



## ADDISON OAKS PARK VISION AND FACILITY CONCEPTS

UPDATED: 5/16/2016 4:03:53 PM

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# Park Vision

Visitors to Addison Oaks County Park enjoy a variety of recreational experiences within a beautiful setting that has the ambiance of a rustic and peaceful rural estate surrounded by rugged terrain and a wealth of natural resources. Over the next ten years, Oakland County Parks and Recreation will provide services and facilities that complement the distinctive character of Addison Oaks, while increasing the long-term sustainability of the park and the Oakland County Parks system. The park vision looks forward ten years and describes the park after the recommended actions of the Park Planning Process have been successfully implemented:

- The distinctive natural and historic character of park is preserved and enhanced and is an integral part of the Addison Oaks experience
- Major destinations within the park are clearly identified and visitors move freely between destinations and throughout the park
- Addison Oaks is well-known in Oakland County as a destination for outdoor adventure recreation experiences
- The park is visited in all four seasons and has recreational opportunities targeted to each season
- Accessibility is enhanced throughout the park
- The park is connected within the Oak Routes trail network
- Facility improvements and improvements to business and operating practices have increased customer satisfaction of existing visitor populations; drawn new target populations to the park; and created new programmatic and revenue-generation opportunities

# Park Planning Units

The Baseline Park Analysis identified distinct planning units where similar park and recreation services are delivered. Planning units may be located in a specific geographic area in the park (Location-Specific Planning Units) or considered dispersed over the entire park (Park-Wide Planning Units). Park operations are called out as a separate category (Park Operation Planning Units). In some cases, new facilities are proposed for the park that would introduce services that are not currently offered (Proposed Service Planning Units) – these areas may or may not have a geographic location identified.

## Park-Wide Planning Units

1. Natural Resource Management
2. Park Entrances, Roadways and Parking
3. Maintenance, Utilities and Security
4. Technology
5. Non-Recreational Features
6. Park Trails and Regional Connectivity

## Park Operation Planning Units

14. Organized Programs and Events
15. Data Collection and Management

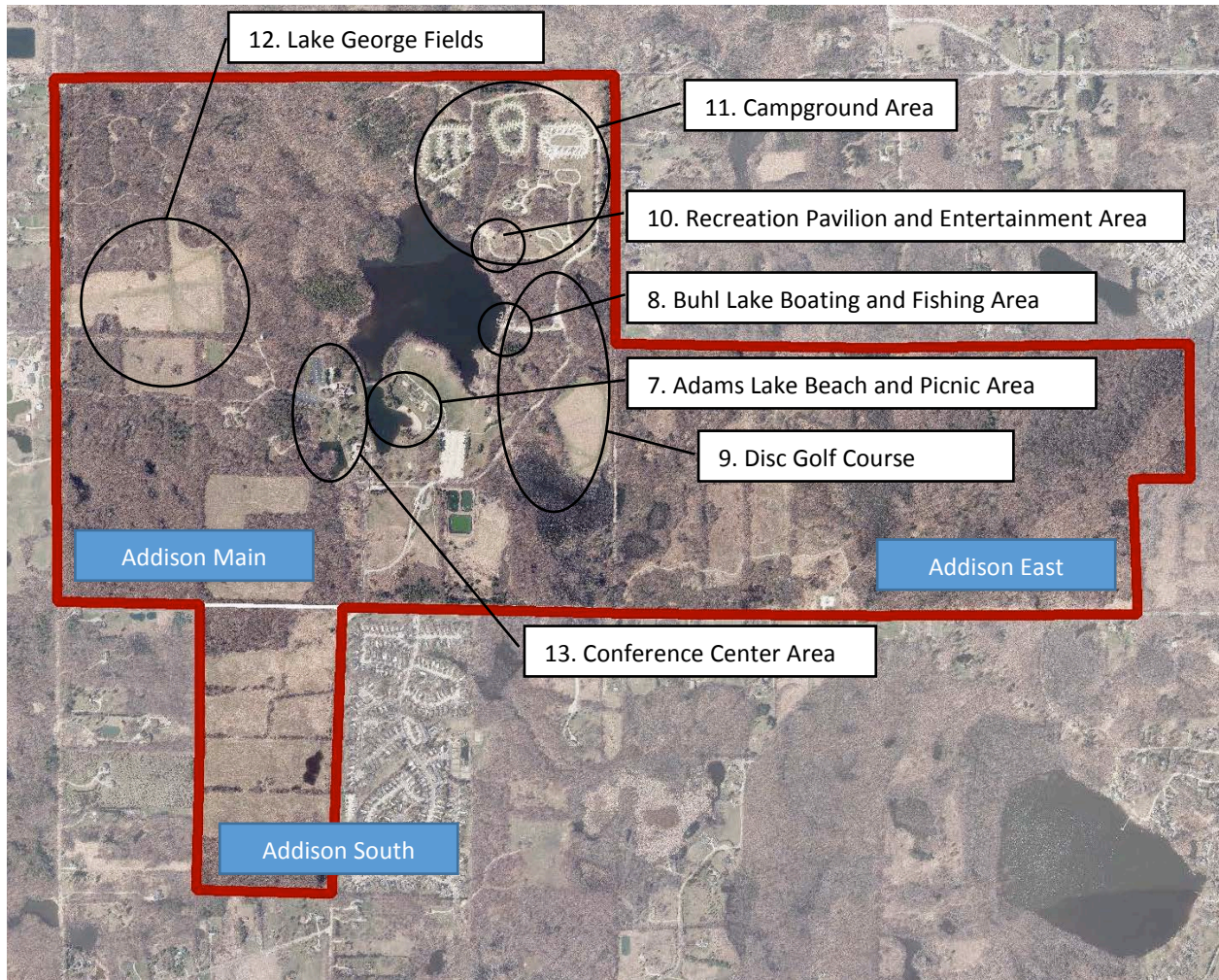
## Proposed Service Planning Units

16. Equestrian Amenities
17. Dog Park

## Location-Specific Planning Units – See Map A

7. Adams Lake Beach and Picnic Area
8. Buhl Lake Boating and Fishing Area
9. Disc Golf Course
10. Recreation Pavilion and Entertainment Area
11. Campground Area
12. Lake George Road Fields
13. Conference Center Area

Figure A: Park map showing locations of Location-Specific Planning Units 7-13



# Summary Concepts

## 10-Year Concepts

The following table links the Facility Concepts developed with existing or proposed capital improvement (CIP) or maintenance projects or identifies if the Facility Concept would be implemented through planning and/or operational actions. The table provides estimates of potential budgetary effects of implementing Facility Concepts. For more details about CIP and maintenance projects, please refer to the current Capital Improvement Budget & Maintenance Management Plan (OCPRC, 4/12/2016)

Table 1: Summary Table of Facility Concepts and Budget Effects

10-Year Concept		Planning and/or Operations Actions	Transition Plan/Accessibility Actions	Maintenance Forecast	CIP Forecast	Project Name
<b>PARK-WIDE PLANNING UNITS</b>						
<b>1. Natural Resource Management</b>						
A	<i>Invasive Species Control</i>	✓				
B	<i>Mgt. of Open Water Resources</i>	✓			\$250,000	ADD Adams Lake Beach Renovation
C	<i>Wildlife Management</i>	✓				
D	<i>Forestry Management</i>	✓				
E	<i>Grassland Restoration</i>	✓				
F	<i>Wetland Restoration</i>	✓				
<b>2. Park Entrances, Roadways and Parking</b>						
A	<i>Signage Redesign and Installation</i>	✓	✓			
B	<i>Contact Station Accessibility</i>	✓	✓			
C	<i>East Parking Lot Accessibility</i>	✓	✓			
<b>3. Maintenance, Utilities and Security</b>						
A	<i>Sewage Lagoon Capacity</i>	✓				
B	<i>Buhl Lake Structural Inspections</i>	✓		\$10,000 \$5,000		<sup>i</sup> ADD Buhl Lake Dam Inspection <sup>ii</sup> ADD Buhl Lake Bridge Inspection
C	<i>Water Tower Planning and Implementation</i>	✓		\$20,000		ACC Water Tower Demolition
D	<i>Campground Dump Station Accessibility</i>	✓	✓			
E	<i>Area A Sanitation Station Accessibility</i>	✓	✓			
<b>4. Technology</b>						
A	<i>Wireless Network and Web Apps</i>	✓	✓			
B	<i>Text Alerts</i>	✓				

<sup>i</sup> \$5,000 every 5 years over 10 years

<sup>ii</sup> \$2,500 every 5 years over 10 years

	10-Year Concept	Planning and/or Operations Actions	Transition Plan/Accessibility Actions	Maintenance Forecast	CIP Forecast	Project Name
<b>5. Non-Recreational Features</b>						
A	Mitigation of Grant Conversion – Cell Tower Site	✓				
B	Rental House Maintenance	✓		\$1,000		ADD Residence Water Heater
<b>6. Park Trails and Regional Connectivity</b>						
A	Trail Map and Signage	✓	✓			
B	Regional Connectivity Planning	✓	✓			
C	Identification and Resolution of Trail Use Conflicts	✓				
D	Buhl Lake Trail Accessibility	✓	✓	\$6,000		ADD Buhl Trail - Resurfacing
E	Addison Connector Trail Accessibility at East Parking Lot	✓	✓			
F	Rustic Trails Accessibility	✓	✓			
<b>LOCATION-SPECIFIC PLANNING UNITS</b>						
<b>7. Adams Lake Beach and Picnic Area</b>						
A	Beach Building Programming, Naming and Branding	✓	✓			
B	Beach Building Remodeling	✓	✓	\$1,000	\$90,800 \$25,000 \$150,000	ADD Concession Water Heater ADD Concession Site Improvements ADD Concession Remodeling Design ADD Concession Remodeling Construction
C	Adams Lake Beach, Play Area and Pavilion Improvements	✓	✓		\$36,000 \$360,000 \$120,000 \$48,000	ADD Water Feature Design ADD Water Feature Construction ADD Play Lot, Beach ADD Court Games Area
D	Removal of Unused Structure	✓				
E	Picnic Area Accessibility	✓	✓			
F	Lakeview Picnic Area Accessibility	✓	✓			
G	Timber Ridge Picnic Area Accessibility	✓	✓			
<b>8. Buhl Lake Boating and Fishing Area</b>						
A	Boathouse Replacement	✓	✓		\$20,000 \$140,000	ADD Boathouse Design ADD Boathouse Construction
B	Stand-Up Paddleboards	✓				
<b>9. Disc Golf Course</b>						
A	Standards Manual and Market Analysis	✓				
B	Site Improvements and Additional Holes	✓			\$20,000	ADD 18-Hole Disc Golf Course

