

## CHAPTER 4 – DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

### Schedule

February 2018	Heidi Farmer, Member of the Parks & Recreation Committee instituted the updating of the City Parks & Recreation Plan 2020-2024.
June 2018	The Committee agreed to continue working on Master Plan at their next meeting.
July 2018	The Committee divided up the Master Plan into sections for review and to make changes as needed.
November 2018	The Committee made recommendations on items to be updated in Chapter 3: Recreational Inventory of the Master Plan.
August 2019	A Public Input session to review and discuss the Community Plan's Goals, Objectives and Action plan was held and no public attended.
August 2019	The Committee will review the Master Plan make any notes for changes, additions and/or deletions and bring back to the next meeting. Consensus of the committee was to meet at 6:00 PM on Monday, September 23, 2019 for a Master Plan Work Session.
September 2019	The Committee held a Work Session to go over the Goals and Objectives of the Master Plan.
2020	The Committee held a Work Session to make recommendations
2023	Finalized the plan
May 2014	The Committee motioned to send the Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Draft Plan 2020-2024 to NEMCOG for review.
December 2014	The Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan for 2020-2024 was resubmitted to NEMCOG for review again.
January 2015	The Committee received a completed Draft 2014-2019 Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan to review before the Public Input Session is scheduled for February 19, 2015.
February 2015	A Public Input Meeting was scheduled and no public attended.

May 28, 2015

A Public Hearing was held and no public attended. The Parks & Recreation Committee recommend adoption by the City Council.

### **Public Input**

Along with the organizations involved in the City of Grayling Recreation Plan development, the city used the survey results from the 2013 City's Community Survey associated with its Master Plan Update to base initial public input, Caring for Crawford Kids Activity Survey 2008 and the Crawford County Recreation Survey 2008.

### ***Public Input Session***

A public input session was held on May 22, 2024 to determine public response to the draft plan. No public attended.

### ***Public Hearing***

A public hearing was held after the 30-day review to determine public response to the 30-day review period.

### ***Public Hearing***

A public hearing was held after some changes were made and the Parks & Recreation Committee recommend adoption by the City Council.

**Dear Community Member,**

The City of Grayling is in the process of updating their Master Plan. The Master Plan is the base for building/improving the City. Your answers will help influence programs to be done in the City. We are asking if you would please complete this survey and return it to City Hall by Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> 2013. You may hand deliver or mail your survey to 1020 City Blvd., Grayling, MI 49738. If you have any questions please call 348-2131

Thank you for your assistance in helping to plan Grayling’s future!

Doug Baum  
City Manager/Police Chief

**SECTION ONE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**INTRODUCTION**

This survey consists of six sections. If you choose to give your name and address we will not share your information with anyone. Individual survey responses will be kept private and only survey totals will be made public.

**Are you a...** (please check only *ONE* box) **(136 Responses)**

- 58.82% A resident of the City of Grayling
- 23.53% A business owner in the City of Grayling
- 5.88% Both a business owner and resident in the City of Grayling
- 11.76% Neither a business owner nor a resident in the City of Grayling

**1. If a business owner, is your business in “downtown” Grayling? (42 responses)**

Yes 30.95% No 69.05%

**2. How long have you owned your business? (38 responses)**

Average of 19.37 years

**3. What type of business do you own? (40 responses)**

Retail 20% Professional Services 40% Restaurant 5% Trade/Contractor 5% Other 30%

**4. Do you belong to: (Check all that apply) (47 responses)**

Downtown Development Authority 8.51% Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce 57.45% Grayling Promotional Association 19.15%  
Other 14.89%

**RESIDENT DEMOGRAPHICS**

**1.1 How long have you lived in the City of Grayling? (96 responses)**

Less than 2 years 3.13% 2 to 7 years 14.58% 8 to 15 years 17.71% Over 15 years 64.58%

**1.2 Do you rent or own your home? (87 responses)** Rent 1.15% Own 98.85%

**1.3 How many people live in your household? (177 people / 101 responses)** Average of 1.75

**1.4 Are you a registered voter in the City of Grayling? (99 responses)** Yes 87.88% No 12.12%

**1.5 What is your occupational status? (93 responses)**

Retired 49.46% Working 45.16% Domestic Homemaker 0% Other: 5.38%

**1.6 If working and you reside in the City, where are you employed? (46 responses)**

City of Grayling 47.87% Elsewhere in Crawford County 13.04% Neighboring County 13.04% Camp Grayling/Mates 4.35% Other 21.74%

**1.7 What is your age? (88 responses)** Under 19 0% 19 to 29 1.14% 30 to 39 13.64% 40 to 49 7.95% 50 to 59 26.14% 60 or over 51.14%

