

Watertown Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2008-2013



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Overview



- The Client
- The Purpose
- Key Findings
 - Community Demographics
 - Existing Facilities Inventory
 - Standards
- Goals
- Action Program/Recommendations
 - Connectivity
 - Neighborhood Mini-park
 - 125.5 Acre area

The Client



- Watertown Charter Township
 - Board of Trustees
 - Parks and Recreation Committee
 - Jennifer Tubbs, Township Manager
 - Andrea Polverento, Planning Director

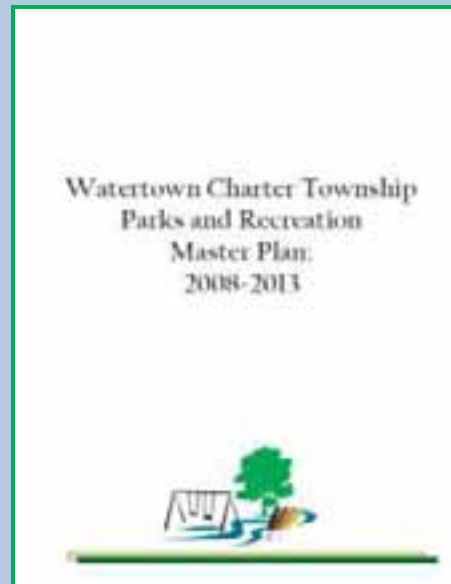


The Purpose



Create a Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan

- Provides Watertown Township with a guide for recreational priorities and implementation
- Makes Watertown Township eligible for Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant funding



