



**2014-2018  
Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH, MICHIGAN**

2014 – 2018  
Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Village of Grand Beach, Michigan

September 23, 2014 Draft

# Acknowledgements

The participation and cooperation of community leaders, residents, and members of civic organizations in the preparation of the Village of Grand Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan is greatly appreciated. In particular, we acknowledge the efforts of the following individuals:

## **Recreation Committee**

Kaye Moriarty, Chairperson  
Blake O'Halloran  
Amy Hanley  
Kieran McHugh  
Laurie Roche

## **Village Council**

Paul Leonard, Jr., President  
Blake O'Halloran, President Pro-Tem  
Jim Bracewell, Building and Zoning Commissioner  
Deborah Lindley, Police Commissioner  
Kaye Moriarty, Parks and Beaches Commissioner

## **Planning Commission**

Raymond J. Kelly, Chair  
Laurie Roche, Vice-Chairperson  
George Soper, Secretary  
Bill Wendling, Deputy-Secretary  
Jim Bracewell, Village Council Member

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# Introduction

The Village of Grand Beach has undertaken the process to prepare this Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This plan is a road map for parks and recreation decisions made over the next five years as well the projected future needs. This plan also makes Grand Beach eligible for funding through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). The process taken to prepare the plan has given the community a better understanding of their needs and wants for parks, recreation, land preservation, and trails facilities and programming in the Village. The plan contains the following components:

- Community Description
- Administrative Structure
- Parks and Recreation Inventory
- Basis for Action Plan
- Action Plan

## **Community Description**

The Community Description provides a snapshot of the demographic, economic, and physical characteristics of Grand Beach. This section identifies current trends and the future community composition that affects parks and recreation decisions and is a factor in creating the goals and objectives.

## **Administrative Structure and Funding**

The Administrative Structure and Funding contains a description and figure of the Village's administrative structure. The budget and funding of the village are also discussed in this chapter.

## **Parks and Recreation Inventory**

The Parks and Recreation Inventory is a compilation of all Village parks and facilities, schools, regional parks and facilities, trails and pathways, local parks and facilities, and quasi-public and private recreation facilities. The recreation programs available to Village residents are discussed in the section as well. It is important to understand what parks, facilities, and programs are available to Grand Beach residents in order to assist in creating the Action Plan for future parks and recreation decisions. Additional facilities and programs referenced in the inventory are not open to the public or available without a fee, but they provide additional recreation opportunities for Village residents.

### **Basis for Action Plan**

The Basis for Action Plan includes a discussion of the planning and public input process as well as an analysis of the park land, service areas, and facilities in the Village. The parks and recreation analysis uses several methods including comparing the community to national recreation guidelines for the size of the community, information gathered during the public input process, consultation with Village administration and the Recreation Committee, and by reviewing current offerings. The analysis reveals which recreation facilities are needed and desired in the Village. The results presented in this section create the basis for the action plan.

### **Action Plan**

The Action Plan is the culmination of the extensive information and analysis contained in the plan and presented in the goals and objectives and system wide recommendations. These describe recommendations for improvements and enhancement of the Grand Beach parks and recreation facilities, as well as identifying the tools needed for implementation of the plan components. The Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan is also contained in this section. The plan organizes projects that will require significant capital investment in order to better manage the budget and equally distribute funds over a five-year period. The timing of the projects is flexible and may be changed depending on the availability of funding.



## Chapter 1 – Community Description

The Community Description is a snapshot of the various physical and socioeconomic characteristics of Grand Beach. This information provides valuable insight into determining future parks and recreation facility development and programming needs for the community. The Village takes great pride in being a community that provides a high quality of life for its residents and offering recreation opportunities for all its residents helps to maintain that lifestyle.

### **Regional Setting**

Grand Beach is located in the southwest portion of Berrien County, near Indiana. The Village is bordered entirely by New Buffalo Township with the City of New Buffalo a mile to the east, and the Village of Michiana to the west. In addition, the Village is conveniently located a short drive from Michigan City, Indiana to the west. See Map 1 – Regional Location.

## Demographic Characteristics

The following summarizes some of the demographic characteristics of Grand Beach and reveals some unique characteristics of the community. The demographic makeup of the community helps determine the type, quality and quantity of parks and recreation facilities and programs that are important to serve Grand Beach residents.

A large percentage of the residences within the Village are only occupied in the warm weather months. As a result, the following demographics reflect both the Village's year-round population and its seasonal population, as data was available.

### Population

Since 2000, the Village has had a dramatic percentage increase in year-round population followed by a leveling off. The year-round population increased approximately 23.1% from 2000 to 2010, as indicated in Table 1.1 with only a minimal (0.3%) decrease in the population by 2013. The population increase could be the result of baby-boomers retiring and deciding to live in their formerly seasonal home on a full time basis to enjoy the Village's scenic amenities and quality of life.

**Table 1.1**  
**Change in Community Population, Grand Beach, 2000 – 2013**

2000	2010	Percent Change (2000 to 2010)	2013	Percent Change (2000 to 2013)
221	272	+23.1%	271	-0.3%

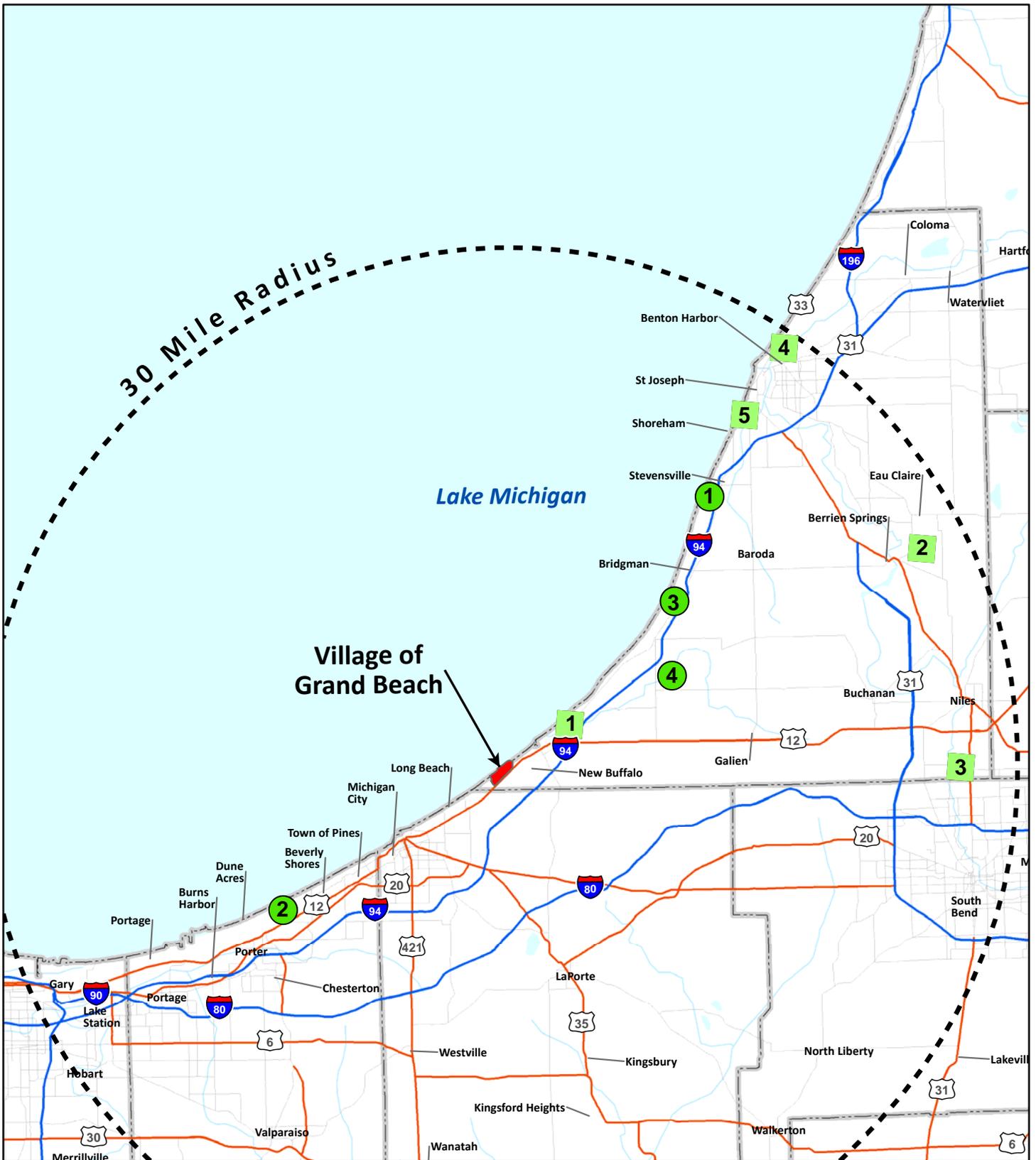
Source: US Census Bureau

As shown in Table 1.2, surrounding communities and the County in general have experienced population decreases in the past ten years. Grand Beach is the only community of those examined to experience population growth since 2000. Given the economy's slow recovery rate from the recent recession, population in many communities is not anticipated to dramatically increase.

**Table 1.2**  
**Population Trends, Selected Communities, 2000 – 2010**

Community	2000	2010	Percent Change (2000 to 2010)
Grand Beach	221	272	+23.1 %
Michiana	200	182	-9.0 %
New Buffalo Township	2,468	2,386	-3.3 %
City of New Buffalo	2,200	1,883	-14.4 %
Berrien County	162,453	156,813	-3.5 %

Source: US Census Bureau



Data Source: Mich Center for Geog Info and State and County Websites

# Map 1 Existing Regional Recreation Facilities

Village of Grand Beach, Michigan  
September 23, 2014

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|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #90EE90; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> State Park</li> <li>1 Grand Mere</li> <li>2 Indiana Dunes</li> <li>3 Warren Dunes</li> <li>4 Warren Woods</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #00FF00; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> County/ Regional Park</li> <li>1 Galien River County Park</li> <li>2 Love Creek County Park</li> <li>3 Madeline Bertrand County Park</li> <li>4 Rocky Gap County Park</li> <li>5 Silver Beach County Park</li> </ul> |
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**Mckenna**  
ASSOCIATES

### Seasonal Population

A high percentage of residences are occupied during the warm weather months of the year. Residences occupied year-round also increase in population because of seasonal guests who come for extended stays. As part of the public input process, a survey was mailed to each residence in the Village. Several questions in the survey asked residents to provide details on the number and age of their seasonal guests. Based on those survey results (See Appendix A), each residence in the Village has an average of five additional residents in the summer months. Based on a Table 1.4 below, the Village has 414 housing units occupied during the season. With five additional residents per household Grand Beach has an additional 2,070 seasonal residents.

### Housing

A household is defined as a person or group of people occupying a housing unit. The number of year-round households in Grand Beach has increased, as indicated in Table 1.3. Average household size, defined as the number of persons per household, has remained steady over the past 10 years. It should be noted that Village has a lower than average household size (Berrien County and southwest Michigan were both 2.43 persons per household in 2010). An increase in population and households would mean additional demands from current and new residents for parks and recreation facilities and programs. The Village's smaller household size is an indication that there are fewer households with children than average, and likely an older, empty-nest population.

Households are classified as Families with Children, Families without Children, and Non-Families, which include persons living alone and two or more non-related persons living in the same home. In Grand Beach, of the year-round households, 12.8% are Families with Children, 50.4% are Families without Children, and 36.8% are Non-Family households. This composition

is important to understand so that the Village's desired parks and recreation facilities and programs are planned in a manner consistent with the ages and life-styles present. Among year-round residents, the percentage of households with children is very low. While this might indicate less of a need for recreation facilities and programs for school age children, the composition of seasonal residents and their guests, who are typically younger and include more families with children, must be factored in.

### Housing Occupancy

As discussed above, in Grand Beach a high percentage of residences are only occupied during a portion of the year. While 32.1% of the 414 residences in the Village are occupied year-round, over 65% of residences are only used seasonally. This has a significant impact in determining the types of recreation facilities and programs which are offered by the Village. The number and age composition of seasonal residents can either complement or significantly alter community-wide recreational needs when based solely on the characteristics of the year-round residents.

**Table 1.3**  
**Year-round Population and Housing Statistics,**  
**Grand Beach, 2000 – 2010**

	2000	2010
<b>Population</b>	221	272
<b>Households</b>	108	133
<b>Household Size</b>	2.05	2.05

Source: US Census Bureau

**Table 1.4**  
**Housing Occupancy, Grand Beach, 2010**

Categories	2010	% of Total
<b>Occupied Units</b>	133	32.1%
<b>Vacant Units</b>		
<b>For Sale</b>	4	1.0%
<b>For Rent</b>	7	1.7%
<b>Seasonal</b>	270	65.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: US Census Bureau

### Age Distribution

An understanding of the age distribution in the Village is essential in planning for future parks and recreation needs. As people pass through the various stages of life, their activity requirements and preferences change resulting in the need for different types of facilities and programs. The proportion of Grand Beach's population that is 34 years and younger is considerably smaller than the rest of its population. Only 19.4% of the population was composed of pre-schoolers, school age children and young adults in 2000. While there was an increase in school age children in 2010, the overall percentage of persons 34 years and younger increased only slightly to 20.2%.

Residents from 35 to 64 years of age make up the majority of the population but only increased slightly between 2000 in 2010. The age group which experienced the most dramatic numeric increase was seniors. The cohort of persons aged 65 years and older increased by nearly two-thirds between 2000 and 2010. This age group is becoming a steadily larger overall proportion of the community.

Each age group requires different facilities and programs. The Village's parks and recreation facilities may need to change in response to the different needs of an older population while at the same time providing for the youth and adults in the community. Healthy living, recreational, and cultural opportunities play a major role in where people choose to live, raise families, recreate and retire.

**Table 1.5**  
**Community Age Distribution, Grand Beach, 2000 – 2010**

Age Group	Life Phase	2000		2010	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>0 – 4</b>	<b>Preschool</b>	11	5.0%	7	2.6%
<b>5 – 19</b>	<b>School Age</b>	20	9.0%	39	14.3%
<b>20 – 34</b>	<b>Young Adult</b>	12	5.4%	9	3.3%
<b>35 – 64</b>	<b>Adult</b>	118	53.4%	120	44.1%
<b>65 +</b>	<b>Retirement</b>	60	27.1%	97	35.7%
<b>Total</b>		<b>221</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: US Census Bureau

### Education and Community Ethnicity

According to 2012 U.S. Census estimates, 58.1% of Grand Beach residents 25 years or older have a bachelor's degree or higher and 30.6% hold a graduate or professional degree. The education level of Village residents far exceeds that of surrounding communities, as well as Berrien County and State of Michigan averages.

Overall the community is homogeneous in race and ethnicity. In 2010, 100% of the population was white with only 1.8% indicating they were of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. The diversity of the community may change in the future, thus parks and recreation activities and programs should be flexible to adapt if needed.

### Persons with Disabilities

Understanding the status of persons with disabilities will assist in planning future programs and appropriate locations for facilities and activities. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires that all public services, including parks, recreation, and cultural facilities, be subject to barrier-free requirements. Public providers must eliminate any eligibility requirements for participation in programs, activities, and services. Disability data is collected for five age groups. As the population ages, the proportion with one or more disabilities steadily increases. This trend is consistent with the figures for the Village of Grand Beach. Approximately 11.4% of the Village's population has one or more disability, and nearly one-quarter of the population 65 years and older has a disability. The Parks and Recreation plan must account for the needs of these residents and examine the existing inventory for compliance.

**Table 1.6**  
**Persons with a Disability, Grand Beach, 2012**

Age Group	Total Persons	With a Disability	Percent
0 – 4	8	0	0.0%
5 – 17	32	0	0.0%
18 – 64	119	5	16.1%
65 +	112	26	83.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: US Census Bureau

### Economic Characteristics

A variety of economic indicators suggest that the Village of Grand Beach is well positioned economically. The median household income of the Village's residents is higher than Berrien County and southwest Michigan, and Grand Beach has fared better than the surrounding counties, region, and state in unemployment figures.

The relatively strong economic health of Grand Beach residents suggests a continued demand for high-quality parks and recreation services and facilities and that continued funding would be necessary to help fund these activities.

