

TOWN OF LANSING

PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN

April 2022



Engineering and
Land Surveying, P.C.



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01

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



01. Executive Summary

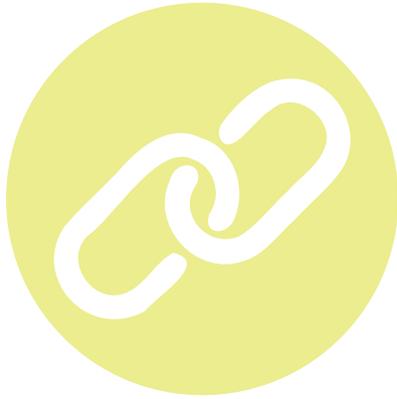
The Town of Lansing embarked on an effort to develop a Town-wide Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan. The plan is a roadmap to ensure an appropriate balance of facilities, amenities and programs throughout the Town and will be used as a resource for development of the Town’s parks, trails, and recreation system over the next five to twenty years.

The Town of Lansing recognizes the desire and need for active lifestyles. Creating welcoming and accessible parks and recreation in the Town is crucial. The Town understands the role park systems,

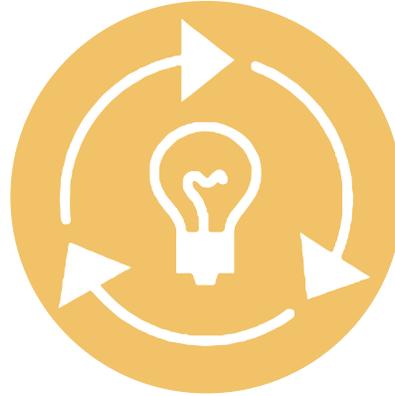
recreation resources, and connections play in instituting community pride, attracting visitors, and supporting the local economy.

The Master Plan process was essential in creating a document that Town residents and the Town want to implement. The process included multiple opportunities to engage with the public including, online survey, public meetings, and a project website. Gathering existing conditions and a combination of all the feedback has culminated with this master plan that can be used moving forward.

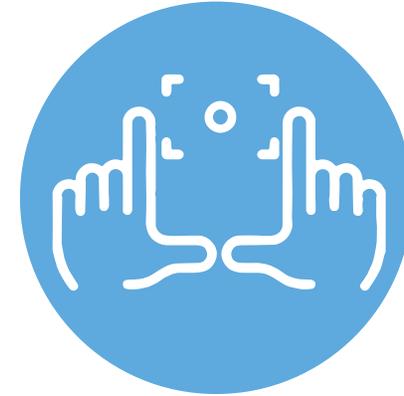




RE-CONNECT



RE-THINK



RE-FOCUS

The process of achieving the master plan focused around the following three themes: RE-THINK, RE-CONNECT, RE-FOCUS. The themes represent the following RE-THINK the physical space and programming opportunities, RE-CONNECT physically within the parks; visually to the waterfront; programmatically for the community, and RE-FOCUS activities within each park to maximize the space and focus on the pedestrian realm. The three themes echo throughout the entire plan.

The Master Plan details recommended improvements and a vision for each of the Town Parks.

Myers Park is the flagship of the Lansing Park system. As such the vision for Myers Park reflects this. Enhanced views and access to the lake was top priority. Pedestrian circulation with better parking for both cars and trailers were noted as well as creating more defined

spaces throughout the entire park.

Salt Point Preserve is immediately north of Myers Park separated by Salmon Creek. The intent of proposed recommendations is to maintain the natural preserve look, feel and function by continuing to provide a passive, respectful area for wildlife and habitat.

The Town Ball Fields are located adjacent to Town Hall and serve as a destination for active recreation within the Town with multiple athletic fields, playground and pavilion. Connecting the fields with a pedestrian path, expanding parking, and formalizing other amenities are key recommendations for this well-used park.

Ludlowville Park currently offers incredible views of waterfalls that do not have a formal viewing area. Creating an accessible area for park visitors to access along a formalized trail would bring attention



to this wonderful natural resource, while keeping the neighborhood scale of this park.

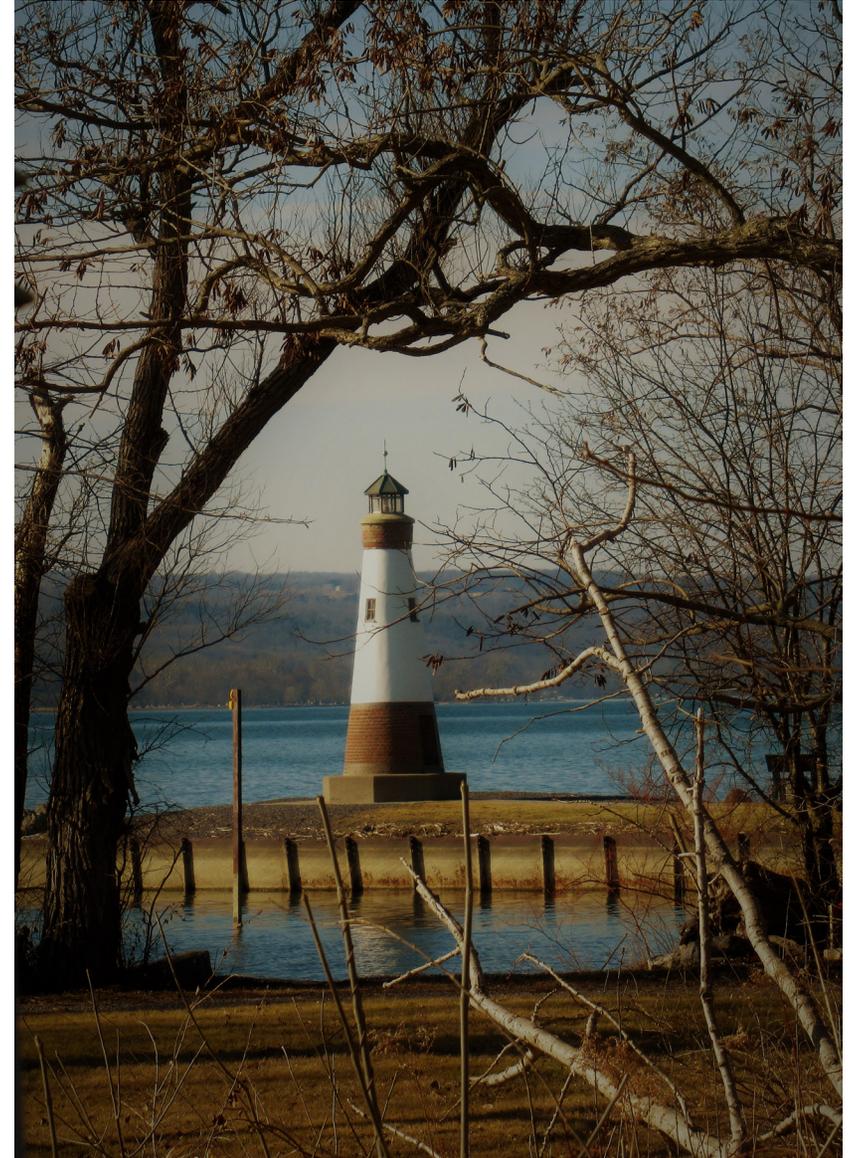
The Town Barn Field plays host to several games and activities. Creation of signed parking with a formalized walkway with shade trees would enhance the environment for attendees. The regrading of the field would resolve drainage issues after a rain event allowing a much faster turnaround time for field use.

Lansing Center Trail offers great birdwatching and dog walking. Expanding on the already existing trails, adding interpretive signage and improving parking would enable patrons to enjoy the trails to their fullest extent.

DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The plan is organized in a manner that introduces the parks and including existing facilities, existing programming, ADA assessment and needs and opportunities in the Lansing Park System Today section. The Lansing Park System Tomorrow section focuses on recommended improvements for each park and system-wide in both text and illustrative form. In addition possible trail connections are described at a broad level, including possible community and neighborhood connections. Finally, the implementation of the recommended action items and high level costs are identified to make this plan and its concepts a reality.

The Appendices of the plan contain background information to support the recommendations. The appendices include stakeholder meeting summaries, public workshop summaries, the online community survey summary, cost estimates, inventory mapping, and an ADA assessment.



Myers Point Lighthouse by: Rick Potter





02

INTRODUCTION

02. INTRODUCTION

The Town of Lansing is located on the eastern shore of Cayuga Lake in the Finger Lakes region of New York. The Town has undertaken an effort to develop a Town-wide Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan. The Plan will create a road-map to ensure an appropriate balance of facilities, amenities and programs throughout the Town and will be used as a resource for development of the Town’s parks, trails, and recreation system over the next five to twenty years.

The planning process was guided by an Advisory Committee appointed by the Town Board. The planning process was facilitated by Town staff and a consultant team led by MJ Engineering and Land Surveying and supported by PLACE Alliance.

The process of achieving the final master plan focused around the following three themes: RE-THINK, RE-CONNECT, RE-FOCUS. The themes represent the following RE-THINK the physical space and programming opportunities, RE-CONNECT physically within the parks; visually to the waterfront; programmatically for the community, and RE-FOCUS activities within each park to maximize the space and focus on the pedestrian realm. The three themes echo throughout the entire plan.

PURPOSE OF THE MASTER PLAN

Creating a Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan provides a vast array of benefits for the community. The COVID-19 pandemic has enlightened people’s recognition of the importance of available outdoor spaces and amenities for every age. A properly guided master plan engages the community to build consensus and assesses current and future recreation needs.

The Town Parks and Recreation Department takes immense pride in their parks system and that is evident to anyone who visits. The parks master plan will identify opportunities to improve, update or rethink a local park system and the individual parks within that system to better meet community needs today and be prepared to address future needs. Creating a master plan will enable decision-makers to prioritize allocation for resources, programs, facilities and offerings in a manner that is fiscally accountable, environmentally sound and publicly supported.

The master plan is the long-range vision for the community parks and recreation. When properly implemented this allows for a community to follow the plan to achieve their stated goals.

As demographics change and populations grow, so should park systems to the changing community. In the past decade, the Town of Lansing has experienced significant growth with many new areas of residential and commercial development along with a steady increase in population. The master plan allows for prioritization and budget for capital improvement plans. Having the plan is the first step in a process that can help the community lock in funding from various sources and use that funding for improvements.



RE-CONNECT



RE-THINK



RE-FOCUS



Lastly, the master plan and the process of creating the master plan is an opportunity to educate the public on the health benefits of parks and recreation access. Parks provide an opportunity to improve a visitor’s mental and physical health. Now more than ever people are turning to parks to gather while staying socially distanced making parks crucial to resident health and wellbeing.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Town of Lansing Parks Master Plan development began in December, 2019 with the appointment of a Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee to oversee the development of the Parks Master Plan. The Advisory Committee was appointed by the Town Board and comprised of representatives from the Town, Parks and Recreation, Planning and at-large community members. Starting in February 2020, the Committee held regular meetings virtually over the course of the planning process with assistance from Town staff, local elected officials and the consultant team from M.J. Engineering a Land Surveying, P.C. (MJ). The Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee included:

Community Representatives

- Katrina Binkewicz
- Ronny Hardaway
- Becca Lovenheim
- Paul Paradine
- Deborah Trumbull
- Jack Young

Town Representatives

- Jenna Hoellerer, Parks and Recreation Clerk
- Edward LaVigne, Town Supervisor
- C.J. Randall, Director of Planning
- Pat Tyrrell, Parks and Recreation Supervisor

A project website (www.lansingparksandtrailsplan.com) was established at the outset of the process to compile and share important documents and materials. Public comment opportunities were available at each meeting, and a record of each meeting was posted to the project website. This plan represents a synthesis of information gathered from the community, Town staff and key stakeholders with a plan of action to address the issues and opportunities facing the Town Parks.

Existing Conditions

The planning process began with an inventory of existing conditions in the Town Parks to help gain an understanding of the current state of the parks. The inventory includes information on the following topic areas:

- Existing Facilities
- Existing Programming
- Environmentally Sensitive Resources
- Developmental Controls
- Existing Utilities and Infrastructure
- Existing Transportation Infrastructure and Parking
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Assessment
- Needs and Opportunities



INTRODUCTION

The Inventory of Existing Conditions goes into greater detail in Chapter 4, Lansing Parks, Recreation and Trail System Today (Inventory of Existing Conditions).

Public Engagement

A key focus of this plan was the participation of the community throughout the planning process to ensure that the Parks Master Plan was developed through an inclusive, consensus-driven process. Participation of residents, landowners, business owners, appointed and elected officials, and other stakeholders throughout the community were vital to the plan's development. Appendix A, B, and C includes a full summary of Stakeholder Meetings, Public Workshops, and Survey Results.

The year 2020 brought countless challenges to the Town of Lansing, the Nation, and the world as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite these challenges the Town focused on a path forward to continue engaging community members and drive the process forward. With the adaptation of remote meetings, public meetings, forums, and stakeholder interviews were held virtually. The public engagement methods described below includes opportunities that were intended to keep community members safe while soliciting public input. A variety of engagement methods were utilized throughout the development of this plan to provide a wide range of opportunity for the public to participate. The following is a list of public engagement opportunities that have occurred with a brief description of each.

Public engagement included:

- Community Survey

- Key Stakeholder Interviews
- Public Workshops
- Web/Social Media Outreach
- Pop-up Event

Online Community Survey

As part of the public engagement component of the Town of Lansing Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan, an online community survey was developed. The purpose of the survey was to identify community needs and issues concerning Lansing parks, recreational programs, and facilities.

The thirty-four (34) question online survey was created and distributed using the Survey Monkey platform. The survey opened on October 2, 2020, and remained open until December 18, 2020, with 445 responses received.

The survey was made available in several locations, including the project website, the Town website, the Lansing Recreation Department website, at park events, and the Town's social media platforms. Information and links to the survey were also distributed during the survey period on flyers and survey cards which included a Quick Response (QR) code for direct access to the survey on a smartphone or tablet. The survey was organized around the following components: Participant Information, Use, Facilities, Program Experience, Park Specific sections, including Myers Park, Ludlowville Park, Town Ball Fields, Town Barn Fields, Salt Point, Town Center Trail, and the Bell Station Property (North of power plant), and Suggestions for the Future. Complete survey results are available in **Appendix C**.



Town of Lansing Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan Community Survey



Be part of the Town of Lansing Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan. We need your input!

The Town of Lansing Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan will create a roadmap to ensure an appropriate balance of facilities, amenities and programs throughout the Town. The plan will be used as a resource for the future development of the Town's parks, trails and recreation system.

Take the online survey:

www.research.net/r/LansingParks



For more information contact:
Patrick Tyrrell, Parks and Recreation Supervisor | Phone: 607-533-7388 | www.lansingrec.com

Key Stakeholder Interviews

Key stakeholder interviews were conducted and serve as a significant component to the development of this plan. The purpose of these meetings was to learn more about critical challenges and opportunities based on particular topic areas. The Consultant Team led by MJ, conducted stakeholder meetings virtually via Zoom. In some cases, a phone call or separate virtual meeting was held to accommodate participant schedules. A summary of stakeholder input received is available in **Appendix A**. Over the course of several weeks stakeholder meetings were held with eight topic-based groups which included:

- Lansing Park Staff
- Parks, Recreation and Trail Maintenance and Programs
- Regional Partners
- Recreation Groups
- Tourism and Business
- Education and Nonprofit

Common themes that emerged from the stakeholder interviews include:

- Need for additional community gathering spaces
- Better connectivity
- Parking and restrooms
- Need for additional department staff
- Pedestrian improvements
- Confirmation of needs expressed by public

Figure 1. Survey Flyer



INTRODUCTION

Public Workshops

Public workshops provide an opportunity to actively engage with the public to learn more about challenges and opportunities from the perspective of community members. The information gathered from these events helped to inform the overall Vision, Goals and Recommendations of this plan. Following is a description of each event. A full summary of input received from each public workshop is available in **Appendix B**.

Virtual Public Event #1

On Thursday, February 25, 2021, MJ hosted the first virtual public visioning workshop. The event was held from 6:00–8:00 PM. Approximately 40 people logged on to participate in the meeting and over 60 pre-registered for the event. Registration for the event was required and participants could register through the project website. The event included an overview presentation with information about the project and existing conditions information about the park system. Following the overview, participants joined virtual breakout groups facilitated by members of the consultant team. Breakout group participants were asked to provide input on a series of questions about the Lansing Park system as a whole and individual park needs. Common themes that emerged from the public workshop include:

- Connectivity
- Pedestrian and bicycle amenities
- Parking and restrooms
- Need for additional community/recreation spaces

A full summary of input received is available in **Appendix B**.