	10-Year Concept	Planning and/or Operations Actions	Transition Plan/Accessibility Actions	Maintenance Forecast	CIP Forecast	Project Name
<b>10. Recreation and Entertainment Area</b>						
A	Recreation Pavilion Facility Planning	✓	✓			
B	Gazebo Bleachers Accessibility	✓	✓			
C	Access Routes	✓	✓			
<b>11. Campground Area</b>						
A	Campground A Accessibility	✓	✓			
B	Group Camping Area Accessibility	✓	✓			
C	Camper Cabin #4 (4-person) Accessibility	✓	✓			
D	Camper Cabin #6 (6-person) Accessibility	✓	✓			
E	Yurts Accessibility	✓	✓			
F	Area A Restroom Accessibility	✓	✓			
G	New Accessible Campsites	✓	✓			
H	Campground Play Areas and Structures	✓	✓		\$75,000	ADD Playground Section A & B
I	Area C Restroom Maintenance	✓		\$12,000		ADD Section C Restroom/Shower Water Heater
J	Cabin and Yurt Maintenance	✓		\$1,000 \$1,000		ADD Cabin 5 Window Unit ADD Cabin 6 Window Unit
<b>12. Lake George Road Fields</b>						
A	Recreational Open Field Standards and Market Analysis	✓				
<b>13. Conference Center Area</b>						
A	Historic Asset Inventory and Evaluation	✓				
B	Maintenance Yard Upgrades	✓			\$150,000	ADD Maintenance Yard Renovation Construction
C	Garden Landscape and Walkway	✓	✓		\$25,000 \$150,000	ACC Garden/Entrance Design ACC Garden/Entrance Construction
D	Conference Center Maintenance and Accessibility	✓	✓	\$ 200,000	\$53,000 \$ 105,000 \$ 14,000 \$ 10,000	ACC Deck Replacement <sup>i</sup> ACC Stucco Repair ACC Boiler Replacement ACC HVAC Replacement ACC Restroom Furnace Replacement
E	Conference Center Parking Lot Accessibility	✓	✓			
F	Sherriff's Building Accessibility	✓	✓			

<sup>i</sup> \$20,000 per year over 10 years

	10-Year Concept	Planning and/or Operations Actions	Transition Plan/Accessibility Actions	Maintenance Forecast	CIP Forecast	Project Name
<b>PARK OPERATION PLANNING UNITS</b>						
<u>14. Organized Programs and Events</u>						
A	<i>Programs and Events Organized by Oakland County Parks</i>	✓				
B	<i>Programs and Events Organized by External Groups</i>	✓				
<u>15. Data Collection and Management</u>						
A	<i>Park Visit Counts</i>	✓				
B	<i>Facility and Trail Counts</i>	✓				
<b>PROPOSED SERVICE PLANNING UNITS</b>						
<u>16. Equestrian Amenities</u>						
A	<i>Designated Group Area Site Amenities</i>	✓				
<u>17. Proposed Dog Park</u>						
A	<i>Mobile Dog Park</i>	✓	✓			
B	<i>Permanent Dog Park</i>	✓	✓		\$ 20,000 \$ 30,000	* ADD Dog Park Fencing * ADD Dog Park
	<b>FORECAST AMOUNTS</b>			<b>\$ 257,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,891,800</b>	
	<b>REINVESTMENT CALCULATION<sup>i</sup></b>					
	Total Combined Maintenance and CIP				\$ 2,148,800	
	CIP Forecast for New Assets				\$ 50,000	* New assets
	Total Reinvestment in Existing Assets				<b>\$ 2,098,800</b>	
	<b>Average annual reinvestment</b>				<b>1.91%</b>	

<sup>i</sup> REINVESTMENT CALCULATION: The **Average Annual Reinvestment** is expressed as a percentage of the total replacement value of park assets and is calculated with the following formula:

$$\frac{[(A + B - C) / D]}{E}$$

Where:

A = Total forecast maintenance costs (\$)

B = Total forecast CIP costs (\$)

C = Total forecast CIP costs for new assets (\$)

D = Replacement Value of Park Assets (Addison's assets have an estimated value of **\$10,974,812** in 2015 dollars)

E = Number of years of the planning period (10 years for park plans)



## Concepts for Future Consideration

The following concepts are considered appropriate for the site and are responsive to maintenance needs and public engagement results. However they are not included in the 10-Year Planning Concepts because they are a lower priority, less urgent, or dependent on implementation of the 10-Year Planning Concepts. They may also exceed the current budgetary guidelines. As these projects are developed, they will incorporate relevant 10-Year Accessibility Concepts.

Table 2: Summary Table of Concepts for Future Consideration and Budget Effects

	Addison Oaks Facility Concepts for Future Consideration	CIP Project Forecast	Project Name
<b>PARK-WIDE PLANNING UNITS</b>			
<b><u>2. Park Entrances, Roadways and Parking</u></b>			
D	Firewood Storage and Sales	\$15,000	ADD Firewood Storage
E	Lake George Parking Lot and Trailhead	\$15,000 \$150,000	ADD Parking Lot, Lk George Design and Const.
F	Re-Routing of Addison Boulevard at Dump Station	\$127,000	New CIP
G	Campground Road	\$362,000	ADD Paved Campground Road
H	Entrance Drive Lighting	\$10,000 \$100,000	ACC Entrance Dr. Lighting Design ACC Entrance Dr. Lighting Const.
<b><u>3. Maintenance, Utilities and Security</u></b>			
F	Cold Storage Facility	\$32,000 \$320,000	ADD Pole Barn, Design and Construction
G	Future Maintenance Facility Feasibility Study	NA	
<b><u>6. Park Trails and Regional Connectivity</u></b>			
G	Campground Paved Looped Pathways	\$260,000	ADD Asphalt Trail – Campground – Construction
H	Regional Connectivity Implementation	\$47,500 \$275,000 \$200,000	ADD Asphalt Trail Lake George, Design ADD Asphalt Trail Lake George, Const. ADD Asphalt Trail Lake George, Const.
<b>LOCATION-SPECIFIC PLANNING UNITS</b>			
<b><u>10. Recreation and Entertainment Area</u></b>			
D	Amphitheater	\$18,500 \$185,000	New CIP
<b><u>11. Campground Area</u></b>			
K	Area D Modern Restrooms	\$100,000 \$1,025,000	ADD Restroom/Shower Sect D, Design ADD Restroom/Shower Sect D, Const.
L	Campground Utility Upgrades	\$60,000 \$600,000	ADD Campground Utility Upgrade Design ADD Campground. Utility Upgrade Const.
<b>PROPOSED SERVICE PLANNING UNITS</b>			
<b><u>16. Equestrian Amenities</u></b>			
B	Equestrian Group Campground	\$650,000	ADD Camping Eques. Group Const.
	<b>TOTAL FORECAST AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ 4,552,000</b>	

# Park-Wide Planning Units

## 1. Natural Resource Management

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Invasive Species Control

Invasive species control methods include prescribed burning, manual removal and chemical removal.

#### B. Management of Open Water Resources

Modify Adams Lake shoreline to help increase circulation of water at the beach area. Manage Adams Lake, Buhl Lake and Milk House Pond by controlling aquatic invasive species, installing lake buffers, and conducting long-term water quality monitoring.

#### C. Wildlife Management

Wildlife management includes archery and managed deer hunts, permitted goose control, and wildlife surveys (surveys of deer, grassland birds, amphibians, reptiles, and nest box monitoring).

#### D. Forestry Management

Forestry management includes prioritized hazardous tree removal, tree replacement program, and pest and disease diagnostics.

#### E. Grassland Restoration

Grassland restoration includes continued management of an existing demonstration area, and future consideration of additional old field conversion to grassland for wildlife habitat improvement.

#### F. Wetland Restoration

An area in the southernmost portion of the park have been identified as potentially appropriate for wetland restoration through Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) wetland mitigation program (OCPRC, 2013, pp. 6:14-15). Partnership and funding mechanisms are being explored.



### Concepts for Future Consideration – None proposed

### Recreational Trends

Management of the natural resources within the Oakland County Parks system is important to the health of watersheds and regional ecosystems, but it is also an important aspect of recreation. In the Outdoor Foundation’s national study, nearly half of all Americans 6 years and over who participated in outdoor recreation cited nature as a motivator for getting outdoors. The reasons cited were: be close to nature (48%), observe scenic beauty (46%), and enjoy sounds and smells of nature (44%) (Outdoor Foundation, 2014).

### Public Engagement – 2010 Community Survey

**Acquiring and Developing Open Space:** Based on the sum of their top two choices, the open space options that households most support are: “open space should be acquired and improved for passive use” (40%), “open space should be acquired and left undeveloped for future generations” (39%), and “open space should be acquired and improved for passive and active use” (37%) (Leisure Vision / ETC Institute, 2010).

