



VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
Parks and Recreation Master Plan
2020—2024
December 18, 2019

VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

2020 – 2024

Adopted December 18, 2019

Acknowledgements

The participation and cooperation of community leaders, residents, and members of the civic organizations in the preparation of this plan is greatly appreciated.

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This plan was prepared with assistance from Abonmarche Consultants.



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Introduction

The Village of Grand Beach has undertaken this process to prepare a Parks and Recreation Plan as a road map for parks and recreation decisions made over the next five years. It includes all aspects of recreation including parks, beaches, open space, and the golf course. A community's access to resources and activities directly impacts the quality of life of its residents and visitors. Park and recreation facilities engage people in a community and keep them active and healthy. The Village has developed this plan in accordance with the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans established by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). In order to retain eligibility for state and federal park and recreation grant programs, the Village must have a current five-year plan approved by MDNR. The purpose of this document is for planning purposes and all elements are dependent upon available funding.

The Village has undertaken this plan in an effort to:

- Guide investment in parks, beaches, recreation, and open space;
- Assess present community recreational facilities and programs;
- Inventory parks, beaches, natural areas, and open spaces;
- Solicit public input and response regarding parks, beaches, recreation, and open space in Grand Beach;
- Identify goals and prioritize improvements and acquisitions;
- Establish a course of action for improvements and acquisitions over the next five years; and
- Identify potential funding sources to satisfy the goals of the plan and the needs of residents and visitors.

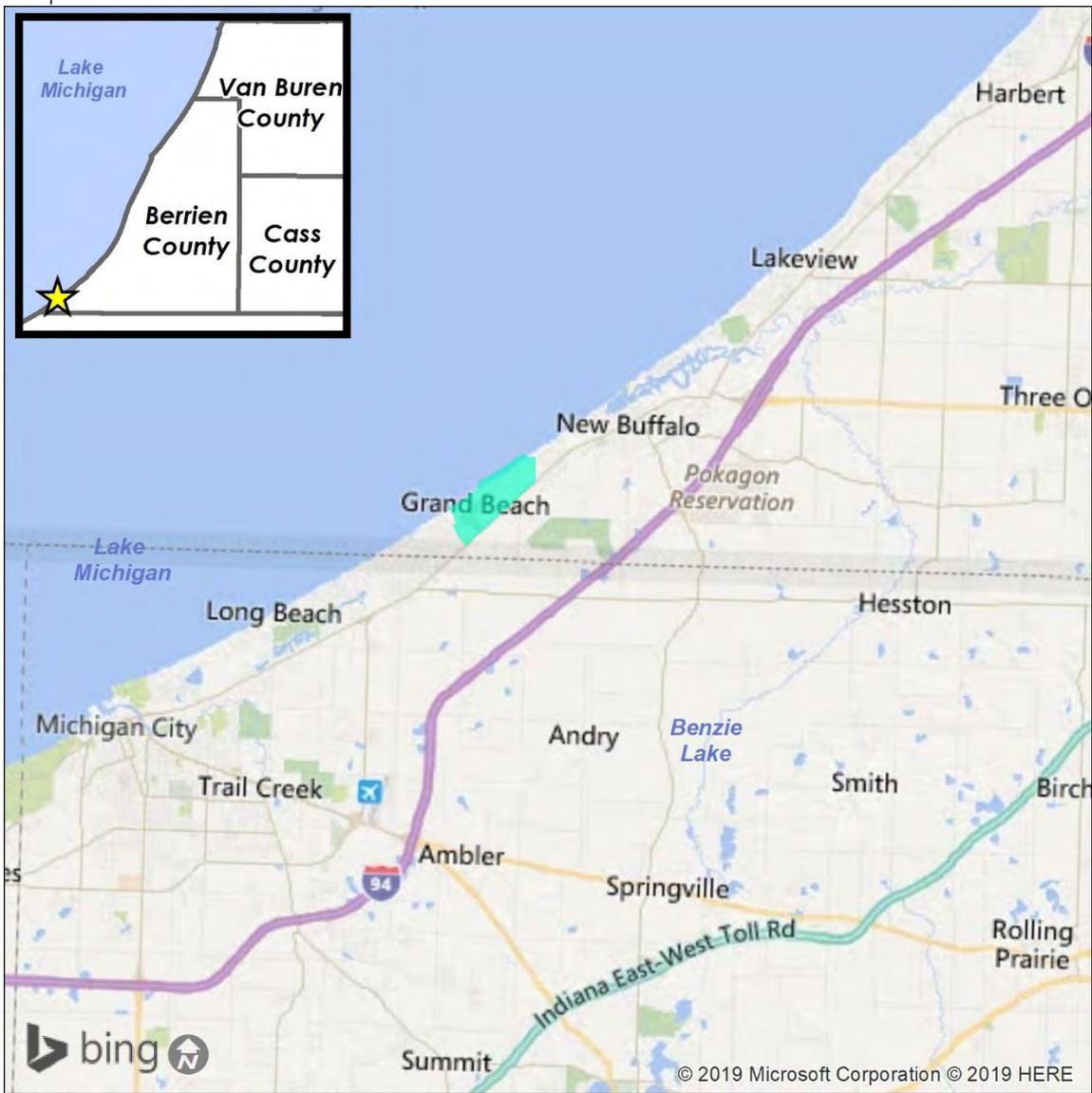


Community Description

Regional Setting

Grand Beach is located in the southwest portion of Berrien County near the Michigan-Indiana border. The Village is bordered entirely by New Buffalo Township with the City of New Buffalo a mile to the east, and the Village of Michiana to the west. It is about a 15 minute drive to Michigan City and a little over an hour to downtown Chicago. This lakeshore area has seen an increase in the development of large, expensive homes, many of which are occupied seasonally, and remains an accessible resort area for both Michiganders and out-of-state visitors.

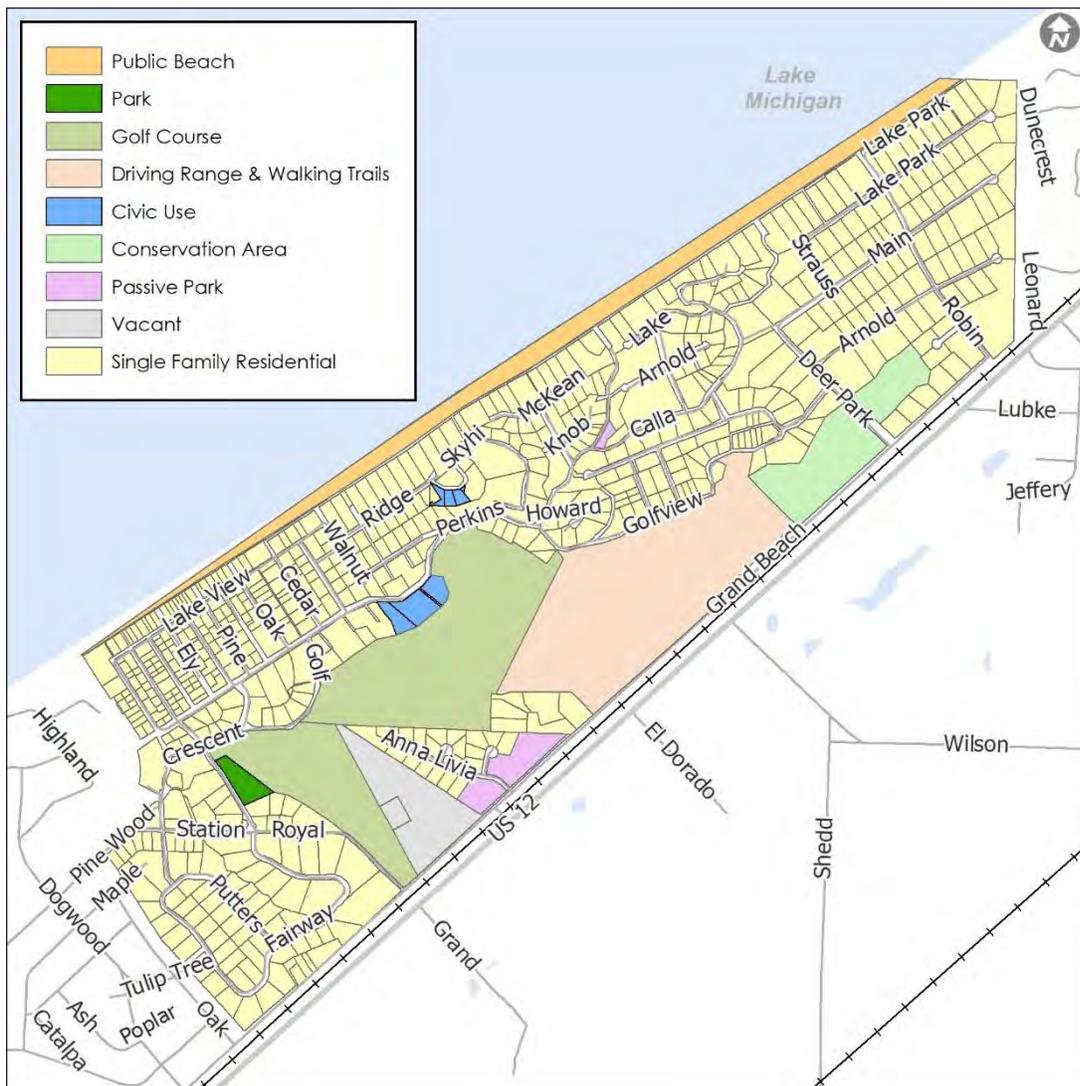
Map 1. Grand Beach Location



Land Use

Grand Beach was originally established as a summer resort community offering diversified recreation. The current land use pattern reflects the intent of its founders. Single family residential is the highest single land use in the Village. Recreation land use is the second largest land use within the Village. Recreation uses include the Lake Michigan beach, the golf course, driving range, a park with courts and play equipment, and conservation land. There are no commercial or industrial land uses within Grand Beach. There is a wide variety of housing stock, ranging from cottage style summer home to large lot mansions. Some areas of the Village have developed with lots large enough to allow residents on-site recreation facilities such as private swimming pools. In other parts of the Village, like the Old Village neighborhood, smaller lot sizes reflect the original cottage development, and owners have fewer opportunities for on-site recreation.

Map 2. Village of Grand Beach Land Use



Demographics

The year-round population according to the 2010 U.S. Census was 272. Of the 414 total housing units, 270 (65%) are identified as being for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. This has a significant impact in determining the types of recreation facilities and programs offered by the Village. The number and age composition of seasonal residents can either complement or significantly alter recreational needs when based solely on the characteristics of year-round residents. The median age for the year-round residents in 2010 was 60 years of age.

Figure 1. Village of Grand Beach Housing

Year	Population	Total Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units	Vacant Housing Units	Percent of Homes for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use
2000	221	340	108	232	61
2010	272	414	133	281	65
2017*	284	456			

*estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, all other figures from decennial Census.

Since 2000, the Village has had an increase in population as well as an increase in the number of occupied and vacant housing units. This shows a growth for both permanent and seasonal residents. The average household size, defined as the number of persons per household, was 2.05 people. This has remained steady from 2000 to 2010. This smaller household size indicates fewer households with children than average, and likely an older, empty-nest population. In the summer, this demographic changes with more people per household and more children residing in and visiting the community.

Transportation

The transportation system in and around Grand Beach is predominantly auto-oriented. There are no major roads traveling through the Village. US 12, to the south, provides road access outside the Village and connects to I-94 and other regional routes. This can limit access to recreation facilities for certain segments of the population, namely children, young adults, and seniors who may not be able to drive or have access to a car. However, within the Village, many residents utilize golf carts as an alternate means of transportation. The small size of Grand Beach allows people to reach most areas of the Village by golf cart, and a wider segment of the population can drive carts.

Natural Characteristics

Shoreline

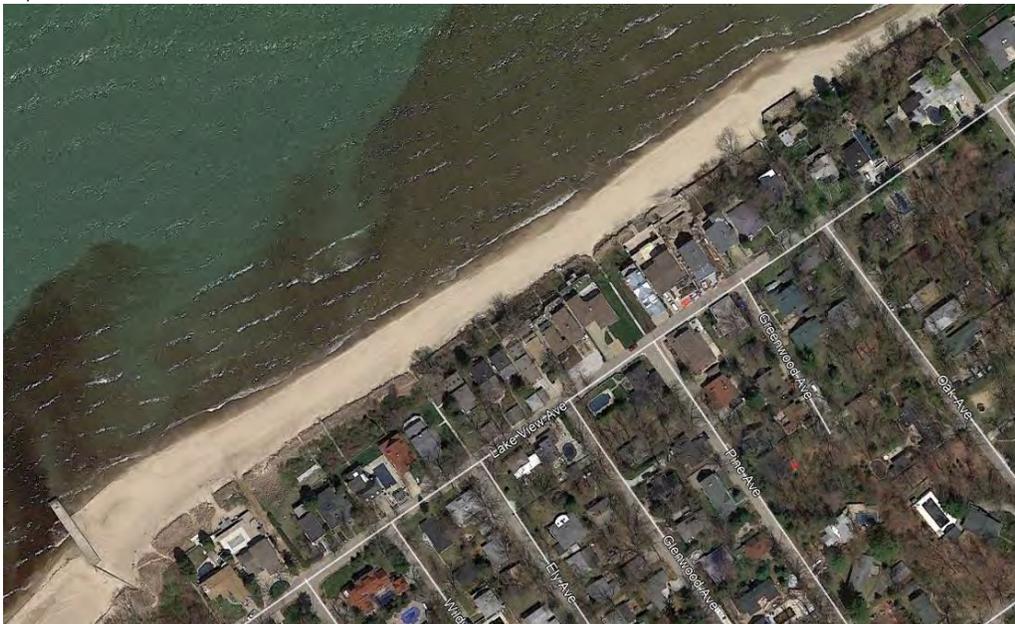
The most distinguishing natural feature of the Village is the Lake Michigan shoreline. The entire shoreline is open to the Village and access points are provided connecting

residential areas to the beach. The Village historically has sandy beaches and unique dune formations. The dunes are a valuable natural feature for not only the Village but the State of Michigan as a whole, as the state's dunes are the world's largest assemblage of fresh water dunes and provide habitat for federally listed threatened and endangered species. As of the writing of this plan, Lake Michigan has been experiencing near record high lake levels. These high water levels in conjunction with a lack of sand replenishment has reduced the size of the beach area and erosion to the dunes can threaten structures. The images below show the impact to the size of the Village's beach.

March 2019 – High Water Levels



April 2011 – Lower Water Levels



White Creek

White Creek Ditch flows along the southern edge of the Village and discharges into Lake Michigan south of Whitewood Pier. The White Creek environment is a unique feature of the Village. In addition to accommodating storm water and protecting the public health, safety and welfare, the creek is a combination of water, shrub and woodland environments. Because of the critical role this drainage way plays and its environmental character, White Creek provides for the protection of natural resources of the Village. Development in close proximity to the creek will threaten its environmental character and its storm water management role. Removal of vegetation along the creek will increase erosion and sedimentation, and increase other contaminants flowing into the creek. In 2017, the creek was identified as a polluted waterway as a result of elevated levels of E-coli. The Village has coordinated with neighboring communities and organizations in efforts to identify the sources of pollution.

Climate

The climate of Grand Beach and the surrounding area can be classified as generally mild. There are no unusual climatic conditions which severely impede activities within the Village. January and June are the snowiest and rainiest months, respectively. Due to the variations in the weather patterns in Southwest Michigan and location on Lake Michigan, local residents experience the four seasons together with increased cloudiness, lake effect snow, and consistent moderate temperatures throughout the year.

Soils

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

The shoreline areas of the Village are characterized primarily by Udorthents/Udipsamments, a combination of clay and sandy soils that present severe limitations to construction due to slope conditions, and are particularly vulnerable to erosion. A second shoreline soil type, classified as “dune land”, is situated in the middle of the Village adjacent to the shoreline bluff. The areas along Grand Beach Road and adjacent to the wetlands in the conservations areas are characterized by Granby and

Morocco soils. These soils are loamy sand, very deep and poorly drained with minimal sloping.

Vegetation

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

Wetlands

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

Administrative Structure

1. Village Council and Commissions

Grand Beach is a chartered village which allows it to administer its own taxing authority. It has the fiduciary responsibility to maintain funds in cash reserve, while providing needed services for its residents. As part of its services, the Village maintains a variety of parks and recreation facilities.

