



# RECREATION MASTER PLAN

2019-2023

**WYANDOTTE RECREATION MASTER PLAN**  
**2019-2023**

PREPARED BY THE CITY OF WYANDOTTE RECREATION  
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### **ADDENDUM:**

Fall & Winter Recreation Reports 2017-2018

Summer Recreation Report 2018

### **Introduction to the Recreation Master Plan**

The development of a comprehensive recreation master plan began in Wyandotte in 1977 when the first plan was developed and has since continued with updates in 1985, 1989, 1991, 1999, 2002, 2009, and 2014. The 2019-2023 Master Plan serves as an update and continuation of the prior master plan. Each plan was reviewed by the Recreation Commission and the City Council, prior to adoption for implementation.

### **The Planning Process**

The development of this plan was an extensive process that incorporated meetings and discussions that were held by the Superintendent of Recreation with the Wyandotte Recreation Commission, various city and school system Department Heads, as well as citizens and private interest groups. These meetings included a public input meeting, a 30 day review of the draft of the plan, and a public hearing on the final draft of the plan.

### **Recreation Administration**

The Recreation Department is under a full-time staff with a Superintendent, who answers to a five member citizen Commission appointed by the Mayor with approval of the City Council. The Department is provided for by the City Charter and financing is through annual appropriations. Staff consists of regular full-time employees and part-time employees that are hired directly by the Department.

## *Community Description*

Wyandotte is 5.54 square miles in size (5.27 land miles) and is bordered by the Detroit River to the east, the cities of Ecorse and Lincoln Park to the north, the cities of Lincoln Park and Southgate to the west, and the city of Riverview to the south. Wyandotte is located 12 miles from downtown Detroit and 10 miles from Detroit Metropolitan Airport. The nearest interstate highway is I-75 and it is located 2 miles to the west. The Population of Wyandotte is approximately 25,883 (2010 Census) down from 28,006 (2000 Census) or a decrease of roughly 7.5% in the last 10 years. The City is made up of 10,991 households (2010 Census) which has decreased from 11,816 households (2000 Census). The population has been steadily declining for the past several decades. The City does have stable businesses ranging in size from 2-3 employees to some with several hundred (BASF Corporation and Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital).

The east side of Wyandotte is generally the location of older housing, but also contains the Central Business District, Wyandotte Roosevelt High School, the majority of multiple dwellings, and all the high-rise and senior citizen apartment buildings. Recreation facilities in this area include Yack Recreation Center, the Copeland Senior Center, two waterfront parks, a Municipal Boat Launch, and Wyandotte Shores Golf Course. The west side of the Wyandotte is made up predominantly of newer, single family housing and is where the majority of the city parks are located.

The Recreation Department relies heavily on the school district for access to several school facilities for a variety of programs. Those programs include boys and girls youth basketball, Class D (high school) basketball, adult basketball leagues, swim lessons, water aerobics, open swimming, and access to the fitness facility. Access to these facilities is restricted by specific time availability or specific summer months when school is not in session.

The school district is made up of four elementary schools (grades K-5), one middle school (grades 6-8), and the high school (grades 9-12). Two schools are used by the district and Wayne County for the education and training of the learning and mentally impaired.

The annual city budget for 2019 fiscal year is \$22,762,298 with approximately \$9,787,788 coming from taxes.

## *Administrative Structure*

The city of Wyandotte is governed by a seven member council, including the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore that is elected by the people. In April of 1942, under Public Act 156 of 1917 of the State of Michigan, the city of Wyandotte created the Recreation Commission as provided by the City Charter in Chapter 7, sections 37 through 42. Commission members are appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council in April. Commission members are appointed to five year terms. The Recreation Commission selects the Superintendent of Recreation who must be approved by City Council. The Superintendent of Recreation oversees the day to day operations of the department and advises on issues relating to programming, facilities, and budgets. The commission meets monthly to review issues and dealings within the department.

The current department is headed by the Superintendent of Recreation. This position is aided by three full time staff: recreation secretary, the parks foreman, and the arena foreman. The parks foreman oversees and maintains 17 parks/playgrounds throughout the city. The arena foreman oversees and maintains the Yack Arena. The remainder of the department is staffed with approximately 80-100 part time employees and numerous volunteers. The volunteers are coaches for the boys and girls youth basketball program, rangers at the golf course, delivery drivers for Meals On Wheels, and distributors for Surplus Food. Aside from regular staff and volunteers, the Recreation Department uses several third party providers to supply recreation. These organizations include Wyandotte Karate and Fitness Club, Innovative Training Solutions, Pulse Sports Club, Young Champions Cheerleading, Braves Baseball, Wyandotte Indians Football, and Wyandotte Warrior Hockey.

The Wyandotte Braves, Figure Skating Association, Indians, and Warriors are non-profit organizations that run the youth leagues for little league baseball, football, figure and synchronized skating, and hockey within the city. Their teams practice and/or play at/on the city or school district's baseball/softball diamonds, football field, or ice rink. There are other private organizations (Downriver YMCA, Wyandotte Karate and Fitness Club, Innovative Training Solutions, Downriver AYSO, and Young Champions Cheerleading) that provide recreation opportunities that are supported and promoted by the Recreation Department.

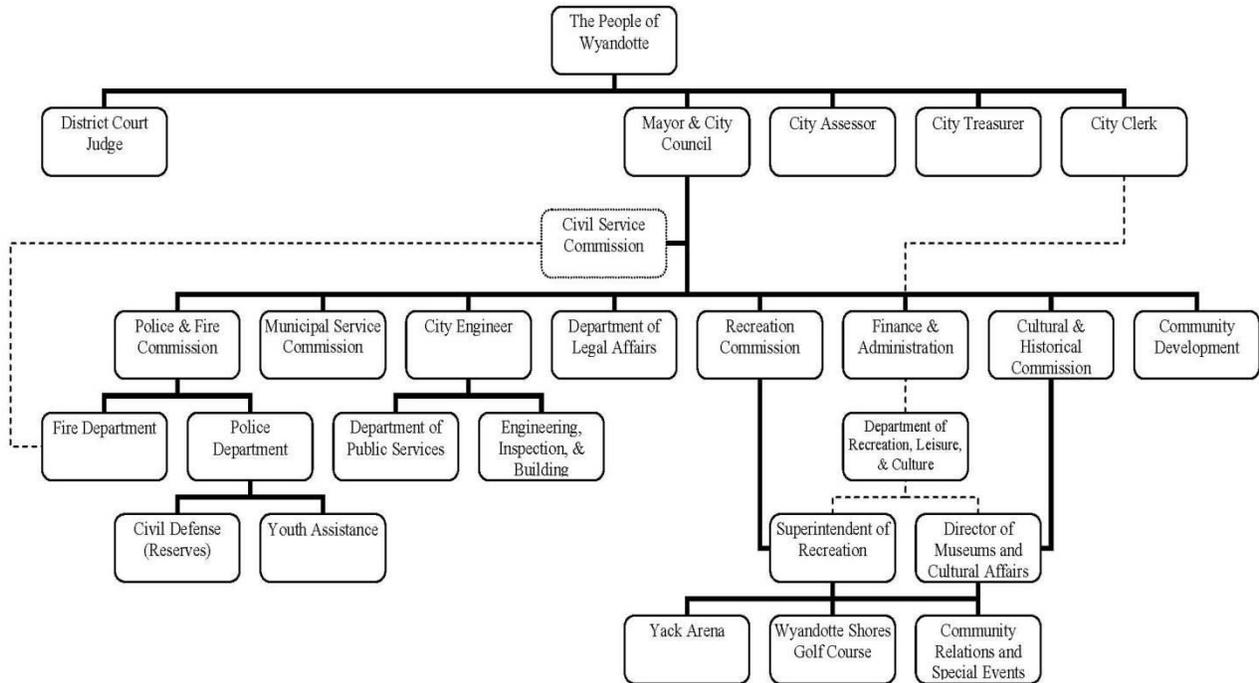
The department has worked closely with neighboring cities in the past to offer recreation opportunities for residents of city. Most recently, Wyandotte has partnered with the City of Trenton. Wyandotte offers a summer beach volleyball program in which youth from Trenton may participate and in return, Wyandotte residents can receive resident rates at Trenton's public pool.