#### Public Engagement – Park User Surveys

Natural beauty is clearly appreciated by the visitors to Addison Oaks. The 2013 Park User Intercept Survey asked visitors to rate a range of amenities and characteristics at Addison Oaks. “Beauty of the Park” received the highest number of ‘excellent’ ratings (335 out of 417 survey respondents), while “Wildlife, Nature/Trees” was fourth (275 out of 417 survey respondents) (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

#### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 10 Open House and 37 Online.* A total of 24 comments were generally supportive of the natural resource management concepts with four comments stating natural resources are a key component of Addison Oaks uniqueness. The majority of comments (23) were in regards to the plant and wildlife management operations which were further broken down to support wildlife management (9), support plant management (8), don’t support plant management (3), and don’t support wildlife management (3). Supporters of wildlife management appreciated the information provided by the park regarding managed hunts and expect communication levels to remain. Proponents of plant management highlighted control of invasive species and keeping a variety of natural habitats within the park. A total of seven comments suggested improvements or additions to the proposed natural resource management plan. These suggestions included partnering with outside entities to manage outside of park boundaries, partnering with K-12 schools, granting access to natural areas for study and enjoyment, and removing deer blinds between hunts (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

#### Annual Project Meeting Recommendations

**Natural Resources – September 24, 2014:** Natural Resources highlighted a grassland restoration grant project in collaboration with Oakland Township that is focused on the southern portion of Addison Oaks and Oakland Township’s Cranberry Lake Preserve.

## 2. Park Entrances, Roadways and Parking

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Park Signage Redesign and Installation

Design and install signage that clearly communicates the identity of Oakland County Parks and Addison Oaks as well as the selection and location of amenities. Connect with ongoing Oakland County Parks branding and marketing efforts and the development of system-wide sign standards by the Sign Standards Work Group.

#### B. Contact Station Accessibility

Add detectable warnings at the curb ramp and install accessible signage at the public entrance to the contact station (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 1); photos 1-3<sup>i</sup>.

#### C. Addison East Parking Lot Accessibility

Construct two accessible parking spaces and access aisles connecting to an access route. At least one of the spaces must be van accessible. Install signage for each space (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 2); photo 6.

### Concepts for Future Consideration

#### D. Firewood Storage and Sales

Construct a covered structure to be placed near the contact station for storage and sale of firewood.

#### E. Lake George Parking Lot and Trailhead

Consider design and construction of a year round parking lot for access from Lake George Road to the Addison Connector Trail, Lake George Fields, as well as access for park maintenance and cell tower maintenance.

#### F. Re-Routing of Addison Boulevard at Dump Station

Recreational vehicles queuing at the Dump Station interfere with traffic on Addison Boulevard. Consider re-routing the portion of Addison Boulevard located east of Dump Station to effectively separate road traffic from Dump Station traffic.

#### G. Campground Road

Consider paving campground road to eliminate maintenance costs from grading and dust control.

#### H. Entrance Drive Lighting

Consider lighting along the Entrance Drive for after-hours events at the Conference Center to increase safety and attractiveness of the route to the Conference Center.

### Annual Project Meeting Recommendations

**Addison – October 2, 2015:** Staff identified re-routing of Addison Boulevard at the dump station as a priority and is preparing a preliminary in-house design to commence project planning.



<sup>i</sup> Accessibility of the interior, specifically counter height, is being evaluated and may be added as an update to the *ADA Transition Plan*.

### 3. Maintenance, Utilities and Security

#### 10-Year Planning Concepts

##### A. Sewage Lagoon Capacity

Evaluate capacity of the sewage lagoon prior to implementing improvements that impact drainage systems; maintain inspections and compliance with state and local standards.

##### B. Buhl Lake Structural Inspections

Perform periodic structural inspections of the Buhl Lake bridge and dam on a 5-year rotation and make repairs as needed.

##### C. Water Tower Planning and Implementation

Review options for the water tower. Demolition would eliminate the expense of maintaining a non-functional structure or adaptive reuse could include use for adventure recreation (zip lines, etc.) or co-location of an antennae would generate revenue. If structure is not demolished or demolition is delayed, continue to conduct structural inspections on a 5-year rotation (last inspection was in 2013).

##### D. Campground Dump Station Accessibility

Remove curb to drain or redesign drain to remove barrier; raise drain control (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 6), photo 15.

##### E. Area A Sanitation Station Accessibility

Construct access route to sanitation station and raise drain control (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 6), photo 16.

#### Concepts for Future Consideration

##### F. Cold Storage Facility

Consider construction of a structure to store equipment and increase the life of equipment.

##### G. Future Maintenance Facility Feasibility Study

Construction of a new maintenance facility and conversion of the former stables to a “best and highest use” has been a feature of the previous two master plans, but has never been fully planned or implemented. Consider conducting research to determine the feasibility of constructing a new maintenance facility in the future, determine the appropriate location (if any), and craft a business model for alternative use of the former stables.



## 4. Technology

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Wireless Network and Web-Based Apps

Provide greater access to the wireless network at Addison Oaks and create web-based apps that will enrich the Addison Oaks experience for visitors, help draw more young adults into the park, and encourage an increase in the diversity of park visitors (OCPRC, 2013). Availability of Wi-Fi in the campground will help to make it competitive with other campgrounds in the area.

#### B. Text Alerts

Implement the appropriate technology to enable text alerts from the park supervisor to known user groups in the park – i.e. trail groups, disc golf groups, radio-controlled flying groups – to give instant updates of park conditions, construction or other factors that may affect their use of the park.

### Concepts for Future Consideration – None proposed

### Recreational Trends

Modern technology is changing the way we access outdoor recreation. According to the 2013 Outdoor Participation Report, outdoor participants ages 18-24 use technology the most to engage in outdoor recreation with adults ages 25 to 44 coming in second. For these two age groups, 30-40% use smart phones and iPods or other music players. There is little variation between genders, except for a somewhat higher iPod/music player use among females (Outdoor Foundation, 2013, pp. 30-31). The Report also looked at use of technology among diverse populations – Hispanic participants used technology the most (40% use smart phones), followed by participants from Asian/Pacific Islander (38% use smart phones) and African American (33% use smart phones) populations. Caucasian participants reported the least use of technology (23% use smart phones) while engaging in outdoor recreation (Outdoor Foundation, 2013, p. 51).

A preliminary internet survey was done to search for campgrounds in Oakland County with Wi-Fi<sup>i</sup>. Haas Lake Park in New Hudson and Holly KOA were listed on three out of four sites. Clearwater Campground in Ortonville and Groveland Oaks County Park were listed on one out of four sites.

### Annual Project Meeting Recommendations

**Addison – October 2, 2015:** Staff confirmed the customer service benefits of providing access to a wireless network at the Concession Building and Beach Pavilion as a means to increase usage by both campers and day use patrons.

## 5. Non-Recreational Features

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Mitigation of Grant Conversion – Cell Tower Site

The cell tower license agreement and construction was completed on land that was purchased and developed with grant assistance and is therefore considered a conversion of grant-acquired land. Mitigation of this conversion will be accomplished by the acquisition of land that is of equal or greater value to substitute for the converted area. Mitigation must be approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

#### B. Maintenance of Rental House

There is a recognized benefit of having park staff residing on site and available for emergencies when the park is closed. Therefore OCPRC plans to continue to manage this asset as a rental property. Continue annual inspections

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<sup>i</sup> [www.openwifispots.com](http://www.openwifispots.com), [www.allstays.com](http://www.allstays.com), [www.michcampgrounds.com](http://www.michcampgrounds.com), [www.goodsamclub.com](http://www.goodsamclub.com)

of the rental house and plan for repairs and upgrades for the safety and comfort of tenants. See [Conference Center Area](#) for more details about the history and context of this structure.

## 6. Park Trails and Regional Connectivity<sup>i</sup>

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Trail Map and Trail Signage

Update trail map to reflect correct location and length of trails. Post a large map in kiosks. Update trail signage and coordinate map with trail signage.

#### B. Regional Connectivity Planning

Work with partners to evaluate trail network and consider expansion in three potential directions: 1) North-south route between Addison Main with Polly Ann Trail to north and Bald Mountain State Recreation Area to south; 2) East-west route between Addison East and Rochester Road; 3) North-south route between Addison South and Lost Lake Township Park.

#### C. Identification and Resolution of Trail Use Conflicts

Some trail sections are accessed by multiple types of users: hikers, mountain-bikers, and equestrians. In addition, the Lake George Fields are used by both radio-controlled model airplane flyers and equestrians. Not all these uses are compatible with each other. Additionally, equestrians have requested that emergency exit routes be identified. Work with trail user groups to develop a plan to separate non-compatible uses.

#### D. Buhl Lake Loop Accessibility

Install signage at trailhead that describes trail conditions. Regrade running slope and cross slope and maintain path surface to specifications for access routes on the southeastern section, specifically from the Day Use Parking Lot to the boat launch and continuing on to the camping area. Regrade running slope and cross slope and maintain path surface to specifications for shared use paths on the northwestern section (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 3); photos 7-10.

#### E. Addison Connector Trail Accessibility at East Parking Lot

Construct access route from accessible parking spaces to the trail. Install signage at trail heads that describe trail conditions. Reconstruct access route to portable restroom (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 4); photos 11-13.

#### F. Rustic Trails Accessibility

Install signage at trailheads that describe trail conditions. Reconstruct rustic trails built for hiking to meet trail guidelines to the extent technically feasible (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 5); photo 14.



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<sup>i</sup> Accessibility note on trails: Trails that were not designed for uses by hikers and pedestrians are not required to comply with accessibility guidelines. This is true even if pedestrians are allowed to use the trails. Therefore, the trails within the park designed for equestrian or mountain bike use are not part of the accessibility assessment and no recommendations for modification for accessibility will be made (U.S. Access Board, May 2014).



