

To: Melissa R. Marsh, City Manager
From: Sean P. Ballantine, Director of Public Services
Date: December 1, 2025
Subject: Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Public Hearing and Adoption

Staff has been diligently working on the new 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan throughout the 2025 calendar year. Unlike in previous years, when we engaged an outside consultant, this time the plan was developed entirely in-house. We believe this approach has resulted in a stronger, more relevant plan—one that better reflects the goals and priorities of our staff, City Council, and community members.

Since April, staff and members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board have actively engaged the community through the following efforts:

- Attendance at six community events
- Publication of 12 social media posts
- Two targeted public engagement initiatives
- Two public hearings, including:
 - One focused on accessibility
 - One reviewing engagement findings with the Advisory Board and City Council

In total, we gathered feedback from 822 individuals, and 26 additional community members attended our public meetings.

Recommended Actions:

Staff recommends that City Council take the following two actions at tonight's meeting:

1. **Hold a Public Hearing** to receive comments on the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
2. **Following the hearing, approve the resolution** adopting the Master Plan and authorizing staff to submit it to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to your feedback.

**The City of Madison Heights
Parks and Recreation Master Plan
2026-2030**

WHEREAS, the City of Madison Heights has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2026 through 2030, and

WHEREAS, the City of Madison Heights began the process of developing a parks and recreation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of the City of Madison Heights were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held in person at the Regular City Council Meeting on December 8, 2025, to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the City of Madison Heights Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and

WHEREAS, the City of Madison Heights has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the City of Madison Heights, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED after the public hearing, the City Council of the City of Madison Heights hereby adopts the City of Madison Heights Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2026-2030.