The Recreation Department works very closely with and has a strong relationship with the Wyandotte Public School District. The department maintains the baseball and softball fields within the city and allows the school teams to use them for practices and games. In return, the department receives use of the school gymnasiums for basketball programs and use of the high school pool during the summer for water related activities. The Recreation Department is also allowed use of the fitness facility at the high school to provide the public with access to exercise equipment.

The current budget for the entire Recreation Department for the 2019 Fiscal Year is \$1,373,116 which is broken down into four separate areas: Recreation=\$534,370, Yack Arena=\$3378,226, Golf Course=\$444,749 and the Pool=\$15,771. The primary source of these funds comes from the General Fund of the City. An additional \$146,000 has been allocated from TIFA funding to fund several park improvement projects including: athletic field renovations, park bench replacement, shelter roof replacement, park fencing replacement, and playground surfacing improvements.

Organization Flow Chart

**City of Wyandotte  
Organization Chart  
October 1, 2008**



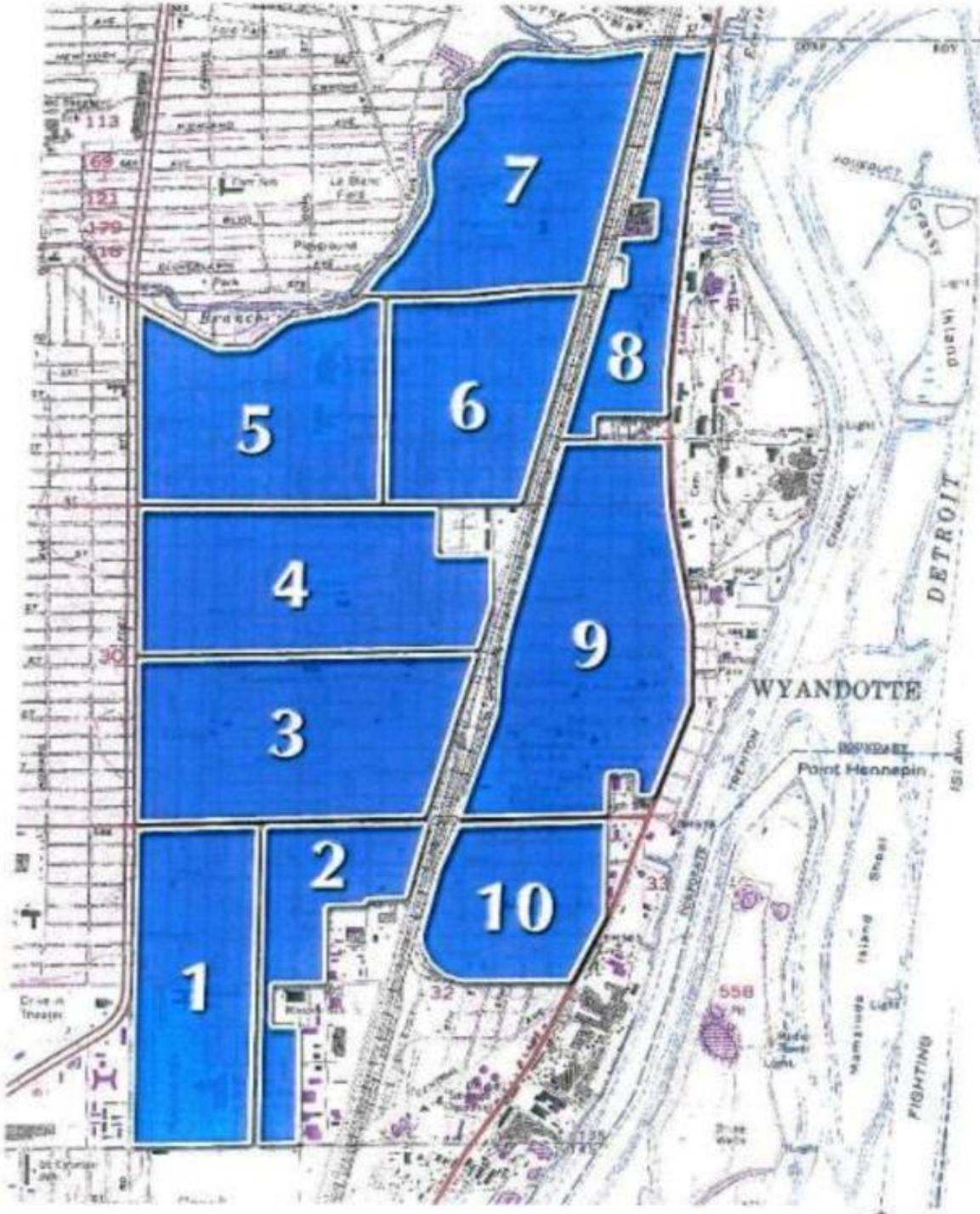
Board of Electrical Examiners and Review  
 Beautification Commission  
 Building Board of Appeals  
 Plumber Code Board of Appeals  
 Downtown Development Authority  
 Planning and Rehabilitation Commission  
 Retirement Commission

Zoning Board of Appeals and Adjustment  
 Solid Waste and Recycling Committee  
 Economic Development Corporation  
 Tax Increment Finance Authority  
 Workman's Compensation Board  
 Brownfield Redevelopment Authority  
 Wyandotte Building Authority

## *Recreation Inventory*

Wyandotte is divided into 10 Neighborhoods for planning, redevelopment and recreation purposes. The following Neighborhood and Communities Map (see page 10) denotes the location of the ten existing zones in which school and recreational owned parks/playgrounds exist as of January 2019. The subsequent Recreation Inventory Lists itemize the equipment and amenities at each site. The lists have been divided into categories: School Board Land and City Land. For clarity and to be consistent with other plans, this summary divides existing recreation sites into “Neighborhood” and “Community” level facilities. All school owned playgrounds are School Parks. All other parks are Neighborhood Parks unless noted as a Mini-Park or Community Park. Accessibility Assessments are in parentheses next to the park/playground name.

Each Neighborhood and the existing parks/playgrounds within each were visited by the Superintendent of Recreation. A detailed inventory of each site was compiled.