### Concepts for Future Consideration

#### G. Campground Paved Looped Pathways

Create looped pathways in the campgrounds for accessible connectivity between accessible cabins and campsites, playgrounds, parking lots, and Recreation Pavilion to facilitate accessibility and create safe bike routes for younger children. Design and install trail and wayfinding signage.

#### H. Regional Connectivity Implementation

Implement collaborative project to develop trail connection between the Addison Connector Trail and the Polly Ann Trail.

### Recreational Trends

Running, including jogging and trail running, is the most popular outdoor activity in the United States with 53.2 million participants, nearly 19% of all Americans. It's also the most popular activity in terms of frequency, with an average of 87 outings per runner. Nearly 15% of trail runners were first-time participants, while only approximately 9% of runners/joggers were first-time participants. A surge of nearly 35% of triathlon runners were first-timers, indicating a growth in this movement (Outdoor Foundation, 2013).

### Public Engagement – 2010 Community Survey

The Oakland County residents who responded to the 2010 Community Survey were positive about investment in a regional trail network. When asked which actions households were most willing to fund with county parks and recreation dollars – the 3rd ranked choice was “purchase land to develop walking and hiking trails” (27%) and the 4th ranked choice was “develop new hard surface walking and biking trails that connect to regional trails” (22%) (Leisure Vision / ETC Institute, 2010).

### Public Engagement – Park User Surveys

Paved trails at Addison Oaks are popular with visitors. The 2013 Park User Intercept Survey asked visitors what amenities and/or facilities brought them to Addison Oaks. The responses included: “Paved Trails” (50%), “Trails – Mountain Biking” (28%), “Trails – Unpaved” (27%), “Trails – Cross Country Skiing” (6%), and “Trails – Equestrian” (4%). When survey respondents asked to rate a range of amenities at Addison Oaks as excellent, good, fair or poor, “Paved Trails” received the highest rating (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments – 21 Open House and 40 Online.* Nine comments positively supported proposals for park trails and regional connectivity. Twenty comments were made regarding the expansion of park trails and regional connectivity; they were mostly positive and supportive particularly for equestrian and mountain biking users. The importance of connections to the Polly Ann trail and Bald Mountain Recreation Area was highlighted. Two comments voiced concern with maintaining current trails and decline of maintenance in future if expansion occurs.

Eighteen comments mentioned horses or equestrians; all were in support of expanding trails for horseback riding and appreciate the trail maintenance that occurs. User-conflict was mentioned between equestrians and mountain bikers and a few comments mentioned having shortcut routes for equestrians to exit trail in case of emergency.

Twelve comments mentioned mountain biking, the majority would like to see more trails. A few would like groomed trails in the winter for ‘fat bikes’. Maintenance of trails in the winter was also expressed on an open house comment card. User-conflicts were mentioned between mountain bikers, trail walkers, and equestrians in three comments. Additional user-conflicts were of concern on the Lake George Fields and in general on trails.

Seven comments were made about paving of trails, many supporting paving campground trails, while others support keeping Addison rural and natural by not paving. Six comments mentioned improving marking of trails and trail maps for park users. A comment card mentioned needs for improving trail signage. Two comments inquired about cross-country skiing in the park and mentioned it as a use to include; another comment mentioned more park staff for safety and plowing part of some trails for winter walkers. (OCPRC, 2/19/2016)

# Location-Specific Planning Units

## 7. Adams Lake Beach and Picnic Area<sup>i</sup>

### 10-Year Facility Concepts

#### A. Beach Building Programming, Naming and Branding<sup>ii</sup>

Consider operational changes that expand the uses of the Beach Building – attracting more active families to visit the park and attracting campers to use the day use areas of the park. New uses may include: moving bike rental from the Boathouse to the basement (to take advantage of proximity to trailhead); location for indoor programming, park store to sell convenience items, rental for smaller events, marketing the building as a four-season event venue; and implementing a full concession with carts delivering food to campsites. Select a name and brand the Beach Building as a primary destination and the welcome center and hub of the park<sup>iii</sup>.



#### B. Beach Building Remodeling

Make improvements to Beach Building that support adventure recreation programming and bring the building into compliance with accessibility standards, increase the attractiveness of the interior, and support increased services and uses. Coordinate with Adams Lake Beach and Play Area improvements to achieve a holistic design that is compatible with the character of the park and will be a strong draw for families with children and help to unify the park by drawing campers into the Day Use areas. Incorporate accessibility improvements from Transition Plan (OCPRC, 11/19/2015) – see Transition Plan for details and specifications:

- Regrade and rebuild non-compliant part of access route to the Concession Building
- Install accessible signage at entrances and within the building
- Reconstruct east ramp and associated handrails
- Reconstruct north ramp and associated handrails
- Relocate interior door frame
- Lower a portion of concession counter to 36 inches above the floor
- Make multiple improvements to men’s and women’s restrooms

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<sup>i</sup> Note on Accessibility of Planning Area: The accessibility assessment of the Adams Lake Beach and Picnic Area indicates that this area of the park has many accessibility issues. Notably, there are very few access routes linking the various elements found within the area and the pathways that are provided are not in compliance with accessibility requirements throughout their lengths. There are also numerous issues with the restrooms and other structural elements within the concession building. The redesign of the beach complex area and the concessions building using the principles of universal design at this popular area of the park would send a strong, positive message that Oakland County Parks welcome people of all abilities (OCPRC, 11/19/2015).

<sup>ii</sup> The Beach Building is also referred to by staff as the Beach Concession or Concession Building. There is not an official name for the building.

<sup>iii</sup> Design Adams Lake Beach area and Buhl Lake Boathouse concurrently to ensure uses are complementary – see next section.

**C. Adams Lake Beach, Play Area and Pavilion Improvements**

Replace outdated and aging beach play structure. Consider adding features that also attract older children/teens, such as playing courts or a skate park. Incorporate a water play feature that provides safe water play for children and is complementary to the Adams Lake beach area. Incorporate accessibility improvements from Transition Plan (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 8-9); photos 20, 24-28:

- Create an access route to the water using an accessible mat
- Replace play structure and surfacing, and add an access route, to make an accessible play area
- Construct an accessible route to the horseshoe and volleyball playing areas

Incorporate Transition Plan recommendations for the Beachfront Picnic Area. Beachfront Picnic Area (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 8-9); photos 18-19, 21-23:

- Construct accessible parking spaces with firm and stable ground surfacing
- Construct an access route from the parking spaces and from the Concession Building to the Beachfront area
- Reconstruct portions of the concrete walkway to eliminate abrupt change in level
- Add a ramp from the walkway to the elevated concrete pad under the pavilion
- Lower four outlets on the pavilion posts to 15-48 inches above the finished floor within the pavilion

**D. Removal of Unused Structure**

Remove or demolish unused structure that was formally used for boat rental to reduce maintenance costs and increase attractiveness of area.

**E. Picnic Area Accessibility**

Create accessible picnic units in picnicking area near the concession building (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 7); photo 17.

**F. Lakeview Picnic Area Accessibility**

Construct an access route from the pavilion to nearest restroom building and parking lot. Lower four outlets on the pavilion posts to 15-48 inches above the finished floor within the pavilion. Create access routes to the grill, water spigot, and other features within the picnic unit (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 10); photos 29-32.

**G. Timber Ridge Picnic Area Accessibility**

Construct an access route to the pavilion from the nearby Buhl Lake Loop. Create access routes to the portable restroom, grill, and play areas (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 11); photos 33-35.

**Concepts for Future Consideration – None proposed**

**Recreational Trends**

26% of Americans state they are unable to participate in outdoor activities because they don't have enough time. Increasing the season and times that Adams Lake Beach Area is open may open it up to a new demographic of park visitors who hadn't been able to go previously due to time constraints (Outdoor Foundation, 2013).

Barely half of adolescent girls (ages 13-17) say they participate in outdoor activities- this is the lowest percentage since reporting began. Increasing draw for families with children may help to increase participation and provide long-lasting effects for young girls (Outdoor Foundation, 2013).

14% of Americans surveyed said they are not able to participate in outdoor activities due to a physical disability; 3% state they have a family member who is disabled. Increasing accessible parking and access routes in the Picnic Area may encourage disabled individuals to visit and enjoy this park (Outdoor Foundation, 2013).

#### Public Engagement – 2010 Community Survey

**Recreation Facilities Used at Oakland County Parks:** The recreation facilities used by the highest percentage of households at Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission Parks during the past 12 months were: walking, hiking, and biking trails (40%), picnicking areas (25%), nature trails (19%), swimming beaches and areas (19%), waterparks and waterslides (18%), and 18-hole golf courses (18%) (Leisure Vision / ETC Institute, 2010).

#### Public Engagement – Park User Surveys

According to the 2013 User-Intercept Survey, the number one reason for visiting the Addison Oaks is to “relax/hang out” (73%). The survey results demonstrate the popularity of some of the features in the Adams Lake Area – but also point out varying levels of customer satisfaction with those same amenities. Most notable is the Beach Area, which is the 2nd most popular reason for visiting Addison Oaks, yet ranks at the bottom for quality of amenities. This suggests that a focus on beach area enhancements may increase satisfaction for current visitors and provide a strong draw for new visitors.

The majority of survey participants commented on the swimming area, common suggestions included expanding the swimming area, making it deeper, and improving the cleanliness of the beach. A handful of comments were made about adding wash stations at the beach and expanding operating hours. They also commented on improving and expanding the disc golf course, continued improvement of the mountain bike trail, additional and improved playground equipment, addition of a concession stand or small store, and a chlorinated water play area (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

#### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 36 Open House and 34 Online.* Comments received at both the open house and online were generally supportive of improvements to the beach, picnic, and concession areas.