### **Income**

Median household income is a broad measure of relative economic health. It is defined as the income level where half of all households earn more and half earn less. In 2010, the median household income in Grand Beach Village (\$95,000) was higher than in Berrien County (\$42,625) and all of southwest Michigan (\$42,625). In addition to having a higher median household income, in the years between 2000 and 2010, the Village's median household income increased over 43%, while Berrien County as a whole increased an average of 11.3%.

### **Employment**

Employment in Grand Beach has historically been healthy in comparison to the region. According to 2013 labor market information from the State of Michigan, unemployment in the County was 9.0%, which was slightly higher than the state wide average of 8.8%. Based on historical trends, the County can be expected to at least keep pace with overall State trends. Given the high level of income and education within the Village, it is reasonable to assume that the Village has a workforce that is highly employable and experiences a low level of unemployment.

## **Physical Characteristics**

Following is a description of some of the physical characteristics of the Village of Grand Beach, including land use and natural features. This is important in understanding the potential for the type, location, and extent of parks and recreation improvements.

### **Land Use**

Grand Beach was originally established as a summer colony offering diversified recreation. The current land use pattern reflects the intent of its founders. Single family residential is the highest single land use in the Village. There is a wide variety of housing stock, ranging from cottage style summer homes to large lot mansions. Some areas of the Village have developed with lots large enough to allow residents on-site recreation opportunities such as swimming pools. In other parts of the Village like the Old Village neighborhood, smaller lot sizes reflect the original cottage development, and owners have fewer opportunities for on-site recreation.

Recreation use is the second largest land use within the Village. Recreation uses include the Lake Michigan beach, the golf course, driving range and conservation land. There are no commercial or industrial land uses within Grand Beach. The commercial shopping needs of the Village are satisfied outside community, along US 12 and in nearby communities. This historic pattern of development has allowed the Village to maintain a very serene and relaxing atmosphere for its residents, and remain the special place that it is.

### **Transportation and Access**

The transportation system in and around Grand Beach is predominantly auto-oriented. This can limit access to recreation facilities for certain segments of the population, namely children, young adults, and seniors who may not be able to drive or have access to a car. However, within the Village, many residents utilize golf carts as an alternate means of transportation. The small size of Grand Beach allows people to reach most areas of the Village by golf cart, and a wider segment of the population can drive carts.

There are no major roads traveling through the Village. US-12, to the south, provides road access outside the Village and connects to I-94 and other regional routes.

### **Environmental and Natural Features**

Environmental features, such as climate, hydrology, soils, and vegetation are important to planning for the parks and recreation facilities. Natural features are not easily restored after they are impaired. The natural landscape of Grand Beach gives a variety of options for parks, recreation, and cultural activities.

**Climate.** The climate of Grand Beach and the surrounding area can be classified as generally mild. There are no unusual climatic conditions which severely impede activities within the Village. Data obtained by the Department of Agriculture in Benton Harbor reveals an average daily maximum temperature of 58.5 degrees and average daily temperature of 40.1 degrees. The average annual precipitation is 36.5 inches with an average annual snowfall of 70.3 inches. January and June are the snowiest and rainiest months, respectively. Due to the variations in the weather patterns in Southwest Michigan and location on Lake Michigan, Village residents experience the four seasons, together with increased cloudiness, lake effect snow, and consistent moderated temperatures throughout the year.

**Soils.** Soil features affect the cost of development and are a basis for determining the presence of a regulated wetland. According to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey, the soils in the Village are mainly characterized by “Oakville fine sand” soils except along the shoreline and Grand Beach Road. The Oakville fine sand soils present only slight limitations to home construction where grades are 6% or less, although a portion of the center of the Village and along the bluffs are characterized by steeper grades of greater than 18%. In those cases, the soil may present limitations due to slope conditions including increased erosion potential. The Oakville fine sand soils may also present limitations to septic systems and home construction and require engineered foundations and special erosion control measures. The specific site conditions in Grand Beach do not appear to be as limiting or severe despite the presence of Oakville soils.

The shoreline areas of the Village are characterized primarily by Udorthents/Udipsamments, a combination of clay and sandy soils that present severe limitations to construction due to slope conditions, and are particularly vulnerable to

erosion. A second shoreline soil type, classified as “dune land”, is situated in the middle of the Village adjacent to the shoreline bluff. The areas along Grand Beach Road and adjacent to the wetlands in the conservations areas are characterized by Granby and Morocco soils. These soils are loamy sand, very deep and poorly drained with minimal sloping.

**Vegetation.** The topography, soils, and climate in the Village support a variety of indigenous Michigan animal and plant species as well as natural communities. Vegetative cover in Grand Beach is comprised largely of woodlands, residential lawn areas, and the manicured golf course. The predominant tree type is oak, but other species present include maple, hickory, beech, and ash.

**Wetlands.** Wetlands include areas characterized by the presence of water that either saturates the soil or covers the land surface for all or portions of the year, and where such environments foster the growth of specific plant species. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Village contains a line of wetlands in the conservation area into the vacant parcel northeast of the golf course and a small wetland to the southwest of Royal Avenue feeding into White Creek. All of the wetlands are described as primarily emergent or forested and semi-permanently, seasonally or temporarily flooded. Some areas are forested or scrub/shrub with broad-leave deciduous plants and trees.

**Lake Michigan Shoreline.** Certainly one of the most distinguishing natural features of the Village is the Lake Michigan shoreline. The entire shoreline is open to the Village and access points are provided connecting residential areas to the beach. The Village is fortunate to have sandy beaches and unique dune formations. The dunes are a valuable natural feature for not only the Village but the State of Michigan as a whole, as the state’s dunes are the world’s largest assemblage of fresh water dunes and provide habitat for federally listed threatened and endangered species.

The State’s concern over the protection of its sand dunes led to the passage of the Sand Dune Protection and Management Act of 1976 (administered by the MDEQ). The scope of that Act was expanded in 1989, and the Act’s provisions are now embodied in Part 353 of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (PA 451 of 199, as amended). “Critical Dune” areas are considered to represent the highest and most impressive of the state’s dunes. The entire area of shoreline and portion of the inland area of Grand Beach, northeast of Maple Avenue, is classified as a critical dune area. Development on these dunes is subject to the provisions of Part 353 and its Rules. The Rules address such matters as application and procedural requirements for development permits; standards to protect the integrity of the dune including minimizing soil and dune erosion and the unnecessary alteration of grades, managing storm waters, prohibition of development on certain slopes, and minimum building setbacks; and related protection provisions including rules addressing variances and existing nonconforming structures and buildings.

Portions of the State’s shoreline areas are particularly vulnerable to erosion due to water levels, storms, winds, runoff, and frost. To minimize destruction to structures and minimize financial loss, the State has identified “high risk erosion areas” (HREA). A HREA is a Great Lakes shoreline where the recession of the erosion zone has been occurring at a long term average rate of one foot or more per year. There is an area at the northern border of Grand Beach extending into adjacent New Buffalo Township that is classified as a HREA. However, no official HREAs exist along the Village’s Lake Michigan beach. The rules for protection of these areas primarily address application and procedural requirements for development permits; minimum setbacks from erosion areas for moveable and permanent structures; regulations for proposed shoreline protection improvements; and special exception provisions.



## Chapter 2 – Administrative Structure and Funding

The Village of Grand Beach is a chartered village which allows it to administer its own taxing authority. It has the fiduciary responsibility to maintain funds in cash reserve, while providing needed services for its residents. As part of its services, the Village maintains a variety of high quality parks and recreation facilities, with an emphasis on efficient and effective utilization of financial and personnel resources. The administrative structure and budget analysis for parks and recreation are reviewed in this section.

### **Administrative Organization**

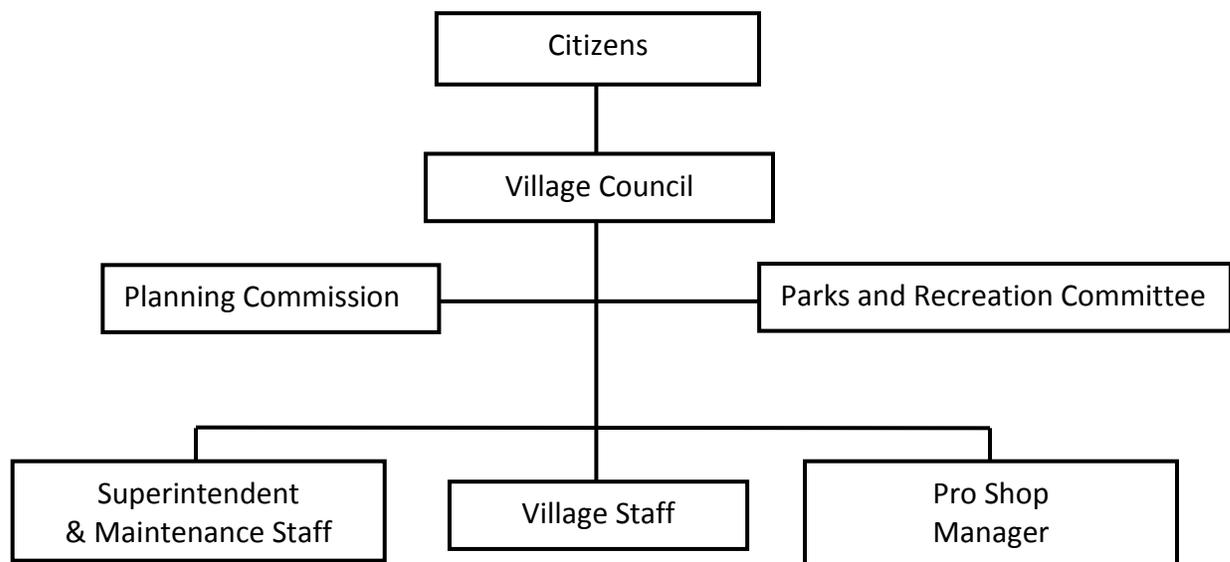
The Grand Beach Village Council is comprised of five members. Each member is also a commissioner of a specific area of Village administration. These include Building & Zoning, Water & Streets, Police, Golf & Pro-shop and Parks & Beaches.

The Village Council has established a Parks and Recreation Committee comprised of the Parks & Beaches Commissioner, Golf & Pro-shop Commissioner and several other volunteers. The

Committee is advisory to the Village Administration and Village Council. The goal of the Committee is to coordinate and provide recommendations to the Village that best utilize the existing park facilities and budgetary resources. The Parks and Recreation Committee has also coordinated the parks and recreation planning process for this five year plan. On a regular basis, the Parks and Recreation Committee works closely with the Village administration in coordinating the maintenance required at recreation facilities.

The Village Planning Commission is responsible for overall village planning issues, including general parks and recreation considerations. Thus the Planning Commission also participated in this Parks and Recreation Plan process, to ensure continuity with the Village’s comprehensive Master Plan. See Figure 2.1, which illustrates the administrative structure of the Village.

**Figure 2.1**  
**Administrative Structure, Village of Grand Beach**



Source: Village of Grand Beach

## Relationships with Other Organizations

Land conservancies have been active in the Village, assisting in preserving and protecting sensitive lands and flora. In 1984, property northwest and southwest of the intersection of Deer Park Drive and Grand Beach Road was designated by the Nature Conservancy as the Grand Beach Marsh Preserve and the Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve. In 2009, the local conservancy, Chikaming Open Lands acquired the Grand Beach Marsh Preserve from the Nature Conservancy. Currently Chikaming Open Lands focuses on invasive species management in the preserve.

## Parks and Recreation Funding

Table 2.1 summarizes the Village of Grand Beach parks and recreation budgets for 2011-2012 through 2013-2014. The budgets are divided into the General Fund and the Golf Fund. The Village General Fund is the source of expenditures for the beaches, parks and recreation and other departments that operate and maintain Village parks and recreation facilities. The Golf Fund contains the revenues and expenditures for the operation and maintenance of the golf course.

**Table 2.1**  
**Park and Recreation Budgets, 2011-2012 to 2013-2014**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
<b>Hall and Grounds</b>	\$29,525	\$30,263	\$36,083
<b>Public Works</b>	\$53,100	\$57,729	\$58,032
<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	\$8,950	\$3,714	\$4,559
<b>Beaches</b>	\$11,925	\$14,645	\$14,316
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$103,500</b>	<b>\$106,351</b>	<b>\$112,990</b>
<b>Golf Fund</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>			
<b>Charges for service</b>	\$238,000	\$227,500	\$228,500
<b>Interest</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>REVENUE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$238,000</b>	<b>\$227,500</b>	<b>\$228,500</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
<b>Wages and benefits</b>	\$50,799	\$49,846	\$50,772
<b>Operating expenses</b>	\$63,375	\$53,250	\$42,976
<b>Contracted services</b>	\$122,987	\$126,526	\$140,568
<b>EXPENDITURES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$237,161</b>	<b>\$229,622</b>	<b>\$234,316</b>

Source: Village of Grand Beach

## Additional Funding Sources

Other potential sources of funds for parks and recreation facility improvements could be considered by the Village. Some other potential sources could be additional user fees, revenue bonds, grants, donation of land and/or easements, and contractual agreements involving privatization. Following is a brief description.

### User Fees

Fees can be charged by the Village to the users of specific recreation facilities (similar to the user fees currently charged for golf course use) or for enrollment in recreation programs. Other communities in southwest Michigan have established user fees for swimming pools, tennis courts, wave pools, use of lighted athletic fields, and use of indoor facilities. User fees are most practical as a potential source of funding for selective specialized facilities and services.

## Bond Programs

Several types of bonds can be used to finance construction of parks and recreation facilities:

### 1. General Obligation Bonds

General Obligation Bonds are issued for specific community projects and may not be used for other purposes. These bonds are usually paid off with property tax revenues.

### 2. Revenue Bonds

Revenue Bonds are issued for construction of public projects that generate revenues. The bonds are then retired using income generated by the project. For example, revenue bonds could be issued for the acquisition and development of the driving range.

### 3. Special Assessment Bonds

Special Assessment Bonds are issued to pay for projects that benefit a particular segment of the population. For example, recreation improvements that benefit a defined subdivision or neighborhood could be financed using special assessment bonds, in which case the residents who receive the benefit would be assessed.

## Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants

Following is a summary of the three recreation grant programs available through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for communities that have an up-to-date recreation plan:

### 1. Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Eligible projects include community recreation and trail way improvements. These are grants of \$30,000 - \$100,000 to local units of government for development of facilities such as ball fields, tennis courts, playgrounds, trails and picnic areas; and including support facilities; renovation of existing facilities and retro-fitting of existing facilities to make them accessible to persons with disabilities. Funds are provided through Federal appropriations. Grant match basis is 50 percent MDNR/50 percent local.

### 2. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)

Eligible projects include acquisition of land or rights in land for recreational uses or for protection of the land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty, including additions to existing parks, forest lands or wildlife areas. Development of public outdoor recreation facilities is eligible (such as picnic areas, beaches, boating access, fishing and hunting facilities, winter sports areas, playgrounds, ball fields, tennis courts, and trails). Funds come from the sale of oil and mineral leases on State land. Local contributions equal to at least 25 percent of the project cost are required.

There are three special initiatives approved by the Trust Fund Council. Proposals will receive special attention if they:

- Are located within U.S. Census Bureau Metropolitan Statistical Areas;
- Increase environmental education facilities statewide; but particularly in urban areas; and
- Acquire land or develop trailways that contribute to the development of a statewide trail network.

### 3. Michigan Department of Natural Resources Passport Grant

Eligible projects will have the primary purpose of providing public recreation opportunities or facilities and infrastructure to support public recreation activity. The Passport grant program may only be used for local development projects. The program is focused on renovating and improving existing parks, but development of new parks is also eligible. Funds are provided from the sale of the Recreation Passport which replaces the resident Motor Vehicle Permit (MVP) — or window sticker — for state park entrance. The passport is required for entry to state parks, recreation areas and boating access sites. Local contributions equal to at least 25 percent of the project cost are required. Grant amounts range from \$7,500 to \$45,000.

#### **Donations**

Businesses, corporations, private clubs, and community organizations will often contribute to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit the communities in which they are located. Private sector contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, the donation of land or buildings, the provision of volunteer services, or the contribution of equipment or facilities.

#### **Foundations**

A foundation is a special non-profit legal entity that is established as a mechanism through which land, cash, and securities can be donated for the benefit of parks and recreation services. The assets are disbursed by the foundation Board of Directors according to a predetermined plan. Funding for recreation facilities through foundations is very limited.