Neighborhoods and Communities



Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>1</b>	<b>None</b> Madison School sold in 2013	<b>None</b> Memorial Park lies in this Neighborhood but is listed as a Community use park	

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>2</b>	<b>Monroe Elementary (2)</b> <b>6.9 Acres</b>  Merry-Go-Round 6 Adult Swings  10' Slide  Climb Around Climbing Dome Youth baseball diamond, bleachers benches, and backstop Basketball Court 4 Park Benches Health & Exercise Unit Playscape with 10 Units & 4 Slides Gymnasium	<b>V.F.W. Playground (1)</b> <b>5.6 Acres</b>  Youth baseball/softball diamond dugout w/benches, bleachers, backstop  Dog Park  7 Adult Swings, 1 Handicap Swing 4 Tot Swings Shelter Basketball Court Sandbox Drinking Fountain 7 Park Benches 2 Picnic Tables Playscape with 2 slides, fireman's pole, climber, and horizontal ladder Tot Lot with 6 riding apparatuses	<b>12.5 Acres</b>

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>3</b>	<b>Washington Elementary (2)</b> <b>3.5 Acres</b>  Health & Exercise Unit 2 Basketball Hoops 3 Picnic tables, 1 bench Playscape w/10 units & 4 slides Teeter Totter 6 Swings Parallel Bars Gymnasium Playscape w/horizontal ladder 3 slides, and a climber	<b>Oak Club Park (1)</b> <b>1.7 Acres</b>  4 Baby Swings 8 Adult Swings Sandbox Shelter in Play Area Concrete Basketball Court Drinking Fountain 3 Benches 1 Picnic Table Playscape with 1 slide, 2 climbers, and horizontal ladder	<b>5.2 Acres</b>

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
4	None	<p><b>Pulaski Park (2)</b></p> <p><b>13 Acres</b></p> <p>6 Adult Swings, 1 Baby n Me Swing  2 Baby Swings  10' Slide  Sandbox  Shelter in Play Area  Playscape w/6 climbers, 2 slides, rubber surfacing  Funnel Ball  7 Permanent Park Benches  Permanent Bleachers  Shelter Building w/Restrooms  2 Basketball Courts w/bleachers  4 Tennis Courts with fencing and bleachers  2 Baseball diamonds w/backstops, dugouts  1 Softball diamond w/backstop, dugouts  1 Softball diamond w/lights, backstop, dugouts  3 Drinking Fountains  Concession Stand  Outdoor Ice Rink w/lights  .9 Mile Walking Track</p> <p><b>Lions Club Park (Mini-Park)(1)</b></p> <p><b>.32 Acres</b></p> <p>Climber  Playscape w/2 slides, 3 climbers  Balance bean  4 Adult swings  2 Baby swings  4 Permanent benches  Black Metal Ornamental fencing</p>	<p><b>13.32Acres</b></p>

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>5</b>	<b>Jefferson Elementary (2)</b> <b>7.8 Acres</b>	<b>None</b>	
	Health & Exercise Unit 16 Adult Swings 4 Baby Swings Climb Around Playscape w/10 units & 4 slides Concrete Basketball Court Gymnasium		
	<b>Wilson Middle School (2)</b> <b>10.8 Acres</b>	<b>Leased</b>	
	2 Gymnasiums and Swimming Pool Fenced 2 Tennis Courts Basketball Court Football Field 2 Baseball Fields w/backstops, benches and bleachers .3 Mile Jogging/Running Track Storage Building w/restrooms 6 Park Benches		<b>18.6 Acres</b>

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>6</b>	<b>Lincoln Center (2)</b> <b>1.7 Acres</b>	<b>P.A.C. Club Playground (1)</b> <b>3.2 Acres</b>	
	Playscape w/10 units Swings Basketball Court Health & Exercise Unit Gymnasium	Shelter Concrete Basketball Court 8 Adult Swings 4 Baby Swings 10' Slide Drinking Fountain Soccer Field w/goal posts Sand Box Playscape w/1 slide and fireman's pole	<b>4.9 Acres</b>

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
7		<p><b>F.O.P. Playground (1)</b></p> <p><b>7.5 Acres</b></p> <p>Baseball/Softball diamond w/fence, bleachers, dugouts, benches, scoreboard Shelter w/restrooms and drinking fountain Concrete Basketball Court Sandbox 4 Adult Swings, 1 Baby n Me Swing 4 Baby swings 2 Pickleball Courts Shelter in Play Area 4 Permanent Park Benches 4 Picnic Tables Playscape w/10 Units &amp; 4 Slides Merry-go-round 2 Horseshoe Pits Sandbox BBQ Grill</p> <p><b>W.A.A. Playground (Mini-Park)(1)</b></p> <p><b>.5 Acres</b></p> <p>2 Adult Swings 2 Baby Swings Playscape w/3 Slides, fireman's pole, 2 climbers Shelter Picnic Table 1 Park bench</p>	

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>7 (continued)</b>		<b>Kiwanis Playground (Mini-Park) (1)</b>  <b>.6 Acres</b>  4 Baby Swings 6 Adult Swings Drinking Fountain Shelter Sandbox Concrete Pad 4 Permanent Park Benches Wood Fence 1 Picnic Tables 4 Park Benches Playscape w/3 slides and horizontal ladder	<b>8.6 Acres</b>

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>8</b>		<b>Exchange Playground (1)</b>  <b>3.2 Acres</b>  Wood Fence Teeter-Totter 4 Baby Swings 6 Big Swings Sandbox w/Sand Shovel Shelter Playscape w/5 Slides, horizontal ladder, fireman's pole 2 Park Benches 4 Spring-Riding Animals Shelter 2 Picnic Tables Basketball Court w/2 Standards 10ft Slide Merry-go-round Drinking Fountain	<b>3.2 Acres</b>

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Garfield Elementary (1)</b></p> <p><b>2.8 Acres</b></p> <p>Wood Fence  Playscape with 10 units and  2 Slides  3 Tot Swings  6 Big Swings  3 Climb Around  Funnel Ball Goal  2 Basketball Standards  2 Park Benches  Gymnasium</p>	<p><b>Jaycee Park (1)</b></p> <p><b>2.5 Acres</b></p> <p>Wood Fence  6 Adult Swings  4 Baby Swings  Playscape w/2 slides, fireman's pole,  4 climbers, horizontal ladder, rubber surfacing  5 Park Benches  2 Picnic Tables  Shelter</p> <p><b>Federal Square (Mini-Park)</b></p> <p><b>.4 Acres</b>  <i>(No recreation facilities.)</i>  4 Park Benches  Wooded</p> <p><b>K of C Tot Lot (Mini-Park) (1)</b></p> <p><b>.3 Acres</b></p> <p>Fencing  8' Slide  2 Climbers  Sandbox  4 Park Benches  Merry-Go-Round  4 Baby Swings  Picnic Table  2 Spring-riding Animals  Spiral Slide  Shelter  Drinking Fountain</p>	<p><b>6.0 Acres</b></p>

Neighborhood	School Board	City-Owned	Total Acres
<b>10</b>		<p data-bbox="833 243 1360 279"><b>McKinley Playground (2)</b></p> <p data-bbox="833 327 1360 363"><b>6.1 Acres</b></p> <p data-bbox="833 411 1360 867"> Wood Fence  Shelter  6 Adult Swings  4 Baby Swings  Playscape w/5 Slides, climber, horizontal ladder  Ballfield Backstop  4 Basketball Backboards w/Goals  1 Tennis Courts  Funnel Ball  Jungle Gym  3 Climbers </p> <p data-bbox="833 915 1360 951"><b>Rotary Park (1)</b></p> <p data-bbox="833 999 1360 1035"><b>0.29 Acres</b></p> <p data-bbox="833 1083 1360 1266"> Playscape w/5 slides, horizontal ladder, climber  Picnic Table  Wood Fencing  2 Basketball Backboard w/goals  Adult Swing Set with 4 swings </p> <p data-bbox="833 1314 1360 1350"><b>Green Belt Park</b></p> <p data-bbox="833 1398 1360 1434"><b>6.8 Acres</b></p> <p data-bbox="833 1482 1360 1518">Currently an open green space with trees</p>	<b>13.2Acres</b>

