



Agenda
Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 4, 2026 - 6:30 PM
851 S. Eton, Birmingham, MI
DPS Conference Room

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Announcements, Introductions of Guests & Chairpersons Comments

1. PRESS RELEASE: Birmingham Museum receives grant in partnership with Friends of the Rouge

IV. Open To The Public for Items Not On the Agenda (two minutes per person)

V. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting

1. June 2, 2026, Parks and Recreation Board Minutes

VI. Unfinished Business

VII. New Business

Written and submitted by 5pm Monday at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, one week prior to the meeting.

1. Playground Design Public Input Session (Crestview Park Playground)
2. St. James and Kenning Park Improvement Project Update

VIII. Miscellaneous Communications

IX. Reports From Staff

1. Booth Park Update
2. e-bike Information
3. Parks and Recreation Bond Status Update

X. Items for Next Meeting on September 1, 2026

XI. Adjournment

Link to Access Virtual Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98191466679>

Telephone Meeting Access: 877 853 5247 US Toll-free
Meeting ID Code: 981 9146 6679

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MISSION STATEMENT

The Parks and Recreation Board strives to provide opportunities for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration for present and future generations of residents and visitors through stewardship of natural, cultural and recreational resources. By continuously elevating the beauty and quality of the parks and recreation system of Birmingham, the Parks and Recreation Board will promote health and wellbeing, and strengthen the community.

You may also present your written statement to: City of Birmingham, Parks and Recreation Board 851 South Eton, Birmingham, Michigan 48009 prior to the meeting.

If you cannot attend the meetings, please contact Clinise Kirkwood at the Birmingham Ice Arena (248) 530-1651. Minutes are available for review at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, 2300 East Lincoln, Birmingham, MI 48009

Individuals requiring accommodations, such as interpreter services, for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (248) 530-1880 (voice) or 248-644-3405 (TDD) at least one day in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algún tipo de ayuda para la participación en esta sesión pública deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la ciudad en el número (248) 530-1800 o al (248) 644-3405 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un día antes de la reunión para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964)



Clinise Kirkwood <ckirkwood@bhamgov.org>

Fwd: PRESS RELEASE: Birmingham Museum receives grant in partnership with Friends of the Rouge

Carrie Laird <Claird@bhamgov.org>

Thu, Jul 16, 2026 at 3:33 PM

To: Scott Zielinski <szielinski@bhamgov.org>, Clinise Kirkwood <ckirkwood@bhamgov.org>

Hi,

We will include the press release on the next Parks and Recreation Board agenda, fyi. Thanks!

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

From: **Leslie Pielack** <LPielack@bhamgov.org>

Date: Thu, Jul 16, 2026 at 2:16 PM

Subject: PRESS RELEASE: Birmingham Museum receives grant in partnership with Friends of the Rouge

To: Cyndi Ross <cross@therouge.org>, Carrie Laird <Claird@bhamgov.org>

Hi,

Please see the press release below regarding the Indigenous Interpretation of Native Plants project at the Birmingham Museum. If I get interview requests for your organizations, I will pass them on to you.

Thank you both for your enthusiasm and support of this project!

Leslie



For Immediate Release

Contact:

Leslie Pielack

Birmingham Museum Director

(248) 530-1682

mgamboa@bhamgov.org

Birmingham Museum receives grant in partnership with Friends of the Rouge
Project will reintroduce native plants at museum pond and incorporate Indigenous interpretation along Rouge trail

BIRMINGHAM, MI, July 16, 2026 — The Birmingham Museum is excited to announce it has received a Community Impact grant of \$71,000 from the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan for a special project to enhance the public experience of the Rouge ecosystem. The project will focus on the environmental and cultural importance of native plants, past and present. Museum Director Leslie Pielack developed the project as a unique collaboration of partners who are connected to the Rouge and its history.

The project will achieve several objectives:

- 1) Invasive plants such as buckthorn and *phragmites* will be removed from museum grounds, and Michigan native plants will be reintroduced around the natural pond with seating and interpretive QR-coded markers,
- 2) Surviving native plants along the Rouge Trail in Birmingham will also be identified with QR markers, and
- 3) The markers will feature Indigenous interpretation of the plants, their traditional uses and cultural importance.

"The Rouge River corridor was part of the homelands of the Anishinaabe peoples of Michigan in the years before European settlement here," said Pielack. "The Anishinaabeg (Odawa, Ojibwe, and Potawatomi) were displaced by encroaching settlement and treaties in the early 1800s, and their communities are now located further west and north in Michigan." Pielack added that their traditional lifeways utilize careful resource management and learning about them can raise awareness of sustainable environmental practice for Birmingham residents today. "We want to bring our Indigenous history back to the Rouge through this project by incorporating Anishinaabe language, traditions and perspective on the natural world and our relationship to it. We are different cultures in different times, but the Rouge River ecosystem matters to all of us."

The two-year project grew out of the Birmingham Museum's 2018 Landscape Master Plan and reflects recent interest in our area's Indigenous heritage, preserving the health of the Rouge River ecosystem and enhancing the community's recreational experience. It will be implemented through a partnership with the Friends of the Rouge, who will use teams of volunteers to remove invasive plants on the museum site and plant Michigan natives according to a landscape design that will provide barrier-free access to the gardens and pond. The museum will also work with Birmingham's Parks and Recreation Department to install the interpretive markers along 1½ miles of trails along the Rouge River.

"The Parks and Recreation Department is excited to partner with the Birmingham Museum and other community partners on a project that brings together environmental stewardship, education and cultural heritage in a truly meaningful way," said Parks and Recreation Manager Carrie Laird. "By restoring native habitat, improving the health of the Rouge River ecosystem, and sharing Indigenous knowledge through innovative interpretive experiences, we are creating an opportunity

for visitors to connect more deeply with the natural and cultural history of this special place. This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to preserving and enhancing Birmingham's parks while providing engaging, accessible experiences that will benefit residents and visitors for generations to come."

The QR coded online educational material will identify the plants and their ecological contributions as well as provide information about traditional Indigenous uses and cultural importance. Indigenous consultants will help develop the content, and the Birmingham Museum will utilize museum standards to create the online content for a wide public audience. By using low-physical-impact QR codes, visitors can access information at their leisure in a personalized way without the undue distraction of signage, and the barrier-free design will make visiting the museum's native plant gardens more widely accessible. As a bonus, the museum garden can serve as a model of landscape use of native plants. Visitors can see and experience the various plants "at work."

Cyndi Ross, Restoration Manager for Friends of the Rouge, highlighted the importance of the collaborative project and the lasting benefits of planting native species. "Michigan native plants are naturally adapted to our local soils and climate, making them a sustainable choice that saves time, water and other resources," Ross said. "Their deep root systems help absorb storm water, reducing downstream flooding and erosion while improving water quality." Ross added that when people plant native species in their gardens, they're helping build healthier, more resilient ecosystems that provide essential habitat and food for birds, bees, butterflies and other pollinators. "By restoring native landscapes, we're creating benefits that extend beyond individual gardens—to our communities, our wildlife and the long-term health of the Rouge River watershed."