Improvements to the beach area were addressed by approximately one-half of all commenters. Ten comments referenced support for inclusion of a new water feature in the beach area, though preferences for what the feature should be varied and included fountains, splash pads, slides, and one mention of hot tubs. The need to improve the beach was identified by several respondents who also noted the swim area had been “shrinking” and more swimming room was needed. A comment card from the open house also mentioned the need for a larger swimming area. Specific concerns about poor beach water quality were noted or recorded by seven individuals.

Another theme for the beach area was the hope that improvements would complement the existing rustic nature of Addison Oaks which reflects an overall theme of comments received throughout the public comment process. Two commenters noted they hoped water features were not too “water-parkish” or had a nature theme while three others noted a preference for rustic or simple improvements. This aligned with the concerns voiced by others regarding low participation/use of the amenity, wondering if it was worth the investment.

Improvements to the concession building were addressed by various users of the beach, trails and campgrounds. General support for improvements and expanded concession services were voiced and recommendations included providing ice cream, basic amenities, discs, picnic-style and healthy food/snack choices. Other recommendations voiced by individual respondents included hitching posts for horses, benches in restrooms for clothing changes, and building rental availability. Existing concerns noted that fountain water tasted bad and the need for posted and enforced regular hours of operation. Access in the winter was also supported and appreciated.

Other comments received included two that hoped the boat house would be preserved, one request for dog access at the beach, and increased number of trash cans. Requests for a beach attendant and sheriff station were also noted (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

#### Annual Project Meeting Recommendations

Addison – October 2, 2015: Staff identified multiple issues that needed to be addressed at the Concession Building and are integral to the concept to reprogram the Concession Building to make it a focal area of the park.

- ✓ Correct drainage issues around building to eliminate water coming into basement
- ✓ Address mold in basement
- ✓ Repair and update toilets and plumbing
- ✓ Consider Wi-Fi at Concession and Pavilion (see Technology concepts)
- ✓ Consider coffee vending at Concession Building

Additionally, it was determined that the scope forecast for the beach playground was too low and it was increased to \$250,000.

## 8. Buhl Lake Boating and Fishing Area

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Boathouse Replacement<sup>i</sup>

Design and construct new boathouse facility to house boat rental, restroom and sales/rental of items related to camping, boating and fishing. Consider moving bike rental to the basement of the Concession Building, where it can take advantage of proximity to the trailhead. Incorporate improvements from the Transition Plan (OCPRC, 11/19/2015), see Transition Plan for details and specifications:

- Place accessible signage on building
- Lower a portion of the counter to 36 inches above ground

#### B. Stand-Up Paddle Boards

Provide stand-up paddle board rentals from boathouse for use in Buhl Lake. Provide appropriate safety equipment and instruction.

### Concepts for Future Consideration – None proposed

#### Recreational Trends

Water sport activities for first-time participants are extremely popular, gathering huge percentages in the proposed activity. Stand-up paddling, by definition, is a sport in which the operator stands up on a surfboard and uses a paddle to push themselves through the water. It is often considered a cross between surfing and canoeing. As of 2013, stand up paddling has nearly 50% of its partakers being first time participants. Other water sports also have very high first-time participation rates: 42% of boardsailers/windsurfers, 25% of recreational kayakers, 28% of rafters, 23% of sailors, and 20% of wake boarders are all first-timers. Furthermore, water sport activities have some of the youngest median ages of first-time participants, which could potentially lead to increases in youth and young adult visitors to the park (Outdoor Foundation, 2013).

Freshwater, saltwater, and fly fishing is the second most popular outdoor activity, with nearly 46.0 million participants annually. The data also shows around 20% of fly fishers being first-time participants, indicating not only does fishing draw in new participants; it also is able to retain its existing participants as well (Outdoor Foundation, 2013).

#### Public Engagement – Park User Surveys

The Park User Intercept Survey asked visitors what amenities or facilities brought them to the park. Out of 31 choices, Fishing ranked 8th, boat rental ranked 12th, non-motor boating ranked 21st, and bike rental ranked 23rd. When survey respondents were asked to rate a range of amenities at Addison Oaks – “Bike Rental” and “Boat Rental” were in the bottom three, ranking 13th and 14th, respectively, out of 15 choices (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).



<sup>i</sup> Design Adams Lake Beach area and Buhl Lake Boathouse concurrently to ensure uses are complementary.

#### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 13 Open House and 33 Online.* The comments received through the survey and open house demonstrated positive support for the Buhl Lake boating and fishing complex concept plan. In reference to Buhl Lake, a few comments referenced the need to address water quality, beach closings, algae and weed control, fish stocking, and dredging. Four comments specifically referenced the importance of coordinating efforts between Buhl Lake and Adams Lake improvements. At least one comment regarding the beach/concession area and one comment in the boating/fishing complex recommended changing the beach from Adams to Buhl Lake. Development and/or improvements to shoreline fishing areas were identified and included offshore fishing near the dock, more fishing access from the Buhl Lake Loop, and shoreline stabilization near the picnic tables. More “No Fishing” signage was requested by one person and a comment card noted that ‘no fishing’ areas should be enforced.

Eight comments noted support for the fishing piers improvements and boat launch. Four comments specifically commended the increase in accessibility for the area. Three comments requested repair to existing benches and picnic tables in the area or addition of new seating. Six commenters voiced support for rental and/or sale of fishing equipment, but one noted that bike rentals should be moved to the Adams Lake area. One comment noted having parking that could handle pull through trailers while another noted grooming of trails in the winter months (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

## 9. Disc Golf Course<sup>i</sup>

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Standards Manual and Market Analysis

Develop a disc golf standards manual and market analysis. Consider the role of partnerships in design, maintenance and operation of the disc golf facilities. Explore opportunities to increase revenue to support upgrades and expansion of course.

#### B. Site Improvements and Additional Holes

Upgrade the current disc golf course that will improve the siting of holes and tees, make general site and customer service improvements, and is guided by public engagement. Consider improvements intended to increase customer base, such as lighting for evening tournaments. Consider adding 3 holes to create an 18-hole and a 9-hole course, which would enable play to continue when tournaments are being held. This arrangement could also incorporate a temporary 9-hole course to create two tournament courses when needed. Incorporate natural resource management into any re-siting of holes and adding holes. Consider engaging the services of a professional disc golf course designer.



### Concepts for Future Consideration – None proposed

### Recreational Trends

The Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) provides statistics on disc golf as a means to track trends in the sport. They estimate that 8-12 million people worldwide have played disc golf, with an estimated 2 million being regular players. There were 24,443 active members of the PDGA in 2014, an 18% increase over 2013. Michigan had the third highest rate of PDGA membership in the U.S. with 2,041 members. 92% of members in the U.S. were male. The age category with the highest level of participation was 30-39 years old at 33%, followed by 20-29 year olds at 30%. PDGA members are fairly well educated: 37% are college graduates, 33% have had some college, and 15% have advanced degrees. The Association listed 3684 disc golf courses in the U.S. in 2014. Michigan had the third highest number with 171 courses and 111 events (PDGA, 2014).

### Public Engagement – Park User Surveys and On-Site Focus Groups

A series of on-site focus groups specific to disc golfing were held at Addison Oaks during October 2013. Favorites of park users were that the course is free with park entry, the course is well-maintained and the layout is unique and challenging. The layout of the course was stated as great for technical/experienced players and unique for the area of Michigan. Park users also cited that the course is kept clean. Many cited they loved the natural setting, while others wanted more maintenance of branches and trees along the courses.

Common improvements that were suggested were to install signage and mark the fairway for Hole #1; large groups tend to congregate there causing a safety hazard and use conflict. Improvements were also suggested specifically for Hole #20 due to it having too short a run, and Hole #10 needing more definition and improving drainage. General improvements to the course included the raising of sinking tee pads and straightening of crooked baskets. It was also recommended that wood-chips be placed around baskets and landing zones be better defined. Players also mentioned they missed having benches and picnic tables, though some suggested having

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<sup>i</sup> Note on accessibility: Changes to the disc golf course that would fundamentally alter the nature of the activity in order to make it accessible are not required. The construction of an access route from the Day Use Parking Lot to the beginning of the course would improve access to the course, and would be required if the course is altered or if a new course is constructed (OCPRC, 11/19/2015).



stumps or wood chips for spectators to sit on. Disc golfers would also like more trash cans along the course and at every tee if possible.

Nearly every participant mentioned adding additional holes to the existing course or creating a new course in the park. Primary suggestions were for an additional 18-hole course or 24-hole course and including more holes with water features. A few recommendations were made to improve the parking policy to prevent users from getting parking tickets and to redo the parking lot. The Parks Perk Pass should be sold at Addison Oaks County Park and the daily price for non-residence should be reduced.

Activities that would encourage more visits from disc golfers included fishing, running, and mountain biking. This suggests that disc golfers may not be aware of the other amenities that exist in Addison Oaks County Park (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

#### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 9 Open House and 79 Online.* The concept for disc golf gained rich feedback during public comment opportunities. A total of 30 comments stated that they love the current course as it is. Many of the 40 comments that support expansion of the disc golf course were most in favor of designing the current course to have 2-18 hole or 2-24 hole courses; two comments also mentioned that their organizations would be willing to volunteer to implement the expansion of the disc golf course. A second disc golf course was also noted on an open house comment card. A handful of comments also suggested hiring a professional designer for any disc golf expansion.

A total of 10 comments would like amenity improvements to the current course and felt lighting was a minor improvement. A total of 14 comments stated that no additional fees should be charged while 5 comments stated that additional fees should only be charged with additional amenities. Five comments stated that increased fees were appropriate if disc golf is expanded but a pay-to-play model may work better in conjunction with a daily pass. Suggestions were made for increasing programming to include disc golf classes and to keep tournaments.

