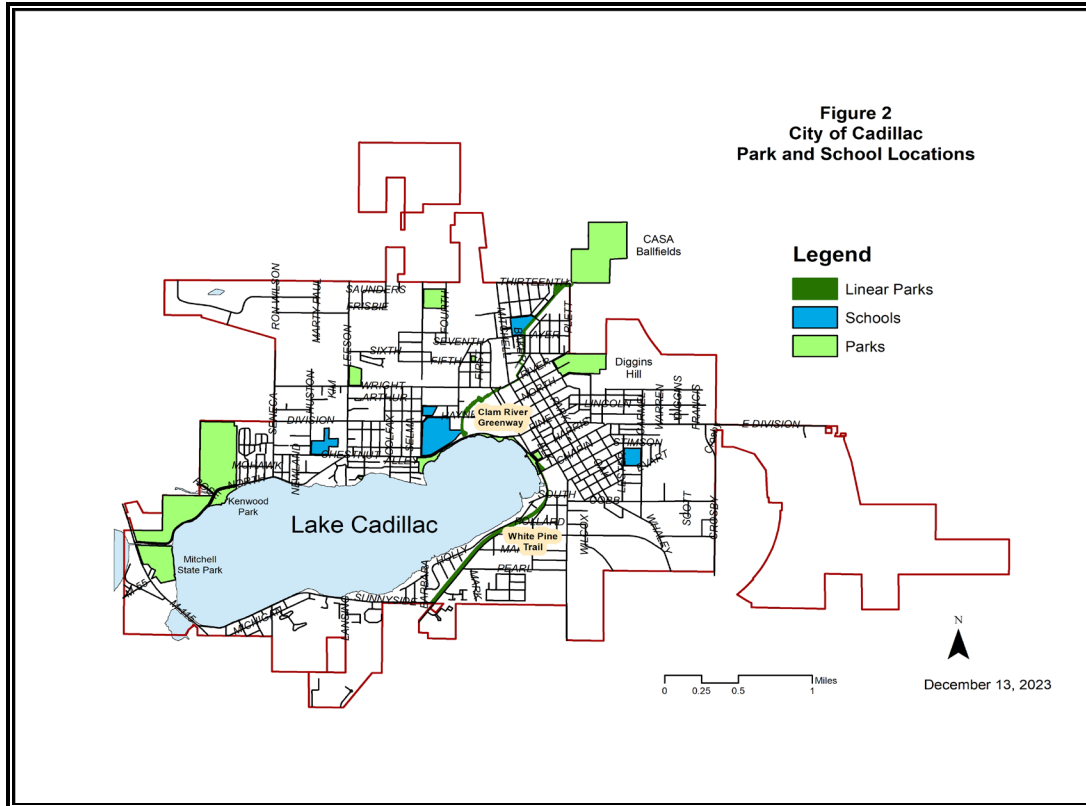
In preparing the Recreation Plan, staff conducted a comprehensive field inventory of all park and recreational sites. Depending on the type and character of the parks and facilities, participants included staff of the city's Community Development and Public Works Departments and professionals from the city's Engineering Consultant (Cadillac office of Prein&Newhof). The Engineering Consultant also conducted the Accessibility Assessment for ADA compliance.

Generally, the inventory identified each park by its type/use category, the specific facilities located within the parks, and the condition of park facilities. Efforts were made to observe the use of each park pursuant to factors such as age and mix of participants, times of use, demand for the use of facilities, quality of maintenance, vehicular parking demands, neighborhood access convenience, and other such factors. As noted, engineers from Prein&Newhof conducted the Accessibility Assessment for ADA compliance. The following rating system was employed. Findings are noted under the various park descriptions.

Accessibility Scores:

- 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 areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = The entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = The entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design

Figure 2 identifies the location of all park and school sites within the City of Cadillac.



Park Sites

1. Diggins Hill (Community Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac **Size:** 14 acres **ADA Score:** 1

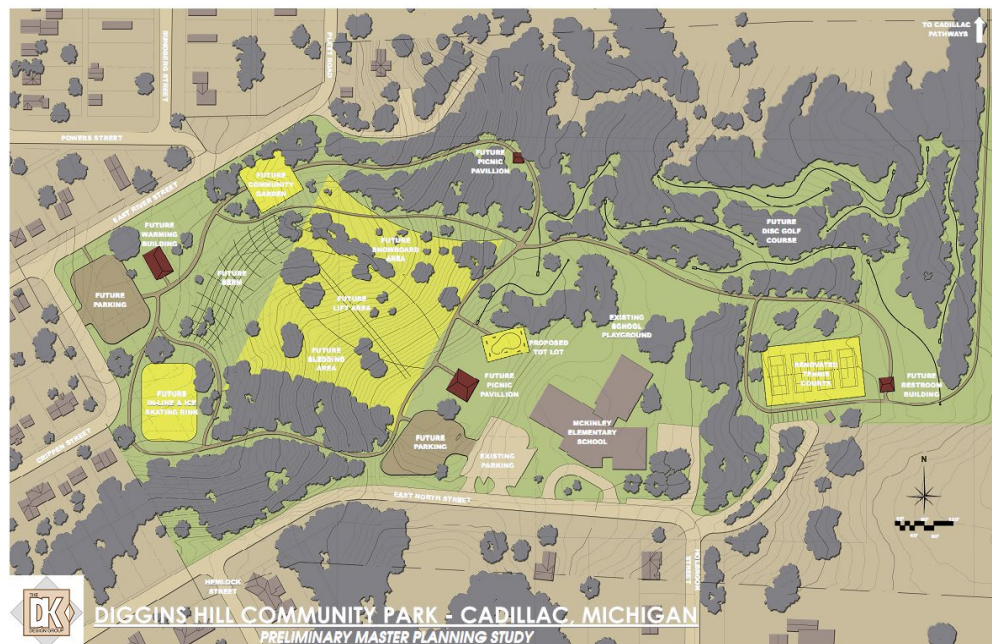
Surrounding the former McKinley Elementary School site is Diggins Hill, an approximate fourteen-acre site possessing a relatively steep natural elevation grade change. The site ranges from hilly woodland to open areas. The site once contained a city-operated ski slope with a rope tow that was highly popular with residents and guests. History reveals that many people were introduced to downhill skiing at Diggins Hill. Due to liability concerns the tow was eventually removed. Although the site is no longer used for skiing, the hill continues to be popular for wintertime sledding.

Facilities at Diggins Hill include:

- Tennis Courts (4)
- Picnic Shelter
- 18-Hole Disc Golf Course
- Sledding Hill



Areas of the disc golf course are subject to the growth of poison ivy. Efforts need to be made to eradicate the noxious plant through environmentally approved procedures.



2. Kenwood Park (Community Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac **Size:** 88 acres **ADA Score:** 2

Kenwood Park is located on the north shore of Lake Cadillac in the central portion of the city. Kenwood Park serves as both a neighborhood and community park. The park is divided by North Boulevard with 10 acres on the south side possessing Lake Cadillac frontage and 78 acres on the north side. Facilities within the park include:

- Beach (normally open between early June and the end of August)
- Lifeguard Station
- Playground
- Restrooms (men's, women's, and family)
- 9-hole Disc Golf Course
- 18-hole Disc Golf Course
- Boat Launch (with trailer parking)
- Sheltered Picnic Pavilions (with grills)
- Volleyball Court
- Hiking Paths
- Parking Lot (north and south sides of the park)



3. William Mitchell State Park and Carl T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing Center (State Park)

Owner: State of Michigan **Size:** 660 acres **ADA Score:** 2

The William Mitchell State Park is one of the busiest state park campgrounds in Northern Michigan. The park is located on Lakes Cadillac and Mitchell and abuts a canal which connects Lakes Cadillac and Mitchell. The canal passes under the M-115 highway. The canal is navigable by small watercraft. The limited distance between the canal's water surface and the overhead roadway generally restricts navigation by sailboats due to the height of masts. Facilities located at the park include:

- 221 Modern Campsites
- Boat Launch
- Kayak Launch (ADA accessible)
- 3 Fishing Platforms
- Beach
- Playground
- Nature Trail (2.5 miles)
- Carl T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing Center
- Parking Lot (30 car)

The Carl T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing Center was named after the founder of the Michigan Conservation Foundation. Mr. Johnson was a Cadillac native and successful businessman. The Center includes the following facilities:

- Information Counter
- Marsh Diorama
- Wall-Size Aquarium
- Hunting and Fishing Displays
- Community Meeting Room
- Gift Shop

Activities at Mitchell State Park include:

- Boating
- Fishing
- Hunting
- Archery
- Snowshoe Workshops
- Hiking
- Swimming
- Outdoor Educational Programs.



4. Lake Shore Park (Linear Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac Size: ADA Score: 1

Lake Side Park is one of the most beautiful and most used parks in the entire park system. It features the Keith McKellop Walkway which is a 1.25-mile-long walkway along the shores of Lake Cadillac. The park is anchored on the east end by the Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion and on the west end by the Community Center. Facilities and features in this park include:

- Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion
- Community Center
- Pickleball Courts (2)
- Dock (with room for eight boats)
- Concrete Boat Launch
- Keith McKellop Walkway (1.25 miles long)
- Playground (ADA accessible)
- Picnic Tables and Benches
- Restroom Buildings (2)
- Community Center
- Historic Signage
- Walkway Bridge
- Educational Kiosk
- Demonstration Natural Shoreline Plantings
- Parking Lots (4)

The Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion underwent a major renovation in 2017 which involved the addition of tiered seating, leveling of the performance stage, enlargement of the storage and changing rooms, new light and sound system, and the addition of a movie screen for the showing of nighttime movies.