Virtual Public Event #2

On Tuesday, June 22, 2021, the Town held a second virtual public workshop to share draft concept plans for enhancement of Town parks and to gather feedback from the community as the Master Plan was being prepared. The event included an overview presentation with opportunities for interactive feedback from participants throughout the workshop with a question and comments section at the end of the workshop.



Figure 2. – Virtual Public Event #2

Web/Social Media Outreach

Members of the community were kept informed about the Parks Master Plan via the Town’s website, social media and dedicated project website. The project website, located at lansingparksandtrailsplan.com provided background information about the project, access to documents, maps and reports and provided information about public engagement events and



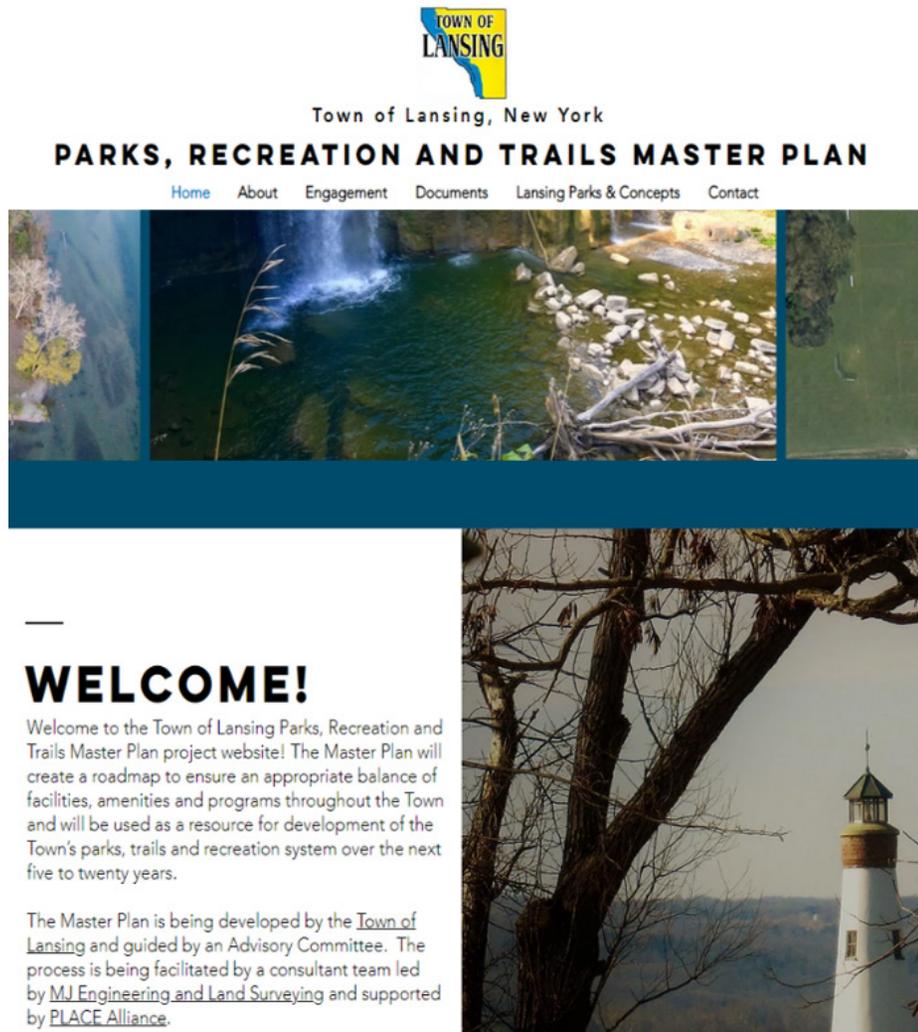


Figure 3. Project Website Homepage

opportunities. The website hosted the community survey and enabled folks to watch previously recorded public and advisory committee meetings.

Pop-Up Event

Another method of outreach included an in-person information pop-up station to meet with and inform members of the public about the Parks Master Plan. A pop-up station provides an opportunity to meet community members where they are, offering a measure of convenience for those who may not otherwise attend public meetings. The purpose of the station was to inform the public about the project, the upcoming Virtual Public Event #2 and offer an opportunity for public input. The pop-up station on Saturday, June 5, 2021, was staffed by a member of the consultant team and was held in conjunction with multiple Town events at the Town Ball Fields. Pop-up station included a project area map, information board, and comment cards for community members to leave thoughts, concerns and ideas about the community parks and recreation.



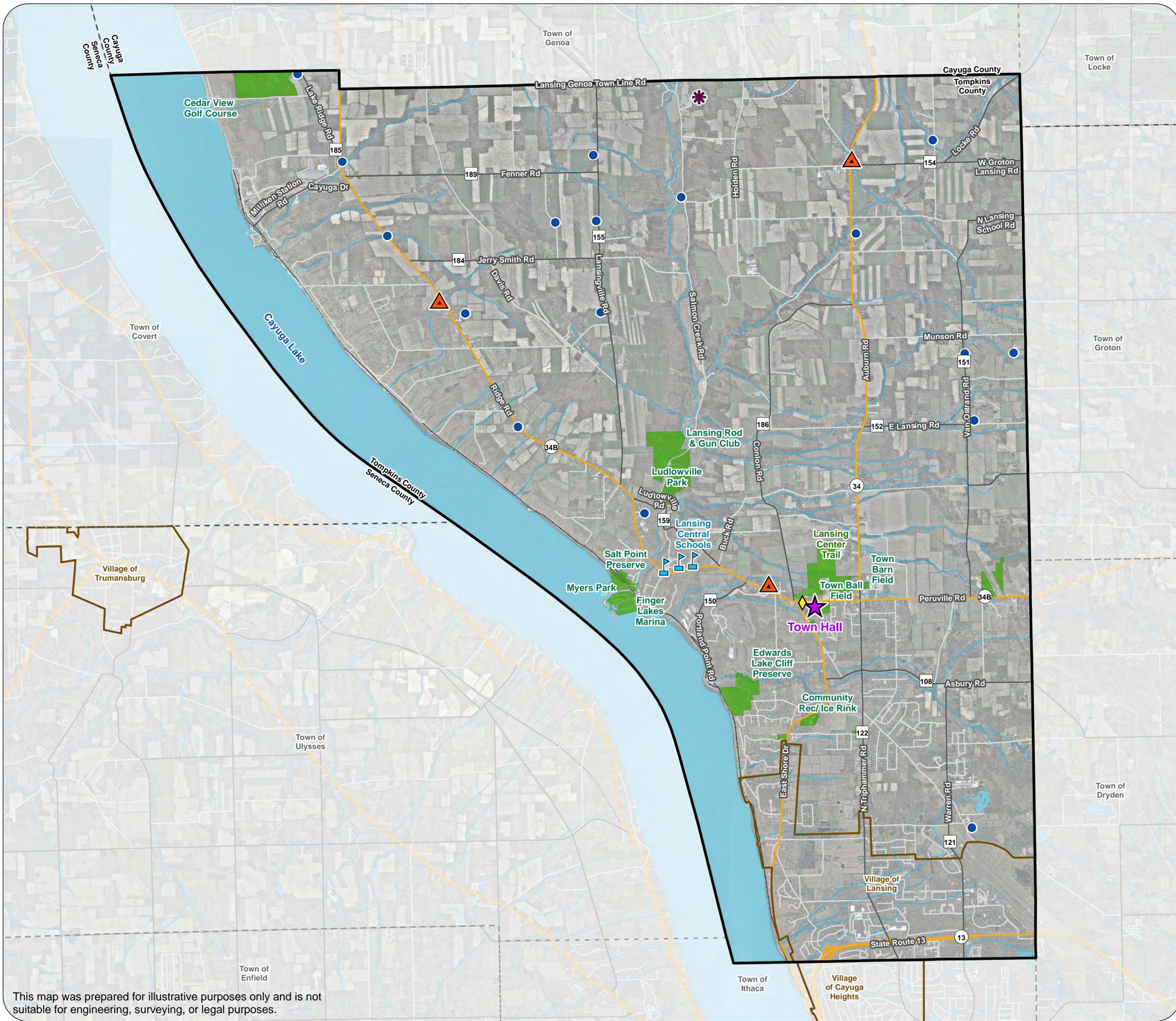


TOWN OF LANSING

Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

DRAFT
Community & Cultural Resources

December 2020

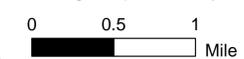


LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| | Project | | Parks, Recreation & Conserved Land |
| | County Boundary | | Town Hall |
| | City/Town Boundary | | School |
| | Village Boundary | | Fire Department |
| | Railroad | | Gravel Pit |
| | State Route | | Historic Site |
| | County Road | | Town Cemeteries |
| | Local Road | | |
| | Water Body | | |
| | River/Stream | | |



Sources:
Esri, NYS ITS, NYSDEC, Town of Lansing, Tompkins County



This map was prepared for illustrative purposes only and is not suitable for engineering, surveying, or legal purposes.



Figure 4. Ludlowville Park by: Harrison Rumsey Photography

LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM

Introduction to Lansing Parks, Recreation and Trail System

The Lansing Parks are a staple of the community and surrounding area. The parks, recreation, and conserved land account for approximately 692 acres of the Town. The Town of Lansing owns and/or maintains five (5) parks as well as the Lansing Center Trail; these six (6) areas account for approximately 200 acres.

The Parks and Recreation Department is located in the Lansing Town Hall on Auburn Road next to the Town Ball Fields. The department is led by the Parks and Recreation Supervisor with support from the Parks and Recreation Clerk and Recreation Supervisor. The department has four (4) full time and one (1) part-time year-round staff. Depending on the season 60-70 employees are brought on to help with activities such as various camps and as lifeguards. The department can generally operate on fees charged and are looking to grow to be fully self-sustaining.

Additional recreational opportunities within the Town, outside of the Town Parks system includes private recreation, trails, and conserved land.

Town History

The Town of Lansing has a rich history leading back to the Revolutionary War. The new and struggling United States was forced to pay the soldiers in land grants rather than cash for payroll. In 1789, the Finger Lakes Country was surveyed and divided into 28 Townships as close to ten miles square as possible. Each Township was then divided into 100 Great Lots of 600 acres each. The Land Office then began making allotments in 1790, with the requirement that actual



INTRODUCTION

settlement was to be made within seven years, after January 1, 1790. The Town of Milton was formed from one of these Great Lots.

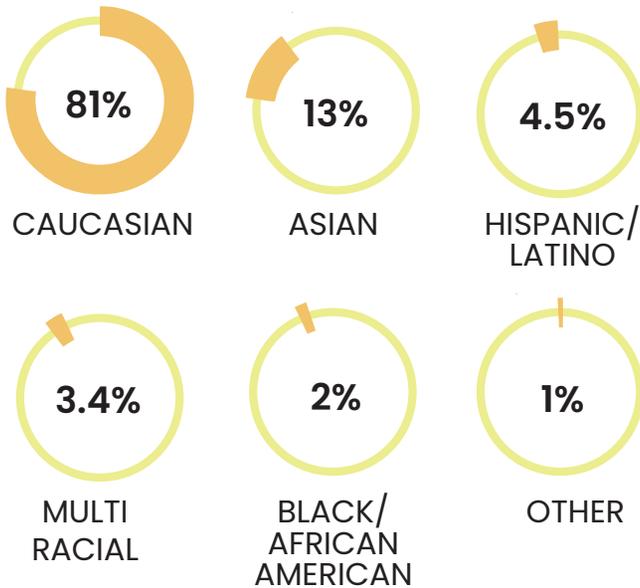
The Town of Milton was a part of Onondaga County, until 1799 when Cayuga County was established and removed. Shortly thereafter, in 1808, the name of Milton was changed to Genoa and The Town of Lansing was set apart in 1817 under the act that would create Tompkins County. The name of the Town is believed to honor John Lansing, a noted jurist and Supreme Court Judge who presided over the courts in the old Town of Genoa and was State Chancellor in 1817.

Town Demographics

Lansing, located on the eastern shore of Cayuga Lake in the Finger Lakes district of New York, is known best as a small Town close to Ithaca, New York. As of the 2019 ACS, there were 11,385 people in 4,981 households, totaling 2.8 as average family size.

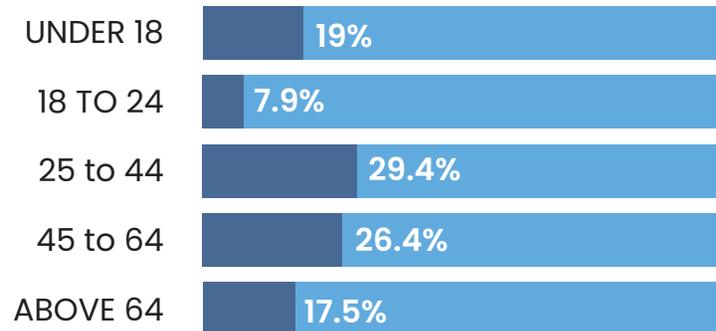
The population density was 165 people per square mile. There were 4,981 housing units at an average density of 72.2 per square mile. The racial makeup of the Town is approximately 81% White, 13% Asian, 3.4% from two or more races, 2% Black or African American, and 1% from other races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 4.5% of the population.

POPULATION BY RACE



POPULATION

POPULATION BY AGE



**MEDIAN AGE
40.5
YEARS**

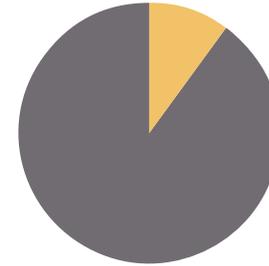


INTRODUCTION

In the Town, the population is 19% under the age of 18, 7.9% from 18 to 24, 29.4% from 25 to 44, 26.4% from 45 to 64, and 17.5% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age is 40.5 years.

The median income for a household in the Town is \$72,587, and the median income for a family is \$102,188. About 10.1% of the population were below the poverty line, including 17% of those under age 18 and 1.1% of those age 65 or over.

INCOME

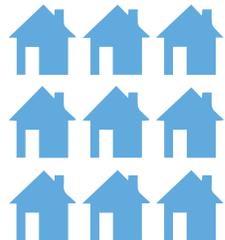


POPULATION BELOW POVERTY LINE
10.1%

HOUSING



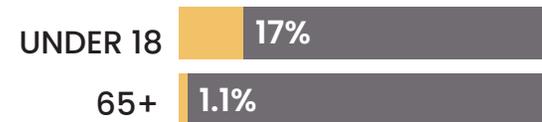
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE
2.8 PEOPLE



TOTAL HOUSING UNITS
4,981

AVERAGE DENSITY
72.7 PER SQUARE MILE

VULNERABLE DEMOGRAPHICS BELOW POVERTY LINE



A photograph of a park with a playground on the left and a basketball court on the right. Three people are playing basketball on the court. The background is filled with lush green trees. The image has a blue tint.

03

BENEFITS AND NEED FOR PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAILS



03. BENEFITS AND NEED FOR PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAILS

Parks, recreation, and trails are essential to communities. The benefits of having parks, recreation and trails are often times immeasurable. Some key values identified in the 2020-2025 New York State Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) include but are not limited to:

- Physical Activity and Disease Prevention
- Social Infrastructure
- Exposure to Nature
- Storm Protection
- Carbon Sequestration
- Ecological Habitat
- Heatwaves
- Air Quality
- Economic Benefits

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause social and economic stress locally, regionally, and worldwide. In response, the parks and recreations department has worked tirelessly to keep parks, trails and green spaces open to support physical and mental health, while delivering vital services and programs to support the community. There has never been more of a need for communities to focus on their natural and recreational resources. During the peak of the pandemic when people needed to social distance the parks and trails were common meeting areas for people to gather safely. In many cases this brought to everyone's attention the importance of the availability of these public recreation spaces.

As for the future, the trend of using the parks as a meeting space is not slowing. Many people, instead of taking a vacation, have spent the money on outdoor gear like canoes, kayaks, paddle boards, and bicycles. These activities to be fully enjoyed need the proper space. Folks are willing to drive further to partake and this opens the door for the local parks to draw more people from the region.