#### **Lease or Contractual Agreements**

The Village may increase the availability of recreation facilities to its residents by leasing sites and facilities from other recreation providers. The Village currently leases the land for the driving range from the private landowner. The Village could contract with private entrepreneurs to provide services at Village-owned park facilities, such as recreation programming, food service, or facility maintenance. Privatization of services can increase recreation opportunities available to residents, while minimizing Village costs.

#### **Public Use Conveyances**

Administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, this program provides state lands acquired through delinquent taxes for local government units for public use. Acceptable uses of land acquired under this program include development of local parks.

### **Historic Preservation Fund**

The purpose of the Historic Preservation Fund grants is to identify, register and protect resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The funds that are sub-granted are used to help to strengthen preservation at the local level.

### **Grant History**

The Village of Grand Beach has never received a state grant for park acquisition or development.



## Chapter 3 – Parks and Recreation Inventory

Developing a complete inventory of the parks and recreation facilities and programs is an essential component of a five year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Understanding what parks, facilities, and programs are available to Grand Beach residents will assist decision-making for the future. The inventory covers the following components:

- Village Parks and Facilities
- Barrier Free Accessibility
- Public School Facilities
- Regional Parks and Facilities
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Programming

## Village Parks and Facilities

The Village of Grand Beach contains eight parks, recreation facilities and nature areas. Two of these are not owned by the Village. The parks, recreation facilities and nature areas in the Village are described below and shown on Map 2 – Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities. For planning and analysis purposes, the parks and facilities are classified based on size and function. The categories are suggested by the National Recreation and Parks Association and aid in distinguishing role of those facilities in the Village recreation system.

### Mini Parks

Mini parks are small, specialized parks that are usually less than one acre in size and serve the needs of the residents in the immediate area, approximately less than one-quarter mile away. These parks usually serve a limited, isolated, or unique population. Residential open space areas often serve as mini parks. The Village does not own any parks that can be classified as mini parks.

### Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that serve as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. They provide areas for both passive and active recreation activities such as fields, playgrounds, picnicking, and trails. These parks are typically between five and ten acres in size and serve residents within one-half mile.



**Royal and Crescent Park.** Located at the intersection of Royal Avenue and Crescent Road, this park is the Village’s only neighborhood park. The park contains two modular play structures, two swing sets, child rockers, one climber, a merry-go-round, one slide, and one picnic table. There is also one basketball court, one sand volleyball court and two tennis courts for organized ball play. The park lacks sidewalks or any paved trails from the parking lot to play equipment. The fences between the tennis courts and parking lot do not have any gates requiring users to utilize unpaved paths. (*Accessibility assessment – 1*)

### **Community Parks and Facilities**

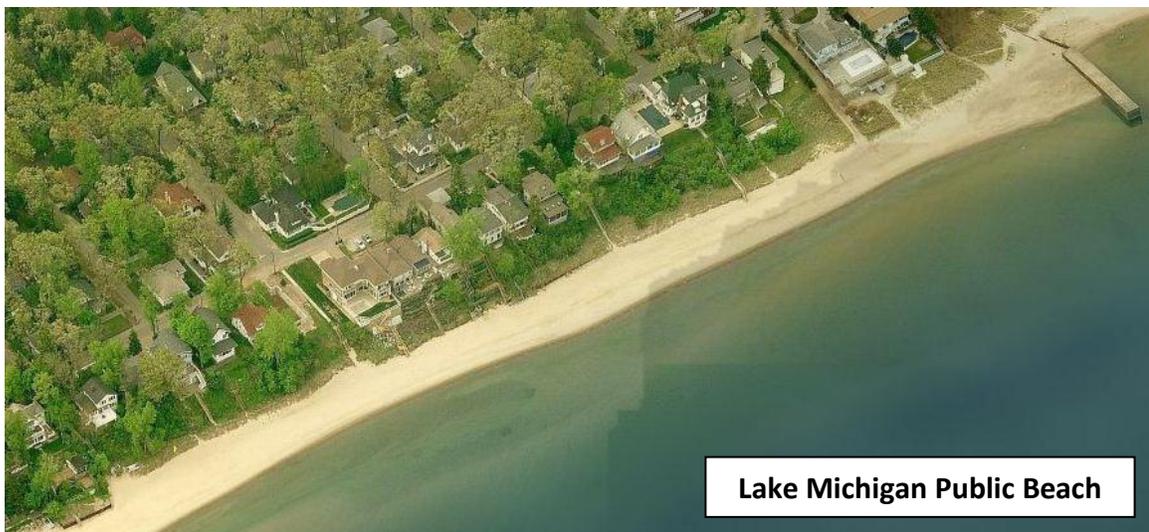
Community parks typically contain a wide variety of recreation facilities to meet the diverse needs of residents in the Village. Community parks may include areas for intense active recreation as well as passive recreation opportunities not commonly found in mini or neighborhood parks. The focus of these parks is to meet community-based recreation needs, as well as preserve unique landscapes and open spaces. Community parks are generally between 30 and 50 acres in size and serve residents within three miles of the park. Community parks may also include smaller parks that are more specialized in nature and are meant to serve the entire community. Grand Beach does not have any facilities that can be classified as community parks.

### **Special Use Parks and Facilities**

Special use parks and facilities are a class of parks and recreation facilities that encompass a wide variety of facilities and are oriented to a single, specialized use. The Grand Beach Golf Course and Lake Michigan Public Beach are classified as special use parks and facilities.



**Grand Beach Golf Course.** Developed when the Village was first established in 1907, the current golf course pro-shop is located on Perkins Boulevard, north of Maple Avenue. This nine-hole golf course is a focal point of the community and provides an important recreation resource for Village residents. The course and facilities are well-maintained with a paved parking lot and paved cart paths. The golf pro-shop and Village offices are located in the same building. The pro-shop offers a variety of snacks and convenience items for sale. The second floor of the building has recently been renovated with a full commercial kitchen and can be rented out for events to residents. The golf driving range is located on land adjacent to the golf course, currently leased by the Village from a private party. (*Accessibility assessment – 3*)



**Lake Michigan Public Beach.** Running the entire western edge of the Village is the Lake Michigan public beach. Public access is provided at twelve access points with stairs and pathways down to the beach in various states of repair. Access points on the northern portion of the Village, such as at Robin Lane, have approaches in need of improvement. A combination of beach erosion and lake levels sometimes requires the Village to restrict access at certain points when sufficient beach area is not available at the bottom of the access points. Some access points have space to park several golf carts near the decks or platforms that provide lake viewing. Due to space limitations, car parking is not currently allowed. The Village sweeps and maintains the beach on a seasonal basis. In the 1920's there was a pier with dining and dancing located at the end of Whitewood Avenue. The pier was torn down in the 1930's. During the mid-1970's the Army Corps of Engineers installed a breakwall in the same general vicinity, that still remains. (*Accessibility assessment – 1*)

### Natural Resource Areas

Natural Resource Areas are lands set aside for the preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. The location of these areas is based on resource availability and opportunity, thus the size varies depending on the property. Grand Beach has five properties that can be classified as Natural Resource Areas. Two of these properties are owned by nature conservancies who manage the land to control any invasive species and promote their preservation. They are described in greater detail below.

The Village owns three park properties in this category and that are currently unimproved. They currently provide passive natural areas within Grand Beach. These lots are located at the intersection of High Point Lane and Calla Avenue, and on the north and south sides of Anna Livia Way at the intersection with Grand Beach Road (See Map 2).



**Grand Beach Marsh Preserve.** Originally designated as a preserve in 1984 by the Nature Conservancy, this 11-acre site is a rare example of a coastal plain marsh. In 2009, Chikaming Open Lands acquired the preserve from the Nature Conservancy through a transfer. It is located southwest of Grand Beach Road and Deer Park Drive and is home to several rare or declining plant and animal species. There are no paths into the preserve given the sensitive nature of the species. (*Accessibility assessment – n/a*)



**Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve**

**Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve.** Located on the north side of Deer Park Road west of Grand Beach Road this preserve is also an example of a coastal plain marsh. Limited access to view the preserve is provided via a path leading from the Erich Lane cul-de-sac on the preserve's north side. (*Accessibility assessment – 1*)

### Barrier Free Accessibility

The passage of the American Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires all areas of public service, including parks and other recreation facilities, to have barrier-free accessibility. An evaluation of the Village of Grand Beach parks and recreation facilities has been conducted as part of the inventory. In accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (MDNRE) standards, facilities were evaluated to determine if a person with any of the following criteria can safely and independently access and use the park or facility:

- Has limited sight or is blind
- Uses a wheelchair
- Has a hearing impairment or is deaf
- Uses a walking aid
- Has a mental impairment

A five-point evaluation system was used to rank each facility's accessibility. The system is described below and the accessibility rankings can be found following the description of each park and facility owned by the Village.

**Level 1.** The park is not accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. The site includes few paved areas and the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.

**Level 2.** The park is somewhat accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Either the parking area or pathways are paved, but not both. Many of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.

**Level 3.** The park is mostly accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Most of the parking areas and pathways are paved, and some of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are accessible but may be completely barrier-free.

**Level 4.** The park is completely accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Parking areas and pathways are paved in the park, and most of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are easily accessible.

**Level 5.** The entire park was developed or renovated using the principles of universal design, a design approach which enables all environments to be usable by everyone, to the greatest extent possible, regardless of age, ability, or situation.

### Public School Facilities

Village of Grand Beach residents can also use recreation facilities at the schools that serve the community. The Village is served by New Buffalo Area Schools. The district includes one elementary school, one middle school and one high school. The public school facilities are not located within the Village and any use of the facilities would only require traveling roughly five miles to the facilities.

The Village has a long-standing relationship with the school district to share each other's facilities. For a very nominal fee, the Village allows the golf and cross-country high school teams to use the Village golf course for practices and competitions. In turn, the Village can arrange to use school facilities for its needs.

### Regional Parks and Facilities

Regional parks offer unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, fishing, boating, hiking, and trail use. Many also include active play areas such as ball fields or courts. While Grand Beach does not contain any regional parks within its boundaries, regional parks draw population from greater distances and do provide active and passive recreational opportunities for Grand Beach residents. Michigan

state parks and Berrien County parks are regional facilities that serve Grand Beach. The regional parks and recreation facilities located within an hour drive of the Village are shown on Map 1 – Regional Location and Parks and Recreation Facilities.

### State Parks

There are three Michigan state parks and one Indiana state park within a 30 mile radius of Grand Beach. These state facilities provide a variety of activities including camping, picnicking, swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and horseback riding. There are no state parks located in the Village.

**Table 3.1**  
**State Parks and Facilities Near Grand Beach, Michigan**

Activity	Warren Dunes State Park	Warren Woods State Park	Grand Mere State Park	Indiana Dunes State Park
Swimming	✓		✓	✓
Metal detecting	✓		✓	
Picnicking	✓	✓	✓	✓
Playground	✓			
Concessions	✓			
Picnic Shelter	✓		✓	✓
Cross-country skiing	✓		✓	✓
Disc golf				
Hiking trails		✓	✓	✓
Hunting	✓		✓	
Wildlife watching	✓			✓
Beach	✓		✓	✓
Camping	✓			✓
Beach house	✓			
Electrical service	✓			
Sanitation station	✓			✓
Boat launch			✓	
Nature center				✓
Sledding				✓

Source: Michigan DNR and Indiana DNR websites, 2014

### County Parks

The Berrien County park system consists of five parks. The county parks offer year-round recreational opportunities including beach volleyball, disc golf, mountain biking, playgrounds, picnicking, fishing, birding, cross-country skiing and swimming. There are no county parks located in the Village.

**Table 3.2**  
**Berrien County Parks and Facilities**

Activity	Galien River County Park	Love Creek County Park	Madeline Bertrand County Park	Rocky Gap County Park	Silver Beach County Park
Swimming				✓	✓
Beach volleyball					✓
Fishing access	✓				✓
Picnicking		✓	✓	✓	✓
Playgrounds			✓		✓
Concessions					✓
Pavilion		✓	✓		✓
Birding	✓	✓	✓		
Cross-country skiing		✓	✓		
Disc golf			✓		
Hiking trails	✓	✓	✓		
Mountain biking		✓			
Nature center		✓			

Source: Berrien County Parks and Recreation website, 2014

### Private Recreation Facilities

Privately-owned recreation facilities are located near Grand Beach, including many golf courses and clubs. Although use of these private facilities is limited to those who can afford the fees, they do address certain recreation needs. Private facilities that are available in nearby communities include bowling alleys, gymnasiums, racquet clubs, and fitness clubs. Their availability should be considered in evaluating future recreation needs.

### Programming

Given the limited resources of the Village, programming of organized activities is handled by volunteers. Organized rounds of golf include men's golf on Sunday mornings, women's golf on Monday mornings and children's golf on Thursday mornings. Children's tennis lessons are also available. There is a variety of social activities for interested residents, including ladies' bridge on Tuesday evenings, a book club on Monday evenings, bingo on Thursday evenings and parties for adults on some Saturdays. In the winter months, cross country skiing and snowmobile outings are organized. Residents also have access to organized ball leagues, fitness programs, health and wellness programs and other programs offered by the public school system, and regional and private recreation providers.



**Map 2 DRAFT**  
**Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities**  
 Village of Grand Beach, Michigan  
 September 23, 2014

- Village Recreation and Nature Facilities**
- Crescent and Royal Park
  - Golf Course
  - Lake Michigan Public Beach
  - Village Passive Parks
- Park Service Areas**
- Service Area for Neighborhood Park
- Other Symbols**
- Conservation Area
  - Civic Facilities
  - Beach Access Points
  - Driving Range



Data Source: Berrien County GIS 2008



## Chapter 4 – Basis for Action Plan

An essential task in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs and desires of the community. These are a basis for the development of the Action Plan. This task has been accomplished using several methods, including comparing the community to national recreation guidelines for the size of the community, information gathered during the public input process, consultation with the Parks and Recreation Committee, and by reviewing current facilities.

### Planning and Public Input Process

#### Planning Process

The Parks and Recreation Committee directed the update of the Grand Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Resident and Village input played a critical role in the development of the plan. As a result, recommendations described within the action plan reflect the needs and

ideas of those who use the Village’s parks and recreation facilities. The plan process included following seven tasks:

**Task One: Community Description.** The first task was to prepare a description of Grand Beach’s physical and social features. These features include location, land use, environmental and natural features, as well as population features including age distribution, people with physical disabilities, household types, employment, and income.

**Task Two: Administrative Structure and Funding.** The second task was to review the administrative structure of the Village, the Parks and Recreation Committee, and other recreation providers associated with the Village. This analysis also includes a review of the current and projected revenues and expenditures for the Village as well as identifying any history of funding received from the MDNR and other sources.

**Task Three: Parks and Recreation Inventory.** The parks and recreation inventory included site visits by McKenna Associates (McKenna) and written descriptions of facilities in Grand Beach including Village parks and facilities, schools, regional parks and facilities and private recreation facilities. The information includes the barrier-free accessibility rating, types of recreation facilities, and other descriptions of the physical attributes of the area’s facilities.

**Task Four: Public Participation.** The following public participation methods and events were conducted throughout the process of preparing the plan:

***Resident Mail Survey*** – In June and July 2014 McKenna and the Parks and Recreation Committee developed a survey which was mailed to each residence in the Village. The survey gathered some demographic information on residents and their opinion on the quality and variety of existing and potential recreation facilities. A summary of the responses is in this chapter. The complete listing of the survey results can be found in Appendix A.

***30-Day Review Period*** – The draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan was available for the 30-day public review starting September 25, 2014 until October 25, 2014. A public notice was published in the New Buffalo Times on September 24, 2014.

**Task Five: Analysis.** The data collected in Tasks One through Four was analyzed in accordance with national and state guidelines, local needs, the experience of the Village representatives and consultants, the desires of the residents as expressed in the survey and otherwise, and potential funding opportunities.

**Task Six: Action Plan.** Based upon the findings of the Analysis, the proposed Action Plan for parks and recreation priorities was created. This Plan projects over a five-year

period and provides the Village a checklist of what action is to be accomplished, when and where it will occur, who will accomplish it, how much it will cost, and potential funding sources.

**Task Seven: Plan Completion and Adoption.** The draft plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee, the Village Planning Commission and the Village Council for discussion. Once consensus was reached among these key players, the Parks and Recreation Committee and Planning Commission each recommended adoption of the plan. On November X 2014 the Village Council held a public meeting, with time dedicated for public comments on the Plan, reviewed and formally adopted the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. See Appendices B for meeting minutes, C for meeting notices, and D for adoption documentation.

