



VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING **RECREATION PLAN**

2027-2031

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION & COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION & COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Recreation, parks, and open space are important to the residents of the Sebewaing area. These amenities add to the quality of life for residents and are an important economic component of community. Recognizing this, community officials have led an effort to develop a Parks and Recreation Plan aimed at improving and developing recreational resources in the Sebewaing area.

Broadly speaking, Sebewaing officials intend to use this plan to guide their work on future recreational and parks projects within the area. It is also a strategic document that articulates specific goals to various agencies and organizations that fund local recreational and parks improvement projects. In accordance with the State of Michigan recommended five-year cycle for recreation planning, this updated plan covers the five year-period 2027-2031.

Specifically, this plan is developed in accordance with the guidelines for Community Park, Recreation Open Space, and Greenway Plans published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

This document is intended to serve as a guide in the planning for future park and recreation opportunities, services, and implementation. Population shifts, new development, and changing attitudes towards leisure can add demands upon the community's existing parks and recreation system, thus increasing the need for both short- and long-range planning. Recommendations such as land acquisition, and facility expansions and construction, and even the design of a neighborhood park improvement, will require additional study or involvement of residents in order to address the site-specific details. This plan lays the foundation upon which these activities can build.

Implementation strategies are identified over the next five years, at which the plan will again be updated. The delineation of these improvements will aid Sebewaing in grant solicitation from the DNR and others for long-range capital improvement budgeting. Additionally, during the next five years, it is important for the community to refer to the plan and make appropriate priority adjustments as conditions change and funding opportunities arise.

This plan is written for the Village of Sebewaing. However, it is recognized that the Village of Sebewaing provides recreation for much of the surrounding area, since most of these communities have no parks of their own. The parks in Sebewaing serve the residents of the Unionville-Sebewaing Area School District. This includes all or portions of Sebewaing Township, Akron Township, Columbia Township, Wisner Township, and Fairhaven Township.



REMEMBERING THE VALUE OF PUBLIC PARKS

According to the National Park and Recreation Association, parks and recreation have three (3) values that make them essential services to communities:

ECONOMIC VALUE

- » Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values. It is proven that private property values increase the closer such land is to parks. This increase in private property value due to the proximity to parks increase property tax revenues and improves local economies.
- » Parks and recreation programs and facilities provide significant indirect revenues to local and regional economies from sports tournaments and special events such as arts, music, and holiday festivals. Economic activity from hospitality expenditures, tourism, fuel, recreational equipment sales, and many other private sector businesses is of true and sustained value to local and regional economies. This indirect economic value is in addition to direct revenues that are gained from park facilities and programs.

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- » Parks are the places that people go to get healthy and stay fit.
- » Parks and recreation programs and services contribute to the health of children, youth, adults, and seniors.
- » Parks and protected public lands are proven to improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, produce habitat for wildlife, and provide a place for children and families to connect with nature and recreate outdoors together.

SOCIAL IMPORTANCE

- » Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for citizens and are a major factor in the perception of quality of life in a given community. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of how livable communities are.
- » Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status.
- » Parks have a value to communities that transcend the amount of dollars invested or the revenues gained from fees. Parks provide a sense of public pride and cohesion to every community.



REGIONAL SETTING & LOCATION

The Village of Sebewaing is located in southwestern Huron County on the shores of Lake Huron and Saginaw Bay. The marine area around Sebewaing possesses rich marshland habitat and offers excellent fishing, hunting, and boating opportunities. The community is rural and most of the land surrounding Sebewaing is used for agricultural purposes. The Village of Sebewaing is surrounded by Sebewaing Township.

Sebewaing is 28 miles northeast of Bay City, 43 miles from Saginaw, and 72 miles from Flint. M-25 is the major traffic carrier into Sebewaing, carrying a large volume of traffic from Bay City, Saginaw, and other areas downstate into the thumb. Huron County is an attractive area for vacationers and day-trippers from the metropolitan Detroit region. Other practical routes to the Huron County area include M-53 and I-75. Distance to Detroit is 115 miles and Bad Axe, the Huron County seat, is 24 miles from Sebewaing.

FIGURE 1 - COMMUNITY LOCATION MAP



DEMOGRAPHICS

According to the most recent U.S. Census estimates, the population of the Village of Sebewaing was 1,850. This is a 21.87% increase from the 2020 census (1,518).

A significant characteristic of Sebewaing is its younger median age and lower income compared to the surrounding area. The median age of 44.8 is notably lower than that of Sebewaing Township (52.1) and Huron County (49.5). It is important to provide recreational opportunities for younger adults and families, such as playgrounds, basketball courts, baseball/softball fields, pickleball courts, and adult softball leagues.

Additionally, the Village’s median household income is \$48,125, which is approximately \$5,000 less than Sebewaing Township, \$10,000 less than Huron County, and \$30,000 less than the State of Michigan. The Village should continue to provide a variety of recreational opportunities accessible to families of all income levels. These may include walking and biking paths, playgrounds, open space, and soccer fields. Other selected demographic characteristics are shown in **Table 1**.

TABLE 1 - SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	SEBEWAING		SEBEWAING TOWNSHIP		HURON COUNTY		MICHIGAN	
	2020	2024	2020	2024	2020	2024	2020	2024
Median Age	52.3	44.8	49.1	52.1	49.3	49.5	39.8	40.2
Population Under 20	19.3%	24.4%	22.4%	22.4%	21.2%	20.8%	24.4%	23.9%
Average Household Size	1.94	2.07	2.09	2.04	2.20	2.16	2.45	2.42
Bachelor’s Degree or Higher	15.7%	12.3%	16.4%	13.4%	16.0%	18.5%	30.0%	32.4%
Median Household Income (in 2024 dollars)	\$40,385	\$48,125	\$46,618	\$53,489	\$49,451	\$58,870	\$59,234	\$77,875
Per Capita Income (in 2024 dollars)	\$25,959	\$30,489	\$28,646	\$36,485	\$28,598	\$35,271	\$32,854	\$40,735
Disabled	18.0%	15.7%	14.1%	16.2%	15.8%	16.1%	14.2%	14.3%

2024 American Community Survey Data



CHAPTER 2

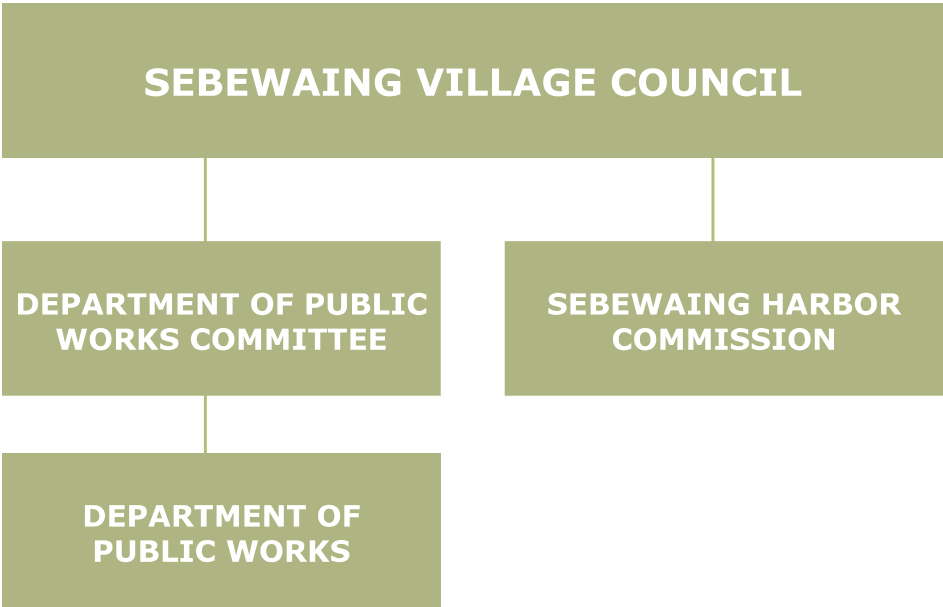
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

VILLAGE STRUCTURE

The Village Council in Sebewaing makes all decisions regarding parks in the community. The Village of Sebewaing’s Department of Public Works (DPW) operates its parks and recreation facilities. Working under the direction of the Sebewaing DPW Committee, the DPW maintains and plans improvements for its recreation facilities. The Sebewaing Harbor Commission operates the Sebewaing Harbor Marina. Working under the direction of the Village Council, the Sebewaing Harbor Commission maintains and plans improvements for the marina. Figure 2 diagrams the administrative structure that provides recreation opportunities in the Village of Sebewaing.