Community	School Board	City-Owned	Total
South	<p><b>Roosevelt High School (2)</b></p> <p><b>21.2 Acres</b></p> <p>Football Stadium 1/4 Mile Running Track 5 Tennis Courts Practice football, soccer &amp; and fitness area Swimming Pool</p> <p><b>JO BRIGHTON CENTER (2)</b></p> <p><b>12.4 Acres</b></p> <p>Gymnasium Permanent Collapsible Bleachers Soccer Field</p>	<p><b>Memorial Park (Community Park) (2)</b></p> <p><b>33.8 Acres</b></p> <p>4 Baby Swings 7 Adult Swings and 1 Handicap Swing Concrete Basketball Court w/2 rims Shelter Lighted Softball Diamond w/fence bleachers and benches Lighted Baseball Diamond w/fence, lights, dugout, pressbox and storage Baseball Diamond w/fence, benches, and backstop 2 Electric Scoreboards Sand Box Concession and 2 Restroom Buildings 5 Permanent Park Benches 4 Drinking Fountains Permanent Bleachers Multiple Youth Soccer Fields Playscape w/4 slides, fireman's pole, and climber 1.3 Mile Walking/Jogging Track Outdoor Ice Rink 2 Picnic Tables Nine hole Disc Golf Course Skatepark</p>	<p><b>67.4 Acres</b></p>

Community	School Board	City-Owned	Total
CITY WIDE		<p><b>BISHOP PARK (Community Park) (2)</b>  <b>12.2 Acres</b></p> <p>7 Adult Swings and 1 Handicap Swing  Merry-Go-Round  8 Baby Swings  2 Climbers  Handicap Accessible Playscape w/10 Units  Misc. Tot Lot Equipment  Fishing Pier  Picnic Tables, Benches, Grills  Restrooms/Concession Building  w/cement patio &amp; picnic tables  Two Pavillions  Log Cabin  Irrigation System  Cement &amp; Wood Walking  Paths  Boardwalk  Handicap Accessible Kayak Launch  Drinking Fountain</p> <p><b>BASF WATERFRONT PARK (Community Park) (2)</b>  <b>24 Acres</b></p> <p>Amphitheater  Concession Stand/Restrooms  1500' Waterfront Promenade  Wyandotte Boat Club Rowing  Facility with Ramp  4 Over the Water Viewing  Nodes  Kayak Launch</p> <p><b>WYANDOTTE SHORES GOLF COURSE</b>  <b>60 Acres</b></p> <p>9 Hole Golf Course Par 36</p>	<p><b>96.2 Acres</b></p>

### *Additional Citywide Recreational Facilities*

**Municipal Boat Ramp (2):** Public boat launching ramp (2 acres) on the Detroit River, just north of St. Johns, and is leased out on a yearly basis.

**Yack Arena (3):** Large indoor ice arena/convention center with a concession stand, locker rooms, and restrooms. During the spring/summer months (ice is taken off), the arena is available for rent and has been used for various festivals, trade shows, flea markets, circuses, concerts, wrestling, and mma events. The Yack Arena is located 3131 Third Street, is convenient to parking and the Central Business District. The Yack Arena sits on approximately 1.4 acres of land.

As a skating rink, the Yack serves host to hockey and figure skating leagues of all skill levels, as well as open skating for all ages. The Yack Arena adds considerably to the citywide recreation offerings and, in fact, probably offsets to a considerable degree the “shortfall” of citywide recreation land in the city. Approximately 250,000 people visit the Yack yearly.

**Copeland Center (2):** Located at 2306 Fourth Street, the Copeland Center serves as a multi-purpose building which is used by several different groups, primarily the senior citizens. The seniors use it as a drop-in social center for lunch, cards, billiards, bingo, art and exercise classes, and dances. The building also serves as a meeting site for youth organizations such as the Wyandotte Indians and Wyandotte Braves and other non-profit groups such as the Wyandotte Jaycees.

**City of Wyandotte Owned Facilities Chart**

	Play Area	Shelter	Restroom	Ballfields	Soccer Fields	Tennis Courts	Basketball Courts	Drinking Fountain	Beach Volleyball	Disc Golf	Dog Park	Pickleball Courts
V.F.W Park	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Oak Club Park	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Pulaski Park	1	1	1	4	0	4	2	3	0	0	0	0
Lions Club Park	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PACC Park	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
FOP Park	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
WAA Park	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kiwanis Park	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Exchange Park	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Jaycee Park	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
KofC Tot Lot	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
McKinley Playground	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Rotary Park	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Memorial Park	1	2	2	3	6	0	1	4	0	1	0	0
Bishop Park	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
BASF Park	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Green Belt Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Wyandotte Public School District Owned Facilities Chart**

	Play Area	Tennis Courts	Basketball Courts	Swimming Pool	Gymnasium	Football Fields	Ball Fields
Monroe Elementary	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Washington Elementary	1	0	2	0	1	0	0
Jefferson Elementary	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Wilson Middle School	0	2	1	1	2	1	2
Lincoln Center	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Garfield Elementary	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Roosevelt High School	0	7	0	1	3	1	0
Jo Brighton Center	1	0	0	0	1	0	0

*INSERT CITY MAP WITH PLAYGROUNDS*

## WYANDOTTE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

### CITY OWNED PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, FACILITIES

BASF Waterfront Park  
Bishop Park  
Exchange Club Park  
F.O.P.  
Federal Square  
Frostic Park  
Green Belt Park  
Jaycee Park/Copeland Center  
K of C Tot Lot  
Kiwanis Club Park  
Lions Club Park  
McKinley Playground  
Memorial Park  
Municipal Boat Ramp  
Oak Club Park  
PAC Club Park.  
Pulaski Park  
Rotary Club Park  
V.F.W. Park  
W.A.A. Park  
Wyandotte Shores Golf Course  
Yack Arena

### SCHOOL LOCATIONS

Garfield Elementary  
Jefferson Elementary  
Jo Brighton Center  
Lincoln Center  
Monroe Elementary  
Roosevelt High School  
Washington Elementary  
Wilson Middle School

## *Regional Recreation*

Nearby regional recreational sites are provided by the Huron-Clinton Metro Park System, the Wayne County Parks System, and private entities. These Park Systems fulfill some of the recreational needs of our citizens that we are unable to provide within our city limits, such as hiking trails, bike trails, campsites, nature and wildlife areas. The Park Systems are also used for winter outdoor activities which include tobogganing, hill sledding, and cross country skiing. Private transportation is needed to reach most of these sites and it is not always possible or affordable for our citizens. State parks are normally further away and the transportation to reach them is the same as with the regional parks. Therefore, the city recreational facilities attempt to provide the best available recreational opportunities possible.

### **REGIONAL RECREATION INVENTORY**

The City of Wyandotte lies within a fifteen mile radius of a large number of regional recreational area and facilities within Wayne County. These include, among others, state parks and game areas, regional bikeways, boat launches, State Game area and profession sporting venues.