04

REGIONAL CONTEXT

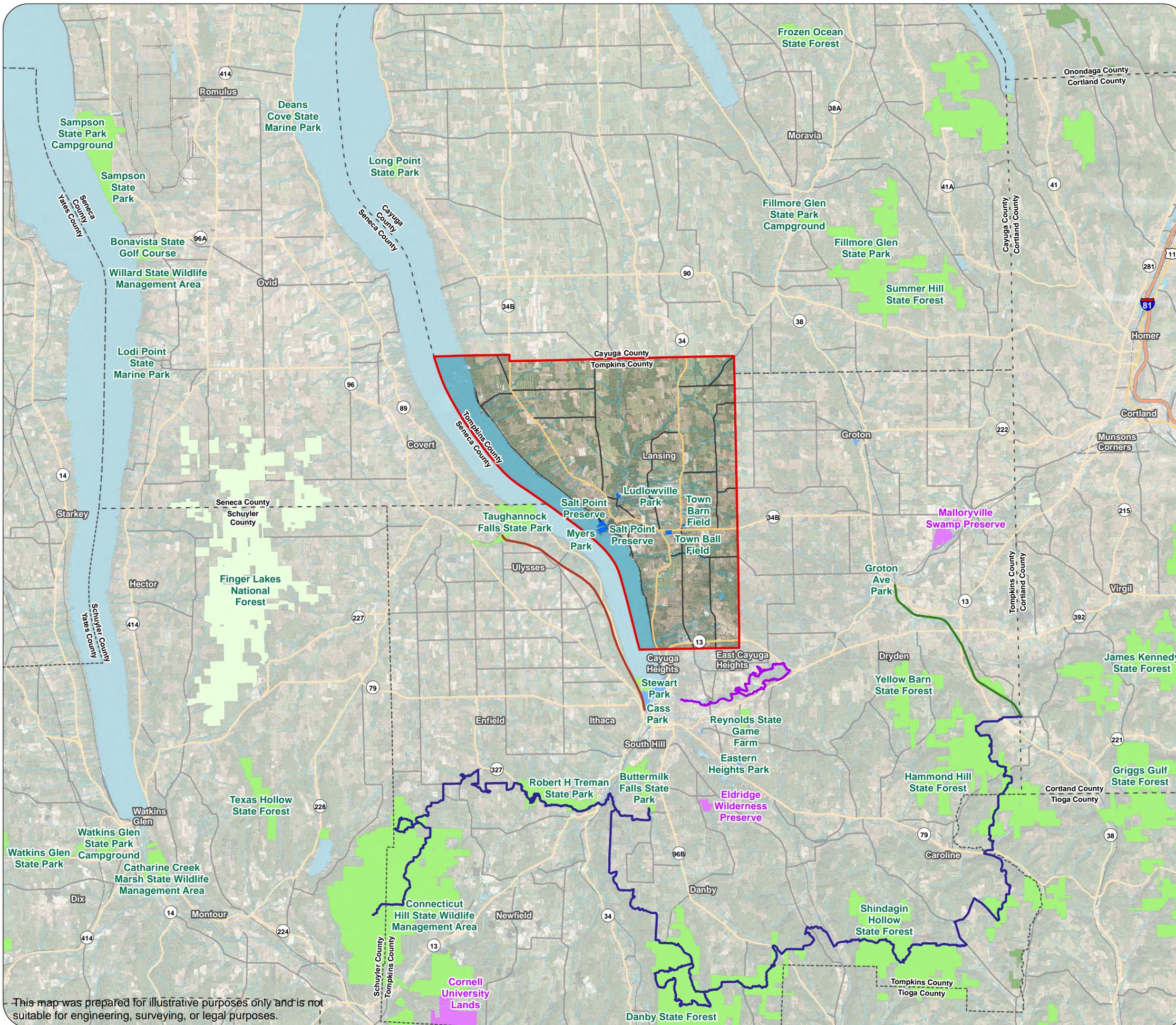


TOWN OF LANSING

Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

DRAFT
Existing Regional Parks,
Recreation & Major Trails

December 2020



LEGEND

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Project Area | Municipal Recreation |
| County Boundary | County Recreation |
| City/Town Boundary | State Recreation |
| Village Boundary | Federal Recreation |
| Railroad | Private/Non-Profit |
| Interstates | Black Diamond Trail |
| US Routes | Cayuga Trail |
| State Routes | Dryden Rail Trail |
| County Routes | Finger Lakes Trail |
| Water Body | |
| River/Stream | |



Sources:
Esri, NYS ITS, Town of Lansing,
Tompkins County



0 2 4
Miles



This map was prepared for illustrative purposes only and is not suitable for engineering, surveying, or legal purposes.

04. REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Town of Lansing is located in the northwestern portion of Tompkins County in the Southern Tier subregion of the broader Upstate New York as shown in Existing Regional Parks, Recreation and Major Trails map above. The Town is bound by Cayuga Lake to the west, the Towns of Locke, Groton and Dryden to the east, the Village of Lansing to the South and the Town of Genoa to the north. The Town of Lansing spans nearly 35,000 acres.

The Town of Lansing exists within the context of a larger recreational network. Many State and municipal parks are located less than a 45-minute drive from Lansing. Opportunities include the Finger Lakes National Forest, Taughannock Falls State Park, Buttermilk Falls State Park and Robert H. Treman State Park. The region also offers many trail systems including the 72-mile Finger Lakes Trail.

MAJOR PARKS AND TRAILS OUTSIDE LANSING

There are many excellent recreation options within an hour drive of the Town. Popular sites include the many State parks, trail networks as well as private preserves. The larger parks and trails are shown in the Existing Regional Parks, Recreation and Major Trails map above, and are summarized below.

Finger Lakes Trail

The Finger Lakes Trail is a network of trails owned by multiple parties including NYSDEC and the Finger lakes Trail Conference. The trail system is over 72 miles in length and runs from the southern terminus of the Dryden Rail Trail west to the Connecticut Hill Wildlife management Area. The trail connects to many of the parks in the

region including Shindagin Hollow State Forest, Danby State Forest, Buttermilk Falls State Park, and Robert H. Treman State Park.

Black Diamond Trail

Constructed on an old railroad line of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, the Black Diamond trail runs along the western side of Cayuga Lake from Cass Park in the City of Ithaca north to Taughannock Falls State Park in the Town of Ulysses. The 8.5-mile trail is owned and maintained by New York State.

Snowmobile Trails

A network of snowmobile trails exists throughout New York State and the finger lakes region. The trails are owned by the NYSDEC through the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). Trail sections are maintained by local snowmobile clubs, many of which are part of the New York State Snowmobile Association. While no official snowmobile trails exist within the Town of Lansing, several unofficial connector trails are well utilized. The connector trail begins near the Lansing Center Trail on Auburn Road. The trail continues North and branches east to connect with Town of Groton as well as the Cayuga County trails.

Cornell Botanical Gardens and Cayuga Trail

Cornell Botanical Gardens is a 4000-acre garden, arboretum and natural area located along Beebe Lake and Fall Creek in the City of Ithaca. The site offers a range of nature walks, themed and native gardens, overlooks, waterfalls and over 20 miles of trails including the Cayuga Trail. In addition to this site, Cornell Botanical Gardens



REGIONAL CONTEXT

also owns and maintains several natural sites outside of campus throughout the southern Finger Lakes region including Lighthouse Point, Middle Lick Brook Falls, Cascadilla Gorge and Falls, and many more.

Taughannock Falls State Park

Taughannock Falls State Park covers 750 acres on the western shore of Cayuga lake along the Taughannock Creek. The Park is named for the 215-foot Taughannock Falls. The park offers camping, picnic sites, a boat launch, and several miles of hiking trails through the gorge. In the winter, the park features a sledding hill and cross-country ski trails.

Long Point State Park

Long Point State Park is located in Cayuga County on the eastern shore of Cayuga Lake, north of the Town of Lansing. The nearly 300-acre park offers a boat launch, picnic area, fishing, and nearly five miles of hiking trails.

Robert H. Treman State Park

Another gem in the local State Park system, Robert H. Treman State Park is located in Newfield, a 20-minute drive from Town Hall. Covering over 1,100 acres, the park features 12 waterfalls and 6 miles of hiking trails along the scenic gorge carved out by Enfield Creek. The largest waterfall is Lucifer Falls at 115 feet. The Park offers overnight camping, cabins, fishing, and swimming. The Park trails connect into the Finger Lakes Trail System.

Buttermilk Falls State Park

Named for the 165-foot Buttermilk Falls, this State Park covers over

800 acres of woodlands along Buttermilk Creek in Ithaca. The Park features camping, fishing, 10 waterfalls, and over 4 miles of hiking trails along the gorge and through the Larch Meadows wetland area. The Park trails connect into the Finger Lakes Trail System.

Finger Lakes National Forest

Covering over 16,000 acres, the Finger Lakes National Forest is located between Seneca and Cayuga Lake, a 40-minute drive from Town Hall. The Park features 30 miles of connected hiking and snowmobile trails through native forest, shrub, and grassland. The natural area allows for numerous opportunities for wildlife viewing. Other allowed activities include backcountry camping, fishing, hunting and cross-country skiing.

Watkins Glen State Park

One of the most popular State Parks in the area, Watkins Glen State Park covers nearly 800 acres along Glen Creek just south of Seneca Lake. The Park is a 45-minute drive from Town Hall. The park's primary attraction is the scenic trail winding through the 200-foot gorge. The Park features 19 waterfalls and 8 miles of trails. The Park also offers camping facilities, picnic areas, swimming, hunting, and cross-country skiing.

Fillmore Glen State Park

Located in Cayuga County, Fillmore Glen State Park covers 940 acres along the Dry Creek, South of Owasco Lake in Moravia. The Park features five waterfalls, hiking trails along the gorge, swimming, picnic areas, camping facilities, cabins, cross country skiing, and snowmobile trails.



REGIONAL CONTEXT

Dryden Rail Trail

The Dryden Rail Trail is a multi-use trail owned by the Town of Dryden which covers six miles of a former Lehigh Valley Railroad track. The trail runs from the Village of Freeville, south to the Village of Dryden and supports hiking, cycling, and cross-country skiing. The southern terminus of the Dryden Rail Trail connects into the Finger Lakes Trail System.

OTHER RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE LANSING

In addition to the many parks, trails and recreation areas detailed above, opportunities exist at regional reforestation areas, wildlife management areas and municipal parks outside of the Town of Lansing. The following recreational areas are all located within an hour drive of Lansing.

State Reforestation Areas:

- Hammond Hill State Forest
- Robinson Hollow State Forest
- Shindagin Hollow State Forest
- Yellow Barn State Forest
- Summer Hill State Forest
- Danby State Forest

Wildlife Management Areas:

- Connecticut Hill State Wildlife Management Area
- Catharine Creek State Wildlife Management Area

Other Parks:

- Stewart Park
- Cass Park
- Strawberry Fields Park
- Eastern Heights Park
- Reynolds State Game Farm
- Greek Peak Mountain Resort





05

LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

05. LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

As part of this effort, an inventory of existing recreation facilities and programming was completed to determine future needs and opportunities within the Town of Lansing Park system. Understanding current conditions and needs will help to prioritize and plan for future capital improvements to facilities, park and trail expansions or acquisitions, program offerings and staffing needs.

This section evaluates existing recreational opportunities both within the Town parks system, as well as other public and private recreational opportunities.

An inventory was completed for each of the Town owned parks. This involved a detailed analysis of facilities, programs, natural features, existing developmental controls, existing utilities and infrastructure and accessibility assessment. This was completed using mobile mapping, site visits and input from the Advisory Committee.

This section also examines nearby public and private recreational opportunities outside of the Town Park system including State Parks, County Forests, and trails.

LANSING PARK SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Staffing

Like many Parks and Recreation departments the full-time staffing is constrained in the department. The majority of staff are seasonal

and limited to part time. A total of 4 people make up the full-time staff in the parks department. The department is led by the Parks and Recreation Supervisor with help from the Park and Recreation Clerk, Recreation Supervisor, and head of maintenance. During the summer months the staffing jumps significantly to 60-70 personnel due to camps, maintenance, boat launch, campgrounds, security, and lifeguarding needs. Retaining seasonal staff was cited as a major hurdle with short turnovers and limited ability to increase pay for returning employees. The programming in the Town has been steadily growing with offerings and participation but, the full-time staffing has remained unchanged. This is putting a strain on the full-time staff and limits the feasible growth the programming can handle.

Maintenance

Due to the small staff, it is commonplace to see all the full-time employees helping in maintenance. Due to the nature of the work and qualifications of parks staff they not only maintain the parks but can be seen helping the Town plowing and helping with Town-maintained facilities. During the summer, part time employees do assist in maintenance but only at their hired park.

Budget/Financial Information

The department is working approximately 65% on their own revenue. The goal of the department is to work 100% of their revenue and not rely on tax dollars.





TOWN OF LANSING

Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

DRAFT

Myers Park
Facilities
December 2020

LEGEND

- Myers Park
- Railroad
- State Route
- County Road
- Local Road
- River/Stream
- Facilities
- Building
- Pavillion
- Gazebo
- Parking



Sources:
Esri, NYS ITS, Tompkins County,
Town of Lansing, NHD, NYSDOP
2018 Orthoimagery



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Feet



This map was prepared for illustrative purposes only and is not suitable for engineering, surveying, or legal purposes.

LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

MYERS PARK

Myers Park is the flagship of the Lansing Park system. The 31-acre park is open year-round and is located in the southern part of the Town of Lansing off of Route 34B on the Eastern shore of Cayuga Lake as shown in Myers Park Facilities map above. The Park features waterfront access to scenic Cayuga Lake and offers a wide range of activities from the marina and RV park to kayaking, picnicking and basketball. The Park also offers two playgrounds, seven pavilions for day use, restroom facilities, a park store, as well as a soccer field. Benches, picnic tables and barbeque grills are located throughout the park. The Park is open daily until 10pm. Park admission is currently free for all Town residents and \$7 per car for non-residents.

Existing Facilities

Myers Parks is bounded by the railroad tracks to the west and Cayuga Lake to the east. Entrance to the park is on the southwestern boundary from Park Lane. The northwestern area of the park is occupied by an overnight camping area. The remaining parks facilities are largely located toward the waterfront.

Camping Areas

Myers Park offers overnight camping for residents and non-residents for \$36 and \$40 per night, respectively. Twenty campsites are available along the northeastern edge of the park. The sites are located on gravel lots and provide water and electric hookups. A dump station is located within the park for camper use.

Pavilions (A-G)

Seven (7) pavilions are located within the park, ranging in capacity

from 100 to 200 people. Pavilions are available for day use rental to residents and non-residents between \$50 - \$75 per day.

Barbeque Area

A covered Barbeque area is located adjacent to Pavilion B and includes picnic table seating on a first come first serve basis.

Gazebo/bandstand

A gazebo/bandstand is located within the park and is available for day use rental. During the summer, the bandstand hosts a "Music in the Park" Thursday evening concert series.

Canoe/Kayak Racks

Canoe/Kayak racks are located along the northwestern edge of the park near Cayuga lake. Over 80 numbered slots are available for reservation through online platform through the Town.

Restrooms

An ADA-accessible restroom is located within the park near the shore of Cayuga Lake. A covered outdoor area includes vending machines. The bathrooms are currently on a septic system.

Playgrounds

Two playgrounds are located within the park. A large playground is located adjacent to Pavilion B and features over 9600 square feet of play area including jungle gyms, slides, and swing-sets. A smaller playground is located east of Pavilion D and features over 3700 square feet of play area including a swing-set, slide, and covered picnic table.



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Boat Launch

Three paved boat launch ramps are located on the southern boundary of the park. The boat launch is available to both residents and non-residents for \$6 and \$8 per launch, respectively. Seasonal permits are available through the Town to both residents and non-residents for \$50 and \$70, respectively. Residents 55 and up receive a \$10 discount on season passes.

Marina

A Marina is located along the southern boundary of the park. Boat slip rentals are available to both residents and non-residents. Due to demand, the boat slips are issued through a lottery system on a three-year rotation.

Swimming Area

A public swimming area is located along the shore of Cayuga lake with on-duty lifeguards during the season. (Figure 6.)

Dry Dock

Dry dock space is located west of the Marina and park store on a gravel lot. Twenty-one (21) dry dock spaces are available to residents and non-residents for \$350 and \$450, respectively. The seasonal fee includes launching. Daily dry dock is also available to residents and non-residents for \$25 and \$35 per day, respectively.

Basketball Court

One (1) basketball court is available for use within Myers Park. The paved court is approximately 45x90 feet.

Soccer Field

One (1) grass soccer field is available within the park.

Volleyball Court

One (1) grass volleyball court is available within the park.

Park Store

A park store and bait shop are located near the Marina on the southern edge of the park. The store sells a variety of beverages and bait.

Existing Programming

Myers being the staple of the Lansing Parks offers a significant amount from a programming perspective. Myers offers one of the longest



Figure 6. Swimming Area



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

running Day Camps in the area. Summer Day Camp at Myers Park runs five sessions each summer. Participants get to enjoy traditional camp games, new games and activities, sports, crafts, picnic lunches, quiet reading time under the trees and possibly, field trips. The camp has traveled to visit the Science Center, Hanger Theater, Farm Tours, Swimming trips to the Borg-Warner Pool and more.