FIGURE 2 - ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



BUDGETS & FUNDING

The overall budget for parks and recreation in the Village of Sebewaing for the 2024-2025 fiscal years was \$266,045, of which, \$220,000 was for the replacement of the Main Park playscape. The budget for parks and recreation for fiscal year 2024-2025 is \$59,000

The budget amounts include operation, maintenance, and capital improvements. All decisions regarding funding for parks and recreation are made by the Village Council. Funding for the parks and recreation functions in Sebewaing includes the Village General Fund, rental fees, donations, and grants. A breakdown of the Village’s parks and recreation budget is included in Appendix A.

Operation, maintenance, and capital improvements of the Sebewaing Harbor Marina is self-funded from its generated revenue which is managed by the Sebewaing Harbor Commission. The Sebewaing Harbor Marina does not receive funding from the Village of Sebewaing.

ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer groups support and promote the recreation programs in Sebewaing. The Unionville-Sebewaing Area Softball/Baseball Association runs a girls summer ball league in Sebewaing and a boy’s ball league in Unionville. Another group runs a women’s adult softball league that plays twice a week in the summer.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS, OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES OR PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

The Village of Sebewaing works closely with various community groups to coordinate and host special events in the Sebewaing parks. The Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce hosts the annual Michigan Sugar Festival, which is a large tourism draw for the community. They also host the Christmas Lighted Parade that ends at the Village Park. In addition, Moonlight Madness, an event that occurs in October, takes place by the Muellerweiss Park each year. Other events organized by the Chamber of Commerce include a weekly farmers market and the annual County Market and Music Fest that take over parts of the street and Muellerweiss Park each year.

The Sebewaing Lions Club and the Sebewaing Rotary Club host an annual men's slow pitch softball tournament in Sebewaing. It also brings a large number of visitors to the community for the weekend.

The Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club, the Rotary Club, and other local groups have donated funds for various projects and initiatives in the Sebewaing Parks. These include match money for an acquisition grant, picnic facilities, and ball diamond lighting.





CHAPTER 3

RECREATION INVENTORY

RECREATION INVENTORY

In order to plan for parks and recreation in the future, the types of facilities that currently exist in Sebewaing need to be examined. It is also helpful to compare these existing facilities to various standards as one measure of the adequacy of the parks and recreation facilities in the community.

EXISTING RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A survey of existing recreation facilities available to residents of the Village was conducted in June of 2014, updated in 2018, and updated again in 2026. The results of this survey indicated that there are numerous recreation facilities located within Sebewaing, including five village parks, some private facilities and a County Park. An inventory table is included on page 21, and a location map is presented in Figure 3, to the right. The inventory chart also includes a basic accessibility assessment and a listing of the service area for each park. Past improvements to existing facilities that were completed with the support of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources are provided in Appendix B. A brief description of the Village parks and other recreational opportunities is given on the following pages. Future Planned Improvements are included for some of the parks, which are specific projects that the Village has identified over the next five years.

In addition to Village parks, the Sebewaing area includes the following other recreation facilities:

- » Christ the King Lutheran School - outdoor basketball courts and sports fields
- » Sebewaing River Campground - campground along the river
- » Sebewaing County Park - campground with picnic area, trails, and playground equipment

FIGURE 3 - PARK LOCATION MAP



SEBEWAING VILLAGE PARK

Location: 200 S. 3rd Street

Size: 15.7 acres

Accessibility: 3

Sebewaing Village Park is the largest and most central park in Sebewaing and is divided between the Main and South sections.

In total, it is approximately 16 acres in size and provides three (3) ball diamonds, picnic areas, six (6) basketball hoops, one (1) tennis court and two(2) pickleball courts, a large play structure, a concession stand, BMX bicycle track, open playfield, three (3) shelters, and two (2) restrooms. It serves as a community gathering point for league sports, festivals, and special events.

Future Planned Improvements

- Repaint all-purpose building (2027)
- Resurface basketball courts and pickleball/tennis courts (2028)
- Construct new 40' x 60' pavilion (2029)
- Replace or repair fence around pickleball/tennis courts(2030)



FIGURE 4 - SEBEWAING VILLAGE PARK INVENTORY MAP



In 2023, the Village of Sebewaing received a \$1 million Spark Grant through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. They were one of 21 communities throughout the State of Michigan to receive a Spark Grant for outdoor recreation projects. Using this funding, the Village removed the previous wooden play structure and replaced it with a new, updated one. The new play structure is 100% handicap accessible, featuring accessible play elements at ground level and ramps. The park also includes ADA-compliant swings, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to use them. A six-foot-wide sidewalk runs through the park, providing sufficient space for two-way traffic and wheelchair users.



MUELLERWEISS PARK

Location: 12 W. Sebewaing St.

Size: 0.3 acre

Accessibility: 3

Muellerweiss Park is a small passive use park located on the river in downtown Sebewaing. It is approximately .3 of an acre in size and has a picnic area, benches, Veterans' memorial, fishing pier, and restrooms.

FIGURE 5 - MUELLERWEISS PARK INVENTORY MAP



PITCHER MEMORIAL PARK

Location: 733 W. Sebewaing St.