**SECTION TWO: CITY PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

**2.1 Of the following enforcement issues, which is of greatest concern to you? (141 responses)**

- 24.11%** Property maintenance (i.e. mowing the lawn, painting the house, et.)
- 17.02%** Removal of unlicensed vehicles
- 49.65%** Demolition of unsafe, obsolete residential and commercial buildings
- 9.22%** Other \_\_\_\_\_

**How strongly do you agree/disagree with the following statements about City policies? Please circle your response.**

Policy	Responses	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
2.2 I would support garbage collection user fees.	126	9.52%	15.87%	26.19%	15.08%	33.33%
2.3 The city should encourage additional business enterprises that will provide a competitive marketplace and make available more choices of goods and services.	135	62.22%	28.15%	7.41%	1.48%	.74%
2.4 The City should concentrate on supporting and maintaining existing, established businesses.	132	45.45%	31.81%	19.70%	2.27%	.76%
2.5 I support the City's efforts to revitalize the central Business district (i.e. Michigan Ave.) through additional shopping, restaurants and night life	135	49.63%	31.11%	15.56%	2.22%	1.48%
2.6 The City should attract Big Box retail stores.	130	30%	29.23%	21.54%	10%	9.23%

### **SECTION THREE: CITY PARKS**

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|---|---|
| <p>3.1 Should the Parks program in Grayling be expanded? (129 responses) Yes <b>55.04%</b> No <b>44.96%</b></p> <p>3.2 Does the city need Pocket Parks? (111 responses) Yes <b>34.23%</b> No <b>65.77%</b></p> <p>3.3 Should access to the river be preserved to allow for public? Utilization? (132 responses) Yes <b>96.21%</b> No <b>3.79%</b></p> | <p>3.4 Does the City need additional indoor recreational facilities? (121 responses) Yes <b>61.16%</b> No <b>38.84%</b></p> <p>3.5 If yes, recommendations:<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____</p> |
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### **SECTION FOUR: RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

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|---|---|
| <p>4.1 If the expected population growth of Grayling is greater than what can be accommodated in current housing, which ONE of the following do you think should be built to best accommodate them? (166 responses)</p> <p>36.75% Single-family residences</p> <p>13.86% Duplex residences</p> <p>24.70% Apartment dwellings</p> <p>10.84% Mixed-use (i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor residential over business)</p> <p>13.86% Townhouses</p> | <p>4.2 In order to promote more housing development should the City aggressively pursue purchasing of existing, obsolete residential properties for sale to private developers? (116 responses)</p> <p>Yes 60.34%</p> <p>No 39.66%</p> <p>4.3 Do you think there are enough housing options available for for senior residents? (118 responses)</p> <p>Yes 47.56% No 52.54%</p> |
|---|---|

**How strongly do you agree/disagree with the following statements about residential development in the City of Grayling? Please circle your response.**

Strongly	Policy	Responses	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree
	4.4 The City should pursue programs to encourage and Support single-family home ownership.	130	31.54%	39.23%	22.31%	4.63%	2.31%
	4.5 Multiple-family housing should be built in the same Neighborhoods as single-family ownership.	129	3.88%	17.05%	32.56%	27.91%	
	4.6 I prefer to see existing homes restored rather than Seeing them torn down and rebuilt.	130	23.85%	33.08%	30.77%	9.23%	3.08%
	4.7 The City should accommodate future population growth,	116	15.52%	25.87%	31.03%	21.55%	6.03%

Even if it means developing multiple-family homes.

<b>4.8</b> Homes on larger lots are needed to attract more residents To the City, even if they are more expensive to purchase.	<b>130</b>	4.62%	25.38%	49.23%	16.92%	3.85%
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### **SECTION FIVE: TRANSPORTATION**

**5.1** Would Grayling benefit from increased access to I-75?

(134 responses) Yes 68.66% No 10.45% Unsure 20.90%

**5.2** Would access to I-75 at North Down River Road in both the North and South directions be beneficial?

(135 responses) Yes 71.85% No 11.11% Unsure 17.04%

**5.3** Do you...(check one) (116 responses)

72.41% Drive to work  
 2.59% Take public transportation  
 7.76% Bike or walk  
 17.24% Other \_\_\_\_\_

**How strongly do you agree/disagree with the following statements about transportation in the City of Grayling? Please circle your response.**

Policy	Responses	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
<b>5.4</b> The City should pursue additional walking paths. 6.02%	<b>133</b>	23.30%	25.56%	26.32%	18.80%
<b>5.5</b> The City should enhance bike utilization along City streets 5.93%	<b>135</b>	21.48%	27.41%	27.41%	17.78%
<b>5.6</b> The City should pursue additional bike paths 7.46%	<b>134</b>	23.13%	26.12%	29.10%	14.18%
<b>5.7</b> Traffic congestion is a problem in the City 4.51%	<b>133</b>	24.06%	30.88%	22.56%	18.05%