The native plant and Indigenous interpretation project will begin this summer with an inventory and plan for the removal of invasives, which will begin this fall and continue into 2027. Although it is a separate project, it will be coordinated with the installation of barrier free paths and a boardwalk along the east and south shore of the museum's pond, which is part of the ongoing improvements to make the museum grounds more accessible and preserve the natural and historic features of the site. "There's going to be a lot going on around the pond over the next few years," Pielack said. "There will also be opportunities for people in our community to volunteer to help the Friends of the Rouge with their part of the project." Updates will be available on the museum's social media accounts and at [bhamgov.org/museum](https://www.bhamgov.org/museum) as more information becomes available.

*More information about the Friends of the Rouge can be found at www.therouge.org. The Birmingham Museum is open Tuesday – Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors, and children 5 and under and Friends members are free. Questions? Contact the museum at 248-530-1928 or museum@bhamgov.org, or check us out on Facebook (facebook.com/TheBirminghamMuseum/) and Instagram (instagram.com/birmingham_museum_mi/). More video content on our current exhibit, lectures on historic Birmingham, and educational video shorts for adults and children can be found on our YouTube channel. Want to know more about us? Check us out at www.bhamgov.org/museum. Or contact us by phone at **248-530-1928**.*

Leslie Pielack
Director
Birmingham Museum
248-530-1682

Important Note to Residents
Let's connect! Join the Citywide Email System to receive important City updates and critical information specific to your neighborhood at www.bhamgov.org/citywideemail.



Parks And Recreation Board – Regular Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.

851 South Eton - Conference Room

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Vice Chair Lipp; Board Members Susan Collins, Jessica Einstein; Alternate Board Members Narlu Castellano, Joseph Wrobel

Absent: Chair Heather Carmona; Board Member Sarah Kupczyk; Student Representative Sienna Weinberg

Staff: Department of Public Services Director Zielinski; City Planner Blizinski, Recreation Coordinator Kirkwood, Parks and Recreation Foreman McNab

Guests: Rachel Bush OHM Advisor, Quentin Hyde OHM Advisor

III. Announcements, Introductions of Guests & Chair Comments

IV. Open To The Public for Items Not On the Agenda

V. Approval of the Minutes – May 5, 2026

Motion by Einstein

Seconded by Castellano to approve the previous minutes.

Motion carried, 5-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Wrobel, Collins, Einstein, Castellano, Lipp

Nays: None

VI. Unfinished Business

None.

VII. New Business

1. OHM Professional Design Services Update St. James Park & Kenning Park

Ms. Bush, Mr. Hyde, DPSD Zielinski and PRF McNab presented the item and answered questions.

The Board discussed the following regarding Kenning:

- The Board should be mindful of potential equity issues in terms of updating the baseball and softball fields.
- While bathrooms and a pavilion would likely be a popular option with the public, updating the playground and the drainage should likely be the first priority.
- Project area three should likely be the second priority, project area one is inexpensive and so can be addressed as appropriate, and the bathrooms and pavilion area should likely be the lowest priority.
- Improvements of the softball fields would include drainage improvements.
- A rain garden near the tennis bubble would benefit drainage in the park.

The Board discussed the following regarding St. James:

- Per the survey, residents prioritized the playground first and the picnic area second.
- The Board supported that prioritization order, with project area four being next and project area three being last.
- Since the softball upgrades were not a significant expense, that area might be able to be included in the upgrades.
- There would likely be public support for adding outdoor gym equipment.
- It would be beneficial if additional opportunities for multi-generational uses could be added.
- The furniture should be accessible to people of different ages and mobility needs.

The Board discussed the following regarding the general item:

- For this round of improvements, the City should improve either Howarth or St. James since they are in the same neighborhood.
- Beginning some of these proposed park improvements and retaining some of the funds to begin upgrades at other parks as well might be the most optimal option.
- Alternatively, doing a number of improvements to parks at different times may lead to residents feeling that the projects near their homes are incomplete for longer than preferred.
- Referencing the five year plan might help to inform how these improvements should be approached.
- Since the improvements to St. James were already delayed on account of the process around 400 E. Lincoln, it might be most appropriate to complete the improvements now rather than postponing them further.
- If the majority of the improvements to St. James are postponed, the playground should still be improved given residents' prioritization.
- If this occurs, the Little League may have to understand that improvements to the ball

fields might occur within five years instead of more imminently.

- The Board understood that hosting Little League games brings activity and revenue into the City.
- The Board had increased the focus on improvements that would benefit the Little League versus the original plans.
- Ground Energy-Passive Systems could be utilized to address some of the more pressing drainage issues on an interim basis.
- The Board reached consensus that the playground and drainage should be addressed at Kenning with the Kenning funds, and staff should ask the City if further funds might be allocated to complete the St. James improvements. If further funds for St. James are not forthcoming, the remainder of the Kenning funds after the playground and the drainage are improved should be allocated to St. James to implement the Board's priority list.

Public Comment

Sue Gallagher supported improving St. James in as short a time period as possible, and commented regarding tennis, basketball, and pickleball at St. James, single-sided parking on Edgewood, the proposed walkways, and possibly moving the softball field to the south end of the park.

John Keller supported including more detailed information in the presentations, potentially removing the central median from the parking lot next to St. James, improving the playground, and commented regarding the proposed location of the ball field and its potential impact on buried utilities.

Ina Brown supported improving St. James in as short a time period as possible, supported using rendering A at the plan for the improvements, and allowing for gate access for those whose properties abut the park, and commented regarding the ball field location and orientation.

Bridgette Halseth supported improving St. James in as short a time period as possible, tree preservation along Edgewood, and commented regarding the ball field location and orientation at St. James and parking.

VIII. Miscellaneous Communications

IX. Reports from Staff

Brief updates on Poppleton were provided.

X. Items for Next Meeting

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Clinise Kirkwood

Clinise Kirkwood, Recreation Coordinator

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Laura Eichenhorn'.

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: July 30, 2026

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Brad McNab, Parks & Recreation Foreman
Carrie Laird, Parks & Recreation Manager

SUBJECT: Crestview Playground Design Public Input Session

The Crestview playground design public input session originally scheduled for the July Parks and Recreation Board meeting has been rescheduled for the August meeting since the July meeting was cancelled.



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: July 2, 2026

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
Brad McNab, Parks and Recreation Foreman

SUBJECT: Playground Design Public Input Session
Crestview Park Playground

The July 7, 2026 Parks and Recreation Board meeting is the first opportunity for the public to provide feedback and comments on playground concept designs for Crestview Park Playground and has been advertised on social media, in the July Around Town newsletter, and postcards to surrounding residents.

A survey will be posted on Engage Birmingham, tentatively scheduled to be available between July 7 through July 24 for the potential park playground concepts.

Playground Concepts

There are three (3) concept plans that were prepared for Crestview Park attached to this report. Our playground design architect from Penchura, Lance Shipman, will be in attendance at the July 7 Parks and Recreation Board meeting to review the concepts and facilitate feedback.

Each of the concept plans currently fall within the planned budgeted amounts for this location.