Size: 0.4 acre

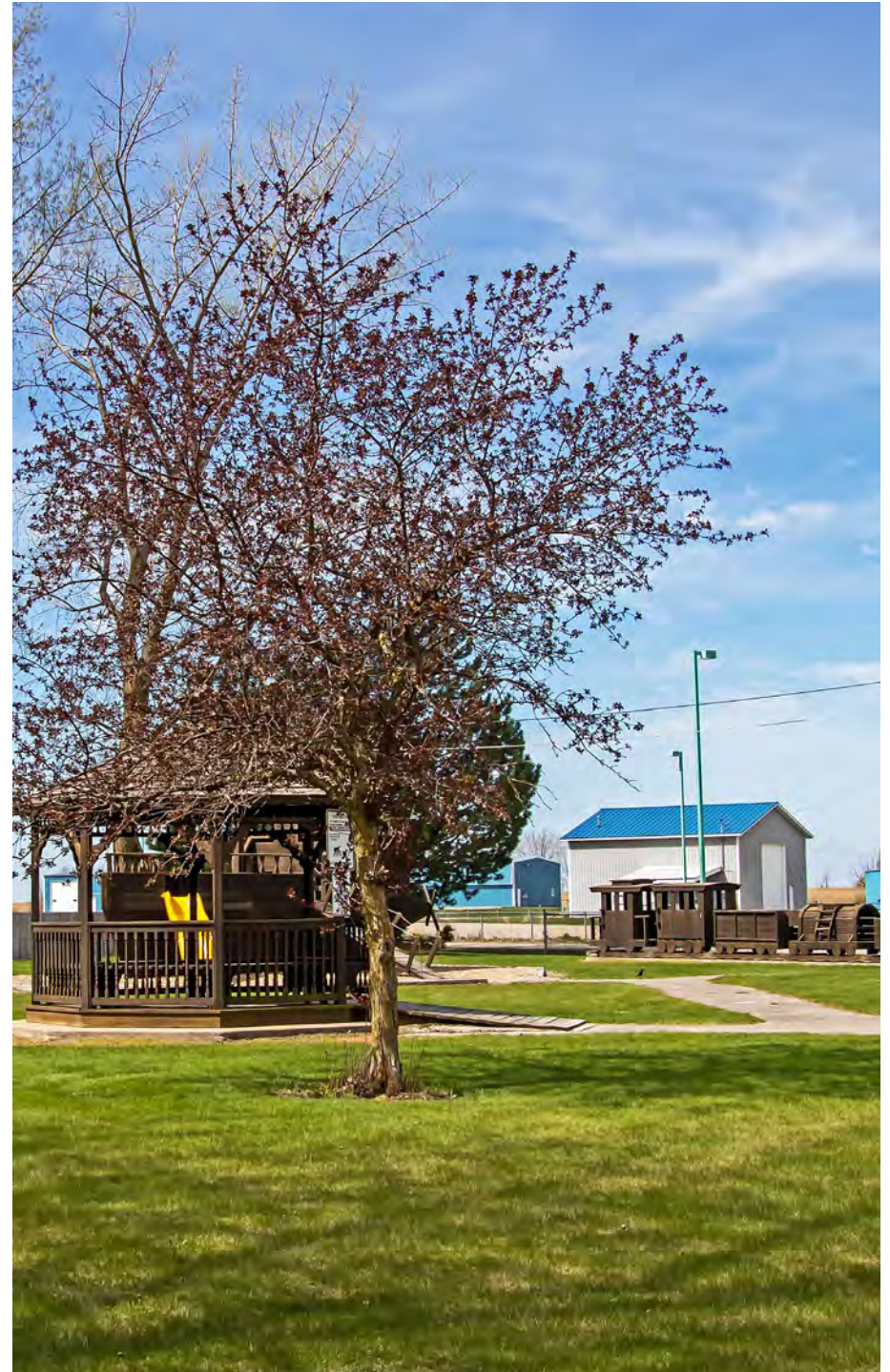
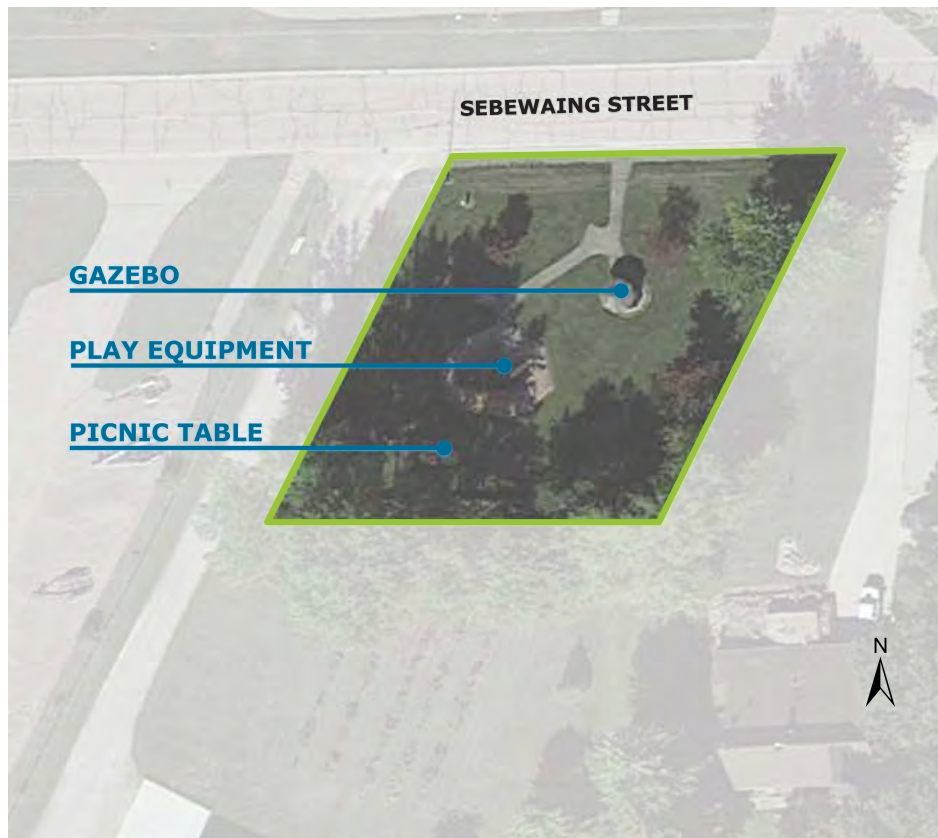
Accessibility: 3

Pitcher Memorial Park is approximately .4 of an acre in size and is located near the marina. It includes a playground, a shelter, and a picnic area.

Future Planned Improvements

- New roof on gazebo (2027)
- Replace wooden play structure (2031)

FIGURE 6 - PITCHER MEMORIAL PARK INVENTORY MAP



NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

Location: Southwest corner of the intersection of Elm St. and 8th St.

Size: 0.5 acre

Accessibility: 2

Northside Neighborhood Park is just over a half-acre in size and has a basketball court, a picnic area, playground equipment, and an open playfield.

Future Planned Improvements

- New concrete pad for basketball court (2029)

FIGURE 7 - NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK INVENTORY MAP



SEBEWAING HARBOR MARINA

Location: 700 W. Sebewaing St.

Size: 9.7 acres

Accessibility: 4

Sebewaing Harbor Marina is owned by the Village of Sebewaing. The marina is managed and operated by the Sebewaing Harbor Commission. It includes 90 boat slips for seasonal and transit boaters, four boat launches, a commerce area for sporting goods, restrooms, and fish cleaning station. It is located near the mouth of the Sebewaing River on Saginaw Bay.



