

COMMENTS AND EDITS TO DRAFT PROS PLAN FEBRUARY, 2011

Edits were made per comments from the Planning Commission, Park Advisory Commission, WATS (Washtenaw Area Transportation Study), citizens and staff. Most recent changes are at the end of this document. The comments are organized by chapter and page number. Where the page number changed from the original draft to the edited draft, the new page number is in parentheses.

Both general and specific comments received concerning the PROS Plan have been considered and edits to the plan are detailed below.

Changes to the graphics, inventory, budget and grant charts have not yet been made, but are fully described in the comments below.

Table of Contents

- Changed to reflect changes to the document.

Introduction

- pg. ii Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) now DNR again.
- pg. iv. Bluffs Park addition on Huron View and Sunset.

Section I: Community Description

- pg. 2-3 Census data paragraph and chart. Added narrative explaining that census information for 2010 is not yet available, but chart will be updated and amended when it is published.
- pg. 5 Updated U of M acreage, separated City vs. township holdings.
- pg. 5 Spelling of Crisler arena corrected.
- pg. 5 Added narrative about libraries including public spaces as part of their evolving role.
- Pg. 6, 2nd paragraph, eliminated 'alternative' from first sentence, added that U of M also provides bus service that is open to the public, added that the public schools participate in busing with the Washtenaw County Intermediate School District.
- pg. 6 after 4th paragraph, added verbiage about updated Transportation Plan, described issues with the railroad cutting off park access, and improvements to the Border to Border Trail along the frontage of Fuller Road at the proposed Fuller Road Station.
- pg. 7 There are seven, not six, creeksheds that flow into the Huron River.
- pg. 9 (edited plan, pg 10) Added sentence about the role of private open space in acquisition and placement of neighborhood parks.
- pg. 10 section e, 4th paragraph, added that millage protects open space both within and outside the City.
- pg. 12 Final paragraph (edited plan pg. 13) that any proposed sale of parkland be placed on a ballot for a general vote - this was established by Charter Amendment, not Council resolution.

- pg. 12 same paragraph – added sentence about the process of rezoning parkland parcels, that questions have arisen as to whether parkland is protected adequately and whether the zoning should include more restrictive language for parks.

Section II: Administrative Structure

- pg. 20-21 Added narrative about boards and commissions for facilities that are owned by Parks and Recreation, but run by private, non-profits, such as the Community Action Network at Bryant and Northside Community Centers, and the Leslie Science and Nature Center.

Section III: Budget and Funding

- Budget for fiscal year 2011, including all of the pie charts, was moved to the appendix as level of detail was not consistent with flow of document. There will be changes made to the charts that were on the following pages and now in appendix:
 - Pg. 31 General Fund - Park Forestry operations eliminated from Revenue and Expense charts
 - Pg. 33 All Funds Revenue Budget - \$58,000 instead of \$94,100
 - Pg. 34 Revenue Budget, delete General Fund Forestry Operations and Parks Rehabilitation and Development Millage
 - Pg. 35 Expense Budget, delete same as above
 - Included more narrative to explain pie charts
- Verified that budget calendar matches actual schedule.
- pg. 23 Second and third paragraph eliminated, first part of third paragraph moved to beginning. Section B now includes the description of the budget calendar moved from section A.
- Existing Section B becomes section C, and first sentence was changed to read ‘Over the past decade’.
- pg. 24-25 under Parks and Recreation Services, additional descriptive sentences for funds.
- pg. 25 Fund 34 (not 33) is Gifts and Memorials.
- pg. 26 Added charts showing funding and revenue trends and added discussion about general fund and millages.
- pg. 37 (edited plan, pg. 28) Verified original voter approved rate for Open Space and Preservation Millage at .5 mils and modified to simplify explanation.
- pg. 39-40 (edited plan, pg. 28-29) ‘Should’ statements were eliminated as one of the goals of this plan is to eliminate subjective statements from the background descriptive chapters (I-V).

- Changed format of text on page 38 (edited plan, pg. 28-29) - 'Other funding sources' now includes most of the list that was labeled 'future funding sources' as many of those sources are already being utilized.
- Future funding sources moved to final paragraphs (edited plan, pg. 30).

Section IV: Inventory of the Park, Recreation and Open Space System

- Pagination is off, will be fixed.
- pg. 42 Added that Olson Park and Mary Beth Doyle Park are partially leased from the Water Resources Commission.
- pg. 43 section 5, (edited plan, pg. 44) added importance of linking these parks by non-motorized transportation.
- pg. 45-48 Park maps to be replaced with larger text and legend. Change Washtenaw County Drain Commission in legend to Water Resources Commission.
- pg. 53 Dot to be added for nature area on inventory chart for Narrow Gauge Nature Area.
- pg. 54 correct park acreage to 2088.
- pg. 55 Eliminate High Pointe Preschool.
- pg. 57 Add dots for additional program listings at Eberbach Cultural Arts and Public School buildings.
- Will be adding customer service grants acquired in past 5 years to grant chart.

Section V: Land Use Planning and Acquisition

- pg. 66 Acquisition Criteria - added sentence that criteria are not listed in order of priority or weighted, and changed title to read 'Parkland within the City limits'.
- pg. 67 Criteria 4, added sentence about emphasizing non-motorized connections to desirable amenities in community.
- pg. 67 Criteria 6, eliminated last sentence to simplify and eliminate confusion.
- pg. 68 Section E. added to title 'and Greenbelt Properties'.
- pg. 70 Section G. added to title that this is for in-City properties only.
- pg. 72 Contributions in lieu of Land – corrected figure to \$50,000 in paragraph and in formula.
- pg. 72 Criteria for requesting dedication and cash contribution - expanded explanation for clarify this section.
- pg. 72 #4, added narrative about special circumstances encountered with development contributions in the urban core.
- pg. 74 Greenbelt map to be replaced to be larger map that will show properties that have been acquired.
- pg. 74 Added title 'Acquisition Criteria for Greenbelt Properties' to clarify difference between criteria for City parkland and greenbelt properties.
- pg. 75-75 Added paragraph explaining Charter Amendment for any proposed sale of parkland.

Section VI: Planning Process for the PROS Plan

- pg. 85 (edited plan, pg. 86) 'Not applicable' label missing from chart
- pg. 93 Argo (edited plan, pg. 94) Updated paragraph as plans are being developed to convert the mill race to a canoe bypass. Add that it may be desirable to move the boat launch from Argo Park to the north end of Bandemer Park to minimize some of the parking issues at Argo.
- pg. 96 (edited plan, pg. 96-97) City Planning Commission #4 changed paragraph to read 'Staff should explore all opportunities to generate revenue, including public/private partnerships. A balanced view must include all possible risks inherent with acceptance of private funding'.
- pg. 98 (edited plan, pg. 99) Section c. Golf Course Task Force, explains the Request for Proposal that was sent to potential consultants.
- pg. 98 (edited plan, pg. 99) Section d. HRIMP Plan, added that one of the consensus points was that certain types of limited commercial development should be encouraged along the Huron River, especially in the Argo/Broadway area.

Section VII: Goals and Objectives

- pg. 106 Goal 3, objective k - added goal to explore public/private partnerships while considering long term effects.
- pg. 107 Removed objectives that do not relate specifically to parks and recreation, such as Goal 5 objective a. reword to read 'work with planners to emphasize the importance of view along streets... and objective b. Work with transportation planners to consider entrance corridors... and c. Strive to continue the view of Ann Arbor as originally conceived.
- pg. 109 Goal 7 objective b. Strive to identify leisure time needs of adolescents and eliminate 'better nutritional habits' as this is outside of parks scope. h. change to 'work with AATA to improve public transportation for senior adults to access park facilities.
- pg. 109 Goal 7 eliminated goals k and l as suggested that this was outside of parks purview.
- pg. 110 Goal 8, objective a. Evaluate rather than implement, c. continue efforts, f, eliminated as it is directly from HRIMP, k. change to Water Resources Commission.

Section VIII: Major Park and Recreation System Infrastructure Needs Assessment

- pg. 117 Island Park, added evaluation of historic bridge structure.
- pg. 118 West Park, painting and repair of band shell is complete.
- pg. 119 The Huron River added 'and other greenways' - added upkeep of Argo Dam in-funding implications. Added link to HRIMP Plan and bullet point on Allen Creek greenway.
- pg. 119 Section F, second to last bullet, added 'including plans for the Library Lot as they are developed'.
- pg. 122 Under Allen Creek Greenway changed 'requested by residents' to 'recommended by Allen Creek Task Force'.

- pg. 123 Under Allen Creek Greenway, added updates concerning Allen Creek Greenway Task Force.
- pg. 123 edited greenway connections section to match style of other parts of document.
- Planning to add route map provided by Allen Creek Greenway Task Force after Huron River Greenway Maps.

Section IX: Action Plan

- pg. 132 Capital Projects Criteria section updated to follow more closely with CIP rating system. Also, added that these criteria have been tailored to park projects.
- pg. 135 (edited plan, pg. 136) Added Section E describing major categories of Capital Improvement Projects.
- pg. 135 (edited plan, pg. 137) Section F. added sentence 'The Allen Creek Greenway is not listed under a specific year as the construction of new trails and park areas are contingent upon both land acquisition, master plan approval and an implementation plan'.
- pg. 135-136 (edited plan, pgs. 137-138) Section updated to reflect current project schedule. Urgent/Important eliminated as this is no longer how park construction projects are being rated.

Additional comments have been received since the PAC and Planning Commission Public Hearing, and changes have been made as noted as of February 11, 2011:

Section I:

- The census chart on pg.3 updated to include data on acreage of open space owned by other entities such as the County, University of Michigan and public schools.

Section II: Administrative Structure

- pg. 18 under Planning Commission, added 'and approved by City Council'.

Section III: Budget and Funding

- pg. 26-27, additional budget projections were provided.

Section IV: Inventory of the Park, Recreation and Open Space System

- pg. 55 (edited plan, pg. 45) next to Pioneer High School, added 'includes Greenview' and under Public School Facilities chart, added 'The City historically maintains walking trails and other sections of Greenview'.
- pg. 56 (edited plan, pg. 46) shared Public School and Park Properties chart, added Dicken Woods Nature Area and Dicken Elementary School

Section V: Land Use Planning and Acquisition

- pg. 64 (edited plan, pg. 56) Section A, Philosophy and Guiding Principles, paragraph 3, added verbiage outlining how park acquisition standards are developed.

- pg. 65 (edited plan pgs. 57-58), added Dicken Woods Nature Area to park acquisitions chart
- pg. 72 (edited plan pgs. 65-66) section 4. Changed title from 'Development Contributions within the Urban Core', to 'Parks, Open Space and Development Contributions within the Urban Core', and the paragraph following was edited to address planning of central area parks and discuss development contributions for the downtown core.
- pg. 74 (edited plan pg. 68) Greenbelt map has been updated to include properties acquired and preserved.

Section VIII: Major Park and Recreation Infrastructure Needs Assessment

- pg. 119 (edited plan pg. 116) under D. Parkland Acquisitions:
 - 'Establish a formal operating agreement with the Ann Arbor Public Schools regarding Greenview, and explore acquisition through the established process'.
 - 'The desire for a future Allen Creek Greenway is ongoing and includes designation of the floodway portions of the City-owned properties at 415 West Washington, 721 North Main and the First and William sites'.
- pg. 119 (edited plan pg. 116) under E. The Huron River/Other Greenways:
 - 'A master plan for a future Allen Creek Greenway should be developed, in cooperation with all potential stake holders (DDA, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Railroad, etc.)'

Appendix A: Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Charts

- Charts updated to include additional explanations under each pie chart.