### **SECTION SIX: OVERALL GROWTH**

**6.1** What do you want the City of Grayling to be known as? (203 responses)

Residential community 17.24% Tourist/Recreational 39.41% Commercial/retail center 13.80% Military town 12.32% Historical 13.80%  
 Other: 3.45%

**6.2** What do you think is the biggest draw to our Community?

**6.3** How should the Bear Archery property be developed?

(141 responses)

29.79% Big box retail stores  
 28.36% Specialty stores/small retail shops  
 9.22% Single-family residential homes  
 21.99% Residential condominium complex  
 10.64% Other

**6.4** Do you believe the City needs to acquire land to accommodate future growth? (122 responses)

Yes 50%  
 No 50%

**6.5** If so, what should acquired land be used for? (203 responses)

12.18% Higher-value single-family homes on larger lots  
 10.43% Condominiums, duplexes, triplexes, and quadruplexes  
 9.57% Multiple-family housing, including apartments with 12 or more units per building

**6.6** Other:



- 16.52% Industrial Business
- 36.52% General commercial business
- 14.78% Other \_\_\_\_\_

**How strongly do agree/disagree with the following statements about overall growth in the City? Please circle your response.**

Strongly Disagree	Policy	Responses	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
<b>6.7</b>	Protect private property rights over community interests.	<b>127</b>	25.98%	32.28%	33.07%	7.87%
.79%						
<b>6.8</b>	Any new construction would be good for the City.	<b>129</b>	24.03%	39.53%	27.91%	6.20%
2.33%						
<b>6.9</b>	The City should take a more aggressive approach to enforcing land use and zoning regulations.	<b>128</b>	16.40%	26.56%	43.75%	10.94%
2.34%						

### ***SECTION 7: INFORMATION***

**7.1** What do you use a primary source of information for community events? **(158 responses)**

- 15.19% Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce
- 50% Crawford County Avalanche
- 4.43% Grayling Visitors Bureau Website
- 7.59% The Weekly Choice
- 8.23% Radio
- 14.56% Other \_\_\_\_\_

**7.2** Would you be interested in volunteering with events? **(134 responses)**

Yes 18.66% No 81.34%

**7.3** If yes,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**General Comments: Please indicate any other comments, concerns, or suggestions related to land use, development and improvement that you may have for the City Planning Commission or City Council.**

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HOME

## Caring For Crawford Kids Activity Survey 2008

Totals of All Age Groups (1065 responses)

*Where do you live?*

385 Grayling Township	97 Don't Know/Other	27 Lovells Township
304 City of Grayling	88 Beaver Creek Township	5 South Branch Township
106 Frederic Township	44 Maple Forest Township	

*If these activities were available, which of them would you participate in? (check all of interest)*

4698 Public Swimming Pool	6 Gymnastics *	1 Sledding *
575 Sports Complex/Gym	5 Soccer *	1 Writing Music *
545 Open Gym	5 Rollerskating *	1 Self Defense *
469 Water Sports	5 Golf *	1 Science Club *
443 Dance	4 Paintball *	1 Roller Skate Rink *
440 Ice Skating	4 Downhill Skiing *	1 Roller Hockey *
424 Hunting or Fishing	3 Basketball *	1 Pool Tournaments *
385 Recreational Sports	3 Bowling *	1 Pilates *
372 Movie in the Park	3 Karate *	1 Pie Eating Contest *
357 Computers	3 Swim Lessons *	1 Overnight Camping *
345 Game Night	3 Bike Riding *	1 Laser Tag *
339 Arts and Crafts	3 Volleyball *	1 Karaoke Dance *
274 Skateboard Park	2 Snowboard Competition *	1 Karaoke *
230 Family Night	2 Football *	1 Jr. Mechanics *
224 Tennis	2 Choir *	1 Four Wheeling *
220 Equestrian (horse)	2 Building *	1 Fire Department *
217 Theatre Group	2 Sewing/Quilting *	1 Fight Club *
207 Yoga	2 Wrestling *	1 Downhill Ski Racing *
194 Cross Country Skiing	2 Summer Camp *	1 Dodge Ball *
152 Disk/Frisbee Golf	1 Weight Lifting *	1 Billiards/Pool *
95 Gardening	1 Tubing *	1 Badminton *
7 T-ball/Baseball/Softball *	1 Track *	1 Arcade *
7 Snowboarding *	1 Teen Club *	1 Acting *
7 Video Games *	1 Swimming *	1 Halo 3 Tournament *
6 Motocross/Snowtrack*	1 Study Hall *	