The playground in Lake Side Park, completed in 2014, is one of the area's most popular recreation sites. The park is American with Disabilities accessible. The city of Cadillac, Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce 2014 Leadership class, and the Michigan Department of

Natural Resources collaborated to make this playground which has several play stations available for all children to enjoy.

Community Center

The Community Center, also known as the former Naval Reserve facility, houses the Cadillac Senior Center, Wexford Genealogy Organization, and the Up North Arts, Inc. Due to its age, functional obsolescence, and high energy costs, the life expectancy of the center for long-term use remains questionable. The nominal fees paid by the (non-profit) occupants of the center are not sufficient to cover the building's general maintenance, utilities, and retrofitting needs.

Senior Center - The Senior Center is open multiple weekdays on a year-round basis. A part-time director manages the center. The center provides seniors with a variety of recreation, education, social services, and other programs such as bingo, drumming, knitting for newbies, line dancing, tai chi, and card creations. Several years ago, the Senior Center Board completed select upgrades to the including flooring and restroom improvements. Funding was provided by area businesses and local charitable organizations.

Wexford Genealogy - The Wexford Genealogy Organization offices are located at the Center. The organization promotes education in the areas of ethical genealogical practices and regularly conducts seminars and classes on genealogy matters.

Up North Arts - Up North Arts, a new tenant in the Community Center, promotes and sponsors creative efforts and appreciation of visual, performing, and literary arts in the greater Cadillac community. Funding is provided by private citizens, area businesses, and other charitable sources. The space occupied by Up North Arts includes classrooms, gift shop, and updated restrooms.

The Cadillac area offers a range of multidisciplinary community arts programming including opportunities for visual artists, public art, choral and instrumental music, community theatre, local history, dance, literature, and arts education. There is an unmet need for a community arts facility of sufficient size, design, and location to provide a common, consistent home for meetings, rehearsals, performances, exhibitions, and gatherings. The lack of an adequate facility results in time and resource challenges. Participants in the various arts programs must depend on the availability and use of multiple locations, many of which lack proper space for exhibits and performances, as well as limited seating for the community audiences they hope to attract.

5. City Park, Plaza, and the Market (Specialty Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac **Size:** 1.5 acres **ADA Score:** 4

City Park is one of the city's oldest parks located in the heart of downtown between the Mitchell Street businesses and Lake Cadillac. It is a wonderfully shaded passive park but is also used periodically to hold major community events such as the Cadillac Festival of the

Arts Art Fair and the Craft Beer Festival. Key features in the park include the Chris Eggle Memorial Fountain and the Shay Locomotive. The park also has benches, picnic tables, decorative lighting, and electric service. The park is a true placemaking asset.



The Plaza which is contiguous to City Park to the east is a public plaza which includes a gathering space, outdoor fireplace, splash pad, and sound system. Like City Park, this space is also used for community events.



The Market is a community building (6,000 square feet) intended for use by farm markets, community events, and private gatherings. It is designed to be used as either a closed or open-air facility. It features an acid-stained concrete floor in a quilt pattern designed by the current mayor and an overhead heating system. Retractable overhead doors and restrooms are planned for the Market.



6. Cadillac Area Dog Park (Specialty Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac **Size:** 12 acres **ADA Score:** 1

The Cadillac Area Dog Park is located off 13th Street. The park opened in 2016. It has large and small dog areas for exercise and socialization. The park contains picnic tables, benches, and a small pavilion. Trees have been planted on the site and water service added.



7. Kiwanis/Whittier Park (Neighborhood Park)

Owner: Cadillac Area Public Schools **Size:** ¾ of an acre **ADA Score:** 1

This park is located on Cadillac's northwest side, at the corner of Second Avenue and Fifth Street. The park includes swings, slide, gym bars, basketball court, and a grass play area. The development of this park was funded by the Cadillac Kiwanis Club.

8. Walter A. Kysor Park (Specialty Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac **Size:** 7 acres **ADA Score:** 1

This park is the former site of the CASA baseball and softball fields. This park has one baseball field, one softball field, and two smaller fields for younger children. The Viking Softball Association uses this facility and undertook some field surface improvements in 2022.

9. CASA All-Sports Park Facility (Specialty Park)

Owner: Cadillac Area Public Schools
Size: 50 acres **ADA Score:** 3

The Cadillac Area Sport's Association (CASA) All-Sports Park includes the following facilities:

- 5 Regulation-size soccer Fields
- 1 Youth Soccer Field
- 2 Regulation-size Baseball Fields
- 3 Baseball Fields for Younger Children
- Concession Building
- Restrooms/Storage
- Parking Lot



The lawn areas for these fields are watered from an in-ground irrigation system. The CASA programs operated on these fields are user-fee supported, with assistance from the Cadillac Area Public Schools for field maintenance and organizational support.

10. Clam River Greenway (Linear Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac **Length:** 1.6 miles **ADA Score:** 3

This 10-foot-wide pathway runs through the urban core of Cadillac following the Clam River from its headwaters at the Lake Cadillac Sound Garden to the CASA All-Sports Facility. This barrier free pathway is used by walkers, runners, bicyclers, and in-line skaters. A flower bell sculpture was added to the Sound Garden by the Cadillac Area Community Foundation. The

Garden Club donated a substantial amount of money and with grants from both the Cadillac Area Community Foundation Youth Advisory Committee and the Michigan Arts and Culture Council in 2017 purchased and installed an ensemble of new outdoor musical instruments. All the new instruments have different tones and pitches which allowed for the Cadillac Area High School Band percussion section to play songs on them at the ribbon cutting. The Garden Club which also maintains the landscaping at the park purchased a kinetic sculpture for the Sound Garden site.



11. White Pine Trail and Trailhead (Linear and State Park)

Owner: Trail – Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trailhead-City of Cadillac

Length: Full length of the White Pine Trail is 92.6 miles with 1.3 miles lying within the City of Cadillac. **ADA Score:** 5

The Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park is Michigan’s second longest rail-trail. This trail showcases a variety of settings, including farmland, forests and small towns. It connects lower Northern Michigan to Grand Rapids with camping, lodging, rest stops and food options along the way.

The city of Cadillac extended the White Pine Trail an additional block from South Street to Chapin Street to connect to a new trailhead in 2022. The groundbreaking for the new trailhead was attended by Governor Gretchen Whitmer at which she announced Cadillac Michigan as the newest “Pure Michigan Trail Town” in Michigan.



The 92-mile White Pine Trail has 19 trailheads. The downtown City of Cadillac Trail at Cadillac Commons has more amenities than any of the other trailheads which include:

- Clocktower entrance
- Rain gardens
- Picnic tables
- Water fountain
- Bicycle repair station
- Bicycle racks
- Restrooms
- Parking lot (34 spaces)

12. Lake Cadillac Bicycle Path (Linear Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac **Length:** Seven & one-half (7.5) mile paved path **ADA Score:** 3

The bike path largely consists of an extra-wide (8 feet) road shoulder along the streets surrounding Lake Cadillac, though there is a portion that is a wholly separate pathway near Kenwood Park. The pathway is maintained throughout the year for bicycle and pedestrian use. In addition to cycling, the path is used for running, hiking, and occasionally by skateboarders and in-line skaters. The proximity of the path to Lake Cadillac offers outstanding natural views for pathway users.

Figure 4 – City of Cadillac Trail Map shows all the linear park locations within the city and also includes the Cadillac Heritage Nature Trail which lies within the Mitchell State Park.

Figure 4



13. The Chris Blackburn Memorial Skate Park (Specialty Park)

Owner: City of Cadillac **Size:** One half acre

ADA Score: 1

The Skate Park is an outdoor in-line skate and skateboard arena dedicated to the memory of Chris Blackburn, a former teenage resident of the city. The first phase was completed in 2005. In August of 2007 the second phase was completed with the addition of skate park equipment. The facility is 18,000 square feet in size and contains a half-pipe, grind rails, and fun box. The skate park is heavily used during the warm months and remains in good condition.



14. Forest Lane Park (Specialty Park)**ADA Score: 1**

A .31-acre site with trees and Lake Cadillac shoreline. There is one bench at this site and no playground equipment.

School Sites**1. High School**

- 8 Tennis Courts
- 1 Baseball Field
- 1 Football Field and Stadium (Veteran's Memorial Stadium)
- 1 Running Track
- 3 indoor gymnasiums
- 5 Parking Lots

2. Franklin Elementary School

The Franklin School has a playground and indoor gymnasium.

3. Lincoln Elementary School

The Lincoln School has one softball field, playground, and indoor gymnasium.

4. Viking Learning Center

The Viking Learning Center has a playground and indoor gymnasium.