The natural setting of Myers also makes it a spectacular place for Art and Nature Camp. The camp runs two sessions. Campers get to enjoy exploring art and the natural environment in Myers Park while creating drawings, paintings and sculptures inspired by Cayuga's shores.

Myers having the waterfront location also makes it ideal for watersports. July through September the park hosts Wednesday Adult Sailing. The program teaches participants to sail and enjoy Sunfish sailing. Skill certification leads to independent use of boats on weekends and evenings.

Another popular event is the Lighthouse 5k and 1 mile Fun Run in August. The money raised directly benefits the Lansing High School Cross Country Team.

Throughout the summer Thursday evenings, the park hosts Music in the Park. Weather dependent, the concert series has had a successful history of bringing people to the park to enjoy music and the food and ice cream truck.

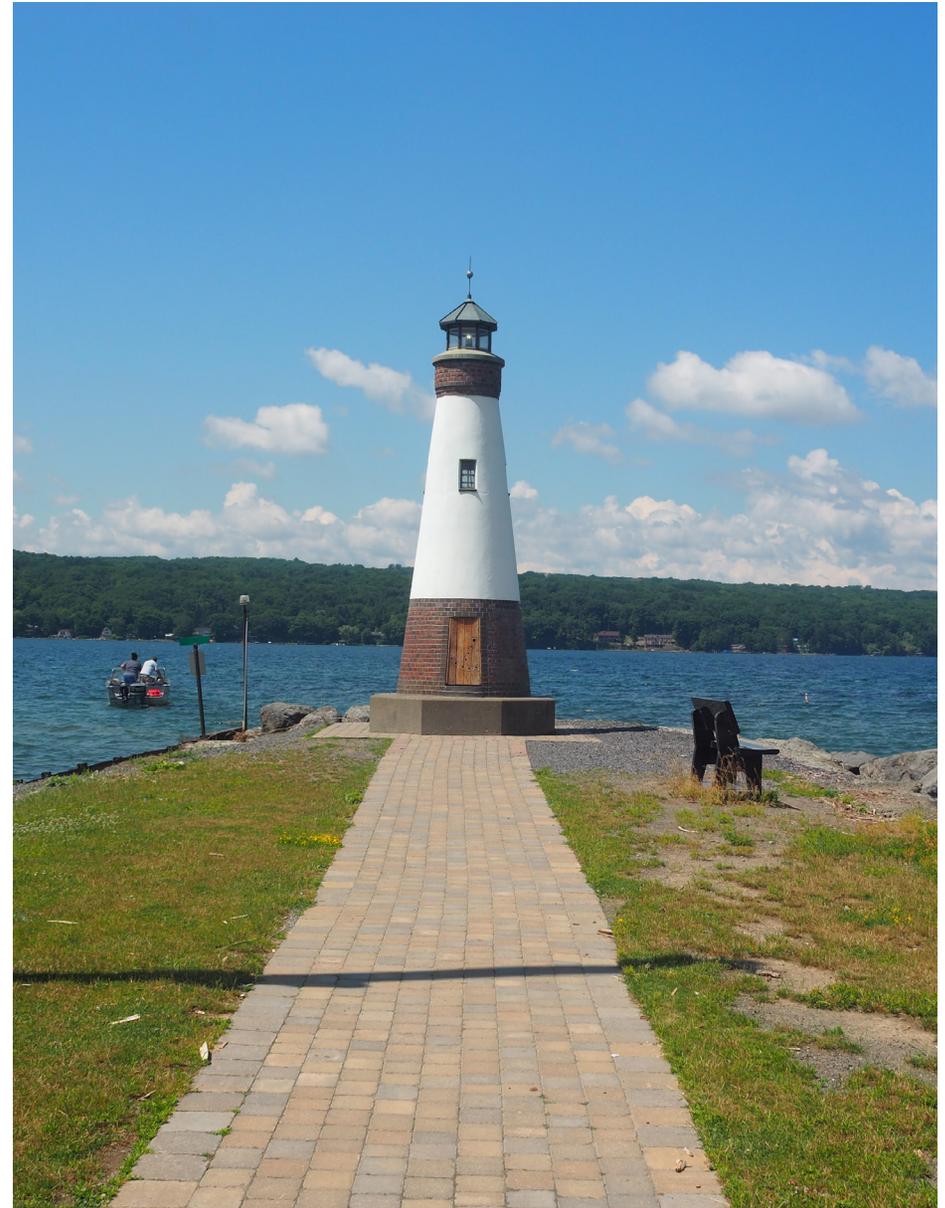


Figure 7. Myers Point Lighthouse



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Myers Park has seen a continuous increase in the participation of programming and offered activities. While the park is experiencing growth, the labor shortage keeps the staff numbers down creating more work for fewer employees.

Environmentally Sensitive Resources

The examination of natural features within the park is necessary in order to identify constraints for the continued maintenance and future improvements to park facilities. The identification of surface hydrology is important when studying stormwater runoff and potential for flooding. Water bodies also provide habitat to a diversity of mammals, birds, fish, and insects. From a recreational standpoint, water bodies provide opportunities for fishing, paddling, swimming, and nature study. Steep slopes, or areas of land grade above 15%, can identify potential for erosion and restriction to further development.

Surface Hydrology

Myers Park lies between Salmon Creek to the North and Cayuga Lake to the West as shown in the Myers Park map above. Salmon Creek is a Classification C protected waterway for the support of fisheries and trout spawning. Portions of the western and southern boundary of the park lies within a Federal National Wetlands Inventory Designated Lake Wetland area. Additionally, the northeastern boundary and southern boundary of the park are located within a Tompkins County wetland area.

Floodplains

The entirety of the park and facilities are located within a Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) 100-year flood zone.

Site Ecology

Myers Park is in proximity to the Cayuga Lake Important Bird Area designated by the National Audubon Society. This area is considered to be of significant importance to endangered/threatened populations of migratory birds.

Steep Slopes

Based on steep slopes calculated from the USGS 10-meter elevation model, Myers Park is located on a relatively flat parcel of land without the presence of land grades above 15%. However, the Consultant Team conducted a site visiting and field assessment to determine ADA accessibility and to examine any localized areas of steep land grades.

Developmental Controls

The evaluation of developmental controls such as the existing zoning and land ownership, help to identify the land use constraints for further enhancement of park facilities.

Zoning

Myers Park is located within the Town of Lansing Lakeshore Zoning District (L1). The Lakeshore Zoning District is intended to designate environmentally sensitive areas that are adjacent to Cayuga Lake or have access to the shoreline. This district permits residential and limited non-residential uses. Land use regulations are aimed at minimizing environmental damage to natural resources and preventing erosion.



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Land Ownership

The Myers Park parcel is publicly owned by the Town of Lansing. Adjacent properties on the eastern boundary of the park are privately owned residences. The adjacent southern parcel is Lansing Harbor which is privately owned by Marina One Holdings LLC. The adjacent northern parcel is Salt Point Preserve which is publicly owned by New York State and leased but the Town of Lansing. Myers Park is bordered to the west by Cayuga Lake.

Existing Utilities and Infrastructure

The evaluation of existing utility infrastructure is important when considering future improvements to the park. For instance, a new restroom facility may require water and sewer infrastructure to be extended to the park.

Water/Stormwater

Water/Stormwater service is provided by the Town of Lansing. An existing water line runs into the park along Park Lane and turns west towards Myers Lane as shown in Figure 5.

Sewer

Sewer service offered by on-site wastewater treatment. No existing sewer lines run into the park and no future sewer connections are anticipated .

Electricity

Electricity in the area is supplied by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG). Electricity is available at multiple facilities within the park including the camping areas, park store, and gazebo.

Internet Access and Connectivity

Internet and cable service for the Town are provided by Spectrum (Charter Spectrum Cable) and Verizon Fios (Verizon High Speed Internet – DSL).

Existing Transportation Infrastructure and Parking

Adequate transportation infrastructure and parking is critical to maintain access for the public to the park and its facilities. The evaluation of parking infrastructure can help to identify the need for improvement or expansion.

Myers Park is accessible by car via Marina Road which is accessed off of Myers Road. Within the park, there is a paved road system to access all park facilities including the campgrounds, pavilions, boat launches and playgrounds.

Parking is available at designated paved lots throughout the park. The majority of parking availability is located adjacent to the marina and boat launch. Additional parking is available near Pavilion E, Pavilion D, and north of the large playground.

ADA Assessment

The ADA assessment was completed by the MJ Team in March of 2021. The full Lansing Parks ADA Assessment is available in **Appendix D**. The Park consists of multiple parking areas with many access walks and roads leading to various site facilities. There are two ADA parking spots in the park located closest to the Restroom Building. Of the two spots only one parking spot has ADA signage. Space 2, in the south most corner, exceeds the 2% Slope ADA requirement. The hatched area between does not have “No Parking” signage as is required. The



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

pavilions each have a designated paved and stripped parking area with no ADA parking. RV spaces are all separate gravel areas with no defined parking space. As for the lighthouse the parking area is paved without markings and has a paver pathway from the parking area to the lighthouse.

Needs and Opportunities

Upon first arrival at the park, the abundance of pavement and redundant vehicular access/ circulation are evident as is the lack of defined parking spaces. The circulation patterns appear to focus on the vehicle instead of people. Once parked, park visitors become pedestrians and the pedestrian realm is not clearly defined or is required to cross vehicular access points to navigate through the park to access various facilities.

There is an opportunity to re-think and re-orient the physical programming to better utilize the available space and create more defined activity areas thereby creating a more enjoyable experience for park users. The rethinking of space may also lead to a reduction of paved areas reducing potential stormwater runoff (and reducing potential impacts to the lake). The consideration of universally accessible play areas may also be possible with rethinking the space.

Throughout the process numerous mentions of new bathrooms and connection to improved parking were said to be crucial not just in Myers but all parks in Lansing. The bathrooms are currently on municipal water and a septic system that should be upgraded.

The RV sites are some of the most popular in the area and are booked up through the summer making them a critical revenue source for the park. With the 19 sites available creating separation for the campers

can enhance their camping experience while maintaining the park feel to day users and camp goers.

The boat launch brings in numerous folks for day use and improving parking can easily enhance and improve launching boats and parking for trailers. In addition, the park setting along Cayuga Lake is stunning and there are simple opportunities to physically re-connect and visually to the Lake view such as relocating the kayak storage.





TOWN OF LANSING

Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

DRAFT
Salt Point Preserve

Facilities

December 2020

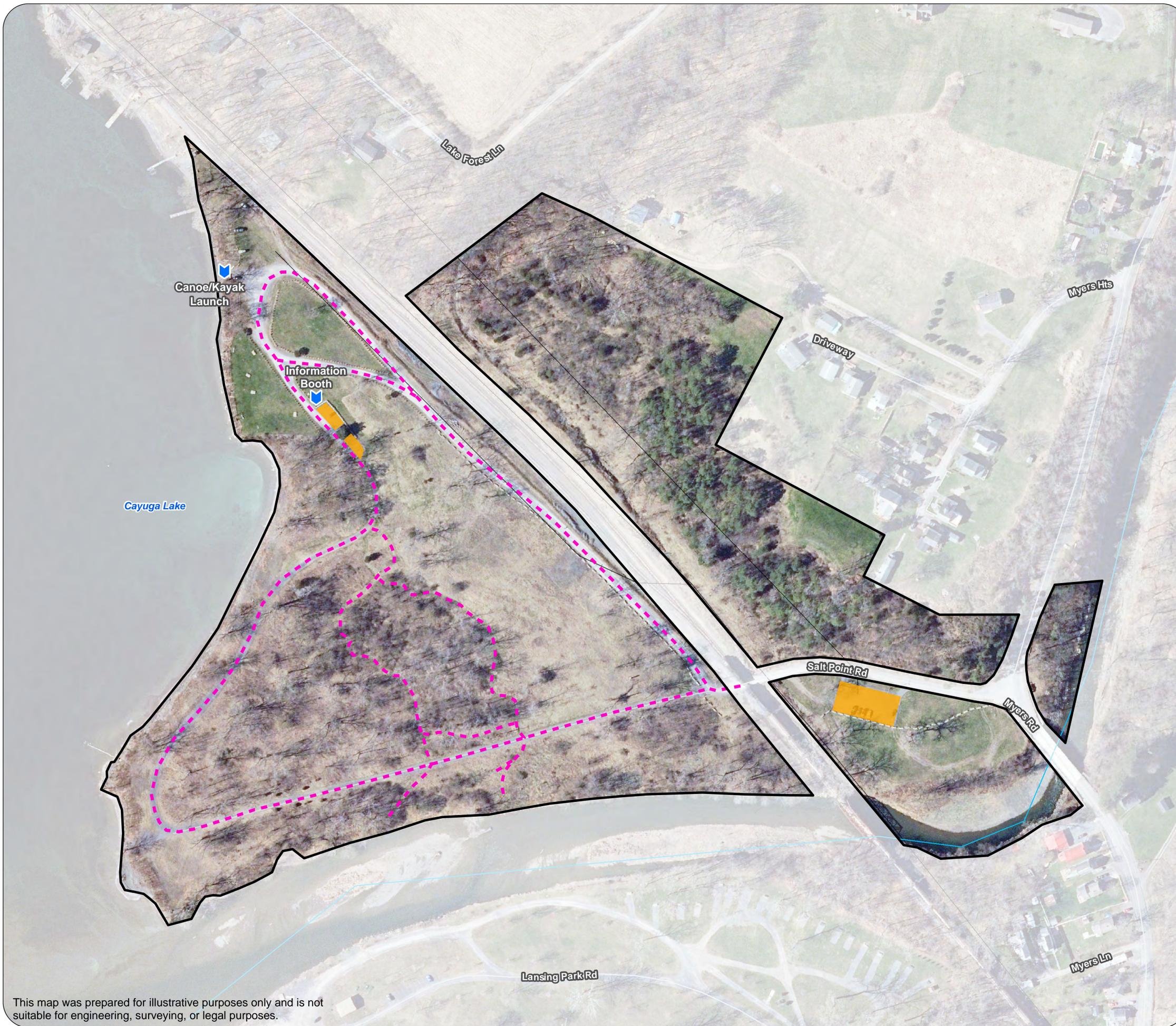
LEGEND

- Salt Point Preserve
- Railroad
- State Route
- County Road
- Local Road
- River/Stream
- Facilities
- Trails
- Parking



Sources:
Esri, NYS ITS, NHD, Town of
Lansing, Tompkins County,
NYS DOP 2018 Orthoimagery

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LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

SALT POINT PRESERVE

Salt Point Preserve is a hidden gem within the Town parks system. The preserve is a 20-acre natural area located on the Eastern shore of Cayuga Lake which is accessible via Salt Point Road. The preserve features a canoe/kayak launch, over a mile of pedestrian trails and opportunities for bird and wildlife viewing. The preserve is located on land publicly owned by New York State and leased to the Town of Lansing. A Cooperative Agreement was signed in 2006 that allows the Town to manage the property. Local volunteers from the Town and the Friends of Salt Point group maintain and improve the parks pedestrian trails and restore natural habitat. The preserve is open daily from 7:00AM to dusk with no entrance fee.

The location of Salt Point makes it a prominent place for bird life in the region. It provides one of the few points along Cayuga Lake where migratory birds can rest and obtain food. Numerous rare wading birds have been sighted there, including Black-bellied and American Golden Plover, Marbled Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, Purple Sandpiper, White-rumped and Baird's Sandpipers. Other uncommon birds sighted there are Greater White-fronted Goose, Pacific Loon, Peregrine Falcon, Little Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Short-eared Owl, and Vesper Sparrow. Salt Point is one of the premier sites on the Greater Cayuga Lake Birding Trail.

Salt Point history shows it was once the site of the International Salt Company plant which produced salt products from 1892 to 1962. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) purchased the land in 1962 to provide public access to hunting and fishing. The area was briefly used as a fish hatchery in the 1970s. The Town of Lansing contracted with the State in 2006 to lease the land and develop the preserve.



Figure 8. Osprey Nest at Salt Point

Existing Facilities

Salt Point Preserve cover four land parcels as shown in Salt Point Preserve Facilities map above. Public facilities at the preserve are primarily located within the waterfront parcel and include nature trails, parking, and a canoe/kayak launch. The small parcel adjacent to Salt Point Road and Myers Road contains an overflow parking lot.

Canoe/Kayak Launch

A gravel boat launch is available for day use for non-motorized boats such as canoes and kayaks. There is no fee for use of the launch.