## Public Input Survey Results Summary

In June 2014, a parks and recreation survey was mailed to each residence in the Village. The 13 questions gathered demographic information about the residents, their opinions on the existing facilities, their preferences on potential projects and preferences about how projects (if any) should be funded. Residents returned 187 of the over 400 surveys mailed out, an almost 48% response rate. McKenna entered these responses into an on-line survey service to compile the results. Not all respondents answered every survey question, so each question has a different total number of responses.

### Demographic Responses

Over 50% of the responses were from residents living in the Old Village/Holiday Hills area in the southern portion of Grand Beach. The second highest number, 23.9%, came from the central portion of the Village, labeled as Sun Valley Falls/Alpine Valley/New Park Addition to Grand Beach Springs/Hidden Valley.

Grand Beach has a high percentage of seasonal homes, which is mirrored in the survey results. Over 63.9% of those who responded to this question indicated that the Village is not their primary residence.

The age of permanent and seasonal residents is an important factor to consider when planning for the type of recreational facilities the Village should provide. A majority of responses from permanent residents, 64%, indicated that there was a person over 65 years of age in the home. Fewer than 10% of permanent residents indicated that someone between 5 and 19 years of age lived at home, with a similar percentage of young adults (aged 20 to 34 years) living in the home.

In contrast, seasonal guests to Village homes are mostly younger. While 51% of the 149 people responding to this question indicated they had at least one seasonal guest over the age of 65, the same percentage of respondents also had at least one school age child visiting. On average,

respondents reported at least three children under the age of five, four school age children, and three young adults as seasonal guests. These responses are consistent with the popular understanding that a high percentage of permanent residents are retirees with very few school age children, but in the summer a large number of children and young adults visit.

### **Use and Opinions on Existing Facilities**

The facility with the highest percentage of use was the Lake Michigan public beach, with over 48% respondents indicating that they use the beach very often, 20% often and 18.4% somewhat often. The second highest used facility was the golf course, with 17.4% using it very often, 19% often and 29.4% using it somewhat often. The least used facility was the sand volleyball court, with over 67% indicating they never use the court.

In general, most respondents scored the condition of individual facilities as satisfactory or good. The golf course received the highest percentage ranking of excellent. When asked what their overall opinion was of the Village's current park and recreation facilities, over 71% of respondents were favorable or very favorable.

### **Potential Projects and Funding**

When asked their opinion on dogs being allowed in the park at Royal and Crescent or on the beach, the majority of residents said dogs should be allowed at all times or with limited hours at both facilities. Only 31.3% wanted to prohibit dogs on the beach and 44.5% wanted to prohibit dogs from entering the park.

The majority of potential projects that were considered important or somewhat important were focused on the beach and lake access. Improving the beaches and beach grooming were ranked most important potential projects by respondents. Replacing and improving beach stairs, and removing dangerous jetties were the next highest ranked projects. The project that rated the lowest was building a Village swimming pool, followed by installing lights at the basketball court or at the park.

When asked about potential funding sources for parks and recreation projects, not surprisingly, grants were ranked as the first preference. Following grants, the order of preference was matching grants, donations, estate planning and a Village millage. Some respondents suggested potential funding via user fees or targeted fundraising activities. When specifically asked if they would support a millage for potential projects, 85 of 175 respondents (48.6%) responded yes while 51.4% responded no. Of the types of projects they would support if a millage were passed over 36 of 80 residents who wrote a response indicated some type of beach-related project. Over 37% of the 162 responding said they would want a \$0 millage, reaffirming their desire for no millage. Generally around 15% of respondents would support each millage rate of \$1-\$50, \$51-\$100 or \$101-\$200.

## Park Land Analysis and Service Areas

The Village has approximately 85.17 acres of parks and special use facilities, with an additional 16.30 acres owned by conservation organizations. The privately-owned parcel which is partially utilized as a driving range is approximately 47.30 acres in total area.

As required by the MDNR, Grand Beach's park land and facilities were compared to the minimum guidelines set forth by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA, 1983, 1995). Although the NRPA's updated guidelines were set more than 18 years ago, the MDNR still recommends their use as standards to establish minimum community needs in terms of land area and number of facilities.

Caution must be exercised in the interpretation of the NRPA results given that the national guidelines may not represent current popular activities and trends, and are not location-specific. Each community, based on its own particular resources and resident preferences and demands, is encouraged to establish standards based on its own needs and requirements. In that manner, the parks and recreation plan that results will best suit the community's desires for recreation. Grand Beach is a unique community because outdoor recreation resources and the Lake Michigan shoreline are dominant factors in local life, and much of the population is seasonal. Recreation needs are often better documented through public input rather than relying only on the national guidelines. Therefore, while the NRPA guidelines and the MDNR standards inform the development of the Action Plan, they were not weighted heavily.

Table 4.1 – Park Land Acreage Analysis compares the amount and type of park land in the Village (as classified in Chapter 3, Parks and Recreation Inventory) to the MDNR standards. For this comparison, a combination of the total year-round population estimate of 271 persons plus the estimated seasonal population of 2,070 was used for a total Village population of 2,341. Although most of this population is only present during the summer months, the Village's parks and recreation facilities are also predominantly for summer use. The MDNR's classifications with Village land in each category are summarized below:

**Mini Parks.** Mini parks serve the needs of the residents in the immediate area, approximately less than one-quarter mile away and are typically less than one acre in size. Grand Beach does not have mini parks resulting in a deficiency of 0.58 acres based on the recommended acreage of 0.25 per 1,000 residents. To better meet this need, the Village could look for opportunities to develop smaller parks in residential areas.

**Neighborhood Parks.** Neighborhood parks serve an area up to a one-half mile distance and are typically less than 10 acres in size. The park at Royal Avenue and Crescent Road can be classified as neighborhood park given the range of activities it provides to local residents. Royal and Crescent Park is approximately 3.31 acres in size. With a recommended guideline of 2.0 acres per 1,000 residents based on national standards Grand Beach has a deficiency of 1.34 acres in neighborhood parks.

**Community Parks.** Community parks typically serve an area within one-half to three miles and are between 30 to 50 acres in size. The Village does not own any park land that can be classified as a community park. Based on the recommended guideline of 5.0 acres per 1,000 residents, the Village has a deficiency of 11.63 acres.

**Special Use Parks.** Special use parks provide specific recreational opportunities for residents not typically found in a community park, neighborhood park or most municipalities. The Grand Beach golf course and Lake Michigan public beach are two special use parks serving the Village. There is no requirement for this type of park land, but they are a significant asset to the community and help fill some of the purposes of other types of parks.

**Natural Resource Areas.** Natural resource areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. Three parks/areas meet this requirement in the Village for a total of 4.87 acres. There is no requirement for this type of park land, but this is a significant asset to the community. The natural resource areas not only function to preserve and protect the character that originally drew residents to this area but currently act as buffers between developed areas. The Village has the option to continue to utilize the properties in this way or potentially provide different active or passive recreational activities for nearby residents.

**Regional Parks.** Regional facilities offer a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities which help in meeting the need for local park land and help balance the deficiencies in facilities. However, no regional facilities exist within the Village of Grand Beach.

**Table 4.1**  
**Park Land Acreage Analysis**

Park Classification	NRPA Guideline <sup>1</sup> (Acres per 1,000 persons)	Recommended Acres <sup>2</sup>	Existing Acres	Surplus/ (Deficiency) Acres
Mini Parks	0.25	0.58	0.00	(0.58)
Neighborhood Parks	2.0	4.65	3.31	(1.34)
Community Parks	5.0	11.63	0.00	(11.63)
Special Use Parks	Variable		76.99	N/A
Natural Resource Areas	Variable		4.87	N/A
Regional Parks	10.0	23.26	0.00	(23.26)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>40.12</b>	<b>85.17</b>	<b>(36.81)</b>

<sup>1</sup> Source: Lancaster, R. A., Ed. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1983; Mertes, J.D. and J. R. Hall. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1995. Based on minimum acres/1,000 residents.

<sup>2</sup> Based on a seasonally adjusted population of 2,341.

According to the above guidelines, Grand Beach has a deficiency in several park categories. The Village does provide a very significant amount of specialized park space to residents by way of the golf course and beach and there is an identified desire to maintain the current facilities.

Although it is important to consider the overall amount of park land in the Village, it is also essential to consider the type of parks, their location, and their distribution throughout the Village. When evaluating parks and recreation service areas it is important to closely consider where the residents in the Village live. The MDNR establishes a recommended service area for each park classification to determine the areas in Grand Beach that are lacking easy access to parks and facilities. The service area for each type of park is as follows:

- Mini Parks                                      0.25 miles
- Neighborhood Parks                        0.50 miles
- Community Parks                            1.0 – 3.0 miles
- Regional Parks                                60 minute driving time

Park service areas are shown on Map 2 – Existing Recreation Facilities and Service Areas. For the purposes of measuring the service area of the neighborhood park, a radius of ½ mile was used. The service areas for the natural resources areas and special use parks were not included. Given the size of Grand Beach, it is well-served by special use parks. The neighborhood park serves the residents of the southwest portion of the Village, leaving a lack of neighborhood park facilities on the northern portion of the community. However, many lots in the north part of the Village are larger in size allowing many recreational activities to take place on private lots.

## Facilities Analysis

In addition to park land, existing recreation facilities were compared against the recommended guidelines set by the NRPA and the MDNR to determine if they are adequate to meet the needs of residents based on national averages. The analysis takes into account a variety of factors including specific needs and existing conditions in Grand Beach, information obtained during the public input opportunities, site conditions, as well as national averages. Table 4.2 indicates the recommended guideline and facilities, the number of facilities in the Village, and the surplus or deficiency of facilities.

**Table 4.2**  
**Park Facility Analysis**

Park Classification	NRPA Guideline <sup>1</sup>	Recommended Facilities <sup>2</sup>	Existing Facilities	Surplus (Deficiency)
Baseball/Softball	1/5,000	1	0	(1)
Basketball	1/5,000	1	1	0
Football	1/20,000	1	0	(1)
Golf Driving Range	1/50,000	1	1	0
Golf Course (9-Hole)	1/25,000	1	1	0
Golf Course (18-Hole)	1/50,000	1	0	(1)
Playground	1/3,000	1	1	0
Soccer	1/10,000	1	0	(1)
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	1	0	(1)
Tennis	1/2,000	1	2	+1
Volleyball	1/5,000	1	1	0

<sup>1</sup> Source: Lancaster, R. A., Ed. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1983; Mertes, J.D. and J. R. Hall. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1995. Based on minimum acres/1,000 residents.

<sup>2</sup> Based on 2013 U.S. Census population projection of 271.

## Adopted Village Master Plan Parks and Recreation Goals & Objectives

Chapter Six of the Grand Beach Master Plan lists goals and objectives which guide the future development of the Village. Three of the adopted Village Master Plan's goals address issues related to Parks and Recreation. These are the Lake Michigan Shoreline; Parks, Recreation & Golf Course, and Natural Resources & Environment and are listed below. By using the Master Plan's goals and objectives in developing this Parks and Recreation Action Plan, the Village will have another tool to achieve the Master Plan's goals, and ensure continuity between these different documents. This Parks and Recreation Action Plan will thus have a foundation in a document that already has been reviewed and approved by the community.

### PARKS, RECREATION and GOLF COURSE

**GOAL:** Provide and maintain parks and recreation lands and facilities for access and enjoyment by residents and their visitors.

#### OBJECTIVES:

- Prepare and maintain an updated MDNR-approved Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Plan for and ensure funding for continued maintenance and improvements to the golf course and Village Hall area.

- Establish a committee of the Village Council to receive public input and direction on the administration and oversight of parks and recreation in the Village.
- Explore the possibility of creating additional park areas in the Eiffel Tower and Golfmore Estates neighborhoods.
- Plan for and ensure funding for the enhancement of existing park areas in the Village.

### **LAKE MICHIGAN SHORELINE**

**GOAL:** Protect and enhance the Lake Michigan shoreline

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Maintain and improve the beach access stairs.
- Monitor the condition of the beach continually to ensure the beach is maintained and cleaned as necessary (i.e. pre-summer maintenance, placement of trash containers, and raking of the sand).
- Protect the integrity of the public lakeshore by prohibiting development along the shoreline through appropriate regulations.
- Ensure the continued access of the shoreline through Village-owned easements.
- Explore beach protection measures such as sea walls or revetments to ensure longevity of the shoreline utilizing MDEQ regulations and assistance.
- Ensure property owners are aware of Village easements along the shoreline when locating seawalls, revetments, and similar devices.
- Coordinate with MDEQ during permitting process to ensure these shoreline protection devices remain on private property.
- Review and update the Village Code as necessary to ensure the shoreline is maintained in an effective and responsible manner.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES and ENVIRONMENT**

**GOAL:** Preserve intact significant natural features located in the Village and integrate natural feature preservation into land use decisions.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- Ensure the protection of the environmental resources of the Village including the Lake Michigan shoreline and dunes, Grand Beach Marsh Preserve, Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve, White Creek, and the Village’s wetlands and woodlands.
- Establish a reasonable development application and review process that ensures construction projects conform to environmental standards and do not disturb natural areas.
- Explore the most appropriate regulatory programs to address environmental preservation interests including local versus state regulatory programs, and the most appropriate local review and enforcement programs where local authority is exercised.
- Explore the feasibility and desirability of a Village land preservation fund for the purpose of purchasing sites of significant natural character or conservation.
- Provide greenway connections between natural areas in (Grand Beach Marsh Preserve, Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve, Lake Michigan shoreline) and adjacent to (White Creek corridor in adjacent Village of Michiana, Lake Michigan shoreline, New Buffalo lakefront) the Village through a combination of protection and restoration.



## Chapter 5 – Action Plan

The previous chapters of this Grand Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan established a solid foundation for the Action Plan. The Action Plan in this chapter describes recommendations for improvements and enhancement of the Village’s parks and recreation facilities, as well as identifying the tools needed for implementation of the Plan.

One part of the Action Plan is the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Action strategies that may require significant capital investment from the community have been organized into a five-year projection of projects and priority activities. The selected projects are prioritized in the CIP in order to better manage the Village funds assigned to parks and recreation facilities and distribute the projects over a five-year cycle. The timing of these projects may be influenced, moved, or eliminated depending upon economic conditions, available funding, grant awards and/or other factors. All expenditures outlined are subject to annual budget approval by Village Council. However, the spirit and intent of the project priorities are defined in the CIP.

The Action Plan is organized into three sections:

- Vision and Strategic Approach
- Goals and Objectives
- Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

## Vision and Strategic Approach

### Vision

The following is the vision for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

“Enhance Grand Beach’s historic, natural and residential character by providing and maintaining high-quality parks and recreation opportunities”

### Strategic Approach

The development history and single family residential character of the Village has created a very serene atmosphere, and the Village’s current recreational uses reflect that character. Any future uses must continue to enhance and preserve that quiet, outdoor recreational character, as well. Permanent conservation of select existing natural features could insure a long term preservation of Village character.

The lack of non-residential uses and the accompanying tax base, requires the Village to be very fiscally efficient, maximizing the impact of available funds. Any future projects must reflect the economic realities of Grand Beach.

The Village has a large percentage of seasonal residents. These seasonal residents increase greatly the number of children and young adults in the Village. Seasonal residents typically have different recreational desires and needs. Directing resources towards facilities that can serve the needs of both seasonal age groups and permanent age groups would maximize the impact of the Village’s limited resources.

The Village has a deficiency of parks based on the recommended guidelines. This is mainly due to the fact that the Village has provided specialized recreation opportunities through the special use facilities. Residents have the benefit of their own golf course and beach but must go elsewhere for things like ball fields and general open play areas. The small land area of the Village allows for generally easy access to the existing facilities. However, there is a lack of a mini-park or neighborhood parks on the northern side of the Village.

The resident survey indicated that there is a strong desire to maintain and improve the Lake Michigan public beach and the facilities associated with it. Maintaining and improving the golf course is also a priority. While some residents have indicated a desire to add to the recreational opportunities, a significant percentage of residents do not want a millage to pay

for additional facilities. While residents are open to grants and other sources of revenue, those sources typically require at least some investment (matching funds) on the part of the Village.