#### **RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN WAYNE COUNTY:**

- |     |                                 |     |                              |
|-----|---------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|
| 1.  | Comerica Park                   | 16. | Detroit Zoo                  |
| 2.  | Ford Field                      | 17. | Belle Isle                   |
| 3.  | Little Casears Arena            | 18. | Elizabeth Park Marina        |
| 4.  | Fox Theater                     | 19. | Humbug Marina                |
| 5.  | Cobo Center                     | 20. | Belleville Lake              |
| 6.  | Pointe Mouillee State Game Area | 21. | DNR Outdoor Adventure Center |
| 7.  | Lake Erie Metropark             |     |                              |
| 8.  | Oakwoods Metro Park             |     |                              |
| 9.  | Lower Huron Metro Park          |     |                              |
| 10. | Willow Metro Park               |     |                              |
| 11. | Detroit Riverwalk               |     |                              |
| 12. | I-275 Metro Trail               |     |                              |
| 13. | Lower Rouge River Trail         |     |                              |
| 14. | Hines Park Trail                |     |                              |
| 15. | Maybury State Park              |     |                              |

## *Park Land Acquisitions and Improvements Funded by DNR Grants*

### **Exchange Park 1967**

**Grant # 26-00144**

Grant funds were used to install a baseball backstop in the southeast corner of the park, grade and seed the land, and a LWCF sign. In 2010, due to the deteriorating condition and the discontinued use as a baseball field, the backstop was removed. The area now sits as an open green space in the park.

### **Wyandotte City Parks 1967**

**Grant #26-00053**

Grant funds were used to install fencing, picnic and playground equipment, a drinking fountain, landscaping, parking area, storm sewer system, preparation of plans, and a LWCF sign. Due to the generality of the description, hard to know what park this is. It is safe to say that any picnic or playground equipment installed in 1967 was replaced with more modern equipment in the past 20 years.

### **Memorial Park 1969**

**Grant #26-00145**

Grant funds were used in the development of two park shelters, safety fencing, bleacher control fencing, and a LWCF sign. The fencing around the playground and shelter areas was converted to wooden split rail fencing in the early 1990s as were the majority of the parks in the city. The metal cyclone fencing around the baseball fields remains. The shelters remain and have had the roofs repaired/replaced (converted from shingles to steel roof).

### **Kiwanis Park 1969**

**Grant #26-00142**

Grant funds were used to develop a basketball court and pelletize under playground equipment, and a LWCF sign. The basketball concrete court remains, but the basketball poles were removed in the early 1990s due to unruly basketball participants. The court may be used in the future to create two Pickleball courts. The pellets under the playground equipment have been removed and replaced with certified playground woodchips.

### **P.A.C.C. Park 1969**

Grant funds were used to build a shelter and install a LWCF sign. Shelter roof has been repaired and replaced (converted from shingles to steel roof).

**Ford City Tot Lot 1971**                      **Grant#26-00203**

Grant funds used to acquire .27 acres of land. Park was developed into a Tot Lot and was updated in the past five years with the addition of new swings, a shelter, drinking fountain, and climber. Older equipment includes a sandbox, two slides, picnic tables and benches, and a merry-go-round. Park is now renamed K of C Tot Lot.

**P.A.C.C. Park 1977**                      **Grant #26-01023 X**

Grant funds were used to install fencing along the railroad property, install two lighted tennis courts, and install a LWCF sign. The fencing is still being used and in decent shape, however, the tennis courts have been removed. Due to a lack of play, the courts were converted to a roller hockey facility. Due to the deterioration of the concrete, the courts were ultimately removed and turned into a green space with several trees planted.

**Pulaski Park 1977**                      **Grant #26-00897**

Grant funds were used to develop a basketball court with lighting, add lighting to an adjacent court, and install a LWCF sign. The lighting no longer works on the two courts. The courts have been updated several times, most recently in 2013 with new concrete, poles, and rims through a Wayne County Parks grant.

**Bishop Park 1983**                      **Grant #26-01252**

Grant funds were used for the burial of overhead power lines, the development of a handicap accessible fishing pier, restroom and concession building, and a LWCF sign. The fishing pier is still very heavily used on a daily basis by fishermen. The restroom and concession building are open during the months of April through October

**Wyandotte Boat Ramp 1984**              **Grant #TF791**

Grant funds were used to acquire three lots totaling about 1/3 of an acre for additional parking. Land is still used for parking.

**Bishop Park 1986**                      **Grant #26-01451**

Grant funds were used to build a group shelter/band shell. The shelter is still heavily used today by groups hosting picnics, birthday parties, concerts, and other events in the park.

**Wyandotte Boat Ramp 1987**              **Grant #TF87-255**

Grant funds were used to acquire three parcels of land less than an acre in size to expand the boat ramp parking lot. Land is still used for the parking lot for the boat ramp.

**Wilson Field 1989****Grant #BF89-194**

Grant funds were used to develop 5.9 acres of land north of Wilson Middle School including two tennis courts, 1/3 mile walking track, basketball court, baseball field, two tennis courts, landscaping and irrigation. This park is maintained by the school district and is used by the middle school athletic teams as well as gym classes. The baseball fields are maintained by the city. All amenities are heavily used. The tennis courts have been converted to a street hockey court and two pickleball courts due to a lack of use.

**Yack Arena 1989****Grant #BF89-368**

Grant funds were used for the complete renovation of two restrooms and locker rooms at the Yack Arena. Updates included new plumbing and lighting, doors and door frames, flooring, and paint. Facilities were in good working order and heavily used until 2006. In 2006, the Yack Arena underwent a total renovation and everything in the building was replaced.

**Memorial Pool 1990****Grant #BF90-084**

Grant funds were used for the renovation of the pool included making the building, pool, and locker rooms handicap accessible. Other renovations included improvement to make the facility more energy efficient and various safety items. In 2005, Memorial Pool was closed due to the deteriorating conditions of the pumps and piping needed to operate the pool. In 2013, the facility was traded with the school district in exchange for the former McKinley Elementary.

**BASF Park 1992****Grant #BF92-041**

Grant funds were used for the development of the park. 1500 feet of sheet piling, brick paved boardwalk, lighting, trees, park benches, permanent trash cans were installed. This is a very popular passive park that is very heavily used by walkers, runners, bicyclists, and serves as a site for many formal photos (weddings, prom, homecoming, etc.).

**BASF Park 1993****Grant #BF93-166**

Grant funds were used for continued development of the park. Additional trees, storm drains, asphalt walkways, a parking lot with lighting, landscaping, and park inspection were all funded through the grant. This is a very popular passive park that is very heavily used by walkers, runners, bicyclists, and serves as a site for many formal photos (weddings, prom, homecoming, etc.). In 1998, two beach volleyball courts were added to the park.

## *The Planning Process*

In the planning process, many city and school system officials were contacted. Meetings were held with those persons and with private interest groups. The Superintendent of Recreation held meetings and discussions with the following: the Operations Supervisor, the Director of Athletics, and the Superintendent of Wyandotte Public Schools, the City Engineer, and the Recreation Commission seeking their input into the plan. The City Council was also asked to provide input before their approval of the plan.

Public input was also sought out for inclusion in this plan. On June 6th, 2018, a public input meeting was held at the Yack Arena to address recreation concerns and collect ideas for future developments and/or renovations. The meeting was announced on local cable during multiple City Council meetings, advertised on the Wyandotte Recreation Department Facebook page, and advertised at City Hall, Copeland Recreation Center, and Yack Arena bulletin boards. Individual discussions between the Superintendent and citizens also took place.

On November 20, 2018, a rough draft of the Recreation Master Plan was posted to the city's website and hard copies were made available for review in the Recreation office. On January 3, 2019 a Public Review meeting was held seeking comments and/or questions from the public regarding the Recreation Master Plan.

Each playground/park was reviewed and an extensive inventory of each park was recorded.