LANSGING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Salt Point Trail

The Salt Point Trail is a network of over a mile of gravel trails within the preserve. The trail is available for both cyclists and pedestrians year-round.

Existing Programming

No parks programming is offered at this time.

Environmentally Sensitive Resources

The examination of natural features within the park is necessary in order to identify constraints for the continued maintenance and future improvements to park facilities. The identification of surface hydrology is important when studying stormwater runoff and potential for flooding. Water bodies also provide habitat to a diversity



Figure 9. Salt Point Trails

of mammals, birds, fish, and insects. From a recreational standpoint, water bodies provide opportunities for fishing, paddling, swimming, and nature study. Steep slopes, or areas of land grade above 15%, can identify potential for erosion and restriction to further development.

Surface Hydrology

Salmon Creek is a Classification C protected waterway for the support of fisheries and trout spawning. Portions of the western and southern boundary of the park lies within a Federal National Wetlands Inventory Designated Lake Wetland area. Additionally, the southeastern boundary of the park (near Salmon Creek) contains a Tompkins County wetland area.

Floodplains

The entirety of the park and facilities are located within a Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) 100-year flood zone.

Site Ecology

Salt Point Preserve features natural habitats for native flora and fauna. The entirety of the preserves is located within the County identified Lower Salmon Creek Unique Natural Area. The site hosts habitat for monarch butterflies, bluebirds, ducks, herons, and ospreys. Cayuga Lake is an Important Bird Area designated by the National Audubon Society. This area is considered to be of significant Importance to endangered/threatened populations of migratory birds. In 2013, the Town installed a nesting platform for Ospreys. There are now three (3) active Osprey nesting sites within the park boundary. The Friends of Salt Point host an Osprey nest cam to bring greater awareness to the behavior and life cycle of these birds. The blog "On Osprey Time" is hosted on the Town Website. Furthermore, Salt Point Preserve is part



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

of the greater Cayuga Lake Osprey Trail. The Cayuga Lake Osprey Trail is an ongoing inventory of the osprey nests and platforms easily observable from public roads in the Cayuga Lake area, within parts of Tompkins, Cayuga, Seneca, and Wayne Counties.

Steep Slopes

Based on steep slopes calculated from the USGS 10-meter elevation model, the waterfront parcel of Salt Point Preserve is located on a relatively flat parcel of land without the presence of steep land grades above 15%. The undeveloped parcel on the east side of the railroad tracks, north of Salt Point Road is dominated by steep land grades over 15%. MJ conducted a site visiting and field assessment to determine ADA accessibility and to examine any localized areas of steep land grades.

Developmental Controls

The evaluation of developmental controls such as the existing zoning and land ownership, help to identify the land use constraints for further enhancement of park facilities.

Zoning

The Salt Point Preserve is located within the Town of Lansing Lakeshore Zoning District (L1). The Lakeshore Zoning District is intended to designate environmentally sensitive areas that are adjacent to Cayuga lake or have access to the shoreline. This district permits residential and limited non-residential uses. Land use regulations are aimed at minimizing environmental damage to natural resources and preventing erosion.

Land Ownership

The Salt Point Preserve is located on land publicly owned by New York State and leased to the Town of Lansing. The adjacent southern parcel is Myers Park which is publicly owned by the Town of Lansing. The adjacent eastern parcels are undeveloped land which is publicly owned by the State of New York, as well as a privately owned residence. Salt Point Preserve is bordered to the west by Cayuga Lake.

Existing Utilities and Infrastructure

The evaluation of existing utility infrastructure is important when considering future improvements to the park. For instance, a new restroom facility may require water and sewer infrastructure to be extended to the preserve.

Water/Stormwater

Water/Stormwater service is provided by the Town of Lansing. No existing water lines runs into the park. The closest existing water line is located along Myers Heights, approximately 500 feet from the park entrance.

Sewer

Sewer service is provided by the Town of Lansing. No existing sewer lines runs into the preserve. Portable restrooms are available on a seasonal basis.

Electricity

Electricity in the area is supplied by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG). Electricity is not currently available at any of the preserve facilities.



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Internet Access and Connectivity

Internet and cable service for the Town are provided by Spectrum (Charter Spectrum Cable) and Verizon Fios (Verizon High Speed Internet – DSL).

Existing Transportation Infrastructure and Parking

Adequate transportation infrastructure and parking is critical to maintain access for the public to the park and its facilities. The evaluation of parking infrastructure can help to identify the need for improvement or expansion.

Salt Point Preserve is accessible by car via Salt Point Road which is accessed off of Myers Road. Within the park, there is a paved road system to access all park facilities including the campgrounds, pavilions, boat launches and playgrounds. Parking is available at a designated gravel lots adjacent to the trailhead and the canoe/kayak launch.

ADA Assessment

The 34-acre preserve consists of three (3) main parking areas, one for a maintained stone dust trail access, one for a steeper unmaintained, earth trail, the third for water access. Maintained trail parking area has a paved parking lot with 7 total parking spaces, 3 of which are ADA spaces. ADA spaces are marked with signage on wood fence, the lot is not striped and there are no hatched areas.

Needs and Opportunities

This preserve is a hidden gem within the parks system. Several acres of scenic habitat along the lake, this is place for peaceful reflection, enjoyment of wildlife and learning. There may be opportunities to

expand and enhance the park interpretation and to also create a universally accessible trail throughout the preserve. Currently the parking is extremely limited and reconfiguring the area can net some parking spots as well as improve the access to the kayak launch. Finding a balance of accessibility and keeping the area natural is important for this park and the users.





TOWN OF LANSING Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

DRAFT

Town Ball Fields Facilities

December 2020

LEGEND

- Town Ball Field
- State Route
- County Road
- Local Road
- River/Stream
- Facilities
- Building
- Pavillion
- Parking



Sources:
Esri, NYS ITS, NHD, Tompkins
County, Town of Lansing,
NYS DOP 2018 Orthoimagery



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Engineering and
Land Surveying, P.C.
1533 Crescent Road - Clifton Park, NY 12065



This map was prepared for illustrative purposes only and is not suitable for engineering, surveying, or legal purposes.

LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

TOWN BALL FIELDS

The Town Ball Fields cover 18 acres and are located off Auburn Road near the municipal offices in the Town of Lansing as shown in the Town Ball Fields Facilities map above. An additional entrance is located off Woodsedge Drive. The Park features nine ball/soccer fields, batting cages, basketball court, playground, pavilion, and restroom facilities. The fields are predominately used by the Lansing Recreation teams.

Existing Facilities

The Town Ball Fields provide recreation space for more organized active play. The series of baseball/softball fields are very well maintained, and the accompanying dugouts appear to be relatively new. The pavilion, playground, restrooms, and basketball courts are centrally located in the park. Ballfields A-E are located to the east of these facilities. The largest ballfield, F is in the northern region of the park, directly off Auburn Road. The remaining ballfields are in the western portion of the park, south of the Town municipal offices.



Figure 10. Main Ballfield

Ball/Soccer Fields (A-F, W, X, Y)

The site hosts a total of nine (9) ball fields as well as designated soccer fields. The ball fields are well utilized by local baseball, softball, and soccer leagues. The ball and soccer fields can be reserved through the Town website.

Batting Cages

Two (2) batting cages are located within the park – one at the northern end near the Auburn Road entrance, and one at the southern end, adjacent to Ball Field E.

Playground

A playground is located within the park and features over 9000 square feet of play area including a swing-set, jungle gyms and multiple slides.

Basketball Court

One (1) basketball court is available. The paved court is approximately 50x80 feet.

Pavilion

A covered pavilion is located within the park and is available for day use rental through the Town website.

Restroom

A handicap accessible restroom is located in the center of the park near the playground.



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Existing Programming

The multiple fields in close proximity make the Town ball fields a great place to host programs. The fields offer space to football, soccer, archery, nerf wars, baseball and more.

The summer starts with offering a Football Summer Training Camp. The three-day camp is designed to teach basic football related skills and encourage participation within the sport.

The first week of August the fields host the Adam Heck Annual Soccer Camp. The camp is split into two age groups, grades 4 – 10 and grades K – 3 with the option to do a half day or full day.

Another popular camp hosted at the fields is Archery Camp. The camp teaches about history, safety, and the equipment. Offering two sessions one for beginners and one for more advanced kids.

One of the most popular programs is Nerf Wars. Hosted July 5th – July 9th for third to seventh grade kids the camp is a high action simulated battle with Nerf Blasters.

Baseball camps are offered during the summer and fall months and cater to all different age groups and skills. The fields host the sessions in July for the summer and September for the fall. Furthermore, in the fall for girls a softball training camp is offered.

For girls' lacrosse the fields host a 5-8th grade lacrosse camp that caters to all abilities and skill levels.

The fields have been consistently growing in their use and this can be seen during tournaments when all the fields are used, and parking is extremely limited. The fields are a critical resource to the Town and the central location make them a valuable resource to continue to

build upon.

Environmentally Sensitive Resources

The examination of natural features within the park is necessary in order to identify constraints for the continued maintenance and future improvements to park facilities. The identification of surface hydrology is important when studying stormwater runoff and potential for flooding. Water bodies also provide habitat to a diversity of mammals, birds, fish, and insects. From a recreational standpoint, water bodies provide opportunities for fishing, paddling, swimming, and nature study. Steep slopes, or areas of land grade above 15%, can identify potential for erosion and restriction to further development.

Surface Hydrology

The Town Ball Field does not contain any surface hydrology or known wetlands.

Floodplains

The Town Ball Field is not located within a designated flood zone.

Site Ecology

The Town Ball Fields are located within a developed area of the Town. The site is predominately grass field, paved roads, and parking lots with few trees.

Steep Slopes

Based on steep slopes calculated from the USGS 10-meter elevation model, the Town Ball Fields are located on a relatively flat parcel of land without the presence of steep land grades above 15%. MJ conducted a site visiting and field assessment to determine ADA



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

accessibility and to examine any localized areas of steep land grades.

Developmental Controls

The evaluation of developmental controls such as the existing zoning and land ownership, help to identify the land use constraints for further enhancement of park facilities.

Zoning

The Town Ball Fields are located within the Town of Lansing Commercial Mixed-Use Zoning District (B1). The Commercial Mixed-Use Zoning District is intended to designate areas where development is encouraged, to ultimately result in a Town focal point and center of community activity. This district permits dense development and a mixture of land uses.

Land Ownership

The Town Ball Fields span two parcels of land, both of which are publicly owned by the Town of Lansing. Adjacent parcels on the southern boundary of the park are owned by the Town of Lansing Housing Authority and the East Shore Christian Fellowship. The adjacent western parcels are privately owned vacant and commercial land. The adjacent eastern parcels are privately owned residences. The adjacent northern parcels are privately owned residential and commercial land, as well as the publicly owned Lansing Center Trail.

Existing Utilities and Infrastructure

The evaluation of existing utility infrastructure is important when considering future improvements to the park. For instance, a new restroom facility may require water and sewer infrastructure to be extended to the park.

Water/Stormwater

Water/Stormwater service is provided by the Town of Lansing. An existing water lines runs along the northern boundary of the park near Auburn Road/ State Route 34.

Sewer

Sewer service is provided by the Town of Lansing. No existing sewer lines runs into the park and no future sewer connections are anticipated.

Electricity

Electricity in the area is supplied by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG). Electricity is currently available at the park pavilion.

Internet Access and Connectivity

Internet and cable service for the Town are provided by Spectrum (Charter Spectrum Cable) and Verizon Fios (Verizon High Speed Internet – DSL).

Existing Transportation Infrastructure and Parking

Adequate transportation infrastructure and parking is critical to maintain access for the public to the park and its facilities. The evaluation of parking infrastructure can help to identify the need for improvement or expansion.

The Town Ball Fields are accessible by car via Auburn Road/State Route 34 or Woodsedge Drive. A paved road connects multiple paved parking areas in the southern area of the park. Parking is also available at paved lots in the northern area of the park near



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

the Auburn Road entrance.

ADA Assessment

Adequate transportation infrastructure and parking is critical to maintain access for the public to the park and its facilities. The evaluation of parking infrastructure can help to identify the need for improvement or expansion.

There are several parking areas throughout the Town Ball Fields that service various park facilities. The parking area lot along Route 34 is an asphalt lot with a total of approximately 36 striped spaces. From this area there is no access path to public restrooms and its users must traverse sloped grass area. The parking area along Woodsedge Drive, consists of a non-striped asphalt lot. The basketball court and playground parking area are not striped and there is no access path to pavilion, playground, or basketball court. Users must traverse sloped grass area to access any of the amenities. Lastly, the lot behind the Town Hall building has 14 paved and striped spaces with no ADA spaces.

Needs and Opportunities

The Town Ball Fields provide recreation space for more organized active play. The series of baseball/softball fields are very well maintained and have seen significant improvements over the last few years and the accompanying dugouts are relatively new. The physical challenges for the fields may be connections to the community. Addition of a perimeter trail could introduce a minimal maintenance passive area for residents to use. Furthermore, the consolidation of the playground areas could save money and maintenance in the long term. As a municipal park, the ballfield provides a fantastic

opportunity for the residents for low-cost options to play sports.



Figure 11. Ballfield Playground





TOWN OF LANSING

Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

DRAFT

Ludlowville Park

Facilities

December 2020

LEGEND

-  Ludlowville Park
-  County Road
-  Local Road
-  River/Stream
-  Facilities
-  Pavillion
-  Gazebo
-  Parking



Sources:
Esri, NYS ITS, Tompkins County,
Town of Lansing, NHD, NYS DOP
2018 Orthoimagery



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Feet

 Engineering and
Land Surveying, P.C.
1533 Crescent Road - Clifton Park, NY 12065

This map was prepared for illustrative purposes only and is not suitable for engineering, surveying, or legal purposes.

LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

LUDLOWVILLE PARK

Ludlowville Park is a 13-acre park located off Mill Street in the Town. The neighborhood park is smaller in scale than Myers Park, but attracts residents with views of Salmon Creek Falls, a 35-foot limestone waterfall along the Salmon Creek. The Park offers a pavilion, gazebo, playground, and basketball court for day use. Benches, picnic tables and barbeque grills are located throughout the park. See the Ludlowville Park Facilities map above.

Existing Facilities

The 13-acre park is only developed in the southern portion of the parcel, south of Salmon Creek which traverses the park. Salmon Creek Falls is the central feature of the park. Park facilities are concentrated toward the parking lot on Mill Street and include a pavilion, playground, gazebo, and basketball court.

Gazebo

A gazebo is located within the park and is available for day use. The gazebo is approximately 200 square feet.

Basketball Court

One (1) basketball court is available for use within Ludlowville Park. The paved court is approximately 30x30 feet.

Playground

A playground is located within the park and features over 1600 square feet of play area including a swing-set and multiple slides.



Figure 12. Ludlowville Playground and Basketball Area

Pavilion

A covered pavilion is located within the park, with a capacity of 35 people. The pavilion is available for day use rental through the Town website.

Existing Programming

No parks programming is offered at this time.

Environmentally Sensitive Resources

The examination of natural features within the park is necessary in order to identify constraints for the continued maintenance and future improvements to park facilities. The identification of surface hydrology is important when studying stormwater runoff and potential for flooding. Water bodies also provide habitat to a diversity of mammals, birds, fish, and insects. From a recreational standpoint,



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

water bodies provide opportunities for fishing, paddling, swimming, and nature study. Steep slopes, or areas of land grade above 15%, can identify potential for erosion and restriction to further development.

Surface Hydrology

Salmon Creek flows through the middle of Ludlowville Park as shown in the Ludlowville Park Facilities map above. A section of the park along Salmon Creek lies within a Federal National Wetlands Inventory Designated Riverine Wetland area. Salmon Creek is a Classification C protected waterway for the support of fisheries and trout spawning.

Floodplains

Portions of the park along Salmon Creek are located within a Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) 100-year flood zone. However, no park facilities are located within the flood zone.



Figure 13. Ludlowville Waterfalls

Site Ecology

The developed area of the park, located south of Salmon creek, is a mix of open field and woodland. The area north of Salmon Creek is within the County identified Ludlowville Woods Unique Natural Area.

Steep Slopes

Based on steep slopes calculated from the USGS 10-meter elevation model, Ludlowville Park is located in an area of steep topography. Steep land grades are present along Salmon Creek and the northern area of the park with grades above 15%. MJ conducted a site visiting and field assessment to determine ADA accessibility.

Developmental Controls

The evaluation of developmental controls such as the existing zoning and land ownership, help to identify the land use constraints for further enhancement of park facilities.