FIGURE 8 - SEBEWAING HARBOR INVENTORY MAP

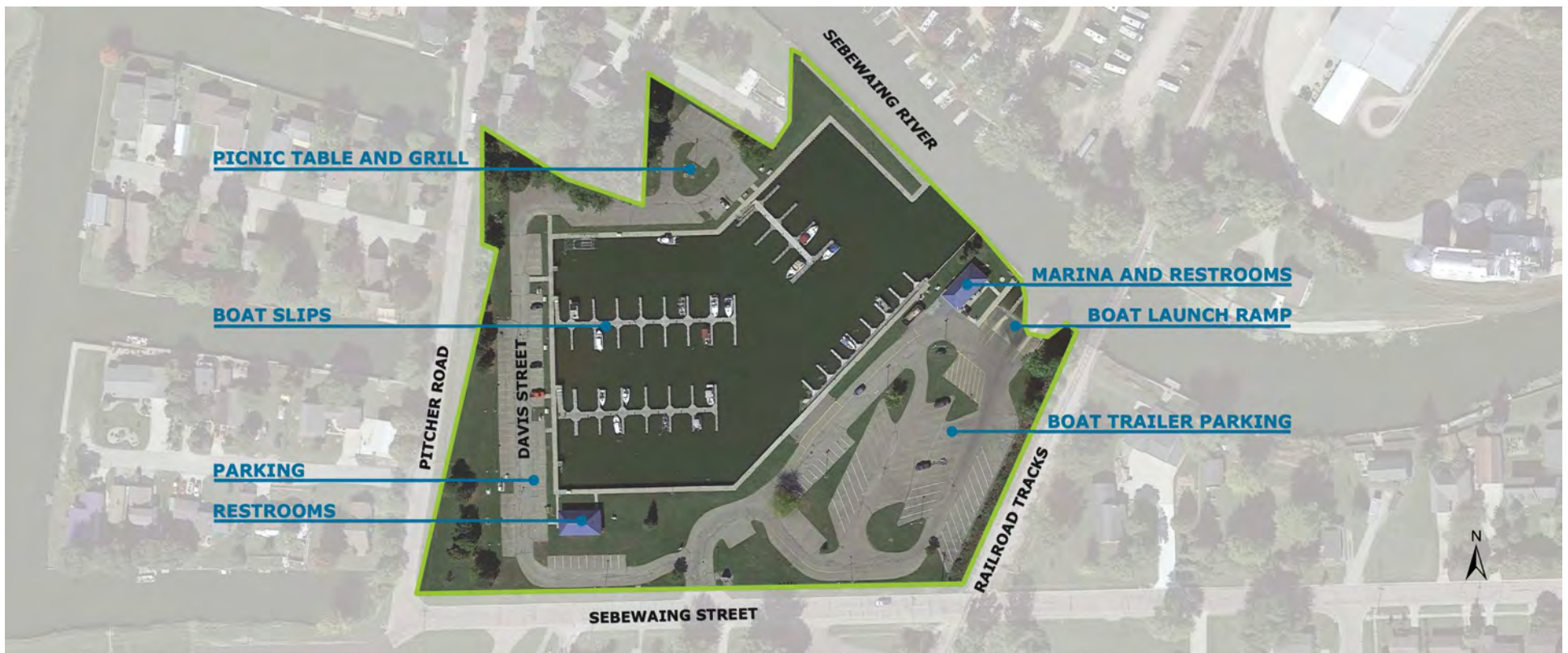


TABLE 2 - SEBEWAING AREA RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

	ACREAGE	ACCESSIBILITY*	SERVICE AREA**	PICKLEBALL	BALL DIAMONDS	BASKETBALL	SOCCER/FOOTBALL	TENNIS COURTS	PICNIC AREA	PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	PLAY FIELD (OPEN)	NATURE TRAILS	WATERFRONT PROPERTY	SHELTER	BOAT LAUNCH	RESTROOMS	CAMPING	COMMENTS
VILLAGE PARKS																		
Village Park (Main & South)	15.7	3	R	2	3	6		1	2	X	X			2		2		Multiple picnic areas, multiple sport facilities, drinking fountain, and BBQ pit
Muellerweiss Park	0.3	3	V						X				X			X		Fishing platform and Veteran's Memorial
Pitcher Memorial Park	0.4	3	V						X	X				X				Gazebo
Northside Neighborhood Park	0.5	2	N			1		X	X	X								Drinking fountain
Sebewaing Harbor and Marina	9.7	4	R						X				X		4	X		90 boat slips, fishing, laundry, and showers
COUNTY PARKS																		
Sebewaing County Park	26		R									X	X				X	54 hook up sites, 10 tent sites, and fishing access
OTHER RECREATION																		
Sebewaing River Campground	6.2		R							X			X			X	X	73 camp sites and fishing access
Christ the King Lutheran School	10		V			1	5				X							5 soccer and 1 football field

* 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 area meet accessibility guidelines; 4. The entire park meets accessibility guidelines; 5. The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design.

** R = Regional; V = Village; N = Neighborhood

COMPARISON TO STANDARDS

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) annually gathers data from parks and recreation agencies nationwide to provide an overview of their performance. With this data, the NRPA publishes the NRPA Agency Performance Review, which offers jurisdictions and agencies reports, tables, graphs, and other data visuals that illustrate what a “typical” agency looks like within a given population. The purpose of this performance review is to give agencies a tool to compare their own performance with that of similar US jurisdictions. This helps identify areas where the jurisdiction is performing well and where improvements can be made. The 2025 NRPA Agency Review presents data from approximately 900 parks and recreation agencies across the country.

Based on the 2025 NRPA Agency Performance Review, an agency that serves a population size under 20,000 residents has a median of 1,001 residents per park. The Village of Sebewaing, which maintains five developed parks and recreation spaces, has approximately 370 residents per park.

Therefore, the Village is providing many more parks for its residents than other agencies serving a similar population size. For the 1,850 residents of the Village of Sebewaing, the Village provides 26.42 acres of developed parkland in total for its residents.

The 2025 NRPA Agency Performance Review also provides information on parks and recreation facilities and amenities based on population size. For jurisdictions of similar size, there is typically one playground structure per 2,000 residents. The Village of Sebewaing has three (3) playground structure for a total of 1,850 residents, indicating that it exceeds this average.

While these metrics are useful, it’s essential to recognize that there is no one-size-fits-all when it comes to maintaining and improving parks and recreation in a jurisdiction. The 2025 NRPA Agency Performance Review does not provide specific standards for parks and recreation services to aim for, but rather it serves as a guideline based on evidence from other jurisdictions of similar size. To achieve success, a jurisdiction should tailor its offerings to meet the wants and needs of its residents, taking into account their unique characteristics, such as age, interests, backgrounds, and economic means.





CHAPTER 4

PUBLIC INPUT

COMMUNITY INPUT

To comply with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation Open Space and Greenway Plans*, the Village of Sebewaing offered three (3) opportunities for public input.

The first opportunity for public input was through a community survey, the second was a 30 day public review period, and the third opportunity was a public hearing held on **DATE, 2026.**

As part of recent Master Plan update process the Village has undertaken, the Master Plan Steering Committee undertook a community survey in order to gather feedback on a variety of questions. This survey included questions for both the master plan process and this recreation plan update. The survey was open for five (5) weeks, from April 3, 2025 through May 10, 2025 and was available to stakeholders online through SurveyMonkey as well as in paper format. The paper surveys were available at the Village Office and Sebewaing Light and Water Office. Steering Committee members also distributed paper surveys at businesses in the Village and at the meetings they attended during the five weeks the survey was open. A copy of the survey questions, along with a full list of responses to the survey can be found in Appendix C.

SURVEY RESULTS

ABOUT THE RESPONDENTS

In total, the survey received a 104 responses and included a mix of multiple choice and short answer questions. The project team transcribed the paper survey responses into QuestionPro prior to running an analysis of results to ensure all responses were captured online.

The community survey contained 23 questions and respondents were first asked basic questions about their relationship to the Village of Sebewaing including if they are a resident, how long they've lived in the Village, and their age. The majority of respondents (91.67%) were current residents of the Village and almost half of the respondents (48.04%%) have lived in the Village for 30 years or more. Of the survey respondents who indicated that they are not residents of the Village, all of them responded that they visit the Village more than 12 times per year.

The age of those who participated in the survey was fairly distributed between a vast range of age groups, as shown in the Figure 9.

FIGURE 9 - AGE OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS



RECREATION IN SEBEWAING

Respondents were asked to give a high, medium, or low priority ranking to a number of categories. Table 3 displays these rankings. From this we can identify that a majority of respondents placed a high priority on maintaining existing park and recreational facilities (62%) and developing local walking paths and bike routes to improve access to different areas of Sebewaing (53.54%). Additionally, 45% of respondents indicated that maintaining natural areas and limiting development was a medium priority. In addition, respondents were asked to prioritize a number of different capital improvements for the Village. The second highest top priority was parks and park equipment. This is indicating that residents of the Village would like to see improvements made to Village parks and equipment in the near future.

Respondents were asked what priorities should be given to a number of items that could help attract more visitors and tourists to the Village. The opinions identified to be top priorities by respondents included boating and fishing (70.10%), Village parks (60.00%), and other recreational opportunities such as kayaks and biking (59.79%). Figure 4 shows the full responses provided to this questions.

TABLE 3 - VILLAGE PRIORITIES

	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
Attracting More Industrial Businesses	47.42%	39.18%	13.40%
Attracting More Healthcare Services	31.31%	52.53%	16.16%
Attracting More Retail and Other Service	59.00%	36.00%	5.00%
Attracting More Visitors/ Tourists	47.96%	42.86%	9.18%
Maintaining Existing Park & Recreation Facilities	62.00%	33.00%	5.00%
Developing Local Walking Paths & Bike Routes	53.54%	32.32%	14.14%
Maintaining Natural Areas and Limiting Development	36.00%	45.00%	19.00%
Maintaining Quality of Housing	58.59%	36.36%	5.05%
Continuing to Enforce the Blight Ordinance	60.82%	35.05%	4.12%
Developing More Hotels & Motels	28.57%	57.14%	14.29%

TABLE 4 - PRIORITY ACTIONS/ITEMS FOR ATTRACTING TOURISTS/VISITORS

	AGRI-TOURISM	CAMPING	BOATING & FISHING	BIRDING	HUNTING	VILLAGE PARKS	OTHER RECREATION	LODGING OPTIONS	EVENTS
High	16.09%	45.26%	70.10%	27.08%	40.63%	60.00%	59.79%	51.55%	63.54%
Medium	62.07%	45.26%	23.71%	53.13%	47.92%	30.53%	31.96%	39.18%	34.38%
Low	21.84%	9.47%	6.19%	19.79%	11.46%	9.47%	8.25%	9.28%	2.08%

Respondents were asked about what type of waterfront recreation they would like to see in the Village. The main themes too come from the responses included:

- » Canoe/Kayak Rentals
- » Free Fishing Spaces in the Village
- » Beach Area/Water Access
- » Kayak Launch
- » Downtown River Walk or Waterfront Walking Trail