The results of the park reviews and input from the public, government and school officials led to ideas for future improvements and additions to our playground facilities and parks. These improvements and additions will provide for not only different recreation opportunities, but more enjoyable recreation opportunities for the citizens of Wyandotte. These ideas are included in the upcoming **Action Program**.

## Goals and Objectives

In terms of “parks and recreation”, the city of Wyandotte is at a crossroads. Even though the community is losing population, has a declining number of households, and the number of schools have been reduced (both public and private), Wyandotte is still considered an attractive place to live, work, and recreate. In order to satisfy current residents and remain attractive to non-residents, the Recreation Department needs to consider improvements and new developments that will improve the quality of life in Wyandotte.

Based on the input received, several goals have been established to help improve the parks and recreation opportunities in Wyandotte. These goals include previously envisioned improvements as well as new improvements and developments that can help to improve the overall image and sustainability of the Wyandotte community. These goals include:

- **Goal #1** Acquiring land when possible for recreation purposes
  - **Objective:** Expansion of current parks/playgrounds or to develop new parks/playgrounds that will create recreation opportunities that will reduce the neighborhood park deficiencies
  
- **Goal #2** Improving our current recreation facilities so that they may be enjoyed by persons of all ages and abilities
  - **Objective:** Renovate current parks/playgrounds/ballfields and/or develop new parks/playgrounds that meet ADA guidelines to expand the recreational opportunities for all residents
  - **Objective:** Renovate current parks/playgrounds/ballfields and/or develop new parks/playgrounds that will allow users of all ages to enjoy our facilities
  
- **Goal #3** To provide the maximum amount of use of the parks and recreation facilities to the residents of Wyandotte
  - **Objective:** Improve the park availability and amenities to users through the addition of lighting and other additions
  
- **Goal #4** To provide the maximum amount of recreational opportunities to the residents of Wyandotte

- **Objective:** Maintain the current level of recreation programming and options while finding ways to create new recreational opportunities for residents
  
- **Goal #5** Effectively provide funding for the development and maintenance of recreation facilities and programs
  - **Objective:** When possible, collect user fees to help offset the cost of programs and improvements
  - **Objective:** Seek grants, donations, and other funding sources to fund programming and improvement projects
  
- **Goal #6** Seek opportunities to work with neighboring recreation agencies to provide programming and facilities that are beneficial for the area
  - **Objective:** Work with nearby recreation agencies to share programming or services to build strong programs and sustainable facilities

## **Action Program**

The following section contains plans for the future of the parks, playgrounds, and programming for the city of Wyandotte. The plan has been broken down into three categories: Neighborhood, Community, and City-Wide recreation.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD 1: Madison School**

In 2013, Madison School was sold to a private firm and is no longer owned by the school district. The building and surrounding land (playground included) now belongs to the new owner. Memorial Park abuts the school site and the north end of this park is central to that neighborhood and the tot lot area is, fortunately, located at the north end of the park.

The acquisition or lease of the land south of the old Madison School building (includes a handicap playground area) should be considered to negate the lack of handicap accessible playground equipment. The Madison School site abuts the Memorial Park (city wide facility) and the acquisition or lease of this site would for the most part, satisfy much of Wyandotte's city wide recreation demand.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD 2: Monroe School and VFW Park**

A 6.9 acre site at the Monroe Elementary School serves this area and the V.F.W. Playground, a 5.6 acre facility, is also located at the eastern edge. Updating and installing new equipment should be considered to maximize the facilities available in this neighborhood. While both VFW and Monroe sites use certified playground woodchips as their base, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities. VFW could use the addition of pathways to make the play areas, baseball diamond, and drinking fountain more accessible. The basketball court should be resurfaced. Some additional landscaping should be planted in this park to beautify the area as well as create a barrier between the park and the industrial business located to the south. Also, the installation of some permanent composite picnic tables and park benches would make the park more friendly for families. The soccer field that was no longer used and we had our first dog park built. Currently it is just a fenced in area with restricted use to members only, enhancements such as trees for shade and equipment for the dogs to play on should be considered. The baseball diamond could use concrete or asphalt paths to the bleacher area.

The baseball field at Monroe could use improved field surfacing, permanent bleachers, covered dugouts, handicap seating, and a drinking fountain should be added to enhance this area.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD 3: Oak Club Playground**

This 1.7 acre site is well located to serve the western part of the neighborhood but is less than the minimum desirable size for a complete playground. Expansion is probably not economically possible because of the number and quality of the surrounding homes, but every effort should be made to expand the site to include the entire block if circumstances ever permit such action. Such expansion would provide a total of 2.1 acres.

The Oak Club Playground is in need of modern equipment. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities. The basketball court should be resurfaced. Trees could be planted and some landscaping would beautify the park. The construction of beach volleyball courts, pickleball courts, horseshoe pits, and/or a tot lot play area would provide for more park participation.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD 3: Washington School**

Similarly, it would be difficult to expand the Washington School site but it should remain as a long-range proposal; either to the south to include the Superior Boulevard right-of-way to provide 4.1 more acres (making a total of 7.6) or east toward Twelfth Street as far as economics permit. These proposals would still leave the neighborhood some 4.4 acres short of its projected need. The deficiency could be considered offset by an excess of neighborhood recreation in the adjacent Neighborhood 4 (Vinewood, which separates these two neighborhoods, is not a serious barrier).

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD 4: Pulaski and Lions Club Park**

Pulaski Park is in the center of Neighborhood 4 and it, alone, is slightly larger than is required to meet the needs of the Neighborhood. Acquisition of the remainder of the block of Walnut Street would add 2.3 acres to the existing 13 acre site. Improvements are needed for the Pulaski Park facility in order to bring it to its optimum development. There is a definite need of increased parking for this frequently used site. Replacement of the deteriorated irrigation system for the four ballfields and a drainage system is needed because of its great demand and use. Converting the last remaining slag ballfield to a more user friendly material and relocating it to avoid interruptions with some of the other fields would increase the field usage. The installation of permanent composite picnic tables and park benches, barbeque grills, and a beach volleyball court will increase family usage. The tennis court lighting system should also be replaced. The addition of lighting around the walking track that runs through the park could make the park more user friendly after sunset and before closing time. The overhead electrical lines that bisect the park area should be placed underground. They currently go through the picnic and playground area. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of most of the playground area, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities. Also, the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways to the play areas would make the areas more accessible.

Lions Club Park was recently developed and expanded in the last three years. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD 5: Jefferson Playground**

The Jefferson Playground area is in need of landscaping and trees. The basketball court needs to be resurfaced and the area adjacent to the court should be landscaped. Recently, the school added a parking lot to some of the existing green space, but there is still a decent section of green space remaining. Tennis courts, pickleball courts, or a beach volleyball court would be a nice addition to the to this green space. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to

a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD 5: Wilson Field**

Replacing the fencing around the tennis courts, the installation of permanent composite benches, and repaving the walking/running track would help to increase park use.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD 6: Lincoln Center**

The playground of the former Taft Elementary School should include permanent rubber surfacing and more handicap accessible equipment. After Taft Elementary closed, the school district renamed the building the Lincoln Center; the building serves the mentally and physically handicapped youth.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD 6: P.A.C. Club Park**

The P.A.C. Club Playground facility (4.8 acres) is in need of additional landscaping and tree planting which would be beneficial to this park. The basketball court needs resurfacing and a permanent set of bleachers near the court should be installed for spectator's use. The playscape needs to be updated. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities. Additional landscaping should be installed to enhance the park. The full sized soccer field that is no longer used could be converted to tennis courts, beach volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, pickleball courts, a dog park, or a walking/running track with exercise stations.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD 7: FOP, WAA, and Kiwanis Parks**

This area contains F.O.P. Park, W.A.A. Park and the Kiwanis Park. The F.O.P. Playground is the biggest of the three and is near the center of the neighborhood, while W.A.A. and Kiwanis Parks are of smaller stature.