Zoning

Ludlowville Park is located within the Town of Lansing Moderate Density Residential District (R2). The Lakeshore Zoning District is intended to designate areas of varied residential development at somewhat higher development density. This district typically has access to public water with limited availability of public sewer. The area north of the park is located within the Rural Agriculture (RA) district.

Land Ownership

The Ludlowville Park parcel is publicly owned by the Town of Lansing. The adjacent property north of the park is privately owned by the



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Lansing Rod and Gun Club. All other adjacent properties are privately owned residences.

Existing Utilities and Infrastructure

The evaluation of existing utility infrastructure is important when considering future improvements to the park. For instance, a new restroom facility may require water and sewer infrastructure to be extended to the park.

Water/Stormwater

Water/Stormwater service is provided by the Town of Lansing. No existing water lines runs into the park. The closest existing water line is located along Mill Street, approximately 50 feet from the park entrance.

Sewer

No existing sewer lines runs into the park.

Electricity

Electricity in the area is supplied by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG). Electricity is not currently available at any of the park facilities.

Existing Transportation Infrastructure and Parking

Adequate transportation infrastructure and parking is critical to maintain access for the public to the park and its facilities. The evaluation of parking infrastructure can help to identify the need for improvement or expansion.

Ludlowville park is accessible by car via Mill Street which is accessed

through Ludlowville Road. There are no paved roads within the park.

Parking is available at a small, paved lot at the park entrance that is frequently full. Overflow parking is available along the right-of-way on Mill Street.

ADA Assessment

Ludlowville park is accessible by car via Mill Street which is accessed through Ludlowville Road. There are no paved roads within the park.

The Park consists of one (1) main parking area, a gazebo, playground, picnic tables and viewing area of Salmon Creek Falls. The parking area is paved and is not striped but fits approximately 4 spaces.

Needs and Opportunities

Ludlowville Park serves as a neighborhood park in a rural hamlet setting. This Park is smaller in scale and size than Myers Park, but still well used by families visiting the waterfall and neighborhood children playing basketball on the halfcourt. The falls are the unique aspect of this park. The primary challenge for this park is parking and the park 'gateway' or entrance does not seem to reflect the great amenities that can be experienced within the park. Opportunities exist to re-orient parking and enhance the park gateway with signage. Reorienting the parking while adding additional parking can make the park a destination. Furthermore, a possibility of connecting the northern portion of the park off Dug Road could create additional park access. Within the park the waterfall access is limited and can become unsafe during foul weather. Creating an accessible overlook with a designated access path would make the area more inviting.





TOWN OF LANSING

Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

DRAFT

Town Central Trail Facilities

December 2020

LEGEND

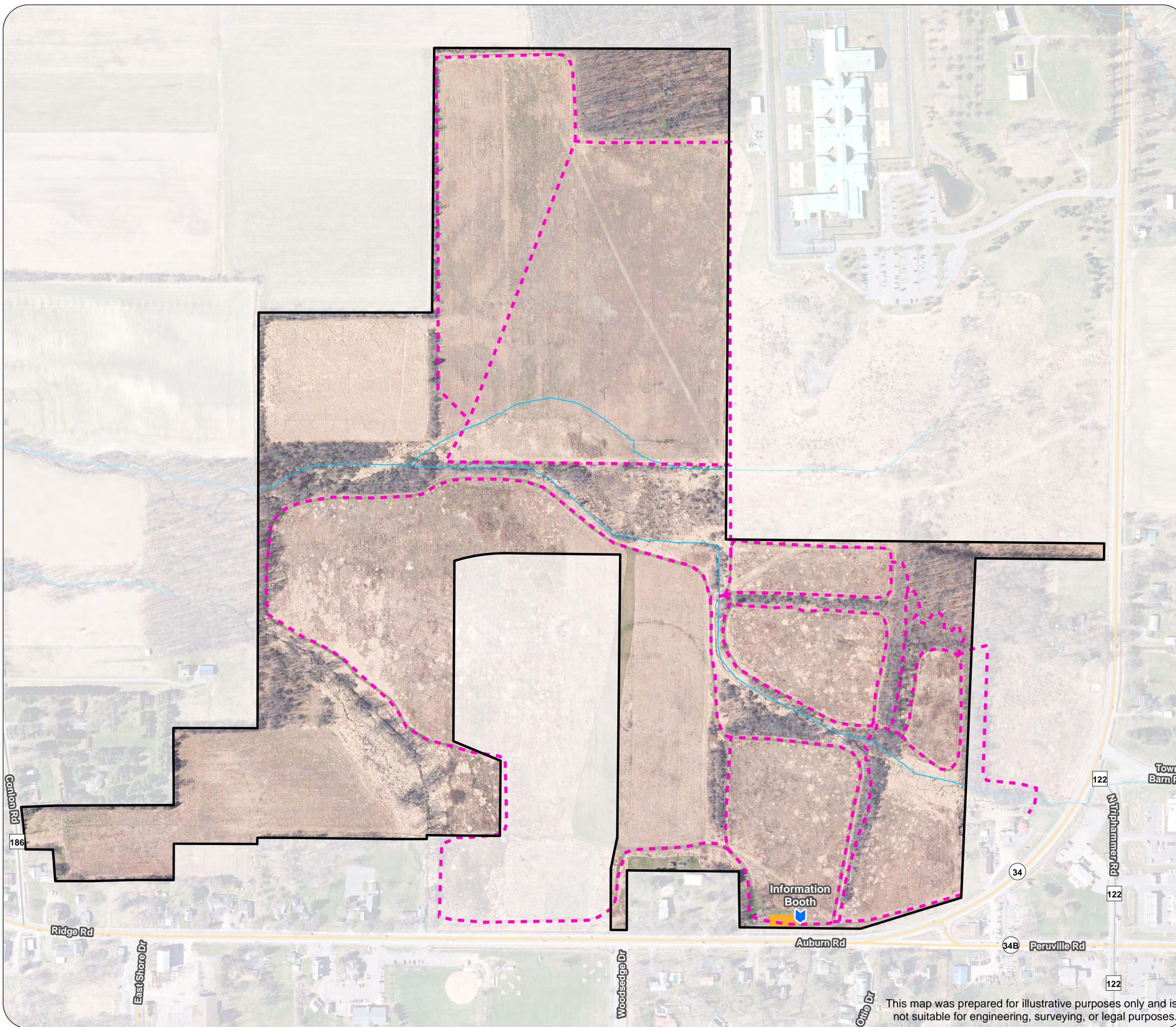
- Town Center Trail Area
- State Route
- County Road
- Local Road
- River/Stream
- Facilities
- Trail
- Parking



Sources:
Esri, NYS ITS, NHD, Tompkins
County, Town of Lansing,
NYS DOP 2018 Orthoimagery



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LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

LANSING CENTER TRAIL

Located across from Town Hall, the Lansing Center Trail is a system of over 4 miles of pedestrian trails through abandoned and active farmland making up roughly 125 acres. The trail is accessible from Auburn Road/ State Route 34.

Existing Facilities

The Lansing Center Trail System comprises a system of over 4 miles of easy trails through abandoned and active farmland within the Town of Lansing. Trail grades are relatively flat and accommodate a range of athletic ability. The trail is open year-round, intended for hiking, walking, running, XC -Skiing, and snowshoeing. Bicycles and motorized vehicles are not permitted. The trail is crossed in two places by a designated snowmobile trail, but snowmobiles are not allowed on the Lansing Center Trail.

Existing Programming

No parks programming is offered at this time.

Environmentally Sensitive Resources

The examination of natural features within the park is necessary in order to identify constraints for the continued maintenance and future improvements to park facilities. The identification of surface hydrology is important when studying stormwater runoff and potential for flooding. Water bodies also provide habitat to a diversity of mammals, birds, fish, and insects. From a recreational standpoint, water bodies provide opportunities for fishing, paddling, swimming, and nature study. Steep slopes, or areas of land grade above 15%, can identify potential for erosion and restriction to further development.

Surface Hydrology

A lower tributary of Salmon Creek runs through the parcel. The area along the creek lies within a Federal National Wetlands Inventory Designated Riverine Wetland area. Additionally, four areas throughout the park are identified as Tompkins County Wetland areas.

Floodplains

The Lansing Center Trail is not located within a designated flood zone.

Site Ecology

The majority of the land along the trail is open field. Portions of the trail traverse through forest and stream habitat. Local faunae include deer, fox, coyote, and multiple species of birds.

Steep Slopes

Based on steep slopes calculated from the USGS 10-meter elevation model, the Lansing Center Trail is located on a relatively flat parcel of land without the presence of steep land grades above 15%. MJ conducted a site visiting and field assessment to determine ADA accessibility and to examine any localized areas of steep land grades.

Developmental Controls

The evaluation of developmental controls such as the existing zoning and land ownership, help to identify the land use constraints for further enhancement of park facilities.

Zoning

The Lansing Center Trail is within the Town of Lansing Commercial Mixed-Use Zoning District (B1). The Commercial Mixed-Use Zoning



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

District is intended to designate areas where development is encouraged, to ultimately result in a Town focal point and center of community activity. This district permits dense development and a mixture of land uses.

Land Ownership

The Lansing Center Trail spans multiple parcels of land. Most of the parcels are publicly owned by the Town of Lansing. However, a short southern portion of the trail traverses through land privately owned by Hesse Homes, LLC in accordance with Lansing Town Center Trail Policy (adopted September 5, 2018).

Existing Utilities and Infrastructure

The evaluation of existing utility infrastructure is important when considering future improvements to the park. For instance, a new restroom facility may require water and sewer infrastructure to be extended to the park.

Water/Stormwater

Water/Stormwater service is provided by the Town of Lansing. An existing water lines runs along the southern boundary of the park near Auburn Road/ State Route 34.

Sewer

Sewer service is provided by the Town of Lansing. No existing sewer lines runs into the park. A sewer line is proposed to run through the park along the southern boundary towards Conlon Road.

Electricity

Electricity in the area is supplied by New York State Electric and Gas

Corporation (NYSEG). Electricity is not currently available at the park.

Existing Transportation Infrastructure and Parking

Adequate transportation infrastructure and parking is critical to maintain access for the public to the park and its facilities. The evaluation of parking infrastructure can help to identify the need for improvement or expansion.

There are no paved roads within the Lansing Center Trail Park area. Parking is available at a designated gravel lot adjacent to the trailhead off of Auburn Road.

ADA Assessment

There are no paved roads within the Lansing Center Trail Park area. Parking is available at a designated gravel lot adjacent to the trailhead off Auburn Road.

The Park consists of one (1) main parking area. The parking lot is gravel, not striped and does not have ADA parking.

Needs and Opportunities

The availability of trails for pedestrians, snowshoers, cross-country skiers of all abilities is a wonderful amenity to the park system. The parking here is limited but there is room for expansion. There may be increased opportunities to consider interpretive areas along the trails, rest areas with benches and shade trees or create a fitness trail. In the parking area currently sits a porta john but a bathroom would be welcome. With the development of housing nearby has been a challenge and improving the separation between the trails and adjacent housing could improve the quality for both trail users and the residents living in the housing.





TOWN OF LANSING

Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

D R A F T

Town Barn Facilities

December 2020

LEGEND

-  Town Barn Field
-  State Route
-  County Road
-  Local Road
-  River/Stream
-  Facilities



Sources:
Esri, NYS ITS, NHD, Tompkins
County, Town of Lansing,
NYS DOP 2018 Orthoimagery



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Feet



Engineering and
Land Surveying, P.C.
1533 Crescent Road - Clifton Park, NY 12065



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LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

TOWN BARN FIELDS

The Town Barn Fields cover four (4) acres and are located next to the Town public works garage on Town Barn Road in the Town of Lansing. The Park is an open grass field featuring three ball fields which are predominately used by the Lansing Recreation teams.

Existing Facilities

The Town Barn fields host three (3) ball fields available for use as well as space for soccer as shown in the Town Barn Facilities map. The fields are not currently available on the Town website for reservation. There are currently no restroom facilities or public parking within the park.

Existing Programming

The Town Barn Fields host as an overflow lot for the area. As the programming has increased in other facilities the fields here have seen an increase in traffic and use. As programming is forecasted to increase so will the use of these fields.

Environmentally Sensitive Resources

The examination of natural features within the park is necessary in order to identify constraints for the continued maintenance and future improvements to park facilities. The identification of surface hydrology is important when studying stormwater runoff and potential for flooding. Water bodies also provide habitat to a diversity of mammals, birds, fish, and insects. From a recreational standpoint, water bodies provide opportunities for fishing, paddling, swimming, and nature study. Steep slopes, or areas of land grade above 15%, can identify potential for erosion and restriction to further development.

Surface Hydrology

The Town Ball Field does not contain any surface hydrology or known wetlands.

Floodplains

The Town Barn Field is not located within a designated flood zone.

Site Ecology

The Town Ball Field site is predominately grass field, without paved roads, parking lots or trees.

Steep Slopes

Based on steep slopes calculated from the USGS 10-meter elevation model, the Town Barn Fields are located on a relatively flat parcel of land without the presence of steep land grades above 15%. MJ conducted a site visiting and field assessment to determine ADA accessibility and to examine any localized areas of steep land grades.

Developmental Controls

The evaluation of developmental controls such as the existing zoning and land ownership, help to identify the land use constraints for further enhancement of park facilities.

Zoning

The Town Barn Field is within the Town of Lansing Industrial-Research Zoning District (IR). The Industrial-Research Zoning District is intended to designate areas of light manufacturing, fabrication, assembly or research, mining, power generation and utilities.



LANSGING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Land Ownership

The Town Barn parcel is publicly owned by the Town of Lansing. The adjacent eastern parcel is the Town Barn which is publicly owned by the Town of Lansing. Adjacent parcels to the north and south are privately owned commercial properties. The adjacent western parcel is a privately owned residence.

Existing Utilities and Infrastructure

The evaluation of existing utility infrastructure is important when considering future improvements to the park. For instance, a new restroom facility may require water and sewer infrastructure to be extended to the park.

Water/Stormwater

Water/Stormwater service is provided by the Town of Lansing. An existing water lines runs along the southern and eastern boundary of the park along Town Barn Road.

Sewer

Sewer service is provided by the Town of Lansing. No existing sewer lines runs into the park. A sewer line is proposed to run along the western boundary of the park along State Route 34.

Electricity

Electricity in the area is supplied by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG). Electricity is not currently available at any facility within the park.

Existing Transportation Infrastructure and Parking

Adequate transportation infrastructure and parking is critical to maintain access for the public to the park and its facilities. The evaluation of parking infrastructure can help to identify the need for improvement or expansion.

The Town Barn Field is accessible by car via Town Barn Road which is accessed through Auburn Road/ State Route 34. There are no paved roads or parking lots within the park.

ADA Assessment

The Town Barn Field is accessible by car via Town Barn Road which is accessed through Auburn Road/ State Route 34. The fields consist of approximately 3.5 acres of open grassed space with 18 paved and striped parking spaces at the Town Barn. In addition, this location has more parking spaces available that are not striped located along a field currently used for Town park storage.

Needs and Opportunities

The Town Barn Fields are well-maintained multi-use fields that serve as overflow fields for soccer. As the use of the fields have steadily increased increasing the amenities would be welcome. The proximity to the Town highway department does make it difficult to expand the park. The addition of a pavilion and additional parking would make the park more used. The Park being an old farm field struggles to dry up after rain events due to grading and soil type. Regrading would help the field dry up to enable the use much more quickly.



LANSGING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RECREATION

An examination of public and private recreational opportunities within and around the Town of Lansing was completed. The identification of these opportunities is critical when evaluating the need for future recreational improvements within the Town. The following areas were evaluated:

- Parks and Recreation Within the Town of Lansing
- Parks and Recreation Within the Village of Lansing
- Major Parks and Trails Outside the Town of Lansing
- Other Recreational Opportunities Outside the Town of Lansing

Within the Town of Lansing

In addition to the Town Parks system, many other public and private recreational opportunities exist within the Town of Lansing. The following is a brief description of available resources.

Edwards Lake Cliff Preserve

Owned by Cornell University, Edwards Lake Cliff Preserve covers approximately 85 acres along the eastern shore of Cayuga lake. The northern boundary of the preserve features cliffs that overlook Gulf Creek. The preserve contains a system of five (5) trails totaling 2 miles. The preserve is accessible from Teeter Road.

Emilie Jonas Falls Nature Preserve

The Emilie Jonas Falls Nature Preserve is located on private land along Gulf Creek in central Lansing. The preserve features a small parking lot off of East Shore Circle and approximately 2000 feet of trails.

Lansing Golf Range

The Lansing Golf range is a privately owned driving range on East Shore Drive.