Table 17 – City of Cadillac/CAPS Primary Recreation Facility Inventory

Facility	Playground	Basketball	Tennis	Pickleball	Volleyball	Disc Golf	Baseball	Softball	Soccer	Football	Track	Slidding	Skateboard	Trail	Beach	Boat Launch	Performance Stage	Gymnasiums
Viking Learning Center	1																	1
Cadillac Jr.,Sr. High School		4	8		4		1		1	1	1						1	3
Lincoln Elementary	1							1										1
Franklin Elementary	1																	1
CASA Complex							2	3	5									
Kenwood Park/Beach Boat Launch	2				2	1								1	1	1		
Chris Blackburn Skate Park													1					
Diggins Hill/Park			4			1						1						
Lake Shore Park	1			2										1		1	1	
White Pine bike, walking, jogging path														1				
Whittier Park	1																	
Walter A. Kysor Fields							1	3										
<i>Source: City of Cadillac – Community Development Department</i>																		

Private Recreation (In Cadillac)

YMCA (10 Acres)

The facility is owned by the YMCA. The land is leased to the YMCA by Baker College. The YMCA opened in 2009. The 34,000 square foot facility took ten years of planning from the initial meetings among interested citizens to completion. The jewel of the facility is its 25-yard pool with six swim lanes, diving board, and whirlpool that seats 16 people. The pool is handicap accessible.



Photo courtesy of Robert Mohr Photography, www.robertmohr.com

The YMCA facility includes a nursery, multipurpose rooms, teen center, full-size gym, cardio machines, weights, wellness center, indoor track, locker rooms and outdoor play equipment. In 2013 the YMCA added a community vegetable garden that continues to be used for the raising of various edible plants.

The YMCA programs include swim lessons, gymnastics, after school teen center, early childhood education, daycare, flag football, youth, and adult basketball. The YMCA provides a variety of exercise classes in aerobics, water fitness, and strength along with wellness assessments. The YMCA also offered club athletic teams in both lacrosse and swimming who compete with other communities in addition to hosting the Cadillac Area Public Schools girls high school swim team. Program participants are not all members of the YMCA with all community member's welcome. Financial assistance for membership of the YMCA is available for those in need.

In 2023, the YMCA maintained approximately 1,392 member households and had over 102,000 facility check-ins. In addition to staff, the YMCA is served by approximately 122 citizen volunteers.

Recreation Opportunities in the Greater Cadillac Area

The following reflect recreational facilities located near the city that are commonly used by city residents and guests of the city.

1. Woodland Acreage North of Cadillac (Bogstone Properties)

Cadillac Area Public Schools is the owner of record for 246 acres and the city of Cadillac is the owner of record for an additional 138 acres approximately five miles north of Cadillac and east of old US-131. These properties were donated to CAPS and the city over 80 years ago and have deed



restrictions. Each of these properties has a pond and locals refer to the area as the Bogstone properties. Access is by four-wheel drive vehicle or by walking. CAPS has walked the two sites and noted that this may be an area that could be used for outdoor classroom study in biology and earth science. If used as such, pavilion with seating would be needed along with an improved road for access.

2. Cadillac Pathway

Owner: State of Michigan

Northeast of the city is the Cadillac Pathway which consists of just over 11 miles of groomed loop trail networks within the Pere Marquette State Forest. The trail is a four-season trail with users including walkers, bicyclists, and cross-country skiers. The trails wind through wooded areas and along the Clam River. The primary trailhead on Seely Road is a great place to start to explore the easy and moderate loops of the Pathway's northern segments. Moving into the heart of the pathway you will find the most difficult segments which can be tackled by the first-time hiker looking for a bit of a challenge. Trailhead signs lead skiers to trails designated for beginning, intermediate, and experienced skiers. In 2020 an open-air pavilion was constructed with picnic tables and a fireplace to provide people with an area to socialize and stay warm (see photo on next page). During the winter months The Cadillac Pathway transforms into a single-track classic Nordic ski playground. Much like the winter sports trail for fat tire riding, the grooming is exceptional and frequently kept in peak condition.



3. Camp Torenta

Three hundred (300) acres – CAPS

Camp Torenta is a rustic camp located on Lake Mitchell. The camp operates throughout the summer for children 6-12 years of age. There are also day camp programs for younger children. Campers participate in arts and crafts, archery, canoeing, fishing, campfires, swimming, team building and sports. There is also a basketball court and a new bouldering wall. The camp has cabin facilities that can house up to 92 children. In recent years some of the older cabins have been replaced. The campground includes several small hiking trails and natural areas. In 2011 the activity center/dining hall was expanded and modernized. The size was more than doubled with financial help from the Cadillac Area Rotary Club. Since 2011 almost all other buildings on the campus have received renovations and upgrades. This has allowed CAPS and the local YMCA to expand programs. The Cadillac Area YMCA has taken over the program management of the summer youth programs at Camp Torenta. CAPS utilizes the facilities and property for outdoor education for students in the Spring and Fall. CAPS also offers rental for private events.





4. Golf Courses

Privately Owned

The greater Cadillac area has nine golf courses (with a total of 153 holes) which are open to the public. All are privately owned.

5. Snowmobile Trails

Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

West of Cadillac is access to over 250 miles of connected snowmobile trails. The trails are maintained by the MDNR and a volunteer organization known as the Cadillac Winter Promotions (CWP). The CWP groom the trails in the winter.

The Cadillac Winter Warriors Snowmobile Club continues to keep alive the need for a snowmobile route through the city of Cadillac. The club has also identified a need for a series of routes in and around the city connecting with trails in rural areas.

In 2023 the city evaluated extending snowmobile trails into the downtown area. A draft concept plan was developed by the Community Development Department and reviewed by the City Council. The City Council voted not to pursue the plan at this time based on issues such as cost and impacts.

6. Veterans Serving Veterans Park

A new park began construction in 2016 located off S. 41 Road in Haring Township with a mission to provide a park for veterans to gather and frequent with other veterans or for individual solitude. In 2017 a multipurpose building was finished with an office, meeting space, laundry, and restroom facility. Ongoing and future projects include a cross-country trail, open air pavilion, chapel, gardens, guest cabins, and memorials.

7. Wexford Ice Skating Arena and Civic Center

County of Wexford

Locally referred to as the “Wex”, the Wexford County Civic Center, located in Haring Charter Township, is the site of a regulation-size skating rink and auditorium. Added in 1998, the rink supports hockey and skating for children and adults by providing equipment and organized league play. Equipped with bleachers, the arena is available for basketball, pickleball, tennis and other activities. The center hosts boat, hunting, and recreation vehicle shows. The grounds and barns within the property host the Wexford County Fair. Children from local 4H groups exhibit their animals and projects for the public. The Center is used for many special events such as the annual Governor’s Breakfast and Project Christmas. Project Christmas is a community collaborative program providing toys and other gifts to low income families from Wexford and Missaukee County. The number of families helped in 2023 exceeded 750.



8. Wexford County Airport

County of Wexford

In January of 2011 the Northwest Soaring Club announced it was moving its operations from the Dow Memorial Airport at Frankfort, Michigan to the Wexford County Airport in Cadillac. The club president at the time said, “soaring conditions accessible from Cadillac were identified as the strongest in the state on many days”. The Young Eagles Flight program also has a presence in Cadillac introducing young people between the ages of 8 and 17 to aviation. These children have an interest in some day becoming a pilot. The Experimental Aircraft Association provides volunteer pilots who will take a Young Eagle on a free flight. Flight instruction is available for people interested in pursuing a private pilot’s license and instrumentation certification.

PARK CLASSIFICATION AND RECREATION FACILITY STANDARDS

Park Classification

The city of Cadillac classifies their parks into 5 categories. The standards for these parks are contained in Table 18 below.

Table 18 – Park Classification and Standards				
Classification	Description	Location Criteria	Size Criteria	Acres/1,000 Population
Neighborhood Park	Remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.	¼ to ½ -mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	5 to 10 acres is optimal	1 to 2 acres
Community Park	Serves a broader purpose than the neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3-mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 50 acres, with 75 or more acres being optimal.	5 to 8 acres
Linear Park	Linear parks are based on the natural feature, pathway, or right-of-way they follow	Dependent upon the location of the natural feature, pathway, or right-of-way they follow.	1 to 2 miles per park	Not applicable
Specialty Park	Parks which are designed for specific recreational needs or activities. Typically, with one main recreational activity.	Dependent on the land availability of the recreation provider entity.	Dependent on area needed to meet recreational needs.	Not applicable
State Park	Mitchell State Park includes 200+ campsites & beach	Established by the state of Michigan	Not applicable	Not applicable

A list of the city of Cadillac parks by classification is given below. Please note that Diggins Hill Park and Kenwood Park are included as both neighborhood and community parks.