Upon completion of Board and public input, the architect will revise concepts as appropriate, and a final draft proposed design will be presented at an upcoming Parks and Recreation Board meeting for approval and for recommendation to the City Commission for purchase.

ATTACHMENTS:

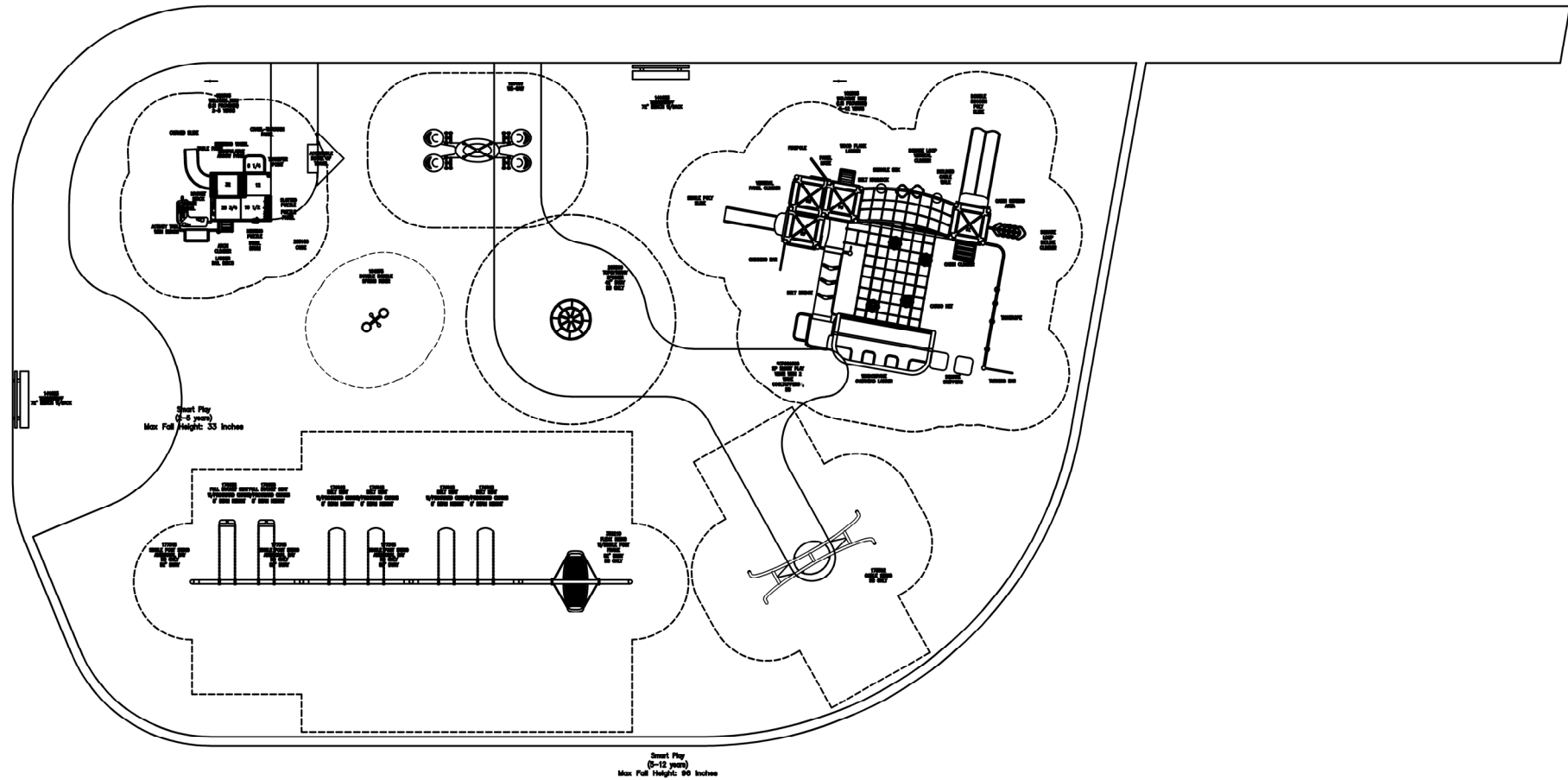
- Concept 1, the "Venti" and 3D renderings
- Concept 2, the "Billows" and 3D renderings
- Concept 3, the "Playbooster" and 3D renderings

Crestview Playground

Concept 1

“Venti”





5-12 AREA

TOTAL ELEVATED PLAY COMPONENTS	13		
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY RAMP	0	REQUIRED	0
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY TRANSFER	8	REQUIRED	7
TOTAL ACCESSIBLE GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS SHOWN	14	REQUIRED	4
TOTAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS	8	REQUIRED	8

2-5 AREA

TOTAL ELEVATED PLAY COMPONENTS	9		
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY RAMP	0	REQUIRED	0
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY TRANSFER	9	REQUIRED	5
TOTAL ACCESSIBLE GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS SHOWN	7	REQUIRED	3
TOTAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS	6	REQUIRED	6



Crestview Park
Birmingham, MI

Penchura, LLC
Lance Shipman

SYSTEM TYPE:
Smart Play

DRAWING #:
PEN1209386-01



The play components identified on this plan are IPEMA certified. (Unless model number is preceded with *) The use and layout of these components conform to the requirements of ASTM F1487. To verify product certification, visit www.ipema.org

THIS PLAY AREA & PLAY EQUIPMENT IS DESIGNED FOR AGES 2-12 YEARS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON PLAN.

IT IS THE MANUFACTURERS OPINION THAT THIS PLAY AREA DOES CONFORM TO THE A.D.A. ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS, ASSUMING AN ACCESSIBLE PROTECTIVE SURFACING IS PROVIDED, AS INDICATED, OR WITHIN THE ENTIRE USE ZONE.

THIS CONCEPTUAL PLAN WAS BASED ON INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US. PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION, DETAILED SITE INFORMATION INCLUDING SITE DIMENSIONS, TOPOGRAPHY, EXISTING UTILITIES, SOIL CONDITIONS, AND DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS SHOULD BE OBTAINED, EVALUATED, & UTILIZED IN THE FINAL DESIGN. PLEASE VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS OF PLAY AREA, SIZE, ORIENTATION, AND LOCATION OF ALL EXISTING UTILITIES, EQUIPMENT, AND SITE FURNISHINGS PRIOR TO ORDERING. SLIDES SHOULD NOT FACE THE HOT AFTERNOON SUN.

CHOOSE A PROTECTIVE SURFACING MATERIAL THAT HAS A CRITICAL HEIGHT VALUE TO MEET THE MAXIMUM FALL HEIGHT FOR THE EQUIPMENT (REF. ASTM F1487 STANDARD CONSUMER SAFETY PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR PUBLIC USE, SECTION 8 CURRENT REVISION). THE SUBSURFACE MUST BE WELL DRAINED. IF THE SOIL DOES NOT DRAIN NATURALLY IT MUST BE TILED OR SLOPED 1/8" TO 1/4" PER FOOT TO A STORM SEWER OR A "FRENCH DRAIN".