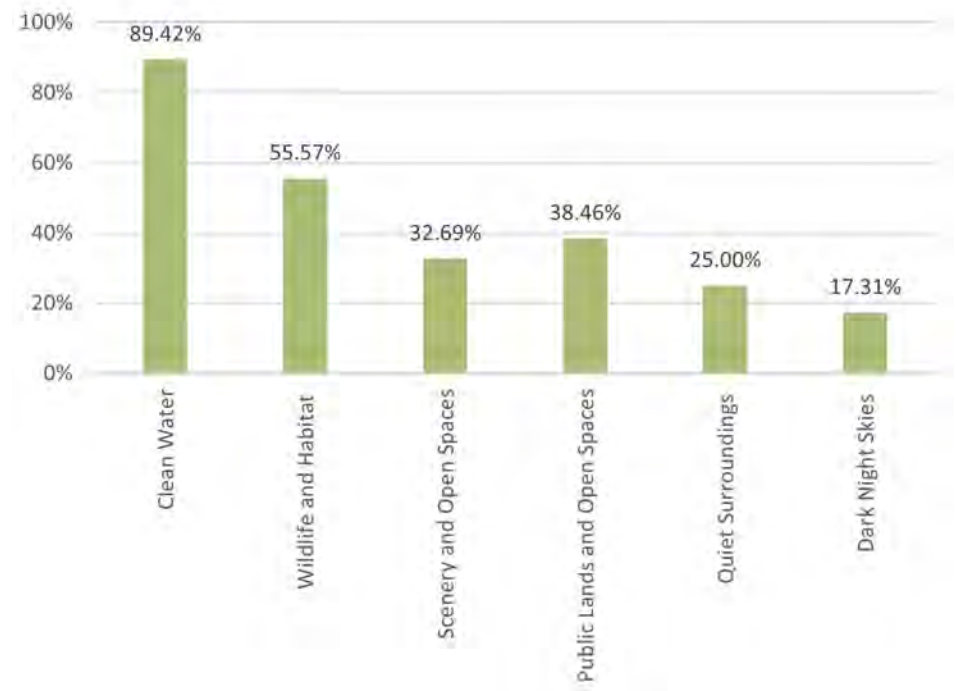
The survey asked how accessibility could be improved in the Village for older individuals and those with a disability. Respondents suggested paved walking areas that everyone could use, accessible parking facilities, and the addition of benches throughout the Village and park areas.

RESILIENCY

Given the Village's location as a coastal community along the Saginaw Bay and Sebawaing River in addition to the vulnerabilities the community faces with its location to the floodplain, resiliency planning and hazard mitigation is often incorporated into Village planning efforts. In the survey, respondents were asked what aspect of sustainability, resilience, and natural resources need to be protected or enhanced in the Village. The top response to this question was clean water (89.42%). This was followed by wildlife and habitat (55.77%) and public lands and open spaces (38.46%).



FIGURE 10 - WHAT ASPECT SHOULD BE PROTECTED OR ENHANCED?



NONMOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

From questions throughout the survey, it can be concluded that encouraging additional options for nonmotorized transportation as well as improving access throughout the Village should be a priority in the Village of the coming years. Survey respondents were asked their opinions on two (2) statements. The majority of respondents indicated that they agreed or strongly agreed with both, as shown in Table 5 below.

In addition, respondents were asked what can be done to improve transportation access to different places throughout the Village. Some of the responses included the addition of more sidewalks and additional bike paths and walking trails. Other respondents also noted that signage needs to be improved that note where facilities are in the Village. This would increase the use and knowledge of existing facilities.

SURVEY RESPONSE SUMMARY

Survey respondents expressed desire to maintain and enhance the existing park and recreational facilities and to optimize utilization of Sebewaing’s many natural resources for residents and visitors alike. A summary of the main themes that came out of the survey related to recreation is provided below.

- » Maintaining and update existing park and recreational facilities where needed to attract additional visitors/ tourists to the Village.
- » Preserve, protect, and enhance the natural features present in the Village such as the lake and rivers as these are important assets to the community.
- » Continue to improve upon and expand the waterfront recreation options available in the Village.
- » Developing walking paths and bike routes to improve upon the nonmotorized transportation options available in the Village.

TABLE 5 - RESPONDENT OPINIONS ON NONMOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION STATEMENTS

	AGREED/ STRONGLY AGREED	NEUTRAL	DISAGREE/ STRONGLY DISAGREE
The location and number of walking paths needs to be improved.	70.29%	27.78%	7.92%
The location and number of bike lanes needs to be improved.	57.84%	30.39%%	11.76%

A photograph of a modern playground under a blue sky with light clouds. In the foreground, there's a large, dark grey wheel-like structure with a black net. To the right, a red rope ladder hangs from a white frame. The background features a tall green slide structure with a green roof and a smaller green-roofed playhouse. The ground is covered in green and blue safety matting, with a large rock and several grey cylindrical objects in the immediate foreground.

CHAPTER 5

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Developing goals and objectives is an important aspect of the recreation planning process. The overall goal of parks and recreation departments is to provide recreational opportunities for the community and the region it serves. In addition, in many waterfront communities, these facilities also serve those outside the region during tourist seasons. More specific goals must be based on the demographic characteristics of the population served and the physical and environmental characteristics of the area. It is important the recreation goals for the Village of Sebewaing take into account the Village and its community, but also the broader region and tourists that the Village accommodates throughout the year.

During the course of the planning process, four (4) goals and associated objectives were developed that serve a framework that allows the Village to measure the progress in recreation over time. Goals are broad, general guidelines for what the community wants to achieve. The objectives are more specific and measurable items that can be used to carry out each goal. The Action Program is the last, most specific level. It includes specific projects and programs that the Village wishes to complete in the next five (5) years.

GOAL 1

PROVIDE SAFE, BROAD BASED COMMUNITY RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES THAT IMPROVE THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL RESIDENTS IN THE VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING.

1. Continue to update facilities within the Sebewaing parks system for all age groups and abilities.

2. Improve and promote year-round, accessible recreational opportunities along the Sebewaing River for all residents and visitors.
3. Evaluate recreational needs and provide programs and facilities to meet these needs.

GOAL 2

PRESERVE THE NATURAL FEATURES AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING THROUGH SUSTAINABLE IMPLEMENTATION METHODS AND INCREASING RESILIENCY AGAINST NATURAL HAZARDS.

1. Promote sustainable infrastructure choices in Sebewaing where poor infrastructure is scheduled to be replaced.
2. Limit new infrastructure in areas where floodplains exist and promote recreational based projects that can support natural systems.
3. Continue to work with Huron County on the Hazard Mitigation Plan updates and implementation.
4. Spread awareness about natural features and their importance, such as floodplains, as well as potential hazards in the Village through informational signage and social media platforms/website.

GOAL 3

PROMOTE WALKABILITY BETWEEN RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST IN THE VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING.

1. Connect the Historic River District area to recreational opportunities through wayfinding and proper signage.
2. Improve and maintain facilities in parks and on walking routes to increase ease of use, accessibility, and safety.

GOAL 4

ATTRACT AND ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECREATION-BASED TOURISM IN SEBEWAING.

1. Increase and advertise the outdoor amenities in Sebewaing to promote the Village as a year-round tourist destination.
2. Use the existing and future recreational opportunities to draw visitors from outside of Sebewaing and Huron County.
3. Expand upon the waterfront recreation opportunities available in the Village.



A large, weathered wooden sign with a peaked top, painted in a light blue-grey color. The sign features a compass rose at the top center and an anchor to the right of the main text. The text 'Sebewaing Harbor' is written in a dark blue, serif font. Below this, the word 'MARINA' is written in a large, light blue, sans-serif font. The sign is flanked by two vertical wooden posts, also painted light blue, with white rope tied around them. The sign is set against a background of trees and a clear sky.

Sebewaing
Harbor

MARINA

CHAPTER 6

ACTION PLAN

ACTION PLAN

This Recreation Plan is intended to be a guiding document for parks and recreation improvements in the Village of Sebewaing over the next five (5) years. The Village has analyzed the need for different improvements and the potential users who would benefit from each improvement. The Village is dedicated to providing recreation opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities, ensuring that all improvements and upgrades to facilities are handicap accessible.