(\* not printed on survey – written in response)

*Does lack of transportation (or cost of transportation) keep you from participating in local activities?*

115 Yes	493 No	452 Sometimes
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*Which locations are most convenient for you? (check all that apply)*

621 School Buildings/Grounds	340 City Park/Nature Center	1 Lewiston *
598 Hanson Hills	176 City Hall	1 Fish Hatchery *
449 Township Park(s)	4 Frederic Elementary *	1 Walking Distance from School *
447 Library	1 Walking *	1 Forest *
437 Fairgrounds	1 Store *	1 Mt. Frederic *

*Would you pay to participate in planned activities?*

239 Yes	90 No	671 Depends
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*What keeps you from participating in local activities/events? (check all that apply)*

549 Busy Schedule	11 Not Enough Activities *	1 If parents will let me *
431 Lack of Personal Interest	5 Not Knowing Early Enough *	1 Getting in trouble *
396 Cost	4 Lack of Advertising *	1 Rude Coaches *
318 Lack of Transportation	3 Lack of Knowledge of Instructors *	1 Not knowing early enough*
234 Location	2 Time Schedule *	1 Away Games Too Far *
107 Too Much Competition	2 Age Restrictions *	1 Single Parent *
56 Not Enough Competition	2 Not Aware of Events *	1 Busy Parent *
11 Bad winter roads *	2 Conflicting Sports *	1 Poor Organization *

*Does participation with different age youth than yourself affect your decision to participate in that activity? (such as middle school age students participating with high school age students?)*

176 Yes	413 No	481 Sometimes
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*Would your parent/guardians support your choice to attend additional activities?*

571 Yes	60 No	430 Depends
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*Would you be willing to help with planning, implementing and clean-up of activities?*

367 Yes	189 No	508 Depends
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*Is there an adult that you know that would help with activities?*

1283 Yes	325 No	458 Depends
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(\* not printed on survey – written in response)

Please send comments, suggestions, corrections and updates to [info@crawfordPLAYs.com](mailto:info@crawfordPLAYs.com)

# of DOTS	RECREATION NEED
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***Crawford County Recreation Survey (2008)***

12	Crawford County Sportsplex development including baseball, softball and soccer fields. Upgrades to bring all outdoor sports together for the youth of Crawford County
9	Multi-use recreation facility/Recreation Center
7	Improved coordination of county-wide recreation marketing
5	Riverside trail from township park to library
4	Rayburn improvements - portajohns
4	Recreation programs designed for Senior Citizens
4	Improved transportation between sites for youth and seniors
3	ORV connector between Frederic Trail and Kalkaska Trail
3	City Park Improvements Phase II & III -additional fishing piers -playground equipment (ADA) -foot/snowmobile bridge parallel to railroad grade -connecting trail for park
3	Finish fish hatchery building as a museum
3	New, expanded Senior Center
2	More ORV Trails (HB4323) – town access
2	Cross state connector in N. Crawford County to meet
2	Rayburn Property Loop – N. Down River/M-32 East
2	Additional baseball and softball fields for ages 5-15
2	County wide trail maps -hiking/mountain biking -road biking -cross country skiing
2	Coordinated Promotion of calendar of recreational opportunities for all ages
1	Signage for existing recreation
1	Safe Routes to school (bike, walk, rollerblade)
1	Safe Routes to Schools
1	Better (improved) communication system between organizations
1	Backpacking/long hiking trails and back country camping
1	Public access to River
1	Paved trail from township park behind hospital/schools to library and downtown
0	Ausable River/bike trail from Grayling to Oscoda
0	Intergenerational program
0	Public swimming pool
0	Movie in the park location and equipment
0	Open gym
0	A place for skateboarders
0	Better marketing of outdoor/quiet sports and recreation
0	Organized Geo-caching
0	Nature Center improvements
0	Develop Children’s Park – in central residential district

From Input Session in May of 2008.

City of Grayling Survey Results (2 surveys)

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Facilities Used</b>	<b>Improvements</b>	<b>Needs</b>
Camping	Bike trail	Teenager activities	Bicycle Turnpike Trailhead
Hunting	Hanson Hills	Awareness of current activities	Community pool
Fishing	City Park	Single track mountain bike trail near Hartwick Pines	Expand bike trails

## **Recreation Plan Public Hearing Session**

In accordance with requirements set forth by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the City Council held a public hearing on May 22, 2024. A legal notice was published in the Crawford County Avalanche newspaper. During the public hearing, there were 0 (zero) comments on the proposed City of Grayling Recreation Plan 2024-2028 from the public.