Neighborhood Parks

Diggins Hill
Kenwood Park
Whittier Park

Community Parks

Diggins Hill
Kenwood Park

Linear Parks

Lake Shore Park
Clam River Greenway
White Pine Trail and Trailhead
Lake Cadillac Bicycle Path

Specialty Parks

City Park, Plaza, and Market
Cadillac Area Dog Park
Walter A. Kysor Park
CASA All-Sports Facility
Chris Blackburn Memorial Skatepark
Forest Lane Park

State Parks

William Mitchell State Park

The park classification and standards in Table 18 and the public recreation facility standards contained in Table 19 are based on the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans from the Grants Management Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Table 19 - Public Recreation Facility Standards		
Facility	Standard	Required Facilities
Playgrounds	1/2,000	5
Baseball Fields*	1/2,000	5
Softball Fields*	1/1,500	7
Basketball Courts*	1/5,000	2
Soccer Fields*	1/1,500	7
Tennis Courts	1/2,500	4

Pickleball Courts	1/1,500	7
Football Field*	1/10,000	1
Boat Launches	1/4 shoreline miles	2
<i>Source: Community Development Department</i>		

The park standards in Table 18 and the recreational facility standards in Table 19 will be the basis upon which many of the recreational deficiencies identified will be based. There is no prescribed number of specialty parks required for the city. The need for specialty parks arises out of a specific recreation need which may occur over time.

In addition to the standard in Table 19, it is also going to be a standard for the city that each neighborhood park and community park has a playground. This ensures that a neighborhood park is available to residents within the location criteria of being between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of most residents.

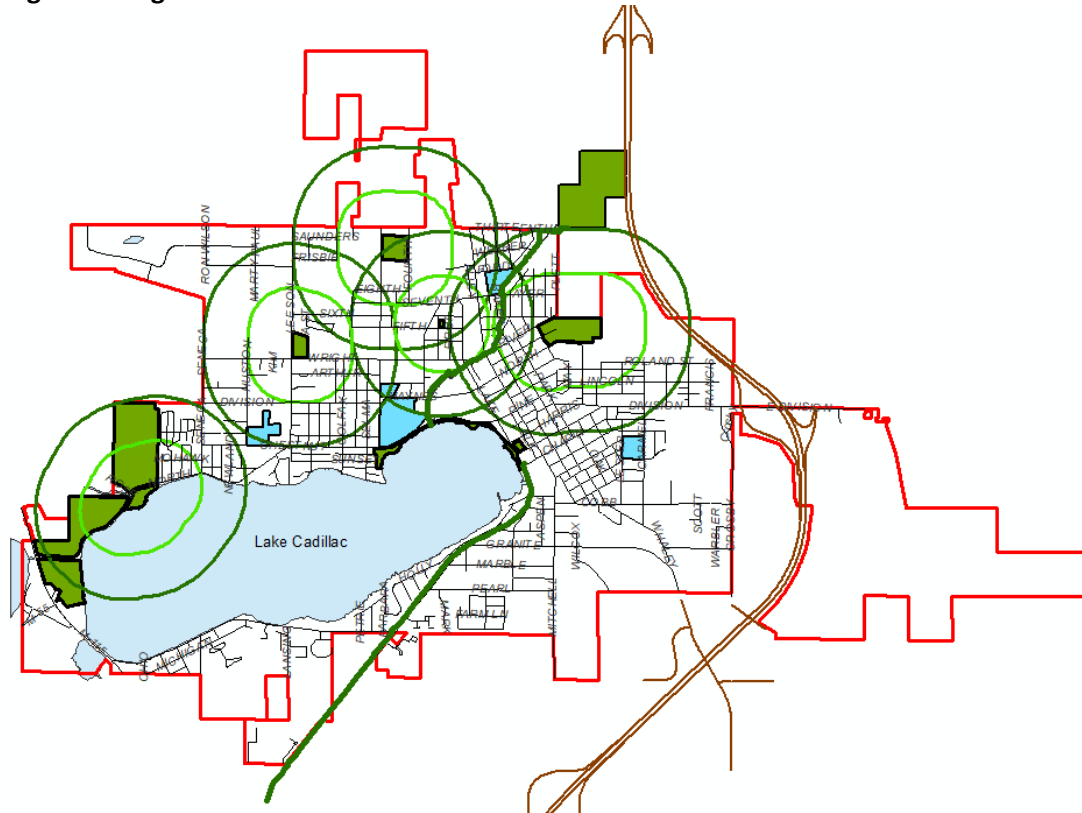
RECREATIONAL NEEDS AND DEFICIENCIES

Park Deficiencies

1. Neighborhood Parks

Based on the location criteria in Table 18 the city of Cadillac is deficient by one neighborhood park. By our adopted standards, neighborhood parks should be within a $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of most residents. Figure 5 shows both the $\frac{1}{4}$ mile radius (light green circles) and the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile radius (dark green circle) around all of the city's neighborhood parks. Diggins Hill Park and Kenwood Park are being considered both community and neighborhood parks. As can be seen in Figure 5 (next page) the southern portion of the city is not being serviced by a neighborhood park. A neighborhood park meeting the standards contained in Table 18 should be added to this area of the city.

Figure 5 Neighborhood Park Service Radii



2. Community Parks

Based on the location criteria in Table 18, Cadillac is adequately serviced by two community parks, which are Diggins Hill Park and Kenwood Park. The service radii for community parks is 1 to 3 miles, this range fully covers the city. The city is not currently deficient in community parks.

3. Linear Parks

Cadillac currently has four linear parks which are Lake Shore Park, Clam River Greenway, White Pine Trail and Trailhead, and Lake Cadillac Bicycle Path. Each of these parks meets our linear park standard of being a minimum of 1 to 2 miles in length. There are standards per 1,000 of the population. There are no deficiencies in the number of linear parks in the city.

4. Specialty Parks

Specialty parks which are designed for specific recreational needs or activities. Commonly, with one main recreational activity. Examples include athletic complexes, skate parks, and dog parks. Currently there are no additional specialty parks needed.

Recreation Facility Deficiencies

Recreational facility deficiencies are identified in Table 19 for the most common types of facilities. This table identifies that the city is deficient by 1 playground, 1 softball field, 1 soccer field, and 5 pickleball courts.

Table 19 - Public Recreation Facility Standards				
Facility	Standard	Required Facilities	Existing Facilities	Deficiency or Surplus
Playgrounds	1/2,000	5	4	-1
Baseball Fields*	1/2,000	5	5	0
Softball Fields*	1/1,500	7	6	-1
Basketball Courts*	1/5,000	2	2	0
Soccer Fields*	1/1,500	7	6	-1
Tennis Courts	1/2,500	4	4	0
Pickleball Courts	1/1,500	7	2	-5
Football Field*	1/10,000	1	1	0
Boat Launches	1 per 4 four miles of shoreline	2	2	0
Note: * includes facilities found on both city and school sites				
Source: Community Development Department				

Observed or perceived Recreational Deficiencies

The city has also attempted to document recreational deficiencies through stakeholder interviews and an online survey open to the public. Our stakeholder survey revealed the following needs:

Highest Response

- the addition of pickleball courts
- upgrades to existing tennis courts
- upgrades to the Diggins Hill Park in general.

Moderate Response

- ice skating rinks (at Diggins Hill and in general)
- restrooms (at the Market and Diggins Hill)
- playgrounds (in general)
- skate park improvements (and supporting equipment)
- bicycle paths (in general)
- signage (at Diggins Hill, on west side directing people to downtown, and downtown directing people to Lake Cadillac)
- sculptures and murals and sculptures (on the north side of Lake Cadillac).

Limited Response

- Exercise stations
- Expansion of picnic area at Diggins Hill
- Sledding improvements at Diggins Hill
- Walking trails
- Thin out trees at Diggins Hill
- Outdoor classroom and pavilion with seating at the Bogstone Properties
- Lighting along the White Pine Trail between Holly Road and Sunnyside Drive.
- Add benches along the White Pine Trail behind Harbor View Apartments.
- More recreational gathering areas for youth – supervised.
- Rental business which rents out kayaks, bikes, boats, and pontoons etc.
- Better accessibility between Baker College and YMCA to nearby neighborhoods.

In addition to the stakeholder interviews, the Community Development Department also conducted an online public survey using the SoGo Survey platform. There were 59 respondents with half residing inside the city and half outside. The survey shows that the city's parks are also being regularly used by non-residents. The respondents were spread across all age groups with the predominate ages being between 41 and 70. In trying to determine recreational needs from this survey it is important to recognize that the younger ages groups 19 to 30 and 31 to 40 were not represented by a high number of people. The complete survey results are available at the city offices. For the purposes of this plan, highlights from the survey will be used.

Concerning the following recreational facilities:

- Gathering Areas or Open Spaces
- Athletic Fields
- Walking Lanes/Trails
- Art Features
- Bicycle Trails/Lanes
- Playgrounds

Satisfaction was highest for gathering or open space areas (70%), walking lanes/trails (57%), and athletic fields (54%). Dissatisfaction was highest for bicycle trails/lanes (42%), art features (28%), and walking lanes/trails (25%).

City parks receiving the most use on a seasonal basis are the sound garden (59%); Kenwood Park (playground and beach) (51%), Lake Shore Park (41%), and Diggins Hill Park (tennis courts) (33%).

The least used parks (never used) included the skate park (83%), dog park (71%) and CASA All-sports Park (60%). The CASA All-Sports Park is predominantly used by school age children and their parents for team youth sports.

For Cadillac Commons, the most used venues on a seasonal basis were Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion (62%), Market (49%), City Park (47%), and Splash Pad (44%). The least used facility was the ice-skating rink on the Plaza which 78% of respondents said they never used. Based on the observed non-use of this facility it was not placed on the Plaza in the winter season of 2022-2023.