ACCESSIBLE/PROTECTIVE SURFACING TO BE A COMBINATION OF UNITARY AND LOOSE FILL MATERIALS.
EWF: 6,513 SF / TURF: 652 SF

DESIGNED BY:
AH

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601 7th STREET SOUTH - P.O. BOX 198
DELANO, MINNESOTA 55328
PH: 1-800-328-0035 FAX: 1-763-972-6091

Date	Previous Drawing #	Initials
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Crestview Park

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Crestview Park

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Crestview Park

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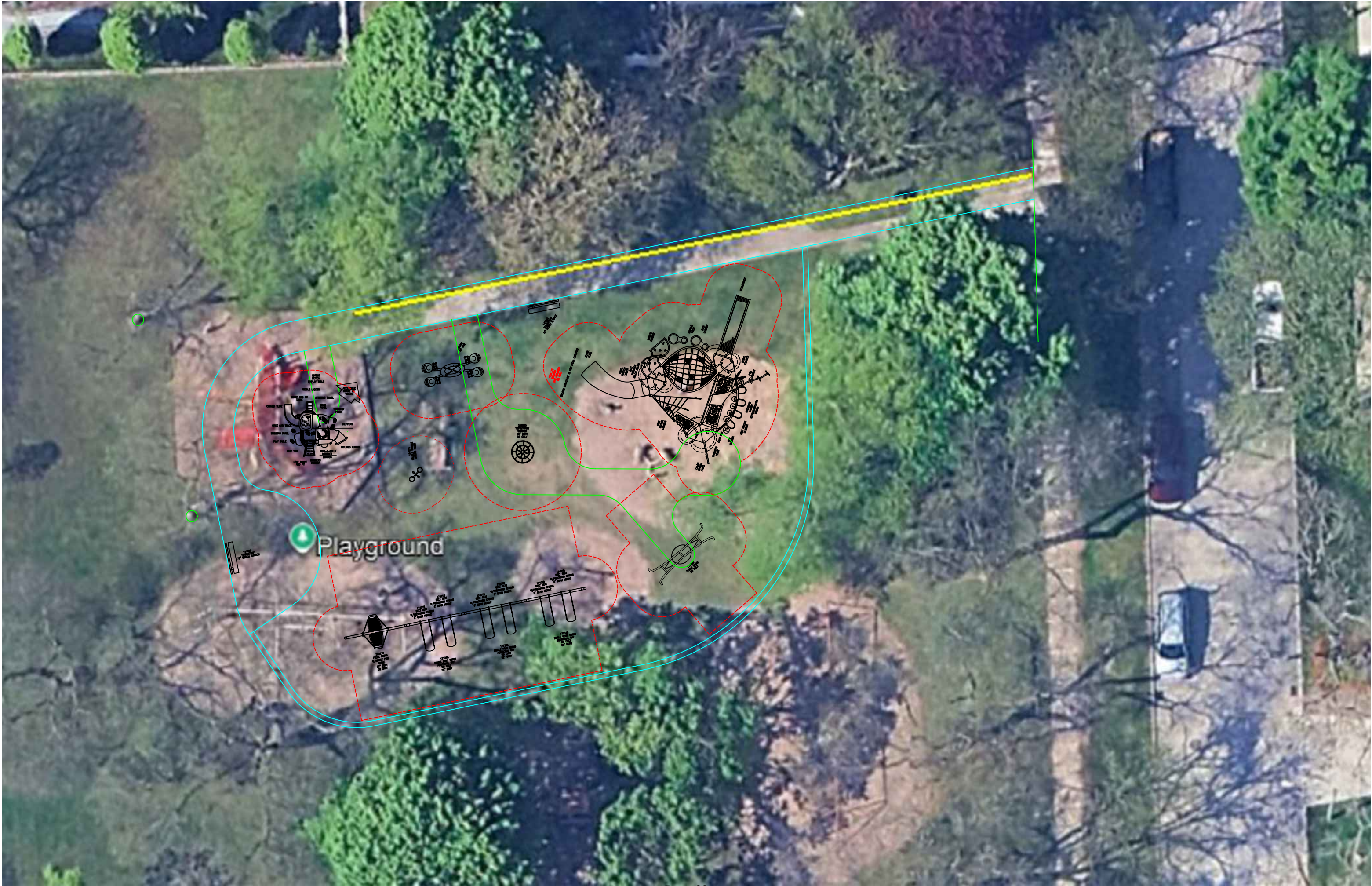


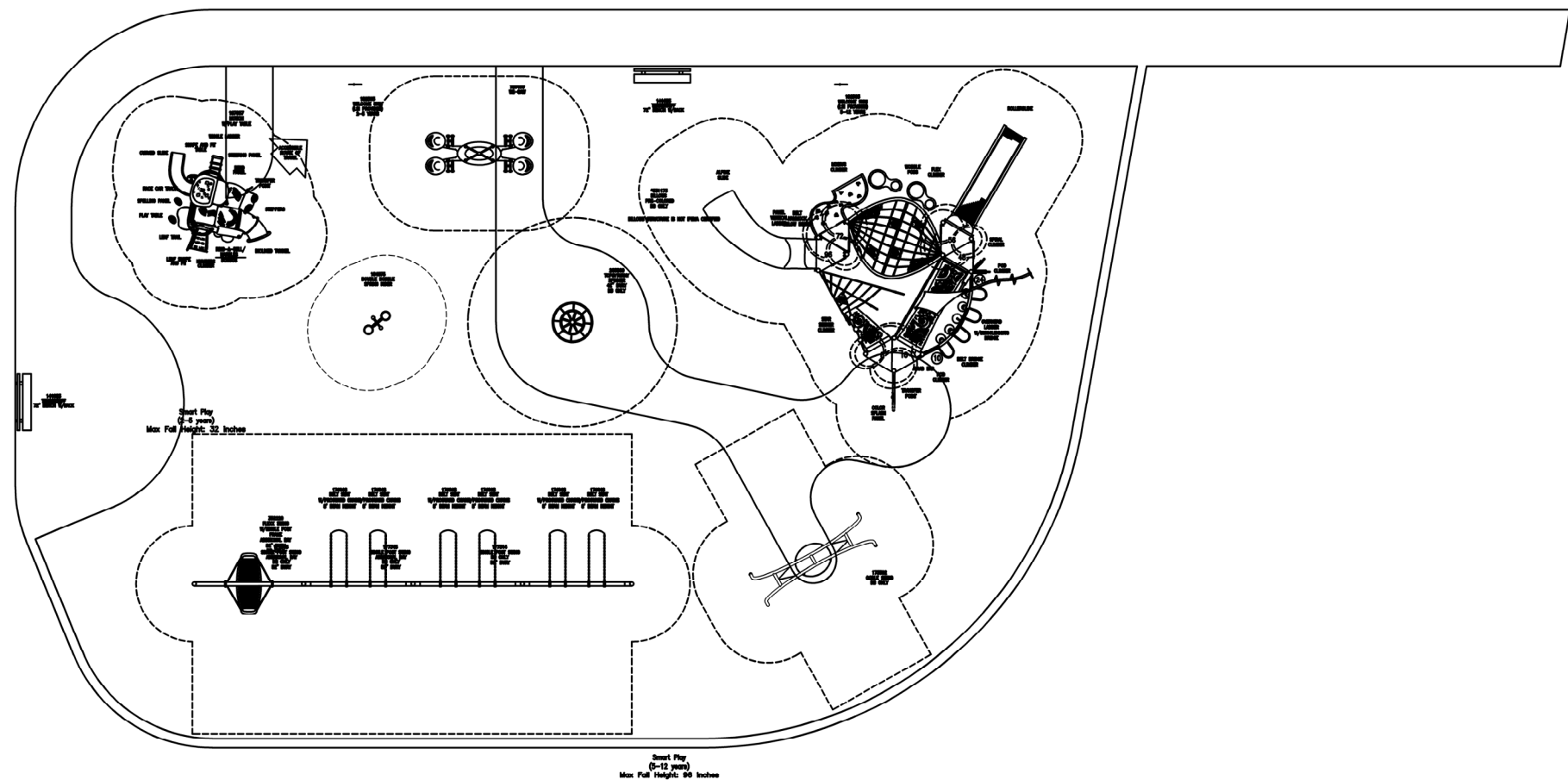
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Crestview Playground