Liberty Fields/LIFA

Liberty Fields are privately owned soccer fields located off of Peruville Road in the Eastern portion of Town.

Lansing Rod and Gun Club

Lansing Rod and Gun Club is a 160-acre private hunting, fishing, and shooting club located on Salmon Creek Road.

Salmon Creek Fishing Access

The Salmon Creek Fishing access is a small park located off of Mill Street, southeast of Ludlowville park. The area is owned by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Lansing Harbor

Owned by Marina One Holdings LLC, Lansing Harbor is a private Marina located south of the Town Marina at Myers Park. The Marina offers boat slip, dry dock, and cabin rentals.

Community Recreation Center

The Community Recreation Center is located in southeast Lansing on East Shore Drive. The recreation center includes an ice rink, synthetic turf field and indoor fitness center. The center offers ice/figure skating, ice hockey, soccer, archery, and lacrosse. Grantchester and Newnham Fields are soccer facilities connected by a footpath and adjacent to the center.



LANSING PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL SYSTEM TODAY

Eastlake Recreation Club

The Eastlake Recreation Club is a private recreation center located south of the Community Recreation Center at the corner of East Shore Drive and Eastlake Road. The club offers a gymnasium, indoor tennis courts, and child play area.

Hickory Hollow Golf Range

The Hickory Hollow Golf range is located on Waterwagon Road in southeaster Lansing, east of North Triphammer Road. As of October 2019, the Golf Range is no longer active.

Within the Village of Lansing

The Village of Lansing offers a variety of public and private recreational opportunities that are utilized by Town residents. These facilities are located within a 5–10–minute drive of Town Center.

Tompkins County Fish and Game

Located in the northeast Village of Lansing on East Shore Drive, Tompkins County Fish and Game is a privately owned recreation club offering skeet shooting.

Twin Glens Unique Natural Area/ McKinney's Twin Glens

The Twin Glens Unique Natural area is on publicly owned land in the northeast Village of Lansing off of Twin Glens Road. The area is adjacent to private land.

YMCA of Ithaca and Tompkins County

The YMCA of Ithaca and Tompkins County is located North of the Ithaca Mall along Loop Road. The facility offers an assortment of

indoor activities including racquetball/badminton courts, sauna, two indoor pools, tabletop games, a basketball court, gymnasium, and nutrition center.

Ithaca Swimming Club

The Ithaca Swimming Club is a private sport club and outdoor community pool located in the Village of Lansing along UpTown Road, south of State Route 13. The club offers memberships for swimming from Memorial Day through Labor Day as well as social events.

Sapsucker Woods

Sapsucker woods is a 230–acre nature preserve located at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in the western Village of Lansing. The area features a system of trails totaling over four miles through forest and swampland. The visitors center features an interpretive sound studio, theater, library, and bird feeder garden. The visitor center provides seasonal illustrated trail guides and binoculars for wildlife viewing.





06

LANSING PARKS SYSTEM TOMORROW
(RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS)

06. LANSING PARK SYSTEM TOMORROW (RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS)

MYERS PARK

Vision for Myers Park

Myers Park is the flagship of the Lansing Park system. As such the vision for Myers Park reflects this. Through all the gathered feedback residents, stakeholders, Town staff agreed on key principles that should be included. Enhanced views and access to the lake was top priority. Pedestrian circulation with better parking for both cars and trailers were noted as well as creating more defined spaces throughout the entire park. Additional connectivity is recommended throughout Myers Park.

All of this supports the themes to RE-CONNECT to the waterfront, RE-THINK the physical space and use priorities within that space, and RE-FOCUS on the park user through enhancements, new amenities and continued programming.

Identification of Key Recommendations/Improvements

Using the vision as a guide to improvements for Myers Park some of the additions to the park identified in the concept. Detailed recommendations are illustrated on the following concept plan, however, highlights of the recommendations include:

- An additional 193 Parking stalls
- 75 Boat trailer stalls

- 19 RV campsites
- ~3,630 feet of lake front without cars
- 5 Campsites

Reconfiguring the park to add more parking on the south side while giving unobstructed lake access in the north is one of the biggest changes. Furthermore, updating and adding more of the popular RV spots was included.



Figure 14. Myers Lighthouse



Inventory:

- + 193 Parking stalls
- + 75 Boat trailer stalls
- + 19 RV campsites
- + 3,630 L.F. of lake front without cars
- + 5 Campsites



Myers Park

Legend

- (A) RV Campsites
- (B) RV Bathrooms with Showers
- (C) New Bathrooms
- (D) Existing Pavilion
- (E) Moved Pavilion
- (F) Gazebo
- (G) Expanded Beach
- (H) Basketball Court
- (I) Volleyball Court
- (J) Kayak Facility
- (K) Canoe/Kayak Drop Off
- (L) Canoe/Kayak Launch
- (M) High Tensile Structure
- (N) Riverbank Plantings
- (O) Lakefront-Marina Promenade
- (P) Open Lawn
- (Q) Event Lawn
- (R) Boat Launch
- (S) Playground
- (T) Campsites
- (U) Bike Racks

SALT POINT

Vision for Salt Point

Salt Point is immediately north of Myers Park separated by Salmon Creek. The intent of proposed recommendations is to maintain the natural preserve look, feel and function by continuing to provide a passive, respectful area for wildlife and habitat. Important recommended elements include a more defined parking area and connectivity through the park. Providing better Lake access for nonmotorized boats, while preserving the safety of pedestrians is crucial. Expansion of the trail as well as providing an information kiosk at the parking area will create an enhanced experience at Salt Point.

Identification of Key Recommendations/Improvements

Using the vision as a guide to improvements for Salt Point key improvements to the park illustrated on the following concept plan include:

- Reconfigure parking spaces
- Port a John bathroom shelters
- Information kiosk
- Improved Lake access
- Improved Lake swimming/viewing
- Improved Creek access
- Bike racks

By reconfiguring the main parking area, it would add parking spaces while creating a safer pedestrian environment in the area. All of this supports the themes to RE-CONNECT Park visitors to nature, RE-

THINK the physical space layout, and RE-FOCUS on the park user and natural environment



Figure 15. Salt Point from above



Salt Point Natural Area

Legend

- (A)** 2 Port-a-John bathroom shelters
- (B)** Information Kiosk
- (C)** Improved Lake Access
- (D)** Improved Lake Viewing/Swimming
- (E)** Improved Creek Viewing/Access
- (F)** Bike Racks

Inventory:
 + 39 Parking stalls
 + 13 Creek access parking stalls
 + 2,600 L.F. Stone dust walking trails



LANSING PARK SYSTEM TOMORROW

TOWN BALL FIELDS

Vision for Town Ball Fields

Town Ball Fields being are located adjacent to Town hall and serve as a destination for active recreation within the Town with multiple athletic fields, playground and pavilion. Connecting the fields with a pedestrian path, expanding parking, and formalizing other amenities are key recommendations for this well-used park.

Identification of Key Recommendations/Improvements

Using the vision as a guide to improvements for Town Ball Fields, some of the additions to the park identified in the concept include an additional parking and a perimeter path. Creating new pedestrian connections and the addition of bike racks would enable more folk to enjoy the park without necessarily having to drive. The fields play host to many events through the year and the addition of a concession stand is also identified in the concept plan. All of this supports the themes to RE-CONNECT Park visitors to available amenities, RE-THINK the physical space, and RE-FOCUS on the park user ease of access and use.

Highlights of recommended improvements illustrated on the following concept plan include:

- Adult softball field
- New pedestrian connections
- Bike racks
- Play structures
- Concession stand
- Bathrooms



Figure 16. Town Ball Field



Inventory:

- + 144 Parking stalls
- + Perimeter path (4,600 L.F.)



Town Ball Fields

Legend

- (A) Adult Softball Field
- (B) Sports Fields (little league, soccer, football)
- (C) Bathrooms
- (D) Existing Pavilion
- (E) Concession Stand
- (F) Basketball Court
- (G) Play Structures
- (H) New Pedestrian Connections
- (I) Perimeter Path
- (J) BBQ Station
- (K) Bike Racks

LUDLOWVILLE PARK

Vision for Ludlowville Park

Ludlowville Park currently offers incredible views of waterfalls that do not have a formal viewing area. Creating an accessible area for park visitors to access along a formalized trail would bring attention to this wonderful natural resource, while keeping the neighborhood scale of this park.

The majority of the 13-acre park area lies north of the Salmon Creek with no access points. Looking further into the future, a possible connection to the northern portion of the park could expand the existing area of the used park.

Identification of Key Recommendations/Improvements

Using the vision as a guide to improvements for Ludlowville Park, some of the additions to the park identified in the concept include an expanded parking netting 10 spots, a formalized pedestrian path, and an accessible overlook. Looking further into the future opportunities to utilize north part of property should be explored as well as opportunities for neighborhood connections. All of this supports the themes to RE-CONNECT Park visitors to the views of waterfalls, RE-THINK the space to accommodate a formalized viewing area, and RE-FOCUS on the park users ease of access and use.

Highlights of recommended improvements illustrated on the following concept plan include:

- Additional parking stalls
- Bathroom
- Pedestrian path

- Accessible overlook
- Formalized trail to waterfall



Figure 17. Ludlowville Waterfalls





Inventory:
+ 10 parking stalls

Ludlowville Park

Legend

- A Bathroom
- B Expanded parking area
- C Pedestrian path
- D Accessible overlook
- E Formalized trail to waterfall
- F Explore opportunities to utilize north part of property
- G Explore opportunities for neighborhood connections

TOWN BARN FIELD

Vision for Town Barn Field

Town Barn Field plays host to several games and activities. Creation of shared parking with a formalized walkway with shade trees would enhance the environment for attendees. The regrading of the field would resolve drainage issues after a rain event allowing a much faster turnaround time for field use. The addition of a pavilion and playground would allow for greater use of the facilities.

Identification of Key Recommendations/Improvements

Using the vision as a guide to improvements for Town Barn Field, some of the additions to the park identified in the concept include a formalized parking area netting 42 parking spots, pedestrian path, bathroom, picnic area and a pavilion for patrons. Connecting the parking area with a pedestrian path would create more accessibility for patrons going to the playground and pavilion area. All of this supports the themes to RE-CONNECT visitors to the field, RE-THINK the space to accommodate parking, and RE-FOCUS on the users to allow for greater use of the facilities.

Highlights of recommended improvements illustrated on the following concept plan include:

- Formalize parking area
- Crosswalk
- Pedestrian path
- Bathroom
- Playground
- Picnic area



Figure 18. Town Barn Fields



Town Barn Field

Legend

- (A)** Formalized parking area
- (B)** Crosswalk
- (C)** Pedestrian path
- (D)** Bathroom
- (E)** Playground
- (F)** Picnic area
- (G)** Pavilion
- (H)** Protective fence
- (I)** Vegetative buffer
- (J)** Address drainage and regrade field



LANSING CENTER TRAIL

Vision for Lansing Center Trail

Lansing Center Trail offers great birdwatching and dog walking. Expanding on the already existing trails, adding interpretive signage and improving parking would enable patrons to enjoy the trails to their fullest extent.

Identification of Key Recommendations/Improvements

Using the vision as a guide to improvements for Lansing Center Trail, the main improvements include formalizing the parking area, addition of an information kiosk to welcome patrons, and a bathroom facility. For the current trails drainage should be addressed in key areas to help drain after a rain event as well as, exploring expansion of the trail system and possibly connecting to surrounding areas. This supports the themes to RE-CONNECT visitors to the trails and their environment, RE-THINK the space to accommodate trail connections, and RE-FOCUS on the users to improve parking.

Highlights of recommended improvements illustrated on the following concept plan include:

- Formalize parking area
- Kiosk and interpretive signage
- Bathroom

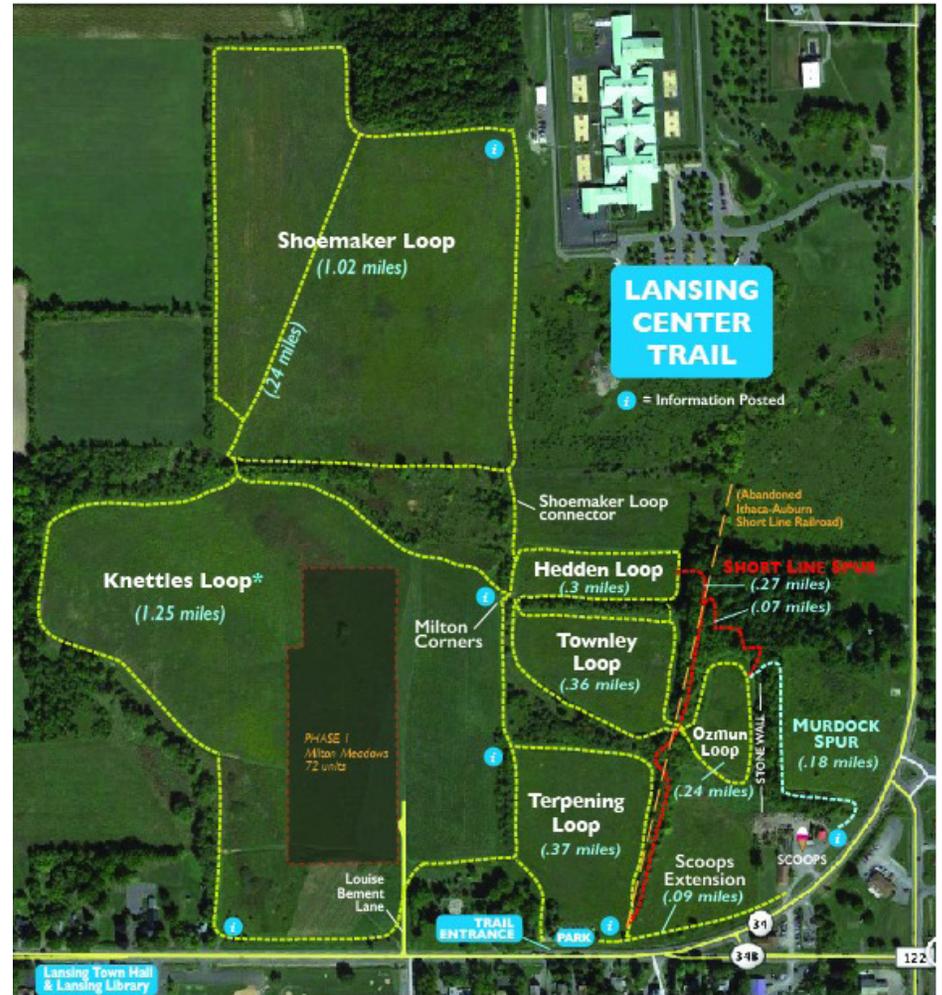


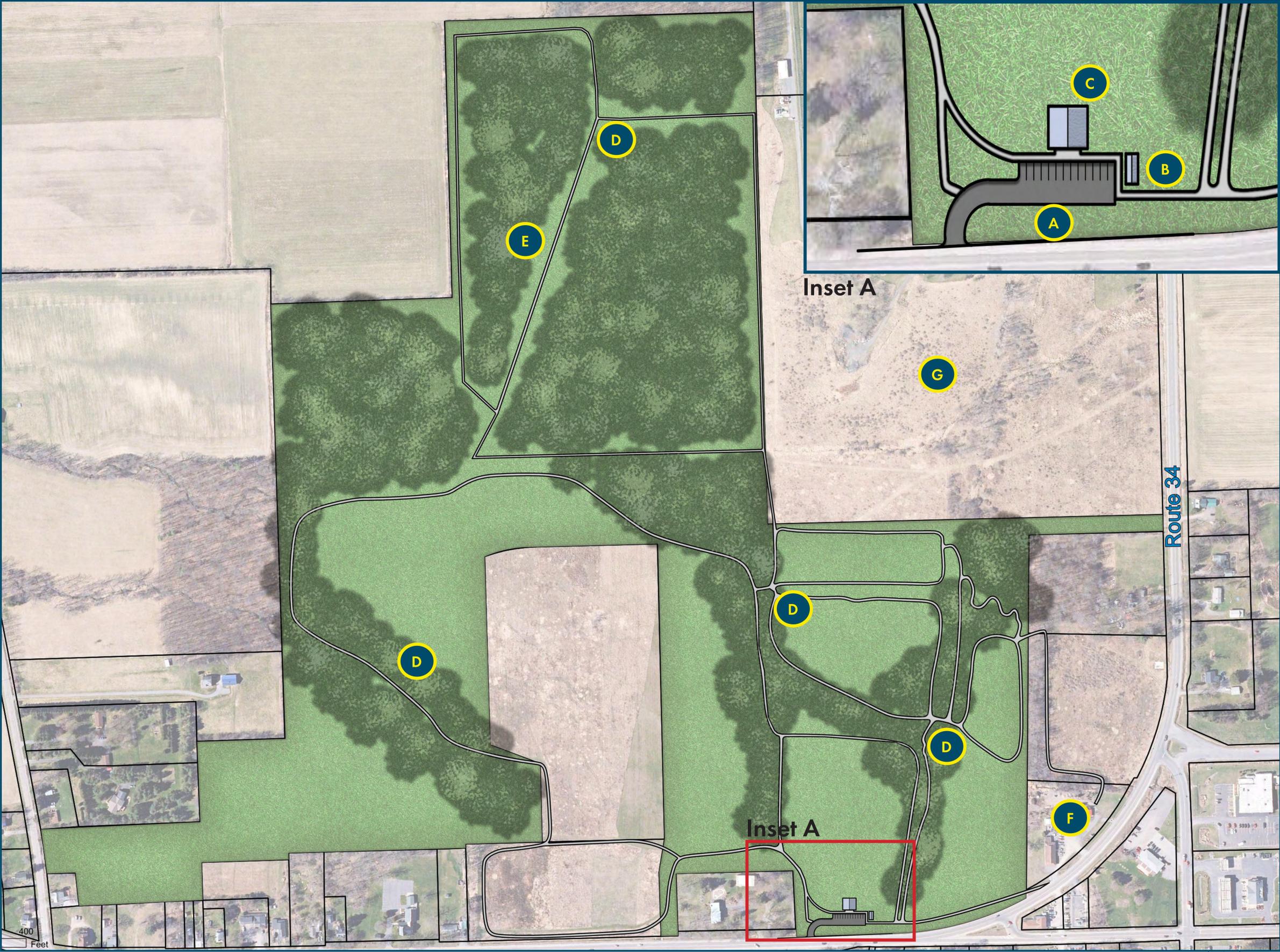
Figure 19. Lansing Center Trail Layout



Lansing Center Trail

Legend

- (A)** Formalized parking area
- (B)** Kiosk
- (C)** Bathroom
- (D)** Interpretive signage
- (E)** Address drainage for wet trails
- (F)** Explore opportunities for additional parking
- (G)** Explore opportunities for trail expansion