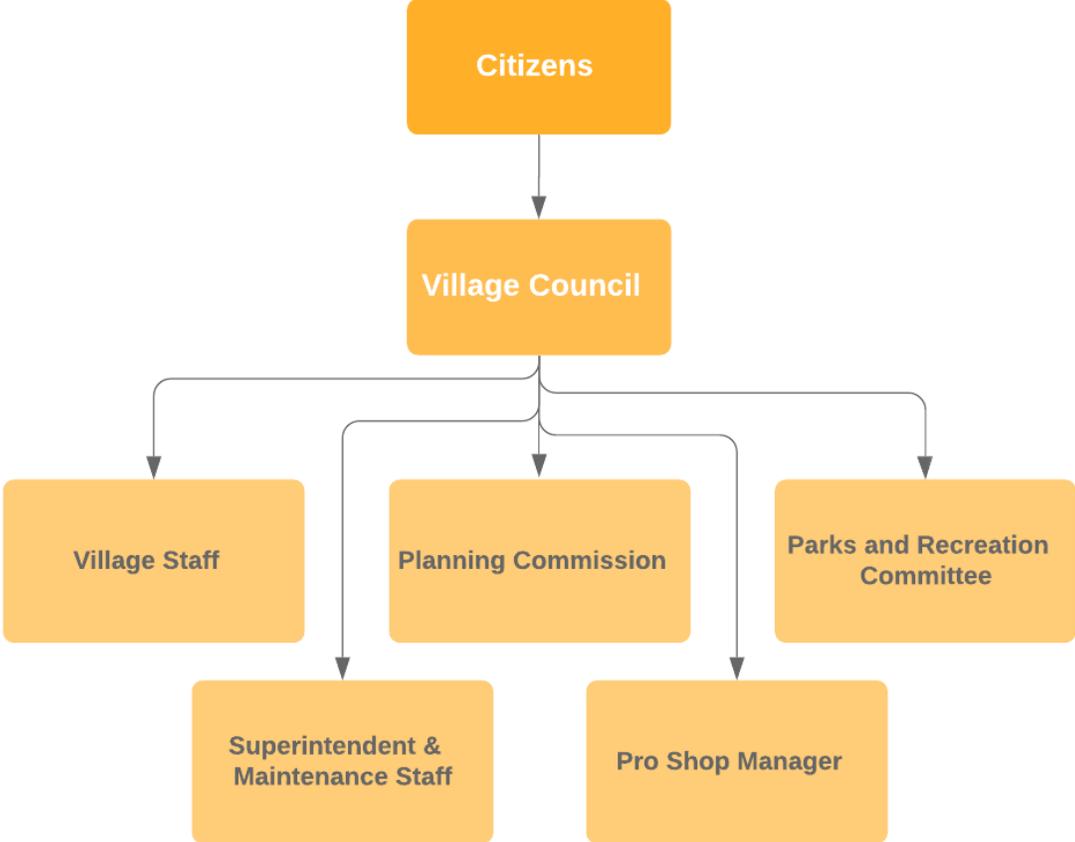
The Grand Beach Village Council is comprised of five members. Each member is also a commissioner of a specific area of Village administration including Building & Zoning, Water & Streets, Police, Golf & Pro Shop, and Parks & Beaches. The Village Council has the authority to commit funds for parks and recreation, accept grants, and purchase land on behalf of the community.

The Village Council has established a Parks and Recreation Committee comprised of the Parks & Beaches Commissioner, Golf & Pro Shop Commissioner, and several other volunteers. The Committee is advisory to the Village Administration and Village Council. The goal of the Committee is to coordinate and provide recommendations to the Village that best utilize the existing park facilities and budgetary resources. It is formed pursuant to the Recreation and Playgrounds Act (1917 PA 156).

The Planning Commission approves long range land use policies for the Village, including the Master Plan, and advises the Village Council on planning and zoning related issues.

Maintenance Staff are responsible for routine maintenance and repairs for parks, beaches, and recreational facilities.

Figure 1. Administrative Structure



2. Funding & Budgets

The Village General Fund is the source of expenditures for the beaches, parks, and recreation as well as other departments that operate and maintain Village parks and recreation facilities. The Golf Fund contains the revenues and expenditures for the operation and maintenance of the golf course. The Village's fiscal year starts November 1st. The Village amended its annual budget for 2019-20 to move \$20,000 from the Parks fund and \$20,000 from the Beaches Fund to the Capital Projects Fund. This money can be allocated towards matching funds in the event that the Village is awarded a grant.

Other potential sources of funds for parks and recreation facility improvements could be utilized by the Village. Some other potential sources could be additional user fees, assessment bonds, millages, grants, donations, or a combination of some of these.

General Fund	2018-2019 (Current Budget)	2019-2020 (Proposed Budget)
Expenditures		
Hall and Grounds	\$37,669	\$38,498
Public Works	\$63,569	\$58,678
Parks and Recreation	\$13,687	\$10,063
Beaches	\$11,344	\$16,314
Capital Projects Fund	\$0	\$40,000
Total	\$126,269	\$163,553
Golf Fund		
Revenue		
Total	\$272,000	\$277,800
Expenditures		
Wages and benefits	\$57,256	\$61,437
Operating expenses	\$61,021	\$75,680
Contractual services	\$152,876	\$158,258
Total	\$271,153	\$295,375

3. Grant History

Project No. TF18-0096

Project Status: PA In Process

Grant Amount: \$2,400,000

The Village was awarded a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant in 2018 for the acquisition of approximately 42 acres designated to become the Grand Beach Nature Preserve. This acquisition will preserve an existing coastal plain marsh, allow for the use

and future expansion of a non-motorized trail system, and buffer existing conservation land from development. The Village has raised the required 25% matching funds and in 2019 was in the process of completing the transfer of property and accepting the grant funds.

4. Volunteers & Relationships with Other Organizations

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

The Village and its residents coordinate with the New Buffalo Shoreline Alliance whose mission is to protect and preserve the Lake Michigan Shoreline and beaches. The Village is also a member of the Southwest Michigan Water Quality Partnership, which is a coalition of municipalities working together to educate southwest Michigan residents about protecting water quality and reducing water pollution. Because these organizations are concerned with beach and water quality, they are strongly tied to recreation for many Grand Beach residents.

Grand Beach is located in the New Buffalo Area Schools District. The Village has a long-standing relationship with the school district to share each other's facilities. For a very nominal fee, the Village golf course serves as the home course for the high school. Residents can also arrange to use the recreation facilities at the schools.

The Village was awarded a 2018 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant from the State of Michigan for the Grand Beach Nature Preserve Acquisition, the "42 Acres" property. Volunteers with Friends of Grand Beach Nature Preserve raised the required matching funds in order to accept the grant. At the end of 2019, the Village was in the process of finalizing the land purchase.

The Grand Beach Social Club has been in existence for close to 100 years and is run by residents of the Village. They host children's activities as well as activities for adults throughout the summer months, such as organized rounds of golf and tennis lessons.

Parks and Recreation Inventory

A comprehensive inventory of the recreational facilities located in the Village of Grand Beach was conducted by Abonmarche staff by on-site visits to the facilities in May 2019. Grand Beach has one Neighborhood Park, Royal and Crescent Park. This type of park is multi-purpose and serves as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. It provides areas for both passive and active recreation activities such as fields, playgrounds, picnicking, and trails. Natural Resource Areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. The Village has three parcels that are unimproved and provide passive natural areas within the community. Another parcel is leased to the Village and contains walking paths. The Village was awarded a grant from the Michigan DNR to purchase this land. There are two nature conservation areas within the Village, as well. The other public recreation facilities classify as Special Use. This class of park encompasses a wide variety of facilities and are oriented to a single, specialized use and includes the Golf Course, Driving Range, and the Lake Michigan Beach and its access points.

The park classification corresponds to the classification system in Appendix B of the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in June 2018. Accessibility at each park was reviewed by comparing it to the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. The number listed in the Accessibility Rating column (also taken from the *Guidelines*) is as follows:

1. None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
2. Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
3. Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
4. The entire park meets accessibility guidelines
5. The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design

Map 3. Park Locations and Service Areas



Village of Grand Beach
 Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 2020-2024

Royal and Crescent Park	
Size	2 acres
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Ownership	Village of Grand Beach
Facility Description	Located at the intersection of Royal Ave and Crescent Rd and adjacent to the golf course. Contains two tennis courts, a basketball court, sand volleyball court, and two areas with playground equipment for different age groups.
Accessibility Rating	1: None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines. Parking is not striped for accessible space and there are no accessible sidewalks to the facilities. One of the play structures has a transfer station but the surface is sand with no accessible path. There is an accessible drinking fountain but no accessible path.
Condition	The parking lot and basketball court are in good condition. The tennis courts and fencing are in fair condition. The fence is at least 30 years old and has some defects. The tennis courts were most likely built in the 1970's. A newer grid system surface was installed in 2005. Playground equipment ages are: slide installed in 1998, Wood Buck 1989, Space Arch, Backhoe Diggers, Play Structure – 1995.





Grand Beach Golf Course	
Size	58 acres
Classification	Special Use – Golf Course
Ownership	Village of Grand Beach
Facility Description	9-hole golf course established in 1907. Hosts New Buffalo High School golf tournaments. Pro Shop located adjacent to Village Hall. There are outdoor picnic tables and benches.
Accessibility Rating	2: Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines The first floor of the building is accessible but the second floor is not. None of the spaces near the pro shop are designated ADA. None of the picnic tables are ADA accessible.





Grand Beach Driving Range	
Size	5 acres
Classification	Special Use – Golf Driving Range
Ownership	The Village is currently in the process of purchasing the property. It has been leased from a private owner until now.
Facility Description	Golf driving range adjacent to the Golf Course.
Accessibility Rating	1: None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines



42 Acres Walking Paths	
Size	42 acres
Classification	Natural Resource Area
Ownership	The Village was in the process of purchasing the property in 2019. It had previously been leased from a private owner.
Facility Description	Nature conservation area with paths for walking. Golf carts had been permitted on designated paths. Situated on a privately owned parcel that was leased to the Village.
Accessibility Rating	1: None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines



Lake Michigan Public Beach	
Size	1.5 Miles
Classification	Special Use – Public Beach
Ownership	Village of Grand Beach
Facility Description	The public beach runs the entire western edge of the Village. Public access has historically been provided at 13 places. A combination of beach erosion and fluctuating lake levels sometimes requires the Village to restrict access at certain points. As of the date of this plan, high water and lack of sand replenishment has resulted in closing most access points. The Village sweeps and maintains the two available beaches at Whitewood and Walnut on seasonal basis. Each access point is described in more detail below. Inventory took place in May 2019 when Lake Michigan water levels were reaching record highs.
Accessibility Rating	All access points are rated 1 except Ely which has a rating of 2 for Lake Michigan viewing.



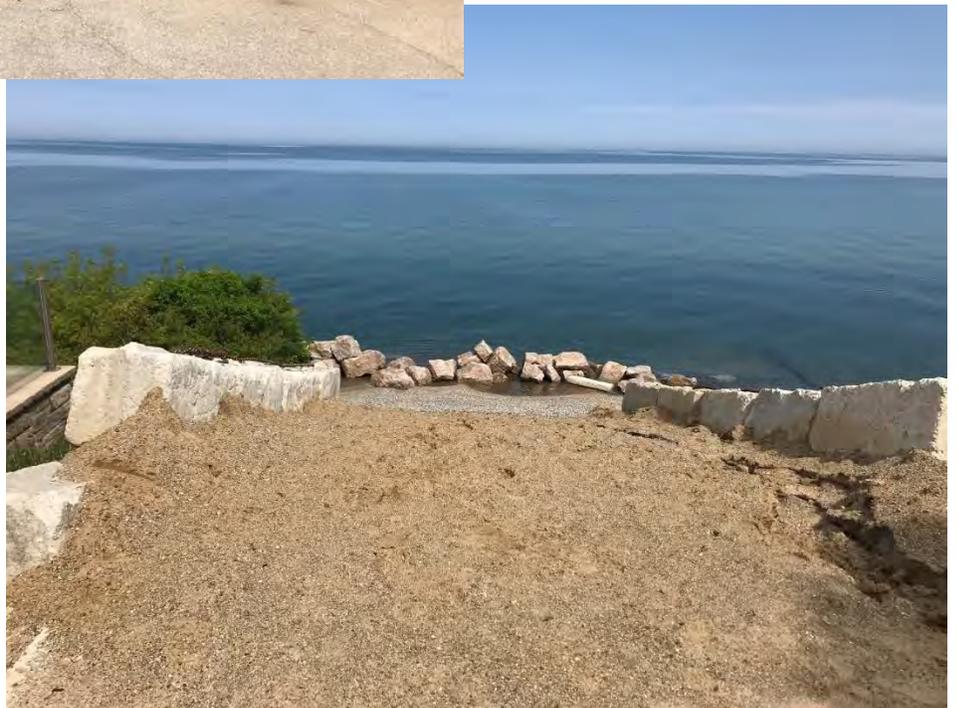
1. Whitewood

This access point has lawn parking for golf carts. There is a concrete sidewalk located between two private residential fences that leads to concrete stairs with a metal railing on one side. The middle area is level with a concrete sidewalk and then another series of wood steps and hand rail that stops short of the beachfront. There is considerable erosion along the sand dune. The concrete stairs and walk are in good condition and the wood boardwalk is fair.



2. Royal

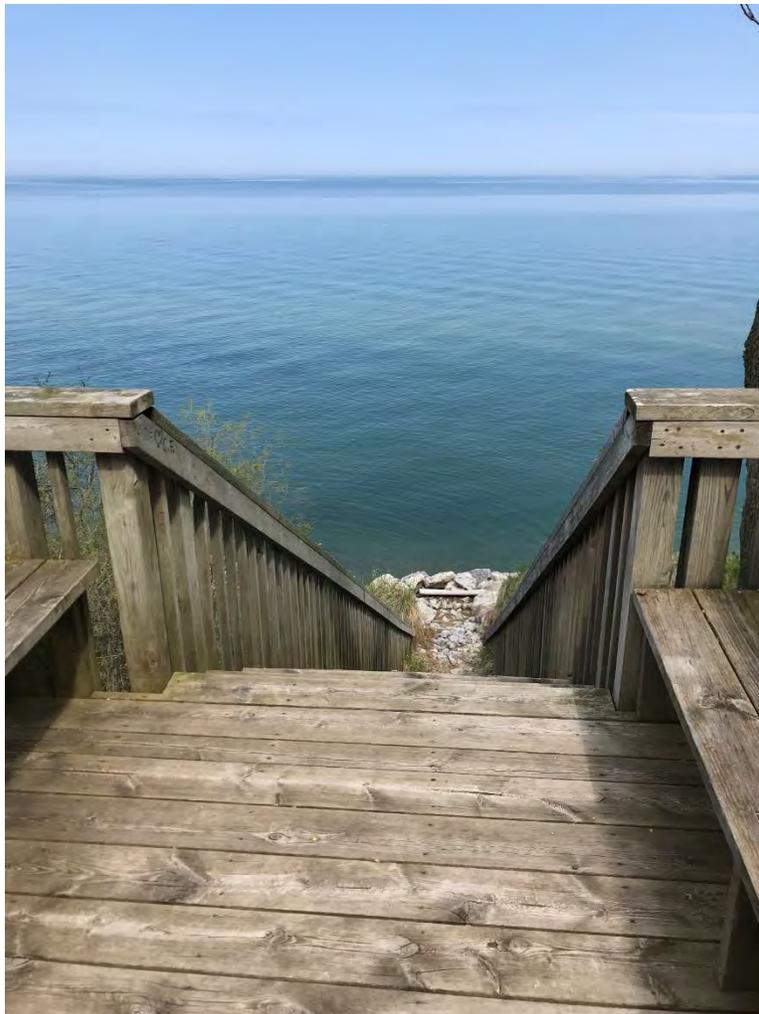
This access has a fairly level, driveway width, sandy path leading from Lakeview Avenue toward the lake to ridgeline and then sloping at a steep rate toward the water. There are concrete blocks lining both sides to retain the sand and slope. There is very little beach in this area and the surface is mostly stone.



3. Ely

This access has a concrete sidewalk that gradually slopes at an accessible rate to the edge of the bluff. Lawn area the width of the right of way is located on both sides of the walk. There is a wooden bench on the landing built into the railing. There is also a bench with a concrete base and wood seat located in the lawn on each side of the landing. The benches do not face the lake but sit perpendicular. There is a nice view of the water from the top of the bluff. The staircase ends at the edge of the existing dune grass at the base of the eroded slope. There is no apparent beach but instead shore protection consisting of a steel revetment wall and armor stone.





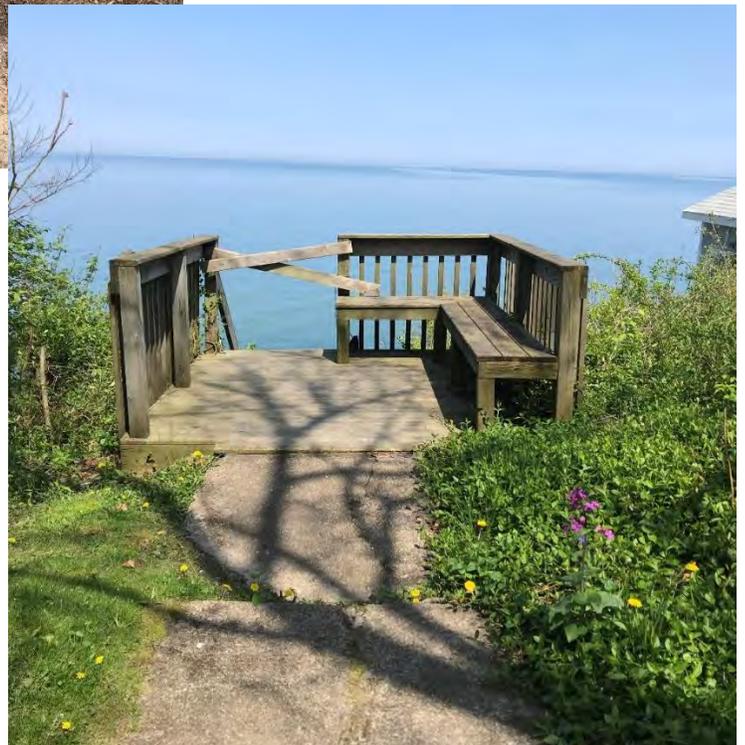
4. Pine

There is an existing concrete sidewalk located in the middle of the access that ends short of the wood landing and staircase. There is a wooden bench located in the lawn area to the south of the walk. The wood stairs terminate at a landing with a railing for viewing the water. There is currently no beach access and this area is stabilized with shore protection consisting of a steel revetment wall and armor stone.