The Kiwanis Park needs a new sandbox and general improvements to the landscaping. A beach volleyball court could enhance the park, however, the land is contaminated and any digging needs to be approved by the State. The old concrete slab for the basketball court could be redone for the addition

of a basketball court, pickleball court, etc. The recommendation that the surface be built with a curb around it with proper drainage so that in the winter, an ice rink could be created should be considered. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities. Installing permanent composite benches and picnic tables, and replacing the drinking fountain would also enhance the use of the facility.

The W. A. A. Playground is in need of a drinking fountain along with some landscaping and newer equipment. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities.

F.O.P. Park has plenty of open space and amenities and the addition of beach volleyball court, additional pickleball courts, barbeque grills, and permanent composite benches and picnic tables should be considered to attract more family use. A walking/running path through the park would bring more use to the park. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the playground equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities.

### ***NEIGHBORHOOD 8: Exchange Club and K of C Tot Lot Parks***

The Exchange Club Playground (3.2 acres) is the main facility in this area. This neighborhood suffers a serious shortage of recreation land. The possibility for another neighborhood park, possibly within the ongoing Labadie Park development should be given great consideration to help reduce the shortage of land. The installation of permanent composite park benches and picnic tables, and additional play equipment would be an enhancement at this park. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities. A running/walking track along the perimeter of this park could enhance its use.

The K of C Tot Lot was developed between McKinley & Fourth Streets, north of Ford Avenue. Currently, the park is divided into two halves, divided by an alley. Serious consideration should be

given to closing the western half and putting the land up for sale for development. The eastern half has been expanded when the home to the south was demolished. The park now contains a shelter and a drinking fountain. The addition of permanent composite benches and a picnic table would help enhance the park. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities.

***NEIGHBORHOOD 9: Jaycee, Frostic, and Rotary Club Parks and Federal Square***

The Jaycee Playground is a 2.5 acre site that serves this neighborhood's playground demand. The William R. Copeland Center was constructed on the 4th Street side and serves as a Senior Citizen Center as well as a meeting hall for various local organizations. There is a need for additional trees. The playscape has permanent rubber surfacing, but certified playground woodchips serve as the base for the swings and merry-go-round. Converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities.

Frostic Park is a small open area just north of the Copeland Center. Frostic Park features several benches and two statues. It is considered a passive park.

Federal Square is a small open area on Spruce between 4th & 5th Streets. It, like several other small sites in public courts, could be given treatment to help meet the passive recreational needs of a neighborhood; however, the cost of maintaining such facilities often makes them questionable.

Rotary Club Park is a one acre park and is located adjacent to the St. Joseph Church parking lot. It satisfies the need for the neighborhood in a small way, but none the less, provides for a great need. If expansion of the site becomes a possibility, full consideration should be given to this effort. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD 10: McKinley School Playground**

The McKinley School building was acquired in 2013 from the school district in a facility swap (the city took ownership of the McKinley building and the school district took ownership of the Memorial Pool facility). Currently the city is taking proposals for the building which could include the sale of the land (including the playground area). For the purpose of this plan, we will proceed as if the land will not be sold. Additional play equipment is needed for the playground area. A soccer field could be developed with goals in the open space area. The basketball courts should be resurfaced and an additional parking area should be considered. The single tennis court could be converted to two pickleball courts. Certified playground woodchips serve as the base of the equipment, converting to a more permanent surfacing such as poured in place rubber and the addition of concrete or asphalt pathways could make the play areas more accessible to those with disabilities.

**NORTH COMMUNITY:** This area is composed generally of Neighborhoods 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. A deficiency in land for recreation purposes does exist, but because of the built up conditions of the area, we should preclude an active pursuit of acquiring land at this time. With that being said, there is an area located north of Goddard and west of River Rd. (also known as Beaver Park) that could be pursued as a possible location for an additional dog park within the city if the demand ever arises. Within Neighborhood 7, east of the railroad tracks and north of Goddard there are no parks that are accessible without children needing to crossover the railroad tracks. As a safety measure, land within the Labadie Park district should be considered for acquisition for a park/playground area.

**SOUTH COMMUNITY:** This area is composed generally of Neighborhoods 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10 and this area is primarily serviced by Memorial Park. Memorial Park is the most substantial of the city parks - comprising some 34 acres.

The acquisition or lease of the property south of the former Madison School (including the playground area) should be considered in a future development plan.

The addition of permanent, outdoor exercise stations spaced sporadically around the 1 mile walking/running track would make the park all the more enticing to those looking to exercise. The

addition of lighting around the track could make the park more user friendly after sunset and before closing time. The renovation of the main baseball field, including lighting, fencing, and turfing the field should be considered to increase use.

The Skatepark is now 15 years old and is beginning to age. There are some pieces of equipment that are beginning to rust. The entire Skatepark could use paint (with a specific “gripping” paint designed for Skateparks). The pursuit of grants and outside funding to rebuild the Skatepark and having it be all concrete instead of metal ramps should be considered.

### **CITY-WIDE FACILITIES**

**Bishop Park:** This facility sits on the Detroit River and is directly contiguous to the Wyandotte Central Business District. In terms of the park itself, there are a number of proposals that should be considered in the development of the facility.

The majority of the wood benches in the park have been replaced with composite benches, which require virtually no maintenance. Continuing the replacement of the wooden benches and picnic tables with composite ones would improve the park and cut down on maintenance time and costs.

Some consideration should be given to the installation of additional concrete walks throughout the park in order to make it more readily accessible to the handicapped. Updating and adding to the existing grills would encourage more family picnics in the park. Some of the older playground equipment should be update. In 2005, a new playscape with permanent rubber surfacing and a second pavilion was installed. Currently, there are several benches for adults to sit on as they watch their children play. The addition of permanent adult exercise stations surrounding the playscape should be considered to help enhance the park.

If deemed safe, a 10' wide asphalt path from Van Alstyne to the adaptive kayak launch (so that handicap persons could drop off their kayaking equipment) could be installed and it would aid in the servicing of the park (maintenance vehicles). This path would only be used by maintenance vehicles or handicap persons using the kayak launch.

The development of a transient marina could also be favorable to not only the park, but the downtown business district. Boat slips for small fishing boats and larger recreation boats will be included. A facility with restrooms, washers and dryers, as well as a pump out station should also be considered. The marina will not only be an attraction for recreational use, but could also serve as a safe haven for those boaters caught on the water during inclement weather.

In the far realm of planning, any additional property that could be acquired adjacent to the park in any direction would greatly enhance and make our existing park facility more viable to the citizens.

**Boat Ramp:** It would be advantageous to purchase additional surrounding land for parking to take care of the overflow of vehicle parking (during peak times, some boaters need to park across the Biddle Avenue behind a business in a city lot. The restroom facilities should be modernized and made handicap accessible. The parking lot is deteriorating and should be repaved. The addition of solar panels to the roof of the boat ramp building should be considered.