Concept 2

“Billows”



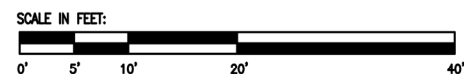


5-12 AREA

TOTAL ELEVATED PLAY COMPONENTS	8		
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY RAMP	0	REQUIRED	0
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY TRANSFER	5	REQUIRED	4
TOTAL ACCESSIBLE GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS SHOWN	14	REQUIRED	3
TOTAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS	7	REQUIRED	7

2-5 AREA

TOTAL ELEVATED PLAY COMPONENTS	9		
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY RAMP	0	REQUIRED	0
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY TRANSFER	9	REQUIRED	5
TOTAL ACCESSIBLE GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS SHOWN	7	REQUIRED	3
TOTAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS	6	REQUIRED	6



Crestview Park
Birmingham, MI

Penchura, LLC
Lance Shipman

SYSTEM TYPE:
Smart Play

DRAWING #:
PEN1209386-02



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ACCESSIBLE/PROTECTIVE SURFACING TO BE A COMBINATION OF UNITARY AND LOOSE FILL MATERIALS.
EWF: 6,417 SF / TURF: 748 SF

DESIGNED BY:
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Date	Previous Drawing #	Initials
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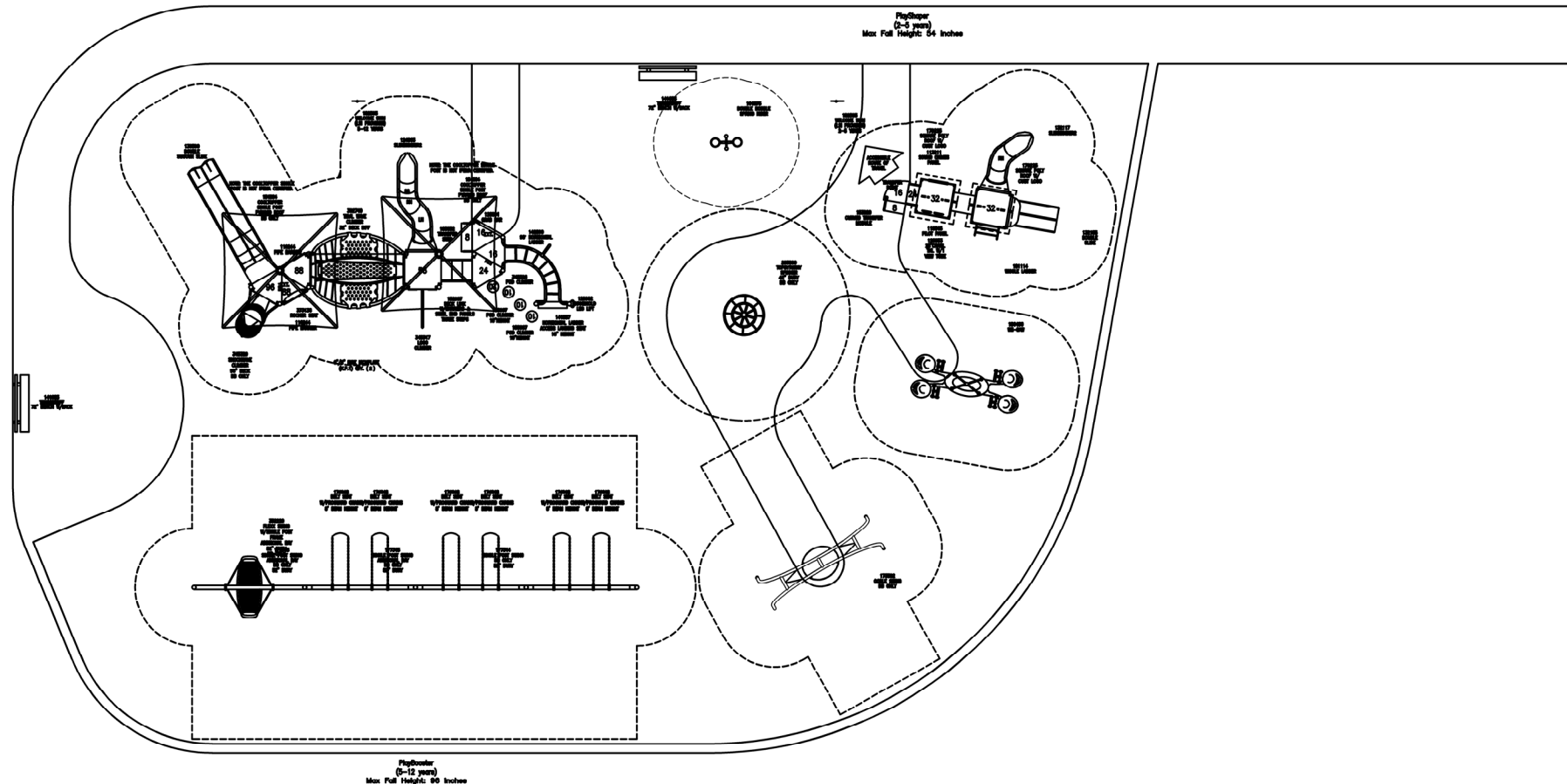


Crestview Playground

Concept 3

“PlayBooster”



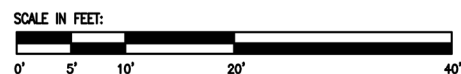


5-12 AREA

TOTAL ELEVATED PLAY COMPONENTS	7		
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY RAMP	0	REQUIRED	0
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY TRANSFER	5	REQUIRED	4
TOTAL ACCESSIBLE GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS SHOWN	12	REQUIRED	2
TOTAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS	5	REQUIRED	5

2-5 AREA

TOTAL ELEVATED PLAY COMPONENTS	6		
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY RAMP	0	REQUIRED	0
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY TRANSFER	9	REQUIRED	5
TOTAL ACCESSIBLE GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS SHOWN	2	REQUIRED	2
TOTAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS	2	REQUIRED	2