All trails and walkways were popular, being used weekly in all seasons at the following percentages:

White Pine Trail:	28%
Lake Cadillac Bicycle Path:	27%
Keith McKellop Walkway	26%
Cadillac Pathway	22%
Clam River Greenway	19%

Because these facilities are used in the winter months there should be a priority placed on having them plowed or groomed. These trails were used seasonally by between 36 and 43 percent of respondents.

The most used facilities at the Diggins Hill Community Park were:

- Walking paths (38%)
- Sledding hill (35%)
- Pickleball courts (33%)
- Tennis courts (21%)

In response to the question of someone's favorite way to use the Clam River or Lake Cadillac the following facilities received the most votes:

Keith McKellop Walkway	71%
Beaches/Swimming	48%
Clam River Greenway	40%

In response to the question whether the city has sufficient parking space 64% said yes and 35% said no.

When asked what the top features people would like to see added to Diggins Hill park the following facilities had the highest response:

- Restrooms
- Walking Trails
- Pickleball Courts
- Playground

When asked city-wide what recreational facilities people would like to see more of, the following facilities received the highest percentage of votes:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| • Walking Trails | 54% |
| • Bicycle Trails | 47% |
| • Pickleball Courts | 42% |

When asked if more parks should be brought to their neighborhood 67% said no and 24% said yes.

Recreational Deficiency Summary

- One neighborhood park in the southern portion of the city
- Two playgrounds, one to be located at Diggins Hill Park and the other at the new neighborhood park to be in the southern portion of the city.
- One softball field
- One soccer field
- Five pickleball courts
- Additional bicycle paths (to include in-street and separated paths)
- Additional walking paths.
- Additional facilities at Diggins Hill per master park plan update.
 - Walking Paths
 - Sledding Hill
 - Pickleball Courts (add new courts)
 - Tennis Courts (upgrade existing)
 - Other winter-oriented activities
- Improvements to White Pine Trail
 - Micro parks
 - Lighting
 - Benches behind Harborview Apartments
- Improvements to the Clam River Greenway
 - Expansion
 - Uncovering the paved-over sections of the Greenway and creating a park-like setting.
 - Addition of micropark at Haynes Street (north side)

- Upgrades and musical instrument additions to the Sound Garden
- Additional art features

ACTION PROGRAM - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT LIST

Action program – recreation programs and projects

The planning and execution of facilities and programs identified in the Plan represents a significant challenge. This section of the Plan is the culmination of a comprehensive planning effort that included an analysis of the physical and demographic attributes of the community; an inventory and evaluation of existing parks and recreation facilities; completion of a needs assessment taking into consideration nationally accepted recreation standards; perceived and observed recreational deficiencies determined by community stakeholders, city and CAPS staff, a public on-line survey; the Lake Cadillac Invasive Species Management Citizens Committee; and, the receipt and careful review of public comments regarding recreational needs and desires. The information and recommendations contained in the Plan have been analyzed and reviewed by the Cadillac Recreation Advisory Board, city staff, the Community Schools Director, the Cadillac Public School Board, Cadillac Planning Commission, the Cadillac City Council, and the public at large.

Based on the above, a series of recreation projects were identified for inclusion in the Recreation Plan as part of a comprehensive action program. Brief descriptions of the projects are listed as follows followed by a five-year capital improvement list with estimated project costs and implementation schedules. Additional project details may be secured at the Cadillac Administrative Offices, 200 N. Lake Street, Cadillac, MI 49601.

Diggins Hill (Community Park/Neighborhood Park)

A master site plan for the Diggins Hill Park was prepared for the previous recreation plan (see Figure 6). This plan is recommending that an update be done for this plan due to the potential to add additional park space from the former McKinley School site. The former school building was demolished after being damaged by a fire. In the previous master plan for this park there was a strong interest in bringing this park back as a wintertime park. This interest may continue to be strong or perhaps there may be changing interests due to changing recreational interests.

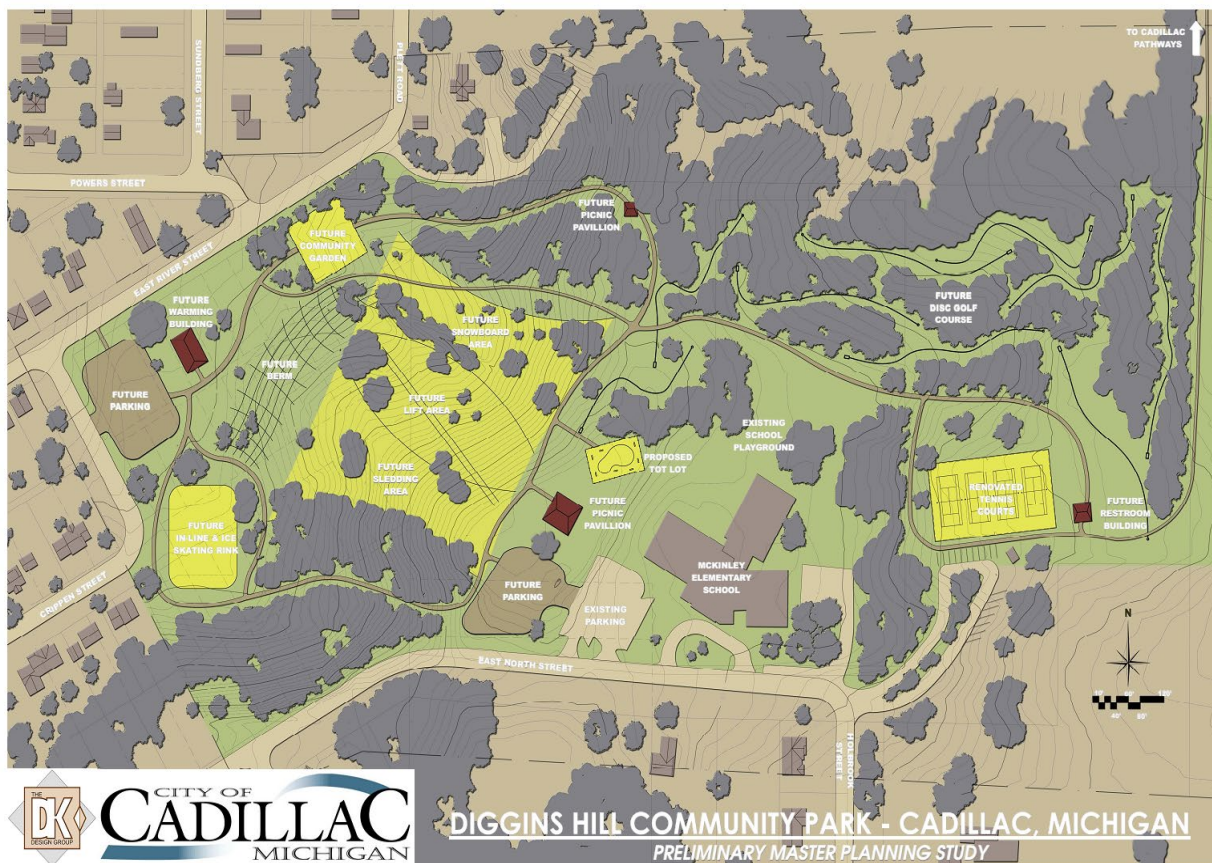
Proposed Additions or Improvements to the Park:

- Resurface or rebuild tennis courts (6) (remove the pickleball striping from the tennis courts if pickleball courts are built)
- Add Pickleball courts (4 courts)
- Design and implement a system of walking trails

- Improve the grades for the sledding hills. Consider younger and older children slide runs.
- Add playground
- Add restroom building
- Trail development (walking, disc golf fairways, cross country skiing)
- Disc golf improvements (course redesign, improved launch pads, wayfinding signage)
- Warming shelter
- Ice skating rink
- Fireplace
- Parking lot improvements

In addition to the above improvements to the park the city should consider having a forestry management plan for the park.