**Grassy Island** - Roughly 72 acres in size, this island had been in the process of being filled (reclaimed) by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers in previous years. It is owned by the U.S. Department of the Interior but was incorporated into the city limits of Wyandotte through an Act of Congress in the late 1950's and, by another Act of Congress, declared as the Wyandotte National Wildlife Refuge in 1961. Migratory wildlife feed on the submerged celery beds during their flights twice each year and the site may not be commercialized or industrialized; however, it may be developed for recreational use (with proper authorization) by the City of Wyandotte, the County of Wayne or either the State of Michigan or the federal government itself. Because it will require some time yet for the fill to be completed and for the fill material to settle enough for the land surface to support people, it is automatically in the longer-range plan rather than the short-range one. Regardless of which governmental agency develops the island, it could provide some unique recreational opportunities within the City of Wyandotte.

**BASF Waterfront Park and the Wyandotte Shores Golf Course:** The former BASF industrial site was leased to the City and a 24 acre park and a nine-hole championship golf course were

constructed and completed in 1995/1996. Consideration should be given to acquiring the vacant industrial land south of the golf course to construct several practice holes with a driving range, a miniature putting course, and passive park opportunities. If feasible, a solar garden should be constructed in an unused portion of the golf course (northeast corner) to help offset the high costs of charging the electric golf carts daily.

In BASF Park, an acoustical backdrop could be used for concerts and special events and the park could use additional park amenities. The number of people who kayak the Detroit River has been on the rise. Currently there is one area in BASF Park to launch kayaks, unfortunately, that area can only accommodate a single able bodied kayaker at a time. Consideration should be given to creating a larger kayak launch that can meet the needs of kayakers of all abilities.

**Copeland Center:** The Copeland Center opened in 1974. In early 2014, the original tile floor and a sliding room partition were replaced. Other updates that should be considered include energy saving measures. The installation of solar panels on the roof and the installation of a drop ceiling in the main gathering room to help reduce energy costs. The building's sound system is nearly 40 years old and should be replaced.

**Yack Arena:** In 2006 the arena underwent a \$3 million dollar renovation, however, the building could still use some improvements. Storage at the arena (for tables/chairs/staging during the ice season and for hockey boards/benches/glass during off-ice season) is nearly non-existent. Many of these necessities are stored offsite (two miles away) and need to be delivered to the arena. Adding on to the building for additional storage space is highly suggested to have everything needed for arena operations onsite.

As the various groups that use the arena for skating purposes (high school hockey teams, hockey association, figure skating club) have begun to do more off-ice activities, it has become apparent that the Yack does not have adequate space to accommodate these activities. A possible addition to the building should be considered to try and accommodate these activities.

## **ADDITIONAL CITY-WIDE RECREATION PROJECTS**

**Linked Bicycle Paths:** The development of a series of bike paths throughout the city should be pursued. These paths would take users on a tour of Wyandotte and would serve as a fun and healthy way for people to get a closer view of our city. The tour would provide a brief overview of some of Wyandotte's history. The paths could include stops by many of our historical homes and buildings, various monuments, parks, businesses, etc. throughout the city. Each location could be designated with a plaque giving a brief description of the location.

These paths could ultimately travel to the boundaries of the city, and in the future provide a means to link us to neighboring cities.

**Multi-use Recreation Facility:** The pursuit of developing a multi-use recreation facility should be considered. Currently, the city lacks its own gymnasium, pool, and fitness facility. The city relies on its excellent working relationship with the school district for access to these facilities. Unfortunately, access to these the school facilities are often restricted due to conflicts with many school run activities. A facility of our own would allow us to offer year round swimming lessons, open swimming, water aerobics, basketball and volleyball programs, as well as a place for residents to exercise in.

A possible location for such a facility could be one of the city owned parking lots adjacent to the Yack Arena. Using one of these lots to build such a facility would create a parking problem and consequently, additional parking would need to be acquired (perhaps through construction of a parking structure).

### **SUMMARY OF THE ACTION PROGRAM**

Based upon the goals and objectives identified and neighborhood needs, certain cost estimates and priorities should be defined. There is a need for flexibility even as pursuit of these goals is made; without the goals and an "action plan", however, there is a tendency to let things drift. A community must budget for the majority of its services and recreation is universally accepted as one of the services demanded by the public today - accordingly, it should receive fair consideration in any city's budget process. Certain state and federal grant programs are available and should not be overlooked as one means to achieve the community's goals. The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and Recreation Passport are the most active grants available for recreation today. In addition, Community Development funds can be used for this area of public service development.

This plan looks to address some of the areas where needs or wants have been expressed. The addition of pickleball courts, an actual splash pad/water park, the pursuit of a transient marina, bicycle paths, etc. as well as making the parks and playgrounds more accessible for those with disabilities are all goals that this program hopes to achieve.

**ACTION PLAN**  
**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE**

**2019 Capital Improvement Program**

Category	Year	Project	Estimated Cost
1	2019	Playground Surfacing and Accessibility Improvements	\$75,000
1	2019	Baseball/Softball Diamond Upgrades	\$25,000
2	2019	Bishop Park bench replacement	\$10,000
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$110,000</b>

**2020 Capital Improvement Program**

Category	Year	Project	Estimated Cost
3	2020	Transient Marina at Bishop Park	\$3,000,000
1	2020	Playground Surfacing and Accessibility Improvements	\$75,000
1	2020	Baseball/Softball Diamond Surface Upgrades	\$10,000
2	2020	Bishop Park bench replacement and playground improvements	\$50,000
1	2020	Park Additions – Volleyball, Pickleball, Etc.	\$95,000
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$3,230,000</b>

**2021 Capital Improvement Program**

Category	Year	Project	Estimated Cost
2	2021	Memorial Skatepark Improvements	\$50,000
1	2021	Playground Surfacing and Accessibility Improvements	\$75,000
1	2021	Memorial Baseball Field Renovations	\$1,250,000
1	2021	Park Additions – Volleyball, Pickleball, Etc.	\$95,000
2	2021	Yack Arena Additions	\$250,000
3	2021	Kayak Launch	\$100,000
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,820,000</b>

### 2022 Capital Improvement Program

Category	Year	Project	Estimated Cost
2	2022	Multi-use Recreation Facility	\$3,000,000
1		Playground Surfacing and Accessibility Improvements	\$75,000
1	2022	Park Additions – Splash Pad/Water Park	\$300,000
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$3,120,000</b>

### 2023 Capital Improvement Program

Category	Year	Project	Estimated Cost
1	2023	Playground Surfacing and Accessibility Improvements	\$75,000
2	2023	Bicycle Paths	\$250,000
1	2023	Park Additions – Volleyball, Pickleball, Etc.	\$95,000
1	2023	Land Acquisition and Park Construction (Labadie District)	\$200,000
1	2023	Wilson and Pulaski Walking Track Resurfacing	\$150,000
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$770,000</b>

Category 1 = Neighborhood Parks

Category 2 = Community Wide Parks/Facilities

Category 3 = Waterfront

Attachments to this Recreation Plan indicate the many and varied offerings of the City's Recreation Department and are included to illustrate how a community uses such programs to offset what would otherwise be considered major shortcomings so far as available recreation land is concerned. Of considerable importance is the effort in recent years to provide supervised recreation as well as social activities for the physically handicapped; in this area, Wyandotte has set a fine example and has pioneered for the Downriver Area.

Items presented for "Immediate" action may, of course, have to wait their turn for available funding; similarly, items given a 5-year, 10-year or long range priority may be advanced through opportunistic use of state and federal grant programs as well as annual requests for a fair share of city budget.