Crestview Park
Birmingham, MI

Penchura, LLC
Lance Shipman

SYSTEM TYPE:
PlayBooster/PlayShaper
DRAWING #:
PEN1209386-03



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City of Birmingham

St. James and Kenning Park Improvement Project

Project Update

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD UPDATE
08/04/2026
851 EATON STREET
6:30 PM

Task 3.1 – Design Development (ongoing)

- ✓ Forestry collaboration (First week of July)
 - OHM coordinated with city Forestry & Environment department to align project goals with city goals for urban tree canopy management.
- ✓ Penchura collaboration (Week of July 20th and 27th)
 - OHM coordinated with city's playground partner to guide preliminary equipment selections and conceptual layouts that fit within the overall revised park master plan concepts.
 - Layouts and conceptual 3D renderings in tonight's packet provided by Penchura
- ✓ Parks Staff Progress Meeting (7/30)
 - OHM met with city staff to review preliminary deliverables from Penchura
 - Confirmed plan of action for remaining Tasks and milestones
- ✓ Parks and Recreation Board (8/04)
 - Tonight we seek input from the board on the Penchura selections and layouts
- Playground layout refinements after the CC 8/10meeting
 - OHM to refine selected equipment and layouts to align with overall project goals and aesthetics
 - Balance cost savings with programmatic benefits
- City Commission Design Review Meeting (8/10)
 - Parks staff to present update on bonds and seek phasing/finance goals
 - OHM available to answer design and bidding questions
- Open survey via Engage Birmingham –
 - Align with Concert in the Park - August 26, 2026
 - Final park concepts posted for review and comment by public
- Final public engagement event, Summer Concert Series. (8/26)
 - Final concepts to be unveiled on 1 or 2 board displays with a QR code to collect open-ended public comments.

Task 3.2 – Presentation to City Stakeholders (September)

- City Commission meeting
 - Following the refinement of each park design [and potential phasing], OHM will present the Preliminary Construction Plans to ensure plan goals and objects remain in line with the project scope.

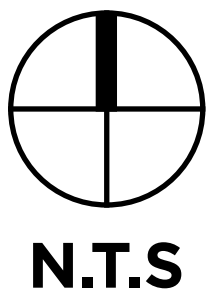


- The project team will be available to answer questions and provide additional insight to the design concepts.

Task 3.3 – Construction and Bid Documents (September)

- OHM will incorporate feedback obtained during Task 3.2 and finalize a set of construction and bid documents for us in obtaining bids to make the proposed improvements to the park.
- These documents will include the plan set, project details and specifications, and City front end documents necessary for contractors to provide a qualified bid proposal.
- OHM will prepare a final opinion of probable cost for each park.

CONCEPT DIAGRAM Kenning Park



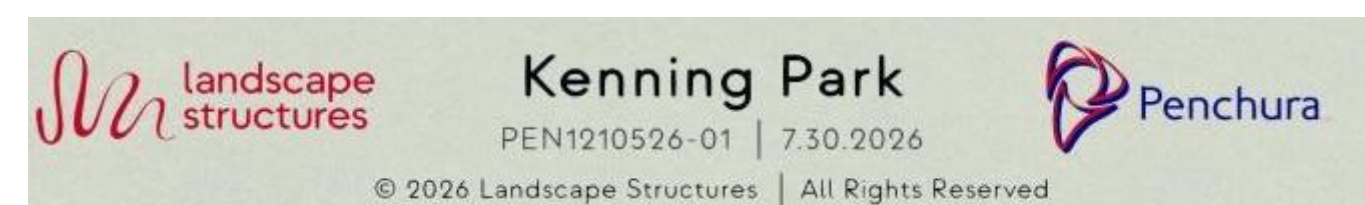
Key Observations

- This graphic further refines the arrangement for the site elements proposed in the earlier Master Plan and incorporates feedback gathered from public engagement efforts.
- The third little league diamond has been rotated in its current location to provide better accessory gathering space and allow for a connecting path between the fields to the southwest.
- Upgrades to the fields come in the form of paved spectator seating areas.
- Regrading the outfield of the Softball diamond allows for a youth soccer field.
- The proposed play and adjacent picnic pavilion area are nestled in the southwest corner, situated among the existing tree canopy and adjacent to an arc of the park's exercise path.
- The main park entrance in the northwest has been reorganized to streamline the walking routes while maximizing green space and allow for bio-retention for mitigation of tennis dome runoff.
- Additional pedestrian paths have been added to better connect the site use areas.
- A centrally located restroom and concessions stand building addition is proposed for the southwest corner of the Ice Arena.
- An angled open air pavilion connects to this addition and provides shelter for the new plaza space provided at this location.
- The central parking lot has been modified to create a formal space for ice melt drop off an relocating the dumpster enclosure.
- A small shade shelter is proposed between the little league diamonds.
- Another shelter is proposed connected to the outdoor tennis courts covering a new plaza for seating.

LEGEND:

- Pedestrian Path
- 3/4 Mile Exercise Path
- Planting





[illegible]

EXISTING PLAYGROUND AREA IS
3898 SF

4 BAY TOT SWINGS
4 BAY SWINGS
TOWER/CLIMBER WITH 3 SLIDES
WIGGLE LADDER
ARCH LADDER
2 LADDERS
PLATFORM STEPS
MONKEY BARS, OSCILLATING
TELEPHONE PIPE
STEERING WHEEL

121 SF SANDBOX WITH 1 DIGGER

PROPOSED PLAYGROUND AREA IS
9112 SF
4022 SF
2436 SF



Know what's **below**.
Call before you dig.

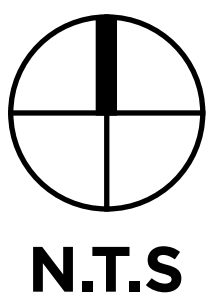
City of Birmingham
Kenning and St James Parks
Birmingham







CONCEPT DIAGRAM A St. James Park



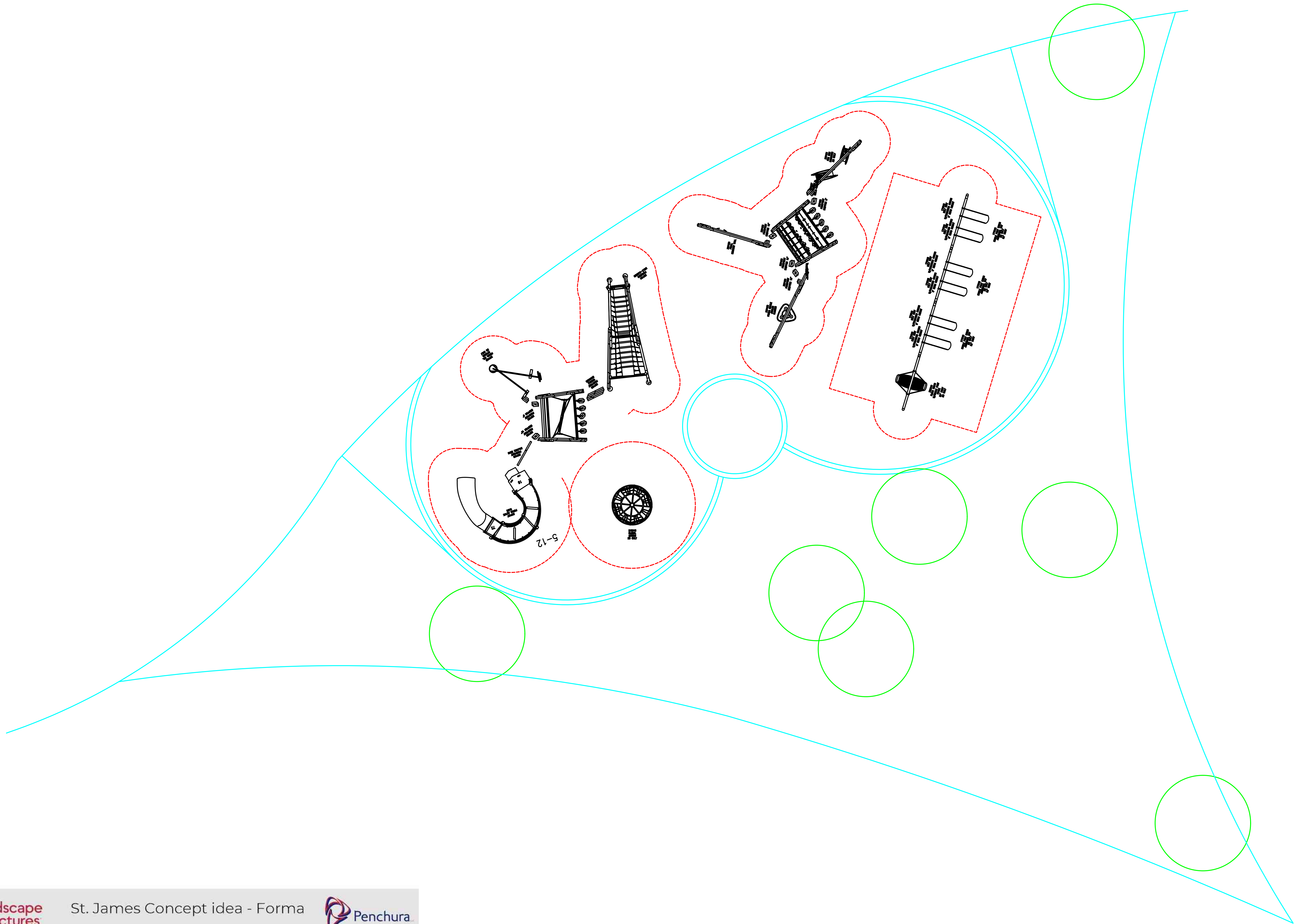
Key Observations

- Existing baseball diamond is converted to softball and rotated to the ideal southwest home base orientation allowing for a multi-use plaza adjacent to the existing parking lot.
- This plaza serves to accent the park entrance, connect to the NEXT facility, and provide space for outdoor exercise equipment, shaded dining area, and potential for smaller court sports/games.
- Enhancements to the park entrances and new paved walking paths loop through the park to connect features and delineate spaces for new park uses.
- Tennis courts have been moved inward to provide easier access from the parking area, more distance from surrounding residences, and consolidation with a new full-sized basketball court.
- Open space that fits a 9v9 soccer field is now located at the northeast corner of the park
- New playground equipment with pathways connecting the play type areas.
- Perennial and groundcover plantings throughout with integrated bio-retention areas to manage stormwater runoff.
- Western chainlink fence has been removed to create a more welcoming park feel and updated decorative metal fencing elsewhere are proposed.

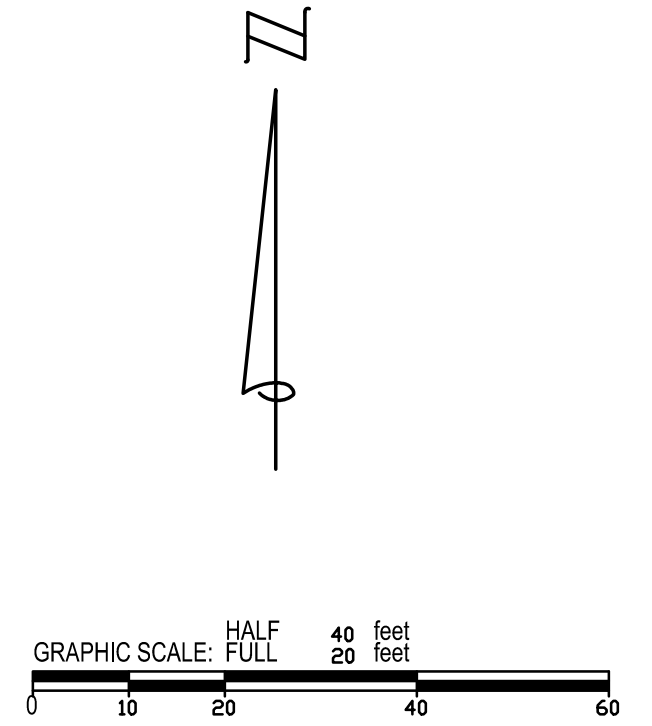
LEGEND:

- Pedestrian Path
- Sport Fence
- 6' Fence
- 4' Fence
- Planting
- Lamppost
- Streetlight





A large, modern playground structure with multiple slides and climbing areas, set in a grassy field with trees in the background. The structure features a central tower with a brown roof and blue mesh sides, surrounded by several slides in blue and white. Children are playing on the structure, and the ground is covered in green grass.



EXISTING PLAYGROUND AREA IS
2514 SF

- CLIMBER WITH 2 SLIDES
- MOUNTAIN CLIMBER THING
- LADDER
- LEAF LADDER
- ROCK CLIMBER
- PLATFORM STEPS
- TELEPHONE PIPE
- CLIMBING WALL PARTITION
- SMALL SPINNER POLE
- 2 SET OF 2 BONGO STEPS
- FREE-STANDING NOISE MAKER? (IT LOOKS LIKE
A SHIP THROTTLE)

2593 SF SANDBOX WITH 1 DIGGER

5100 SF MAIN AREA

- TOT CLIMBER WITH 3 SLIDES
- ARC LADDER
- 2 FIRE POLES
- STEPS
- 4 BAY SWING SET
- 2 BAY TOT SWING SET
- 6 FT7 TUBE TUNNEL
- 2 ANIMAL SPRING TOY
- WOODEN SEESAW

PROPOSED PLAYGROUND AREA IS
3835 SF
3150 SF
1600 SF

4176 SF (SOUTH OF PATH WHERE SHUFFLEBOARD COURT IS)



Know what's **below**.
Call before you dig.



ISSUED FOR:	REVISION	DESCRIPTION	DATE	YYYYMMDD
	000001			
	000002			
	000003			
	000004			
	000005			
	000006			

City of Birmingham
Kenning and St James Parks
Birmingham









MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: July 30, 2026

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager

SUBJECT: Booth Park Entry Plaza & Trail Improvements project update

Since the writing of the memo intended for the canceled July Parks and Recreation Board meeting (attached), the MDNR has concurred with and approved the department's recommendation of Warren Contractors & Development for the Booth Park Entry Plaza & Trail Improvements project for a total project cost of \$2,185,922.61. This recommendation is slated for the August 10, 2026 City Commission meeting.