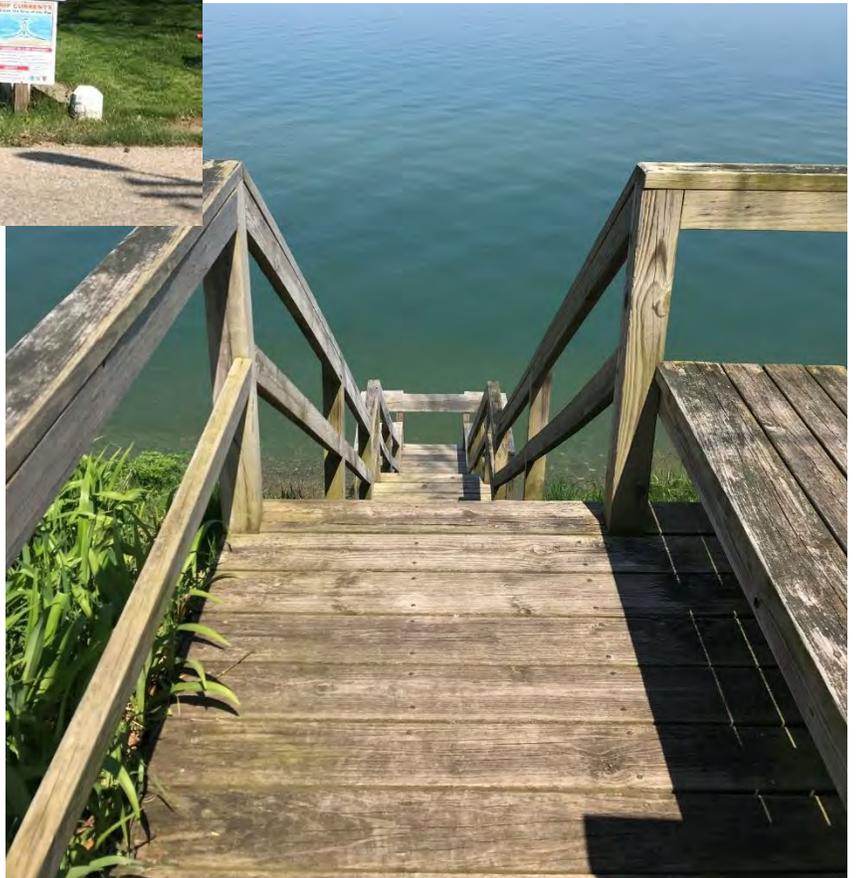
5. Oak

There is a concrete sidewalk that leads to a wooden landing with a built in bench. Beach access is currently closed. There is a barricade across the stair access as the beach is currently closed due to erosion/water levels. There is a partially obstructed view of the water from the landing.



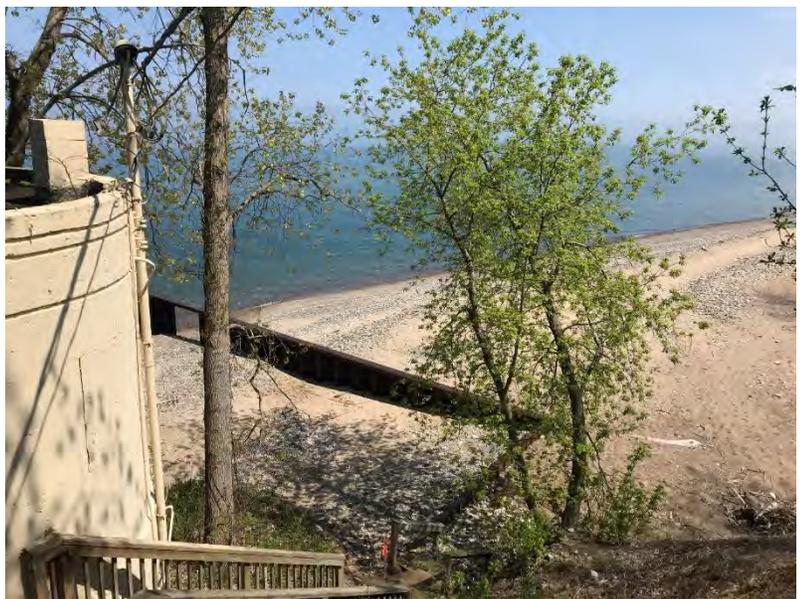
6. Cedar

The access is lawn only and is bordered by a hedge to the south lot line and a concrete retaining wall to the north. At the top of the bluff ridgeline there is a small white metal fence aligning both sides of a wood landing with railings and one built-in bench facing south. The wooden staircase descends the slope to an elevated landing near the water. There is a single board acting as a barrier.



7. Walnut (Pump House)

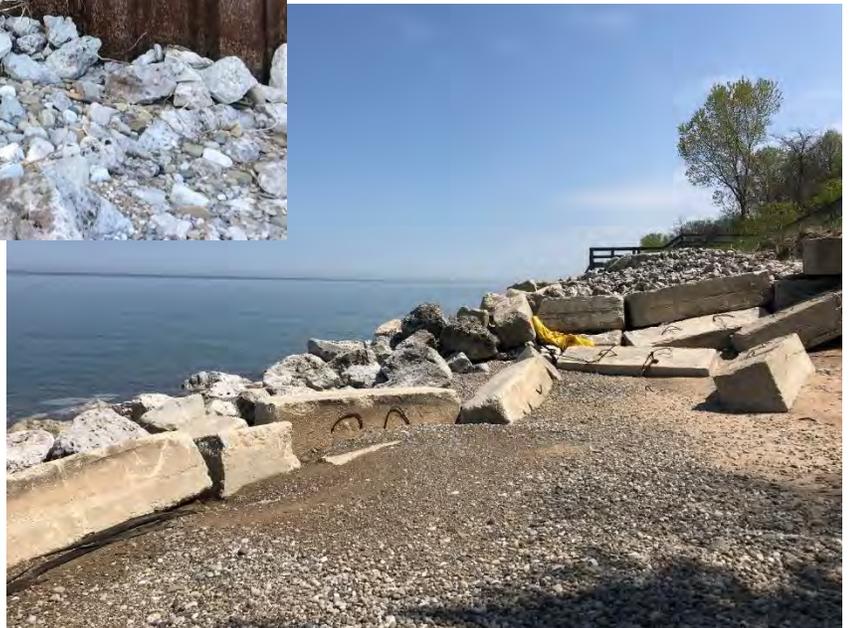
There is an unpaved drive leading to a pull-off cart parking area. The dirt path has significant erosion to the north adjacent to the neighboring property that is defined by a white wood fence. There is a nice view of the water to the north along this fence line. The dirt path leads to a wood landing with a railing and a built-in bench facing north. The stairs lead to a landing midway that provides access to the door of the pump house. The staircase turns to the north and further descends toward the waterfront. The stairs terminate at a steel revetment wall that runs parallel to the shoreline that then turns perpendicular and juts out into the water.



8. Skyhi

The woodland unpaved path leads to a wood landing with railings and stairs. There are approximately 60 steps then a landing and then another lengthy series of steps with a landing and then a short section of stairs that terminates at a level dirt path that stops at a steel revetment wall. There is a wood staircase built over the wall to provide access to the beach. The staircase has been damaged and falls off from grade. The area contains armor stone and large concrete blocks along the water's edge protecting a small beach.





9. McKean

Grassy path leads to wood stairs which descend to landing with two built-in benches. Stairs continue and terminate at a sandy path that leads to a staircase that climbs up from the pathway and over armor stone. The last several stair risers are missing and stairs terminate at armor stone with water levels only a few feet away.





10. Lake

Sandy pull-off parking area with steep wide sandy access to a rocky beach. Some erosion along the path is apparent.



11. Lake Park

New brick pavers accessible path with widened area midway that could accommodate benches. The path continues to slope toward a wood platform deck. There is a sloped boardwalk from the brick path up to the grade of the deck. The bench seating aligns the railing and sits looking inward away from the water. The views to the north are unobstructed.



12. Robin

Concrete bollards with white chain parallel the edge of the road with an opening between the bollards for the entrance. The area is sandy and the north side of the access is defined by a steel stake with white chain. The path ends with a staircase that climbs up from the sand grade then level then descends to a small bench area with viewing platform.



13. Lee Point

Sand path with steel stakes and white chain fence defining edges of access. Sand path leads to wood stairs with railing that leads to the beach that is currently barricaded. There is signage that dune restoration in progress to the north.



Open Space or Passive Parks	
Size	5 acres total
Classification	Natural Resource Areas
Ownership	Village of Grand Beach
Facility Description	Three parcels that are unimproved. They provide passive natural areas. Located at the intersection of High Point Lane and Perkins Blvd, and on the north and south sides of Anna Livia Way at the intersection with Grand Beach Road.
Accessibility Rating	1: None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines



Recreational Boating Facilities Inventory

Name	Beach Access Sites: Whitewood, Royal, Ely, Pine, Oak, Cedar, Pump House/Walnut, Skyhi, McKean, Lake, Robin, and Lee Point
Description & Purpose	The Village has 13 access points to the beach that vary from a sand path to wooden and/or concrete path and stairs. These are unimproved carry down sites detailed on pages 21-37.
Right sizing of facility	n/a
Current ADA compliant features	None
Items that need to be addressed to become ADA compliant	Pathway at applicable grade would need to be constructed as well as ADA parking.
Site Development Plan	Options are currently under development with a consulting engineer
Current marketing methods	Village newsletter, website, Chamber of Commerce
Current events	None on site
Current partnerships	Village supports New Buffalo Shoreline Alliance
Current dredging needs	n/a
Repairs & Maintenance	Routine maintenance as needed. Costs included in Parks Budget on page 10. Large-scale maintenance and replacement recommendations are included in the Action Plan.

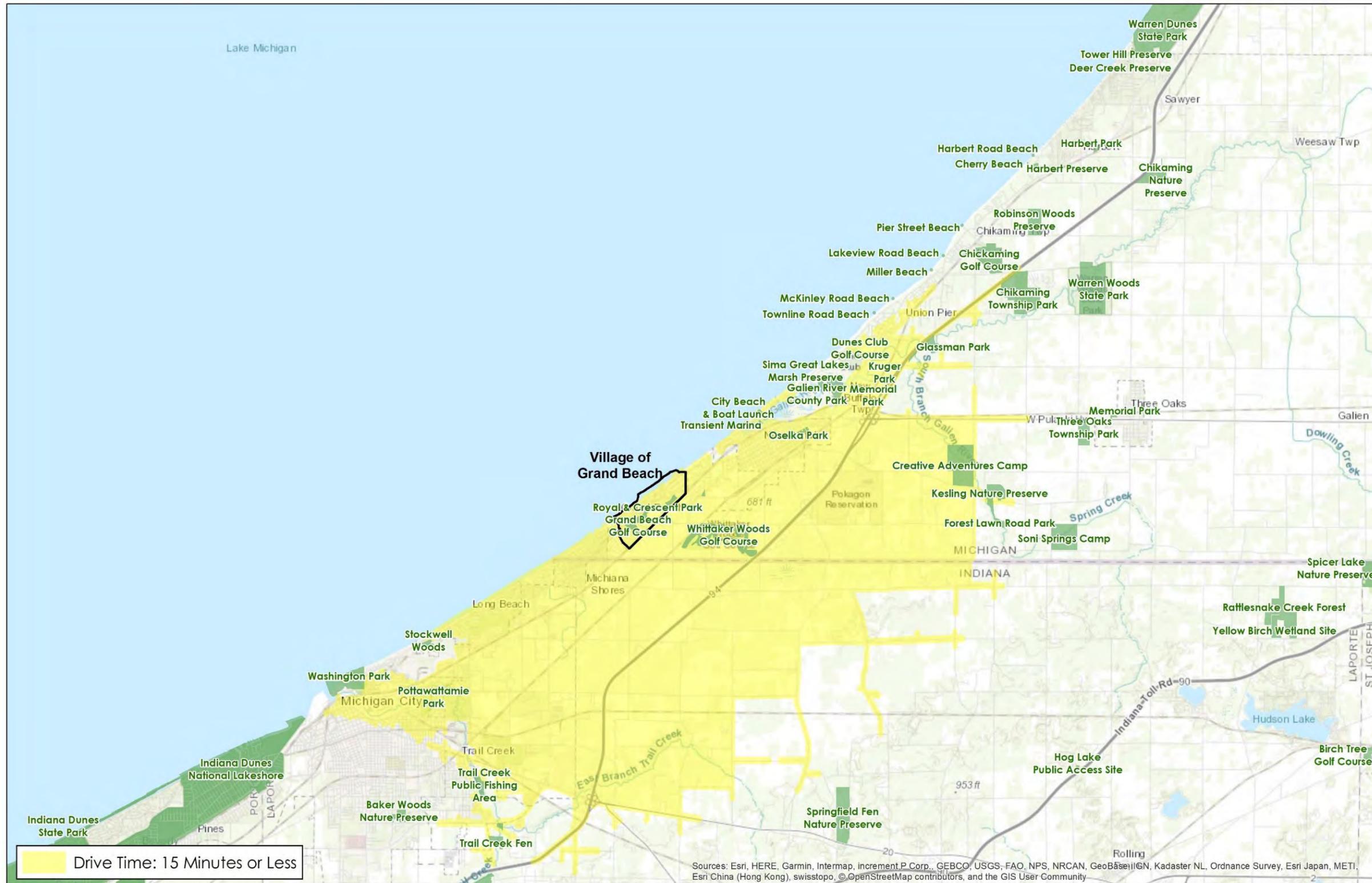
Recreation Facilities in and around Grand Beach managed by Others		
Name	Type	Facilities
Grand Beach Marsh Preserve	Natural Resource Area	Eleven acre natural area managed by Chikaming Open Lands with a 0.5 mile hiking trail. Located within the Village of Grand Beach.
Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve	Natural Resource Area	Coastal plain marsh with limited access to view the preserve provided via a path leading from the Erich Lane cul-de-sac on the north side. Located within the Village of Grand Beach.
New Buffalo Middle/High School	School – Park	School grounds with athletic fields and indoor facilities. Indoor track and fitness center open to public 6-8am and 5-9pm M-F and 1-6pm Sat. & Sun., outdoor football field renovated in 2015, baseball field, track, tennis courts, playground, nature trail, two (2) basketball courts, and one (1) soccer field.
New Buffalo Elementary School	School – Park	School grounds with athletic fields. Playground, nature trail, outdoor classroom, two (2) baseball diamonds, one (1) soccer field, two (2) basketball courts.
Louis J. Sima Great Lakes Marsh Preserve	Natural Resource Area	Preserve owned and managed by Chikaming Open Lands. Contains approximately 150 acres of the larger Galien River Marsh. Accessible only by boat.
Galien River County Park (Berrien County)	County Park	This 87-acre park has a mix of wetlands and uplands along the Galien River. It is part of the Galien River Marsh complex. 300' canopy walkway, 60' high marsh overlook tower and a 600' long marsh boardwalk that leads to viewing and fishing platform. Both of these features are accessible via hard surfaced, barrier-free hiking trails and paved parking lot.
Memorial Park (New Buffalo Township)	Township Park	Playground, basketball, splash pad, pavilion, picnic tables, grills, trails, events

Recreation Facilities in and around Grand Beach managed by Others		
Name	Type	Facilities
Glassman Park (New Buffalo Township)	Township Park	47 acres bordered on three sides by the Galien River and I-94. Driveway and parking area, trails, kayak/canoe launch, fishing areas, and a Zen labyrinth
Townline Road Beach Access (New Buffalo Township & Chikaming Township)	Township Park	Townline Road beach, a 33 foot stretch of beach at the road ending, next to Chikaming Township which owns an additional 33 feet of frontage. Bike rack, bench, stairs and deck. No parking is available and this site is not accessible to those with mobility limitations.
Robinson Woods and Flynn Woods Preserves (Chikaming Township)	Township Park	These forest and wetland preserves have a combined 115 acres open to the public. Walking trails, parking for 10 cars, laminated trail guides available, no facilities.
Chikaming Township Park and Preserve	Township Park	263-acre natural resource area on Warren Woods Road. Property has woods, ravines, 5-acre lake, restored prairie, and Galien River floodplain. Two gravel parking lots, bike rack, 3 miles of trails and interpretive signs, 1.13 miles of rough bike trails, fishing platform, picnic pavilion, grills, drinking fountain
Cherry Beach Chikaming Township	Township Park	Park and public beach with 253 feet of shoreline. Observation platform and picnic site that are accessible, parking lot for resident pass holders on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day to Labor Day, stairs to beach.
Harbert Community Park Chikaming Township	Township Park	Pavilion with two grills and 12 picnic tables. For the children there are four swings, a slide, a climber and a fishing pond. Also available is a regulation size Little League Baseball Field with bleachers and a concession stand. The pavilion and/or baseball field can be reserved by Chikaming property owners through Township Hall. Also have ice skating rink in the winter and a separate Dog Park.
River Valley Senior Center Chikaming Township	Township Park	Senior activities, food service and meeting hall.