To meet the short-term needs of the Village, the Action Plan must focus on maintaining and improving existing facilities. This would meet the needs of the residents while also addressing the desires of both seasonal and permanent residents. The Action Plan lays the foundation for diversifying the recreational opportunities offered by the Village. By planning for greater investment in the future, resources can be allocated over time to eventually expand offerings. The eventual addition of recreational facilities will preserve the Village character beloved by residents and enhance the overall quality of life in Grand Beach.

## Goals and Objectives

The following goals and strategies are intended to provide an operational framework for future decisions related to the provision of parks and recreation for the Village of Grand Beach. These goals and strategies should be reviewed on a regular basis and modified as necessary.

### Parks and Recreation

**Goal:** Provide a variety of parks and recreation experiences that are desired by the community for passive and active recreation that supports the community values and history.

**Objective 1.1:** Maintain and improve the quality of the Lake Michigan public beach.

- Develop measurable standards that reflect the optimal condition for beach quality.
- Create a maintenance schedule that attempts to meet the developed beach standards given the Village's available resources.
- Evaluate beach quality against the developed standards at the end of each season.
- Allocate additional resources to insure progress is made towards achieving the developed standards.
- Consider life guards for public safety

**Objective 1.2:** Maintain and improve the access points to the Lake Michigan public beach.

- Evaluate the conditions of all right-of-ways, easements, lookouts and stairs providing access to the beach.
- Determine the requirements for providing access to the beach meeting the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- Develop an improvement plan that addresses maintenance of existing access and the eventual upgrading and improvement of access to ADA standards.
- Allocate resources to maintain and improve access points per the improvement plan.

**Objective 1.3:** Improve the golf course through the improvement and addition of high-quality amenities.

- Continue to evaluate user fees to determine an acceptable increase to be allocated to capital improvements.
- Continue to prioritize improvements and develop a schedule to add new amenities.
- Approach property owners of the driving range to assess their desire to allow the Village to acquire and improve the driving range.
- Consider utilizing a preferred zoning alternative (PUD, Open Space Preservation, etc.) similar to previously proposed ordinances which would allow the Village to acquire the driving range and other sensitive natural areas while providing development alternatives for the remaining property.

**Objective 1.4:** Meet the land and facility standards (as applicable) as outlined in Chapter 4 of this plan.

- Meet the land and facility standards over a ten-year period in existing and future parks to meet the community's unmet need for parks and recreation pursuits.
- Develop design principles and standards for parks to support appropriate recreational needs and available operational money available.

**Objective 1.5:** Enhance and utilize existing parks and facilities based on particular needs and amenities.

- Work with Chikaming Open Lands to promote and maintain the existing unimproved natural park areas through invasive species management and other programs.
- Evaluate available unimproved land in the Village to determine how to best preserve the natural and scenic character of the Village

**Objective 1.6:** Acquire additional land throughout the Village as needed or where residents are lacking access to parks and recreation facilities and/or to preserve natural features and open spaces.

- Continue to evaluate where new facilities are needed throughout the Village.
- Work to acquire land from developers.
- Work to identify valuable open space and natural areas.
- Work to create zoning for open space and natural areas.

- Utilize the Zoning Ordinance to provide for preservation of open space and private maintenance of matured features.

**Objective 1.7:** Seek and/or explore alternatives for funding the developing and operational costs of recreational facilities.

- Study the potential for user fees to generate sufficient revenue to cover capital and operational expenses for any new recreation facility.
- Develop beach and park sponsorships to help support the operational costs of the beach and park.

## Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

This section summarizes the overall parks and recreation recommendations as well as specific improvements to individual parks. Some are multi-year efforts that will involve time and coordination, while others are park improvements that require largely monetary investment. Table 5.1 – Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan incorporates the top recommendations that require capital expenditure in the next five years.

Priorities should be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted to respond to updated findings and identification of funding opportunities. In particular, costs should be closely monitored, as the proposed plan estimates are in 2014 dollars and are strictly preliminary. Actual costs for each project will be more specifically determined as site surveys, programming elements, and engineering plans are developed if applicable, as well as further analysis of the proposed improvement. If funding levels are lower than required to implement the Plan based on the schedule provided, the implementation could be stretched over additional years.

It should be noted that the CIP is based on the existing financial resources of the Village. This helps to ensure that the projects are aligned with the operational and financial realities of the Village's resources and are not simply a pure reflection of community desires. The Village has taken a comprehensive approach in preparing the Master Plan to fully evaluate and prioritize projects based on the costs, benefits, impacts to the community, and operational costs.

There has been considerable discussion regarding whether the Village should acquire either the driving range or Whitewood property. When questioned about these projects in the survey 43.7% indicated it was important to acquire the driving range while 39% believed it was important to acquire the Whitewood property. This plan recommends that Village Council continue to evaluate these opportunities to reach a decision regarding whether to acquire one, both or neither of the properties. Factors to consider include evaluation of the opportunities, relative costs and benefit, public support, parks and recreation goals and the master plan. For example, grant funds may be available to assist with the Whitewood land purchase; the driving range might be leveraged with incentives other than money.

**Table 5.1**  
**Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan**

Year	Project	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
<b>Year 1</b> <b>2014 – 2015</b>	<b>Lake Michigan Beach ADA Access</b> – Conduct a physical access needs assessment to determine necessary improvements.	\$5,000	GF/PD
	<b>Determine Acquisition Strategy</b> – Village decides which, if any, future land acquisition to pursue. If Whitewood, prepare grant application; if driving range approach land owners to work out terms and consider possible open space residential development for the remaining vacant land.*	\$5,000	GF
	<b>Neighborhood Park Improvements</b> – Add ADA surface for playground equipment. Replace older equipment with new accessible play equipment.	\$10,000	MDNR/PD
<b>Year 2</b> <b>2015 – 2016</b>	<b>Lake Michigan Beach Access</b> – Resurface/upgrade approaches to wooden stairs/platforms at access points in the northern area of Village (Robin Lane, et al.) or wherever most needed.	\$10,000	MDNR, GF
<b>Year 3</b> <b>2016 – 2017</b>	<b>Beach Debris Removal</b> – Working with the Army Corps of Engineers, coordinate removal of jagged metal and stone debris in lake along beachfront.	\$2,000	MDNR/PD
<b>Year 4</b> <b>2017 – 2018</b>	<b>Lake Michigan Beach Access</b> – Resurface/upgrade approaches to wooden stairs/platforms at access points in the southern area of the Village (Whitewood Ave., et al.).	\$10,000	MDNR
<b>Year 5</b> <b>2018</b>	<b>Lake Michigan ADA Beach Access</b> – Design and install ADA compliant access to beach at one location.	\$10,000	MDNR/PD

\*Land acquisition will require capital funding from a local source (grant matching, millage, donations, others).

KEY	
CS	Corporate Sponsor
CZM	Coastal Zone Management Grant
GF	General Fund
MDNR	Land and Water Conservation Fund; Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; Passport Grant
PD	Private Donations
Other	Millage, Special Assessment, etc.

# Appendix A – Public Input Results

## **Resident Mail-In Survey**

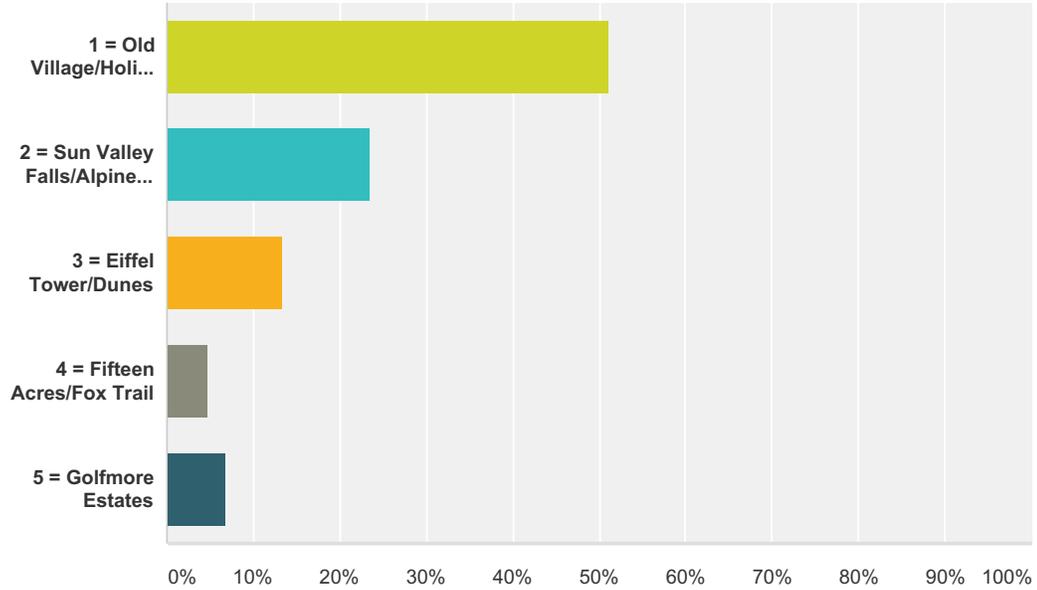
In June 2014, a parks and recreation survey was mailed to each residence in the Village. The 13 questions gathered demographic information about the residents, their opinions on the existing facilities, their preferences on potential projects and preferences about which projects (if any) should be funded. The responses of the returned surveys follow.



# Village of Grand Beach

## Q1 Using the map, please identify the number of the neighborhood in which you live.

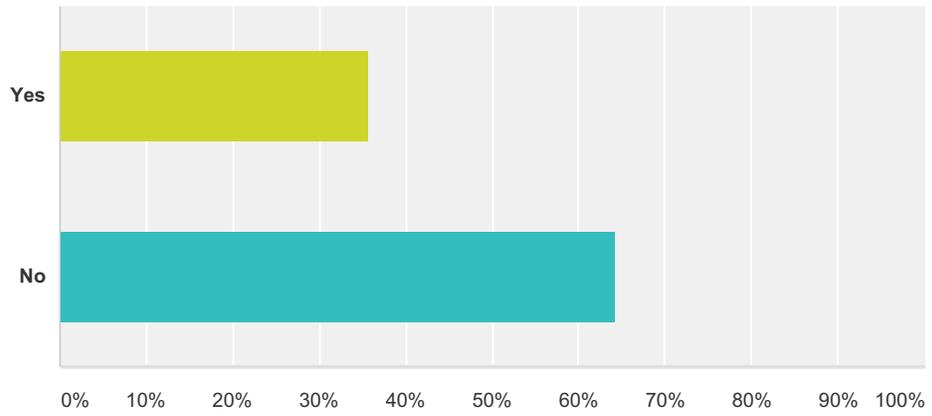
Answered: 186 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
1 = Old Village/Holiday Hills	51.08% 95
2 = Sun Valley Falls/Alpine Valley/New Park Addition to GB Springs	23.66% 44
3 = Eiffel Tower/Dunes	13.44% 25
4 = Fifteen Acres/Fox Trail	4.84% 9
5 = Golfmore Estates	6.99% 13
<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>

## Q2 Is Grand Beach your primary residence? (circle one)

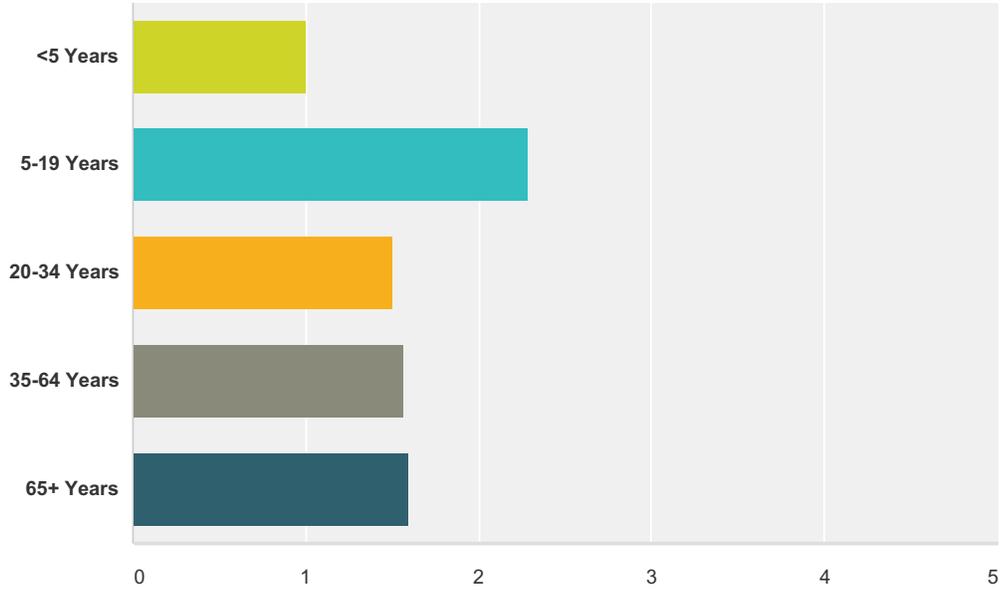
Answered: 171 Skipped: 18



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	35.67% 61
No	64.33% 110
<b>Total</b>	<b>171</b>

**Q3 Please let us know how many persons live in your home year round by their age. (write the # of persons in the boxes below)**

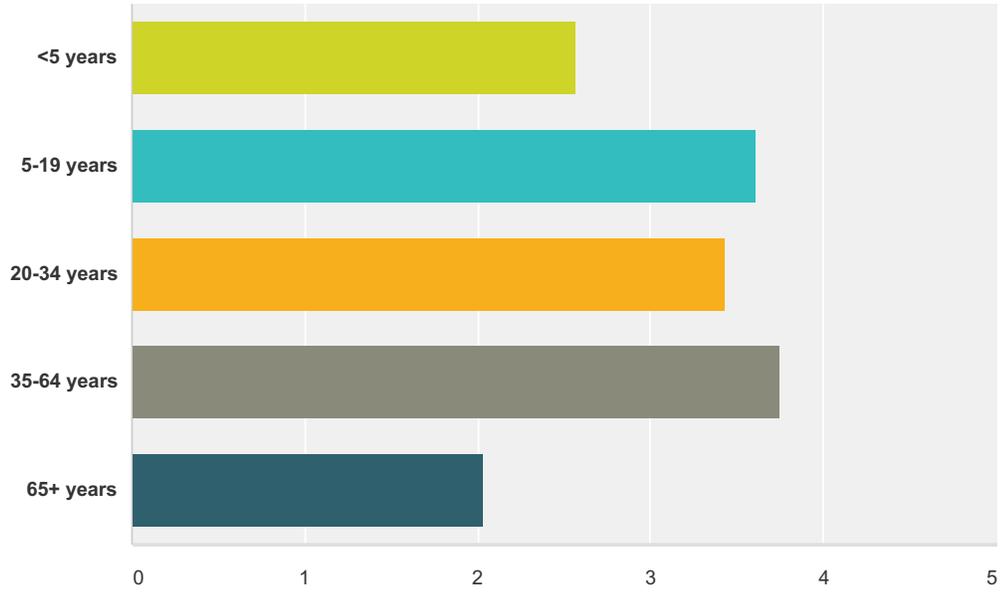
Answered: 70 Skipped: 119



Answer Choices	Average Number	Total Number	Responses
<5 Years	1	2	2
5-19 Years	2	16	7
20-34 Years	2	9	6
35-64 Years	2	50	32
65+ Years	2	72	45
<b>Total Respondents: 70</b>			

**Q4 Please let us know how many family members or guest use your home part time by their age. (write the # of persons in the boxes below)**

Answered: 150 Skipped: 39



Answer Choices	Average Number	Total Number	Responses
<5 years	3	77	30
5-19 years	4	271	75
20-34 years	3	223	65
35-64 years	4	409	109
65+ years	2	157	77
<b>Total Respondents: 150</b>			