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: July 2, 2026

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager

SUBJECT: Booth Park Entry Plaza & Trail Improvements project update

Following funding approval from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for the Trust Fund Grant late last year, the City's design consultant, Grissim, Metz, & Andriese Associates, completed the preparation of bid documents for the Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements Project. As required by the grant, the MDNR reviewed and approved the project plans, specifications, and bid documents prior to the project being advertised for bid. Following the MDNR's approval in mid-May, the City advertised the project on MITN, hosted a mandatory pre-bid meeting, and publicly opened bids on June 17, 2026.

Two contractors submitted proposals for this project. Staff is in the process of reviewing the proposals, including interviewing the contractors. The next step is to obtain approval to proceed from the MDNR.



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: July 2, 2026
TO: Parks and Recreation Board
FROM: Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
SUBJECT: e-bike information

In order to continue to update and inform the Parks and Recreation Board about e-bikes, please see the attached article from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) about e-bikes on DNR trails.



Carrie Laird <claird@bhamgov.org>

More ways to get outdoors: Learn about e-bikes on DNR Trails

1 message

Michigan DNR <MIDNR@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
To: claird@bhamgov.org

Mon, Jun 29, 2026 at 4:28 PM

[Share or view as webpage](#) | [Update preferences](#)

Three simple steps for safe e-bike adventures on DNR-managed trails

Whether you're riding through a state park, along waterfronts, or down a scenic trail, an e-bike can add a little extra fun and freedom to your next outdoor adventure.

With more and more visitors using e-bikes, the Michigan [DNR approved class 1 and class 2 e-bikes on select DNR-managed trails in 2024](#). This expansion followed months of collaborative research and discussion with trail users and organizations, creating even more opportunities for visitors to get outside and explore.

To make sure all trail users have a fun and safe time, be sure to follow these three simple steps while using an e-bike.

- [Step 1: Know your e-bike's class](#)

- [Step 2: Find a DNR-managed trail](#)
- [Step 3: Be safe \(and leave no trace\) while you have fun](#)



Step 1: Know your e-bike's class

Knowing what class your e-bike falls into is your first step in having fun on a DNR-managed trail. Finding your bike's class should be simple because manufacturers place a permanent label on the e-bike that identifies its class type.

- **Class 1:** These e-bikes are pedal-assisted and can travel up to 20 miles per hour. These bikes are welcomed on any DNR-managed trail where traditional bicycles are allowed with the exception of North Country Trail, High Country, Shingle Mill and Pickerel Lake pathways within the Pigeon River Country.
- **Class 2:** Throttle- and pedal-assisted, these e-bikes can travel up to 20 miles per hour. These e-bikes are for mobility use only and users must have a free [DNR-issued permit](#) to use these bikes on DNR-managed trails.
- **Class 3:** Because these e-bikes can travel up to 28 miles per hour, they are not allowed on any state-managed trail to help protect guests and wildlife.

Another clue to look for is if your e-bike has pedals. If it does not have fully operable pedals, your bike is considered an e-moto under Michigan law. Examples of e-motos include electric mopeds, motorcycles and dirt bikes. Because these bikes can exceed 28 miles per hour, they pose serious safety risks to trail users, and should only be used on [ORV trails](#). Luckily, Michigan has over 4,000 miles of state-designated ORV trails, so you will have plenty of options.

Step 2: Find a DNR-managed trail



Michigan is home to more than 4,020 miles of state-designated hiking trails and 2,085 miles of state-designated biking trails, making it easy to find a [great trail experience near you](#).

While you're searching for your next trail adventure, remember that e-bikes are not allowed on trails in state game and wildlife areas to help protect wildlife and guests.

Step 3: Be safe (and leave no trace) while you have fun



Many DNR-managed trails are multi-use, meaning that they are enjoyed by hikers, bikers and horseback riders. Knowing when to yield and how to interact with other users helps ensure a [safe and enjoyable experience for all](#). While you're exploring a trail on your e-bike, be sure to:

- Stay on marked trails, and respect trail conditions and trail closures.
- Leave no trace to protect our trails and wildlife.
- Dismount and go down the center of the trail if you encounter wet trail conditions. This is safer for riders and stops the trail from widening.
- Alert other trail users of your intentions before passing.
- Yield to all other trail users while riding a bike.
- Maintain a safe speed, especially near other trail users.
- Communicate when encountering a horseback rider on the trail. Because cyclists move quickly and quietly, it can scare horses.

[More about e-bikes ▶](#)

For more information on e-bike use on DNR-managed properties, visit our website.

[Find ORV trails ▶](#)

Does your e-bike go 28 miles per hour or lack operable pedals? Check out our ORV trails.



If you wish to no longer receive emails from the DNR,
please update your preferences here:

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Need further assistance?

[Contact Us](#) | [Provide Feedback](#)

Visit us on our website: [Michigan.gov/DNR](https://michigan.gov/DNR)

This email was sent to claird@bhamgov.org using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Michigan Department of Natural Resources · Deborah A. Stabenow Building, [525 W. Allegan St.](#), PO Box 30028 Lansing MI 48909 · 1-800-439-1420



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: July 30, 2026

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
Scott Zielinski, DPS Director

SUBJECT: Parks & Recreation Bond Status Update

As the City considers needed improvements to St. James Park, Kenning Park, Crestview Park and Howarth Park, the Department of Public Services (DPS) will be requesting direction from the City Commission regarding the future expenditures of the parks bond. The purpose is to receive direction from the City Commission to determine the priority of work to budget and plan for the aforementioned projects.

The bond program was developed to address aging park infrastructure, improve playgrounds, enhance accessibility, and continue reinvesting in Birmingham's neighborhood parks. Since approval of the bond, the City has completed or advanced several park improvement projects. This includes the Ice Arena Renovation, Adams Park Renovation, the installation of pickleball courts at Crestview, the replacement of playground structures and ADA surface improvements to West Lincoln Well Park, Pumphouse Park, Poppleton Park, and Pembroke Park, along with design work for the trail system and Booth Park along with other design and park improvements. These projects have helped establish a consistent approach focused on inclusive play, accessibility, safety, durable materials and long-term maintenance.

As the Parks and Recreation Board and the City Commission are well aware, since the passing of the bond in November of 2020, the City has continued to see rises in cost for projects post COVID, and currently the City continues to see quotes and estimates for projects that far outpace what the bond was intended to accomplish.

Some upcoming projects to be considered as part of the City Commission discussion include Booth Park (which will be presented for award at the same City Commission meeting as this presentation), St. James Park and Kenning Park, along with Howarth and Crestview Playgrounds.

DPS staff worked with the Finance Department to confirm the current balance and allocation of the Parks Bond Fund. Based on the available funding and the estimated project costs, staff is developing three options for the City Commission's consideration in order to determine how to execute the remaining bond funds. Currently, the projects slated for improvements will exhaust or exceed the bond.