Figure 6. Diggins Hill Community Park Master Plan



Kenwood Park (Community Park)

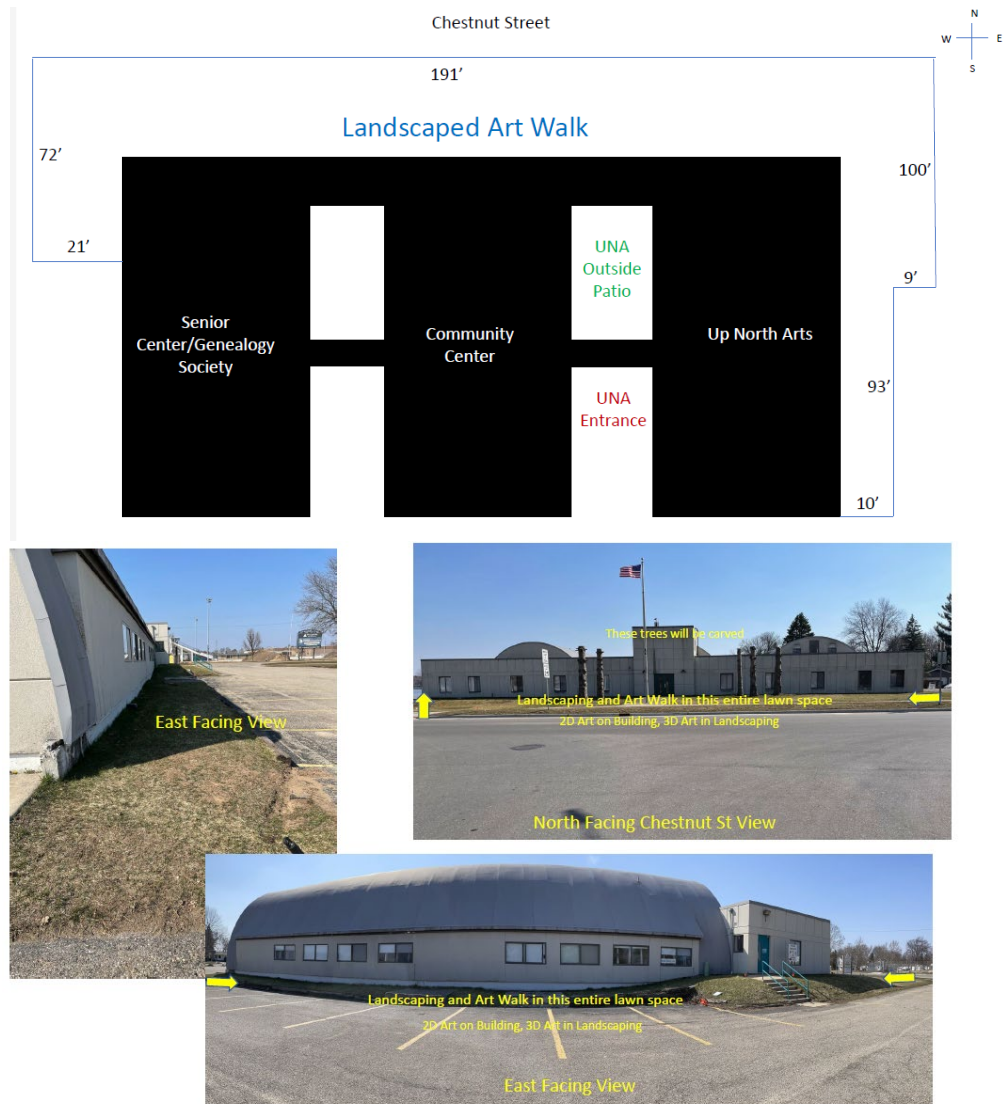
Kenwood Park is one of the busiest summertime parks with a swimming beach, playground, and 9-hole disc golf course located on Lake Cadillac. The portion of the park north of North Boulevard, while having an 18-hole disc golf course and picnic areas with shelters, still has many acres of undeveloped land. This plan is recommending that a master plan be developed for Kenwood Park. There is a growing need for active recreational facilities in the city and Kenwood Park has the available space for this development. Planned improvements to the park include:

- Interpretive trails with signage
- Parking improvements
- Running space with obstacles such as a climbing wall and exercise stations
- Update boat launch – to include dredging and expanding from one to two docks
- Replace restroom on north side of North Boulevard
- Upgrades to the disc golf courses (launch pads, signage, wayfinding, basket flags etc.)

In addition to the above improvements the city should consider implementing a forest management plan for the park.

Lake Shore Park (Linear Park)

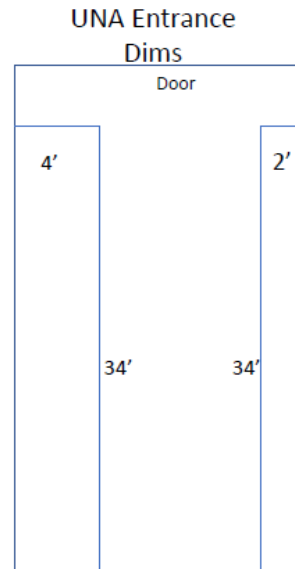
- Repair/Replace the existing dock by Pine Street. In the short term the existing dock should be repaired as necessary. When repairs are no longer practical the dock should be replaced. The design for this dock should feature use by boats.
- Add a fishing pier into Lake Cadillac near the restroom building next to the Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion.
- Keith McKellop Walkway
 - Add walkway bridge behind the Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion
 - Addition of exercise stations
 - Add wayfinding signage and distance markers
 - Replace restroom by the Blue playground.
 - Chestnut Street boat launch
 - Dredge the area and expand the launch from the current one dock to two.
- Community Center
 - General upgrading to improve energy efficiency, electrical and mechanical systems, lighting, floor and wall coverings, signage, and exterior painting.
 - Create “Art Walk” stretching from the northwest corner to the northeast corner and around the east side of the building:
 - Landscaped gardens with paved walkway
 - Walk to include tree carvings, 3-D art, 2-D art.
 - Lighting for art pieces
 - Irrigation
 - Remove or replace retaining walls
 - Remove concrete pads
 - Seating spread throughout.



○Up North Arts Entrance – Landscaping and Artwork

- Turn rock beds into Hosta beds
- Artwork will line the entrance

UNA Entrance



○Up North Arts Outdoor Patio

- Brick floor installed (potential to use brick pavers from downtown sidewalks if the pavers are replaced with concrete).
- Sitting areas with flowers
- Benches
- Artwork on walls

UNA Outdoor Patio (35' X 11')



- Replace Navy logos inside Drill Deck (Quantity 9) after walls have been repainted.



- New vestibule entrance to the Drill Deck (like that of Senior Center)



Clam River Greenway (Linear Park)

A piece of property along the Clam River Greenway at Haynes Street was given to the city by Wexford County in 2015. The city has received a Neighborhood Revitalization grant from Consumers Energy which will be partially funding the creation of micro park at this location. This park will include:

- Picnic area
- Picnic shelter
- Small parking lot
- Lighting
- Pedestrian bridge
- Benches
- Artistic Railings over the Clam River along Haynes Street.

White Pine Trail and Trailhead (Linear Park)

The City of Cadillac in 2022 extended the White Pine Trail from South Street to Chapin where they built a new trailhead. This trail was an in-street extension along Lake Street.

Future improvements to the trail include:

- Add lighting to the trail (from Sunnyside to South Streets)
- Add exercise stations and mural wall next to the trail near Cadillac Shores Drive.
- Add a small playground to the trailhead.
- Add a bicycle sculpture to the trailhead.
- Add benches along trail behind Harborview Apartments
- Thin some of the vegetation along the trail to allow for some viewing of the trail for safety purposes.
- Add a sidewalk connection from Holly Road to the trail at the location of Marble Street extended. This would keep pedestrians from walking in the street for a half mile.

South Park (New Neighborhood Park)

The city is short one neighborhood park. The city would like to establish a neighborhood park in the area bounded by Granite Street on the north, Pearl Street on the south, Sunnyside to the west and Mitchell Street on the east. At a minimum this park should include a playground and grass area for playing games (softball, football, soccer etc.) This park may also include court facilities for basketball or pickleball. Ideally, this park would also have a passive park area. The south side of the former Cooley School would be an acceptable location for this park. There are also a few sites on Pearl Street which would be suitable for this park.

The Chris Blackburn Memorial Skate Park (Specialty Park)

This skate park is listed in the city six-year Capital Improvement Plan to have the older worn equipment replaced and updated as needed. Additional skate park equipment such as banks and rails would enhance user demand.

Cadillac Area Dog Park (Specialty Park)

The Cadillac Area Dog Park is up and running since the Recreation Plan's 2015 approval. There will continue to be the need for improvements such as a water fountain, paved parking, and restrooms in the future.

Walter A. Kysor Park (Specialty Park)

This site, which is the former site for CASA baseball is still being used for youth baseball and softball along with occasional church softball functions with picnics. The Viking Softball

Association upgraded some of the fields in 2022 as part of a Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership class project. Proposed future improvements for this park include:

- Renovation and reopening of restroom.
- Addition of a shade pavilion.
- New identification sign

City Park, Plaza, and Market (Specialty Park)

The Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class replaced the shelter over the Shay locomotive located in City Park in 2022. This project allowed for better viewing and photography of the Shay locomotive.



Future improvements for City Park, Plaza, or Market include:

- Market:
 - Garage doors to allow for all season usage.
 - Public restrooms
 - Drinking fountains
 - Full height projection screen and projector
 - Speakers/PA system
 - Additional heating element
 - Solar lighting
 - 90" television screen for displaying upcoming events
 - Large circulating fans
 - Bicycle racks

- Rain garden
- Car charging stations
- Replace picnic tables and benches as needed in City Park

Cadillac Area Public Schools High School and Junior High

The Cadillac Area Public Schools have recently made several improvements to their site including:

- Improvements to the football stadium
- Putting in a new football field and running track
- Relocating a utility line from under the football field
- Building 8 new tennis courts to replace older courts.

Future plans for this site include:

- Additional sidewalks
- Supporting equipment for the stadium to include lighting and sound equipment

Camp Torenta (owned by Cadillac Area Public Schools)

Although owned by the Cadillac Area Public Schools, the recreation programming at the camp is managed by the YMCA. Planned improvements for Camp Torenta include:

- the replacement of several older cabins with new ones.
- purchase of recreation equipment including canoes, kayaks, and archery equipment.