Potential users include not only residents from the Village of Sebewaing, but also residents located in other nearby communities who are part of the Unionville-Sebewaing Area School District. As a provider of recreational opportunities to other local jurisdictions, the Village of Sebewaing considers its relationships to these people a critical component to the success of this action program.

The project list is not a fixed element and is neither all-inclusive nor exclusive. The schedule reflects the results of input received from the online survey, Village staff, and other community stakeholders. Future circumstances, such as the availability of funding, may change priorities or require the reprioritization of projects. While the future planned improvements identified in the Recreation Inventory chapter represent specific facility and park improvements, the following projects outlined are intended to be broader initiatives and goals that the Village would like to pursue over the next five years.

IDENTIFIED PROJECTS

1. Nonmotorized Walking Trail

An interconnected walking trail throughout the Village of Sebewaing will connect the Historic River District area to some of the town's natural features and Saginaw Bay. At the request of the Village stakeholders, this trail will provide new recreational opportunities while promoting safety, walkability, and outdoor recreation. During the winter months, the non-motorized walking trail will be open and marketed towards winter-time recreational uses, such as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

2. Kayak Launch

A designated kayak launch will improve water safety and accessibility to Saginaw Bay for village residents and visitors. The only official kayak launch in the Village is also the Sebewaing Harbor Marina boat launch. Village stakeholders have expressed concerns for safety when small and large boats are utilizing the same facility.

3. Village of Sebewaing Signage

Improved signage will increase connectivity between the roughly 40 acres of forested area, natural trails, Sebewaing public parks, and the Bay Shore Camp. Currently there is minimal signage throughout the village, limiting the ability of residents and visitors to find and utilize recreational assets. Improved signage will promote recreational utilization for residents and visitors. Increased connectivity between recreational facilities will also promote tourism in the village, a stated interest of village stakeholders.

4. Village Park Walking Loop

A walking loop around Village Park will improve utilization of the largest and most popular park in the village for residents of all ages and abilities. Improved parks and park equipment were a stated priority of Village residents. A Village Park walking loop will improve utilization among the aging residential village population.

5. Recreation Facilities at Village Park South

Identified projects include updating the basketball and tennis court, pickleball courts, and building one or two pavilions near these courts for park-goers.

6. Additional Waterfront Access

Expanding waterfront access within the Village was identified as a way to improve recreational opportunities and strengthen connections to the community's natural resources. The Village has expressed interest in the potential acquisition of waterfront property, if found to be fiscally feasible by Village Council. Should the opportunity arise, the Village may explore land acquisition opportunities and utilize grant funding to create additional public access points.

FINANCING POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS

Funding for recreation, non-motorized transportation, and environmental restoration can come from a variety of local, state, and federal public programs as well as private groups and foundations. However, applicants need to target potential funding agencies and programs very carefully so as to meet the specific criteria required as requirements for each change from time to time. A current listing of programs and agencies that can provide funding for parks and recreation projects is provided on the following pages.

MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND (MNRTF)

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase of land or specific rights in land for recreation or protection of land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty, and the appropriate development of land for public outdoor recreation use. The goals of this program include the following:

1. To protect Michigan's natural resources, and provide for their access, public use, and enjoyment.
2. To provide public access to Michigan's water bodies, particularly the Great Lakes, and to facilitate their recreational use.
3. To meet regional, county, and community needs for outdoor recreation opportunities.
4. To improve the opportunity for outdoor recreation in Michigan's urban areas.
5. To stimulate Michigan's economy through recreation-related tourism and community revitalization.

Any unit of government may submit a land acquisition proposal for this grant. All proposals for grants must include a local match

of at least 25% of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum funding request for acquisition grants. Development grants must have a minimum funding request of \$15,000 and the maximum amount is \$400,000. Applications are due annually on April 1st each year.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service which distributes funds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the fund in recent years has been on community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields, and walking paths. Minimum grant requests are \$30,000 (\$60,000 total project cost) and maximum grant requests are \$500,000 (\$1 million total project cost). There is no minimum or maximum on land acquisition grants. The match percentage must be 50% of the total project cost. Applications are due annually on April 1st.

MICHIGAN RECREATION PASSPORT GRANT

Recreation Passport grants provide funding to local jurisdictions for the development of public recreation facilities, including new facilities and renovation of old facilities. These grants have an emphasis on renovations to existing facilities that have outlived their useful life. The minimum grant request is \$7,500 and the maximum grant request is \$150,000. This grant is a reimbursement program, which means local units need to have funds available, then are reimbursed the percentage of the grant agreement later on. Applications are due annually on April 1st.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)

TAP is a competitive grant program that funds projects such as bike paths, pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, and preservation of historic transportation facilities. This program uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for these types of activities. Approximately \$24.5 million is available annually. TAP applications may be submitted online at any time throughout the year.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM (SRTS)

The Safe Routes to School Program is an international movement and a federal program to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. In Michigan, the program is supported by the Michigan Fitness Foundation. With the passage of the federal transportation legislation in 2005, Michigan's SRTS program made schools eligible for transportation enhancement funds, providing infrastructure improvements and education campaigns. The program offers two grant options, a major grant and mini grant. Mini grants are a great way for a community to get in to the Safe Routes to School process and build momentum in their communities. The mini grant allows a community to receive up to \$15,000 per school for non-infrastructure projects and programming that educates students on safe walking and biking to schools and supports active transportation. The major grant requires a more extensive planning process before applying and allows communities to receive up to \$300,000 per school in infrastructure funding.

ACCESS TO THE GREAT LAKES FISHERY

The Access to Great Lakes Fishery Trust provides funding to increase the access to the Great Lakes for shore-based angling and tribal fishing. The request for proposals is released in the summer of every other year, in even numbered years.

DTE ENERGY FOUNDATION TREE PLANTING GRANTS

The DTE Energy Foundation partnership grant program is a grant available for tree-planting projects. The program aids communities within the DTE Energy service area with projects that help reduce the effects of climate change by planting trees along community streets and public spaces. Communities may request for grants up to \$4,000.

WATERWAYS PROGRAM GRANTS

The Waterways Program Grant provides funding to local governments and stakeholders for public recreational boating infrastructure, including harbors, marinas, and boating access sites. The grant covers up to 50% of project costs, with a required 50% local match. Funding can be used for engineering studies, design, and construction, with required documentation such as demand analysis and harbor logs. Applications are due annually by April 1st.

MICHIGAN INVASIVE SPECIES GRANT PROGRAM

The Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP) provides funding to local governments for projects addressing invasive species prevention, detection, and control. Grants typically range from a minimum of \$25,000, with maximum grant amounts between \$40,000 and \$400,000 depending on the type of project. Projects must support statewide goals such as

preventing new introductions, improving early detection and response, limiting spread, and managing established invasive species.

COASTAL PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

The Michigan Coastal Management (MCM) Coastal Planning and Construction Grant provides funding to support projects that protect, restore, and enhance Michigan's freshwater coastline while promoting resilient coastal communities, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Eligible applicants include coastal local governments, regional agencies, nonprofits, academic institutions, and tribal governments, with projects required to be located within Michigan's coastal boundary. Grants range from \$10,000 to \$75,000 for planning and up to \$200,000 for construction, with a required 1:1 non-federal match.

SAGINAW BAY WATERSHED INITIATIVE NETWORK GRANT

The Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN) grant provides funding for projects that improve water quality and support environmental stewardship in the Saginaw Bay watershed. Eligible applicants include local governments, nonprofits, and community organizations, with priority given to projects focused on watershed protection, restoration, and education.

LAKE HURON FUND

The Lake Huron Fund, through the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan (CFNEM), was created with an initial \$25,000 gift in 2025. This permanently endowed fund is designed to

support nonprofit projects that protect, preserve, and enhance the health of Lake Huron and its watershed across northeast Michigan. Eligible initiatives include efforts such as rain gardens, stormwater management, wildlife habitat improvements, and invasive species removal.

MLB YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION GRANTS

The MLB Youth Development Foundation Grant was created to increase participation in baseball and softball. Funds from this grant may be used in support to capital projects such as field renovations, local baseball/softball programs, and education initiatives. Applications are accepted on a yearly basis throughout the year.