Village of Grand Beach

**Q5 How often do you use the following existing recreation facilities?**

Answered: 187 Skipped: 2

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Golf Course	<b>12.90%</b> 24	<b>22.04%</b> 41	<b>29.03%</b> 54	<b>18.82%</b> 35	<b>17.20%</b> 32	186
Pro Shop	<b>15.68%</b> 29	<b>24.32%</b> 45	<b>28.11%</b> 52	<b>18.92%</b> 35	<b>12.97%</b> 24	185
Lake Michigan Beach	<b>1.60%</b> 3	<b>11.23%</b> 21	<b>18.72%</b> 35	<b>19.79%</b> 37	<b>48.66%</b> 91	187
Tennis Court	<b>40.54%</b> 75	<b>32.97%</b> 61	<b>12.43%</b> 23	<b>9.19%</b> 17	<b>4.86%</b> 9	185
Lakefront Viewing/Lookouts	<b>12.97%</b> 24	<b>12.97%</b> 24	<b>21.62%</b> 40	<b>17.30%</b> 32	<b>35.14%</b> 65	185
Basketball Court	<b>52.69%</b> 98	<b>23.66%</b> 44	<b>12.37%</b> 23	<b>8.06%</b> 15	<b>3.23%</b> 6	186
Playground Equipment	<b>34.78%</b> 64	<b>25.00%</b> 46	<b>15.22%</b> 28	<b>11.96%</b> 22	<b>13.04%</b> 24	184
Volleyball Nets	<b>67.76%</b> 124	<b>21.86%</b> 40	<b>5.46%</b> 10	<b>3.28%</b> 6	<b>1.64%</b> 3	183

# Village of Grand Beach

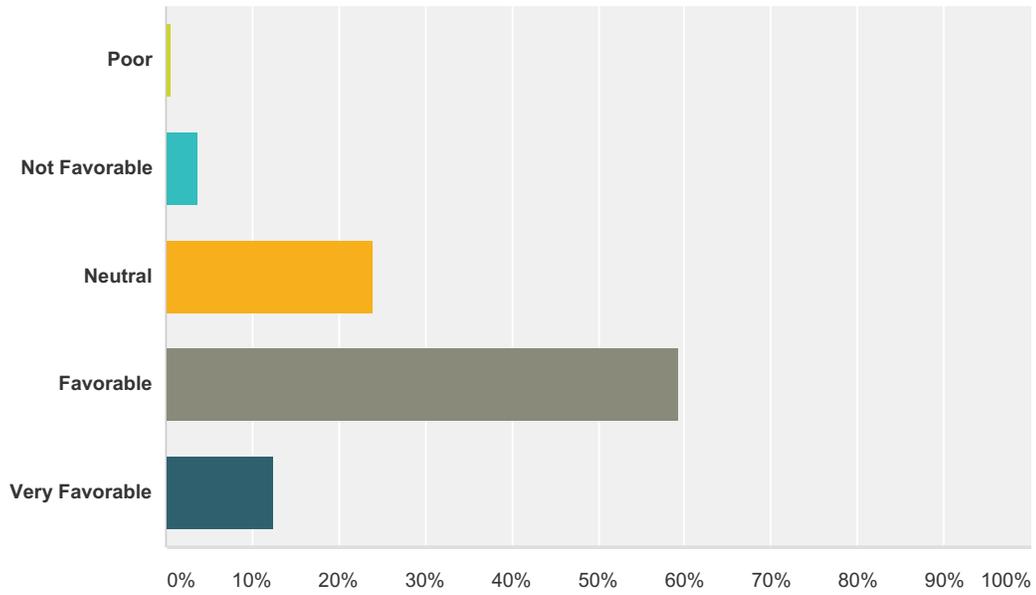
## Q6 Please tell us your opinion on the overall quality of the existing Village facilities.

Answered: 188 Skipped: 1

	Not Important	2	3	4	5	No Opinion	Total
Golf Course	1.06% 2	2.66% 5	17.02% 32	46.28% 87	22.34% 42	10.64% 20	188
Pro Shop	1.06% 2	10.64% 20	31.38% 59	35.11% 66	9.57% 18	12.23% 23	188
Lake Michigan Beach	3.72% 7	7.98% 15	15.43% 29	47.34% 89	20.74% 39	4.79% 9	188
Tennis Court	1.07% 2	2.67% 5	20.86% 39	29.95% 56	8.56% 16	36.90% 69	187
Lakefront Viewing/Lookouts	2.13% 4	6.91% 13	25.00% 47	37.23% 70	13.83% 26	14.89% 28	188
Basketball Court	1.08% 2	3.76% 7	19.35% 36	19.89% 37	6.99% 13	48.92% 91	186
Playground Equipment	1.08% 2	7.53% 14	22.04% 41	30.65% 57	8.06% 15	30.65% 57	186
Volleyball Nets	0.54% 1	5.43% 10	14.13% 26	13.59% 25	2.72% 5	63.59% 117	184

### Q7 What is your opinion of the Village's current park and recreation facilities?

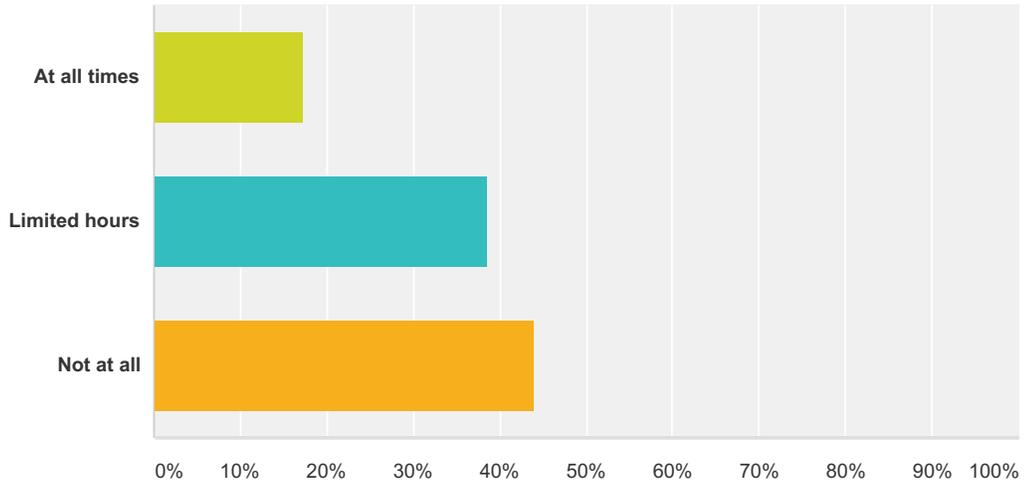
Answered: 184 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses
Poor	0.54% 1
Not Favorable	3.80% 7
Neutral	23.91% 44
Favorable	59.24% 109
Very Favorable	12.50% 23
<b>Total</b>	<b>184</b>

### Q8 Dogs should be allowed in the PARK:

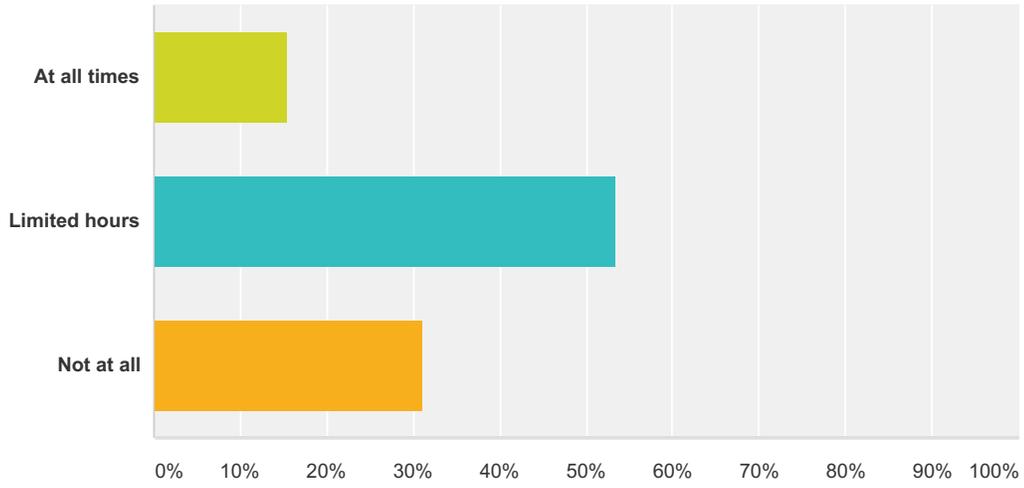
Answered: 184 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses
At all times	17.39% 32
Limited hours	38.59% 71
Not at all	44.02% 81
<b>Total</b>	<b>184</b>

### Q9 Dogs should be allowed On the BEACH:

Answered: 187 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
At all times	15.51%	29
Limited hours	53.48%	100
Not at all	31.02%	58
<b>Total</b>		<b>187</b>

# Village of Grand Beach

## Q10 Please indicate the importance to you of the following recreation projects in the Village:

Answered: 187 Skipped: 2

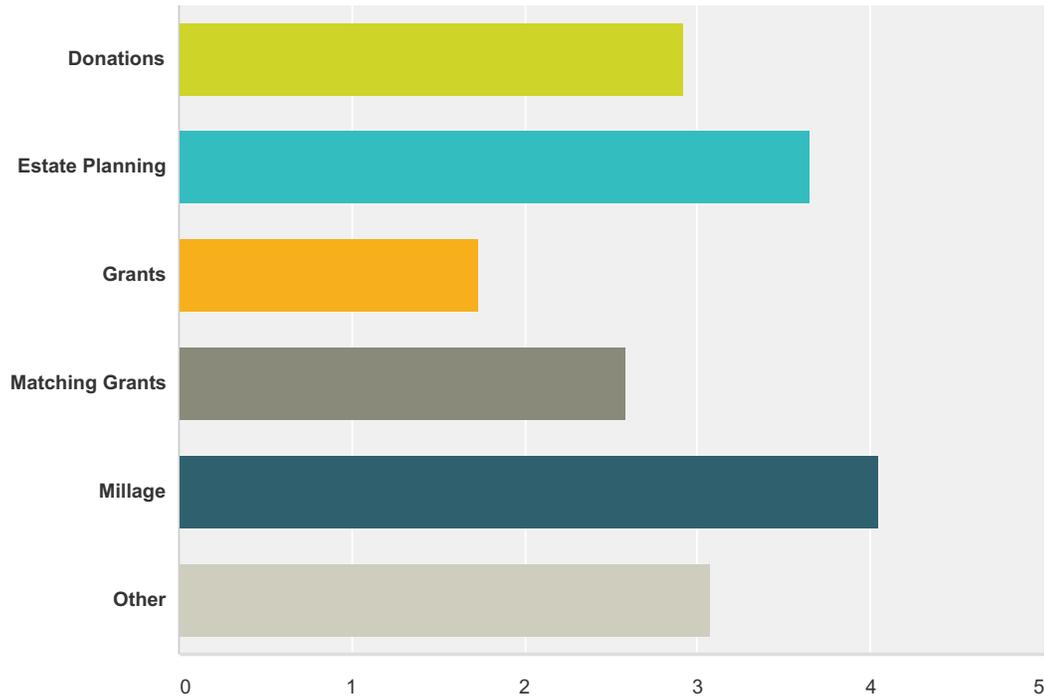
	1	2	3	4	5	No Opinion	Total
Improve the beaches	8.02% 15	2.14% 4	17.11% 32	19.79% 37	49.73% 93	3.21% 6	187
Improve the park	9.14% 17	6.99% 13	33.33% 62	26.34% 49	17.74% 33	6.45% 12	186
Improve the golf course	9.73% 18	7.57% 14	25.95% 48	27.03% 50	23.24% 43	6.49% 12	185
Improve maintenance of existing recreational facilities	6.42% 12	4.81% 9	31.02% 58	32.09% 60	18.72% 35	6.95% 13	187
Acquire the land (currently leased by the Village) which Includes the driving range	19.79% 37	4.81% 9	16.58% 31	15.51% 29	28.88% 54	14.44% 27	187
If land is acquired, develop a new children's playground	37.97% 71	6.95% 13	16.58% 31	10.70% 20	12.30% 23	15.51% 29	187
Add playground equipment at the existing park	28.88% 54	9.09% 17	16.04% 30	20.32% 38	13.90% 26	11.76% 22	187
Resurface the tennis courts	25.67% 48	10.70% 20	21.93% 41	14.44% 27	9.09% 17	18.18% 34	187
Develop a bocce ball court	36.90% 69	8.02% 15	18.18% 34	17.65% 33	6.42% 12	12.83% 24	187
Add lights at the basketball court	50.27% 94	8.56% 16	13.37% 25	10.70% 20	5.35% 10	11.76% 22	187
Add lights at the park	46.52% 87	8.56% 16	12.83% 24	13.90% 26	8.02% 15	10.16% 19	187
Build a Village swimming pool	63.10% 118	4.81% 9	5.88% 11	6.95% 13	14.44% 27	4.81% 9	187
Provide better access to the lakefront in Eiffel Tower, including golf court parking	19.79% 37	5.35% 10	12.30% 23	10.70% 20	21.93% 41	29.95% 56	187
Acquire lakefront property by the pier for a natural park	29.95% 56	3.21% 6	11.23% 21	16.04% 30	22.99% 43	16.58% 31	187
Improve the Robin Lane beach easement to include golf cart parking	20.32% 38	8.02% 15	12.30% 23	7.49% 14	17.11% 32	34.76% 65	187
Providing landings on beach stairs	16.58% 31	7.49% 14	14.97% 28	22.46% 42	24.60% 46	13.90% 26	187
Remove dangerous jetties	11.29% 21	1.61% 3	9.68% 18	20.43% 38	38.17% 71	18.82% 35	186
Beach grooming and cleaning	4.28% 8	4.28% 8	6.42% 12	24.06% 45	50.27% 94	10.70% 20	187
Add fence and steps above the pier	26.20% 49	8.56% 16	15.51% 29	14.44% 27	13.37% 25	21.93% 41	187

## Village of Grand Beach

Replace or improve beach stairs	<b>8.02%</b> 15	<b>5.88%</b> 11	<b>10.70%</b> 20	<b>26.74%</b> 50	<b>36.90%</b> 69	<b>11.76%</b> 22	187
Improve the cooking facilities at the pro shop	<b>24.06%</b> 45	<b>8.56%</b> 16	<b>22.46%</b> 42	<b>13.37%</b> 25	<b>8.56%</b> 16	<b>22.99%</b> 43	187
Increase the variety of items sold at the pro shop	<b>16.58%</b> 31	<b>8.56%</b> 16	<b>19.79%</b> 37	<b>19.25%</b> 36	<b>13.90%</b> 26	<b>21.93%</b> 41	187
Develop a dog park	<b>45.70%</b> 85	<b>4.84%</b> 9	<b>13.98%</b> 26	<b>8.60%</b> 16	<b>12.37%</b> 23	<b>14.52%</b> 27	186

**Q11 Which of the following funding sources should be used by the Village for improving and/or acquiring recreation facilities. Please rank in order of preference from the highest (1) to the lowest (5)**

Answered: 159 Skipped: 30



Answer Choices	Average Number	Total Number	Responses
Donations	3	447	153
Estate Planning	4	545	149
Grants	2	268	155
Matching Grants	3	391	151
Millage	4	612	151
Other	3	40	13
<b>Total Respondents: 159</b>			

# Village of Grand Beach

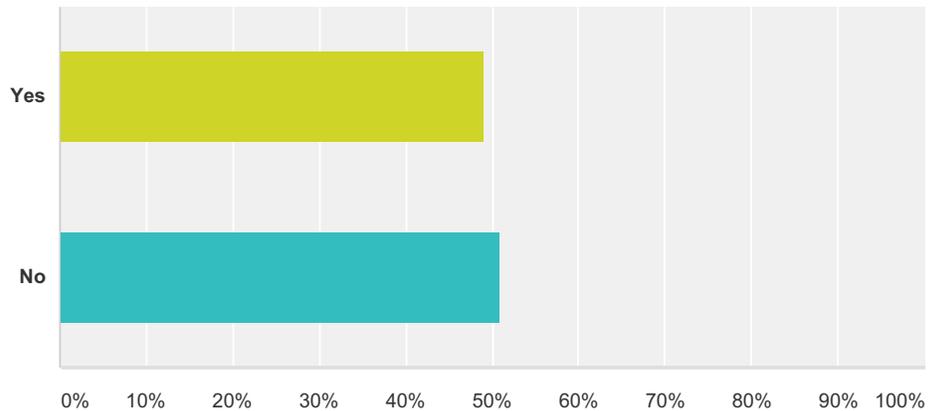
## Q12 Please describe any other funding sources you think the Village should pursue:

Answered: 18 Skipped: 171

#	Responses	Date
1	Membership fees and dues (residents only) for projects like a pool.	8/12/2014 10:39 AM
2	Tree removals, naming rights, pavers, benches, name for pier.	8/12/2014 10:17 AM
3	Not clear	8/11/2014 4:21 PM
4	I approve a millage increase only to improve the roads and/or buy the driving range.	8/11/2014 2:54 PM
5	Fundraising activities conducted by social club i.e. house walk.	8/7/2014 4:55 PM
6	Retain more existing property tax for Village.	8/7/2014 4:44 PM
7	User fees	8/6/2014 3:56 PM
8	Could do village yard sale and all donations go to village.	8/6/2014 3:37 PM
9	Pokagon Fund	8/6/2014 2:42 PM
10	Property tax already is a negative property value issue.	8/6/2014 2:38 PM
11	Yearly increases at ProShop for all items. Increase fee to rent the hall for weddings, etc. (private events).	8/5/2014 5:13 PM
12	Increase fee for non residents	8/5/2014 4:49 PM
13	Cut back on Village spending.	8/5/2014 3:15 PM
14	Don't do it if 1 - 4 cannot attain the need.	8/5/2014 10:17 AM
15	Fine people who leave their trash cans out week after week!	8/4/2014 12:46 PM
16	Fundraisers, sale xmas cards with picture of GB. Sale post cards. Sale better sweatshirts and jackets.	8/1/2014 4:39 PM
17	Do we need to acquire more rec. facilities? No	8/1/2014 4:31 PM
18	For a pool, you could charge a fee. Treat as club.	8/1/2014 3:35 PM

**Q13 The Village budget does not currently allow for funding for the projects listed. Since the Village receives less than 25% of your tax dollars if the Village is your primary residence, and approximately 14% of you are seasonal, would you be willing to support a millage for one or more of the projects listed in Question 8?**

Answered: 177 Skipped: 12



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	49.15% 87
No	50.85% 90
<b>Total</b>	<b>177</b>

#	If yes, which project?	Date
1	Acquire land	8/14/2014 9:14 AM
2	Pier property	8/14/2014 9:11 AM
3	Acquire Land at Driving Range or Lakefront	8/12/2014 11:28 AM
4	Tax too high already	8/12/2014 11:23 AM
5	beach improvement	8/12/2014 11:19 AM
6	pool	8/12/2014 11:16 AM
7	pool	8/12/2014 11:10 AM
8	Improve beaches, including access, stairs, landings and g. c. parking	8/12/2014 10:53 AM
9	None	8/12/2014 10:50 AM
10	Lake front park	8/12/2014 10:41 AM
11	Things marked 4 & 5	8/12/2014 10:39 AM
12	Beach access at Eiffel Tower/Robin Lane	8/12/2014 10:36 AM

## Village of Grand Beach

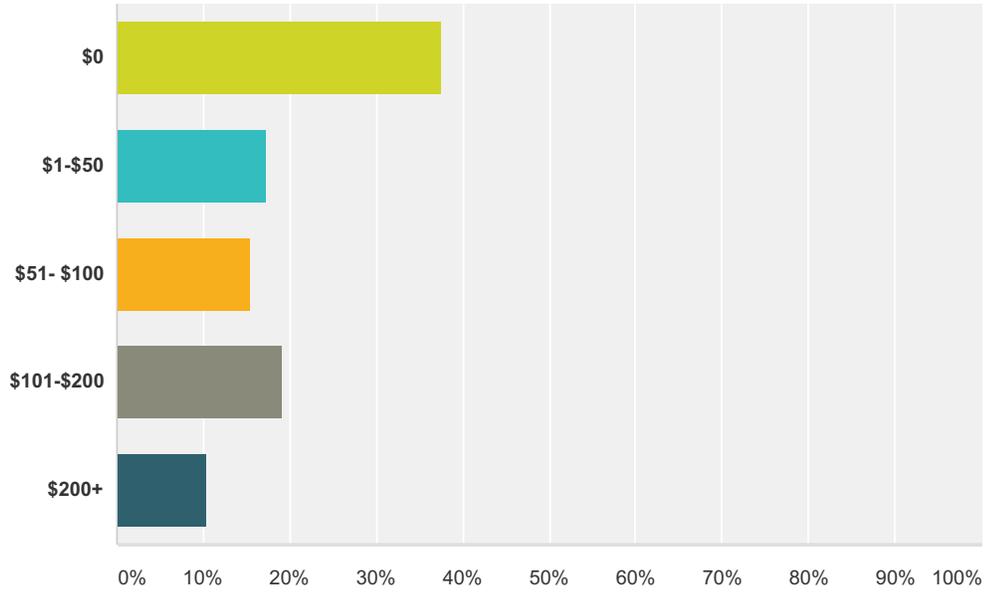
13	golf course	8/12/2014 10:17 AM
14	Improve the beach/beach grooming and cleaning	8/11/2014 4:37 PM
15	Can't answer without better idea of what needed village would be	8/11/2014 4:33 PM
16	Many, but especially public safety issues.	8/11/2014 4:28 PM
17	Dog Park	8/11/2014 4:13 PM
18	Beach grooming/chaise lounges on beach/kayaks sunfish sail boats.	8/11/2014 4:11 PM
19	Acquisition of land property by pier and driving range	8/11/2014 4:04 PM
20	Golf/club house/football field/remove piers	8/11/2014 3:58 PM
21	Specially the Wilke Property on Whitewood	8/11/2014 3:44 PM
22	Swimming pool, pro shop, activities at club house.	8/11/2014 3:31 PM
23	Acquire land currently leased for golf holes.	8/11/2014 3:05 PM
24	Improve roads and buy the driving range.	8/11/2014 2:54 PM
25	Acquiring land	8/8/2014 11:23 AM
26	Swimming pool, park and playground	8/8/2014 10:54 AM
27	Fix beach stairs. Add equipment to existing playground.	8/8/2014 10:31 AM
28	Acquire pier property for park.	8/8/2014 10:28 AM
29	Beach grooming and cleaning	8/8/2014 10:04 AM
30	Improve golf course	8/8/2014 9:19 AM
31	Replace or improve beach stairs; provide landings.	8/7/2014 4:40 PM
32	Improvement to beach stairs; improvement of existing park facilities; still my first priority would be returning a life guard to the beach.	8/7/2014 4:15 PM
33	Robin Lane Beach Easement	8/7/2014 3:26 PM
34	Improve the beaches	8/7/2014 3:03 PM
35	Improve maintenance	8/7/2014 2:59 PM
36	Acquire lakefront property by the Pier on Whitewood.	8/7/2014 2:48 PM
37	Improve the beaches, clean beaches	8/7/2014 2:30 PM
38	Better beach access in Eiffel Tower	8/7/2014 2:22 PM
39	Beach related projects which save/improve beach	8/7/2014 2:19 PM
40	Donation	8/7/2014 2:07 PM
41	Eiffel Tower beach access, Robin Lane easement	8/7/2014 2:05 PM
42	Beach improvements - remove jetties, clean up beach.	8/7/2014 1:53 PM
43	Beach & park	8/7/2014 12:25 PM
44	Beach Improvements	8/7/2014 12:10 PM
45	Improve golf course	8/7/2014 11:06 AM
46	Beach improvement, park improvement	8/7/2014 11:00 AM
47	Beach maintenance/cleaning	8/7/2014 10:38 AM
48	Acquire lakefront property by the pier.	8/7/2014 10:34 AM
49	Remove jetties/improve the beaches	8/7/2014 10:26 AM

## Village of Grand Beach

50	Improve the beach.	8/7/2014 10:20 AM
51	Improve the beaches	8/7/2014 10:16 AM
52	Beach and beach access and Robin Lane.	8/7/2014 10:12 AM
53	Dog park at beach	8/6/2014 4:13 PM
54	Playground and swimming pool	8/6/2014 4:08 PM
55	Beach grooming and cleaning	8/6/2014 3:56 PM
56	beach/park/golf course	8/6/2014 3:46 PM
57	Improve beaches (rocks)	8/6/2014 3:40 PM
58	Taxes are high enough.	8/6/2014 3:31 PM
59	Golf course or beach improvement	8/6/2014 3:28 PM
60	Improve beach	8/6/2014 2:54 PM
61	Village Swimming Pool	8/6/2014 2:42 PM
62	remove jetties	8/6/2014 2:34 PM
63	Better beach access in Eiffel Tower	8/5/2014 5:15 PM
64	Seasonal-facilities presently good not interested in tax increase	8/5/2014 4:35 PM
65	Possibly for pool and beach improvements.	8/5/2014 4:20 PM
66	Acquire lakefront property by the pier for a natural park.	8/5/2014 3:25 PM
67	Land on Whitewood Corner	8/5/2014 3:21 PM
68	Specifically for public land acquisition	8/5/2014 3:15 PM
69	playground	8/5/2014 3:01 PM
70	Our taxes are high enough	8/5/2014 2:50 PM
71	Acquire land including driving range.	8/5/2014 1:02 PM
72	natural park	8/5/2014 12:59 PM
73	Beaches, parking for courts, parks (basketball and tennis)	8/5/2014 12:43 PM
74	Acquire the land which includes driving range.	8/5/2014 12:29 PM
75	Improve parks and beaches - no limits	8/5/2014 10:02 AM
76	Improve the beaches	8/4/2014 12:57 PM
77	Would need more information.	8/4/2014 12:51 PM
78	community swimming pool!!!	8/1/2014 4:46 PM
79	Only if you develop a fund to begin tie in to sewers and get rid of septic system	8/1/2014 4:39 PM
80	Improve beaches	8/1/2014 3:47 PM
81	new children playground/resurface tennis courts	8/1/2014 3:40 PM
82	Village Swimming Pool/Would be better to charge yearly to join a club type.	8/1/2014 3:35 PM

**Q14 Please circle the range that would be acceptable to you if a millage were to be proposed for recreational facilities improvements and acquisition.**

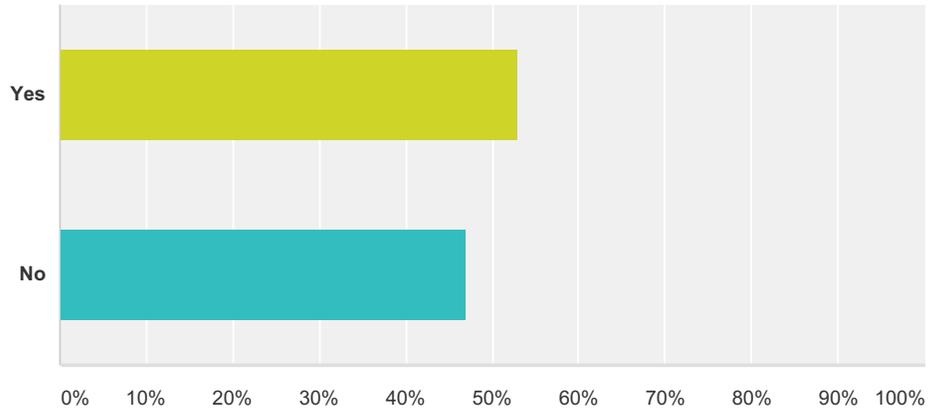
Answered: 162 Skipped: 27



Answer Choices	Responses	
\$0	37.65%	61
\$1-\$50	17.28%	28
\$51- \$100	15.43%	25
\$101-\$200	19.14%	31
\$200+	10.49%	17
<b>Total</b>		<b>162</b>

### Q15 Would you be willing to make a donation to support one or more of the projects above?

Answered: 179 Skipped: 10



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	53.07% 95
No	46.93% 84
<b>Total</b>	<b>179</b>

#	If yes, which project?	Date
1	Pier Property	8/14/2014 9:11 AM
2	Lights at park and BB Cover	8/12/2014 11:28 AM
3	beach improvement/access in Eiffel Tower	8/12/2014 11:19 AM
4	pool	8/12/2014 11:16 AM
5	pool	8/12/2014 11:10 AM
6	See answer #10 and playground related issues/improvement	8/12/2014 10:53 AM
7	Beaches/pro shop/golf course	8/12/2014 10:44 AM
8	Possible for items marked 5.	8/12/2014 10:39 AM
9	Eiffel Tower Beach Access	8/12/2014 10:36 AM
10	Total, not per/\$1,000 of property value. look at #8 importance	8/12/2014 10:17 AM
11	dog park	8/11/2014 4:33 PM
12	Not the golf course or pier, perhaps any other project.	8/11/2014 4:28 PM
13	Beach grooming, chairs, kayaks, sun fish sail boats	8/11/2014 4:11 PM
14	Property by pier	8/11/2014 4:04 PM
15	Soccer field	8/11/2014 3:58 PM
16	the Wilke Property at the Pier	8/11/2014 3:44 PM
17	Robin Lane beach easement, do park	8/11/2014 3:34 PM

## Village of Grand Beach

18	Play equipment at old section on Royal.	8/11/2014 3:31 PM
19	Acquire front property by pier.	8/11/2014 3:23 PM
20	Acquire land for golf course.	8/11/2014 3:05 PM
21	Buying the driving range.	8/11/2014 2:54 PM
22	Robins Lane Easement	8/8/2014 11:25 AM
23	Pool and playground	8/8/2014 10:54 AM
24	Playground equipment at existing park.	8/8/2014 10:31 AM
25	Pier park	8/8/2014 10:28 AM
26	Raise fees for golfers. Ticket and fine golf cart drivers who do not obey laws. Improve street signs and visibility for safety. Supervise beach activity to preserve dune. Fine folks who destroy dune.	8/8/2014 10:22 AM
27	Not now	8/8/2014 9:24 AM
28	Beach improvements.	8/7/2014 4:55 PM
29	Acquire lakefront property.	8/7/2014 4:44 PM
30	It would depend on the project details. (Beach, golf, tennis, village mail). It just depends.	8/7/2014 4:40 PM
31	Adding lights at park, acquiring or long term land lease of driving range area.	8/7/2014 4:30 PM
32	Improvement to beach stairs; improvement of existing park facilities; still my first priority would be returning a life guard to the beach.	8/7/2014 4:15 PM
33	Robin Lane Beach Easement	8/7/2014 3:26 PM
34	Already a beach on golf course \$1,500	8/7/2014 3:17 PM
35	Add playground equipment	8/7/2014 2:38 PM
36	Swimming pool, enclosed for year round use.	8/7/2014 2:30 PM
37	Robins lane access improvement.	8/7/2014 2:22 PM
38	Beach related and pool	8/7/2014 2:19 PM
39	Maybe	8/7/2014 2:12 PM
40	Eiffel Tower beach access, Robin Lane easement	8/7/2014 2:05 PM
41	Beach improvements/jetties	8/7/2014 1:53 PM
42	Beach & park	8/7/2014 12:25 PM
43	Improve golf course	8/7/2014 11:06 AM
44	Beach/park improvement	8/7/2014 11:00 AM
45	Village Swimming Pool	8/7/2014 10:44 AM
46	Beach maintenance/golf course maintenance	8/7/2014 10:38 AM
47	Same as #10	8/7/2014 10:34 AM
48	Remove jetties/improve the beaches	8/7/2014 10:26 AM
49	Improve the beach.	8/7/2014 10:20 AM
50	Improve the beaches.	8/7/2014 10:16 AM
51	Beach projects, walkways etal	8/7/2014 10:12 AM
52	Dog park at lake	8/6/2014 4:13 PM
53	Playground or swimming pool	8/6/2014 4:08 PM
54	Improve beaches	8/6/2014 4:04 PM

## Village of Grand Beach

55	Same as above	8/6/2014 3:56 PM
56	How about casino \$?	8/6/2014 3:40 PM
57	Beach improvements in Area 2. Golf course, other beach access points, pool.	8/6/2014 3:37 PM
58	golf course or beach improvement	8/6/2014 3:28 PM
59	beaches	8/6/2014 3:17 PM
60	beach access in 3	8/6/2014 2:46 PM
61	Swimming pool and acquiring driving range	8/6/2014 2:42 PM
62	jetties removal	8/6/2014 2:34 PM
63	Dog park	8/5/2014 5:15 PM
64	Beach grooming and cleaning.	8/5/2014 4:49 PM
65	Possibly for a pool and beach improvements	8/5/2014 4:20 PM
66	land purchase/acquisition	8/5/2014 4:16 PM
67	Improving the beaches, acquire lakefront property by the pier, for a natural park.	8/5/2014 3:25 PM
68	Land acquisition, park equipment	8/5/2014 3:15 PM
69	It would depend on project only if 1) sewers 2) professional manager. We need sewers-get rid of septic fields.	8/5/2014 3:08 PM
70	playground	8/5/2014 3:01 PM
71	Acquire land including driving range.	8/5/2014 1:02 PM
72	natural park	8/5/2014 12:59 PM
73	Improving beaches or beach cleaning. Also, improvements to park playground.	8/5/2014 12:52 PM
74	beaches, parking for courts, parks (basketball & tennis)	8/5/2014 12:43 PM
75	Purchase driving range property.	8/5/2014 12:29 PM
76	Would need to see complete plan.	8/5/2014 11:01 AM
77	Dependent on the specific plans	8/5/2014 10:17 AM
78	Building park and recreation facilities in Zone 3	8/5/2014 10:11 AM
79	Park	8/5/2014 10:02 AM
80	Improve the beaches	8/4/2014 12:57 PM
81	Would need more information	8/4/2014 12:51 PM
82	Community swimming pool? New tennis court surface.	8/1/2014 4:46 PM
83	Unless its to start sewer installation.	8/1/2014 4:39 PM
84	Village swimming pool	8/1/2014 3:43 PM
85	New children's playground/resurface tennis courts	8/1/2014 3:40 PM
86	Pool	8/1/2014 3:35 PM