Community/Cultural Arts Center

At present a community center exists at the west end of Lake Shore Park. This center consists of a senior citizen center, genealogy center, and the Up North Arts organization. These uses are housed in the former Naval Reserve Center which consists of three Quonset hut buildings. While these uses can function reasonably well in the short-term, there will be a long-term need for these uses to move to a new facility.

This project calls for the planning, design, funding, and construction of the new Community/Cultural Arts center to serve the city and Cadillac regional area. The project involves locating and securing a site for a Center or locating, purchasing, and rehabilitating an existing building. The uses which will go into this facility will be determined by a study.

Uses within the new center may include:

- Senior center
- Genealogy center
- Art gallery
- Studios
- 400-500 seat theater/auditorium
- Gardens
- Classrooms
- Dance facility
- Lecture hall
- Museum(s)
- Meeting rooms
- Kitchen facilities

The Center will be used for cultural presentations, art and cultural enrichment classes, performing arts practices and related programs. While it would be beneficial for all these uses to be located at one location it may become necessary to accommodate these uses at more than one location, this may be particularly true of the theater/auditorium.

Wexford County Airport

The airport manager with the airport authority board are looking to develop an Airport Discovery Zone for interpretive and hands on interaction for children and young adults to learn about aviation and the multiple disciplines that aviation encompasses. This may include a covered pavilion with an observation deck.

U.S. 131 Bypass Multi-Use Greenway Multi-Use Pathway Bypass Project

The project calls for the future development of a U.S. 131 Multiple-Use Greenway Bypass for motorized and non-motorized use that be contained within the U.S. 131 right-of-way.

Lake Cadillac Management Program Invasive Species Control Activities and Program Funding

This program is designed to:

- Control invasive plants within or around Lake Cadillac
- Control nuisance animals such as geese
- Restore natural shoreline around Lake Cadillac

A millage was passed in 2011 to fund this program. This program has expired, and the funds have been used. The city anticipates putting another millage on the ballot which would deal with all lake management issues. The program is administered by the city with the guidance of a professional aquatic management consultant.

Wayfinding Sign Program

Due to Cadillac being a tourist destination wayfinding signage at all levels is important to smooth travel within the community. This project involves:

- Creating a wayfinding “family of signs” which can direct everyone whether moving by auto, bicycle, or on foot.
 - Design and implement a Cadillac Area auto wayfinding system which directs people to major destinations from the areas freeway, state highways, and arterial roadways.
 - Design and implement a pedestrian wayfinding sign system for downtown Cadillac. The Cadillac Area Visitors Bureau has taken a first step in creating this signage with signs being placed in several key foot traffic hot spots. This program should be expanded upon.
 - Design and implement wayfinding signs directing people to our formally designated bicycle paths.
 - Design and implement wayfinding signs for the White Pine Trail, Clam River Greenway, Lake Cadillac Bicycle Path, and the McKellop Walkway which give direction to select destinations and denote distances for those people riding or walking on these pathways who wish to measure their exercise distance.

Bicycle Network

The City of Cadillac is committed to establishing a complete bicycle network within the city. This effort will involve separated trails, shared pathways, and in-street systems. The city supports not only the use of the bicycle for recreation but its use as an alternative mode of transportation to the automobile. To achieve having bicycles as an alternative mode of transportation requires building a connected enough system to gain access to most areas of the city.

This project will include:

- Maintenance and enhancement of our formal bicycle path systems including the Clam River Greenway, White Pine Trail, and Lake Cadillac Bicycle Path.
- Design and construction of a new shared path along 13th Street from Mitchell Street out to Baker College and the YMCA.
- Design and construction of a share pathway along Pearl Street from Mitchell Street to the White Pine Trail
- Use of “Complete Streets Policy” to upgrade existing in-street bicycle paths and add new in-street bicycle paths wherever feasible.

- Manage traffic speeds through street design to create more opportunities for bicyclists to “take a lane”.
- Add a bicycle path plan into the city’s master plan which will be updated in 2023-2024.

Barrier-Free Accessibility

Understanding the importance of recreation to all residents, this project calls for barrier-free improvements to existing older facilities and recognition that new projects will meet barrier-free standards. To accomplish this task, the city proposes an updated inventory of existing parks and recreation systems to identify the level of need, estimated redevelopment costs, timing of improvements, and funding sources.

Arts and Culture

Numerous people in our community have discussed for many years the desire for more art amenities such as sculptures and murals for people using our downtown, public parks, and spaces to enjoy. The city has formed an ad-hoc committee to promote and implement art projects within the city. The Cadillac Arts Council has donated three art pieces, two which are found within Lake Shore Park along the McKellop Walkway and one which is located at the canal next to Mitchell State Park.





The Arts Council has also done one mural entitled “Cadillac Wings” (see left).

The city in 2021 received a \$250,000 Prosperity grant from Consumers Energy. A portion of this grant will be used for installing a mural along the White Pine Trail to be done in 2023.

This plan recommends the addition of more art projects whether they be sculptures or murals within our parks and our downtown. One of the next sculptures the city is pursuing is to add a bicycle sculpture at the newly completed White Pine Trailhead.

Pickleball Courts

The popularity of pickleball has grown in our community over the past few years and there is a need for additional courts to be constructed and dedicated for pickleball. Two of the tennis courts at Diggins Hill have added lines for pickleball play and they get a lot of usage. However, the city would like to remove the pickleball striping from the tennis courts as such time as we are able to construct pickleball courts at the Diggins Hill Park. The Cadillac Area YMCA and Wexford County Civic Center both have multi-use indoor courts with dedicated times and days for pickleball play. The city is in the spring of 2023 constructed two pickleball courts in Lake Shore Park. The addition of more pickleball courts within our city is a common suggestion from both the public and community stakeholders. Four possible sites for new pickleball courts are in Kenwood Park, Diggins Hill Park, Whittier-Kiwanis Park, and Walter A. Kysor Memorial Park.

Indoor Recreation Center

The City of Cadillac is in a four-season climate with colder temperatures being present for about 6 months of the year. The city’s lack of an indoor recreation center limits the seasonal time someone can play on various recreation courts to the summer season. With the addition of an indoor recreation center people could play pickleball, tennis, volleyball, basketball and other sports throughout the year. The ability to do wintertime walking and playing pickleball is available at the Wex, however times are limited due to the many other activities which get booked into that facility. Some court activities, swimming, and a weight room is available at the YMCA however some of these facilities are limited to certain days due to other activities being programmed at the facility and requires a membership. A planned indoor recreation center would provide facilities which are available on a much

more consistent basis and throughout the year. This would aid in efforts to fight obesity in a community where winter conditions encourage people to be sedentary. This plan recommends that an indoor recreation center be planned and built as funding allows.

Lake Cadillac Bicycle Path

- Reconstruction/Widening of the bicycle path.
- Add a fishing pier into Lake Cadillac at the causeway.
- Add fishing platforms at the Lake Cadillac shore at the causeway.

Trail Safety

The city will continue to monitor the Clam River Greenway and the White Pine Trail for potential safety enhancements. This plan will include any proposed safety enhancements for these linear parks which may include brush clearing, security cameras, lighting, or other Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) improvements.

Lake Cadillac Causeway Fishing Pier

Historically, the Lake Cadillac shoreline positioned along the east side of the M-115 causeway has been a prime location for fishing from shore by residents and tourists. The roughly 1,000 feet of shoreline is separated from M-115 by a non-motorized pathway. The shore and pathway are protected by a guardrail. The location is a popular spot for the fishing of crappie, bluegill, and bass and for the observation of wildlife. To enhance the quality of the fishing experience, create greater opportunities for fishing near the shore, and offer a desired amenity commonly referenced as a need by citizens and tourists, the plan proposes the construction of an all-season fishing pier extending from the causeway bank. The design and cost to be determined following additional study and consultation with the appropriate state regulatory agencies.