User conflicts with disc golfers are a concern if a dog park is put near the Walker Road holes, a total of five comments noted that the current disc golf area should stay designated only for disc golf use. Maintenance suggestions included the trimming of dead tree limbs and the update of the disc golf map (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

## 10. Recreation Pavilion and Entertainment Area

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Recreation Pavilion Facility Planning

Develop a business model for making the Recreation Pavilion available to groups beyond campers, including availability for private rentals when it is not in use for Campground Recreation programs. Develop recommendations for further facility improvements needed (such as parking and access routes) for increased public access.



#### B. Gazebo Bleachers Accessibility

Create an access route to a seating area next to the bleachers (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 21); photo 58.

#### C. Access Routes

Create an access route that connects features within this area (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 21); photo 59.

### Concepts for Future Consideration

#### D. Amphitheater

Consider changes to the gazebo and surrounding landscape to transform the area into an amphitheater with permanent seating to accommodate musical and other performances; consider proximity to group campsites and impact on campers when planning nighttime use of the facility; consider parking and access that will accommodate greater public use of this facility.

### Recreational Trends

The Campground Recreation programs provide family-oriented activities for campers. It is useful to note that in 2014, parents with children participated in camping at a rate eight points higher than people without children (Outdoor Foundation, 2014a).

### Public Engagement

The Park User Intercept Survey asked visitors what amenities or facilities brought them to the park. Out of 31 choices, Activity Area and Campground Recreation Programs ranked 9th and 10th respectively. However, when survey respondents were asked to rate a range of amenities at Addison Oaks – “Activity Area” ranked 12th out of 15 choices. Several respondents commented positively about the activities offered to families and children. Comments regarding the Activity Pavilion itself tended to cite the need for a permanent structure (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 7 Open House and 31 Online.* Fifteen comments indicate general support of the concept for the proposed Entertainment and Recreation complex. An additional fourteen comments referenced the amphitheater and pavilion areas specifically, of which eight were supportive of development of the amphitheater and pavilion. The remaining six expressed concern with the amphitheater and pavilion for various reasons that included appreciation for the gazebo in its current state (2), the potential for excessive sound negatively impacting neighbors (1), overcrowding (1), and disruption of the natural /rural ambience of the park (4).

Additional recommendations related to amenities at the Recreation and Entertainment Area noted the need for parking to make the area accessible to day users and campers coming from distant sites (3), the addition of modern restrooms in the area (1), and improved signage (1) (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

[Annual Project Meeting Recommendations](#)

**Addison – October 2, 2015:** Staff identified planning for an amphitheater to replace or augment the existing gazebo is a priority and should be included in the master plan. They also noted a concern about parking to access the Recreation Pavilion.

## 11. Campground Area

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Campground Area A Accessibility

Make modifications to fire rings, utility posts, water spigots, access routes, and parking spaces within existing accessible units to meet accessibility guidelines. See Transition Plan for details and specifications (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 24-25); photos 64-70.

#### B. Group Camping Areas Accessibility

Construct an access route within accessible group campgrounds; construct access route from accessible group campgrounds to the restroom building; stripe parking spaces for one standard and one van-accessible space and add correct signage for each space (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 29); photos 79-81.

#### C. Camper Cabin #4 (4-person) Accessibility

Make improvements to cabin, grounds, and access route to align with accessibility guidelines (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 29-32); photos 82-93.

#### D. Camper Cabin #6 (6-person) Accessibility

Make improvements to cabin, grounds, and access route to align with accessibility guidelines (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 32-34); photos 94-102.

#### E. Yurts Accessibility

Make improvements to parking spaces, access aisles, and surface surrounding yurts to align with accessibility guidelines (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 35); photos 103-105.

#### F. Area A Restroom Accessibility

Construct accessible parking spaces with proper signage connecting to the access route to the restroom building; move vending machine to spot that doesn't block the access route or widen the access route around the vending machine; make improvements to men's and women's restrooms to align with accessibility guidelines; add accessible signage to latch side of door to laundry room; replace one washing machine and one dryer with models with controls that do not have to be twisted, grasped, or pinched to operate (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 25-28); photos 71-78.

#### G. New Accessible Campsites

As rustic camping units are renovated, create three completely accessible units dispersed throughout Area D; as group camping areas are renovated, create two completely accessible group camping areas; as modern camping units are renovated, create at least five additional completely accessible units dispersed through Areas A-C, beginning with Area A (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 23); photos 60-62.

#### H. Campground Play Areas and Structures

Consider adding a new play area in the vicinity of Area A and group camping areas. This will need to be balanced with the need to improve/replace the Area C play area. Incorporate improvements in the Transition Plan for Area C play area (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, p. 24); photo 63.

#### I. Restroom and Shower Maintenance

Conduct routine maintenance on restrooms and showers, replacing equipment as required.

#### J. Cabin and Yurt Maintenance

Conduct routine maintenance on cabins and yurts, replacing equipment as required.



### Concepts for Future Consideration

#### K. Area D Modern Restrooms

Design and construct modern restroom/shower building in Area D in response to user demand and to meet accessibility requirements. Evaluate limitations due to wooded area and capacity of existing sewage lagoon.

#### L. Campground Utility Upgrades

Consider utility upgrades to identified areas of the campground to provide Wi-Fi and/or full hookups.

### Recreational Trends

More than 40 million Americans age 6 and over went camping in 2013. The camping participation rate for the population was 14%. The average age for campers was 32 years old. 63% of campers age 16 and over were married or living with a domestic partner. Camping was a gateway to other outdoor activities, with 87% of campers participating in multiple outdoor activities. Hiking was the most popular daytime activity, while hanging out by the campfire was the most popular nighttime activity (Outdoor Foundation, 2014a).

Car, backyard, and RV camping is the fourth most popular activity in terms of participation rate, with nearly 38.0 million participants annually. Even though the percentage of participants for first-time camping is low, approximately 10%, this activity is able to retain its already existing participants in order to remain a popular activity (Outdoor Foundation, 2013).

Car, backyard, and RV camping is the third most popular activity for youth ages 6-17, with 10.2 million participants annually. Being with family and friends significant to youth, with 77% stating that is the main factor for spending time outdoors. Nearly 53% of families with children (ages 1-17) participate in outdoor activities, at an average of 85 annual outings. Enhancing campground playground areas may help to support this statistic in concepts for Addison Oaks (Outdoor Foundation, 2013).

According to the SCORP<sup>i</sup> Outdoor Recreation Telephone Survey, 24% of participants in Michigan indicated that they engaged in camping as an outdoor recreational activity, with 27% of those respondents willing to travel up to 2 hours away (Public Sector Consultants, December 2012).

### Public Engagement – 2010 Community Survey

In the 2010 Community Survey, 8% of the households surveyed in Oakland County reported that they made use of the camping facilities at Oakland County Parks in the last 12 months (Leisure Vision / ETC Institute, 2010). In a survey conducted by the Huron-Clinton Metropark Authority (HCMA), 8.9% of Oakland County respondents and 7.4% of respondents from the wider HCMA service region indicated that they typically participated in camping as an outdoor activity at any location (Public Sector Consultants, July 2012).

### Public Engagement – Park User Surveys

Over 50% of respondents to the 2013 User-Intercept Survey were campers at Addison Oaks. When asked visitors what amenities and/or facilities brought them to Addison Oaks, the responses included: “Modern Camping” (53%), “Campground Recreation Programs” (39%), “Campgrounds – Rustic” (23%), “Camp – Cabins” (15%) and Camp – Group Sites (15%). A number of comments were received from the 2013 User-Intercept Survey regarding campgrounds indicated a desire for full hook-up sites, more shade trees, dry firewood, improved showers, and an activity pavilion. Bathrooms were another common area that received comments. Upgrades were requested to install modern bathrooms throughout the campground areas, improve cleanliness and repair things such as broken lights and missing stall doors (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 12 Open House and 36 Online.* While twelve commenters simply noted support for the concept for the camping and cabin area, the majority of comments received were related to camping site improvements.

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<sup>i</sup> Michigan’s *State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* as required by the federal government

Eight of those comments noted support for more pull-through sites, though two expressed preference for the privacy that back up sites provide. Feelings were mixed on the concrete pads: two commenters were opposed to more concrete pads, one was for, one noted that while concrete is nice, the gravel pads are some of the nicest around, and another that catering only to “big rigs” will lose some tent campers. Other recommendations related to increasing the number of trees or foliage and fixing lights. Three comments requested camping for equestrians with electricity availability.

Of the nine comments received regarding restrooms, four were supportive of modern facilities being added in area D while three referenced how nice area C restrooms are and questioned the need for additional modern restroom facilities. Six comments referenced maintaining the natural ambiance of the park and camping area: the charm of the dirt roads and the appreciation for the rustic camping experience. Of those, four comments specifically requested that rustic areas remain part of the Addison camping experience.

Only three comments focused on cabins or yurts. One noted that yurts should be on the lake and decks should face the woods versus the driveway. Another noted a request for dogs to stay in the cabins and another for less oversized furniture in yurts.

Ten comments focused on amenities with eight comments providing support for improving and /or increasing the number of playgrounds. One noted adding a canoe access grass landing near the camping area and two referencing the need for amenities for young adults.

Three comments on reservations requested more reserve-able sites. Two others referenced year round rental of cabins or yurts and development of discount or rewards programs for frequent campers. 3 comment cards mentioned holding a winter camping event and providing year round camping (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

#### [Annual Project Meeting Recommendations](#)

**Addison – October 2, 2015:** Staff noted that Area C is subject to major flooding at six campsites, making them unavailable for rental when the weather is wet. Staff is working to correct this issue in FY2017.

## 12. Lake George Road Fields<sup>i</sup>

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Open Field Standards Manual

Develop a manual that details the design and maintenance standards of open fields that are used for various recreational purposes – remote-controlled flying, astronomy, equestrian – and explores solutions to existing and potential user conflicts. Radio-controlled aircraft site specifications are available from the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA)<sup>ii</sup>.



### 10-Year Accessibility Concepts – None proposed

#### Recreational Trends

A survey of recreational trends for remote-controlled airplane flying and amateur astronomy is in process.

#### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 35 Open House and 28 Online.* A total of 17 comments are supportive of the creation of a trail hub and expansion of trails in the area. A total of nine comments generally support the overall vision for the Lake George area. The Lake George Road Fields concept received feedback with 14 comments supporting access to the area by other user groups. It was noted to ‘Open up glider field to all AMA clubs’ on a comment card. There is some concern of user-conflicts between designated radio-controlled flying areas and trail riders and potential campers. A total of eight comments stated satisfaction with the current arrangements for radio-controlled aircraft flyers. One comment suggested native plantings in the field and one comment suggested adding more information about the area to park signage and park website (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

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<sup>i</sup> Note on accessibility: No accessibility assessment was conducted of this largely undeveloped area. Using the adopted trail guidelines for federal facilities as a best practices guideline, all rustic hiking trails should be evaluated and recommendations made to provide accessibility. To the extent portions of these trails are used to access structures, such as the astronomy and glider platforms, accessibility improvements should be considered at any time that the routes and/or structures are improved.

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.modelaircraft.org/>

## 13. Conference Center Area

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Historic Asset Inventory and Evaluation

An inventory and review of the building complex following the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) guidelines should be completed prior to design – this review may be required because the property was purchased with federal funds. Ensure that future improvements do not harm integrity of historic structures and are reversible. Within the evaluation, look



at the continued maintenance of the Milk House and evaluate the Pool House and the long-term costs and benefits of restoration v. demolition. As planning and evaluation proceeds, engage the services of an architect who specializes in historic architecture in partnership with Oakland County Economic Development and Community Affairs (EDCA).

#### B. Maintenance Yard Upgrades

Make improvements to the Maintenance Yard that more effectively support maintenance activities and ensure compliance with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality regulations.

#### C. Garden Landscape and Walkway

Update the walls and walkway for structural integrity and safety and update the landscape to increase attractiveness as a backdrop for weddings and other events.

#### D. Parking Lot Accessibility

Rebuild accessible and van-accessible parking spaces, aisles, and access routes; repair cracks in asphalt (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 36-38); photos 106-108.

#### E. Conference Center Maintenance and Accessibility

Replace the Conference Center deck. Conduct periodic structural and stucco assessments and implement repairs as needed. As repairs or upgrades are made, implement accessibility improvements (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 39-46); photo 109-137, including:

- Main Entrance: Reconstruct main entrance ramp to correct slope; add handrails; secure edges of carpet; and rebuild/replace stairs and handrails
- Entrance Hallway: Replace sconces in entrance hallways; make improvements to men's and women's restrooms to align with accessibility guidelines
- Large Banquet Room: Add one-inch ramps at thresholds; replace sconces; add accessibility signage; create accessible area at bar; install ramp to the south deck at the southwest corner emergency exit; make improvements to men's and women's restrooms to align with accessibility guidelines
- Small Banquet Room: Install a ramp from the main entrance hallway
- Second Floor: Add handrails to stairs by bridal suite and widen landing; replace sconces in bridal suite; add accessible signage at doors to bridal suite and groom's room – suite and restroom

#### F. Sherriff's Building Accessibility

At this time, the Sherriff's Building is not intended for public use or access and is not required to meet accessibility standards. Recommendations have been outline in the *Transition Plan* for changes to be made in the event that this building becomes used by the public (OCPRC, 11/19/2015, pp. 46-47); photos 138-141.



### Concepts for Future Consideration – None developed

#### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 27 Open House and 24 Online.* Feedback received demonstrated positive support for historic preservation efforts related to maintaining and improving the Conference Center Area and overall support for the concept criteria proposed. As one commenter noted “This description appears to honor and respect the historical significance of the Buhl estate and attempts to preserve its integrity. It is a jewel that deserves the county's sensitive stewardship.”

A number of programming suggestions were received that focused on both the related history of the Estate (13) as well as the opportunity to utilize the property to explore agriculture, gardening, and landscape design in a historical context and/or offer community gardening opportunities (10). One request for ice skating at the Estate was also submitted.

One comment noted that preservation efforts should be done for more than just preservation sake, but instead to support park goals. Of the thirteen comments specific to the pool house were received, eleven were supportive of use/reuse of the amenity with two comments that supported the potential for demolition.

Other recommendations for use of the Buhl estate mentioned development of a bed and breakfast in the maintenance garage (5) or other options for staying in the Estate (3). Two people specifically noted having enjoyed private functions they had attended at the Estate and one noted enjoyment of the views from the entry road.

Five comments were recorded that spoke specifically to the need to better promote the amenity through signage and information for campers. Joint programming or connections to other area museums or country estates were also noted (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

#### Historic Resource Evaluation

*Prepared by Oakland County Economic Development and Community Affairs (EDCA)*

*R. Campbell, AIA, Principal Planner - April 29, 2014*

The following text is excerpted from the document prepared by Ron Campbell entitled *Design Inspiration and Characteristics of the Buhl Estate at Addison Oaks* (Campbell, 4/29/2014)]

The Buhl estate design was based on the English Estates; some of which are now World Heritage Sites. Many, not all of these sites were designed around a one way circulation system that inaugurated the expectations and experience desired. The principal design characteristics were:

- Entrance drives were informal; yet carefully contrived to create composed views.
- Views were designed to be eye catchers such as a lone structure, like the Milk House at the Buhl estate or a clump of trees in the distance, which is also found at Addison Oaks.
- The house would appear to rise directly out of the landscape with shrubbery discreetly hiding the service areas.
- The same design principals guided the development of the large European/English Estates and Monarchy residences for centuries. They naturally carried over here when Americans began to gain influence via money rather than monarchy.

Landscape Architect Frederick Law Olmsted perhaps better articulated the same design philosophy when he said “Aim for the unconscious.” From his designs of Public Parks to private residences, visitors are led without realizing they are being led.

The National Historic Landmark Biltmore Estate by Richard Morris Hunt and Olmsted followed this philosophy on a grand scale. While designed in the French Renaissance chateaux style, many lesser homes relied on the English for inspiration. Interest in the English Tudor and Estate Style reached popularity in America during the prosperous times of the 1920's. Popularity of the style ran the gamut from working class neighborhoods to the estates of the wealthy. Of course the Buhl's were the latter. They were selective when they chose their architect and were suave about the design. Not only would their house reflect the style associated with the English society elite but

the entire experience of arrival, entrance and procession would be experienced as it would be at any true English estate.

[The document prepared by Ron Campbell includes a] sequence of aeriels, 1940 – 2010, of the Buhl estate shows the property pretty much intact into the early 1960's. But the site circulation and elements that make the entrance an experience have survived.

Based on the above information, the one way entry drive and site circulation appears to be an original feature and is historically significantly feature of the site and the design. The drive , along with the 'eye catchers', the entry canopy, the Milk House, Gatehouse, Stables, Pool House and landscape groupings should be preserved. Preserving the historic context in which the structure sits is nearly as important as preserving the historic structure. Preserving the special character of this site and buildings can be achieved at little or no additional maintenance cost while adding a distinctive brand and public appeal can translate into higher revenue. EDCA can provide design assistance from a registered architect, qualified under 36 CFR Part 61 and recognized by the National Park Service as processing the necessary qualifications for work on historic structures.

If the long range desire is to place the stables at a higher and more profitable use, then investment in park maintenance facilities in a different and better location will have to occur at some point. The question is like an old car, how much can you repair and upgrade until you have to say it's time to spend the money towards a higher purpose. With the maintenance building and yard being at the park entrance, it has to make Addison Oaks an abnormality in any park system. Here the difference is the quality of architecture that is being adaptively used. If your typical pole barn and utilitarian construction was in use here, the effect would be much more adverse. The Oakland County Parks have done an excellent job in preserving these buildings and minimizing the true nature of the operation housed here. In the meantime I believe a covered storage building can be constructed in the existing area and with careful placement and screening can achieve the same low impact result that currently exists. The costly drive width expansion can be avoided and the historic character of the one way drive can be maintained. Understanding the desired design objectives and constraints, provides the flexibility and collaboration that lead to innovative design.

#### [Annual Project Meeting Recommendations – None proposed](#)

**Addison – October 2, 2015:** Two existing CIP projects were removed: ACC Storage Facility Expansion and ACC Entrance Drive Design and Construction (the entrance drive redesign is contrary to recommendations from the Historic Resource Evaluation).

# Park Operation Planning Units

## 14. Organized Programs and Events

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Programs and Events Organized by Oakland County Parks

Expand the selection of programs and events offered by Oakland County Parks at Addison Oaks. Take advantage of the natural landscape and rugged terrain and the variety of amenities. Areas to expand include:

✓ **Outdoor Recreation Classes**

Consider classes that provide a comfortable, introductory outdoor recreation experience. Conduct in Concession Building and make use of trails and natural areas throughout the park. Include equipment rentals in partnership with outdoor recreation retailers. Corporate team building events could be included with this concept, incorporating geocaching, orienteering, and other types of competitive activities.

✓ **Campground Recreation**

Increase visibility and diversity of programming of Campground Recreation programs.

✓ **Nature Interpretation and Volunteer Stewardship**

Connect visitors with nature through nature interpretation and volunteer stewardship.

