

# PRESS RELEASE

City of Monroe Communications,  
Culture and Community Promotion  
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## CITY PARK IMPROVEMENTS PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Monroe, Michigan – The City of Monroe is seeking public opinion to determine priorities for its parks and recreation programming. Residents are invited to attend a community-wide open house on Tuesday, September 18th, in the lobby of City Hall – 120 East First Street in Downtown Monroe. All are welcome to drop in at any time between 3:00PM and 6:00PM.

The City is in the process of updating the 5-year parks and recreation plan outlining parks and recreation improvements for the next five years. An essential task in the plan update process is to determine the needs and desires of city residents through public feedback sessions and surveys. Some of the recommendations being considered in the new plan include the implementation of the park development plans the city has recently prepared, as well as the update of park facilities and playgrounds throughout the neighborhood parks.

"The previous plan, developed in 2013, provided a number of recommendations that were initiated or achieved," said Loretta LaPointe, Director of Parks and Recreation. A new set of recommendations will be included in the new plan, based in large part on the public input received at the upcoming open house.

Previous recommendations which were recently accomplished included: increased maintenance of the parks; repair or removal of court games and play equipment in poor conditions; addition of park amenities including bike fix-it stations, picnic tables and benches; preparation of master plans for six of the major city parks; and the repurposing of the Multi-Sports Complex and several parks in accordance with the River Raisin Heritage Corridor Plan.

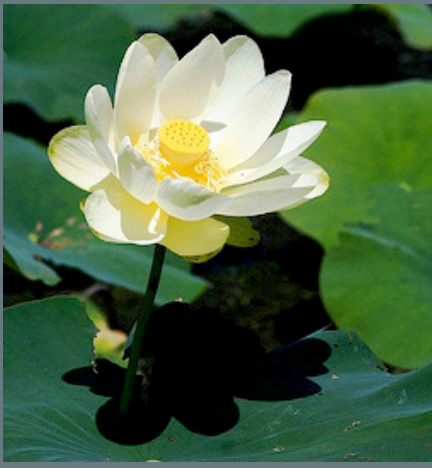
The updated plan serve as a road map to set priorities and allocate resources through 2023, and will also meet the Michigan DNR park planning standards, maintaining the city's eligibility to apply for valuable state grants.

"Please come and tell us the kinds of parks and programs that you'd like to see," said LaPointe. "Your suggestions will help make sure that we offer the kinds of parks and programs that you want and use."

The Parks and Recreation Department manages large community parks, eight neighborhood parks, and many other open spaces throughout the city as well as those along the Elm Avenue Bike Path, the Riverwalk, and River Raisin Heritage Trail. Together, they total an impressive amount, more than 250 acres of land and feature walking paths, water access, picnic shelters, playgrounds, sport fields, and passive areas.

Incorporated in 1817, the City of Monroe is a community that has a shared vision that seeks to balance the opportunities of economic development with the stewardship that is required for historic preservation. With a population of 20,733, Monroe is located about 17-miles north of Toledo, Ohio and about 35-miles south of Detroit. The City of Monroe is Michigan's third oldest community, and is also the county seat of Monroe County.

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# We need your input!

Help us decide on priorities for our City parks & recreation

## PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday September 18, 2018

between 3:00 and 6:00 pm

in the Monroe City Hall Lobby

at 120 E 1st Street

Every five years the City of Monroe prepares a five-year plan to improve the City parks and recreation services. An updated plan makes us eligible to apply for state grants and also makes sure we offer the kinds of parks and programs that you want and use.

Your thoughts and suggestions are welcome!

There will be no formal presentation.

You may drop in at any time between 3:00 and 6:00 pm.

You will be encouraged to give comments and suggestions for improving the City parks and recreation facilities and services.

Hope to see you there!