Recreation Facilities in and around Grand Beach managed by Others		
Name	Type	Facilities
Red Arrow Landing	Michigan DNR Access Site	3.6-acre launch site with paved boat launch (small boats), outhouse, and public fishing access trails.
Michigan Welcome Center	State of Michigan	Interstate Highway travelers' information center and rest area. Has a universally accessible playground.
Warren Dunes State Park	Michigan State Park	This state park is nearly 2,000 acres in size, with more than 2 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and sand dunes rising 240 feet above Lake Michigan. Picnic, area and shelter, playground, beach house, interpretive program, hunting, swimming, hiking and skiing, and wildlife areas.
Warren Woods State Park	Michigan State Park	311-acre state park with rare beech/maple climax forest, hiking trail and picnic area.
Grand Mere State Park	Michigan State Park	Designated as a "National Natural Landmark" by the federal government due to its rarity, this 985-acre park is managed for preservation. Hunting, fishing, wheelchair accessible picnic shelter, accessible hiking area.
Indiana Dunes State Park	Indiana State Park	2,182-acre lake front park with a Dunes Nature Preserve, hiking trails, beach, observation platform, picnic shelters, and a campground.
Indiana Dunes National Park	National Park	15, 067-acre park that runs nearly 25 miles along Lake Michigan. Has beaches, a campground, hiking, fishing, horseback riding, cycling, cross country skiing, Riverwalk, and educational centers.

Recreation Facilities in and around Grand Beach managed by Others		
Name	Type	Facilities
Marquette Greenway	Park Trail	Non-motorized trail that begins in Chicago. Construction on a section that ends at the Indiana State Line to begin 2020. A section is proposed from the State Line to New Buffalo.
U.S. Bike Route 35	Bike Route	Bicycling route intended for experienced long distance bicyclists.
National Recreation Water Trail and Lake Michigan Water Trail	Water Trail	Stretch of Lake Michigan coastline with various access points along the entire trail.

Map 4: Surrounding Parks and Recreation Facilities



Planning and Public Input

A systems approach to planning was used to assess the parks and recreation needs of the Grand Beach community. Public input is a key component of this process and development of this plan. The methods used for soliciting public input included a survey, open house, public comment period for the draft plan, and a public hearing. These were broad enough to represent the community at large. Participants included members of the public at all age levels as well as key stakeholders in parks and recreation planning within the Village. The public input process was timed for the summer when seasonal residents were more likely to be present within the Village.

1. Survey

An online survey was conducted in June and July of 2019. Paper copies of the survey were also made available at Village Hall for those who preferred it. The survey had a total of 325 respondents. All household members, adults and children were asked to complete the survey. Some key takeaways from the results are summarized below. The full survey is available in Appendix B.

- A majority of respondents (57%) indicated they lived in the Old Village/Holiday Hills neighborhood.
- A majority (63%) said that Grand Beach is not their primary residence.
- A majority (44%) said that no one resides in their home year-round and the next largest response of 32% said that two people live in their home year-round.
- 22 respondents indicated that a member of their household has special accessibility needs with the majority citing difficulty using stairs to access the beach.
- 57% indicated support for a parks millage with 43% opposed.
- Grants were indicated as the most desired funding source for projects, followed by Donations, Matching Grants, and an Increased Millage as least preferred.
- The most used facilities in the Village are the beaches, viewing platforms, golf course and pro shop. Higher usage was totaled from respondents who said they used the facility somewhat to very often and lower usage was totaled from those who said not often or never. The quality of the existing facilities shows 86% expressing poor or fair ratings of the beach while the golf course has the most satisfaction with 83% of respondents. Responses of "no opinion" are excluded.

Facility	Usage		Quality	
	Higher	Lower	Poor-Fair	Satisfactory-Excellent
Lake Michigan Beach	76%	24%	86%	10%
Viewing Platforms	73%	27%	45%	46%
Golf Course	75%	25%	9%	83%
Pro Shop	75%	25%	15%	74%
Clubhouse	64%	36%	22%	72%
Driving Range	55%	45%	21%	62%
Playground Equipment	49%	51%	24%	59%
42 Acres Walking Paths	46%	54%	21%	53%
Sidewalks	40%	60%	44%	23%
Tennis Courts	34%	67%	20%	58%
Basketball Courts	30%	70%	20%	58%
Youth Programs	19%	81%	2%	35%
Volleyball Courts	14%	86%	14%	51%

- When asked how often respondents would use the following lake access sites if they were currently accessible, the most used sites were Whitewood, Royal ramp, and Pump House/Walnut. The least used sites were Skyhi, McKean, and Lee Point. However, most respondents of the survey live in the Old Village/Holiday Hills neighborhood which may have an impact on these results.

Lake Access	Higher Usage	Lower Usage
Whitewood	64%	36%
Royal Ramp	62%	38%
Pump House/Walnut	60%	40%
Ely	52%	48%
Pine	51%	49%
Oak	46%	54%
Cedar	45%	55%
Lake Park	34%	66%
Lake	33%	67%
Robin	31%	69%
Skyhi	27%	73%
McKean	26%	74%
Lee Point	26%	74%

- Many of the open-ended comments indicate unhappiness with the state of the beaches (mostly lack of sand and access at some locations). When asked about the importance of several potential projects, beach preservation and protection had overwhelming support with 97% approval, followed by removing old metal sheeting from the beach (79%), increasing maintenance/grooming (74%), and constructing larger lake viewing platforms (55%). Those who responded somewhat or very important were counted as “approve” and those who responded not important or do not support were counted as “disapprove.” Responses of “indifferent” are excluded.

Project	Approve	Disapprove
Beach Preservation and Protection	97%	2%
Remove old metal sheeting from beach	79%	9%
Improve maint./grooming of beach	74%	11%
Make Whitewood Pier safe and accessible	66%	15%
Construct larger lake viewing platforms	55%	23%
Replace playground equipment	45%	30%
Resurface tennis courts	40%	29%
Construct pickleball courts	38%	33%
Expand variety of items at Pro Shop	32%	30%
Construct a community swimming pool	43%	49%
Improve cooking facilities at Pro Shop	33%	39%
Repair/replace tennis court fencing	25%	44%
Improve and expand sidewalks	34%	46%
Construct bocce ball court	25%	42%
Construct new park/playground by Pro Shop	22%	54%
Develop ball field	16%	55%
Construct a dog park	18%	61%

2. Open House

An open house was held on July 27, 2019 at Village Hall. This peak summer Saturday date was selected to attempt to accommodate the seasonal or weekend residents that might otherwise be out of town. Attendees that signed-in amounted to 11 people. Community members were invited to provide comments and ask questions about the Parks and Recreation Plan process, the existing parks facilities, and plans for the future. Members of the Parks Committee and Abonmarche staff were present to answer questions. Attendees were also invited to provide written comments on potential projects and existing facilities within the Village. Several people mentioned the erosion at the beach as a concern. The following is a summary of comments received:

- Playground:
 - A playground/park next to the Pro Shop would be safer and have access to bathrooms/concession
- Beaches:
 - Beach restoration program is needed
 - The beach has the single biggest impact on quality of life and property values and should be the focus of the efforts
 - Kayak/paddle board storage would be welcome addition
- Golf Course:
 - Bonding should be utilized to fund golf course improvements
 - Time to invest in 5 year improvement plan
 - Improve irrigation and sand traps
- Pro Shop/Clubhouse:
 - New park and grills seems unnecessary
- 42 acres
 - Support for acquisition and then pursue improvements
 - Support for acquisition as long as all facilities are updated and improved
- Constructing new facilities such as a swimming pool or pickle ball courts received mixed support.

3. Public Review and Hearing of Draft Plan

The final draft of this Plan was made available at the Grand Beach Village Hall from October 10, 2019 to November 20, 2019. It was also available on the Village's website. A notice of availability to review the plan was published in the New Buffalo Times on October 10, 2019.

Following the review period, a public hearing was held November 20, 2019.

Goals and Objectives

Information gathered from the community description, inventory, and public survey was evaluated and used to formulate a mission, goals, and objectives. These goals form the basis of the Action Plan in the next chapter.

Mission

The mission of the Parks and Recreation Committee is to “enhance Grand Beach's historic, natural, and residential character by providing and maintaining high-quality parks and recreation opportunities.”

Goal

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

Objective 1: Maintain and improve the quality of the Lake Michigan public beach.

- Develop a comprehensive beach management plan that:
 - Creates measurable standards that reflect the optimal condition for beach quality.
 - Creates a maintenance schedule that attempts to meet the developed beach standards given the Village's available resources.
 - Evaluates beach quality against the developed standards regularly throughout each summer season.
 - Allocates additional resources to insure progress is made towards achieving the standards.
- Develop a master plan for the continued health, preservation, and protection of the shoreline, beaches, and water quality.
- Remove all exposed or submerged metal near the shoreline for the safety of swimmers and boaters
- Collaborate and coordinate management/maintenance with organizations (such as the New Buffalo Shoreline Alliance) whose mission is to preserve and protect the shoreline and beaches.
- Collaborate and coordinate management/maintenance with organizations whose mission is to improve the water quality of White Ditch Creek.

Objective 2: Maintain and improve the access points to the Lake Michigan public beach.

- Evaluate the conditions of all right-of-ways, easements, lookouts, stairs and the pier that provide access to the beach.
- Determine the requirements for providing access to the beach per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Develop an improvement plan that addresses maintenance of existing access and the eventual upgrading and improvement of access to ADA standards.
- Allocate resources to maintain and improve access points per the improvement plan.
- Develop a plan to make Whitewood Pier safe and accessible.

Objective 3: Continue maintenance and improvement of the golf course to meet the needs for utilization and enjoyment.

- Develop a comprehensive long-term improvement plan that addresses maintenance and enhancements to the golf course.
 - Evaluate user fees to determine an acceptable increase to be allocated to capital improvements.
 - Prioritize improvements and develop a schedule to add new amenities.
 - Secure Village-owned water supply for course irrigation.
- Finalize acquisition of **"42 Acres"** property which contains the driving range.

Objective 4: Enhance and utilize existing public parks and facilities based on particular needs, abilities, and available amenities.

- Collaborate with Chikaming Open Lands to promote and maintain the existing unimproved natural park areas through invasive species management and other programs.
- Evaluate available unimproved land in the Village to determine how to best preserve public land reflecting the natural and scenic character of the Village.
- Provide recreational amenities for a variety of ages and abilities with special consideration given to improving health, wellness, and fitness.
 - Ensure all new facilities are ADA compliant and eliminate non-barrier free conditions when improvements occur.

Objective 5: Acquire additional public land throughout the Village as needed or where residents are lacking access to parks and recreation facilities and/or to preserve natural features and open spaces.

- Finalize acquisition of the "42 Acres" property.
- Continue to evaluate where new facilities are needed throughout the Village.
- Work to identify valuable open space and natural areas.
- Work to create zoning for open space and natural areas.
- Utilize the Zoning Ordinance to provide for preservation of open space and private maintenance of matured features.

Objective 6: Seek and/or explore alternatives for funding the development and operational costs of recreational facilities.

- Continue to pursue grants as available from the State of Michigan and other organizations.
- Study the potential for user fees, rental fees, millages, or assessments to generate sufficient revenue to cover capital and operational expenses for any new recreation facility.
- Develop beach and park sponsorships or collaborations to help support the operational costs of the beach and park.

Action Plan

The previous sections of this plan have set the foundation for the following Action Plan. The Action Plan is intended to implement the Goals and Objectives over the next five years. The Village hopes to initiate the following improvements as funding and planning allow. Priorities should be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted according to updated findings and identification of funding opportunities.

Priorities are defined as follows:

- Priority A = Most Important (such as projects that are of highest concern for the community or rectify a problem)
- Priority B = Very Important (such as desirable improvements)
- Priority C = Important (such as projects that need further study)

Timeframes are defined as follow:

- 1 = Within one year
- 2 = 1-3 years
- 3 = 3+ years
- 4 = As available
- 5 = Ongoing

No.	Project	Priority	Timeframe	Rationale
Beaches				
1	Develop long-term shoreline protection plan	A	1	Meet Obj. 1
2	Implement shoreline protection plan	A	2	Meet Obj. 1
3	Remove nonfunctional metal sheeting and wood pylons from beach	A	1	Meet Obj. 1
4	Increase grooming/maintenance	A	1	Meet Obj. 1 & 4
5	Improve Pump House/Walnut Access and Viewing Platform	B	1	Meet Obj. 2 & 4
6	Improve Beach Access and Viewing Platform at other location in Old GB	B	2	Meet Obj. 2 & 4
7	Clarify legal ownership/responsibility for Whitewood Pier	B	2	Meet Obj. 1 & 2
8	Design and install ADA access to Whitewood beach/pier	B	2	Meet Obj. 1, 2 & 4
9	Improve Eiffel Tower Beach Access and Viewing Platform	B	2	Meet Obj. 2 & 4

No.	Project	Priority	Timeframe	Rationale
Parks & Open Space				
10	Finalize acquisition of 42 Acres property	A	1	Meet Obj. 3 & 5
11	Maintain and/or update some of the playground equipment to meet current safety and accessibility standards	B	1	Meet Obj. 4
12	Resurface tennis courts, replace fencing, and stripe for pickleball	B	2	Meet Obj. 4
13	Tree Trimming/Maintenance	A	1	Meet Obj. 4
14	Repair and improve sidewalks	C	4	Meet Obj. 4 & 5
15	Maintain 42 Acres to ensure accessibility	C	5	Meet Obj. 4 & 5
Golf Course				
16	Replace irrigation system	A	2	Meet Obj. 3 & 4
17	Protect pump house	A	1	Meet Obj. 3 & 4
18	Fix drainage issues	B	2	Meet Obj. 3 & 4
19	Replace sand in bunkers	B	3	Meet Obj. 3 & 4
20	Invest in better maintenance machines	C	4	Meet Obj. 3 & 4
21	Tree Trimming/Maintenance	A	1	Meet Obj. 3 & 4
22	Develop Architectural Plan	C	4	Meet Obj. 3 & 4
23	Implement Architectural Plan	C	4	Meet Obj. 3 & 4
24	Construct pro shop and cart storage by first tee	C	4	Meet Obj. 3 & 4

Public Comments Received During Comment Period:

From: <clerk@grandbeach.org>
Subject: [FWD: Grand Beach Parks & Recreation Master Plan]
Date: November 5, 2019 at 2:46:51 PM CST
To: "Mary Robertson" <clerk@grandbeach.org>

Hi Everyone,

Ellen Frankle asked me to forward this email with her comments and concerns regarding the master plan.

I haven't had time to review the plan totally, but I just noticed that the cover shows 2020-2025 Master Plan and the first page shows 2020-2024, so that should be corrected. Steve, will you please contact Tony & Joelle from Abonmarche so they can update the plan as appropriate based on Ellen's comments, unless they wait until after receiving all comments at the public hearing and then update it. I'm not quite sure of the process.

In answer to Ellen's questions in the email to me:

Grand Beach Land Development did donate half the funds or \$22,000 in 2005 to put the tennis court (sport court) in and almost another \$5,000 in 2006 for edging around the tennis court.

Some of the park equipment was replaced in 1995, but I'm not sure what pieces were replaced. From old minutes I found the company had given the Village an estimate of \$28,000 to replace certain sections for the older kids and for the younger kids, but I don't think everything was replaced at that time. I believe the equipment was paid for by resident donations.

Have a great night.

Mary Robertson
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Grand Beach
(269) 469-3141
(269) 469-0146 Fax
www.grandbeach.org

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Fwd: Grand Beach Parks & Recreation Master Plan

From: ellen frankle <ellen.frankle@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, November 04, 2019 5:24 pm

To: clerk@grandbeach.org

Hi Mary,

Can you please forward this to the Parks & Rec committee?

GBLD made donations for improvements to the tennis courts in 2005 and 2006. My memory was that was to repave, but perhaps it was for the grid system that's mentioned in the plan. Are you able to check the purchase dates for that and the newer pieces of playground equipment? The green framed playground equipment has definitely been added since I used to take my girls there and they are 32 and 33 now.

Thanks,
Ellen

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **ellen frankle** <ellen.frankle@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Nov 4, 2019 at 5:14 PM

Subject: Grand Beach Parks & Recreation Master Plan

To: <bulson@abonmarche.com>

Dear Ms. Bulson and members of the Parks and Recreation Committee,

I have reviewed the draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2020-2024 and suggest the following clarifications and corrections:

Page 11 mentions the Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve and seems to present it as a part of the land purchased in 1984 by The Nature Conservancy. This is not correct. The Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve Conservation Area was created in December 2006 as part of the Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve Site Condominium Residential Development. It is owned by the Hamburger-Mathias Nature Preserve Homeowners Association as a common area of the owners in the development. Perhaps it should be removed from this section on relationships with other organizations.

Also on page 11:

On Line 3 the word "is" should be removed from the sentence beginning "The Village is has raised ..."

In Paragraph 4 of Section 4 the name of the grant should be corrected to a Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant.

Page 12 also references the grant and says "The Village ... is currently raising money for matching funds." This should be updated.

The next line on page 12 says "There are two properties owned by nature conservancies within the village, as well." This should be modified either to say that there are two conservation areas in the village or to reflect the actual ownership of the HMNP Conservation Area.

On page 14 under Conditions the information on the age of the tennis court surface and the playground equipment is incorrect. The tennis court surface and the majority of the playground structures are much newer than mentioned in the copy.