#### B. Programs and Events Organized by External Groups

Formalize partnerships with external groups that organize races, radio-controlled model airplane flying, astronomy events and other programs in the park to clarify expectations and responsibilities. Identify appropriate instrument – i.e. partnership agreement, temporary use permit, license agreement or rental contract. Expand the number and variety of events as feasible.

### Concepts for Future Consideration – None proposed

#### Recreational Trends

The addition of introductory outdoor experiences could focus on activities that have the top growth rates nationally – stand-up padding (31% growth between 2011 and 2014) and kayak fishing (20% growth). Events could also take advantage of activities that are growing nationally – adventure racing (38% growth), off-road triathlon (34% growth) and traditional triathlon (19% growth) (Outdoor Foundation, 2015).

#### Public Engagement – 2010 Community Survey

In the 2010 Community Survey, the recreation programs and activities that the highest percentage of households indicated a need for were: special events/ festivals (38%), adult fitness and wellness programs (29%), nature and wildlife interpretive programs (25%), and family recreation programs (24%) (Leisure Vision / ETC Institute, 2010).

#### Public Engagement – Park User Surveys

Campground recreation programs are a mainstay of the camping experience at Addison Oaks and a reason for families to return year after year to the Addison Oaks campground. When the Addison Oaks Park User Intercept Survey asked visitors what amenities and/or facilities brought them to Addison Oaks, 39% indicated “Campground



Recreation Programs”. When asked to rate the area provided for campground recreation, “Activity Area” received the fourth lowest rating.

The open comments from the Addison Oaks Park User Intercept Survey provided much additional information about staffed activities at Addison Oaks. There were many positive comments about the Campground Recreation activities and an indication that they wanted more activities. Suggestions include expanding things for children to do beyond those provided on holiday weekends. Many specific activities were also recommended for the future including festivals, events such as bingo, concerts, and more events around Halloween (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

#### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 13 Open House and 28 Online.* The majority of comments (16) support the concepts presented in the plan. A total of 15 comments suggested unique events or activities for programming including history-related events, night skiing, dark sky activities, teen-focused programming, remote-controlled flying events, free concerts and events, Survivor Addison Oaks, and treasure hunts. A total of 14 comments supported expansion of nature-related activities for park visitors to learn about stewardship and wildlife. Two comments highlighted support for the zip line and high ropes course. It was also suggested programs should expand beyond corporate team building and campground recreation to include more for teens. One comment highlighted the importance of qualified staff to run programs and another noted importance of working with community groups to gain further support. Feedback from comment cards mentioned better organization of the costume contest at Boofest, holding a winter camping event, and partnering with Six Rivers Land Conservancy’s Adventure League (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

## 15. Data Collection and Management

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Park Visitor Counts

Develop and implement a sampling plan to count vehicles in the East Parking Lot (year round) and in the Day Use Parking Lot (when the Contact Station is not staffed) and use resulting vehicle counts to calculate park visit estimates.

#### B. Facility and Trail Counts

Educate disc golfers on the importance of tracking user numbers, install appropriate equipment, and elicit user participation in effective counting methods.

# Proposed Service Planning Units

## 16. Equestrian Amenities

Over 8 miles of trails at Addison Oaks are designated for equestrian use. Equestrians can also continue their trail ride into Cranberry Lake Park (Oakland Township) via the Addison Connector. The southeast section of the Day Use Parking Lot is designated for horse trailer parking.

Addison Oaks hosted its first equestrian campout in October 2013, which utilized the group camping areas and cabins. During the camping weekend, staff opens up the perimeter trail along the northern border of the park to increase the amount of trail available to equestrians.



Trails that were designed for uses other than hiking and pedestrians are not required to comply with accessibility guidelines. This is true even if pedestrians are allowed to use the trails. Therefore, the trails within the park designed for equestrian or mountain bike use are not part of the accessibility assessment and no recommendations for modification for accessibility will be made.

### 10-Year Facility Concepts

#### A. Site Amenities in Designated Group Area

Continue to designate existing Cabins and Group Camping Areas for post-camping season equestrian camping, utilizing the south end of the Day Use Area for horse trailer parking and installing necessary amenities (i.e. hitching posts, mounting blocks, temporary corral). Evaluate participation, cost-recovery, and customer satisfaction to help determine feasibility and continued demand.

### Concepts for Future Consideration

#### B. Equestrian Group Campground

Consider the design and construction of a picnic and camping area that is comfortable and convenient for both riders and their horses. Design considerations may include pull-through parking pads for horse trailers, vegetation islands to separate horses from the road when they are tied to a horse trailer, selection of horse-friendly materials, and configuration of campsites that allows socialization of equestrians. It will be important to invite input from local rider groups, such as the Addison Oaks Trail Riders, into the design.

### Recreational Trends

The most recent equine survey and census was conducted by Michigan State University in 2007. The results indicated that Michigan's equine population increased nearly 20% between 1996 and 2007, with Oakland County having the greatest number of equids (horses, donkeys and mules). The study estimated that the value of equine-related assets, including barns, equipment and supplies is close to \$8 billion. (The Horse, 2008). Staff has contacted MSU to obtain a copy of the complete survey results. This document will be updated when that information is available.

American Horse Publications conducted a nationwide survey in 2012, collecting 10,539 usable responses. The survey has six sections: demographics, horse ownership, horsekeeping costs, issues facing the equine industry, horse nutrition, and horse health care. The responses were summarized and compared with an earlier survey conducted in 2009-2010 to identify trends.

**DEMOGRAPHICS:** Responses were similar to the 2009-2010 survey. 61.2% of respondents are 45+ years old and 90.8% are female; 49.2% had reported annual household incomes of less than \$75,000; 12.7% had annual household incomes of at least \$150,000.

**HORSE OWNERSHIP:** 92.3% of respondents indicated they were horse owners. Just under 50% indicated they ride for pleasure, 34% indicated they ride competitively, and over 15% indicated they are breeders, riding instructors, and/or trainers. Respondents owned an average of 0.36 foals, 1.15 young horses, 4.1 mature horses, and 2.77 senior horses. About 17% owned more horses than in the previous year.

The study indicates that horse owners/managers are beginning to increase the number of competitions they attend. Most of the increase is occurring among younger age groups and higher income groups.

#### **Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback**

*Total Comments = 20 Open House and 45 Online.* A total of 21 comments endorsed the concept criteria as it was written in the master plan. The 24 comments regarding equestrian trails include safety concerns with some of the trail conditions and user conflicts with bikers and remote-controlled gliders; expansion to other trails, signage, better access to parking, and emergency routes. Three comment cards noted that they loved horseback riding in the park. The five comments that are not supportive of expansion are concerned about the cost of the improvements relative to who will benefit. A comment card also noted opposition to catering to horse owners. The desire for equestrian camping is illustrated by the 19 comments that include corral rental, water and electric hook up, and a bathhouse. Four comments suggested an addition of a sand arena. Programming comments mentioned building partnerships for horse rental, educational programs for campers, and evening carriage rides (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).

## 17. Proposed Dog Park

While there are currently no off-leash options, Addison Oaks is popular with dog owners for on-leash trail walks and camping. Dogs are not allowed in the cabins, yurts or beach area.

### 10-Year Planning Concepts

#### A. Mobile Dog Park

This proposed dog park type is a temporary construction of modular fencing that is stored and transported in a trailer along with portable benches, trash receptacles, and dog-waste bag dispensers. When empty the trailer serves as the double-gated entrance to the mobile park – where owners can safely enter or exit the park with their dogs. The mobile dog park unit is proposed within the Oakland County Parks system as a way to enhance services within parks and to test the market potential for proposed future dog parks (OCPRC, 2016).



#### B. Proposed Dog Park

Consider an off-leash recreation area for dogs and dog owners; Select an appropriate site within the park; Identify target market from wider region in addition to existing market of dog-owning campers and day use visitors.

### Concepts for Future Consideration – None proposed

#### Recreational Trends

Dog parks are popular nationwide. There are an estimated 2,000 dog parks in the U.S. and the number is growing rapidly (Harnik & Bridges, 2008). Three Oakland County Parks – Lyon Oaks, Orion Oaks and Red Oaks – contain dog parks and had an estimated total attendance of over 200,000 visitors in 2015 (OCPRC, January 2016).

Dogs are also popular camping companions. Out of the approximately 30 million Americans age 18 and over who went camping nationwide in 2013, 34% camped with their pets (Outdoor Foundation, 2014a).

#### Public Engagement – 2010 Community Survey

24% of respondents indicated they have a need for off-leash dog parks in Oakland County.

#### Public Engagement – Master Plan Feedback

*Total Comments = 20 Open House and 45 Online.* The proposed dog park and dog run for Addison Oaks received a large amount of support. A total of 37 comments showed support for the dog run. The second highest number of comments (18) gave feedback for specific location recommendations. Many noted that the dog park should be located away from the disc golf course and away from the camping area while a small number of comments noted that they would like to have a dog run near the camping areas. A total of 14 comments mentioned specific amenities they would like to see at the dog park, these included shelter or shade, seating, and access to water. A total of twelve comments mentioned enforcement issues and potential conflicts; leash laws and dog licensing should be enforced, leash laws should be kept in remaining areas of the park, and dog walkers should be separated from the disc golf course. Two comments mentioned that no conflict would arise between horses and dogs sharing an area.

A total of five comments mentioned they were current users of Orion Oaks and they would love a dog park closer for their use. A total of four comments stated they did not see the need for a dog park. Two comments that fell into the ‘other’ category included a request for trails to be plowed in the winter for dog walkers and for dogs to be allowed in cabins and yurts.

Comments received during the open house included more trash cans for dog walkers, support for the dog park (5) and swimming area for dogs. Once commented on not to duplicate efforts in township. Comments were also made to enforce 'leash laws' (2) specifically on disc golf course (OCPRC, 2/19/2016).



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