LANSING PARK SYSTEM TOMORROW

SYSTEM-WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Lansing Parks are a wonderful resource within the Town and are a destination to people outside the Town. Enhancing the existing parks and expanding where possible will not only improve visitor feedback and wellbeing but help the committed parks staff with upkeep and maintenance. The recommended improvements below are broken into five groups which consist of: staffing, maintenance, design guidelines, modifications to municipal code, and programming.

Staffing

Park and Recreation staff are the backbone of the parks department. The staff work countless hours to enable the camps and parks to continue operating smoothly. Some of the key recommendations include:

- Add additional staff during peak season to assist with programming
- Adjust the pay scale to retain part time employees and reward them for returning year after year
- Work with the Town to add additional full-time staff where needed

Maintenance

Continued maintenance is crucial to keep the parks looking good and keeping park equipment functioning and safe for users. The maintenance needs to happen to all the parks with regular maintenance and unforeseen circumstances. Some of the key recommendations for maintenance include:

- During peak season enlist additional staff to help with maintenance
- Educate Park visitors that their trash leads to extra time away from regular maintenance
- Create a space for park maintenance equipment to allow for more ease of use

Town Parks Signage and Visual Identity

Design guidelines are the standard when it comes to improving and maintaining parks. Exacting standards within can easily set the parks apart regionally and make them a destination. Having standardized lighting and signage can quickly create unified town parks feel. Some of the key recommendations include:

- Increase accessibility to amenities in parks including bathrooms, playgrounds, and pavilions
- Increase ADA accessibility throughout
- The use of pedestrian scale lighting to create a more welcoming and safer feel
- Standardized signage and wayfinding throughout the town parks

Recommended Modifications to Town Code

Municipal code is a set of rules and standards that help preserve the community. Including the parks can significantly help in all aspects. A key recommendation includes:

- Enact Parks and Recreation Fees for New Development related to future parks and recreation needs for land acquisition



and development; to offset impacts from new residential development on the Town’s parks and recreational facilities; to further the goals of this Master Plan, as well as the Town Comprehensive Plan; and to provide the park and recreational spaces and facilities demanded by the residents of the Town of Lansing

Programming

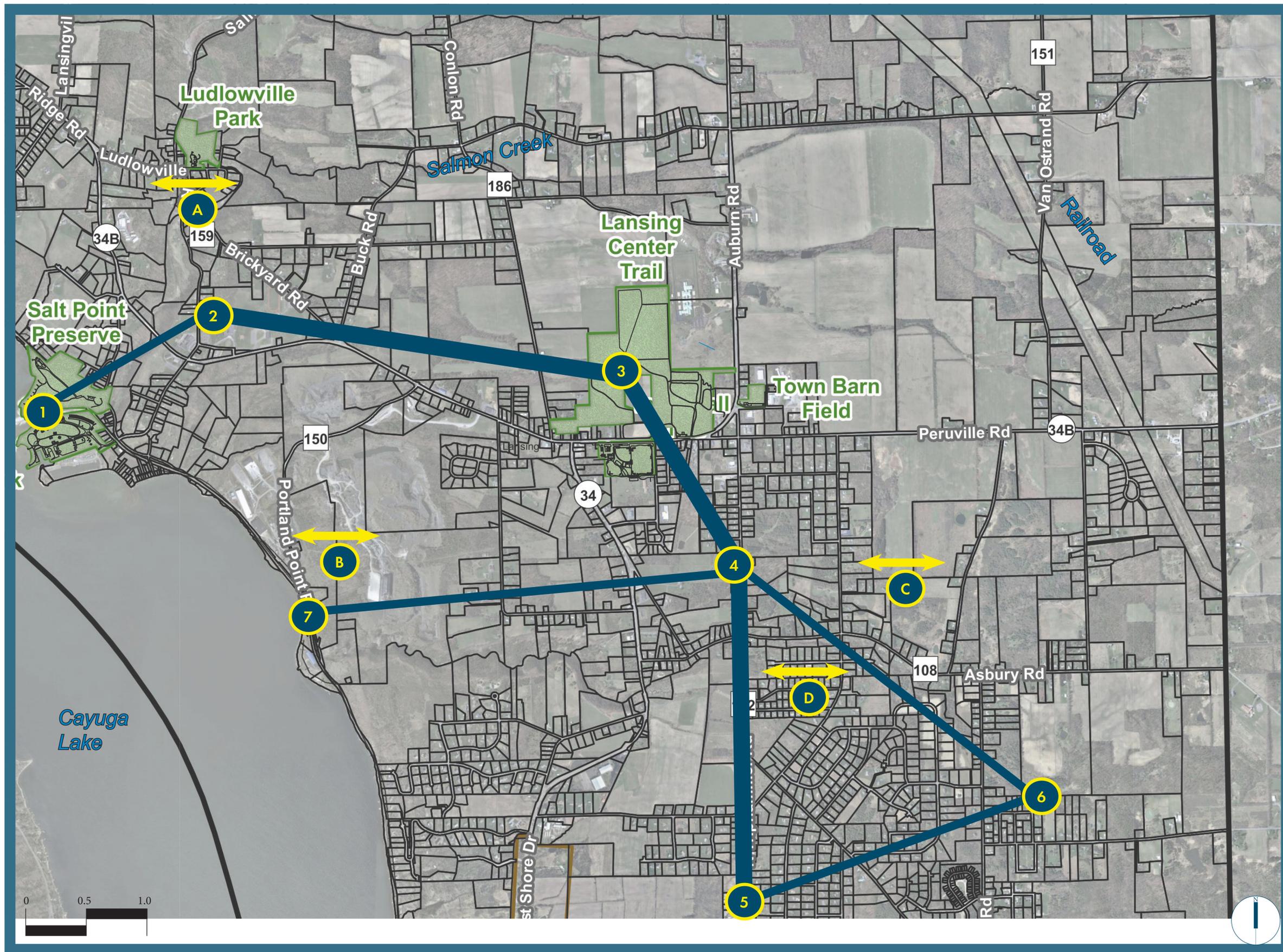
Programming in the Parks is a substantial lift for the Department. The department has seen continued growth of their programming and predict it will continue increasing. Some of the key recommendations include:

- Programming costs are relatively low for the services received. Continuing to improve and facilitate programming at a low cost is crucial
- Continue working towards making the programming and parks department self-sustainable without relying on tax dollars
- Continue to foster relationships with schools to use their facilities for programming
- Work with the Town for control of the facilities that can help expand the programming
- Continue to improve registration for ease of use for staff and users



Figure 20. Ludlowville Basketball Court





Bicycle/ Pedestrian Connections

MAJOR NODES

- 1 Myers Park and Salt Point Preserve
- 2 Lansing Schools
- 3 Town Center
- 4 Residential Neighborhoods
- 5 Village of Lansing
- 6 Lake View, Village Solars and Whispering Pines neighborhoods
- 7 East Lake, Lake Watch and Sun Path Area

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- ↔ These notations identify areas where short spurs are needed to fully connect adjacent neighborhoods and to provide access to the Town's central and spur trails
- A
- B
- C
- D

LANSING CONNECTED

Opportunities for Additional Trails and Connections

Connections throughout the Town and beyond were identified early in the process as an important part of the Master Plan. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Connections map above illustrates the potential connections that have been identified by the committee and Town staff as priority connections moving forward. The Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council Transportation Trail/Corridor Study was also reviewed as a part of the Master Plan and was used to identify some of the key connections that have been recognized early on.

While the physical size of the Town may present a challenge in connecting the entire Town with trails or paths in the near term, the connections plan provides a vision for starting those connections where the greatest concentration of activity, parks and neighborhoods currently exist. As these are at a conceptual level, a feasibility study should be conducted in the future to narrow down how, where and type of path that can be used.

The general connections can be grouped into two categories Major Nodes and Community Connections. These proposed connections are illustrated on the following Bicycle / Pedestrian Connections concept plan. That follows this section.

Major Nodes consist of:

1. Myers Park and Salt Point Preserve
2. Lansing Schools
3. Town Center

4. Residential Neighborhoods
5. Village of Lansing
6. Lake View, Village Solars and Whispering Pines neighborhoods
7. East Lake, Lake Watch and Sun Path Area

Community Connections consist of:

A, B, C, and D These notations identify areas where short spurs are needed to fully connect adjacent neighborhoods and to provide access to the Town's central and spur trails.

Connecting the major nodes 2, 3, 4 and 5: This would be the backbone of the Lansing Trail system, running southeast and south from the Lansing Schools to Town Center to the Village of Lansing. As such, it will allow residents of southern Lansing non-motorized access from the Town Center to Village businesses, residential neighborhoods, the mall, the YMCA and the Village trails. And just as importantly, it will allow Village residents access to the numerous recreational options available in the southern part of the Town of Lansing.

Major nodes 1 and 2: This trail would connect the Town Center (and the remainder of the proposed trail system) to the Lansing Schools, Myers Park and Salt Point, allowing uninterrupted pedestrian and bicycle access all the way from the heart of the Village to the lakefront at Myers Point. A connection between Salt Point and Myers Park was discussed however, no consensus was reached. Some members of the community showed concern regarding parking availability and the impact on the quiet atmosphere of Salt Point if the parks were to be connected.

Major node 6: An eastern extension of the trail system intended to serve the Lake View, Village Solars and Whispering Pines



neighborhoods, along with any new parks the Town may acquire in this rapidly developing area.

Major node 7: A western extension of the trail system designed to serve the East Lake, Lake Watch and Sun Path area. This spur would also access The Rink/The Field and the adjacent outdoor soccer fields and could easily be extended to Jonas Falls and Cornell's Edwards Lake Cliffs recreational area.

Potential trail connecting nodes 5 and 6: This trail could either compliment the central trail between nodes 4 and 5 or would be an alternative if it wasn't possible to connect 4 and 5.

Opportunities For Additional Open Space and Passive Recreation Areas

Open space and passive recreation areas are a terrific way for the Town to have low maintenance options for people to enjoy outdoors. Identifying areas for expansion is the first step in the process and these spaces are building blocks for larger parks. During the planning process the expansion of Lansing Center Trails was identified and this is a great first step in expansion.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Steps to Implement Plan

Following the adoption of this plan, an active implementation process will be necessary to have a lasting impact. This plan is the result of considerable effort on the part of park staff, stakeholders, local elected officials, and the general public. Working with a range of public, private, and nonprofit implementation partners, the County can accomplish the recommended actions and continue striving toward its vision for parks.

Implementation Matrix

The implementation table that follows represents the prioritization of recommendations based on the needs of each park. Each recommendation has been categorized for each park with an implementation status.

Myers Park Priorities

	<i>Status</i>
An additional 193 Parking stalls	
75 Boat trailer stalls	
19 RV campsites	
~3,630 feet of lake front without cars	
5 Campsites	

Salt Point Priorities

	<i>Status</i>
Reconfigure parking spaces	
Port a John bathroom shelters	
Information kiosk	

Improved Lake access	
Improved Lake swimming/viewing	
Improved Creek access	
Bike racks	

Town Ball Fields Priorities

	<i>Status</i>
Adult softball field	
New pedestrian connections	
Bike racks	
Play structures	
Concession stand	
Bathrooms	

Ludlowville Park Priorities

	<i>Status</i>
Additional parking stalls	
Bathroom	
Pedestrian path	
Accessible overlook	
Formalized trail to waterfall	

Town Barn Field Priorities

	<i>Status</i>
Formalize parking area	
Crosswalk	
Pedestrian path	
Bathroom	



Playground

Picnic area

Status

Lansing Center Trail Priorities

Formalize parking area

Kiosk and interpretive signage

Bathroom

Status

Cost Estimates

Cost estimates for improvements were done for all the parks. The following is summary table of the cost estimates for implementing improvements for each park with the project and cost included. The detailed cost estimates are in **Appendix F**. Note: These costs are subject to change based on further engineering and design.

Project	Total Project Cost
Myers Park	\$10,063,255
Town Ball Fields	\$1,997,924
Ludlowville Park	\$892,902
Town Barn Fields	\$2,494,134
Salt Point	\$854,924



Potential Funding Opportunities

Potential funding sources may include federal and state grant programs, private foundations, and other assistance programs. Therefore, the funding opportunities listed below should be viewed only as a starting point.

- Park & Trail Partnership Grants – The program is administered jointly by Parks & Trails New York and the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP).
- New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) – This funding program streamlines the application process by matching one grant request with several available programs.
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP / Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) – A flexible funding source to State and local governments for transportation projects and programs to help meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act.
- Enable Capital Reserve Fund For Parklands and Trailways Planning and Development, Related Land and Use Rights Acquisitions, and Related General Equipment, Materials and Construction Funding (Town Board Resolution 17-99) or equivalent to act as trust fund under New York State Town Law Section 277, which states that a town may, “prior to approval by the planning board of plats require developers to reserve land suitable for parks, playground, or other recreation purposes or, in lieu thereof, to pay money to the town to be held in a trust fund for the purchase of land for recreation or park purposes, construction of recreation facilities, or maintenance of existing recreation facilities.”

- The recommendations of this Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan should also be used as documentation of the appropriateness of accepting specific parcels of land. Unless a proposed parcel is specifically desired by the town for a stated recreation purpose, the town should accept payment of fees for the trust fund to acquire and develop park land as proposed in this Master Plan.
- Designate a fee of \$1,500 per new dwelling unit and apply it to the parks and recreation fund. The benefits of the additional park lands and recreation amenities outweigh the additional fee to increase the town’s standard of living.
- Cost Sharing – Building on the current inter-municipal agreements the town has with the village and Lansing Central School District, continue to foster and develop new agreements with community, municipal, and private organizations to share in the costs of implementing, maintaining and enhancing the recreation services and amenities provided to the community. Explore the potential to partner with adjacent communities and regional entities through inter-municipal agreements created to share in the costs of the recommendations outlined in this Master Plan Update.
- Donations and Volunteers – Preserve and build relationships with potential recreation advocates including special interest groups, service clubs, developers, corporations, and individuals with sources of money, land, materials, and volunteers able to be donated to assist in the implementation and maintenance of the recreation amenities and services as identified in the recommendations.
- User Fees – With the improvements and added amenities



recommended as part of this Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan, recreation user fees should be reviewed and adjusted to help support and maintain the current and future offerings of the parks and recreation system. User fees generated through recreation programs are a valuable revenue source that should be applied directly to maintaining the operations and expanding the offerings of the Town of Lansing Parks and Recreation Department. Fees should be regularly evaluated and adjusted as required to provide the community with a high level of service.