Sincerely,

Ellen Frankle

Minutes from Public Hearing

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
VILLAGE COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
NOVEMBER 20, 2019**

President Deborah Lindley called the public hearing to order at 7:15 PM EST. Present in addition to Lindley were Jim Bracewell, Paul Leonard, Blake O'Halloran and Steve Slater.

Leonard moved, seconded by Slater to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Lindley explained that the public hearing was being held to take comments from the public regarding the proposed 2019-2024 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. She added that many people have been working on the plan for quite a while.

Lindley introduced Abonmarche representative Tony McGhee. McGhee introduced Joelle Regovich who has also worked on the plan.

Slater thanked everyone for responding to the surveys that were sent out and for attending the question and answer sessions. He said that Abonmarche has done a great job.

Tony McGhee said that the Village has to create a parks and recreation master plan every five years if the Village wants to apply for grants. They want to get public input and prioritize projects. The plan started in May and their staff looked at parks, ADA compliance, safety and materials on the ground. They added boating facilities inventory to the plan to allow the Village to apply for waterway grants in the future. He said they received 325 responses to the survey which is a much higher percentage of respondents than normal. There was an open house held on July 27, 2019 for public review and comments, and they put the draft plan together in October.

McGhee highlighted many of the survey results. He said they will incorporate any changes from the Council into the plan and the Council will adopt the plan by resolution on December 18, 2019. They will submit the plan to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) by December 31, 2019 and will also send copies to Berrien County and Southwest Michigan Planning Commission. He said that when a plan is written, it is not written in stone and can be amended by following a procedure that takes approximately 90 days.

Lindley opened the public hearing for comments:

Bill Mitchell, 46102 Wildwood – Spoke about the importance of the beaches and the survey results that showed that many people are willing to be taxed or assessed to build revetments and bring back the beaches.

Joe Farwell, 46117 Ely – Said the Master Plan is an incredible report. He spoke about the importance of the beaches and that he thinks the Village Council should become and continue to be leaders to do what they can to fix the beaches.

Village Council Public Hearing Minutes – November 20, 2019

Slater who serves as the Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee thanked everyone for their comments and all of their input while they were creating the plan. He said they will use this plan as an active document.

Lindley thanked those on the committee and those that were on the committee in the past for all of their work, stating that it is a lot of work. She said this is a document that can be adjusted as needs change. She said that she is glad that everyone is willing to be taxed or assessed as the Village has a long list of wants and needs.

Correspondence: None

With no further comments, Lindley closed the Public Hearing at 7:36 PM EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk/Treasurer

Resolution Adopting the Plan

VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
COUNTY OF BERRIEN – STATE OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION No. 2019-09

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2020-2024

At a Regular Meeting of the Village Council, of the Village of Grand Beach, County of Berrien, State of Michigan, held in the Village Hall, 48200 Perkins Boulevard, Grand Beach, Michigan on the 18th day of December, A. D., 2019, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

PRESENT: Council Members: James Bracewell, Paul Leonard Jr., Deborah Lindley, Blake O'Halloran and Steve Slater.

ABSENT: Council Members: None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Council Member Steve Slater and seconded by Council Member Deborah Lindley.

WHEREAS, the Village of Grand Beach 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 2020 through 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Village developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities; and

WHEREAS, the planning process included public input opportunities through surveys and public meetings; and

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

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on November 20, 2019 at Village Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions and discuss the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Committee has recommended the plan to the Village Council for adoption.

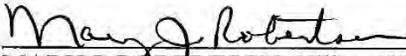
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Council adopts the Village of Grand Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2020 – 2024.

Ayes: James Bracewell, Paul Leonard Jr., Deborah Lindley, Blake O'Halloran and Steve Slater.

Nays: None

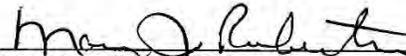
Abstain: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.


MARY J. ROBERTSON, Village Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, MARY J. ROBERTSON, duly appointed Village Clerk in and for the Village of Grand Beach, County of Berrien, State of Michigan, do certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Village Council during its regular meeting, held December 18, 2019, and that said Meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given, pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, and that the Minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.


MARY J. ROBERTSON, Village Clerk

Plan Certification Checklist



Michigan Department of Natural Resources-Grants Management

COMMUNITY PARK AND RECREATION PLAN

CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

By Authority of Parts 19, 703 and 716 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, as amended, submission of this information is required for eligibility to apply for grants

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete, obtain certification signatures and submit this checklist with a locally adopted recreation plan.

All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park and Recreation Plans* provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Plans must be submitted to the DNR through MiRecGrants **with** a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan. Plans may be submitted at any time of the year, but no later than February 1 of the year the local unit of government is applying for grants.

PLAN INFORMATION		
Name of Plan: Village of Grand Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2020-2024		
List the community names (including school districts) that are covered under the plan and have passed a resolution adopting the plan.	County	Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body
Village of Grand Beach	Berrien	December 2019
PLAN CONTENT		
INSTRUCTIONS: Please check <u>each</u> box to certify that the listed information is included in the <u>final</u> plan.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current Funding Sources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Role of Volunteers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations Recreation Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only: <input type="checkbox"/> Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities <input type="checkbox"/> Articles of Incorporation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. RECREATION INVENTORY		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessibility Assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterways Inventory (if applicable)		
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS		

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received

Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment

Date of the Notice 10/10/19

Type of Notice Newspaper

Plan Location Website, Village Hall

Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) 10/10/19-11/20/19

Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)

Date of Notice 10/10/19

Name of Newspaper New Buffalo Times

Date of Meeting 11/20/19

Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

8. ACTION PROGRAM

9. POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT(S) Not applicable

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION: For multi-jurisdictional plans, **each** local unit of government must pass a resolution adopting the plan. Prepare and attach a separate page for each unit of government included in the plan.

1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: December 18, 2019

2. Official resolution of the _____ Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: _____

3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: December 19, 2019

4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: December 19, 2019

OVERALL CERTIFICATION

NOTE: For multi-jurisdictional plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of each local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page for each unit of government included in the plan.

I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

Village of Grand Beach *includes the required content, as indicated*

(Local Unit of Government)

above and as set forth by the DNR.

 12/20/19

Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government Date

This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.

Copies of Letters to Berrien County and Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

December 19, 2019

Evan Smith, Transportation/Planning Coordinator
Berrien County Community Development Department
701 Main St
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Village of Grand Beach adopted their 2020-2024 Parks and Recreation Master Plan on December 18, 2019. This five-year plan reflects the Village's commitment to comprehensive recreational planning. It is a mechanism to solicit input from residents, establishes a framework for evaluation of projects, assists in determining long term funding needs, guides annual budgeting, and helps build public support for new project funding initiatives.

Prior to submitting the document to Michigan DNR, the State requires that we provide your agency a copy of the adopted Recreation Plan. A pdf version of the plan will be sent via email. If you would prefer to have a paper copy on file, please let us know and one will be provided.

Sincerely,

Abonmarche

95 West Main Street
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
269-927-2295

Joelle Regovich

From: Joelle Regovich
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2019 4:19 PM
To: esmith1@berriencounty.org
Cc: clerk@grandbeach.org
Subject: Village of Grand Beach 2020-2024 Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Attachments: Grand Beach 2020-2024 Parks and Recreation Plan FINAL 2019-12-18sm.pdf

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Sincerely,

Joelle Regovich
Grant Administrator
D 269.926.4579
O 269.927.2295 ext. 150
W www.abonmarche.com



December 19, 2019

K. John Egelhaaf, Executive Director
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
185 E Main St, Suite 701
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Dear Mr. Egelhaaf:

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Benton Harbor, MI 49022
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From: Joelle Regovich
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2019 4:19 PM
To: 'egelhaafj@swmpc.org'
Cc: clerk@grandbeach.org
Subject: Village of Grand Beach 2020-2024 Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Attachments: Grand Beach 2020-2024 Parks and Recreation Plan FINAL 2019-12-18sm.pdf

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Appendix B – Public Survey Results

1. Please select the neighborhood in which you live.

Old Village/Holiday Hills	57%
Sun Valley Falls/Alpine Valley	12%
Eiffel Tower/Dunes	13%
Fifteen Acres/Fox Trail	5%
Golfmore Estates	4%
New Park Addition to GB Springs/Hidden Valley	8%

2. Is Grand Beach your primary residence?

Yes	37%
No	63%

3. How many persons live in your home year round?

0	44%
1	6%
2	32%
3	4%
4	4%
5	5%
6	4%

4. How many family members or guests use your home part time?

0	15%
1	3%
2	9%
3	4%
4	10%
5	11%
6	15%
7	4%
8	5%
9	2%
10	6%
11	0%
12 or more	15%

5. Does anyone in your household have special accessibility needs for park or beach amenities? If yes, please describe.

7% or 22 respondents said "Yes" with the majority of comments citing difficulty using stairs to get to the beach.

Comments:

1. Aging, stairs difficult
2. Stairs difficult
3. Disabled
4. I'm a 41 yr old disabled male who lives with his parents who walks with the aid of crutches and a wheelchair.
5. This is only area that allows for an explanation. My response is to the last question regarding "pickle ball courts." This survey is geared toward "wants" rather than "needs." Careful spending is essential now. Pickle ball courts ok in future.
6. Not yet, but soon
7. My parents are in their eighties and can't go down the stairs
8. 87 year old mother needs assistance walking
9. My wife has serious knee problems and walks with a cane.
10. Age vs. 100 steps at Skyhi beach access.
11. Age makes it difficult to use the steep stair at Ski Hi Beach access
12. Older people and kids that make lots of stairs tougher.
13. We are nearing our senior years, and expect that soon we will not be able to get down to the shoreline.
14. We are in our mid 60's and cannot carry a kayak up and down a lot of stairs to access the lake. We've seen kayak racks at Michiana Shores beach and would love to have something similar somewhere along Grand Beach.
15. 2 Grandmas
16. Wheelchair
17. Elderly mother-in-law who could use help at overlooks to lake (she cannot go to beach anymore)
18. Formerly, my handicapped husband could be driven in the golf cart to go up to the bench view located at Soybeana. Then, the pavers, which are horrible for handicapped persons, went in, and he was denied golf cart access. I cannot wheel him to those benches since it is an incline, and the pavers, which are not always steady, would make it more difficult. That is #1. #2 is his loss of enjoying the property now always referred to as 42 acres. I could drive him through on the golf cart, he could view as much of it as the golf cart could travel through on the pathways, and that was great. Now, here we go, being PC is more important, I guess, and he cannot see any of it any more. So, what will probably happen, oh, I guess a slight offering of an observation deck, which is not a good replacement in the 42 acres. And, nothing will be restored to his former usage at Soybeana. Too bad.
19. Walking problems
20. But as relatives age, it would be great to have a ramp (vs. stairs) to go down to the beach. (When the beach comes back!) :)

21. Not yet, but stairs with railing are a NECCESITY
22. The current answer is no but having recently had surgery, I'm prohibited from climbing he 100+ stairs at our nearest beach access. Also both Royal and Calla beach paths are way too steep to provide relief. Maybe an ATV, not a golf cart
23. Stairs are a problem for some visitors
24. We are grandparents who for 20 years have had to walk down steepest hill (Call Access-Alpine Valley) to beach. Access is 50 feet wide plenty of room for construction vehicles as well as stairs. Even though small beach it is widely used.

6. Please tell us our opinion on the overall quality of existing Village facilities.

	No Opinion	Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
Lake Viewing Platforms	8%	19%	26%	21%	20%	5%
Lake Michigan Beach	4%	78%	8%	4%	4%	2%
42 Acre Walking Paths	26%	7%	14%	23%	23%	7%
Sidewalks	33%	29%	15%	12%	8%	3%
Clubhouse	6%	5%	17%	28%	34%	10%
Playground Equipment	16%	10%	14%	25%	27%	8%
Tennis Courts	22%	9%	11%	21%	27%	10%
Volleyball Court	35%	6%	8%	21%	21%	9%
Basketball Court	29%	3%	9%	26%	22%	12%
Golf Course	9%	0%	8%	19%	43%	20%
Pro Shop	11%	3%	12%	28%	36%	10%
Driving Range	17%	9%	12%	24%	27%	11%
Youth Social Club	61%	0%	5%	7%	15%	12%
Youth Tennis Program	66%	0%	2%	7%	17%	9%
Youth Golf Program	59%	0%	1%	6%	20%	15%
Family Movie Nights	66%	1%	2%	7%	16%	8%

7. How often do you use the following Village recreation facilities?

	Never	Not Often	Somewhat Often	Often	Very Often
Lake Viewing Platforms	8%	19%	27%	25%	21%
Lake Michigan Beach	6%	17%	15%	23%	39%
42 Acre Walking Paths	22%	31%	25%	13%	9%
Sidewalks	33%	27%	19%	12%	9%
Clubhouse	7%	30%	19%	24%	21%
Playground Equipment	24%	27%	25%	14%	10%
Tennis Courts	36%	31%	23%	9%	2%
Volleyball Court	52%	34%	9%	3%	2%
Basketball Court	39%	31%	17%	10%	4%
Golf Course	12%	13%	23%	23%	28%
Pro Shop	8%	17%	27%	26%	23%
Driving Range	21%	25%	27%	15%	13%
Youth Social Club	67%	10%	9%	9%	5%
Youth Tennis Program	74%	11%	4%	6%	5%
Youth Golf Program	68%	10%	4%	9%	8%
Family Movie Nights	69%	16%	9%	5%	2%

8. How often would you use the following beach access points if you could access the beach or use a lake viewing platform?

	Never	Not Often	Somewhat Often	Often	Very Often
Whitewood	20%	16%	15%	16%	33%
Royal ramp	19%	19%	18%	16%	28%
Ely	25%	22%	20%	12%	20%
Pine	27%	23%	21%	13%	17%
Oak	29%	25%	20%	12%	14%
Cedar	29%	26%	15%	12%	17%
Pump House/Walnut	18%	21%	17%	17%	27%
Skyhi	51%	22%	12%	6%	9%
McKean	48%	25%	11%	6%	9%
Lake	43%	24%	14%	7%	13%
Lake Park	44%	22%	12%	9%	13%
Robin	46%	22%	9%	8%	14%
Lee Point	50%	24%	9%	7%	10%

9. On a scale of 1-5, 1 being not in favor and 5 being strongly in favor, would you like the Village to construct pickleball courts?

1	27%
2	6%
3	29%
4	12%
5	26%

10. If in favor, which of these areas in Grand Beach should they be built?

Existing Park on Royal Ave	57%
New park by Clubhouse	34%
New park area in 42 acres	9%

11. Please rank the importance to you of the following possible parks, beach, and recreation projects:

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Indifferent	Not Important	Do Not Support
Replace playground equipment	10%	34%	25%	18%	12%
Resurface the tennis courts	10%	29%	32%	16%	12%
Construct pickleball courts	27%	6%	29%	12%	26%
Construct a community swimming pool	23%	20%	8%	11%	39%
Construct larger lake viewing platforms	28%	27%	22%	11%	12%
Remove old metal sheeting from beach areas	51%	28%	12%	5%	4%
Increase maintenance (grooming and cleaning) of the beach	51%	23%	15%	6%	5%
Repair/replace tennis court fencing	9%	16%	31%	26%	18%
Construct a dog park	7%	11%	21%	20%	40%
Construct a new park/playground by Pro Shop	5%	18%	24%	20%	33%
Beach Preservation/Protection	89%	8%	1%	0%	2%
Expand variety of items at Pro Shop	5%	28%	37%	18%	12%
Make Whitewood Pier safe and accessible	37%	29%	19%	11%	4%
Improve cooking facilities at Pro Shop by adding a grill	12%	20%	28%	20%	19%
Improve and expand Village sidewalks	13%	21%	20%	22%	24%
Construct bocce ball court	6%	19%	33%	14%	29%
Develop ball field	4%	12%	29%	18%	37%

12. The current budget does not currently allow for the projects listed in the prior question. Since the Village receives less than 25% of your tax dollars if the Village is your primary residence and approximately 14% if you are a seasonal resident, would you be willing to support an assessment or millage increase for one or more of the projects listed?

Yes	57%
No	43%

13. What additional per home annual amount would be acceptable to you for the maintenance/improvement of existing recreational facilities and/or the new facility options referenced in Question 11?

\$0	26%
\$1-100	13%
\$101-200	21%
\$201-500	22%
\$501 or more	18%

14. Would you be willing to make an annual donation to support one or more of the above projects? If so, what annual donation would be acceptable to you?

\$0	36%
\$1-100	22%
\$101-200	16%
\$201-500	17%
\$501 or more	10%

15. Which of the following funding sources should be used by the Village for improving, maintaining, and developing recreation facilities?