# Village of Grand Beach

## Q16 Do you have any other recommendations regarding recreation in the Village to share with the Committee?

Answered: 85 Skipped: 104

#	Responses	Date
1	Best quality of life improvement for all relaxation in Village would be hours/days/seasonal none limits. Master conjunction should be within hours of 8-5 CST, none on weekends. Same for infernal leaf blowers encourage major conjunction projects to be conducted between labor day and memorial day.	8/14/2014 9:11 AM
2	We need to do something. All good ideas, but if we sit on our hands and do nothing, then all we do is stand still. Data is good to have, but it is to be used to support future decisions. It gives us direction of what the majority would like to go...	8/12/2014 11:28 AM
3	The non-residents are already being abused. Taxation without representation	8/12/2014 11:23 AM
4	Grand Beach is becoming a year-round residential community. Therefore, the committee might consider recreational needs for the winter months including the possibility of a facility similar to a YMCA with an indoor heated swimming pool, exercise facilities and community gathering places (such as book clubs). Also, at least one pickle ball court would be nice.	8/12/2014 11:10 AM
5	Anyway to grate the small rocks from the beach front to access the natural sand? I understand these rocks came from New Buffalo Harbor project +20 years ago.	8/12/2014 11:02 AM
6	Thank you for doing such a comprehensive survey.	8/12/2014 10:53 AM
7	None considered at this time.	8/12/2014 10:44 AM
8	This Village needs a welcome wagon.	8/12/2014 10:39 AM
9	I do not understand the issues here. I would be agreeesive in tryings to acquire the land if it was at risk of development. My very preference would be to keep it undeveloped.	8/11/2014 4:53 PM
10	Too much emphasis is put into playground and rec areas, money should be spent where revenue can be put back to Village use on other things than dogs park - playground and beach view area. The golf course is our money maker, improve that. Lakeview viewing areas can bring in TROUBLE. I've seen it already.	8/11/2014 4:46 PM
11	Police attitude and approach of some of our spacing is aggressive and	8/11/2014 4:37 PM
12	May answer to number 7 is dependent on the dogs being under their owner's control and not being allowed to harass other dogs or people using the areas. I would prefer this as a dog park area rather than a second playground. But neither, if this would eliminate driving range.	8/11/2014 4:33 PM
13	People come to Grand Beach in large part because of the recreational possibilities, so maintaining the facilities should be a priority. Preserving the open natural areas in the village is also an important goal.	8/11/2014 4:28 PM
14	We are here for the beach. A larger groomed beach with chairs and small boats would be a big plus.	8/11/2014 4:11 PM
15	Lower intensity street lighting.	8/11/2014 4:04 PM
16	Soccer/Hockey field and goals, sidewalks, golf bag storage at Proshop, older kids playground, Espresso to go at Pro Shop	8/11/2014 3:58 PM
17	We have demonstrated a story group of committed villages interested in acquiring the Wilke Property along the lakefront. Through grants and matching funds, we can help to keep this one-of-a-kind property as open space for future . This has been uncharged since the days of the golf more and the establishment of Grand Beach. Along the creek it is unique habitat that should remain natural.	8/11/2014 3:44 PM
18	I think the Village Hall could be used more in summer. Will let the GB Social know too. Pro Shop should be morning coffee shop with good coffee. I think the Village Board for their hair work in this. We can always improve where we are going.	8/11/2014 3:31 PM
19	If golf course/ tennis court, etc. require special or extra ordinary improvements/features, let that investment or financing be reflected in the fees charged to those using them.	8/11/2014 3:23 PM

## Village of Grand Beach

20	Maintain as is.	8/8/2014 11:11 AM
21	Entrance at RR tracks should be beautified with plants and landscaping. This is not recreation but I think it needs beautification of some kind.	8/8/2014 10:54 AM
22	I would like to see the streets cleaned once a month. They are very dirty.	8/8/2014 10:38 AM
23	I am concerned about improving facilities to increase rentals in Village.	8/8/2014 10:31 AM
24	Increase golf fees. Ticket golf cart drivers who do not follows laws. Improve street signage for safety. Supervise beach activity to preserve dune. Fine violators who destroy dune.	8/8/2014 10:25 AM
25	Purchase a reservation system for tennis courts. Locate at courts. 7-Day Advance priority for residents, 1-day priority for non-residents. "Sign-in" upon arrival for reserved court. Require property owner name and number to get reservation. Keep records of un-used reservations.	8/8/2014 10:04 AM
26	Most homeowners are golf and beach bums.	8/8/2014 9:24 AM
27	We are "Grand Beach" and our lakefront is our greatest asset. Focus should be on restoring the "Grand" to our beach. Would be nice to have a tiki hut on beach offering cold water, sodas, snacks - miss the old Sugar when clubhouse was at Royal (along w/our GB post office)	8/7/2014 4:55 PM
28	Most of the ideas presented are good and in keeping with our beach community. Good communication regarding the projects is important, as shown by this survey. Thanks.	8/7/2014 4:40 PM
29	As more and more homes are summer rentals with many quests per home it might make sense to have them making their homes income property to been the cost of any improvements.	8/7/2014 4:35 PM
30	It would be great to see an all-purpose sports field that could be used for football/softball or soccer...something low maintenance, but flat with lighting. Perhaps a portion of the driving range could be used for this purpose.	8/7/2014 4:30 PM
31	As parents of young children, we regular use the beach. The loss of the life guard has been terrible. Not only do we loose someone that has some first aid/rescue skills, we have lost someone who keeps boats outside the non-boating areas. We have repeated seen boats come into shore with children swimming in the water. There is not frequent enough police monitoring to make up for the loss of the life guard. The lack of boaters following the rules is unbelievable and dangerous!	8/7/2014 4:15 PM
32	We are new to the community and are not golfers, so our opinions are limited at this time.	8/7/2014 3:24 PM
33	No fire works on public beach. Permits only! Replace life guards! Enforce parking for residents only. Parking sticker on all vehicles. Guest sticker made available and dated.	8/7/2014 3:17 PM
34	Speed bumps or some method to protect children playing in park from possible running into the road.	8/7/2014 3:01 PM
35	Main priority is to improve existing beach and reclaim portions of beach currently under water! If we lose beach, all of our property values will decline.	8/7/2014 2:19 PM
36	In the 10 years we have been homeowners in Eiffel Tower area, we have never understood why we do not have lifeguards or blocked (netted) swimming area. We feel as though our area of Grand Beach is neglected and forgotten when it comes to safety and access to our beach.	8/7/2014 2:05 PM
37	Pickleball is becoming very popular everywhere. It would be nice if one of the tennis courts was a pickleball court. There are none in the area.	8/7/2014 1:58 PM
38	The jetties are so dangerous and such an eyesore. Ruins the beauty of our beach and village. Sunset views are hard to see from stairs because of all the planting of trees and bushes on and over lot lines - no views of the lake anymore unless your home is on the lake.	8/7/2014 1:53 PM
39	Remove rocks from the beach - can't be that difficult and it would be awesome.	8/7/2014 12:25 PM
40	Need sand replenishment projects. Beaches are the most important and improve beaches. Need to ensure that people do not store their equipment (personal property on the beach (like rafts, boats, chairs). The beach belongs to all.	8/7/2014 12:10 PM
41	I think one park with playground equipment is sufficient. We would support improving the existing park with better equipment.	8/7/2014 11:06 AM
42	Overall the village does a nice job with maintenance and management!!! Like to see more invested in the Golf Course and Beach maintenance/cleaning.	8/7/2014 10:38 AM
43	The Village should do a much better job of allowing only residents and their guests is using the beach.	8/7/2014 10:26 AM

## Village of Grand Beach

44	Access to Lake Michigan is very "speech". Lake advantage of this resource. Many of the proposed projects are presently satisfactory exist in several locations.	8/7/2014 10:20 AM
45	Increase revenue through higher building permit fees, bonds from contractors regarding street damage during construction. Fees for inspection or homes they can be rented out. Open space is the most important asset the Village has - this space must be preserved in its green condition as more homes are built the Village must address this!	8/7/2014 10:12 AM
46	Beach viewing and across in Eiffel Tower/Dunes need more resources allocated to them relative to Old Village/Holiday Hills.	8/7/2014 10:06 AM
47	Further advancement of dog accessibility and hours on the beach. A vocal minority are against dogs on beach.	8/6/2014 4:13 PM
48	I would also support improvements to the park if the above are too costly.	8/6/2014 4:08 PM
49	Preserve the idyllic historic quality of our village. Do not turn Grand Beach into a suburban, generic neighborhood with overbuilt, canned recreation facilities. Remove builders that have scattered across the beach so you can walk the beach to/from the Village.	8/6/2014 4:04 PM
50	Provide seasonal fire permits for beach. Three day permits are too limited, especially when there is no one in office to issue them.	8/6/2014 3:56 PM
51	TGIF for adults only and club house.	8/6/2014 3:46 PM
52	Golf course, besides the greens, needs a lot of work.	8/6/2014 3:40 PM
53	No, but these items should be on the table at council meetings. I do not feel the community is aware of the positioning this questionnaire presents. A timetable of planned moves should be shared with all residents.	8/6/2014 3:31 PM
54	Great effort, wonderful survey! thank you	8/6/2014 3:28 PM
55	How about a more formal baseball field for children and adults.	8/6/2014 2:42 PM
56	Please don't try to turn Grand Beach into a Disney Park. Note the name is Grand Beach.	8/6/2014 12:27 PM
57	Thank you for doing this. Look forward to feed back on survey results.	8/5/2014 4:51 PM
58	Large family, lots of babies, occasional seasonal visitors. We find the recreational facilities adequate for our needs. Not interested in a tax increase at this time. The map enclosed is of such poor quality that I'm not sure if I properly identified my neighborhood.	8/5/2014 4:35 PM
59	Improve the golf course. Designate residential use exclusivity for golf course. Designate hours for childrens (unaccompanied) use of golf course. Limit non-residential use of golf course.	8/5/2014 4:25 PM
60	There should be an area on the beach for putting a jet ski into and out of the lake with easy access from the street.	8/5/2014 4:20 PM
61	#10 = all 3 important, but would prefer order of: 1. purchase/acquire driving range land 2. build new park on that property. 3. lights on basketball court and 2 grounds.	8/5/2014 4:16 PM
62	Continue to explore ways to improve and enhance our community. Keep shrubs and trees pruned. Spray poison ivy.	8/5/2014 3:25 PM
63	Park should not be closed to children until after Michigan curfew hours. Children should be allowed to play golf with out an adult as long as they follow the same rules as others.	8/5/2014 3:15 PM
64	Kids on carts should obey same rules as adults. They drive wrong way on one way streets. They have too many on carts. Carts are loaded with equipment and kids hanging off carts. I am amazed there has not been an accident. We should, as a Village, hire a professional Village manager. We have grown as a community and we have developed issues that a professional would know how they should be dealt with.	8/5/2014 3:08 PM
65	There is no handicapped access to the beach. There is a federal law that requires handicapped access. Is Grand Beach exempt from this law? Not one single beach area is accessible. Please address this before a dog park.	8/5/2014 2:50 PM
66	We believe the Village should remove or at a minimum relax the prohibition about dogs on the beach. Might consider opening some beaches and keeping others effectively closed.	8/5/2014 2:09 PM
67	Improve in clubhouse party room on 2nd floor.	8/5/2014 1:02 PM
68	Good direction - will be interested to see the combined feed back.	8/5/2014 12:49 PM
69	No	8/5/2014 12:43 PM

## Village of Grand Beach

70	Keep white concrete barriers along street in order to encourage slow speeds and safe driving - for walkers, joggers, safety, etc. Maintain slow speed limits, for pedestrian safety.	8/5/2014 12:29 PM
71	We have good recreation facilities. Any additional funds should be spent on the golf course.	8/5/2014 11:20 AM
72	Our trustees and staff do an excellent job in translating community needs and maintaining excellent recreational facilities on a very limited budget. We hope that existing parks, beach and clubhouse/golf course continue to be the place to meet and greet - they are the back bone of our community. Staying focused on current facilities will better long term results vs spreading resources over too many dispersed projects. Finally, thank you for seeking community feedback!	8/5/2014 11:01 AM
73	Spray for mosquitos! Employ lifeguards.	8/5/2014 10:53 AM
74	Do little as possible. Improve streets, utilities and other aspects of Village. Not many children and adults would use the facilities. Only summer months with children and adults. Most residents take off in winter like snow birds.	8/5/2014 10:50 AM
75	I think it would be good if the village would learn to live within their means!!!	8/5/2014 10:38 AM
76	Do not allow snowmobiles on our precious land. There are bare spots worn by snowmobiles. They are pollutants both to the air and soil and the noise is indescribable. Put up barricades in front of the area. I live. People sneak on to the course by driving across my lawn from Michiana and elsewhere. Update the services provided by Mary. We should have billing for water, garbage, t-carts on line (Receive and pay bills on-line or mail)	8/5/2014 10:17 AM
77	Yes - It would that Neighborhood 3 should be a higher priority then zone 1 or 5. Access to beach is poor, there are no parks and recreational facilities. It would be interesting to see what percent of Grand Beach revenues come from Zone 3 & 2.	8/5/2014 10:11 AM
78	Lights on the tennis and basketball courts is a bad idea! It would attract outsiders players at unwanted hours.	8/5/2014 10:02 AM
79	If there is money for childrens parks, I think it should be of a nature type There is no place in GB for kids to explore and get close to nature. I know of some sites in do that quite well.	8/4/2014 12:51 PM
80	The only thing from all these option would be to improve access to the beach for handicapped. Something uncomplicated like ramps.	8/4/2014 12:29 PM
81	We like the current tennis court surface. We think there are adequate playground facilities. Building a village pool is absurd, and would include major liability issues. Unless the project helps ALL of 6B, village funds should NOT be used.	8/4/2014 12:08 PM
82	It appears as though more properties are being utilized as rental. Determine a system to include "usage fees" for recreation involvement.	8/1/2014 4:51 PM
83	A community pool would put GB on the map. People would actually meet people. I do not really enjoy the beach but like water especially pools. Also the tennis court surface is horrible. I play in Chicago but will not play on our courts. The mats used as the surface completely throw of the ball, making it more irritating than fun. Throw that rubber matting away. No one else has that, for a reason!	8/1/2014 4:46 PM
84	Would like more info on the property being leased for the driving range. That size of parcel could be used for development of Village common facilities.	8/1/2014 4:34 PM
85	Handicap access to the beach. Life guards. If we can't afford the basics of a beach community-why are we looking for new ways to spend tax money? Is liability (money) more important than safety (lives)? The visability of a life guard is a deterrence to swimming beyond the buoys - during rip tides - dangerous horseplay and skidoos inside the buoys - etc. etc. etc.	8/1/2014 4:31 PM

## Appendix B – Meeting Minutes

Will be included in final version of plan.

## Appendix C – Meeting Notices

Will be included in final version of plan.

# Appendix D – Adoption Documentation

Will be included in final version of plan.

# Acknowledgments



235 East Main Street, Suite 105  
Northville, Michigan 48167  
Telephone: (248) 596-0920  
Facsimile: (248) 596-0930  
[www.mcka.com](http://www.mcka.com)

Phillip C. McKenna, PCP, AICP..... President  
Sara J. Hodges, AICP, IAP2 ..... Project Director  
Mario A. Ortega, AICP ..... Project Manager  
Sabah Aboody-Keer..... GIS Mapping  
Carrie A. Wakulat ..... Graphic Support and Cover Design  
Kacy Smith..... Administrative Support