APPENDICES

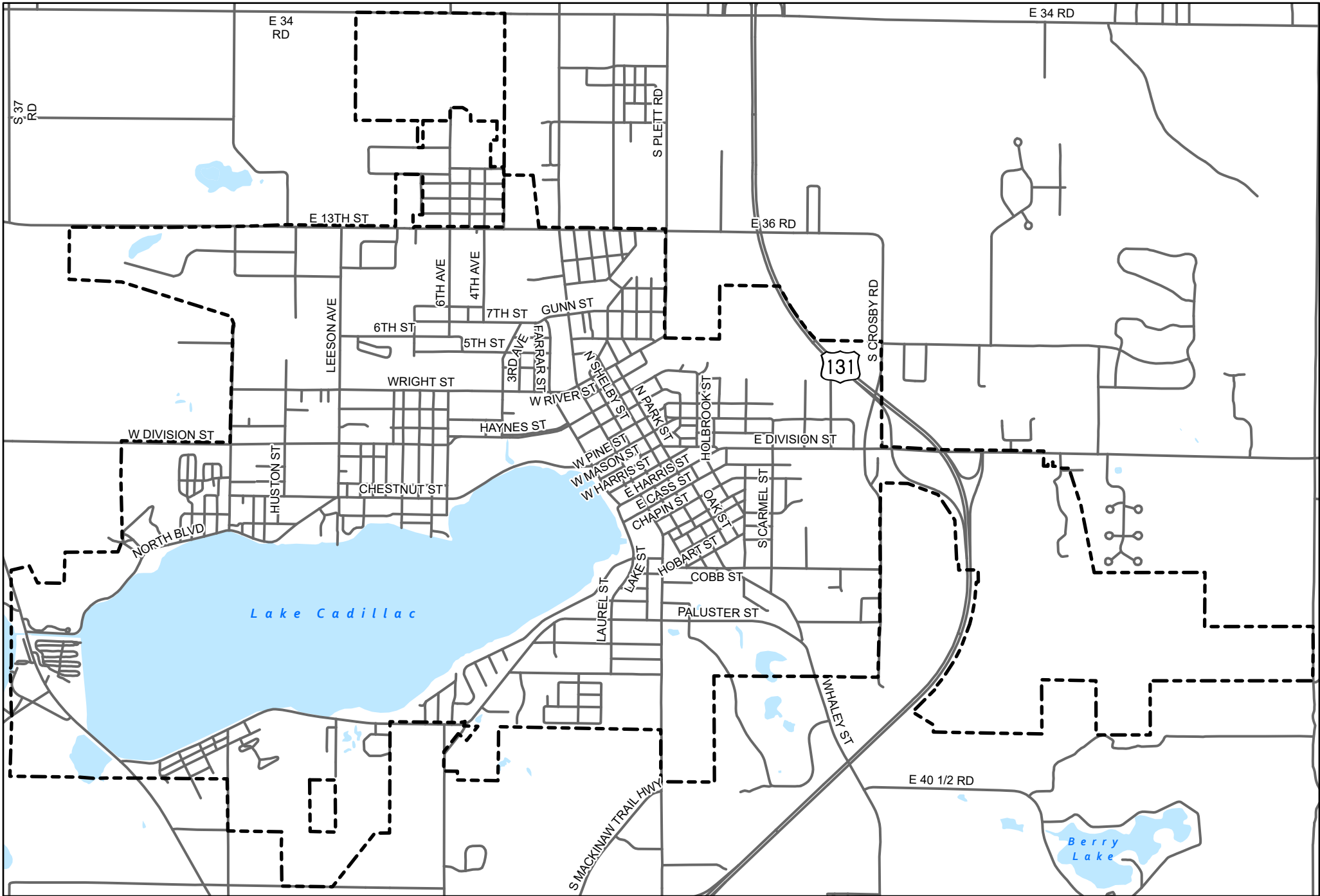




APPENDIX B

Soil Map Unit Legend

18	Loxley peat
20	Tawas mucky peat
22	Tawas-Roscommon association
25	Pits
65	Pits, sand and gravel
10A	Au Gres-Finch sands, 0 to 4 percent slopes
11B	Montcalm-Graycalm complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes
11C	Montcalm-Graycalm complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes
12B	Emmet-Montcalm complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes
12C	Emmet-Montcalm complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes
12D	Emmet-Montcalm complex, 12 to 18 percent slopes
13B	Rubicon sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes
13D	Rubicon sand, 6 to 18 percent slopes
14A	Allendale loamy sand, 0 to 4 percent slopes
14A	Otisco loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes
15B	Kalkaska sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes
15B	East Lake-Rubicon sands, 0 to 6 percent slopes
15C	Kalkaska sand, 6 to 18 percent slopes
15C	East Lake-Rubicon sands, 6 to 12 percent slopes
15E	East Lake-Rubicon sands, 12 to 30 percent slopes
16A	Au Gres loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes
17A	Kawkawlin loam, 0 to 4 percent slopes
20B	Montcalm-Graycalm complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes
20C	Montcalm-Graycalm complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes
20E	Montcalm-Graycalm complex, 12 to 30 percent slopes
21B	Nester sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes
23B	Grattan sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes
23E	Rubicon sand, 6 to 18 percent slopes
24D	Rubicon sand, 12 to 40 percent slopes, severely eroded
26B	Manistee-Montcalm loamy sands, 0 to 6 percent slopes
26C	Manistee-Montcalm loamy sands, 6 to 12 percent slopes
28C	Dighton loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes
29B	Coloma sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes
30E	Kalkaska-East Lake sands, 12 to 30 percent slopes
35B	Mancelona-East Lake complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes
40A	Iosco loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes
42B	Graycalm-Rubicon sands, 0 to 6 percent slopes
42C	Graycalm-Rubicon sands, 6 to 12 percent slopes
5B	Emmet-Montcalm complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes
5C	Emmet-Montcalm complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes
6B	Kalkaska sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes
CswaaA	Croswell sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes
LupaaA	Lupton muck, snowy, 0 to 1 percent slopes

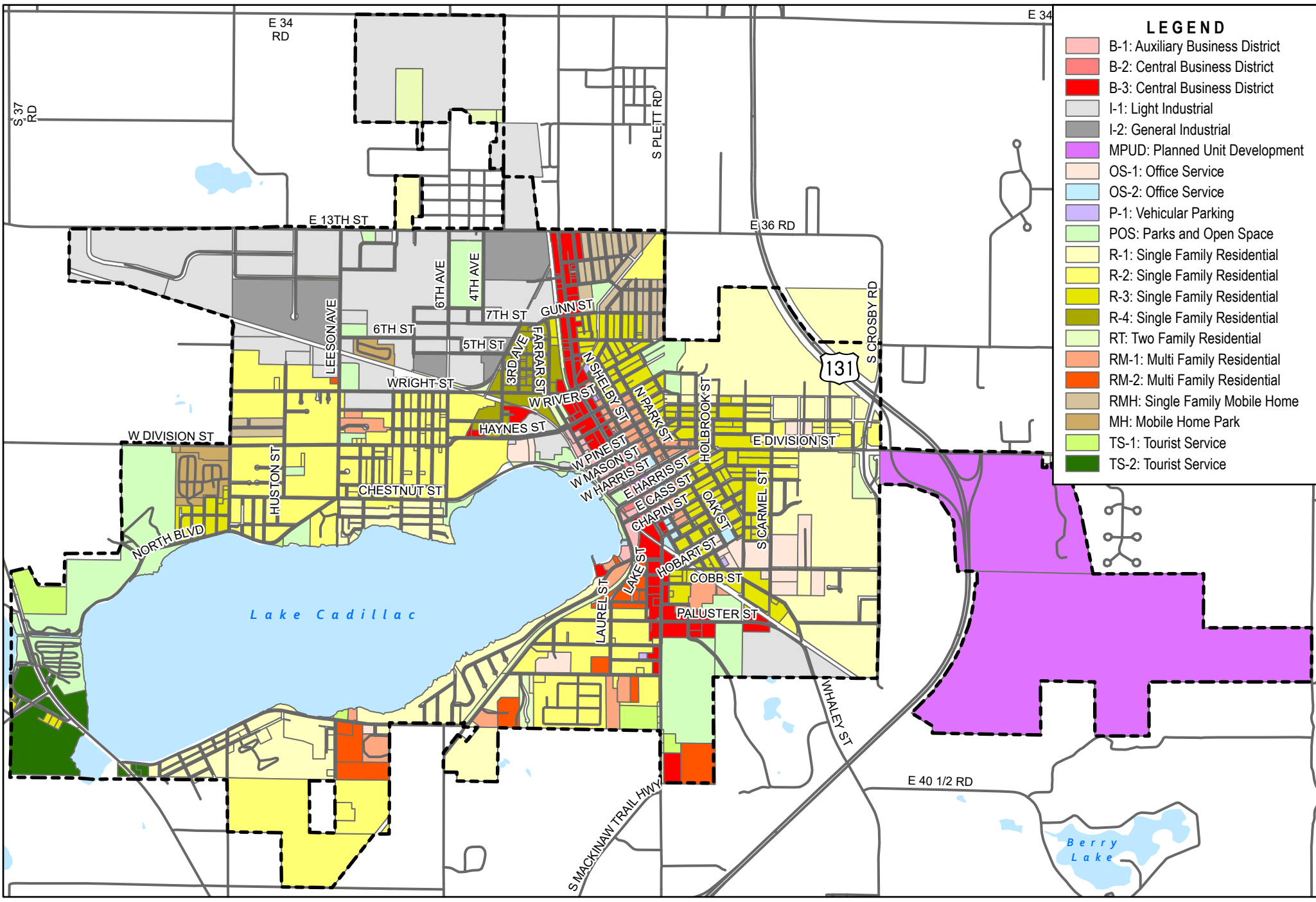


SCALE: 1" = 3,000'

LEGEND



Cadillac City Limits



- LEGEND**
- B-1: Auxiliary Business District
 - B-2: Central Business District
 - B-3: Central Business District
 - I-1: Light Industrial
 - I-2: General Industrial
 - MPUD: Planned Unit Development
 - OS-1: Office Service
 - OS-2: Office Service
 - P-1: Vehicular Parking
 - POS: Parks and Open Space
 - R-1: Single Family Residential
 - R-2: Single Family Residential
 - R-3: Single Family Residential
 - R-4: Single Family Residential
 - RT: Two Family Residential
 - RM-1: Multi Family Residential
 - RM-2: Multi Family Residential
 - RMH: Single Family Mobile Home
 - MH: Mobile Home Park
 - TS-1: Tourist Service
 - TS-2: Tourist Service



SCALE: 1" = 3,000'



ZONING
APPENDIX E