Grants	71%
Donations	62%
Matching Grants	59%
Increased Millage	42%

16. What I like about the Village's Parks & Recreation Opportunities:

I like it looking like country and want to stay as much like it's always been as possible.
Everything. I especially enjoy running up here. Just makes me smile as I run through the village, over the golf course, on the trails, it's a magical place!
Love Grand Beach, the beauty, the social activities, the relaxed atmosphere ,
Golf course is well maintained & we use often. Walking paths in 42 Acres maintained. Lake Park viewing platform.
We have been coming to Grand Beach since we were kids and adore everything about it Really appreciate the social club and golf
Golf course, especially important now we don't have much beach. Walking paths and open space. The Lake Park viewing platform.
They are natural, casual, country like. Not trying to be a country club. Social Club run by all homeowners who join is in charge of social activities.
Ok as it is.
We like how quiet and private Grand Beach is and don't want to make it into a busy town.
We love the quiet, peaceful nature of GB. We would like to see this village remain a quiet get away with "country like" atmosphere & not a mini suburb.
Location is nice. It appears to be often.
I like the golf course, tennis courts and park.
The beach. We need to do more to protect what's left.
N/a
The beach
We come for the beach. Love the way Grand Beach feels pulling through the gate. Enjoy the Social Club activities, playground, and occasional golf
Grand Beach is beautiful! Spend the most time enjoying the lake and beach
Fosters a sense of community.
Very family friendly and has a large sense of community
Family friendly and keeps with longstanding tradition of GB
Kids (of home owners) can enjoy. There are far too many outside visitors using our facilities!
Very family friendly
They are family friendly
I was happy with the past committee
I was happy with the past committee
Great space for families that maintains the traditional atmosphere of Grand Beach
Great for families. Traditional feel of Grand Beach.
We love the park. The clubhouse has such untapped potential. We don't really care so much about additional fields or 42 acres, but the beach situation needs to be addressed!
Love the relaxed natural feeling, a true escape from the hustle and bustle world. Grand beach couldn't be any prettier. It's her time to really appreciate nature and the beauty of God's gift
Improve beach.

Everything seems to revolve around golf course only. There's much room for improvements everywhere.
Need more volunteers.
More than adequate for a non-resident community.
Convenience to beach and golf.
Like everything.
Park facilities are serving our community just fine.
I like the old-fashioned equipment at the playground. And I would like if I beaches could be preserved. I use the beaches all the time
Overall facilities are adequate. We would be willing to financially support projects to improve the beach areas.
The access and the number of opportunities.
Grand Beach offers a
I like the old park. I played on that merry-go-round when I was a kid and now my kids play on it
Something for all ages
Conveniently located to houses
I love the natural beauty of the Village, the proximity to the Lake and the abundance of mature-growth trees. You can do a lot with parks and rec with the beauty of the landscape as your starting point.
I like everything, however I would like to see additional recreational opportunities up near the clubhouse
Property values and general quality of life in GB could be maintained/enhanced if we can proactively invest in development and retention of beach. Likely meaning break-walls or other permanent structures in the lake. In my view this should be THE priority of the village
There is a variety of recreational activities to choose from.
I like the new items at the pro-shop. The golf course has never been better.
No comment
Variety of kid activities
--
The accessibility of the park, golf course, pro shop/clubhouse, and Saturday Mass at the Clubhouse
Moving playground ... expanding recreational facilities
Ease of access
The location
Golf course, clubhouse, lakaefront
Hopeful
close by to home
Pickleball court, golf
Convenient
variety
Well maintained

The beaches, which have largely disappeared are the Village's most important asset. It is vital to restore and maintain them. The loss of beaches poorly impacts our property values
Moved here for the "Grand Beach". Very sad it is gone.
They are well maintained and nice
Not sure
Choices
Classic fun
When kids were little, we liked the park. Hate that there is no beach.
It is a great village that keeps things simple
I like keeping things simple. No need to expand pro shop; not looking to make this a mini New Buffalo; it should stay a neighborhood
Family fun
Room for improvement
Need a pool
diverse option list...thank you!
Golf facilities have much potential. Would be willing to pay more for an upgrade
Playground needs updating but IMO all resources should be directed towards the beach
They exist for all
Golf course
These opportunities would demonstrate that we are a progressive community willing to support necessary change that shows a positive cultural/ social community
The community needs to show investment and modernization in order to protect property values and attract next generation
Good quality
Golf course
If we do a community pool people would see each other while the beaches are gone
We have the land and opportunity to improve our beautiful community and we should support any reasonable donation or tax addition to see these projects completed
I like that they are finally being recognized
The park
Upgrading amenities so we can fully enjoy activities, encourage interaction among residents and increase activities available to kids and adults alike
Swimming pool!!! We need better amenities
Of all the village amenities, the beach tops the list and just needs a council that understands this and acts to protect this amazing resource we are blessed to have in our village.
The fact that you are asking the residents what they feel is important, but lets act on the results.
Golf and park area
I like the variety, i.e., tennis, golf, playground as well as beaches (at least in the past). I especially like the walking paths in the 42 acres. I hope the Village is able to acquire an maintain it.
Just beautiful to be here and have these facilities here

proximity, easy access, "primitiveness"
I like them as they are.
Golf course
The beach is our top priority; but we use the viewing platforms, golf course and club house.
Nice playground golf course courts!
Ease of access to all of the amenities.
We have the space .. need to bring GB into the 21st Century.
<p>Grand Beach is a treasure for all who live here. We have tremendous assets here to take care of, improve on and provide for. The parks need to be updated and improved on! Recreation Opportunities are wonderful here! The beaches..we hope return. In the mean time access points can be beautified with more seating (maybe benches, wider path-ways, some simple landscaping and bike parking etc. Pump house beach and Royal beach could have viewing platforms built for all to enjoy. Lets take advantage of our pier and build decking to it for handicap accessibility too. The driving range could be improved!! Lets have a vision of improving our golf course by hiring an architect to give us a plan for these improvements and we can work on them over time. Lets update our park on royal with improved accessibility for elderly and ada needs and bring some new items into existing equipment to update. Lets add a small park up by the clubhouse near 2 new pickle-ball courts. Long term goals to add a viewing platform off the clubhouse in back and make the upstairs more accessible to elderly and ada need. This place is so beautiful!! We can maintain the character of GB by planning well and having the right architects help us with planning. Let's have a vision and work that vision!! Lastly...Lets look into building off-shore break walls ourselves and protect our beaches for the years to come so our grand children and great grandchildren and beyond will always have beach!!</p>
<p>I see very little point in putting money on beaches while water levels are so high. Developing viewing sites seems to make more sense. Although the park equipment is older it is enjoyed by the younger children it was intended for. I am concerned about the noise that is generated by the pickle ball players/paddles. An area would need to be developed where noise would not disturb home owners. Personally I would not use them, and don't mind them but would not contribute to building them or taking resources away from other needs. I think activities for children and families is what has made Grand Beach the home away from home for many generations.</p>
Maintenance
The improvements that may be made
They're easily accessible and functional
Beach, clubhouse
<p>Golf course is a wonderful asset for our Village and should be funded accordingly. This asset increases home values and much more can be done to make it more than it is today. The beach needs viewing platforms. If Mother Nature is not going to work with us, then we need to allow the residents to view our beautiful sunsets every evening. Clubhouse is still one of the best places for children and adults. We need to put money into our clubhouse and pro shop to make them even more to the community than they are today.</p>
Designed to support wide range of ages and abilities
How you can use the basketball court and tennis court for pickleball
Love the beach! Enjoy the park, and nature areas

I love this community that I have been raised in for over 40 years. Improvements are necessary.
Park is still a hit with kids! Golf course is great.
Beach and golf course, children's golf, tennis, park
We liked the playground/basketball courts when our kids were little. It's nice to have non-golf activities
all good ideas to improve location desirability and quality of life
no opinion
I love our Village just the way it is. I applaud the Village for obtaining the grant for the Nature Preserve and am extremely supportive of the Village's using whatever means necessary to accept the grant. A good track record is essential for obtaining future grants.
Always available
Fundamentally, the Village offers a great offering of recreation opportunities. However, maintenance of existing facilities are very poor. Further, the Village has to stay up to date with new developments in recreation like the advent of Pickleball as a wonderful game for both youth and older residents.
Beach preservation is by far the most important item on the list of improvements to be made. I would like to have dedicated Pickleball courts, a sidewalk on Royal from the park to the arch and bigger lake viewing platforms but only if we have addressed the lack of beach issue..
It builds a sense of community
Best thing is the golf course
Prospect of preserving beach
Fun
There is quite a variety and I feel safe letting my kids explore on their own too.
accessible
Well, what are our opportunities! Lets just take care of what we have. Tennis, playground, maintain our current maintenance of the golf course, maintain the beach when Mother Nature makes the swing, just leave 42 acres like it is if we purchase.
Nice sense of community & plenty of good space to play and recreate
I live at a most glorious spot to live. However, telling me to take care of my lawn is Crazy when I live next to a Sea Worthy Storage Container. It has been there for going on 3 Years!
Beach access
golf course and park...miss the beaches!
that they are available year-round
golf course and the children's park
keep everything safe
Convenience
The Beaches
Something for everyone
Get rid of the Harbor Breakwater and restore beach
Great activities in summer
Playground needs serious improvement, especially with the lack of beach right now and amount of kids in GB

Parks and recreation are very important to the village. It will enhance the village and home values. I would vary my support based on the project proposed
Invest in our health and community wellbeing for today and tomorrow.
Ability to use ehenebrr
Variety
THEY WORK AND ALL CHILDREN LOVE THEM
They bring my family together for outdoor activities. It's my favorite part of summer
Better lifestyle for residents
Beach is most important.
I like that it's open to everyone all the time. Very casual and not stuffy.
Playground works for wide range of ages. Golf course and walking trails are well maintained
I think the village could ask for help doing a fund raiser and could raise the money that way. I for one would be very willing to help. My daughter and I were just talking that it is a shame your not doing a 50/50 raffle at the family fest. Would both be willing to run around selling tickets.
Fine as they are
Our community has that small town vibe. Everyone is friendly when you pass them by. The neighborhoods are well maintained and our area is fairly quiet. What we miss the most is our beaches. It has been very sad for our family to come up here since the 60's and not be able to have access to our beautiful beach right at our doorstep that we've had in our past years of living here. 😞
like park and golf course
Golf, viewing platforms
Open to all, few restrictions, family atmosphere, love that all are accessible by golf cart
Consider a public pool - we have no beach
ease of use and access
Golf Course & Lake Viewing Platform
Golf course, beach, playground
The golf course and golf cart walking paths and tennis courts
We should be concentrating on getting grants to maintain our beaches first !! And foremost. With beach there is no reason to call us GRAND BEACH. Every available dollar needs to go into preservation of our beaches. We should be putting in beach jetties!! This is the primary reason people move here.
Golf course, driving range
That they exist. The quality of all facilities could improve.
I just like that it's kept up well and it's a peaceful beautiful community.
That we have one
Golf
If by 'opportunities' you mean the accessibility of the recreation facilities - we feel they are wonderful. Well organized, maintained and managed.
Golf course and playground (including tennis courts, basketball,etc)
,

The facilities are well-kept and varied.
Using existing taxable revenue to maintain
none
Opportunities abound. Facilities are well used and look tired. All kid related equipment located off Royal Ave and most/all other facilities west of golf course. No/few sidewalks to safely access suc facilities
n/a
Improve the beach situation asap! Improve the existing park area by adding a couple pickle ball courts (the fasting growing court sport in the US!!) Improve the Clubhouse (which needs updating) and perhaps add a swimming pool!
Golf cart paths in 42 acres
Walking paths
They are plentiful in nature for age groups and interests.
n/a
golf related, walking/running related
The golf course
Not overdeveloped-residents pursue creative recreation without made-to-order cookie cutter rec facilities
Playground, tennis area to be used by all
playground
Good maintenance of existing parks/golf course
history/family accessibility
Very important to upkeep what we have as it is part of our charm.
They look nice but do not use them very often
Great programs for children.
The golf course could be very special if money was put back into it and not taken out for other projects
Our golf course is a gem.
please fix the beach
Better care for beaches and access
There is an opportunity for improved management
user friendly
Keeping up existing offerings
Our family is delighted by the opportunities offered in Grand Beach that appeal to a variety of ages and interests. Thank you for all of the efforts put into these opportunities.
Property values and general quality of life in GB could be maintained/enhanced if we can proactively invest in development and retention of beach. Likely meaning break-walls or other permanent structures in the lake.
??

access to lake michigan, both to view and to walk, which are unique to our area. The walking paths are also an unspoiled view of nature. Golf in the village is a great asset and draw for the community.

Variety

Golf course and basketball courts. Beach when we have it.

we have alot more to offer as a village than other areas around us. INVEST so NEW AND YOUNGER FAMILIES WANT TO COME AND INVEST IN PROPERTIES

They are commensurate with the history and nature of our Village

children's social club

Love the idea of having these resources but they are old and out of date we need to invest more in the parks and condition of the neighborhood while the beach is under mother natures control which will take time to come back now is the time to focus in the parks and sidewalks and viewing platforms

17. What I don't like about the Village's Parks & Recreation Opportunities:

I don't like the idea of all these changes. I'd like to keep old Grand Beach
Really hope the beach comes back
We think they're great. We do miss driving our golf cart past Rhode Fields
No golf carts in 42 Acres. We miss this a lot! Lack of beaches and beach access.
High Lake Michigan water levels and how they affect the beaches and property values
No golf carts in 42 Acres. Lack of beaches & safe accesses.
Village should join with beachfront coalition in protecting & preserving lakefront.
All Ok.
The area around tennis court & park is crowded and has become dangerous with the addition of 2 new homes & driveways entering & exiting traffic.
Parking can be an issue.
The condition of the beach is deplorable.
Lack of action by board members over the past decade to take beach erosion seriously. Planning should already be well underway.
N/a
beach erosion
Concerned about beach erosion and lake levels
Like to be able to walk our dog freely,, ie at the park. Really enjoyed and miss riding golf cart through the 42 acres. Too many rules
Attracts too many people for a small village.
COST!! A community pool is a terrible idea!
COST
Too many outside people using the taxpayer funded facilities!
The cost and what appears to be the ruining of the tradition of Grand Beach
It seems like the Plans are trying to ruin the beauty and tradition of grand beach.
Need to focus on improving the beach
Need to focus on improving the beach
Cost; the community pool is a terrible idea.
Cost and increased non-resident presence in the Village.
See above. Work on clubhouse and beach
Concerned about rising Lake Michigan levels and hope the village finds a way to help
Improve beach.
I don't like that they want to move the park and tennis courts. Leave them be. It's nice to see them when you arrive in the Village.
Everything is adequate except for the beach.
The lack of beaches and the lack of sand on the beaches.
All is well.
No beach
....
I think the village is doing a good job

Opinions addressed in our prior answers
The rules about no carts on the trails. You are punishing the residents for the actions of a few irresponsible jerks.
No carts on trails. Take responsibility for finding out who is abusive and take their golf cart permit away. Don't punish everyone.
Need more variety like pickle ball, swimming pool, etc.
Equipment and courts are old and could use updating to keep interest and for safety reasons.
Limited with safe equipment and lack of planning
The Beach is a core asset and it has been systematically underfunded and deemphasized in the past 5 years. There are things well within the Village's control (eg, maintenance, safety, accessibility and access) that can and should be addressed now, regardless of Lake water levels.
Nothing
Acquiring the 42 acres distracts the energy and financial resources of the village away from beach enhancement. Resident's concerns about the development of 42 acres could easily be managed with appropriate zoning and oversight.
Sometimes there is a line to use sports areas in the village.
Stop this 42 acres madness. If you really wanted to fix the roads, pay for the 42 acres, purchase a new golf course irrigation system, protect the pumphouse, and put revetments in the beach, pass a millage to do all of this and be done with it already! the average bill will go up only approximately \$550. A couple of us have had this reviewed by a municipal bondsman and several municipal attorneys. There is a way to bypass all the delay and empty promises the township holds and do this ourselves. Have the courage to find the leadership to see this through!
No comment
I think the focus of all efforts and money should be on bringing back our beaches.
Poor beach access and dirty beaches
--
The village has stopped caring about the beach. What once was "Grand Beach" has now become nothing but a golf course and I feel that the representation of people who enjoy the beach is very slim when making village decisions. I have spoken to an extreme amount of residents who state while they enjoy the golf course and other things Grand Beach has to offer, their overall main concern is the beach and the maintenance of "Grand Beach." My family has considered other places for a summer home due to the decrease in beach size and quality and what appears to be overall negligence of the safety and appearance of the little beach we have left.
Dog park / sidewalks
Current status of the beach
Nothing
NO BEACH!!!!!!
Lack of improving various locations
over crowding
Beach area, good walking path
The beach is terrible..it should be our number one priority.
Don't like the tennis court surface. Wish there was a pool
little run down
None

The loss of our beaches and deterioration of steps to the beach especially at Ski Hi.
Loss of our beach. Nothing can replace it.
Not sure
No beach!!! We need to bring back the beach
You never cleaned the beaches in Eiffel Tower. Now we have no beaches. That should be your focus or real estate values all over GB will drop
NA
No beach. If you aren't an avid golfer, Grand Beach has really nothing to offer. Shopping and activities are 20 minutes away,
It's absurd that you we let outsiders take over the golf course--it should be available for residents/guests/renters and we should institute some ground rules (no cart rentals, no coolers of beer, no cut-off jean shorts or t-shirts)
From my perspective, the beaches should be the one and only priority at this point other than routine maintenance for courts, golf course and the like.
Beach needs grooming
Too small a percentage of the budget is used for them.
N/a
nothing
Neighborhood needs to evolve to current trends. Upgrade beaches, Clubhouse, Pickleball and potentially Paddle Tennis
Need to narrow focus
N/a
Golf cart driving age
That the steel on the beach is still there and has never been addressed it shows a total indifference by our leaders - it's unsafe and plain ugly
Too many proposals not enough surplus need prioritization
Not that much to do
Pool with Bar and grill
nothing
They seem to be frozen in carrying through with any improvements with a "no funds" excuse but no positive solutions
The fact that the basketball court is being turned into pickle ball courts. It is meant for basketball, hence the two hoops.
The beach looks awful
Don't like not being able to drive golf carts in 42 acres. I feel that most people stayed on the paths & to take that away for the bad actions of a small number of people is a shame. Not everyone can enjoy the paths on foot (elderly, disabled, young children). Taking golf cart rides with Grandma & Grandpa was a great tradition in our family and it's a shame it isn't allowed to continue for the next generation.
Dog park is dumb, spending more than \$1,000 for pickle ball courts is dumb, and no one play bocce ball anymore.
I like some of ideas but I have a problem spending money on any of them when we can't keep the small beaches we have free of debris.

Very little from the last survey and plan 5 years ago was accomplished. We spend money to update the plans that could have been spent on smaller projects. The village has lost an important beach accesses, which the village used to be able to get equipment for cleanup or ATV's down for emergencies. The village should demand that the companies using these accesses for revetment, either pay rental, or return them to former access points.
No need for sidewalk near entry gate along fence
Need for more/better playground equipment
What little beach we have needs clean up...
lots of mosquitos
The thought of spending money on a pickle ball court is asinine. There are far greater and more pressing issues facing the Village. Let's focus on being responsible by maintaining what we have before we start trying to build new things (especially things that are not necessary and that are primarily a temporary trend).
I think a pickleball court is a waste of money.
Neglect of beaches on a weekly basis
The diminished beach and the rocks on the beach.
The ways the beach has gone downhill over the last few years. Grand beach cannot be as GRAND without the BEACH.
Dated, appears dirty and worn
No one wants to pay for anything. The village demographics make it difficult to get everyone on the same page.
Pickle ball should only come after existing facilities are improved, especially the beach
Lack of funding presently! Poor quality and updating needs of what we have. Lack of landscaping around access areas. No ada accessibility to beaches. Need new fencing around Tennis Courts. Lack of safe sidewalk all along Royal from the Arches. See #16
Need to help fix the beaches
They could easily gain more attraction with a way clearer look with new equipment
N/a
Playground close to Royal Ave. Better to put it close to the pro shop next to the parking lot. Ball field needs to be permanent and not half into the fairway on the golf course. The new 42 acres would be a good place for ball field. No pickle board courts. Move the playground from busy Royal Ave and put pickle ball courts in its place. Tennis courts need to be resurfaced. This is why there are very many people who play tennis here. Fix it and they will come. Walkers and bikers need protection from cars between GB gate and Royal Ave. sidewalk needed in this area from the GB gate to Station road. Clubhouse is nice for large gathers, but we need smaller rooms for different occasions. A new multifunctional facility would be welcomed by many. No beach, then community pool by the Pro Shop would be important for all who suffer from beach erosion and do not have a pool. Forest Beach has a pool and it is very nice for the residents.
Current beach access negatively affecting neighborhood feel
I want to be able to drive my golf cart on the 47 acre trails
Want golf carts allowed in 42 acre trails
Loss of Beach
Beaches need to come back
No beach

My recollection was that the basketball/tennis./playground areas were quite run down when we used them. We stopped using them in part because of that. We have not checked them in the past few years since our kids are grown.
very far-reaching...wondering if there could ever be a consensus
no opinion
I think at this point, it is way more important for the Village to take steps to update the water source for the golf course and help protect our beaches. I feel spending money creating a separate pickleball court is a waste of Village resources when the existing tennis courts can be lined and used for both sports.
Nothing
Fundamentally, the Village offers a great offering of recreation opportunities. However, maintenance of existing facilities are very poor. Further, the Village has to stay up to date with new developments in recreation like the advent of Pickleball as a wonderful game for both youth and older residents.
As someone who loves to pick up stones and beach glass I hate the idea of grooming the beaches.
The tennis courts are in terrible shape as is the park.
Not having any beach.
.
Nothing
Outdated equipment at park and beaches in such poor condition.
not enough work done on the beaches
nothing
Once again, there isn't a list of opportunities.
Fix the beach access, platforms and viewing areas. Critical.
The poorly care for lots and storage container at the end of Hole #1. It is an obscenity Follow your request: Lawn Maintenance It has been brought to our attention that there are property owners in the Village that are not maintaining their lawns. Please make sure that you or your landscaper is maintaining your lawn to keep Grand Beach looking beautiful!
Need more during winter for full time residents
beaches and access in current distress
most of the opportunities are clustered in the old village; the lack of sidewalks/bike paths makes it hard to get to these opportunities from the rest of the village
Dogs being allowed on the beach
cannot drive carts on trails. We need to drive in trails and police those who go off the trails.
The lack of beaches in the Dunes area is disappointing. Are there any prospects of lower lake water levels so that beach land would exist?
Beach rules & warnings posted where there is no access @ Lake Park . Ugly ,useless & confusing
No street lights in the Eiffel Tower/Dunes area!
No adult tennis league
No beach
Playground needs serious improvement
Like the new 42 acres without motorized vehicles but am disappointed in the lack of attention the area now receives. I find the golf course to be a great asset with tremendous potential but it seems we only do what is necessary and that is a disappointment
Nothing

No real beach access to those of us in the Hidden valley area. No buoys down here either.
Beach conditions (although we recognize its beyond the village control)
I LIKE EVERYTHING
Little to no beach access is disappointing and not how I grew up in grand beach, so I miss it!
Some appear unnecessary
Beach maintenance
I'd love to see some summer leagues maybe. And there a lot of questions about the sidewalks. Where are there sidewalks in grand beach?
The non existent beach. It's so sad to see
They are fine as they are
Sure would like to see a pool
We enjoy our time in Grand Beach each time we come up here. Every season brings beautiful scenery and wonderful memories. Just want our beaches back!!!!
Inadequate beach access in Eifel Tower. Complete lack of beach access for safety/emergency vehicles
Rocky beaches if there is any beach
Consider a public pool - we have no beach
Lack of availability of clubhouse
equipment aging
I stated at length our issues above. One thing that needs to be understood is we need our beach before we need the 42 acres cost. Also, our condo assoc. in Fla, painted lines for two pickle ball courts right on our tennis courts. That is cheaper, and all players can sign in and take turns if tennis or pickle ball is desired. Why go to the expense of building courts? Give us a break.
Erosion of Beaches & No Public Pool
The improper prioritization of the village budget. The beach & lakefront is what drives our property values but are given little attention or even basic maintenance. Really, really sad.
Conditions of the beaches in that there is no sand; lack of available area for dogs and lack of bocce courts
There are to many people who come to use the parks that do not live here
Outdated, poor condition, volleyball courts should be in a better location not within trees as sand has sticks everywhere (make true sand courts)
acceptable quality. Would like to see quality increase
Beach quality for what we have, access to view of lake, owners have planted bushes, hedges and trees obstructing views over their lot line!
Kudos to all the opportunities. My only issue is I wish the speed limit signs were updated and a few more installed with some additional children playing signs. Now that my kids are teen drivers I feel they need constant reminding to drive SLOWLY. Can the street be repainted with the SLOW DOWN signage? We thought it was very effective. Thanks for all you do!
Beach and beach access points have been allowed to degrade. This is an important part of the community -- how can we call it grand beach if there isn't a beach? Village needs to do a better job with beaches and if that requires increased taxes or a millage, we should have one. The beach is a community asset that everyone should be able to enjoy and that everyone is responsible for paying for.

There really isn't anything...but I just wish the beach would come back. (Which I know is out of everyone's control!)
Exceeding existing budgeted designated financial resources.
none
Not significant improvements over 25 years in GB.
n/a
Sidewalks, and the continued prohibition of using carts in the 42 acre area!
Not enough to do
Nothing.
Everything is dated and old
42 acres is a non starter for me. viewing platforms need to be maintained due to non beach in the village
beach issues
Park is damp, too close to the street, some equipment is dated. The beach is awful. There are no sidewalks.
no beach-completely changes the ambience of Grand Beach
Need beach access and beach nourishment. Need to pay/tax for it if necessary. Beach is number 1 problem to solve
Neglect of beach accessibility and maintenance
really do not use them
dated, aging,basic
Don't want to overspend or get ahead of our budget.
Nothing
Volleyball and basketball courts are backwards. Volleyball should be in sun, basketball shade
Like everyone the loss of our beaches. Devastating to our community.
lots of things on the list
Some not needed
Improved management has not been realized
all ok for what we use
Should not pay for new things that a few desire
Nothing comes to mind.
Not a fan of the 42 acres investment. I don't see it bringing nearly the value to the community as, say, having a robust and stable beach.
Need updating
the beach access points and observation areas are not maintained well.
Not enough given beach problems- pool pickle ball needed. Most everywhere Pickle ball is lined on tennis courts. If we resurfaced it would solve the Pickle Ball location problem.
I think we should have something for all ages if enough resources and interest.
What are we doing about new opps - everything is just maintain to keep it going. INVEST
Some areas/equipment could us updates
Park and Beach need major renovations.

I love the idea of updating outdated playground only thing I do not like is the the age demographic & part time residence inside GB is not looking at anything long term only looking at the short term and this area has the chance to become a great location in which the families will be begging to be part of our neighborhood which will raise all property values.

18. What improvements or additional services do you suggest for the Village's parks, beaches, or golf course?

<p>Don't add all these things. Keep beautiful country Grand Beach. Don't raise taxes. Any resources available should be used for the beach. Fix the beaches, get New Buffalo to correct harbor wall to let the sand come past</p>
<p>If there's anything they can do to help bring back the big beautiful beaches, we are for that.</p>
<p>No improvements needed.</p>
<p>Eventually sewer system probably should be in the plans</p>
<p>1-Develop/regain beaches.</p>
<p>2-Put portajohn toilet on golf course.</p>
<p>3-Better acoustics for clubhouse.</p>
<p>4.Large viewing platform at Robin Lane.</p>
<p>Other comment - 10 "New Park by Clubhouse- "For pickle ball".</p>
<p>We really don't wish to see any changes</p>
<p>Put an attractive porta john toilet on golf course. Better acoustics for the clubhouse. ?? viewing platform at Robin Lane. 42 Acres walking paths need some maintenance now that carts aren't keeping the grass down. It would be wonderful if we could use carts on these paths again - perhaps restrict age to 21 and over? Other comments - #3 (Most of the year), #4 "We don't have anyone use our house when we are not present. Family & friends visit us on Family Fest. #6 Lake Viewing Platforms- "We are happy with the one at Lake Park".</p>
<p>Village should replenish sand at 2 main beaches ever year as needed and as afforded. Other comments to questions- #6 - last 4 items "not council jurisdiction" #11- Replace Playground Equip. "As Needed" - Pool "no, no", Dog Park "Allow dogs in park", #12- "For beach preservation and improvements or to purchase and preserve open lands". #13- "For beach or purchase or preservation of open lands in natural state", #15- Increased Millage "Only for beach improvement and preservation".</p>
<p>Nothing, Ok as is.</p>
<p>Keep it the same.</p>
<p>Other comments on survey-#6 first 2 items say limited as to what can be done as of now. #10 Park on Royal "No, too busy in that area". #11 Pickleball Courts "We don't play, but realize many do", Swimming Pool "Might be good to seriously look into as beaches have deteriorated & we can't know how/when they'll come back, Remove metal sheeting "or at least mark as hazardous", Dog Park " We can be more dog friendly, without making an official dog park", Whitewood Pier "Could be a great viewing area if roped.</p>
<p>Golf Course is nice - continue efforts to maintain it. Other comments- #6- Lake Mi Beach, but understand it and 42 Acres, haven't used it yet. #12 Yes, but only if it were sidewalks in old section & entrance. Important for safety.</p>
<p>The main thing is the condition of the beach. Comments in other areas #10-In open grassy area. Don't move playground. #11- New playground equipment should be new and do not support moving tennis courts. #13 Would support beach.</p>
<p>We need to look at innovative ideas for erosion prevention and do everything we can to engage the army core of engineers for funding. Highland Park IL is a good example of one of many options for beach protection.</p>

N-a
Take action on lake levels, correcting new buffalo sand blocking, and consider a breakwater to bring back the Grand beaches
Work with the State, Feds, Army Corp, whatever is needed to protect the beaches
Ideally, mass beach erosion protection and maybe sand replenishment that would protect all beaches and lakefront homeowners.
Also like to see GB work with New Buffalo to get sand moving past harbor wall, efforts to get Lake levels lowered, etc
Keep it simple and focus on the beach (fewer rocks, please!)
Save our beaches they are getting worse and worse every day
Focus on the beaches!
Save beaches and views!
We need to preserve and protect the beach as much as possible
Sunset viewing platforms, get beaches back!
Life guard
Life guard
Saving the beach is the absolute highest priority!
Save the beach!!!
No improvements necessary. Just maintenance. We would like to see play ground equipment added to every couple years to just keep it updated
Improve beach.
Attention to the beach. It's been neglected for years. They could stand to go down and remove the refuse that is on the small beach.
Make three more holes for young people to learn to play golf. Do not learn on the ?? course and tie up ?? for those who are playing. Talk to PGA and golf people to get funds for 42 Acres.
Protect park from golf course.
Golf course ranger who not only collects tickets, but keeps player moving in a timely manner.
Remove rocks from beaches and create a swimming pool.
Place to keep paddle boards, kayaks at beach.
If possible piers to enable safe entry into water where there is no beach.
—
Do whatever it takes to preserve our beaches. Grand Beach doesn't have very Grand beaches anymore
During winter, designate portion of golf course for cross country ski trails that are not run over by snowmobiles
Tree trimming is desperately needed on the golf course. Too many large branches overhanging. First hole blocking blue tee shot, second hole near green, third hole left side, sixth hole center of fairway and ninth hole tree at top of hill.
Clean beaches and parks. The golf course is fine. Dale & Tim & Bob do an EXCELLENT job of staying on top of things.
Remove rocks from beach, clean beach, cut back bushes above fence before you enter the gates; way too overgrown and shabby. Make parkway wider lawn and more pristine. Remove unattractive shrubs, just have green grass.
Make the beach bigger

Community pool and boundries for the volley ball court.
Establish hiking or walking club, pickleball club (if the courts are built), or any outdoor recreational activity that can be supported by existing services that may generate funds through annual dues.
Install new pickleball courts and do not use the basketball courts - don't need to cause conflict with different sports.
I think that a renewed strategic emphasis on the lakefront as a strategic asset is in order. I think we should make a serious commitment to partnering w/ the NB Shoreline Alliance on a permanent solution to beach erosion issues. I also think the Village should create a formal contractor permitting and oversight system to ensure that revetment contractors working on lakefront properties are working efficiently and w/ a minimum of disruption to beach visitors and local residents, particularly in the summer months. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on these important issues.
Additional playground equipment, beach grooming, viewing platforms, community pool
Beach development and maintenance are priorities 1, 2 and 3. Work with NB Shoreline Alliance or work to independently engineer and fund breakwalls and the like. Maintenance and gradual upgrades of the golf course, including a long-term irrigation fix, would be good, but should not distract from the beach.
Note: even if you don't enjoy the beach, it is a critical driver to the real estate values an desirability of Grand Beach...
Preserving and improving the beaches is the most important improvement and should be the focus of improvements in the village.
The beach continues to be the neglected asset with respect to the other village assets. The beach will not come back on its own; not like the old days. There are two human issues which further frustrate the natural ebbing and flowing of the lake cycle: 1) the cessation of sand replenishment by the Army Corps of Engineers; and, 2) the open flow of the Locks at the St. Lawrence Seaway. The Board should put a group together made up of full time AND part time residents to make a plan to install revetments; this is the only way we are going to get the beach back. We can create a millage which would cost each property owner an average of \$325 a year for 20 years, or a discounted amount if paid up front. The revetments will counteract the two human elements mentioned above.
We need a beach.
No comment
A community pool would be an excellent addition, especially given the fact that our beaches are gone.
Community swimming pool, new playground
--
I rarely use the golf course so I cannot speak on this. However, implementing a program (not just a quick fix) for beach restoration is crucial. People state that the beach always comes and goes...but my family has been in Grand Beach for over 40 years and it has never been this bad. We need to do something before we lose the little beach we have left. I know some members of the community are coming up with a plan for long term restoration and I think it is time they are heard.
Clean up beach / remove steel in water make pier accessible/ move park sell land currently on to home owners
address sand loss into the lake
Restore beaches
We need beaches!!
Their are no beaches

None identified
Need to do something about the beach - or at least clear what beach there is of stones. Something has to be done to improve the beach.
Hire a village manager. get beach back. time will tell
Be nice if golf coarse was 18 holes
Better beach cleanups and access
We need a plan to bring back a beach. Everything else is low priority.
Swimming pool
We just need our beaches back!!!!
it all starts with the beach
Get the beach situation fixed. My property value is substantially decreased because of it. Fix the beach access at Oak Avenue. Nothing has been done.
Beaches is the backbone of village
Working with other communities and organizations to mprove beaches. The addition of the walking trails on the 42 acres. That area would be an excellent dog park.
Work with other communities and organizations to restore our beach. No pickle ball court can replace it.
We need to bring back beach. It's one of the biggest draws of our community and the last few years they have been predominantly inaccessible. The areas that have been accessible have been harder to get to and very small and rocky areas. Essentially the beach is very limited, I'd like to work on bringing it back.
The beach is non-existent which is too bad. Maintaining the golf course would be my top priority. The greens aren't awful but the sand is terrible and the rough is not maintained.
the beaches are one of the most important aspects of GB. We must do everything possible to get the beaches restored ASAP
Do not allow beachfront homeowners rock up the beach, work with new buffalo to increase our beach, create a breakfront
In my opinion, getting the beach back is the most important issue the Village is facing.
We should take a look at all of the dead weight relative to employees, etc and use that money for additional services
If there is any way to remove the stones from the beach and create more sand area, that would be helpful. I regular walk through of the beaches by the police would be very helpful. Where are the police? I never see them anymore. It looks like there are lots of 12 year olds driving golf carts loaded with kids.
None
Viewing platform at Robin lane
Pool
parks = update equipment
beaches = more
golf course = tree trimming
Beach grooming, Clubhouse upgrade, Pickleball/Paddle Tennis, Outsource golf course maintenance (and maybe clubhouse management) to a professional sports management firm.
All resources need to be directed at the beach. The rest is a waste of time
Cafe

Restore our beaches. Fix the dead spots (plant grass) in the fairways, fix spots where water accumulates after heavy rains.
We need revenue generating services. Turn the upstairs of. Clubhouse into restaurant privatize the golf course make it special. Village is stuck in 1970
More golf holes
Pool bar and grill
Make the clubhouse a place to watch games and have food
Keeping the paths in 42 acres walkable, simple process of running their grass cutters through and making some sort of kayak and paddle board rack so we can leave our toys at the beach instead of hauling them back and forth everyday
There is no pool, i would like a pool. For the course however, better green management, better fairway management, and better trap management.
We need to find a solution for the rocks on the beach
Think the golf course is great as is. Better tennis/pickle ball facilities would be very welcome. Also bike/walking paths in areas where streets are congested or narrow.
Build a new clubhouse in 42 acres, make the old club house the community indoor/outdoor pool or upgraded ballroom. How do we compare to Long Beach, Forrest beach, and communities alike with amenities.
I would like a long term plan developed and implemented specific to our beaches & lakefront. I love all of what Grand Beach has to offer but my and my family's enjoyment of the beach is the reason we live on the lake side of US 12.
Since funds are limited, I would like to see each aspect just maintain better. One playground is sufficient, but remove unsafe equipment and add a couple more features. Golf Course has received a lot of attention and now it's time to focus on the beach accesses. If we only have a few, lets keep them clean, possible make the pier a feature with railings, and build stairs at the few accesses where there is shoreline.
Clean up rocks on beach
I would like to see the beach access points and viewing platforms well maintained. Even when there is no good beach, it would be great to have places from which to view the lake.
Lets utilize the club house more ... a weekly pub! Use money for improvements!
Golf course should remove hill on hole 8 so you can see green from the tee box. This particular blind par 3 is an unnecessary safety hazard as some golfers fail to check if the green is clear before teeing off. The same is true on #9 but it may not be possible to remove the visual obstruction.
It is incredibly inappropriate for the members of the Village Council to be surveying residents' feelings on a private club. The programs and events held by the Social Club (such as the youth golf and youth tennis programs) are private to club members. Taxpayers should not have to worry about their local representatives being involved in the management of private club programs. Please remove such questions from any future surveys.
Very few, especially if they require revenue increases.
Have city workers clean up beaches once a week and after storms.
Boardwalks / fishing pier in the trails.
A permanent solution to the beach erosion caused by the Army Corps of Engineers approach to building the New Buffalo Harbor; beach replenishment; beach maintenance; and kayak storage racks similar to what Michiana Shores offers so seniors can minimize carrying kayaks up and down dunes or stairs.
The beach is the main attraction to the neighborhood; therefore, it should be the number one focus.
If the beach is no longer our main draw, we really need to modernize other amenities so our children have more opportunities for safe play

Golf course should be upgraded and the clubhouse should be torn down and rebuilt. Should have a place to gather for coffee in the morning and would be nice to have a restaurant in the clubhouse. It would be really nice to have a community pool and a place for teens to hang out.
We need to fix the beach. We should not even address any other matters until the beach is adequately addressed and funded.
Update Park
New park by clubhouse
Viewing plat forms Royal and Pump house
Beautify our access points
Pickleball courts
Update clubhouse
Update and improve driving range
Off-shore breakwater barrier
Vision for improving golf course - Change holes that have blind greens. Remove and replace trees...have architect help us with a plan to work over time.
A small par-3 course could be built by driving range
Improve paths through the 42-acres, signage, etc. for nature walks
Dock up by the pond...lets stock it so our little ones can catch and release.
Would love to be part of the planning.
The irrigation system needs to be addressed,
Help fix and preserve the beaches
Beaches at this point are deplorable and need desperate help at all costs.
Beach. Clubhouse has SO much potential. Due to beach issue, a community pool is important
Swimming pool close to clubhouse, pickle ball courts at Royal Ave, walking path from GB gate to Station road to protect bike riders and walkers/joggers/runners, beach access viewing platforms, New more functional clubhouse with smaller rooms in addition to our current clubhouse, improve golf course with a new irrigation system, improve pro shop with a kitchen to grill, sell grocery items, and serve/sell beer. Permanent baseball field in 42 acres. Move playground from busy Royal Ave next to parking lot for ProbShop. Not much car traffic and close to Pro Shop For restrooms and concessions. Utilize the clubhouse area as a center of the community and focus children recreational activities there. Royal would be your more adult/teenager recreational activities like, tennis, pickle ball, vollyball and basketball.
Restoration of beach access points (and beach), dog park, repairs to Village Hall structure, particularly around upper windows.
Clean the creek, make the beach sand again, keep down taxes, ***additional services do not require additional money for the Grand Beach Village Counsel to spend.
None

I would like our beaches to be improved. Our clubhouse could be open more of social gathering place. A park over by the clubhouse and the possibility of a community pool.
The beach situation needs to be fixed. This is an important part in Grand Beach that has been lost.
Additional parks, pickle ball courts, and/or a community pool are NOT necessary. Maintaining what we have is more important than adding recreational equipment to the beach.
Improve beaches
Beach access is sorely missed. Multi-use grassy area for frisbee, baseball, soccer would be nice. I would worry about first finding maintenance funds before even thinking about expanding/building anything new. HATE the idea of pickleball courts. Question about sidewalks seemed odd since there are hardly any sidewalks. We are frequent walkers and generally have to walk in the road. I'm not sure of the locations of all the lake entry points asked about.
Pickleball courts could be "lined" on top of new tennis court resurfacing rather than constructing all new courts. Then work out usage times.
Concentrate on the beach. Take away those ugly boulders that have ruined the appearance of the beach for me.
New irrigation system for the golf course. Doing whatever possible to improve the conditions on the beach understanding that Mother Nature and the Army Corps of Engineers have reeked havoc in recent years.
None. No one using
Maintenance and upgrading of existing facilities!!!!
Tennis Courts - fencing and surface smack of urban decay and
Playground - Equipment is no newer than 30 years and some equipment is older than 50 years. Time to upgrade and get with the times!!!
Pickleball Courts - This new and upcoming game is wonderful for both youth and older players. The Village needs a first class improvement of tennis and building of pickleball courts
New facilities - Makes sense to build out a new playground near the clubhouse so traffic can be drawn to the concessions at the pro shop. Village should open a bar/grill at the golf course to take advantage of all the purchasing power flowing through the clubhouse and golf course. Burgers, hot dogs, beer, etc. for players and residents.
Beaches - Despite water being high, the beaches need more regular cleaning. Also, old sheeting needs to be removed - very unsafe!!!
Viewing Platforms - What a missed opportunity to draw residents down to the beach despite high water. We can't do anything about high water, but larger, well-built, modern viewing platforms (not out of treated lumber) should be built to offer viewing opportunities to residents.
Clubhouse - Built in the 50's it is reaching its logical useful life and can be upgraded after 70 years of use. Add grill/bar for golfers and residents.
improve the beaches!
Improve the golf course. There is tons of standing water and unplayable lies. More than I can ever recall in my 40 years at grand beach
A safe walking path.

Beach erosion protection and cleanup
Pickle Ball courts
Fitness trail type activities incorporated into new park structures- pull up bar, balance beam, etc- that adults could use too for outdoor workouts.
Make the beaches a priority. Our home values are decreasing because of our lack of beach.
beaches
Must maintain irrigation on golf course. If we lose that there will be nothing for this community. Everything else is good.
Beach access and platforms
Continue to expand parkland
Bike trails please
NO SNOWMOBILES. It is a sacrilege allowed by the very few for their friends and children. Who ever wants to take a snowmobile on to the Golf Course feel free. There is NO control on who has snowmobiles. The liability alone is crazy. The NOISE I'd terrible and it injures our fine golf course. It is unacceptable and needs to be addressed an dearth with. An accident is waiting to Happen. Get rid of the Carts on Red Arrow freighter storage unit from the Golf Course.
Wasn't aware of family movie night. Need to focus on refurbishing beaches.
make sure to maintain the beach accesses at much as possible - people like to go look at the water even when there's no beach.
It would be helpful to have some information about the parks on the village website - what's available, how to sign up for tennis courts, etc
The children love the old go around and the new monkey bars. With little beach a run through sprinkler like at the township would be nice.
Trim trees on golf course
while it might be a challenge, we need to figure out the beach, or the lack of sand at the beach.
Would like to see a beach replenishment effort where feasible
Fix the Beach!!!!
Adult tennis signups/ weekend league
Get rid of NB Harbor Breakwater and restore the beach
Access in Eiffel Tower to beach has NEVER been a priority
Help us get our beach back!
We need our beach back! At least one access point with significant beach for GB residents to spread out. The playground needs to be updated and up to safety code.
Maintence of the beaches, golf courses, 40 acres come to mind.
Consider a community pool. Make mobility friendly as we age....
The beach is key to the present and future of the village so working with State Federal to improve is key which the village is doing
Better beach access for those of us who don't live in Old Grand Beach. Buoys from the water tower to the end of Grand Beach going north. Support to get our beaches back.
JUST DO A BETTER JOB TAKING CARE THE THINGS THAT ARE HERE,, LETS HAVE A RAKE AT THE LAKE FOR THE ROCKS COOK HOT DOGS AND CALL THAT A WELCOME BACK PARTY FOR ALL

Extermination efforts for the large bees on the golf course (specifically the 2nd hole). And continually work on beach access.
I really would love the beaches to be groomed. I know the lake is high but the rocks are horrible. I also think that people putting giant boulders on public beaches to protect their homes is completely unacceptable.
Na
Sure would like to see a pool
Maintain golf course
Hope for return if beaches
Social club is INDEPENDENT from the Village Council. They provide the children's events not the Village.
Perhaps the playground could have a few more swings, etc. for toddlers.
swimming pool !
Emergency vehicle access. Improved Beach access in North Grand Beach
More sand at beaches
A public pool - we have no beach
Village pool.
Increased advocacy for ecological assessments and interventions to address beach erosion.
Nothing additional only emphasis: there is a need for accessibility for a handicapped person to use the benches formerly considered for handicapped at Soybeana. And give golf cart accessibility to 42 Acres so that a handicapped person can be driven!!!! There would be a way to limit that to only handicapped persons with some kind of attached flag so that viewers can realize that is a handicapped person who will not be destroying the nature. Give us a break!!!! Don't charge us more and then take away access. The ADA would expect this, and we would not hesitate to alert them of such needs.
The beach is most important. The village needs to take a more active role in efforts to save the beach and make sure a plan is developed for placing of Astor Rock and shoring up the dune.
Create a long term beach & lakefront plan that reflects the lake level cycles for current and future residents. Then give it the proper prioritization in the annual budget.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with adjacent communities to develop a usable biking/walking trail to connect the Village to downtown New Buffalo. While the Marquette Greenway may in the future come into existence, partnering with the likes of Forest Beach, etc to have a path to get to New Buffalo would enhance the community tremendously while we continue to wait for the beaches to be improved via replenishment or other methods 2. Continue to advocate for beach replenishment and continue working with NB Shore Alliance 3. Have an enclosed area for dogs as this will enhance community involvement and engagement 4. Have a participation area that could include Bocce Courts, Shuffleboard Courts, even horseshoes etc as again would foster engagement by the community
As I said ! Beaches come first !! Every available dollar. Grant money should go to beach jetties
Note above
already stated
remove rocks on beach for summer, clean it up-add a pool, improve our views and areas to sit to view the water at least. Improvements in sidewalks would be nice, looks very unkept.
New playground equipment. Beach cleanup. New beach viewing landings and stairs
What beach? Get the beaches fixed so there is sand and safe public access. This is critical to the grand beach community and if it requires a millage, we should have one.

Kudos to all the opportunities. My only issue is I wish the speed limit signs were updated and a few more installed with some additional children playing signs. Now that my kids are teen drivers I feel they need constant reminding to drive SLOWLY. Can the street be repainted with the SLOW DOWN signage? We thought it was very effective. Thanks for all you do!
Assess millage to purchase the 42 acres and do not rely on private efforts to fund raise.
Again, I think that everything is well managed. Again, the beach is an issue - maybe we could replenish it on our own as a Village (although I don't know how feasible that is.). Secondly, I didn't realize that there were hikes through the 42 acres...I suggest that that be promoted.
Nonek
none
Unsure. This is a complex, long term, budgeting issue. Concurrently GB in the midst of trying to raise significant \$ to purchase 42 Acres.
Improve the beaches, being proactive about the renourishment plan, cleaning/grooming the existing beaches! Addressing the golf course (the best remaining Village asset) irrigation issues! And strongly considering a Clubhouse update, including adding a Village pool and better food.
Bike path. Golf cart paths
None. Money should be spent on village infrastructure, roads, police, services and not on pickleball courts or viewing platforms.
More winter activities. Ice skating pond, protected sledding hills, skiing paths.
as lake level is at an all time high the viewing platforms are very important.
Move the playground (sell the current land) to the village hall / clubhouse area. Clean up and fence off the maintenance area adjacent to the police station. Groom the beaches. Remodel the clubhouse. Establish a gardening club to maintain the public garden areas. A public pool would wonderful. Work with Forest Beach to create a bike path to connect Grand Beach to New Buffalo as Red Arrow Highway is too dangerous to walk.
Bring back our beach!
Install pickleball courts ---fastest growing rec sport, particularly for older residents
Nourish beaches with sand. Improve accesses. Protect from erosion
Start charging Dunkersloot for the use of our beach access. Put that money toward beach accessibility and maintenance. I also strongly support a community pool. This would improve property values and help bring back those who don't come because of beach issues. It would also encourage community/relationship building.
if the lake/beaches will not be a reliable option-the rest of the village should amp up, remodel, clean, & offer newer options for residents/guests or it will not be a viable vacation destination for families and visitors
None.
No suggestion
Additional cleaning of the beach.
Golf course tees and sand traps are embarrassing. It's only June and some of the tees have very little grass. Sand traps have weeds and are not edged.
Enlarge Robin Lane viewing platform.
fix the beach first
There should be uniform rule for what homeowners can do in front of their properties on beach. There should be a better cleanup plan for beaches that Village should be initiating

Do not remove any more properties from the tax rolls
Beach restoration is primary
continue working on erosion solutions
Obviously, the beach is the biggest issue; but not sure what anyone can do - its a cycle.
More sand and less lake would be nice. :)
beach, beach, beach.... oh, and beach
Also, there are golf course improvements that would represent upgrades (dress up traps, like around 8th green; more/better sand in traps; improved maintenance of tees (top dress annually?); better quality rakes in traps; adult annual fee card option)
Bring back the beaches....
safer access for children and for elderly to the beaches. Better marked trails and limited parking to allow better access
Resurface tennis courts to incorporate Pickle Ball. Locate and construct community swimming pool
Place Dog bag dispensers around the village.
Remove dead pines at village hall and construct fence to block out gas pumps and various public works equipment parked behind P. works.
See above.
Since there currently is no beach, I would suggest more is done to focus on that issue. Particularly as it directly affects values of homes. Also, the fact that we are now sharing a police department and have to pay for garbage, I don't understand why we pay more grand beach taxes.
I think changing the whitewood concrete eyesore pier to a beautiful walk out pier would be absolutely amazing.
A sidewalk should be constructed from the parking lot at the tennis courts north to connect with the existing sidewalks on Royal at Golf Road/Perkins Blvd. I sometimes park there to walk to the beach and need to walk in the busy street hemmed in by the white pillars and chains.
The beach walkways and stairs should be maintained even in these times of no beach. People still use them to check out the lake, watch the sunset, etc. Existing seating areas and platforms should be maintained and accessible.
A non-motorized shared use path along Grand Beach Road would provide a safe space for recreational use by villagers to walk, jog or ride bikes.
Limited upgrades, especially if at 42 acre site. Do not want to have Village made into fancy Chicago suburb.
new park equipment. beach access needs total repair; new stairs and beach clean up. would love beach foot wash station similar to what Michiana has near their beach access.
This statement is not just focused on the locations above:If we secure the 42 acres I would love to see a 3 hole kids golf course (a fundraising idea would be to sell the right of the pin flag to a local business and or a Residence family similar to the bricks outside club house today) the and also a removable pier in the pond in the back of the driving range today so kids and catch frogs, fish & turtles, this will be a catch and release type of concept. I would love a Splash pad. I would also like to see a restriction on the size of golf cart engines and battery size as some of these vehicles are ruining the trails and also the golf course. Overall our communication to the residence has to be better weather we increase our social media presence and/or via the website.