T-MOBILE HOMETOWN GRANTS

T-Mobile Hometown grants are awarded for community projects that foster local connections such as technology upgrades, outdoor spaces, the arts, and community centers. Any communities with a population of less than 50,000 are eligible to apply for this grant. T-Mobile will award up to \$50,000 for projects that are fully prepared and ready to begin work with funding in place.





CHAPTER 7

HARBOR PLAN

HARBOR PLAN

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Sebewaing Harbor Marina is an essential part of the community, serving as a recreational hub that offers both functional and leisure activities for residents and visitors alike. The requirement for Michigan harbors to be included within a community's 5-Year Recreation Plan to be eligible for Michigan State Waterways Grants began in 2015. The following chapter outlines the characteristics of the harbor and use within our community.

The Sebewaing Harbor Marina is an integral part of the Village, situated along the Sebewaing River, which the community is named after. The name "Sebewaing" originates from the Objibwe word "ziibiweng", which translates to "by the stream", reflecting the Village's close connection to the river and its natural surroundings. The Village of Sebewaing offers a variety of amenities that enhance the experience for both marina users and residents alike including restaurants, retail stores and local services.

The Sebewaing Harbor Marina benefits from its prime location on the eastern shore of Lake Huron's Saginaw Bay. Positioned centrally along the Bay, it provides easy access to both local waters and the greater expanse of Lake Huron. This location makes it a strategic and attractive spot for boating, fishing, waterfowl hunting and other water-based recreational activities, drawing in residents and visitors from across the region.

The Sebewaing Harbor Marina serves as a key recreational hub to Saginaw Bay, offering a variety of amenities and services designed to meet the needs of boaters, fishermen, and waterfowl hunters. Its purpose is to provide a well-equipped space for individuals and families to enjoy water-based recreation, while also supporting local commerce and tourism. The marina has 90

boat slips, four boat ramps, restrooms, bathhouse, fish cleaning station, indoor boat storage facility, gas dock, and commerce area for sporting goods and boating supplies.

Below are the main features and offerings that make Sebewaing Harbor Marina an attractive destination:

» **DAILY BOAT LAUNCHES**

The marina offers four boat launches, ensuring there is plenty of access for those looking to put their boats in the water. These launches provide convenience for visitors who want to quickly get on the water and enjoy their activities.

» **OVERNIGHT BOATING**

With 90 boat slips, the marina accommodates a wide range of boats, from small recreational craft to larger vessels. The slips are available for both seasonal and transient use, allowing boaters to easily access the water and enjoy Lake Huron's Saginaw Bay. The harbor has 12 slips that are designated for transient boat use.

» **FISHING**

The marina is a popular destination for fishing enthusiasts. With its fish cleaning station, anglers can clean their catch on-site, making it easy to enjoy a day of fishing on the Saginaw Bay. The area's rich fishery for walleye, perch and bass is a draw for both casual fishers and serious including walleye charter boat captains throughout the summer and ice fishing season. Professional tournament anglers for walleye, bass and sport bowfishing frequently use the Sebewaing Harbor Marina.

» **WATERFOWL HUNTING**

As part of its commitment to serving diverse water-based activities, Sebewaing Harbor Marina caters to waterfowl hunters. The surrounding wetlands and waterways provide excellent hunting opportunities, attracting hunters from across the Midwest.

» **RESTROOMS**

Well-maintained restrooms are available for marina users, providing necessary facilities for those spending extended time at the harbor.

» **INDOOR BOAT STORAGE**

For those seeking to store their boats during the off-season or between trips, the indoor boat storage facility offers a safe and convenient option. This facility helps protect boats from the elements and ensures they remain in good condition.

» **GAS DOCK**

The gas dock provides easy refueling options for boaters, ensuring they can top off their fuel tanks before heading out on the water for extended trips or daily outings.

» **COMMERCE AREA**

The marina features a commerce area that offers sporting goods and boating supplies, catering to the needs of visitors. Boaters and fishermen can find essential gear, equipment, and accessories to enhance their experiences on the water.

By offering such a wide range of services and recreational opportunities, the Sebewaing Harbor Marina plays a vital role in the local economy, supporting not only tourism but also local businesses that supply goods and services to marina users. Whether visitors are renting a boat slip, purchasing supplies, or enjoying a day on the water, the marina helps generate activity and revenue for the Village of Sebewaing.

SIZE OF FACILITY

The marina, with its 90 boat slips designated for seasonal and transient use, is appropriately sized to meet the current demand. Of these, 12 slips are reserved for transient boaters, in addition to available dockside mooring. The Marina is of adequate size. Boaters are not turned away, and there is currently no waiting list for seasonal docking slips at this time. However, the parking facilities for daily visitors and boat ramp users are limited and can become congested during periods of high marina activity.

ADA ACCESSIBILITY

The facilities were compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) when originally built; however, improvements to the dock structures and parking areas are necessary to maintain accessibility in accordance with the MDNR Harbor Design Guide standards. Additionally, upgrades to the electrical ground fault protection systems are required to ensure compliance with the latest electrical code standards. Please refer to the Large-Scale Maintenance and Replacement Schedule.

SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Creation of a site development plan, including the replacement of the existing dock structures, parking lot renovation, and electrical and lighting upgrades, will be based on the completion of a preliminary engineering study. This study will identify recommendations and repairs, including cost estimates and potential activities. Completion of the preliminary engineering study was completed in March of 2026.

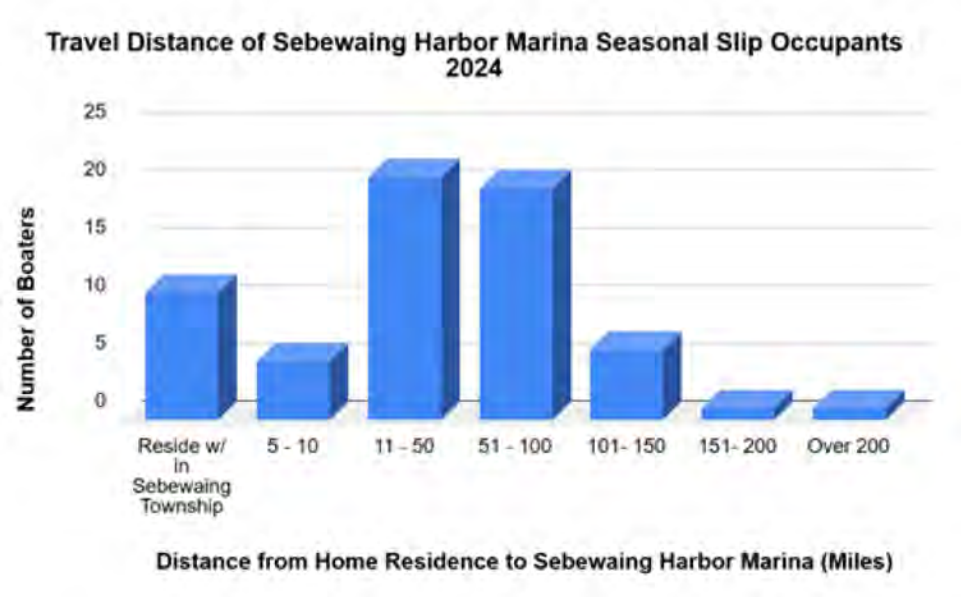
DEMOGRAPHICS OF MARINA USE

The Sebewaing Harbor Marina is used by individuals from within and outside of the local community, and state. The following figures outline the demographics of marina users based on seasonal slip use from the 2024 boating season.

TABLE 6 - SEBEWAING HARBOR USE TRAVEL DISTANCE

	MILES	BOATERS	PERCENTAGE
Distance from Home Residence to Sebewaing Harbor Marina	Reside w/in Sebewaing Township	11	16.9%
	5 - 10	5	7.7%
	11 - 50	21	32.3%
	51 - 100	20	30.8%
	101 - 150	6	9.2%
	151 - 200	1	1.5%
	Over 200	1	1.5%
	Average Distance: 48 Miles		

FIGURE 11 - SEBEWAING HARBOR USE TRAVEL DISTANCE



MARKETING PLAN

Marketing of the Sebewaing Harbor Marina is completed by the Sebewaing Harbor Commission in coordination with its private subcontractor who manages day-to-day operation of the marina. The Sebewaing Harbor Commission maintains a website that provides general information about the marina. Brochures are available and distributed around the county. The marina information can also be viewed from local, state and national websites including the Village of Sebewaing, Sebewaing Area Chamber of Commerce, and the State of Michigan in the table below.