Key Findings

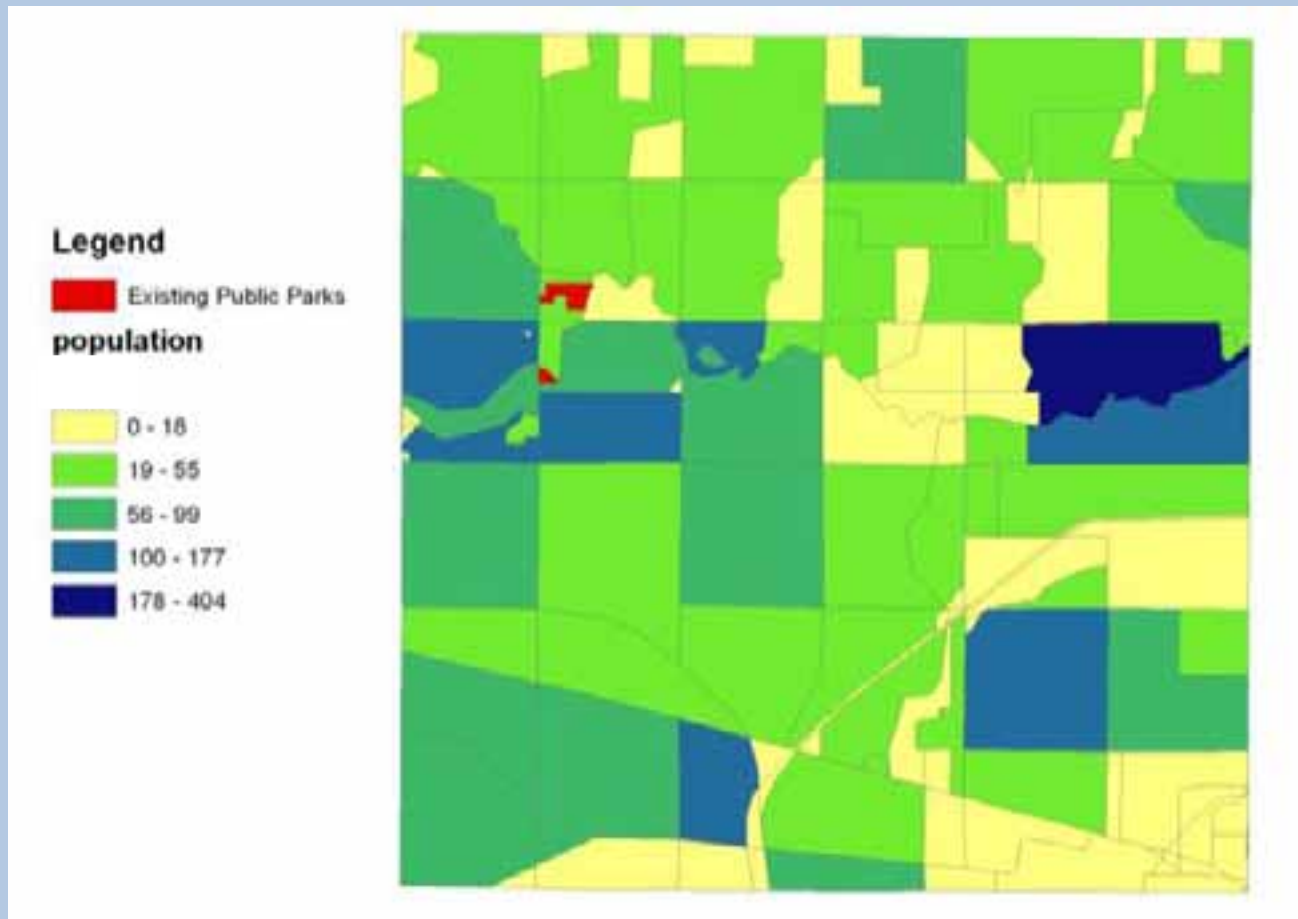


- Demographics
- Existing Facilities
- Standards

Demographics



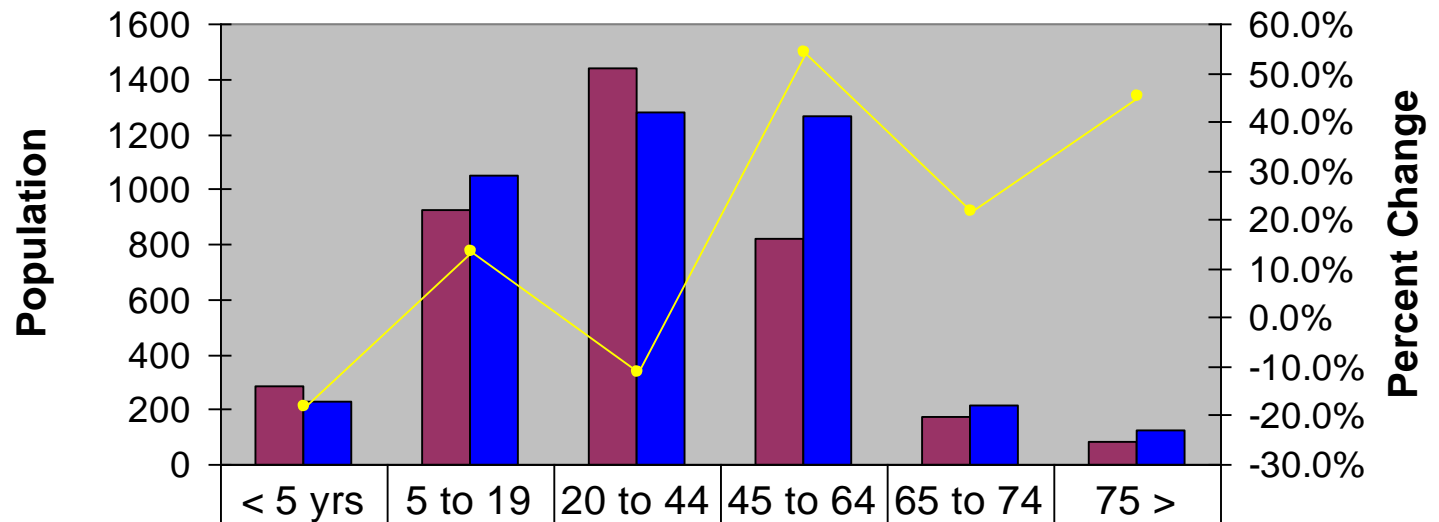
2010 Projected Population: 4,422



Demographics



Age Distribution



■ 1990	285	924	1439	820	177	86
■ 2000	233	1047	1278	1264	215	125
● Percent Change	-18.2%	13.3%	-11.2%	54.1%	21.5%	45.3%

Existing Facilities



- Heritage Park



- Wallace F. Watt Community Center



- Looking Glass Valley Park



Existing Facilities



Inventory Based On:

- Amenities
- Accessibility
- Conditions



Heritage Park



Amenities:

- 1 ADA compliant bathroom
- Pavilion with electricity
- Play ground equipment
- 2 Full Size baseball fields
- 1 Tee Ball Field
- Canoe Launch
- Soccer Field
- Sand volleyball court
- Walking Trails



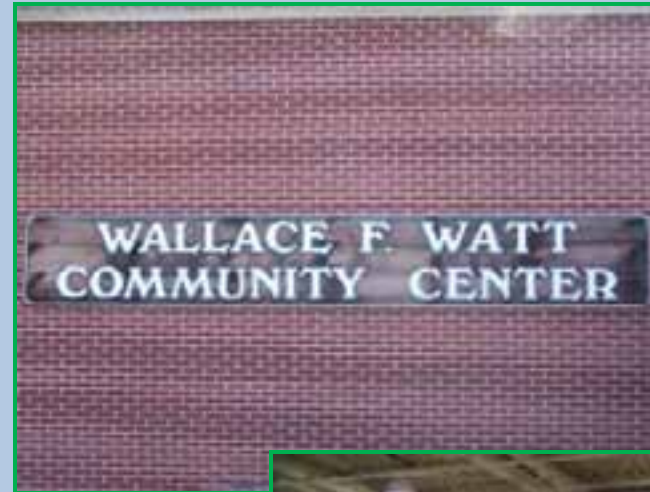
Existing Facilities

Wallace F. Watt Community Center



Amenities:

- Basketball court
- Shuffle board court
- Small kitchen
- Seating for approximately 125 people



Existing Facilities

Looking Glass Valley Park



Amenities:

- Play ground equipment
- Baseball Field
- Volleyball court
- Basketball court
- Canoe Launch
- Dock
- “Warming-house”



Existing Facilities

Standards



NRPA Standard for developed park land MDNR Facility Standards

- 6.25 - 10.5 acres of developed park land per 1000 population
- Population categories-under 5000
- Township requires roughly 28.1 - 47.25 acres
- Exceeds suggested minimums for most facilities
- Currently has 12.3 acres Deficit of roughly 15.8 - 35 acres of “developed park land”

Goals



Goals



Goals Based on Public Input:

1. Increase community **involvement** and knowledge
2. Improve the **health and well being** of the community
3. **Engage** the citizens of the township
4. **Efficient** use of limited resources
5. **Preserve** natural land
6. Encourage regional **collaboration**
7. Facilitate universal **access**

Action Program



“Identify how you intend to meet, or work towards meeting, your goals and objectives over the next five years (MDNR).”



Barrier-Free Accessibility

- ADA Compliance

Community Involvement & Knowledge

- Mass Mailings
- Signage

Short-Term Action Program

Maximize Potential of Existing Facilities

- Infrastructure Maintenance
- Budget Constraints





Non-Motorized Connectivity

Future Land Possibilities

- 125.5 Acre Area
- Neighborhood Mini-Park

Long-Term

n Pr



Non-Motorized Connectivity



- Focused in Wacousta Area
- Emphasis on paved shoulders
- Pedestrian easements
- Pedestrian infrastructure



Neighborhood Mini-Park



- SW corner of Airport Road and Driftwood Drive (Eastern Corridor)
- 0.25 acres (surrounding a small pump station)
- Located within high population census block

Neighborhood Mini-Park



- Low-maintenance facilities
- Aimed at serving the large population within a close proximity



125.5 Acre Area



- Located South of I-69
- 4 separate undeveloped parcels
- Future Land Use Map:
Public / Semi-Public Land
- Emphasis put on multi-use facility (disc-golf & mountain bike trail)
- Professional Disc Golf Association: *A Large Course consists of 1 acre per hole*



Action Program: Long-Term

125.5 Acre Area



Proposed Option 1: Develop Only Southern Portion

- 80.5 Acres
- More than adequate for disc-golf and mountain biking
- Existing access off of Watertown Parkway
- Leaves 45 acres undeveloped



125.5 Acre Area



Proposed Option 2: Develop Only Northern Portion

- 45 Acres
- More than adequate for disc-golf and mountain biking
- No direct access- Lowell Road opportunity
- Site constraint: MDOT drainage ditch
- Leaves 80.5 acres undeveloped



Action Program: Long-Term

125.5 Acre Area



Proposed Option 3: Develop Entire 125.5 Acres

- More than adequate for disc-golf, mountain biking, and even more
- Access from Watertown Parkway, Lowell Road or both
- Leaves zero acres undeveloped for future economic development opportunities on the site



**Any of the options would allow Watertown Township to meet the NRPA acreage standard for developed park land

Action Program: Long-Term

Summary



- Set **Goals** based on input
- Followed **Standards** set by MDNR and NRPA
- Create an **Action Program** consisting of short-term and long-term actions
- Made **recommendations** for Future Land Possibilities with an emphasis on low-maintenance facilities

Questions