Additional forms of advertisement and public notice of marina events are completed by use of social media platforms, including Facebook.

TABLE 7 - WEBSITE PUBLICATIONS

WEBSITE PUBLICATIONS	
Host	Web Address
Sebewaing Harbor Marina	www.sebewaingharbormarina.com
Village of Sebewaing	www.sebewaingmi.gov
Sebewaing Area Chamber of Commerce	www.sebewaingchamber.com
State of Michigan	www.Michigan.org
Marinas	www.marinas.com

EVENTS PLAN

The Sebewaing Harbor Commission and Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce sponsor a fishing contest at the marina during the annual Michigan Sugar Festival in June. A community event to foster youth engagement with local law enforcement through use of sport fishing is hosted by Cops and Bobbers which is held at the marina on an annual basis. Several public and private fishing tournaments are held at the marina throughout the year.

PARTNERING PLAN

The Sebewaing Harbor Marina is operated by the Sebewaing Harbor Commission. Day-to-day operation and management of the facility is completed by the Sebewaing Harbor Commission in addition to subcontracted services that are completed by a private individual.

DREDGING CYCLES

The channel leading into the marina normally needs dredging approximately every three to five years, depending on water levels. Approximately 70,000 to 100,000 cubic yards of dirt are removed during the dredging. The Village uses three different confined disposal facilities (CDF's) for the spoils. Two are adjacent to the channel and the third is located approximately 1/4 mile to the south. Currently, the harbor is in a 5- to 7- year dredge cycle, with the last dredging completed in 2016.

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULES

DAILY/WEEKLY

Marina facilities are maintained on a daily basis throughout the entire year. Daily and weekly maintenance include cleaning of facilities including public restrooms, trash disposal, dock and ramp safety inspections.

SEASONALLY

Seasonal maintenance of the marina includes lawn care, snow removal, harbor weed control, dock repair and installation. Seasonal inspection of buildings and facilities to identify immediate and long-term repair needs are completed. This inspection includes review of the marinas utilities, parking lot, walkways, lighting, building and dock structures.

TABLE 8 - ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE & COST

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE AND COST	
Item	Total Cost
Harbor Weed Control	\$1,220
Harbor Weed Control Permit Fee	\$225
Facility and Dock Winterization	\$550
Lawn Service and Weed Control	\$4,160
Misc. Repairs and General Maintenance	\$3,600
Dock Repair and Maintenance	\$2,200
Total: \$11,955	

TABLE 9 - OTHER ANNUAL EXPENSES

OTHER ANNUAL EXPENSES	
Item	Total Cost
Utility Bills (Electricity)	\$9,418
Utility Bills (Water)	\$1,067
Utility Bills (Sewer)	\$1,092
Telephone/Communications	\$1,054
Consumers Energy	\$1,300
Office Supplies	\$450
Repair & Maintenance	\$3,500
Cleaning and Bathroom Supplies	\$1,500
Accounting Expenses	\$480
Financial Audit Services	\$2,800
Insurance	\$3,128
Outside Contracting Services	\$8,400
Total: \$34,189	

SMALL-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE

A series of small-scale infrastructure and equipment replacement and repairs are needed on a regular basis to maintain operations at the marina. Table 10 outline typical small-scale infrastructure replacements and repairs in the marina.

LARGE-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE

Large-scale capital improvement projects will be required to maintain the current use and function of the marina within the community. The floating dock structures have met and exceeded their anticipated lifespan. Replacement of the floating dock structures and access ramps based on Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements is anticipated within the next 10 years. Marina lighting, electrical service with electrical ground fault protection systems and parking lot replacement will also be required.

Self-generated income (profit) from the marina's operating revenue, in combination with funding from state and federal grant opportunities will be used to fund the large-scale capital improvement plan. The Sebewaing Harbor Commission will seek the award of all external grants that are applicable. Table 11 outlines large-scale capital improvements anticipated over the coming years.

TABLE 10 - SMALL-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE

SMALL-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE	
Item	Total Cost
Safety Equipment	\$800
Dock Carts	\$1,200
Picnic Tables and Seating	\$4,200
Updated Signage	\$3,100
Bathroom Upgrades	\$5,800
Lighting Upgrades	\$3,000
Total: \$11,955	

TABLE 11 - LARGE-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE

LARGE-SCALE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE		
Item	Year	Total Cost
Civil Engineering Assessment and Project Plan	2026	\$21,500
Lighting and Electrical Upgrade	2027	\$250,000
Dock B Replacement	2029	\$402,900
Dock C Replacement	2032	\$461,100
Dock D Replacement	2033	\$357,500
Dock E Replacement	2034	\$272,800
Parking Lot Replacement	2035	\$225,000
Total: \$1,990,800		

2026 SEBEWAING HARBOR MARINA - PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING STUDY

In 2026, the Village of Sebewaing completed a Preliminary Engineering Study for the Sebewaing Harbor Marina. The study found that the facility is generally functional but is experiencing age-related deterioration and is beginning to fall short of modern standards. Key infrastructure, including floating docks, gangways, access platforms, and utilities, are at or beyond their expected service life. Structural deficiencies, safety concerns, and ADA-accessibility issues are present throughout the site. Electrical, water, and fuel systems are outdated and do not meet current codes, while parking areas, sidewalks, and safety features such as lighting and ladders require repair or replacement. Although the marina basin depths are generally adequate, shallow conditions in the Sebewaing River channel may limit access, particularly for larger vessels.

The study recommends a comprehensive set of improvements that would modernize the marina, enhance overall safety, and meet regulatory standards. A number of these improvements include:

- » Replacing dock systems and access structures
- » Upgrading utilities (electrical, water, and fuel) to current code requirements
- » Improving ADA accessibility throughout the facility
- » Repairing upland infrastructure such as parking lots and sidewalks
- » Enhancing operational efficiency by adding a dedicated electrical feed for the bait shop and expanding amenities like the fish-cleaning station
- » Coordinating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for dredging to improve navigation

Overall, an estimated \$1.18 million is needed to maintain the marina's long-term viability and better align with current user

needs and standards. The full Preliminary Engineering Study can be found within Appendix D of this Plan.





PED/BIKE
ROUTE

CHAPTER 8

SUMMARY AND ADOPTION

SUMMARY AND ADOPTION

SUMMARY

In its continuing effort to provide quality recreational opportunities for its citizens, the Village of Sebewaing has developed this Recreation Master Plan as a tool to guide the development of community park and recreational facilities and locations over the next five years. This Plan is an update of the Village's most recent plan which was adopted in 2018. The Plan will provide the Village eligibility for grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assist the community in reaching its recreational goals.

The Village of Sebewaing contracted with Spicer Group to assist them with updating the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. During the development of the Plan, [INSERT PROCESS]

ADOPTION

The draft Village Recreation Plan document was made available for review beginning on [DATE], 2026 at the Village Office and on the Village website. This viewing opportunity was advertised in the Huron Daily Tribune newspaper and the local radio station. The third opportunity for community input occurred at the advertised public hearing held prior to the adoption of the Plan. This meeting was held on [DATE], 2026 at [INSERT LOCATION].

After the public hearing on [DATE] 2026, the Sebewaing Village Council adopted the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. Copies of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan were transmitted to the Huron County Planning office, the East Central Michigan Council of Governments and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in [MONTH] of 2026. Copies of the notification advertisements, the public hearing minutes, and resolution are included in Appendix E.



APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

PARKS & RECREATION BUDGET INFORMATION

APPENDIX B

MDNR GRANT HISTORY

APPENDIX C

COMMUNITY INPUT SURVEY

APPENDIX D

2026 SEBEWAING HARBOR MARINA - PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING STUDY

APPENDIX E

REVIEW AND ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION