

# **Victor Township Park and Recreation Plan 2017-2022**

**Prepared By:  
Victor Township Planning Commission**

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## **Introduction and Benefits of Outdoor Recreation**

Outdoor recreation is critical to the quality of life and the economic health of Victor Township. Public parks and recreation areas provide places for all to enjoy and interact with nature, friends and family. They provide natural resources like rivers, wetlands and forests as well as human made facilities such as sports fields, picnic areas and trails. They welcome residents and visitors, benefiting both the participants in recreation as well as those businesses who serve them with food, fuel, sporting goods, souvenirs, etc.

Outdoor recreation is a voluntary use of one's free time. It provides for enjoyment and fulfillment and is vital to a healthy and well-balanced life. Public recreation venues are especially valuable as they bring the community together and are available to all, regardless of economic or social status. This link to others and the natural world reminds each of us of the interrelatedness of our world and our dependency on clean air, water and living resources.

### **Rationale for the Plan**

This Plan Update is based on Victor Township's 2010 Parks and Recreation Plan ("Plan") developed by: Dr. Charles M. Nelson, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, I-Chun Wu, Graduate Student, Erin McCarty and Nora Hughes, Undergraduate Students from the Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. The current Plan Update was completed by the Victor Township Planning Commission.

Victor Township's previous plan expired in 2015. Since that time, the Township has been ineligible to receive state or federal grants to support the acquisition of land for outdoor recreation or the development of facilities for the same purpose. These grants, such as the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), are substantial. The MNRTF was created by Michigan voters in the state constitution in 1984 and solely provides monies for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation lands and facilities. Its money is derived from royalties and lease payments on state owned minerals such as oil, natural gas and hard rock minerals. This takes a one-time funding benefit from a non-renewable resource and provides lasting good from this windfall.

Between 2005 and 2015 the MNRTF awarded over \$400 million to the MDNR and local units of government to buy land for outdoor recreation and to develop outdoor recreation facilities. Most funds to local units were provided at a rate of 3 state dollars matching every 1 local dollar. A number of local units were able to purchase land with the selling landowner donating 25% of the appraised value, thus providing the local unit share and limiting the out of pocket costs to the local unit for acquisition to the price of the appraisal. Without a current Plan, Victor Township is not eligible to access these funding sources. To date, Victor Township has received one MNRTF development grant to develop the existing park and facilities surrounding the Township Hall.

By following the MDNR prescribed planning process to develop an outdoor recreation plan, the Township openly and transparently involves citizens in decision making and setting the future direction for locally owned public outdoor recreation opportunities. This is done by involving Township residents through various public input opportunities such as public meetings and surveys to determine their outdoor recreation needs. The planning process also takes into account the track record of the Township in maintaining existing outdoor recreation resources and the opportunities already provided by surrounding jurisdictions and the private sector.

## **Required Plan Content**

The MDNR requires the following for an approved plan:

- Community Description
- Administrative Structure
- Recreation Inventory
- Resource Inventory
- Description of the Planning Process
- Description of the Public Input Process
- Goals and Objectives
- Action Program

Victor Township's Plan fully meets these requirements.

## Community Description

Victor Township is a mixed rural agricultural and residential community located in southeastern Clinton County. The township is named after the original home of its first white settlers: Victor, New York. Key natural features of the Township include the Looking Glass River, the Little South Maple River, Round Lake and many wetlands and forests. There are significant populations of game and non-game wildlife and fish and a wide diversity of plants. Unique species include Bald Eagle, which nest and hunt along the Township's waterways.

Victor Township's population has grown steadily in the last decade from 3,275 in the 2000 census to 3,460 in the 2010 census. The 1990 census indicated a population of 2,784. Public school districts serving the Township's residents include St. Johns, Laingsburg, Ovid-Elsie and Bath. Housing stock is generally single family residential and farms. Since 2000, property values generally appreciated with state equalized value in the township growing from \$83,417,000 in 2000 to a high of \$168,249,600 in 2008. Property values dropped dramatically after the great recession. The 2016 state equalized value was \$151,723,450. Taxable value increased from \$70,133,584 in 2000 to \$117,949,008 in 2016. The tax structure is millage based. The total tax rate (inclusive of all county, school, and township millages) for a Victor Twp principal residence in 2016 was approximately 29 mills (1 mill equals \$1 per \$1000 of taxable value).

Newspapers include the Lansing State Journal, Clinton County News, the Laingsburg Independent, St. Johns Informer and the Weekly. A township newsletter is typically mailed to residents at least twice a year. Rich in history and natural beauty, the Township provides residents and visitors with numerous recreational opportunities including fishing, hunting, camping, boating, horseback riding, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, biking, running and walking. At the center of recreation is Sleepy Hollow State Park. The park offers a number of interpretive nature programs and hosts annual events such as Ichabod Crane Days, Winter Sled Dog races and the Lansing Legislator Ironman Race.

The Township maintains an active, up-to-date website at [www.victortwp.org](http://www.victortwp.org). The site provides information and news on public hearings, bids, meeting schedules, agenda, current events and opportunities to get involved in Township government.

### Demographics

The following information is based upon public and published information provided by the United States Census Bureau for 2010.

#### Population Characteristics

Based on the 2010 census information, the total population of the Township was 3,460 persons. According to the 2000 census, the total population of the Township was 3,275.

#### Age Characteristics

Of the 3,460 persons counted in the 2010 census, 19.9% of residents were under the age of 15, 11.2% were between the ages of 15 and 24, 23.5% were from 25 to 44, 33.0% were from 45 to 64, and 12.3% were 65 years of age or older.

### Race/Ethnicity Characteristics

Of the 3,460 persons counted in the 2010 census, 3,403 (98.4%) identified themselves as one race. Of those declaring to be one race, 3,339 (96.5%) of the individuals identified themselves as “White” alone, 8 (0.2%) “Black or African American” alone, 19 (0.5%) “American Indian and Alaska Native” alone, 14 (0.4%) “Asian” alone, and 23 (0.7%) “Some Other Race” alone. There were 57 (1.6%) individuals that identified themselves as two or more races. This information is based strictly on responses received from resident completion of U.S. Census surveys.

### Household Characteristics

In consideration of the number of households, the 2010 census cited that 1,279 households were maintained within the Township. This represents an increase of 0.9% over the 1,139 households cited in the 2000 census. The number of family households counted in the 2010 census was 1,017 (79.5%) and the number of nonfamily households was 262 (20.5%) with an average household size of 2.7 persons.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010.

# Administrative Structure

## Roles of Commissions/Advisory Boards

Victor Township is a six (6) mile square general law township governed by an elected five-member Township Board. Elected positions include Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and two Trustees, all serving four-year terms. The board meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall at 6483 E. Alward Road in Laingsburg, Michigan and the Township Planning Commission generally meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at the same location.

Township government also includes an assessor, positions on boards, committees and commissions, giving residents many opportunities to be directly involved in Township government. Residents are able to currently serve on the following: Planning Commission, Road Committee, Board of Review and as election inspectors.

## Department, Authority, Staff Description and Organization Chart

Membership of the Township Board of Trustees:

- Warren Malkin - Supervisor
- Kimberly Smith - Clerk
- Paula Willoughby - Treasurer
- Margaret Sayles – Trustee
- Mike Wall – Trustee

The Township Board is responsible for managing the Township Park and works with community volunteers for operation of activities and programming. The township is primarily responsible for the following maintenance and operational activities:

1. Basic lawn maintenance and soccer field turf management including mowing, fertilizing, rolling, seeding, and repair of holes and damaged turf areas.
2. Site planning, planting and maintenance of landscaping.
3. Parking and traffic signage.
4. Maintenance of parking and security lighting.
5. Maintenance and repair of park pavilions.
6. Maintenance and repair of picnic tables, trash receptacles.
7. Maintenance and repair of heated, year-round park restrooms.
8. Trash collection and disposal.
9. Maintenance and repair of playground equipment.
10. Maintenance and repair of water fountain.
11. Maintenance of well and annual water testing.
12. Seasonal placement and removal of bleachers.
13. Facilities reservations for township hall and pavilions.
14. Supervision and support for all projects and capital improvements that involve volunteers.

The township coordinates with volunteers, primarily the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) and United States Soccer Federation (USSF) organizations, and the Boy Scouts of America, to accomplish the following maintenance and operation activities:

1. Inspection and repair of soccer equipment and fields.
2. Layout, lining and flagging of soccer fields.
3. Scheduling of soccer fields.
4. Stocking of restrooms during peak use.
5. Operation, renovation, cleaning and security of seasonal concession stand.
6. Renovation and maintenance of Historic Buildings.

In 2006, the Township established a citizen road committee to evaluate current and future road infrastructure needs and to formulate recommendations to the township for meeting them. The Township Planning Commission has assumed the responsibilities of the road committee.

### **Park and Recreation Programming/Programs/Volunteers**

Park and recreation programming is provided by citizen volunteers and non-profit organizations to which many belong. Key users of and programmers for township facilities are the AYSO Region 862 and USSF Soccer organizations. Both organizations were key partners in the development of soccer fields at Victor Township. These two organizations engage more than 1,000 youngsters aged 4-14 years in recreational and competitive soccer in the spring and fall. In addition, nearly 200 volunteer coaches, managers, board members, and referees participate in these soccer activities. AYSO Region 862 is in the process of developing a Very Important Player (VIP) program in the area. The VIP program is designed for players with physical and/or mental disabilities ages 4 to adult (no upper age limit). The Mission of this program is to provide a quality soccer experience for individuals whose physical or mental disabilities make it difficult for them to successfully participate on a mainstream soccer team. Other soccer groups such as the St. Johns area homeschoolers, the adult men over 40 league, British Soccer Camp, and individuals utilize the fields for practice, drop-in games, and camps. For each youth, multiple adults and siblings watch and enjoy the soccer activities.

The second most predominant use of the township hall and facilities is for community gatherings. Numerous groups and hundreds of individuals use the facilities year-round for a wide range of activities such as school and family reunions, markets and sales, sanctioned dog-tracking tests, benefits and fundraisers, open houses, weddings and receptions, anniversaries, holiday parties, informal family picnics, team picnics, 4H meetings and demonstrations, basketball, radio-controlled airplane flying, community service projects, etc. The hall and parking serve as a popular rendezvous point and base for bicycle riders and runners who utilize the region for these activities.

In addition to the above-mentioned efforts, the Township has ~~in the past~~ worked with the Laingsburg Wrestling Club to provide a practice facility for the club sport, due to constrained practice facilities at the Schools. It has also served as a back-up practice facility for competitive cheerleading when school facilities were not available, for soccer when weather is inclement, and as a shelter for teams and families when severe weather causes evacuation of the fields.

Boy Scout Troop 205 uses the township hall and grounds for meetings, projects and training. The Township was privileged to host the gathering and camping site for the 2009 International Boy Scout Festival. The Scouts also support capital improvement and maintenance projects such as renovation and operation of the concession stand, construction of the playground equipment, grading and seeding of the area around the Historic Denison Schoolhouse, construction of a mock outhouse, and painting of the interior of the large hall. An Eagle Scout Project to apply for a State Historical Marker for the Historic 1885 Reed Church has been approved by the Boy Scout Council.



## **Current Funding Sources and Park and Recreation Budget**

The Park and Recreation budget comes from the general operating budget of the township. Approximately \$11,000 dollars annually has been appropriated for parks & recreation operating expense. The AYSO and Laingsburg Soccer Club volunteer groups are the key funding sources for soccer activities. They raise funds throughout the year and volunteer labor to provide maintenance and repair of soccer equipment with some assistance from the Township. The restroom facilities at the Park are also used during many other community events besides soccer as they adjoin the picnic pavilions and historic buildings such as the Reed Church.

## **Relationship with Schools, Other Public Agencies and Private Organizations**

No public school buildings, incorporated cities or villages are present in Victor Township. Public school districts serving the Township's residents include St. Johns, Laingsburg, Ovid-Elsie and Bath. Nearby cities and villages include Laingsburg (Shiawassee County), Ovid, Bath, Dewitt and St. Johns (all in Clinton County). One key public agency partner to the Township in terms of outdoor recreation opportunity is the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) of Environment Recreation Division. The MDNR manages Sleepy Hollow State Park in the northern portion of the Township and a public access site on the Looking Glass River off Babcock Road.

In 2009, the Township signed an agreement with the American Red Cross to designate the township hall facilities and grounds for potential use as an emergency shelter in time of disaster. To that end, the Township installed a back-up generator to provide power to the building in the event of a power outage. Currently the hall is the only facility currently serving the SE region of Clinton County for such purposes.

## Recreation and Resource Inventory

Using the 2015-19 Clinton County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan and other available information, the following recreation resources are available in Clinton County, which encompasses Victor Township.

### State Owned Recreation

The State of Michigan has key facilities and lands that help meet outdoor recreational needs. Six of these areas are located within Clinton County. Each offers slightly different opportunities and activities that contribute to the diversity of the area.

#### Rose Lake Wildlife Research Center

Located in Bath Township, this area is owned by the MDNR and is comprised of over 3,500 acres of rolling hills, lakes and wetlands. The area is managed for wildlife research and wildlife associated recreation. Hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities are offered for people within several surrounding counties. The area has been developed with many parking areas, 15 miles of marked trails, skeet shooting, rifle ranges, youth group camping and is also a favorite place for non-motorized trail activities. The area is managed primarily for small game, wildlife habitat and is a site for the State's pheasant and wild turkey release programs. Hunting is also permitted in various locations within the area during the appropriate seasons.

#### Sleepy Hollow State Park

Located in Victor Township, the property is owned by the MDNR and encompasses over 2,600 acres of land. The South Maple Drain winds through the site and is the source of the 410 acre Lake Ovid, an impoundment located in the center of the park that is a popular cool water fishery. The park contains a modern campground, a primitive organization campground, three picnic areas, a half-mile beach, 16 miles of non-motorized trails, a boat launch, fishing piers, and hunting during the appropriate seasons. Mountain biking and cross county skiing are also popular uses of the various trails. Several playground areas are also located adjacent to the picnic areas providing swings, slides and other equipment.

#### Babcock Landing

The MDNR also maintains a boat launch within Victor Township. This launch is located on the Looking Glass River and is accessed from Babcock Road. The site is a carry-down launching area and does not have an improved boat launch only allowing car-top boats, kayaks and canoes. The launch is open daily from 4:00 AM to 11:00 PM and is used by anglers and boaters.

#### Muskrat Lake Game Area

Olive Township has a 219 acre area which includes a public access lake and surrounding uplands managed for wildlife habitat and hunting. A trail system is lacking in the Game Area.

#### Maple River State Game Area

Located in Lebanon and Essex Townships in Clinton County with additional acreage in Gratiot and Ionia County, this area has an extensive system of forests, wetlands and some widely spaced, generally primitive river access sites. The 11,000 acre area is managed for wildlife habitat, which in turn provides opportunity for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, boating and walking/hiking. Non-motorized trails are generally unimproved and provided to facilitate hunter access. The Maple River traverses the area and provides boating opportunities for canoes and other small boats as well as fishing. The river has a

significant floodplain and navigation for powered watercraft is often challenging due to log jams, shallow water, etc.

#### Portland State Game Area

Located in the very southwest tip of the county, a portion of the Portland State Game Area is found in Eagle Township. The area provides opportunities for hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing as well as non-motorized trail activities.

#### Fred Meijer Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee Trail

The trail is 41.3 miles long, 12 feet wide and parallels M-21 all across Clinton County. The trail is owned by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and is managed by MDNR.

### **Clinton County Facilities**

Clinton County owns and manages four (4) park areas: Francis Motz County Park, Clinton Lakes County Park, Latoff Landing (i.e., access site to the Maple River in DuPlain Township at French and St. Clair Roads), and the 4-H Fairgrounds.

Francis Motz County Park features a 15 acre lake with an accessible 1 acre beach, an accessible fishing pier, a barrier free toilet/changing building with 7 regular stalls and a special needs room for those with spinal cord injuries, a fully accessible picnic area with 32 tables and an adjacent accessible picnic pavilion that seats 176 and parking for 102 vehicles, including with appropriate parking for handicapper vehicles. All facilities are connected by sidewalks that meet ADA standards. The park serves the Mid-Michigan area providing a regional, accessible water recreation opportunity with free entry to all visitors, whether county residents or those from other places. The facilities are in excellent condition due to their design and use of materials for longevity, recent construction and scrupulous preventive maintenance.

Clinton Lakes County Park has two lakes of 90 and 12 acres. The park was acquired in fall 2013 and is minimally developed. The current focus is on providing high quality natural resources and natural resource recreation in a regional park, likely serving Clinton, Shiawassee, Gratiot and Ingham County residents and visitors from greater distances as the fishery, nature observation and hunting attributes become better known. The natural resource recreation activities provided include fishing, waterfowl and small game hunting, deer hunting for disabled veterans, nature observation, hiking/walking and canoe and kayak use. Like Francis Motz County Park, which is adjacent on the East side of DeWitt Road, Clinton Lakes County Park was also a former sand and gravel quarry. Its two lakes (Big Clinton Lake and Little Clinton Lake) were stocked with rainbow trout, walleye, perch and fathead minnows upon the advice of Dr. Ned Fogle, retired MDNR fisheries biologist and Scott Hanshue, current MDNR fisheries biologist. In addition to the stocking, there were bass and bluegill already in the lakes when the property was acquired.

The third is Latoff Landing, at the intersection of French and St. Clair Roads on the Maple River. The one-acre site was acquired in 2005 by the County using only County general fund dollars. It was improved in 2014 by the Clinton County Road Commission during their upgrade of the bridge over the Maple River to facilitate parking for vehicles with carry-in craft and those fishing from the bank. The only development consists of a 6-vehicle gravel parking area and a walkway to the river. The County uses the 4-H Fairgrounds as a special use park to hold events such as the Mint Festival. This area is adjacent to the St. Johns City Park and encompasses 38 acres. This area receives the top rating in regards to ADA compliance. There are 7 handicap/van accessible parking spots (4 is minimum according to the ADA guidelines), all paved walks are accessible (curb-cuts, etc.) and all facilities are accessible (36" doors, etc.). The following is a list of the 12 facilities located in the fairgrounds:

1. Smith Hall
2. Peck Hall
3. Dairy Barn
4. Swine Barn
5. Pavilion
6. Restrooms
7. Retention Pond
8. Office Building
9. Uncovered Arena
10. Livestock Barn
11. Horse Barn
12. Sheep, Goat and Llama Barn

The County has long-range plans for renovations at the 4-H Fairgrounds. Phase one has been completed of which included drive and access extension and repair, a storm water retention pond, Smith Hall improvements, a new swine barn and green space additions. The total cost for these renovations (not including the swine barn and Smith Hall improvements) was \$2,328,000 from the public improvement fund. Five more phases of renovation of the Fairgrounds will be completed. Phase 2: Site work and south fairgrounds; Phase 3: Site work and covered arena; Phase 4: Site work and west access drive and lot; Phase 5: Site work and campground; Phase 6: Site work and conference center.

### **Township Facilities**

The sixteen townships within Clinton County offer a wide range of recreational opportunities (e.g., several townships offer nothing more than a small playground area adjacent to their township hall or no facilities at all, where as three of the townships have staffed parks and recreation departments and planned recreational programs). The following inventory represents established recreational opportunities in the Townships. In that some Townships do not have established facilities, those Townships are not listed. Lebanon Township, where the Village of Maple Rapids is located, is one of those townships with no park or recreation facilities.

#### **Bath Township**

Bath Township has several community parks that offer a range of recreational opportunities, as well as a township parks and recreation program for township residents. The township also offers soccer, t-ball and baseball programs and a seasonal event area.

- James Couzens Memorial Park is a two acre park located on Main St. just south of Bath. The park features a pavilion, a war memorial and a historical marker commemorating the Bath School Disaster of 1927.
- Fletcher Robson Nature Park was recently donated to the Township for a natural area. Initial trails and a small parking area have been cleared by township staff and further trails, benches, amenities will continue to be completed in-house by township staff. This park is targeted for passive recreational uses and natural trails.
- Park Lake Waterfront/North Webster Road Park is a 26 acre site that is currently owned by the township and development of this site will depend upon the results of a forthcoming utilization study.
- Upton Road Park is a 19 acre parcel of property that is currently undeveloped. Possible uses are multiple active sports opportunities such as baseball, softball, basketball and football facilities.

- Gary Lane Soccer Complex (Bath Soccer Field) provides the only soccer area within the township. Additional improvements are being made to create a permanent soccer facility. This includes improvements to drainage, construction of a restroom/concession/storage facility, handicap accessible paths, fencing and equipment.
- The *Park Lake Beach* is a one-acre lake front site on Park Lake, which features 300 feet of clean sand beach. Public swimming is permitted from this area.
- *Rickard Park Boat Launch* is another facility on Park Lake that offers a one-acre site with the only public access to the lake for boating. It features a paved boat launch and a small picnic area.
- *Wiwasser Park* is a 1.5 acre park across the street for the Rickard Boat Launch Park with playground equipment, a sand volleyball court, picnic tables, a grill and mature trees.
- *The Michigan Wildlife Habitat Conservancy* (MWHC) is also located in Bath Township on approximately 200 acres south of Drumheller Rd. encompassing Grass Lake and other unique natural features. Their property also houses the Bengal Wildlife Center, an educational center offering demonstration projects in wetland preservation and enhancement as well as wildlife habitat development.

#### Dallas Township

- Fowler Conservation Club is a private 10 acre site with woods and river access. It also has an outdoor pavilion and a building that can be rented for various activities.

#### DeWitt Township

DeWitt Township offers numerous parks and playgrounds as well as recreational programs for township residents. A staffed position for a parks and recreation director provides the daily operation of the program and guidance to the township parks and recreation commission. Their programs include soccer, t-ball and baseball leagues, as well as indoor basketball and volleyball leagues and open court times. They also offer seasonal activities such as an Easter Egg hunt, bike rodeo and other events.

- Valley Farms Park & Kramer - Ruthruf Area is an 11 acre site that offers a variety of activities. A disc golf course and natural trails through wooded areas, along with soccer fields, basketball courts, sand volleyball courts, t-ball and softball diamonds and a playground with various equipments are found in this park. Additionally, there are horseshoe pits, 2 pavilions, picnic tables and restrooms. Numerous improvements have been made to this site over the past several years, making it a favorite township park.
- DeWitt Community Center is the former township hall. Portions of the building have been demolished, leaving a large recreational room and support rooms which offer indoor recreational opportunities year-round. This is also the location of the DeWitt Area Recreation Authority that provides recreational opportunities to DeWitt Township and the City of DeWitt.
- Stationhouse Playground is the newest Township Park. It was completed in the summer of 2002 and offers a modern piece of playground equipment with slides, climbing areas and more. Swings and picnic tables are also available. The adjacent township hall and the fire station provide parking.
- Richard A. Padgett Natural Area is a 42 acre community park, which is adjacent to a 38 acre parcel of property, which contains the local wastewater treatment plant. The park has authorization from the Water Department to utilize 27.4 acres of their property for recreational purposes, bringing the total park acreage to 69.4 acres. The park is mainly wooded with various

types of forests and scrub/shrub areas. Walking/jogging trails, a parking area, restroom facilities and picnic tables are available. Programs to mark the trails are underway.

- Looking Glass Riverfront Park is a 5.2 acre park that provides approximately 930 feet of access to the Looking Glass River. This park provides the only access to a water body within the Township park system. The park offers a canoe launch, observation deck, parking area, picnic tables and several grills.
- Valley-Turner a 3.4 acre neighborhood park/playground which offers a climbing tower and several swings, along with a few picnic tables.
- Coleman Play Lot is a small, 1.3 acre, neighborhood park/playground which was given to the Township for use as a public park by the Granger Waste Management Company. This playground includes a playground structure with slides and climbers, as well as several benches.
- Wood-Webb Park is a 7.6 acres park, which is undeveloped at this time. There is no parking or other facility on site at this time.
- Granger Meadows Park – As part of a community host agreement for the expansion of the Granger Wood St. Landfill, a park of approximately 76-acres in size has been developed. Facilities include a sledding hill, in-line skating rink, trails, softball/baseball diamond, playground, skating pond, basketball court, restrooms and pavilions.
- An 11 acre parcel acquired from Michigan Department of Transportation by the Township is undeveloped at the time. It is bounded by US-127, Round Lake Road, Wood Street and provides more than 400 feet of frontage on the north bank of the Looking Glass River.

#### Duplain Township

- Friendship Park is located on the Maple River at the dam near Elsie. It has had minimal development and maintenance, although there is considerable potential to make it an attractive water-based recreation site.

#### Eagle Township

- Lincoln Brick Park, an Eaton County Park, is partially located within Eagle Township.
- Eagle Park owned by the Eagle Township Fair Association, a private entity. It includes pavilions, truck and tractor-pull area and mud bog area as well as softball fields, tennis/basketball courts, playground equipment and a caboose railcar.

#### Victor Township

- Victor Township has the Township Park which encompasses ten acres of property adjacent to the township hall. The park includes restroom facilities for outdoor recreation, five soccer fields, and a large parking lot with basketball courts. The township soccer program is very active and well supported. A detailed analysis follows on pages 19-20.
- The *Grove Bible Church* on Price road has some recreational facilities including a playground, two soccer fields and two softball/baseball fields.
- *Lake Victoria* is private and accessible to residents of Lake Victoria by several private beach areas and a ten acre park with a softball/baseball diamond, open play area and a pavilion.

- *Round Lake* is a lake that connects to the Looking Glass River in the southern part of the Township. Access is available at Round Lake Gas for a fee, as are watercraft rentals. Fishing is popular on Round Lake on a year-round basis and the store sells bait and tackle.

#### Watertown Township

- Watertown Township Office Complex - Play area and open field behind Township Hall.
- *Looking Glass Park* is located ½ mile south of the Township Hall and contains three acres of property. It offers a canoe launch and access to the Looking Glass River, as well as baseball/softball diamond, sand volleyball, swings, ½ court basketball, pavilion with power and restrooms.
- *Heritage Park* located in Wacousta encompasses 9.3 acres and offers access to the Looking Glass River via a canoe launch, access to the Township Hall, 1 mile trail, baseball/softball diamonds, sand volleyball, soccer field, and a pavilion with power.
- *Holiday Haven* (private facility) is a Girl Scout Camp and educational center.
- *Minibeast Zooseum and Educational Center* is a private learning/interpretive center devoted to insects. The center includes hands-on exhibits, resource center, science store and outdoor classroom.

### **City and Village Recreation**

The cities and villages within Clinton County offer diverse recreational opportunities just like the townships. Some have small community parks while others have larger parks and activity programs. Those cities and villages without established facilities are not listed.

#### Village of Elsie

- Elsie Park has a picnic area and a series of baseball/softball fields.
- Hope Green Park.

#### Village of Fowler

- Fink Park contains softball/baseball diamonds, playground, and a pavilion and restrooms.
- Victor Street Park contains a seasonal ice rink and playground.
- Field of Dreams includes playground and play equipment, picnic area and pavilion.

#### City of St. Johns

The City of St. Johns has an extensive park system, which supplements the local school system and their recreational facilities. Additionally, the community has a strong community recreation program with non-profit organizations such as the St. Johns Youth Athletic Association, the St. Johns Youth Baseball, American Youth Soccer Organization, etc. These organizations make use of the City and School district facilities to provide local recreation programs. In the case of St. Johns Youth Baseball, they operate five fields behind the Bee's Chevrolet dealership that the owner leases to the association. They serve over 500 youth each year with t-ball, softball for girls and baseball for boys and girls and in addition hold various tournaments attracting a wide variety of regional teams.

- Senior Citizen Park contains several basketball and tennis courts as well as a soccer field, picnic shelter, restrooms and grills.

- J.C. Park provides a small neighborhood park with playground equipment and benches.
- Kibbee Street Park is another neighborhood park with playground equipment, several picnic tables and a small basketball court.
- Water Tower Park is a neighborhood park with playground equipment, several picnic tables and a small basketball court.
- Oak Street Park has a small playground with various playground equipment.
- St. Johns Depot is host to city festivals and events and is located downtown.
- St. Johns City Park is the largest of the city parks and contains a multitude of facilities. A Splash Park is located within the park. There are also 4 tennis courts, a band shell, picnic pavilion, several playgrounds, numerous horseshoe pits, several smaller picnic shelters, benches and picnic tables throughout the park, and several restrooms. There are several paved and unpaved trails as well as a 1/4 mile paved track and roller blade court. As basketball court, three softball diamonds and a disc golf course are also available. A sand volleyball court, sledding hill, seasonal skating rink and warming house round out the facilities.
- 4-H Fairgrounds are owned by Clinton County and governed by the Clinton County Board of Commissioners, however, the property is actually located within the City of St. Johns. The fairground consists of Smith Hall, which is used for community activities and meetings, several animal barns, restrooms an arena and a seasonal skating rink. Parking for many of the events held at the fairgrounds is provided by the use of the St. Johns High School parking lot.

In addition to these existing facilities, the City is currently updating their plan to include provisions for the development of a rails-to-trails program, approximately 1.5 miles of asphalt trail through the city, and possibly a skate park. The rails-to-trails project would complement the County goals of a linear park system offering trail opportunities for county residents and is now completed.

#### Village of Maple Rapids

- Three baseball/softball fields, basketball court, playground and picnic pavilion in one park covering multiple city blocks

#### Village of Ovid

- Gumaer Park - located near the North Elementary School, this park offers woods, exercise trails and a pavilion along with a vehicle parking lot.
- Boyer Park- located at 119 S. Main Road, this park offers picnic tables and benches.
- Ovid Recreation Field

#### Village of Westphalia

- Droste Memorial Park includes a softball field, horseshoe pits, playground equipment, picnic facilities, restrooms, barbecue area and pavilions, as well as green space and shade trees.

#### City of DeWitt

The City of DeWitt offers an extensive number and type of recreational opportunities to local residents. Numerous parks are available, as well as recreation programs, ranging from soccer leagues to baseball leagues and special activities such as summer concerts in Memorial Park. Numerous private recreational facilities are located within the community (mainly parks of recent subdivision developments). The City



has made a concerted effort to connect all of the City parks with a bicycle trail and walking paths and has created a very attractive and efficient park system for local residents. These various lots have not been inventoried due to the private ownership of the property.

- McGuire Park is a neighborhood park along the Looking Glass River. This park has recently been redeveloped to include a new play structure, two picnic pavilions, portable restrooms, two zone soccer fields and a pedestrian pathway along the river.
- The City Hall and Police Department site on approximately 4.5 acres of land. The property is currently undeveloped with the exception of the river trail, which leads to River Trail Park. The city hall lot provides parking.
- River Trail Park has undergone a tremendous amount of development since it was first acquired in 1992. The park has been developed into a nine acre park with a play structure, picnic pavilion, restroom facility, parking lot and open spaces, as well as bicycle/walking trails to City Hall and River Side Park.
- DeWitt Sports Park is a 14.5 acre complex that provides a soccer field, two adult-size softball fields, a maintenance/restroom facility, concession stand, a large playground structure and a swing set, as well as a large parking area. This facility has extensive use by local residents and is connected to the other City parks by way of the bicycle/walking trail.
- Wilson Street Park is a 0.75 acre parcel, which is an open play space utilized for zone soccer in the spring and fall.
- Riverside Park is a 2.98 acre neighborhood park located along the Looking Glass River. The park has had recent upgrades, including a new picnic pavilion, a new playground structure, a barrier-free playhouse and restroom facilities. Large multi-use open space and parking lot are available as well. This park is linked with a trail to the River Trail Park and is located across the street from Memorial Park.
- Memorial Park is a small one-acre park that contains a gazebo, sidewalks and gardens and serves as a passive recreation area, just south of the downtown business district.
- City Park is currently an undeveloped piece of property containing 0.42 acres of property.
- Percy Carris Park is a 1 acre site with serves as a mini-park and contains various play equipment.
- Elmwood Park is a 0.7 acre site with a sand volleyball court horseshoe pit, picnic tables and a paved pathway.
- Well House #1 is an open space area of 6 acres which is undeveloped area leased to the Millbrook Homeowners Association for a small playground area.

### **School Facilities**

The thirteen public school districts and several private schools that serve Clinton County residents offer various recreational opportunities. Playgrounds and sports fields including baseball, football, soccer and running tracks are available at most, if not all of these schools. Their primary focus is recreational activities although their size and style vary. The following lists the thirteen public school districts; however, no attempt has been made to inventory each school districts facilities at this time, because seven of these school districts actually have the majority of their school campuses outside of Clinton County.

- Bath
- Carson City - Crystal

- DeWitt
- Fowler
- Fulton
- Grand Ledge
- Haslett
- Laingsburg
- Lansing
- Ovid-Elsie
- Pewamo-Westphalia
- Portland
- St. Johns

School facilities play an important role in the provision of recreational opportunities within the County. They meet the local recreational needs and provide the majority of the local indoor recreational experiences. The availability of school recreational facilities to the general public varies by school district. The school facilities and programming are closely related to the local programming and facilities.

### **Private Facilities**

Numerous private facilities have not been inventoried in detail since they predominately offer specific recreational opportunities that may not appeal to a broad enough cross section of the county population. The facilities' list includes golf courses, nature centers, shooting and archery clubs and private subdivision trails and pathways.

### **Regional Facilities**

Being located at the northern edge of the Lansing metropolitan area provides a wide range of recreational opportunities the residents of Clinton County. For example Ingham and Eaton Counties have fairly extensive park systems and recreational programs. Ingham County owns seven parks, 2 canoe landings, a boat launch, a soccer complex and a trail system. Eaton County owns five parks totaling 285.5 acres. The cities of East Lansing and Lansing, as well as Haslett, Okemos, Grand Ledge and Holt offer parks and recreational programs, any of which are open to non-residents. Coupled with larger recreational facilities such as Oldsmobile Park, the Michigan State University Campus, Potter Park Zoo and the Woldumar Nature Center, there are many recreational opportunities available.

## Detailed Inventory of Victor Township Park

The Planning Commission evaluated the Township owned park and recreation facilities through an on-site inspection of all facilities and through records and information provided by the Township Clerk and Supervisor. All Township park facilities are designed to serve the entire Township and are also used by those from neighboring jurisdictions such as Laingsburg in neighboring Shiawassee County. The park type is local. The detailed inventory of the Township park and recreation facilities uses the DNR's rating scale of accessibility found on page 7 in the Guidelines for Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Green Space Plans:

- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = entire park developed/renovated using principals of universal design

- **Township Park.** This 10 acre site has 3 soccer fields, parking for more than 100 cars on a paved lot and includes clearly designated parking for handicappers. A portion of the lot is open for basketball with a regulation court and two goals and backboards. There are 3 fully accessible picnic pavilions (no lip to ground, firm ground surrounding, concrete pad, accessible tables) that will in total provide picnic facilities for approximately 175 persons. The entire site is flat and firm with mowed grass and no slopes that exceed 5%. Rest room facilities are found inside the adjacent Township Hall. A second set of restrooms are located on the north side of the adjacent fire station. Both sets of restrooms are fully accessible, heated and include indoor plumbing. The restrooms adjacent to the fire station have direct access from the exterior of the building and are open 24/7. These restrooms serve the needs of those using the park as well as those using the area for recreation such as bicycling, running, walking, cross country skiing, etc. There is no lip from the parking lot to any portion of the park, allowing mobility impaired individuals to use the full area. Trash receptacles are open and less than 42 inches in height and require no pressure to open, thus are universally accessible. In 2016, some playground equipment (e.g. youth play structure, teeter-totter, etc.) was removed due to safety concerns with the age and condition of the equipment. A swing set still exists on the western portion of the property and the intent is to replace removed equipment in the future. A small concession stand is used at selected times (i.e., during community events, soccer league games). It has a roof, concrete pad on grade with the surrounding turf and sufficiently wide travel way to accommodate a wheel chair under the roof. Two historic structures stand on the property and represent days gone by. Both are available for use by appointment/reservation. The park as a whole would be rated a 3 with the exception of the two historic structures. The Historic Structures have not been evaluated using ADA guidelines. A structural safety inspection and feasibility plan is anticipated in the next year. The park pavilion, restrooms, and parking lot meet accessibility guidelines. Adding new and updated playground equipment to the township park is on the agenda for 2017 and will meet requirements for safety and inclusion.
- **Victor Township Hall** (which is surrounded on three sides by the Park) provides a meeting place for a variety of community events and can be reserved and rented for family related events (e.g. reunion, wedding reception, etc.). The Township Hall is on grade with no steps up or down and a door jamb that does not preclude access by a mobility impaired individual. Doors are 36" to accommodate a person in a wheelchair. The restrooms at the community center are accessible, but the building is often locked unless opened for a specific event. Parking is available for more than 100 cars in a paved lot adjacent to the building with no curb or significant variation in grade.

Requisite handicapper parking sites are marked and provide the closest and most direct access to the building. The Township Hall is rated as a 3. Most of the facility meets accessibility guidelines but may be somewhat updated. The Township is working on 5 year maintenance plan for the Hall. The plan will ensure ADA compliance in all maintenance for the building.

The Township takes considerable pride in excellent maintenance of all park and recreation facilities. The Township Board contracts with individuals or companies to provide building maintenance, housekeeping and grounds-keeping, to ensure the facility is in excellent shape. This includes accurate signage, properly painted structures and that sidewalks, historic buildings, and picnic pavilions are all in good repair. A positive relationship with the area Fire and Rescue Authority, its many volunteers and parents and friends of youthful soccer players have been very valuable in creating and maintaining the outstanding condition of the facilities.

### **MDNR Recreation Grant Inventory**

As of March 12, 2010, the MDNR Grants Management reports that Victor Township has not received an acquisition grant and has received one development grant from the Clean Michigan Initiative (which is counted as receiving an MNRTF grant for scoring purposes) in 2000 of \$57,000 per their data base (pers. comm. Linda Hegstrom). Hence, the Township should be eligible for additional points under the current MNRTF scoring system for acquisitions as never having received such funding. No new projects have been funded via grants since 2010.

### **Summary**

As the inventory and community description illustrate, Victor Township has a number of other public and private recreation facilities nearby in Clinton County and the Township has a growing population. The Township has done an excellent job with its existing park and recreation facilities which is focused on providing active (e.g., soccer) and passive (e.g., picnic area, playground, historic buildings, quiet and shaded public space) recreation opportunities for community residents and visitors. However, it is lacking non-motorized trails and non-motorized connection to key recreation resources within the Township or beyond in Clinton County.

## Planning and Public Input Process

The planning process used is what the MDNR, in the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park and Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans, characterizes as the “systems approach to planning”. The needs of the community are assessed by multiple levels of public input and translated into a framework for meeting the physical, spatial and facility requirements to satisfy those needs.

The initial process to develop the original Plan began with a request from the Township to submit a proposal through Michigan State University Extension to update the lapsed Park and Recreation Plan for the Township. A proposal was provided on March 17, 2009 to the Township and accepted May 12, 2009 by the Board of Trustees. Following their acceptance, a widely publicized public meeting was held at the Victor Township Hall on July 9, 2009 for the purposes of a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis meeting about parks and recreation in Victor Township. This was publicized in the June 2009 Township Newsletter (Volume 7, Issue 2) that was distributed to every household in the Township in June 2009 (Appendix A). Five members of the public attended the meeting and notes from the meeting are found in Appendix B. There was strong support to move forward with the Plan and to focus efforts on non-motorized trails and transportation and to improve the existing park surrounding the Township Hall. Based on the results of that meeting and the support of the Township Board of Trustees, a questionnaire was mailed to each household in Victor Township to assess their recreational needs. Based on the responses to that questionnaire, the input from the public meeting, the recreation inventory of Victor Township and the surrounding Clinton County and the judgment of the authors, a draft plan was submitted to the Township Board on March 12, 2010. At a well publicized regularly scheduled meeting the Township Board of Trustees reviewed the draft plan and approved distribution of the plan for public input for 45 days (longer than the required minimum public review period of 30 days to insure full input) through appropriate means including having it available at the Township offices and on the Township website ([victortownship.org](http://victortownship.org)). Following that review, a well publicized public hearing by the Township Board of Trustees was held at which time the Plan was accepted.

As part of the Plan update, a similar questionnaire to the original was sent out with the property tax assessment notices in February of 2016. A questionnaire similar to the one used for the previous Plan was used to provide consistency among variables attempted to be measured. An online version was made available on Survey Monkey via a link on the Victor Township website ([www.victortwp.org](http://www.victortwp.org)) as indicated on the paper survey instructions. Survey Monkey is an online survey program which can be filled out electronically. This option was made available to the residents in an attempt to procure additional responses and to appeal to a broader audience.

In review of the survey results, 946 households were sent the questionnaire and 102 responded for an overall 10.78% response rate. There were 69 paper surveys completed and 33 online. Comparison of the demographic characteristics of respondent households to 2010 Census data suggest that the respondents were representative of the population of Victor Township in demographic terms (e.g. household size, percentage of households with children, etc.).

Responses were analyzed and compared. Paper surveys were input into Survey Monkey to provide identical formats. Survey results can be found in the Appendices (see Table 1). Frequencies in the form of percentages as well as graphical representations are shown for each question. Written responses for questions with “other (please specify)” and “additional comments” are included in their entirety. Survey questions are referenced by number (Q#) and are also listed below the data summary.

**Table 1. Complete Victor Township Parks and Recreation Survey Results**

<b>Response Format</b>	<b>Results</b>
<b>Paper</b>	<b>Appendix D</b>
<b>Online</b>	<b>Appendix E</b>

Responses from paper and online surveys correlated well. Results of the 2009 survey were also similar. All of the respondents own their own home (Q19) and a majority have resided in the community for 20+ years (Q18). Less than half the residents had visited the facility within the last 12 months and had done so primarily for voting, soccer, or private/community events (Q4,5). Most residents view the Victor Township Hall Park positively (Q6). Interest in new opportunities include: non-motorized trails, improved/expanded playground equipment and additional activities (Q3,11,12,14). Please find below a sample of the survey presented to the residents of Victor Township.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Victor Township  
PARK AND RECREATION NEEDS SURVEY 2016**

This survey is one of the methods to better understand the outdoor recreation needs of Victor Township residents and visitors and how those needs should be met over the next 5 years.

One questionnaire has been provided for each household on Victor Township's mailing list. Please take the 10 minutes necessary to respond and mail or drop the survey off to the Victor Township Planning Commission, 6843 Alward Rd., Laingsburg, MI 48848. You may also choose to complete the survey online using the link on the Victor Township website ([www.victortwp.org](http://www.victortwp.org)). Your response is voluntary and you will remain anonymous. We look forward to receiving your response by April 1, 2016. Thank you for taking the time to help guide the outdoor recreation future of Victor Township. The questions used in this survey were primarily drawn from the questions and responses from a previous survey in 2009.

**SURVEY**

**Existing Opportunities**

Victor Township has one township-owned park that includes soccer fields, picnic pavilions, playground equipment, a basketball court, and historic buildings on Alward Road just west of Shepardsville Road, adjacent to the Township Hall.

1. Have one or more household members visited the park in the past 12 months?
2. If NO, what is the ONE main reason your household doesn't use the park?
3. What ONE change would most encourage your household to use the Township Park?

4. If you answered **YES** on question 1, please check ALL the activities in which one or more members of your household participated while visiting the Victor Township Park.
5. For your household, what is the ONE most important reason of the above for visiting this park?
6. On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 7 (extremely poor regard), please rate Victor Township Hall Park facilities.
7. What is the ONE most important reason for any rating of "poor" or "very poor" for the Victor Township Park facilities rated above?
8. On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 7 (extremely low regard) please rate the maintenance of the Victor Township Hall Park facilities.
9. On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 7 (extremely low regard) please rate the maintenance of the Victor Township Hall Park facilities.
10. What is the most important reason for your rating the above question?
11. What ONE most important improvement would you suggest for the park?

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

12. If Victor Township were to provide additional outdoor recreation opportunity to residents and visitors, please list the ONE type of outdoor recreation opportunity/facility/activity that your household would most strongly support.
13. Please indicate your level of support for each potential new public outdoor recreational opportunity using the following scale: strongly support, moderately support, neutral, moderately oppose, moderately oppose.
14. Please list any other suggestion for land acquisition or development to support outdoor recreation in Victor Township.
15. Did anyone from your household visit Sleepy Hollow State Park in the past 12 months?
16. Did anyone from your household fish, swim or boat on Round Lake in the past 12 months?
17. Did anyone from your household fish, swim or boat on the Looking Glass R. in the Township in the past 12 months?

ABOUT YOUR HOUSEHOLD

These household questions help interpret how your views relate to others in like circumstances.

18. How many years have you lived in Victor Township?
19. Do you rent or own your home in Victor Township.
20. Are you male or female?
21. What is your age?

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

22. Please provide any other comments about Victor Township's park and recreation needs.

23. Would you be interested in completing future communications or updates in the following formats?

On January 3, 2017 a draft of the Updated Plan was released for a thirty (30) day public review period. This release was publicized in a local newspaper as well as presented on the Township's webpage. On January 26, 2017, the Planning Commission met to review comments received in the public review period and to consider any changes that may be necessary to be made prior to submitting to the Township Board for acceptance. Suggested revisions were reviewed at this meeting. The Planning Commission also moved to schedule a public forum on May 4, 2017 to obtain additional feedback from the public concerning the draft Plan. No additional comments were received.

**The Updated Plan was presented to the Township Board on April 4, 2017 for 30 day public review. The Update Plan was accepted and adopted as the 2017 Victor Township Parks & Recreation Plan on May 4, 2017 by the full Board.**



## Goals and Objectives

Based on the needs assessment and survey, the input from the public during the review period and public forum, and the recreation inventory of Victor Township and Clinton County as a whole, the judgment of the Victor Township Planning Commission and the input of the Victor Township Board of Trustees, the following goals and objectives are proposed.

### Goals

Over the next five (5) years, the following goals are set forth as priorities by the Township.

1. The Township will work to acquire and develop a functional system of non-motorized transportation and trail opportunities linking Township assets with surrounding communities and their assets.
  - a. The Clinton County Non-Motorized Transportation Plan should be used as a reference for coordinating efforts of other communities and the County.
  - b. Additional consideration should also be given to planning efforts in Shiawassee County and other bordering communities not in Clinton County.
2. The Township will seek to further strengthen the recreational opportunities already provided at the Township Park.
  - a. Improvements to existing parkland will complement the outstanding work done by the Township and volunteers to maintain the existing public park infrastructure and make the park more welcoming to all residents and visitors.
3. The Township will evaluate the acquisition of adjacent land that may be needed to expand the range of recreational opportunities provided at the existing park.
  - a. Consideration will be given such where key, universally accessible infrastructure is in place or put in place, including parking, picnic shelters, restrooms, and playground equipment/facilities.
4. The Township will work to enhance cooperation and coordination with other recreation providers in the area including the MDNR at Sleepy Hollow State Park and Babcock Road Water Access Site, Clinton County and others.

### Objectives

1. Develop a non-motorized transportation/trail system in the Township connecting recreational and community assets. This may use existing roads and their rights of way as well as benefit from new dedicated non-motorized trails. This will be done in conjunction with broader planning efforts for non-motorized circulation planning at the county level and may also integrate with efforts of many non-profit organizations representing a variety of non-motorized trail users.
2. Explore options of providing additional and improving existing recreational opportunities at the Township Park, including possible expansion. Suggestions to date for additional opportunities include updating and improving existing use areas and playground equipment, additional soccer fields, baseball/softball diamonds and community gardens. Another benefit is to limit any actual or potential conflict with active recreation and historic structures in the park or the adjacent cemetery. This would also provide the ability to expand cultural/historic resources should they become available, such as the existing historic structures in the park.

3. Seek a community tree planting grant from the Forest Management Division of the Michigan MDNR to provide additional living shade and scenic beauty to the Township Park. This could be done in each year as the cost is minimal and communities are drawn at random.

## Action Plan

The action plan is a proposed a calendar of events not a rigid schedule. The action plan does not commit the Township to the dollar amounts as they are subject to change as grant awards are increased/decreased. The action plan is a living document that serves as a guideline that details the intentions of the Township. The primary source for such grant funds is the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) which has a maximum match rate of 3:1 (every one dollar the local unit puts up, the MNRTF will provide three). Proposals for a non-motorized trail/transportation network are done in cooperation with the county to dovetail with plans related to county roads and the ability of Act 51 (McNitt Transportation Act) entities to seek Transportation Enhancement grants to develop non-motorized transportation infrastructure. All future design/construction will emphasize low maintenance, sustainable features.

Year	Action	Possible Funding Sources	Total Estimated Cost for all Funding Sources
2018-21	Submit MDNR tree planting grant	MDNR Community Forestry grant; MDNR Arbor Day Mini-Grant (no match needed)	\$200 for Arbor Day Mini-Grant; up to \$2,000 for Community Forestry Grant
2017-18	Identify, seek, apply, and procure public and private funding for replacing playground equipment at the park.	MDNR Grants (multiple sources), local funding raising, Township funds.	Up to \$100,000
2017-19	Develop non-motorized circulation plan in conjunction other plans and opportunities.	Township funds, local fundraising	Up to \$5,000
2019-20	Working with Clinton County non-motorized circulation plan submit grant proposal to implement Township non-motorized circulation plan	MDOT, MNRTF, Clinton County, Township funds, local fundraising.	Unknown, likely to be minimal to \$0
2020-21	Acquire additional parkland contiguous to existing Township Park to provide additional recreational opportunity such as baseball and softball, playground, community gardens, etc.	MNRTF, Landowner donation, Township funds.	Up to \$75,000
2020-21	Implement Township non-motorized circulation plan	MDOT (minimum local match is 25%)	Up to \$50,000

It is also important to note that these funds are contingent on the local unit continuing to maintain the acquired parkland and its facilities into the future. Victor Township has an outstanding record in this area.

### Appendix A

**– Text of Newsletter Article Distributed to Every Household in Township in Township Newsletter Vol. 7 Issue 2 Regarding Planning Process and Welcoming Public Participation to July 9, 2009 Meeting**

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN UPDATE**

*Good planning leads to great communities! The township parks and recreation plan is out of date and needs to be updated. This is a great opportunity to review our current status and future needs, priorities and dreams as a community. It is also important to keep our plan current so that the township is qualified to participate in State of Michigan grant opportunities.*

*Dr. Charles Nelson, a Victor Township resident and Director of the Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies at Michigan State University will facilitate the planning process. The first community visioning session is scheduled Thursday, July 9, 7:00 P.M. at the Victor Township hall. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss possible parks and recreation needs and ideas. The information collected will be used to construct a township wide survey to collect further input and data on parks and recreation needs and priorities. All organizations and individuals interested in recreation, greenspace, trails, etc. are encouraged to attend!*

#### **Appendix B**

**Victor Township Community Outdoor Recreation Plan Public Meeting Notes July 9, 2009**

## **Victor Township Park and Recreation Plan Update Public Meeting July 9, 2009 at Township Hall**

Dr. Charles Nelson from Michigan State University Extension facilitated the initial meeting in the process to update the five-year Victor Township Park and Recreation Plan, which has lapsed. A current plan allows the Township to seek grants from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and federal Land and Water Conservation to acquire and develop outdoor recreation resources. It also provides numerous opportunities for the public to participate in developing Township goals for public outdoor recreation opportunities. Finally, it builds on the Township's initial plan that provided much of the funds to develop the existing park at the Township Hall.

The purpose of the meeting was to ask interested citizens to identify the outdoor recreation strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for Victor Township over the next 5 years. After these results are compiled, a mail survey sent to a randomly selected sample of approximately 25% of the households of will be developed and administered to determine general public preferences for the initiatives assessed as feasible by the Victor Township Board. The sample will be selected from voter registration records and the surveys will be mailed out in September, closely following Labor Day. Residents will be able to either mail the survey back to the Township Office or drop them off in a drop box set aside for that purpose.

The completed surveys will be analyzed by MSU. Based on the results and the guidance received by Dr. Nelson from the Township Board, he will develop a draft Township Park and Recreation Plan. This will then be widely available for public review for more than 30 days and there will also be a public meeting devoted to receiving input on the draft plan. Following that, a final plan will be developed based on the draft plan and public review and submitted to the Township Board for approval and subsequent submission to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Facilitator

Dr. Charles Nelson

Attendees

1. Dan Morris
2. Richard Lyons
3. Linda Lyons
4. Natalie Elkins
5. Michelle Wilsey

**Strengths of the Township Related to Outdoor Recreation**

- Bus service from Clinton County Transport (Blue Bus) available for all township residents
- Picnic pavilion at Township Hall Park
- Soccer fields at Township Hall Park
- Township cemetery which is quiet, provides cultural link to past
- Scenic landscape
- Water resources including Looking Glass River and lakes
- Sleepy Hollow State Park
- Near developing CIS rail-trail
- Township is close to major populations
- Orchards, tree farm, tree/plant nursery, diverse agriculture
- Good hunting, fishing and boating
- Has limited development and positive rural character
- Rolling topography
- Gas/oil resources untapped but available
- Sand and gravel mining for potential lakes
- Good fire department and public safety in general

**Weaknesses of the Township Related to Outdoor Recreation**

- Lack of connectivity among different recreation and community resources
- Lack of universal access at outdoor recreation opportunities
- Lack of public access to local natural resources such as lakes, Looking Glass River
- Lack of \$\$ for maintenance of outdoor recreation opportunities
- Lack of local canoe/kayak access, canoe/kayak trails
- Lack public senior citizen opportunities
- Under developed private resources (e.g. lack of opportunities for seniors)

- Lack of opportunities for safe non-motorized recreation including bicycling, walking, equestrian use, in-line skating, etc.
- Lack of public support/too much apathy for people to get involved
- Lack of signage/way finding so visitors and new residents know where they are

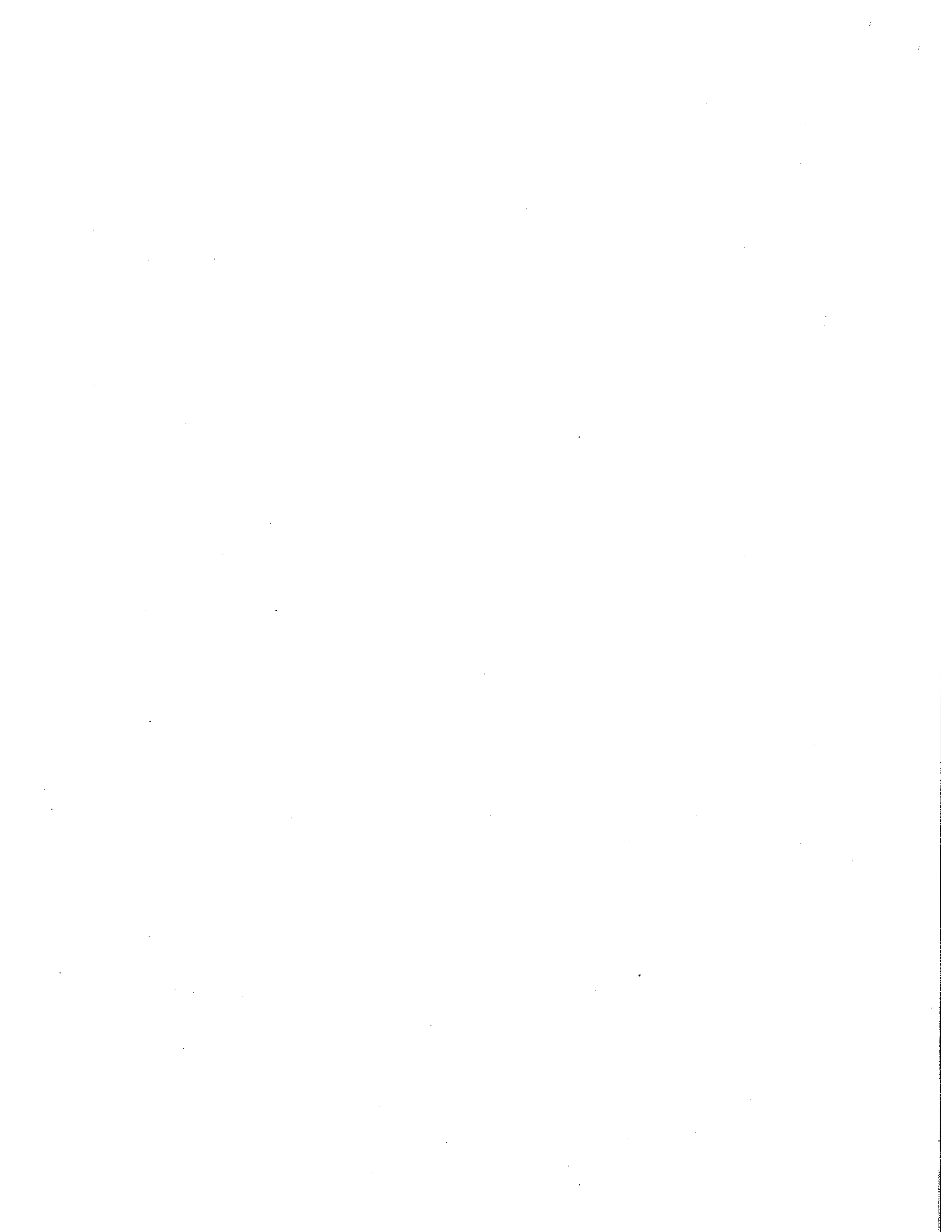
### **Opportunities for the Township Related to Outdoor Recreation**

- Expand historic village/structures at Township Hall Park or elsewhere
- Create access/public park on a lake
  - -may be existing lake or one created by sand/gravel mining
- Build maintenance/support building at Township Hall Park to support soccer, picnicking, etc.
- Develop safe playground for children at Township Hall Park
- Identify and protect nature ways/ecological corridors through tools such as easements in cooperation with others such as conservancies, county drain commissioner, etc.
- Develop public community garden opportunities
- Develop additional access to the Looking Glass River including upgrade Babcock Landing
- Develop safe non-motorized links to existing trails and other recreational and community assets
- Sleepy Hollow State Park
- Communities
- Looking Glass River
- CIS Rail-Trail
- Need to acquire land to expand existing Township Hall Park
  - -reduce conflict among soccer, picnic, historical/cultural efforts, and fire dept.
  - -provide room to grow as township population/needs increase
- Develop tourism/recreation attractions in cooperation with others including government, non-profit and commercial partners
- Improve existing soccer fields
  - -field leveling, turf improvements, new nets, etc.
- Explore having ball diamonds/team sport facilities currently not available on township property

### **Appendix C – Literature Cited**

U.S. Bureau of the Census. (2010). Census 2000, Victor Township, Michigan.

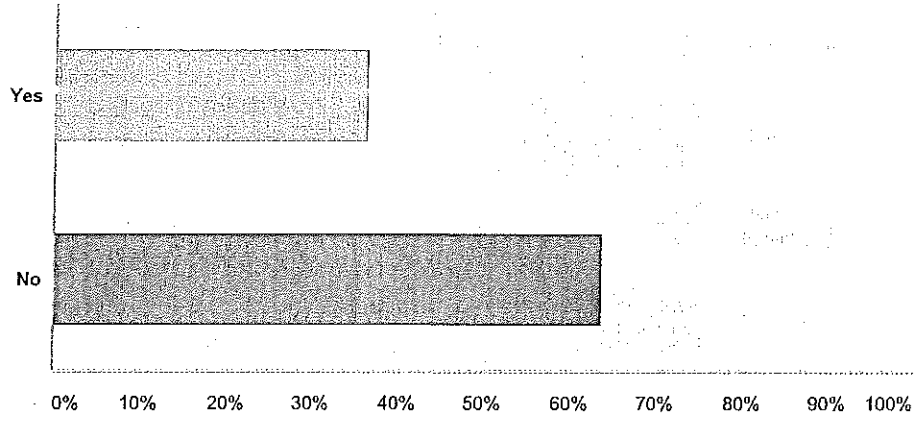
# Appendix D





### Q1 Have one or more of your household members visited the Victor Township Hall Park in the past 12 months?

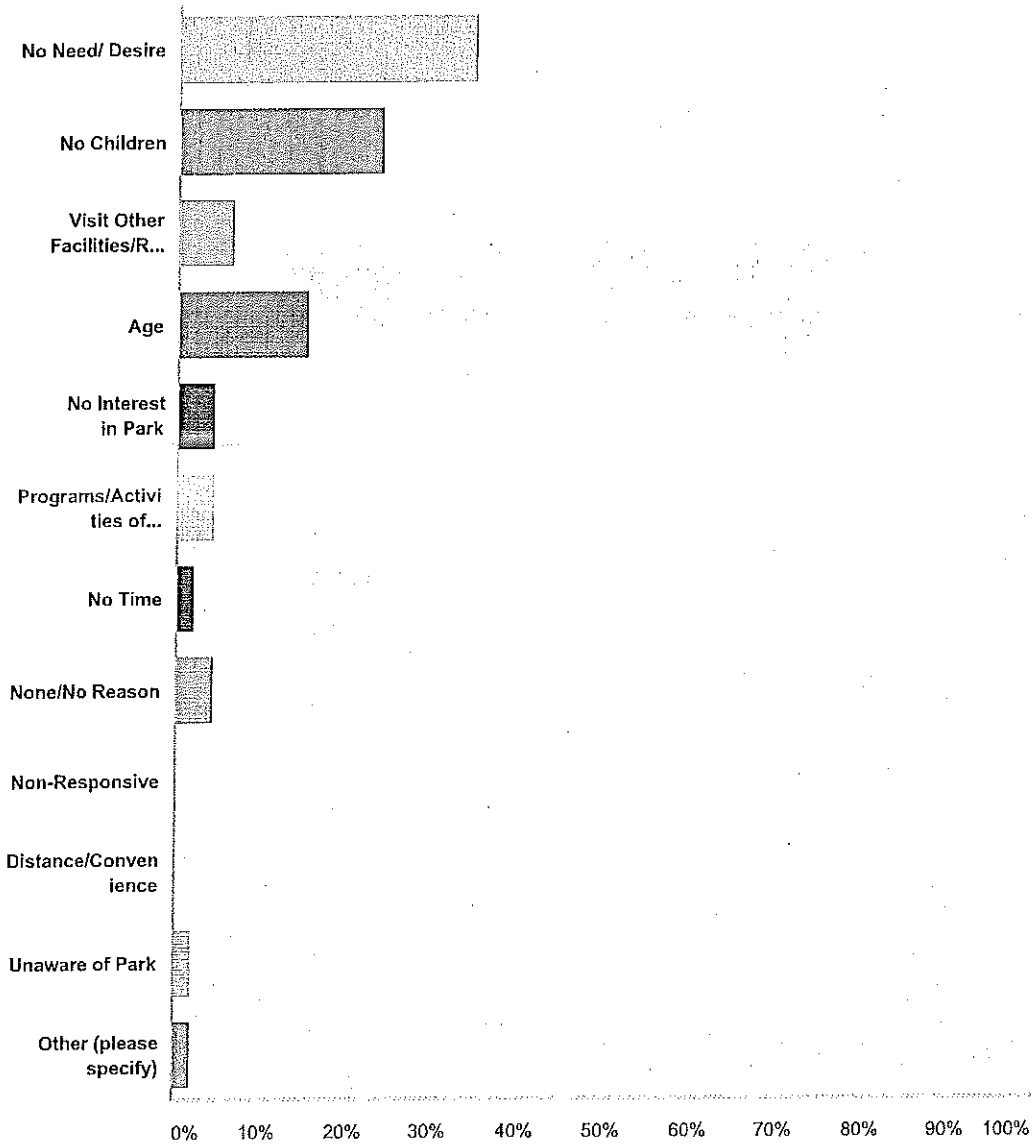
Answered: 69 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	36.23%	25
No	63.77%	44
<b>Total</b>		<b>69</b>

### Q2 If NO, what is the ONE main reason your household does not use the Victor Township Hall Park?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 23



Answer Choices	Responses
No Need/ Desire	34.78% 16
No Children	23.91% 11
Visit Other Facilities/Recreate Elsewhere	6.52% 3
Age	15.22% 7
No Interest in Park	4.35% 2
Programs/Activities of Interest Not Offered/Lack of Interest in Activities Offered	4.35% 2

Victor Township Park & Recreation Needs Survey - Paper Results

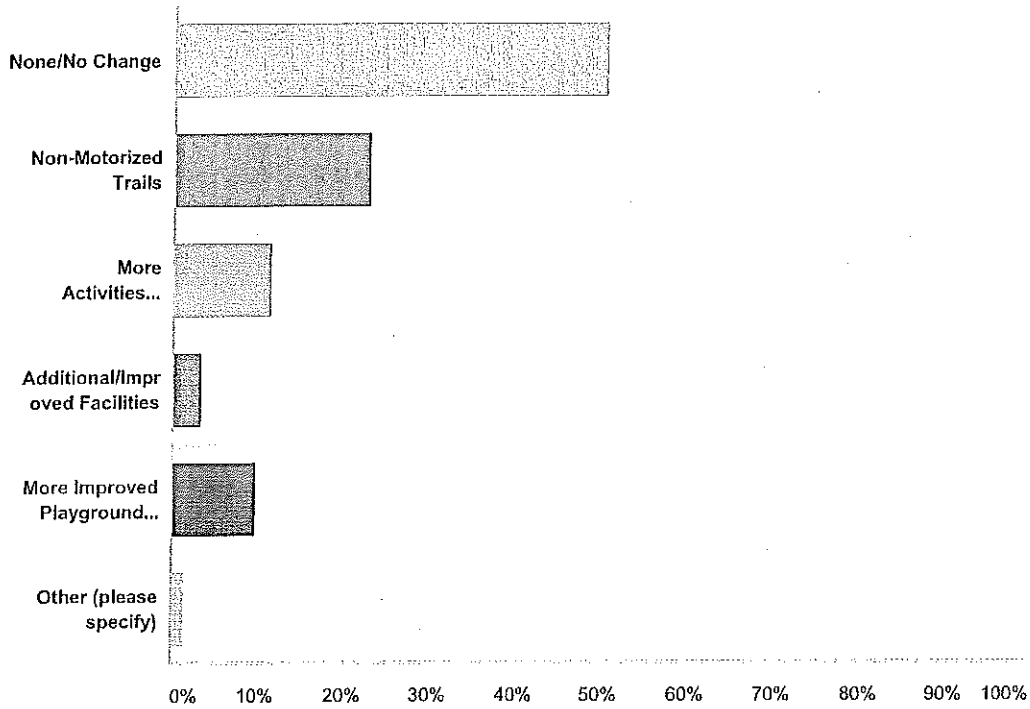
SurveyMonkey

No Time	2.17%	1
None/No Reason	4.35%	2
Non-Responsive	0.00%	0
Distance/Convenience	0.00%	0
Unaware of Park	2.17%	1
Other (please specify)	2.17%	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>46</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	no desire, maybe if my children was soccer age, would like to use pavilion someday for family reunion	5/4/2016 8:36 AM

### Q3 What one change would most encourage your household to use the Victor Town Hall Park?

Answered: 61 Skipped: 8

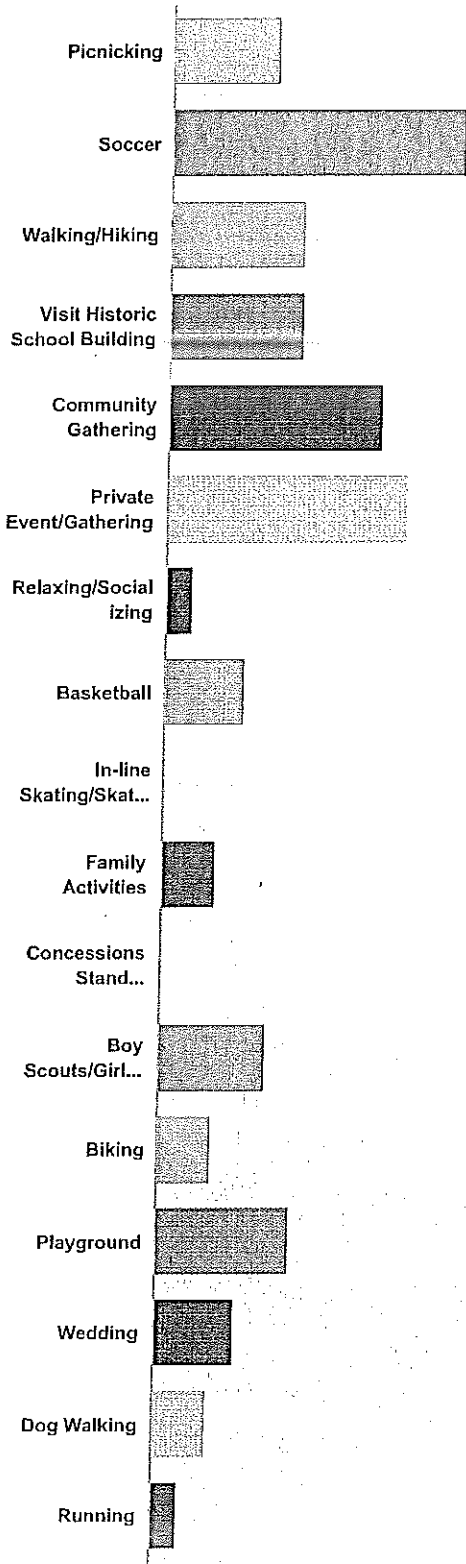


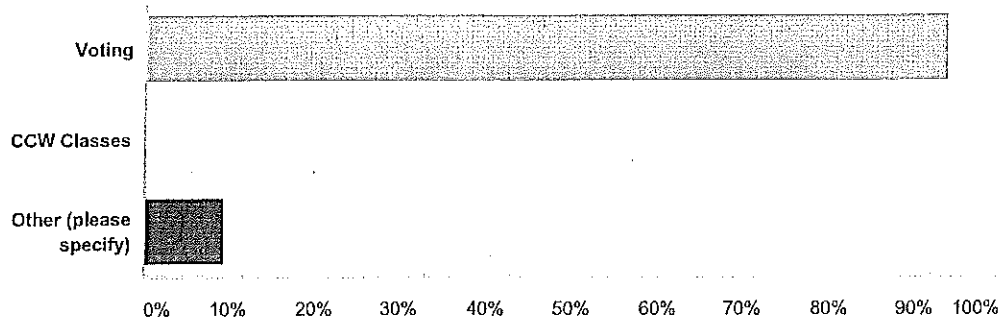
Answer Choices	Responses
None/No Change	50.82% 31
Non-Motorized Trails	22.95% 14
More Activities Offered	11.48% 7
Additional/Improved Facilities	3.28% 2
More Improved Playground Equipment	9.84% 6
Other (please specify)	1.64% 1
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	dog park	5/3/2016 8:50 AM

**Q4 If you answered YES on Question 1, please check ALL of the activities in which one or more members of your household participated while visiting the Victor Township Hall Park.**

Answered: 32 Skipped: 37





Answer Choices	Responses
Picnicking	12.50% 4
Soccer	34.38% 11
Walking/Hiking	15.63% 5
Visit Historic School Building	15.63% 5
Community Gathering	25.00% 8
Private Event/Gathering	28.13% 9
Relaxing/Socializing	3.13% 1
Basketball	9.38% 3
In-line Skating/Skateboarding	0.00% 0
Family Activities	6.25% 2
Concessions Stand Volunteering	0.00% 0
Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts	12.50% 4
Biking	6.25% 2
Playground	15.63% 5
Wedding	9.38% 3
Dog Walking	6.25% 2
Running	3.13% 1
Voting	93.75% 30
CCW Classes	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	9.38% 3
<b>Total Respondents: 32</b>	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	horseshoes	5/4/2016 8:25 AM
2	where are hiking trails?	5/3/2016 11:52 AM
3	Just moved to area	5/3/2016 10:35 AM

**Q5 For your household, what is the ONE most important reason of the above for visiting the Victor Township Hall Park?**

Answered: 35 Skipped: 34

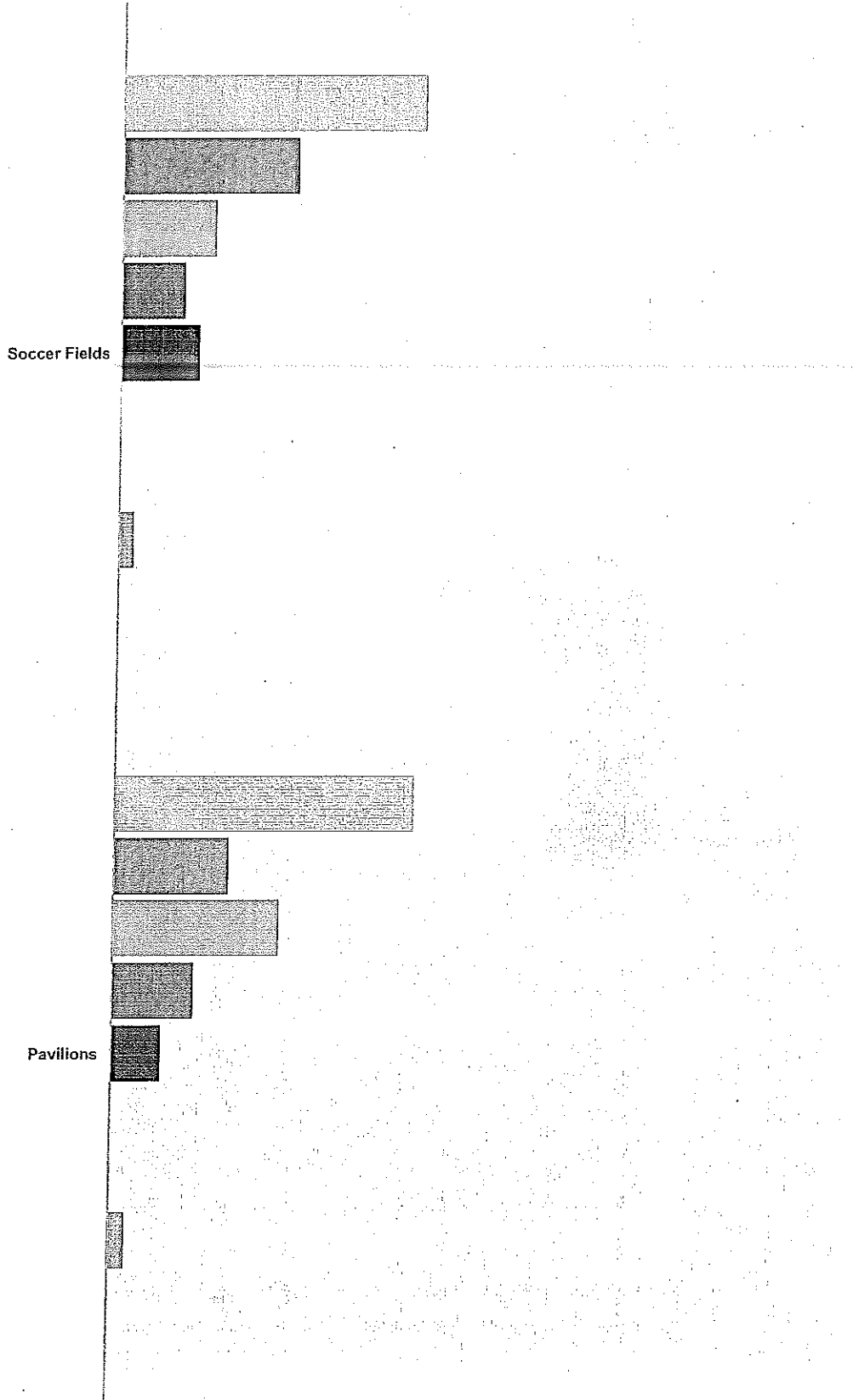
#	Responses	Date
1	soccer	5/4/2016 9:08 AM
2	soccer	5/4/2016 9:06 AM
3	voting	5/4/2016 9:03 AM
4	boy scouts	5/4/2016 9:01 AM
5	voting	5/4/2016 8:47 AM
6	vote and pay taxes	5/4/2016 8:36 AM
7	wedding	5/4/2016 8:32 AM
8	Boy scouts. It is great you allow them to meet at this facility	5/4/2016 8:25 AM
9	boy scouts	5/4/2016 8:19 AM
10	soccer	5/4/2016 8:16 AM
11	social gathering	5/4/2016 7:55 AM
12	voting	5/4/2016 7:46 AM
13	social aclives	5/3/2016 11:55 AM
14	private event such as wedding or memorial service	5/3/2016 11:52 AM
15	soccer	5/3/2016 11:40 AM
16	biking in area	5/3/2016 11:37 AM
17	voting	5/3/2016 11:12 AM
18	soccer	5/3/2016 11:09 AM
19	private events	5/3/2016 10:54 AM
20	voting	5/3/2016 10:39 AM
21	Wanted to see what was available to our 3 year old now and in the future.	5/3/2016 10:35 AM
22	soccer	5/3/2016 10:31 AM
23	Paying taxes and voting	5/3/2016 10:29 AM
24	sporting events	5/3/2016 10:14 AM
25	playground	5/3/2016 8:48 AM
26	Voting and LVPOA meetings	5/3/2016 8:43 AM
27	community gathering	5/3/2016 8:37 AM
28	family activities	5/3/2016 8:27 AM
29	voting	5/3/2016 8:21 AM
30	walking	5/3/2016 8:18 AM
31	private event	5/3/2016 8:13 AM
32	voting	5/3/2016 8:08 AM
33	Lake asso meetings	5/3/2016 8:04 AM

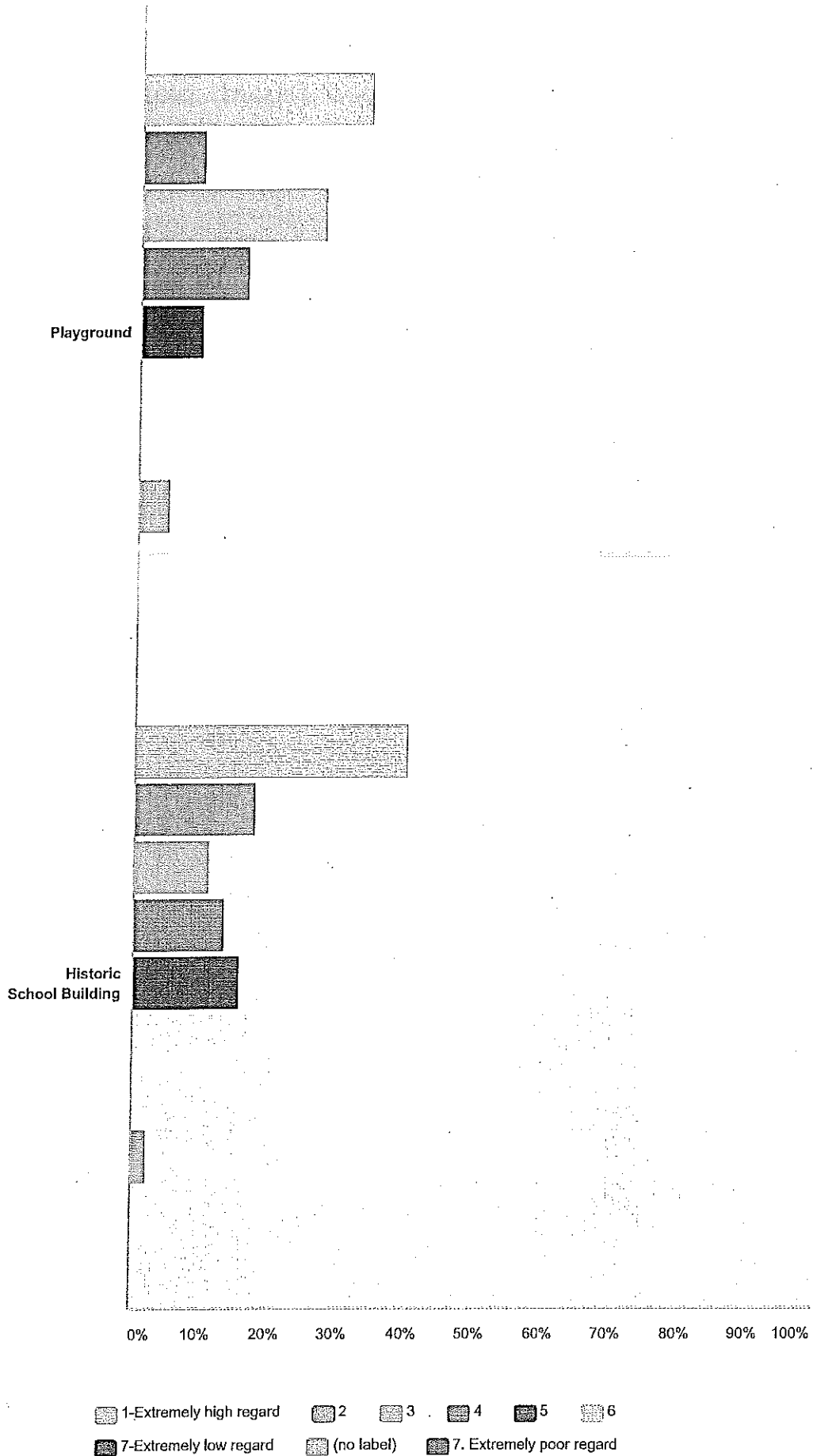
34	playground	5/3/2016 6:58 AM
35	Playground	5/3/2016 5:57 AM



**Q6 On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 7 (extremely poor regard), please rate Victor Township Hall Park facilities**

Answered: 48 Skipped: 21

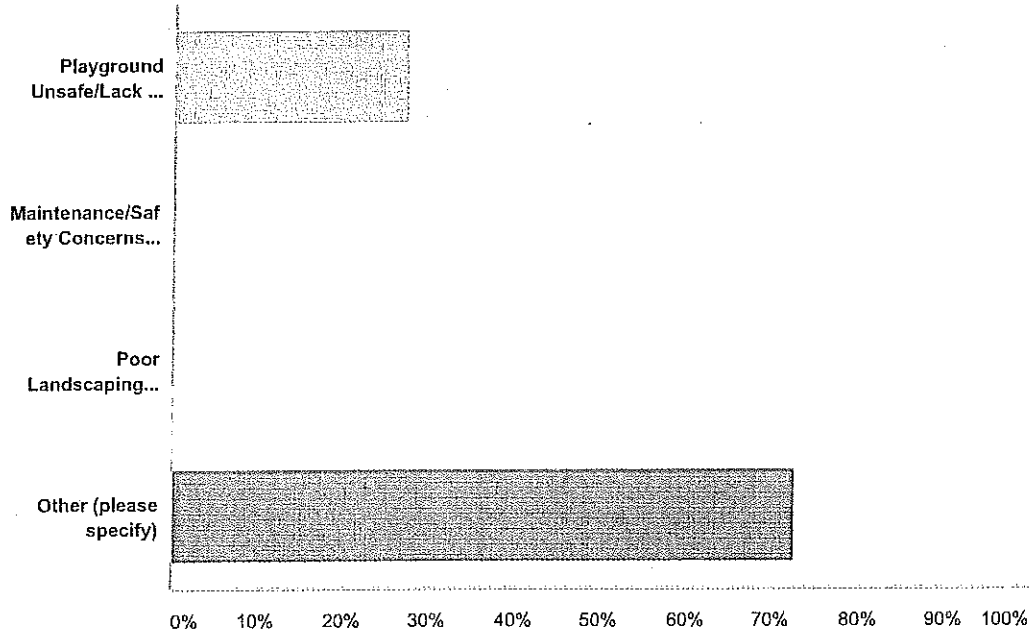




	1-Extremely high regard	2	3	4	5	6	7-Extremely low regard	(no label)	7. Extremely poor regard	Total
Soccer Fields	41.30% 19	23.91% 11	13.04% 6	8.70% 4	10.87% 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2.17% 1	0.00% 0	46
Pavilions	40.91% 18	15.91% 7	22.73% 10	11.36% 5	6.82% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2.27% 1	0.00% 0	44
Playground	34.09% 15	9.09% 4	27.27% 12	15.91% 7	9.09% 4	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4.55% 2	0.00% 0	44
Historic School Building	40.00% 18	17.78% 8	11.11% 5	13.33% 6	15.56% 7	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2.22% 1	0.00% 0	45

### Q7 What is the ONE most important reason for any rating of "poor" or "very poor" for the Victor Township park facilities rated above?

Answered: 11 Skipped: 58

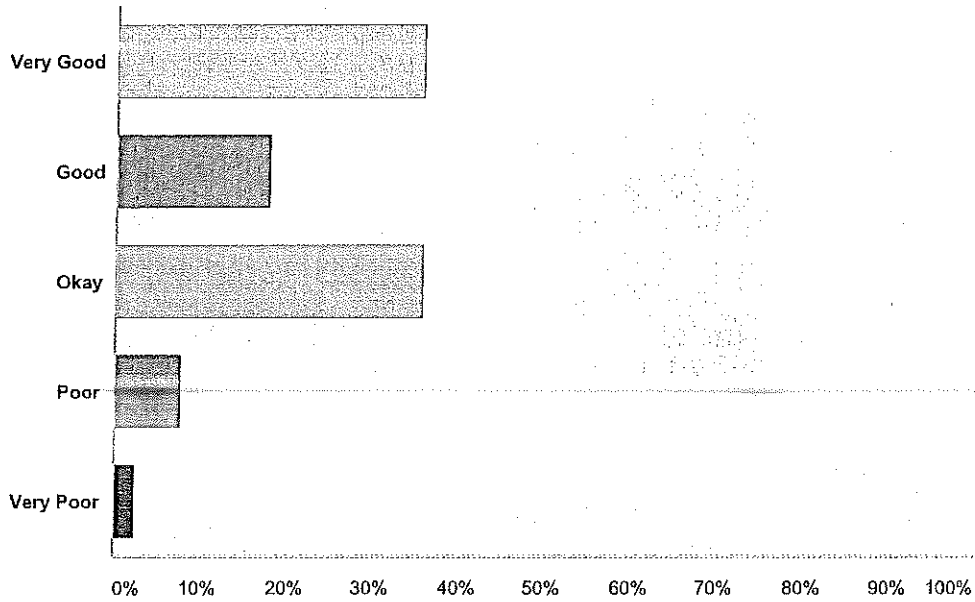


Answer Choices	Responses
Playground Unsafe/Lack of Equipment	27.27% 3
Maintenance/Safety Concerns Historical	0.00% 0
Poor Landscaping Building	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	72.73% 8
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Doing a great job!	5/4/2016 9:03 AM
2	spend money for better reasons	5/4/2016 8:32 AM
3	too much money to maintain	5/4/2016 7:46 AM
4	never used pavillions or historical building would like to know how	5/3/2016 11:52 AM
5	cost	5/3/2016 10:54 AM
6	Historical Buildings never open	5/3/2016 8:41 AM
7	no comment	5/3/2016 8:37 AM
8	We are not interested in doing any of the activies	5/3/2016 8:29 AM

**Q8 On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 5 (extremely poor regard), please rate the maintenance of Victor Township Hall Park facilities**

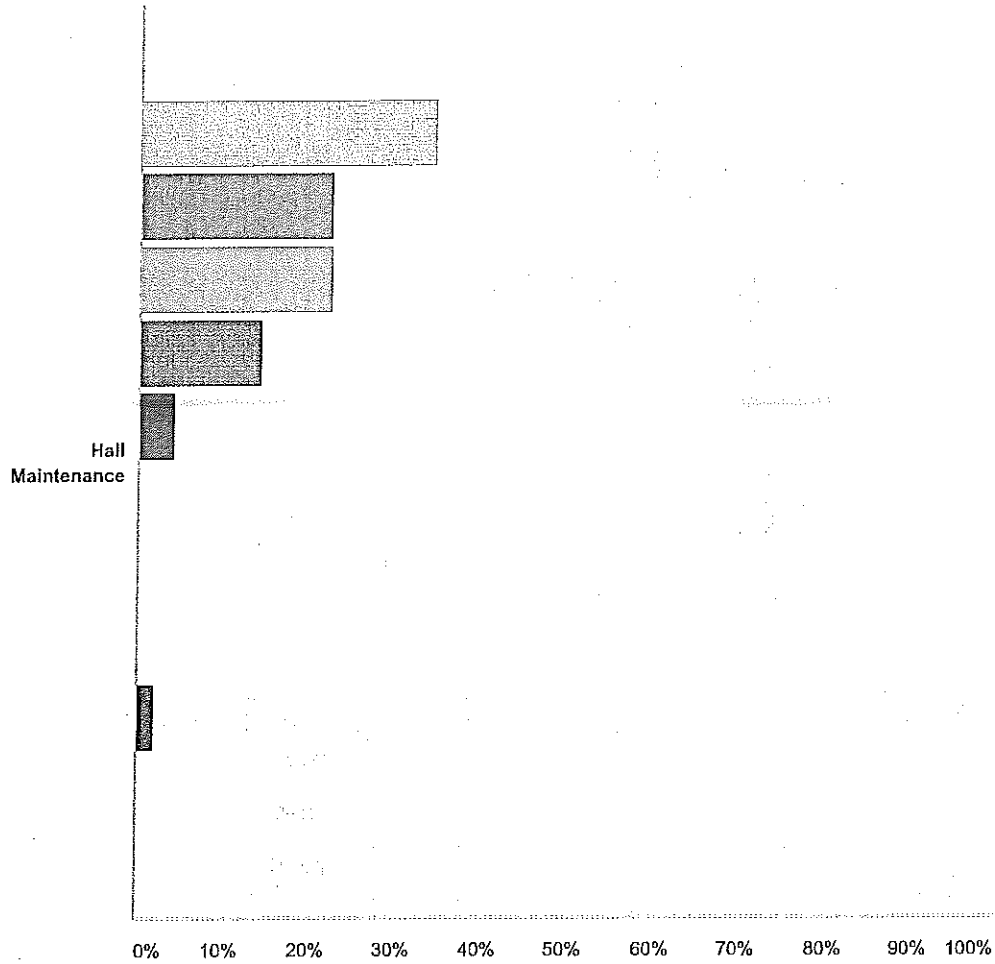
Answered: 39 Skipped: 30



Answer Choices	Responses
Very Good	35.90% 14
Good	17.95% 7
Okay	35.90% 14
Poor	7.69% 3
Very Poor	2.56% 1
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>

**Q9 On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 7 (extremely poor regard), please rate the maintenance of Victor Township Hall Park facilities**

Answered: 49 Skipped: 20

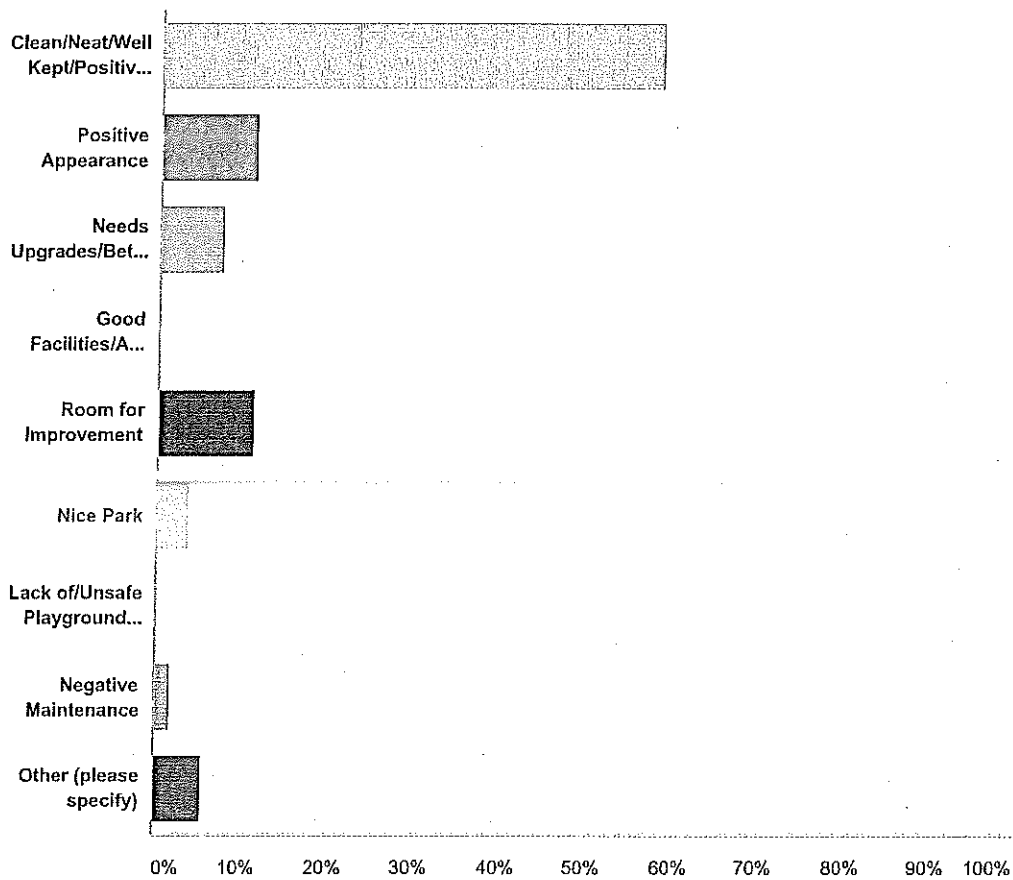


1-Extremely high regard
  2
  3
  4
  5
  6
   
 7-Extremely low regard
  6
  6
  7-Extremely poor regard

	1-Extremely high regard	2	3	4	5	6	7-Extremely low regard	6	6	7-Extremely poor regard	Total
Hall Maintenance	34.69% 17	22.45% 11	22.45% 11	14.29% 7	4.08% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2.04% 1	0.00% 0	49

### Q10 What is the most important reason for the rating for the above question?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 16



Answer Choices	Responses
Clean/Neat/Well Kept/Positive Maintenance	58.49% 31
Positive Appearance	11.32% 6
Needs Upgrades/Better Maintenance	7.55% 4
Good Facilities/Activities Offered	0.00% 0
Room for Improvement	11.32% 6
Nice Park	3.77% 2
Lack of/Unsafe Playground Equipment	0.00% 0
Negative Maintenance	1.89% 1
Other (please specify)	5.66% 3
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>

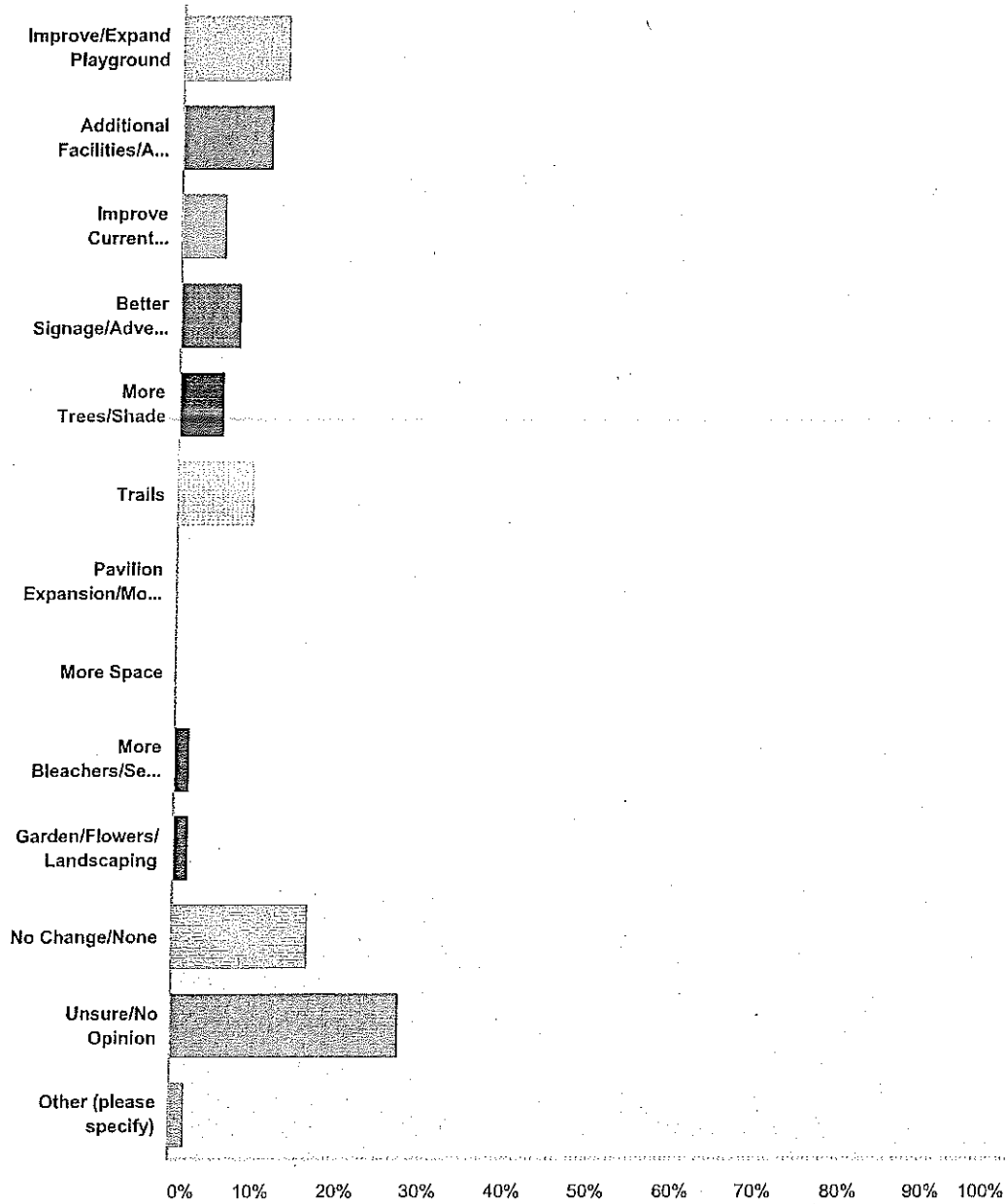
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Better answered by staff who work there regularly	5/4/2016 8:00 AM

2	tables and chair need to be checked some are too worn	5/3/2016 11:52 AM
3	Keep the fire station open	5/3/2016 8:41 AM



### Q11 What ONE most important improvement would you suggest for the Victor Township Hall Park?

Answered: 55 Skipped: 14



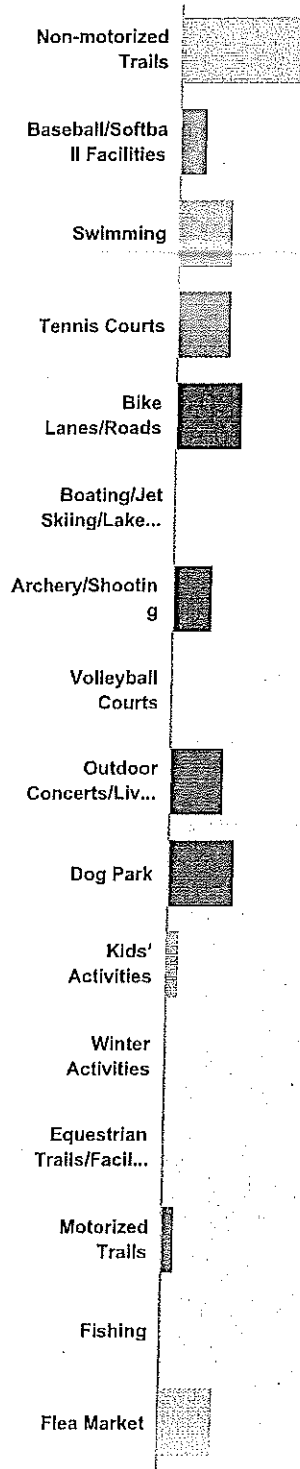
Answer Choices	Responses
Improve/Expand Playground	12.73% 7
Additional Facilities/Activities	10.91% 6
Improve Current Facilities	5.45% 3
Better Signage/Advertising for Facilities/Activities	7.27% 4
More Trees/Shade	5.45% 3

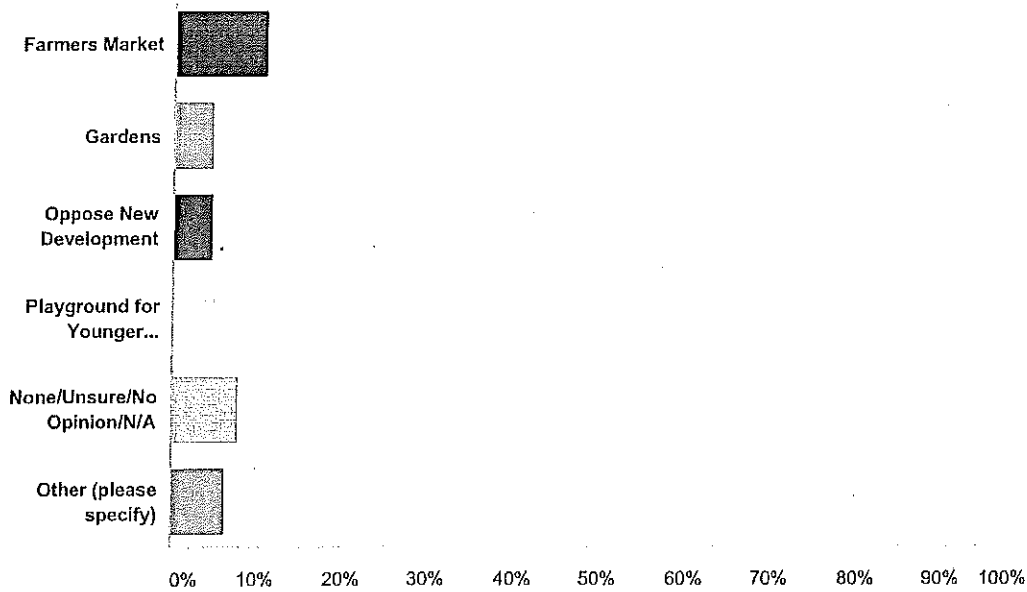
Trails	9.09%	5
Pavilion Expansion/More Picnic Tables	0.00%	0
More Space	0.00%	0
More Bleachers/Seating	1.82%	1
Garden/Flowers/Landscaping	1.82%	1
No Change/None	16.36%	9
Unsure/No Opinion	27.27%	15
Other (please specify)	1.82%	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>55</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	pickleball courts	5/3/2016 8:04 AM

**Q12 NEW OPPORTUNITIES** If Victor Township were to provide an additional outdoor recreation opportunity to residents and visitors, please list the ONE type of outdoor recreation opportunity/facility/activity that your household would most strongly support.

Answered: 64 Skipped: 5





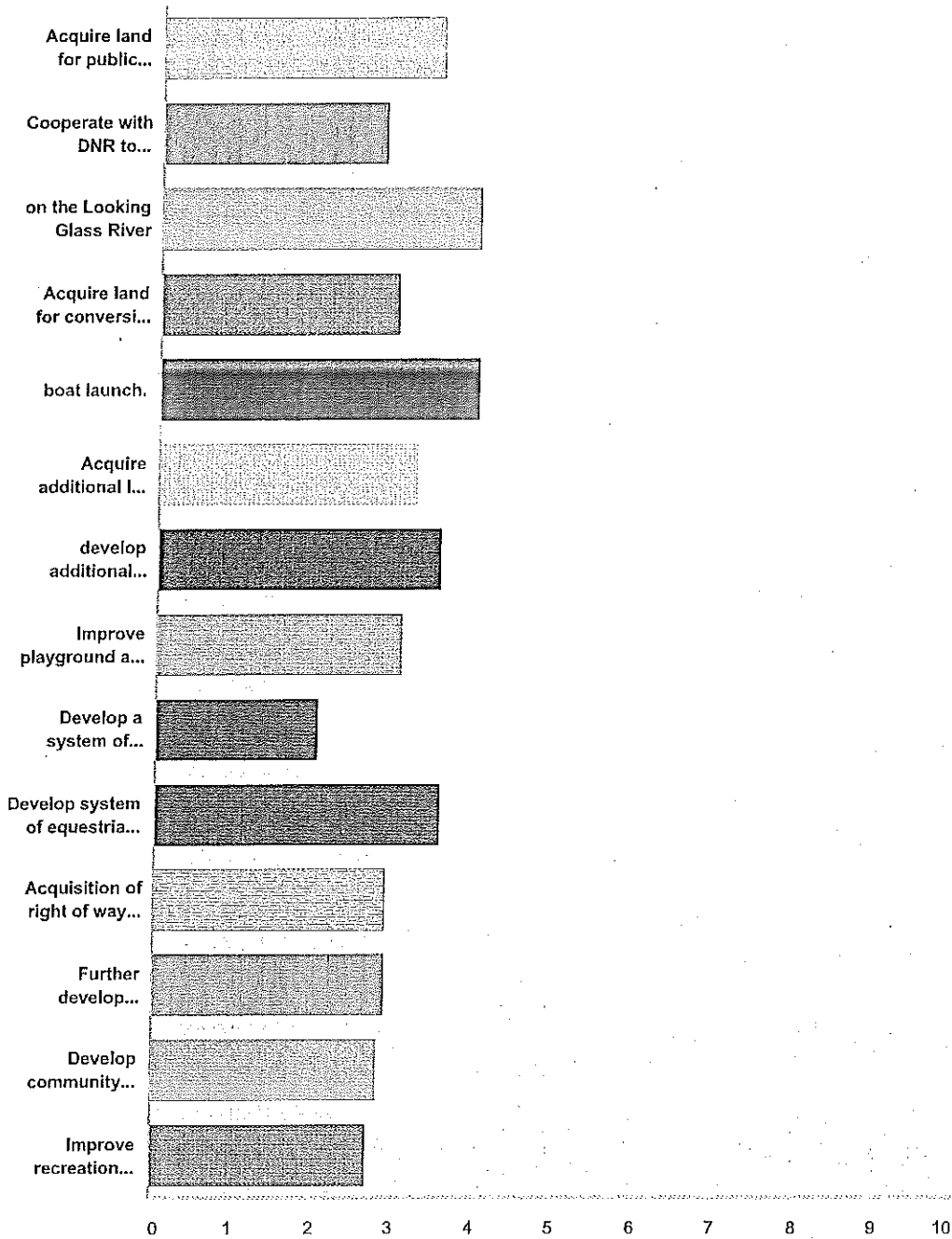
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Non-motorized Trails	14.06%	9
Baseball/Softball Facilities	3.13%	2
Swimming	6.25%	4
Tennis Courts	6.25%	4
Bike Lanes/Roads	7.81%	5
Boating/Jet Skiing/Lake Access	0.00%	0
Archery/Shooting	4.69%	3
Volleyball Courts	0.00%	0
Outdoor Concerts/Live Music	6.25%	4
Dog Park	7.81%	5
Kids' Activities	1.56%	1
Winter Activities	0.00%	0
Equestrian Trails/Facilities	0.00%	0
Motorized Trails	1.56%	1
Fishing	0.00%	0
Flea Market	6.25%	4
Farmers Market	10.94%	7
Gardens	4.69%	3
Oppose New Development	4.69%	3
Playground for Younger Children	0.80%	0
None/Unsure/No Opinion/N/A	7.81%	5

Other (please specify)	6.25%	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>64</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	paved walking trails	5/4/2016 8:28 AM
2	disc golf	5/4/2016 8:25 AM
3	non motorized trails for bikes	5/3/2016 11:37 AM
4	pickle-ball courts	5/3/2016 8:04 AM

**Q13 Please indicate your level of support for each potential new public outdoor recreational opportunity using the following scale**

Answered: 68 Skipped: 1

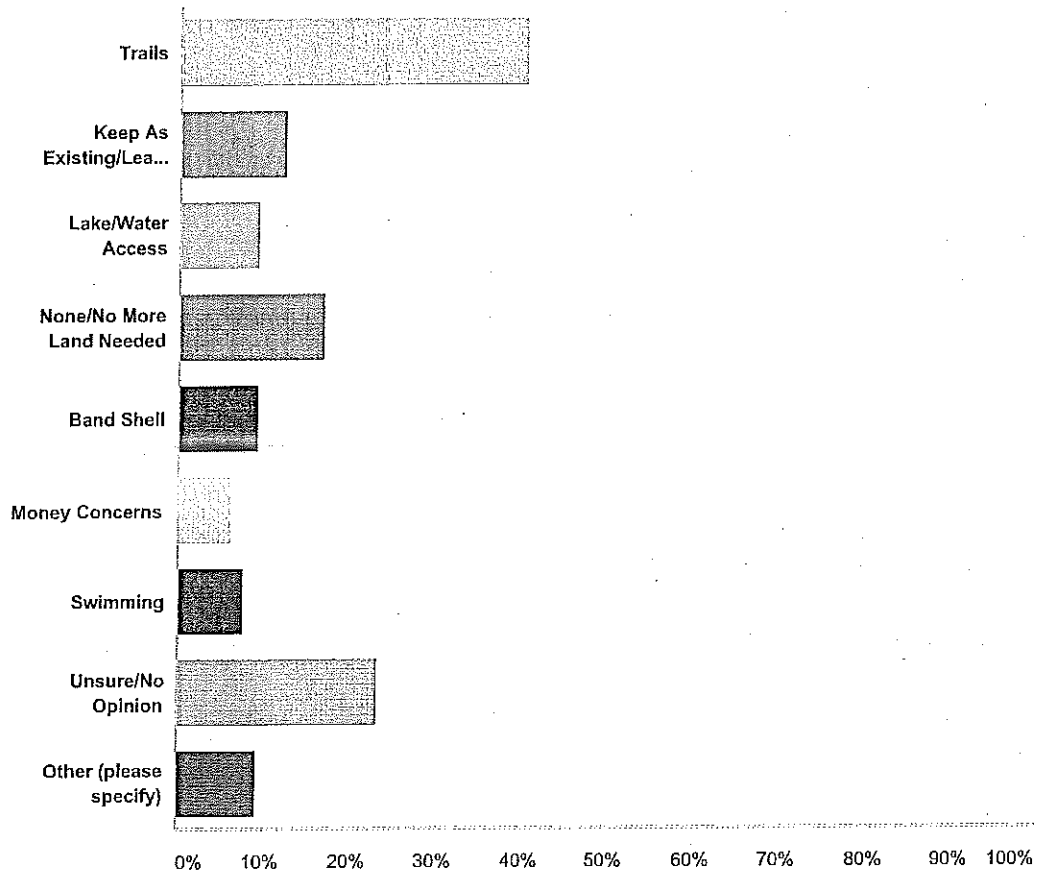


	Strongly Support	Moderately Support	Neutral	Strongly Oppose	No Opinion	Total	Weighted Average
Acquire land for public access park & boat launch on Looking Glass River	4.69%	10.94%	34.38%	28.13%	21.88%	64	3.52
	3	7	22	18	14		

Cooperate with DNR to develop/manage state-owned access site (Babcock's Landing)	17.19% 11	28.13% 18	25.00% 16	15.63% 10	14.06% 9	64	2.81
on the Looking Glass River	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 1	0.00% 0	1	4.00
Acquire land for conversion of sand/gravel mining operation to public access lake, park,	13.85% 9	26.15% 17	21.54% 14	24.62% 16	13.85% 9	65	2.98
boat launch.	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 1	0.00% 0	1	4.00
Acquire additional land for future expansion of Victor Township Hall Park.	16.13% 10	11.29% 7	27.42% 17	22.58% 14	22.58% 14	62	3.24
develop additional soccer fields other athletic fields at Victor Township Hall Park	1.64% 1	19.67% 12	27.87% 17	24.59% 15	26.23% 16	61	3.54
Improve playground at Victor Township Hall Park	14.75% 9	21.31% 13	31.15% 19	8.20% 5	24.59% 15	61	3.07
Develop a system of walkable/bikeable trails (on or off of the existing road system) in Victor Township to link populations and assets such as parks, schools, and other recreation facilities	40.00% 24	33.33% 20	15.00% 9	6.67% 4	5.00% 3	60	2.03
Develop system of equestrian trails linked with Sleepy Hollow State Park	5.00% 3	6.67% 4	36.67% 22	30.00% 18	21.67% 13	60	3.57
Acquisition of right of way and/or land for nature corridor connecting Sleepy Hollow State Park and the Looking Glass River	18.03% 11	21.31% 13	29.51% 18	14.75% 9	16.39% 10	61	2.90
Further develop historic/cultural assets of Victor Township Hall Park	17.24% 10	17.24% 10	39.66% 23	8.62% 5	17.24% 10	58	2.91
Develop community gardens at Victor Township Hall Park	15.25% 9	28.81% 17	30.51% 18	10.17% 6	15.25% 9	59	2.81
Improve recreation signage and way-finding markers throughout Victor Township.	15.00% 9	26.67% 16	40.00% 24	10.00% 6	8.33% 5	60	2.70

### Q14 Please list any other suggestion for land acquisition or development to support outdoor recreation in Victor Township.

Answered: 64 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses
Trails	40.63% 26
Keep As Existing/Leave As Is	12.50% 8
Lake/Water Access	9.38% 6
None/No More Land Needed	17.19% 11
Band Shell	9.38% 6
Money Concerns	6.25% 4
Swimming	7.81% 5
Unsure/No Opinion	23.44% 15
Other (please specify)	9.38% 6
<b>Total Respondents: 64</b>	

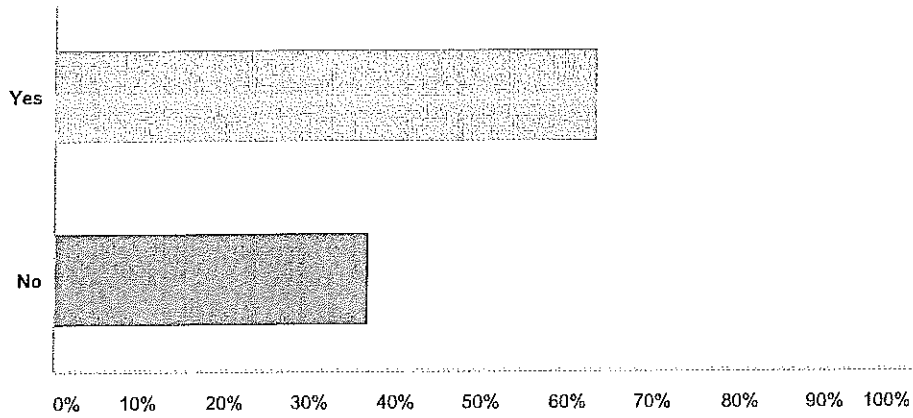
#	Other (please specify)	Date
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1	disc golf	5/4/2016 8:25 AM
2	motorized trails	5/3/2016 11:52 AM
3	link a trail or bike lane to existing bike trails in St Johns and East Lansing	5/3/2016 8:48 AM
4	There is a wonderful park at SH and Equestrian people don't share trails.	5/3/2016 8:41 AM
5	motorized trails	5/3/2016 8:27 AM
6	Parking additional	5/3/2016 5:57 AM

### Q15 Did anyone from your household visit Sleepy Hollow State Park in the past 12 months?

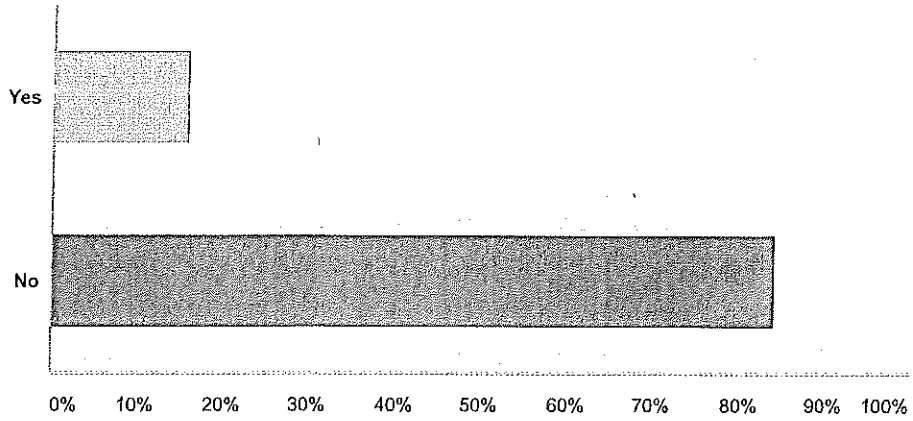
Answered: 68 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	63.24% 43
No	36.76% 25
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>

### Q16 Did anyone from your household fish, swim, or boat on Round Lake in the past 12 months?

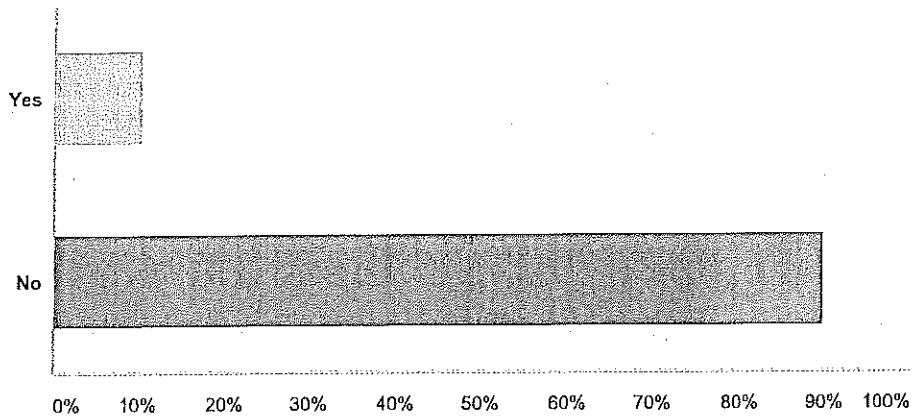
Answered: 69 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	15.94% 11
No	84.06% 58
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>

**Q17 Did anyone from your household fish, swim, or boat on the Looking Glass River in Victor Township in the past 12 months?**

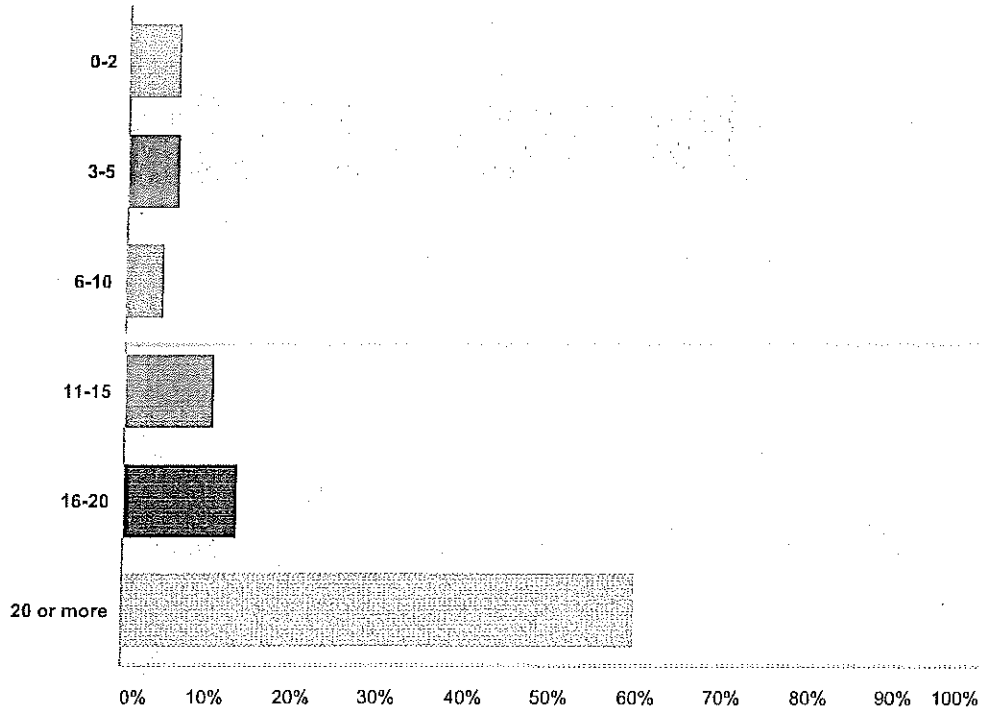
Answered: 69 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	10.14% 7
No	89.86% 62
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>

**Q18 ABOUT YOUR HOUSEHOLD** These household questions help interpret how your views relate to others in like circumstances. How many years have you lived in Victor Township?

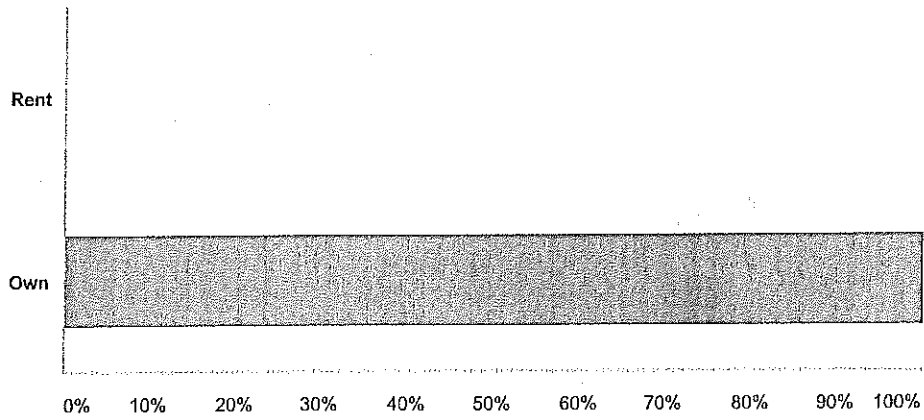
Answered: 67 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
0-2	5.97% 4
3-5	5.97% 4
6-10	4.48% 3
11-15	10.45% 7
16-20	13.43% 9
20 or more	59.70% 40
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>

### Q19 Do you rent or own your home in Victor Township?

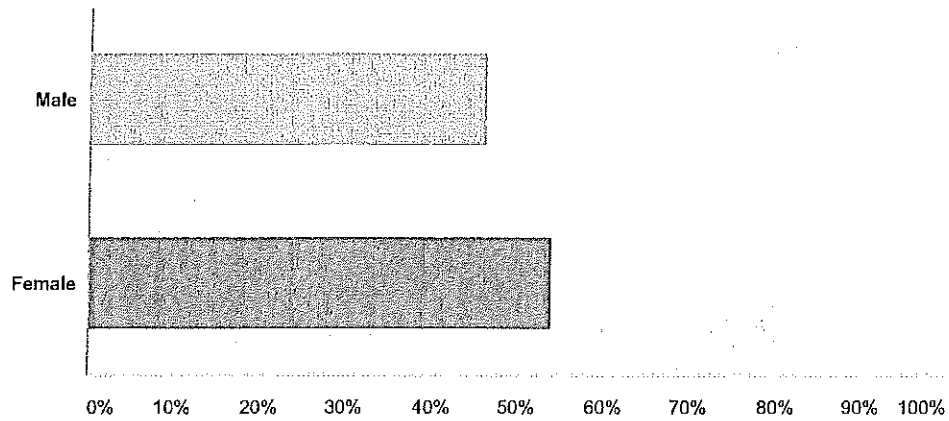
Answered: 66 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
Rent	0.00% 0
Own	100.00% 66
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>

### Q20 Are you male or female?

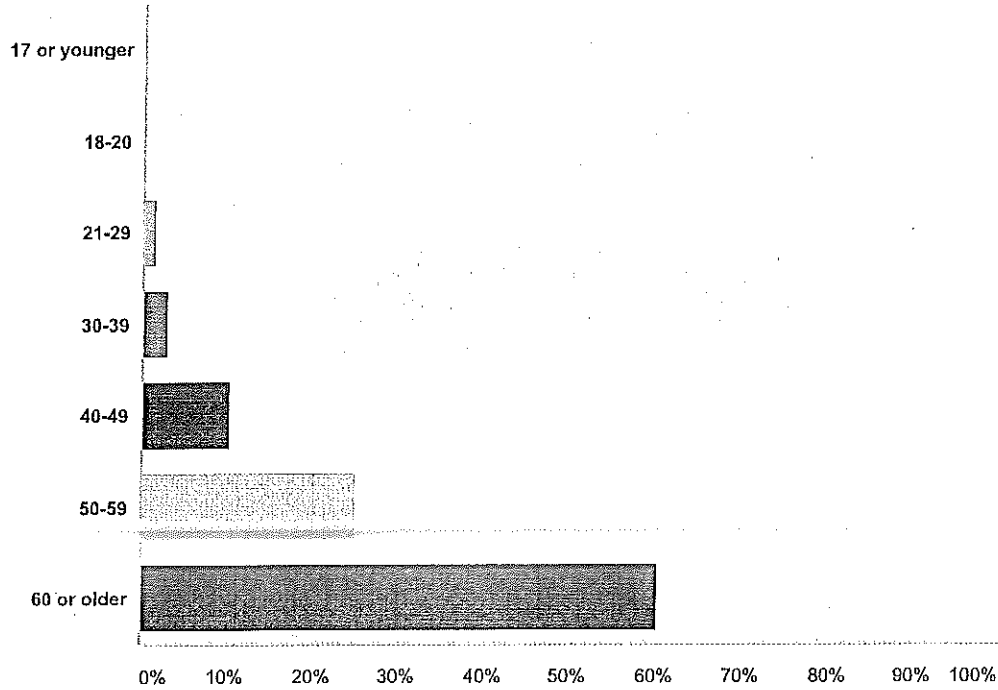
Answered: 65 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses
Male	46.15% 30
Female	53.85% 35
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>

### Q21 What is your age?

Answered: 68 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
17 or younger	0.00% 0
18-20	0.00% 0
21-29	1.47% 1
30-39	2.94% 2
40-49	10.29% 7
50-59	25.00% 17
60 or older	60.29% 41
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>



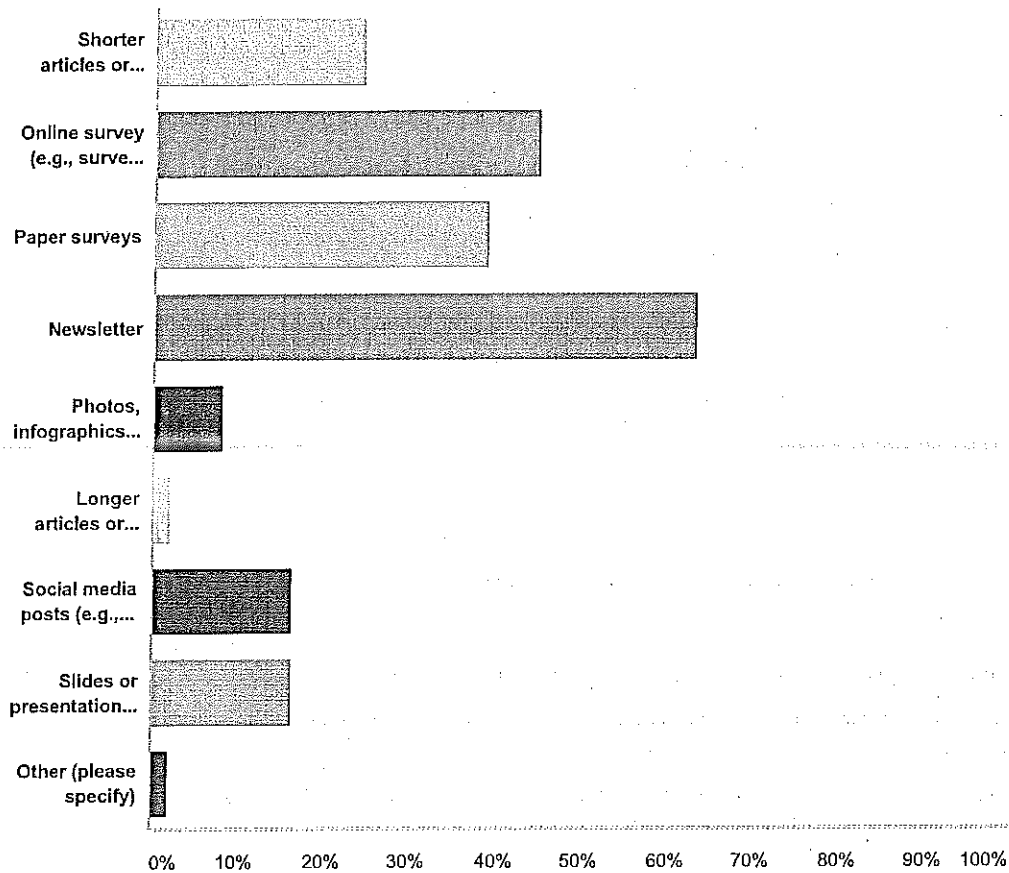
**Q22 Additional comments** Please provide any suggestions for Victor Township Parks and Recreation plan.

Answered: 20 Skipped: 49

#	Responses	Date
1	Would like to see better signage for church and schoolhouse. Would like to see them get rented more for upkeep.	5/4/2016 9:01 AM
2	My husband and I used to rent the hall for workshops but then it became to expensive for us to use	5/4/2016 8:57 AM
3	Lower speed limit to 45 on Alward Rd	5/4/2016 8:45 AM
4	Likes the idea of linking up state park for trails/biking	5/4/2016 8:16 AM
5	Plant identification programs	5/4/2016 8:07 AM
6	We are part of LVPOA	5/4/2016 7:55 AM
7	I'm retired on a fixed income can't afford to pay more in taxes for things I can't do or want do	5/3/2016 11:58 AM
8	survey seems to cover everything	5/3/2016 11:55 AM
9	Thank you for considering improvements for our township. Opportunities that are supported make a better community.	5/3/2016 11:52 AM
10	never been to township hall for anything	5/3/2016 11:42 AM
11	It should be a priority to create walk able and bikeable so we use the outdoors and get exercise.	5/3/2016 11:37 AM
12	lower taxes	5/3/2016 11:02 AM
13	Would like to visit historical building hours on to feasible. Update inside of Hall, some desk cleanings and mold check.	5/3/2016 10:35 AM
14	Acquire land on the lakes and river, for township use as much as possible because we are making any more and it is getting harder to find.	5/3/2016 10:29 AM
15	The current playground is fun for my kids, but I would like it to be improved. Bicycling is dangerous on our roads, so I would like us to have bike lane and or bike trails.	5/3/2016 8:48 AM
16	Please keep the G.D. Fire Station	5/3/2016 8:41 AM
17	we would support swimming, archery and new bike lanes	5/3/2016 8:21 AM
18	The township does a good job for recreation facilities. new light table & chairs in Hall, most residents recreate at home, state park or else where.	5/3/2016 8:18 AM
19	need shade trees north west of town hall	5/3/2016 7:58 AM
20	Hall difficult to maintain due to age, I'm sure.	5/3/2016 6:58 AM

### Q23 Would you be interested in completing future communications or updates in any of the following formats?

Answered: 49 Skipped: 20



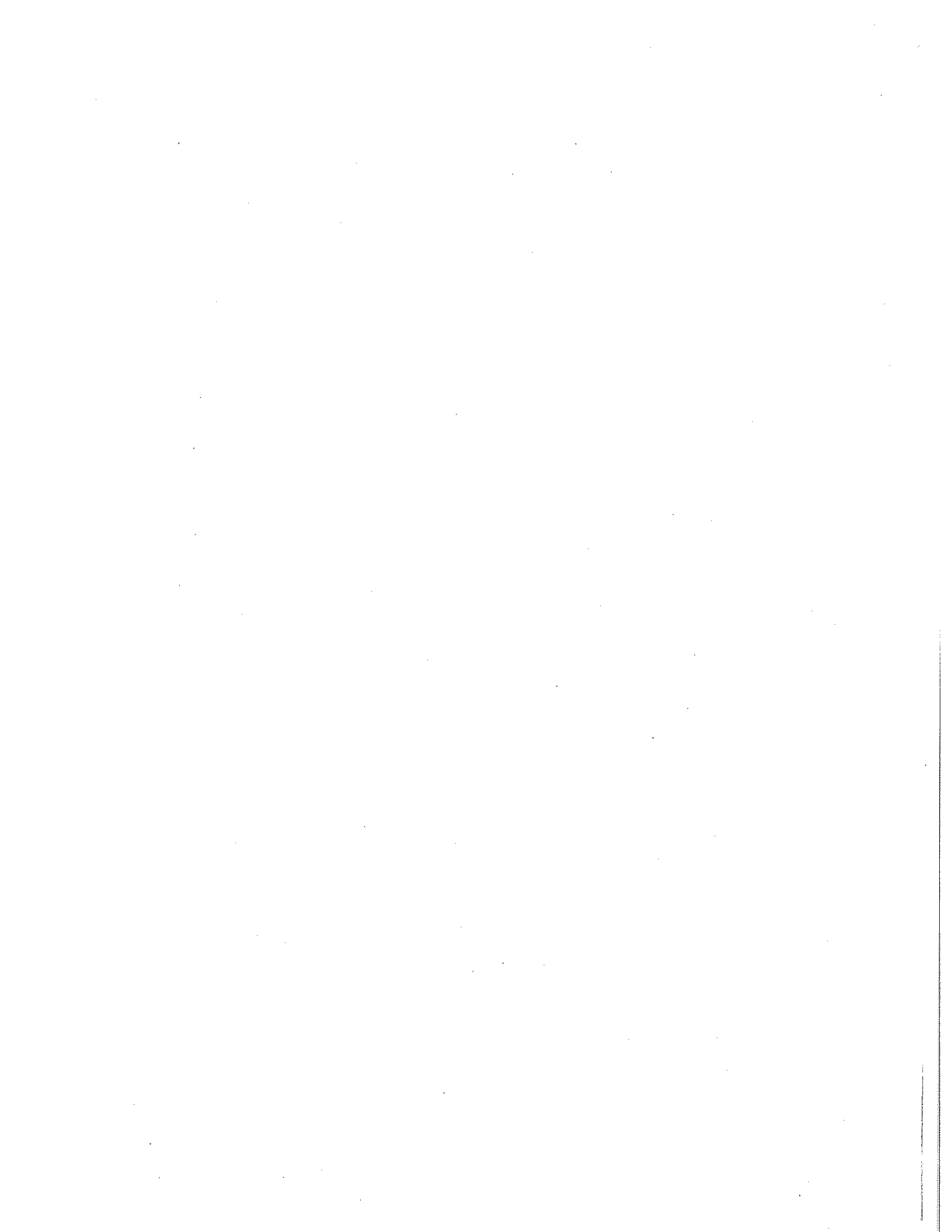
Answer Choices	Responses	
Shorter articles or content (e.g., email newsletter, blog post)	24.49%	12
Online survey (e.g., survey monkey)	44.90%	22
Paper surveys	38.78%	19
Newsletter	63.27%	31
Photos, infographics, images, videos or illustrations	8.16%	4
Longer articles or content (e.g., eBook, downloadable guide)	2.04%	1
Social media posts (e.g., tweet, Facebook post)	16.33%	8
Slides or presentations at township hall.	16.33%	8
Other (please specify)	2.04%	1
<b>Total Respondents: 49</b>		

#	Other (please specify)	Date
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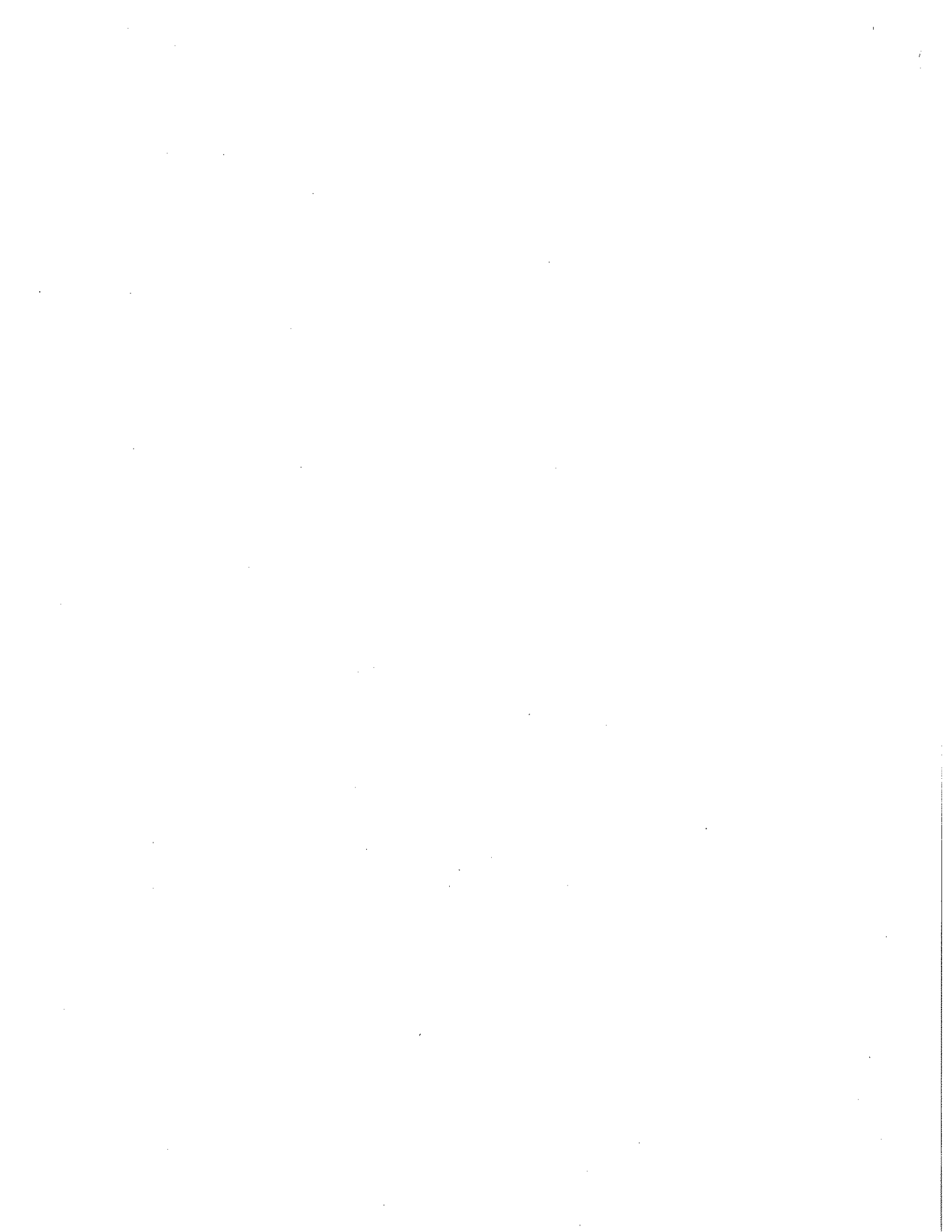
1

would like to be kept up to date on opinions being concerned

5/4/2016 8:57 AM

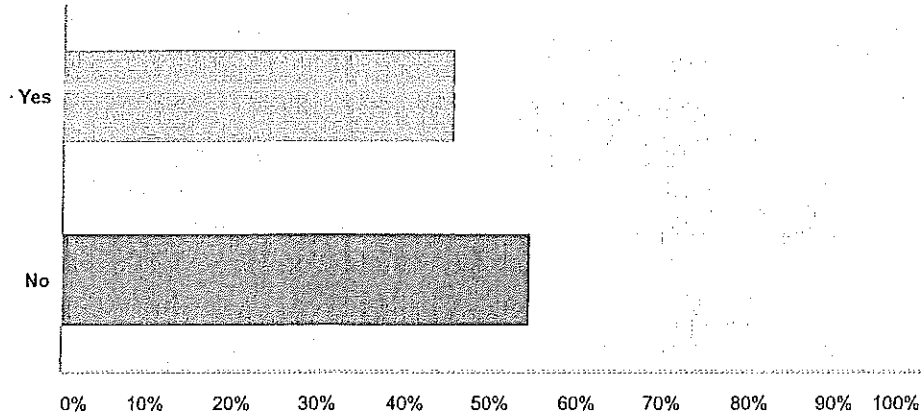


# Appendix E



### Q1 Have one or more of your household members visited the Victor Township Hall Park in the past 12 months?

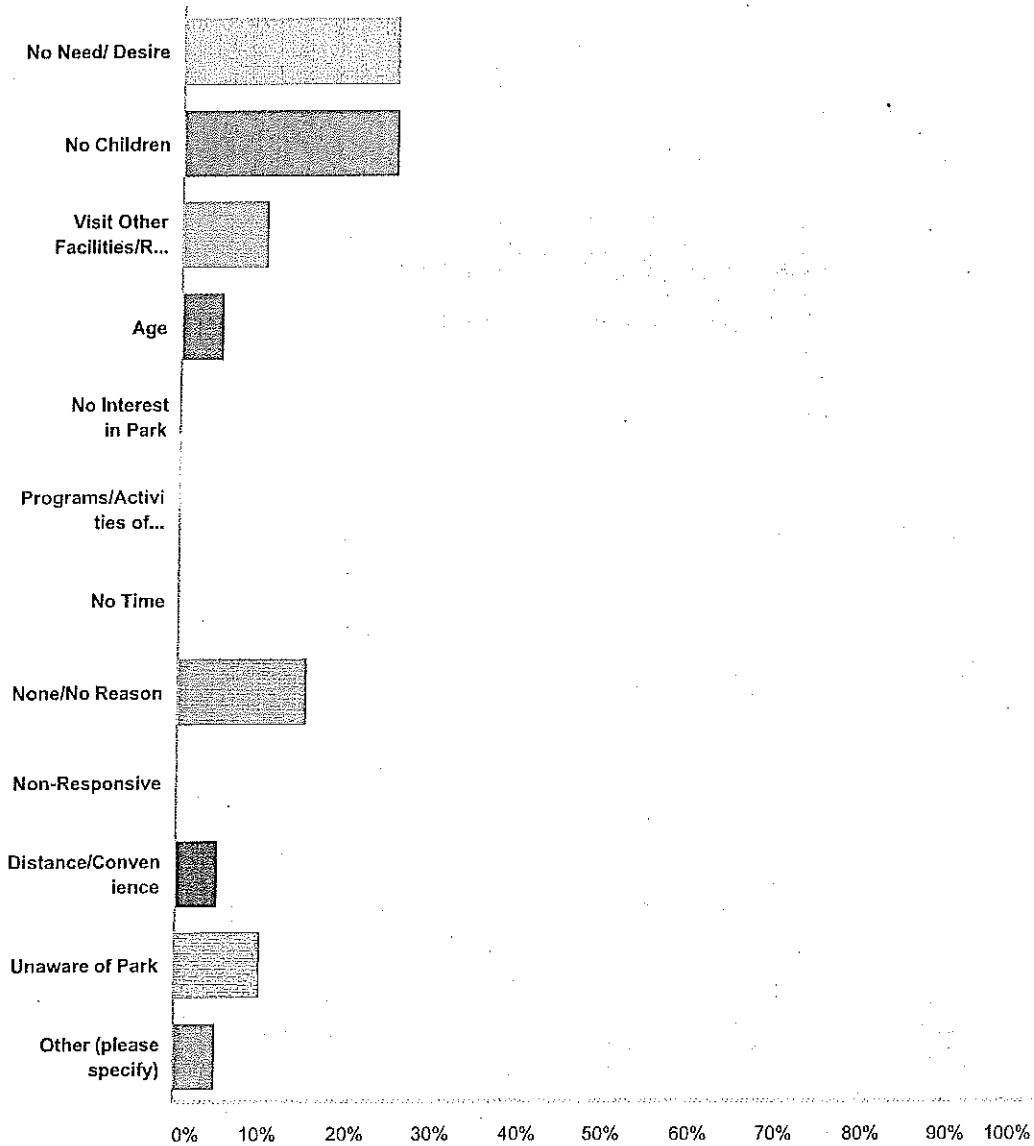
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	45.45%	15
No	54.55%	18
<b>Total</b>		<b>33</b>

### Q2 If NO, what is the ONE main reason your household does not use the Victor Township Hall Park?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 13



Answer Choices	Responses
No Need/ Desire	25.00% 5
No Children	25.00% 5
Visit Other Facilities/Recreate Elsewhere	10.00% 2
Age	5.00% 1
No Interest in Park	0.00% 0
Programs/Activities of Interest Not Offered/Lack of Interest in Activities Offered	0.00% 0



Victor Township Park & Recreation Needs Survey - Online Results

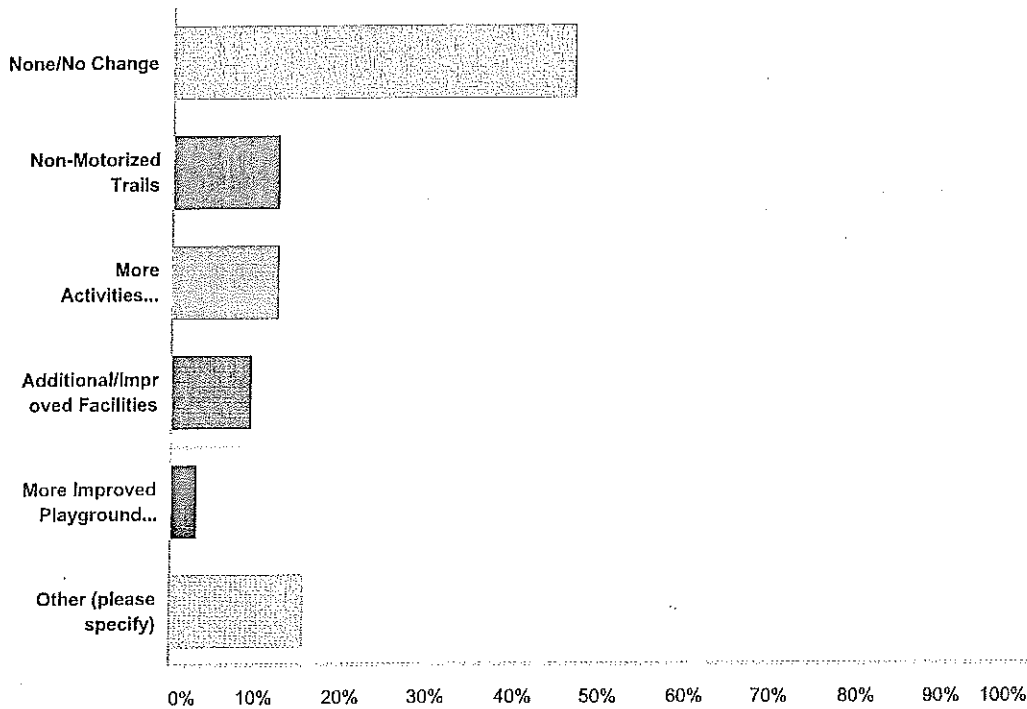
SurveyMonkey

No Time	0.00%	0
None/No Reason	15.00%	3
Non-Responsive	0.00%	0
Distance/Convenience	5.00%	1
Unaware of Park	10.00%	2
Other (please specify)	5.00%	1
<b>Total :</b>		<b>20</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	we did visit during voting	3/7/2016 10:04 AM

### Q3 What one change would most encourage your household to use the Victor Town Hall Park?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 1

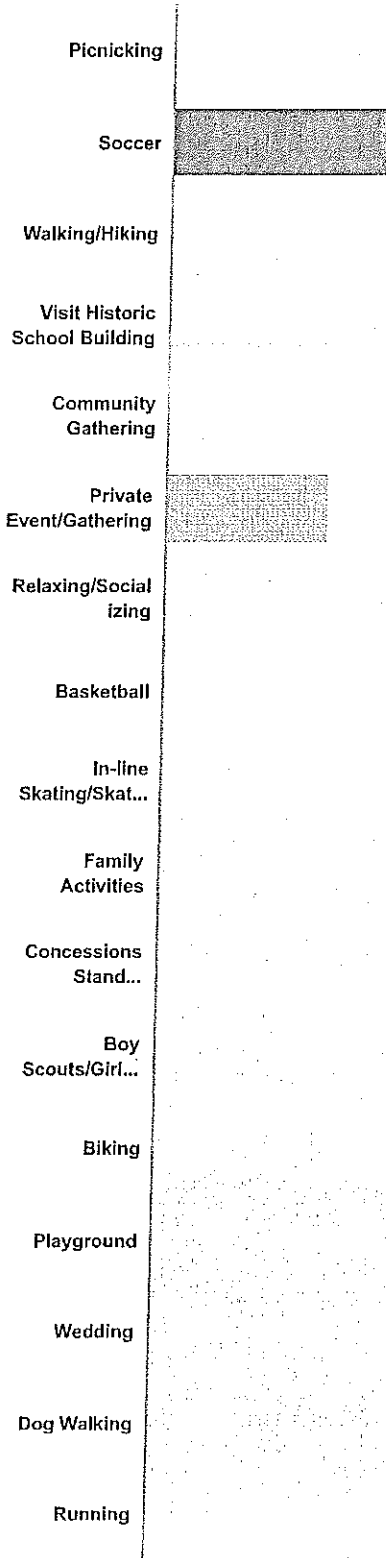


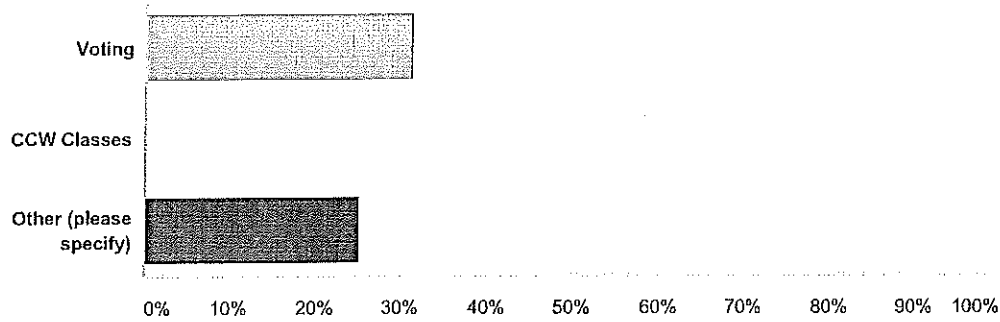
Answer Choices	Responses
None/No Change	46.88% 15
Non-Motorized Trails	12.50% 4
More Activities Offered	12.50% 4
Additional/Improved Facilities	9.38% 3
More Improved Playground Equipment	3.13% 1
Other (please specify)	15.63% 5
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	we need a splash pad in the area	3/11/2016 10:10 AM
2	Dedicated area for flying R/C airplanes	3/10/2016 2:12 PM
3	Improved care/maintenance of the soccer fields	3/9/2016 2:40 PM
4	More events, craft shows, Easter Egg Hunt, etc	3/9/2016 7:39 AM
5	Now that we know about it we will plan to go .	3/4/2016 8:06 AM

**Q4 If you answered YES on Question 1,  
please check ALL of the activities in which  
one or more members of your household  
participated while visiting the Victor  
Township Hall Park.**

Answered: 16 Skipped: 17





Answer Choices	Responses
Picnicking	0.00% 0
Soccer	25.00% 4
Walking/Hiking	0.00% 0
Visit Historic School Building	0.00% 0
Community Gathering	0.00% 0
Private Event/Gathering	18.75% 3
Relaxing/Socializing	0.00% 0
Basketball	0.00% 0
In-line Skating/Skateboarding	0.00% 0
Family Activities	0.00% 0
Concessions Stand Volunteering	0.00% 0
Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts	0.00% 0
Biking	0.00% 0
Playground	0.00% 0
Wedding	0.00% 0
Dog Walking	0.00% 0
Running	0.00% 0
Voting	31.25% 5
CCW Classes	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	25.00% 4
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Twp. and other meetings	3/23/2016 6:40 AM
2	did not allow to check multiple options	3/8/2016 11:39 AM
3	voting is done at the township hall which adjacent to the park, See EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES.	3/7/2016 5:53 AM
4	Voting, Private Event, Meetings (survey does not allow you to check more than one)	3/5/2016 7:47 AM

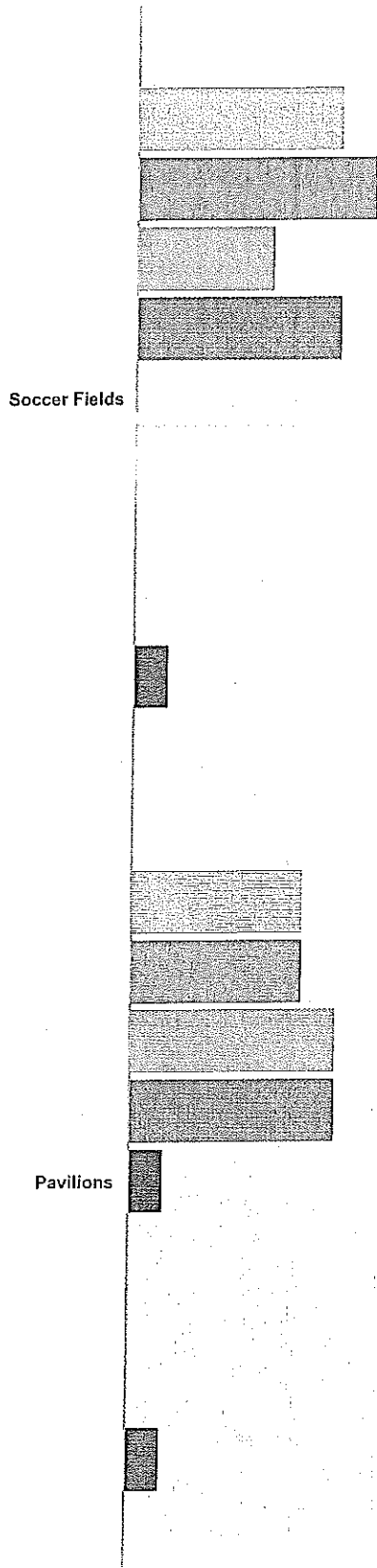
**Q5 For your household, what is the ONE most important reason of the above for visiting the Victor Township Hall Park?**

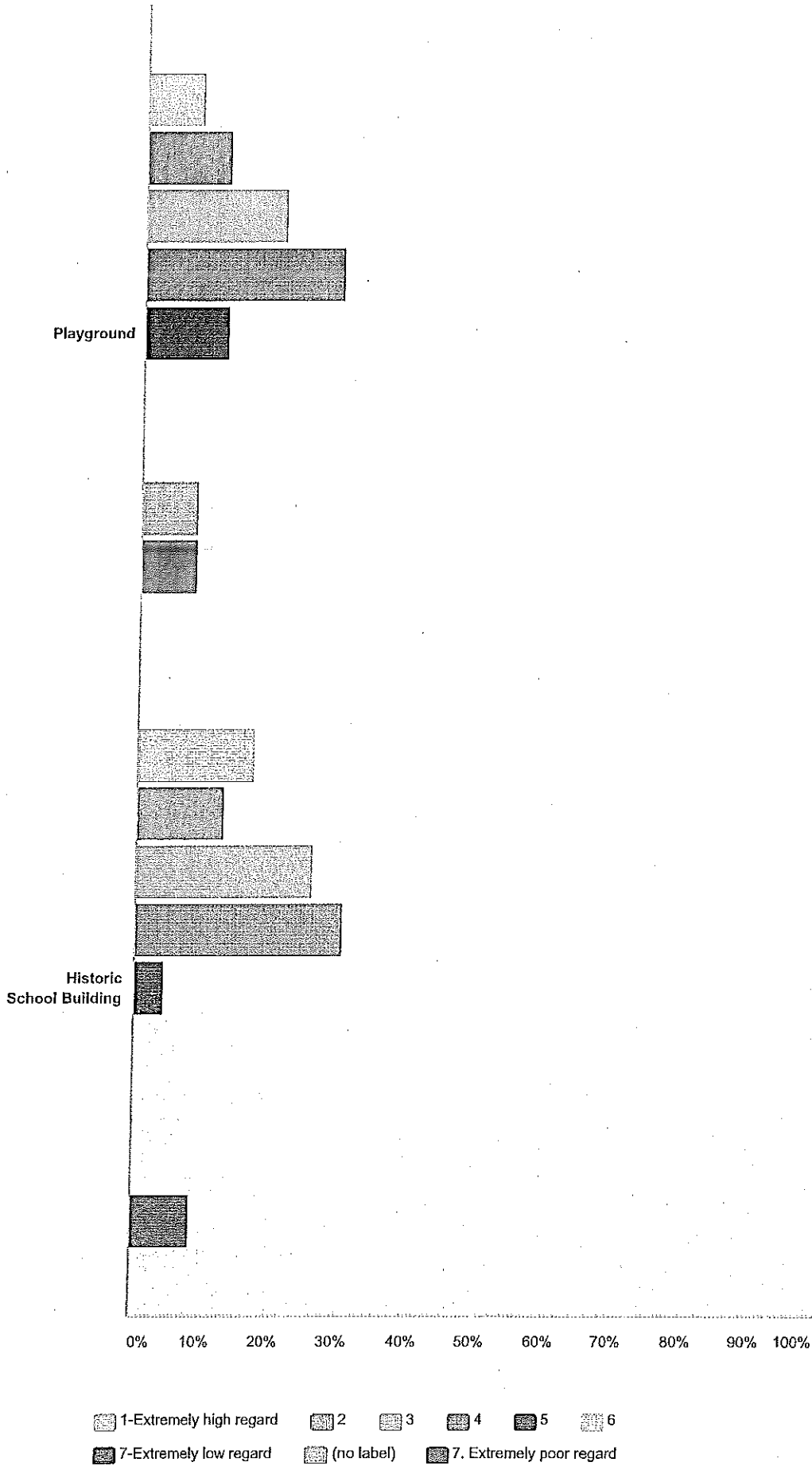
Answered: 20 Skipped: 13

#	Responses	Date
1	Great location for community events	4/19/2016 9:06 AM
2	Committee meetings	3/23/2016 6:40 AM
3	voting	3/17/2016 11:34 AM
4	voting	3/16/2016 7:16 AM
5	family activity	3/14/2016 1:54 PM
6	Soccer	3/13/2016 5:27 AM
7	events held at the hall.Soccer games	3/11/2016 10:10 AM
8	Voting	3/10/2016 2:12 PM
9	There was no charge to use the soccer fields for our end of season team party.	3/9/2016 2:40 PM
10	Soccer	3/9/2016 7:39 AM
11	voting	3/8/2016 2:44 PM
12	Special events	3/8/2016 11:39 AM
13	voting	3/7/2016 10:04 AM
14	VOTING IF the hall is part of the park.	3/7/2016 5:53 AM
15	Voting	3/6/2016 11:47 AM
16	soccer	3/5/2016 7:50 PM
17	Private gatherings	3/5/2016 7:47 AM
18	Soccer	3/5/2016 6:28 AM
19	voting	3/4/2016 9:23 AM
20	Outdoor Recreation and Family time.	3/4/2016 8:06 AM

**Q6 On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 7 (extremely poor regard), please rate Victor Township Hall Park facilities**

Answered: 24 Skipped: 9



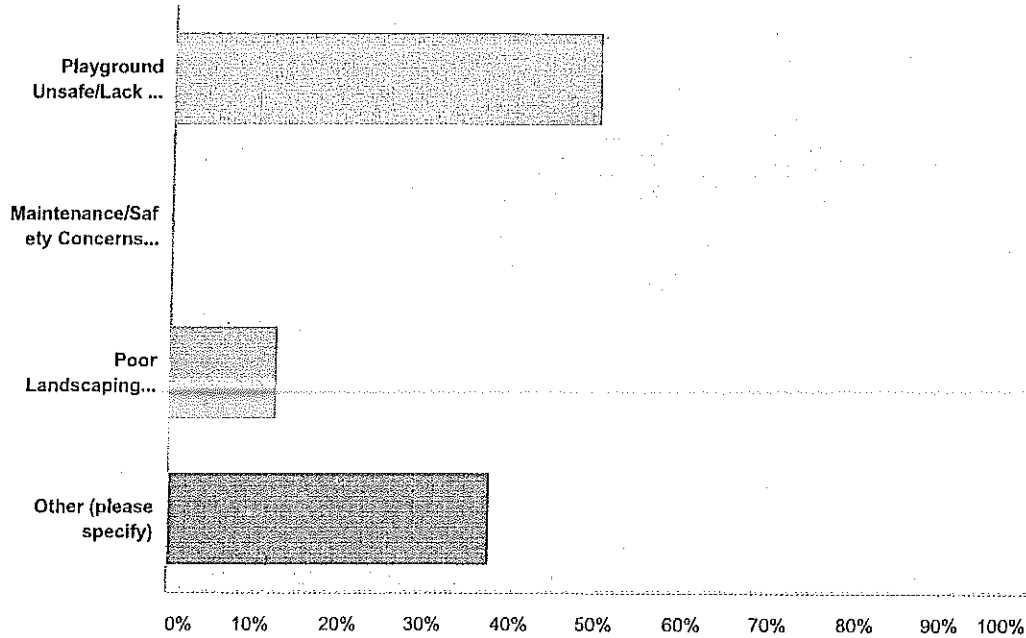


	1-Extremely high regard	2	3	4	5	6	7-Extremely low regard	(no label)	7. Extremely poor regard	Total
Soccer Fields	25.00% 6	29.17% 7	16.67% 4	25.00% 6	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4.17% 1	24
Pavilions	20.83% 5	20.83% 5	25.00% 6	25.00% 6	4.17% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4.17% 1	24
Playground	8.33% 2	12.50% 3	20.83% 5	29.17% 7	12.50% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8.33% 2	8.33% 2	24
Historic School Building	17.39% 4	13.04% 3	26.09% 6	30.43% 7	4.35% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8.70% 2	23



**Q7 What is the ONE most important reason for any rating of "poor" or "very poor" for the Victor Township park facilities rated above?**

Answered: 8 Skipped: 25

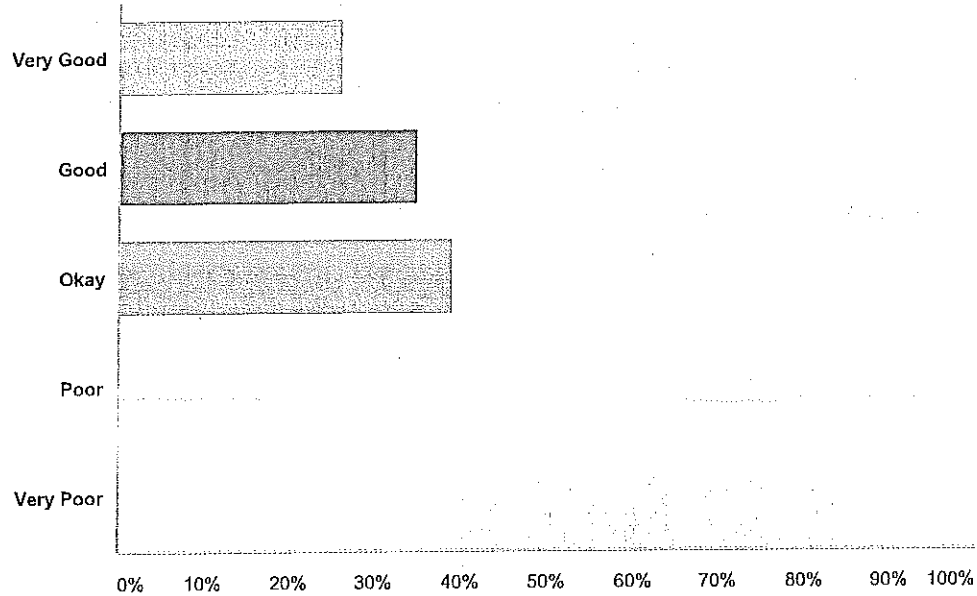


Answer Choices	Responses
Playground Unsafe/Lack of Equipment	50.00% 4
Maintenance/Safety Concerns Historical	0.00% 0
Poor Landscaping Building	12.50% 1
Other (please specify)	37.50% 3
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Structures my family does not need/use	3/9/2016 2:40 PM
2	cost	3/8/2016 10:38 PM
3	none we rate it all excellent	3/7/2016 10:04 AM

**Q8 On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 5 (extremely poor regard), please rate the maintenance of Victor Township Hall Park facilities**

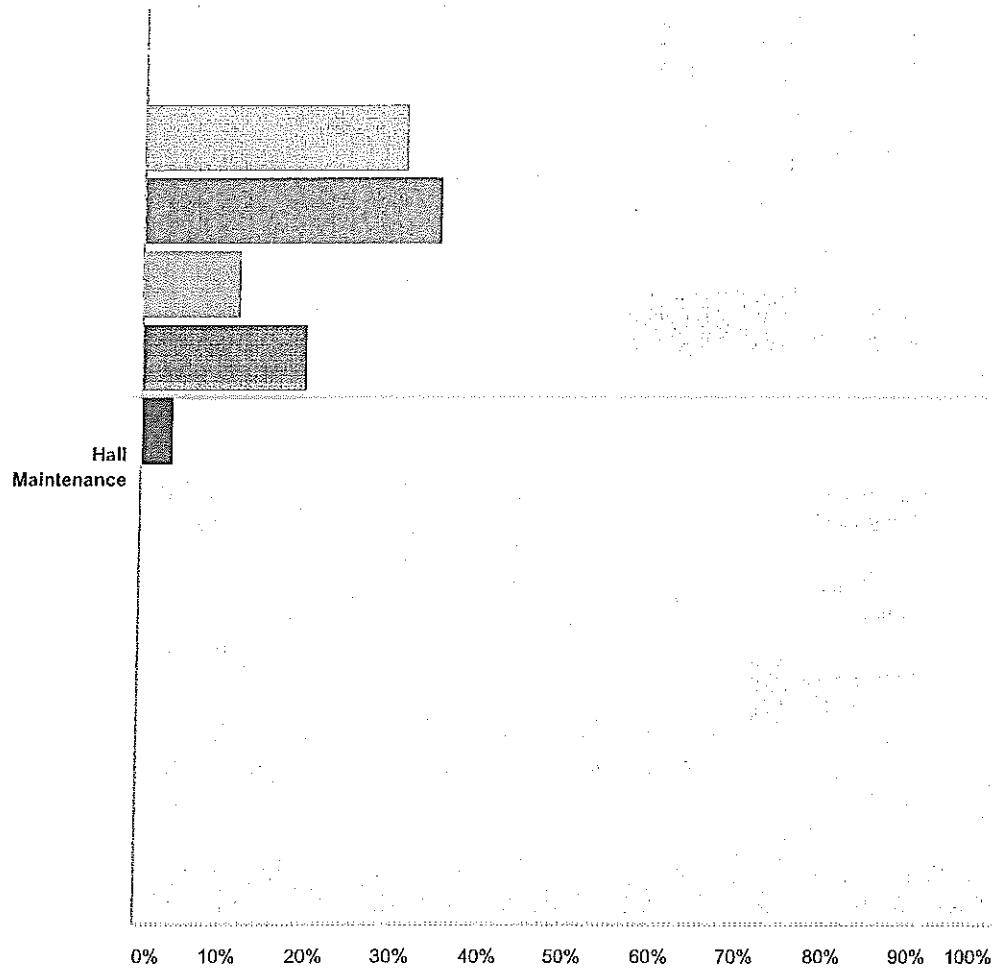
Answered: 23 Skipped: 10



Answer Choices	Responses
Very Good	26.09% 6
Good	34.78% 8
Okay	39.13% 9
Poor	0.00% 0
Very Poor	0.00% 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Q9 On a scale from 1 (extremely high regard) to 7 (extremely poor regard), please rate the maintenance of Victor Township Hall Park facilities**

Answered: 26 Skipped: 7



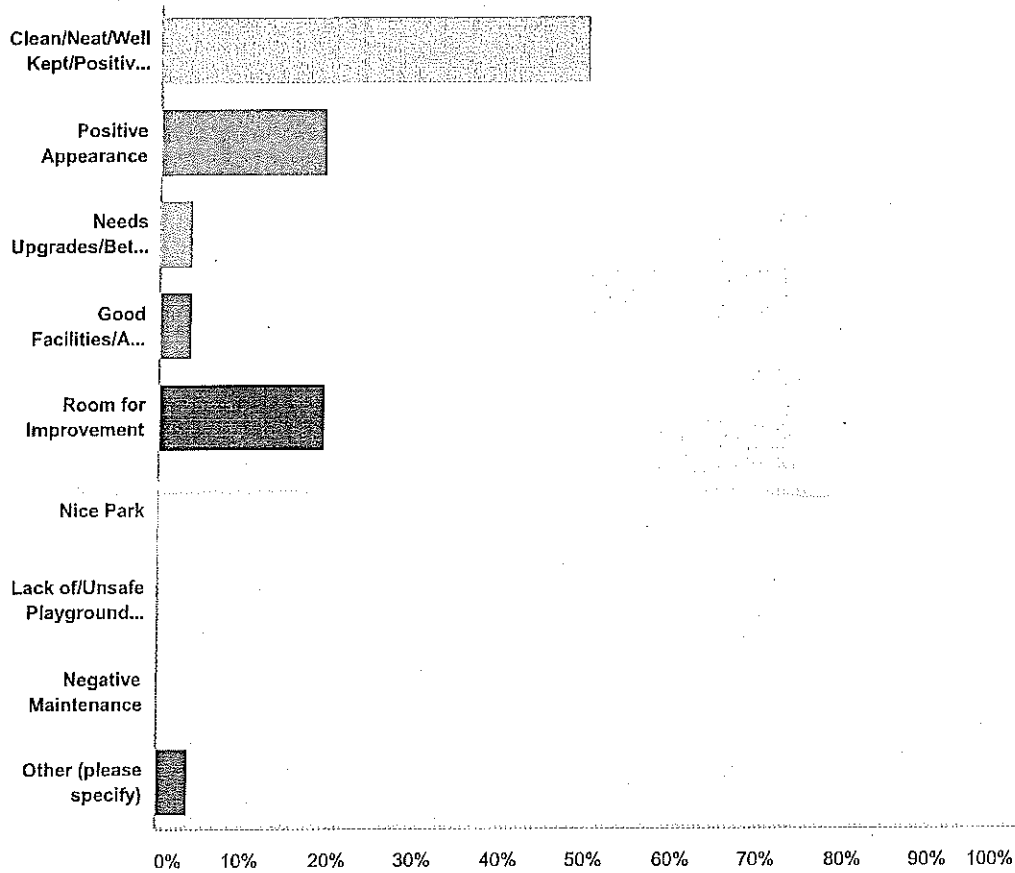
1-Extremely high regard
  2
  3
  4
  5
  6

7-Extremely low regard
  6
  6
  7-Extremely poor regard

	1-Extremely high regard	2	3	4	5	6	7-Extremely low regard	6	6	7-Extremely poor regard	Total
Hall Maintenance	30.77% 8	34.62% 9	11.54% 3	19.23% 5	3.85% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	26

### Q10 What is the most important reason for the rating for the above question?

Answered: 26 Skipped: 7

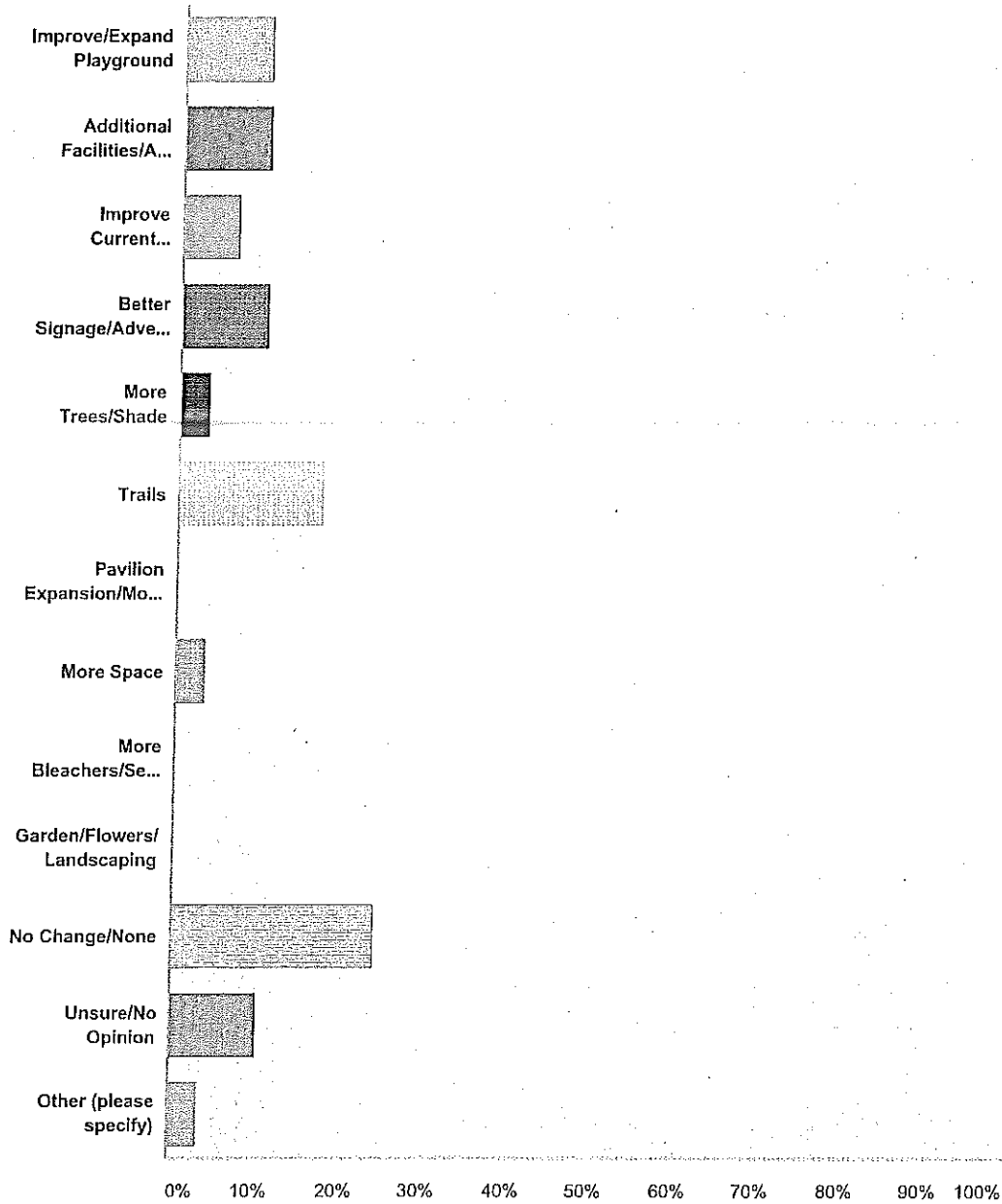


Answer Choices	Responses
Clean/Neat/Well Kept/Positive Maintenance	50.00% 13
Positive Appearance	19.23% 5
Needs Upgrades/Better Maintenance	3.85% 1
Good Facilities/Activities Offered	3.85% 1
Room for Improvement	19.23% 5
Nice Park	0.00% 0
Lack of/Unsafe Playground Equipment	0.00% 0
Negative Maintenance	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	3.85% 1
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	cost	3/8/2016 10:38 PM

### Q11 What ONE most important improvement would you suggest for the Victor Township Hall Park?

Answered: 29 Skipped: 4



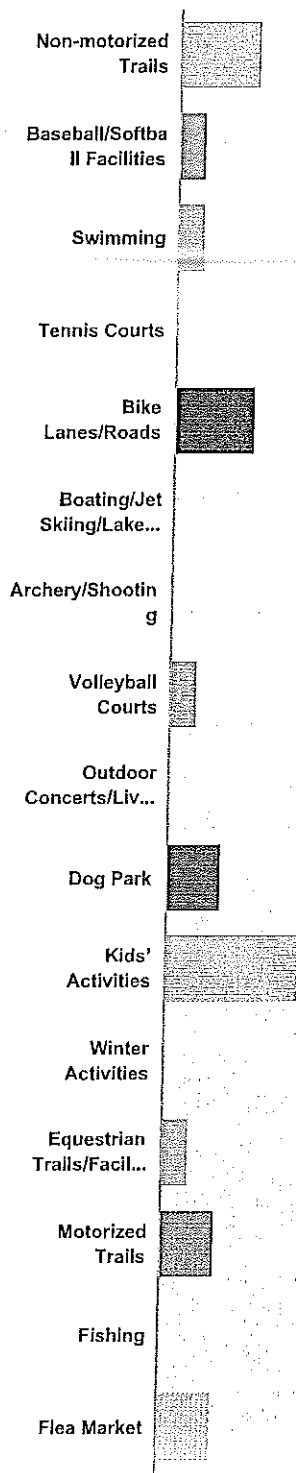
Answer Choices	Responses
Improve/Expand Playground	10.34% 3
Additional Facilities/Activities	10.34% 3
Improve Current Facilities	6.90% 2
Better Signage/Advertising for Facilities/Activities	10.34% 3
More Trees/Shade	3.45% 1

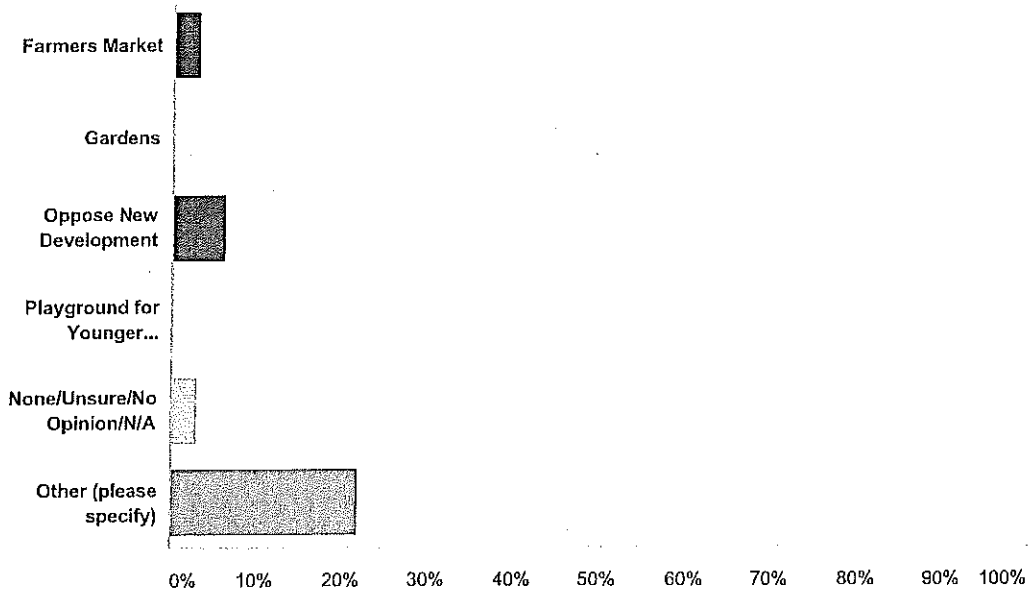
Trails	17.24%	5
Pavilion Expansion/More Picnic Tables	0.00%	0
More Space	3.45%	1
More Bleachers/Seating	0.00%	0
Garden/Flowers/Landscaping	0.00%	0
No Change/None	24.14%	7
Unsure/No Opinion	10.34%	3
Other (please specify)	3.45%	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>29</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Better upkeep of soccer fields, fill holes, mow more frequently	3/5/2016 6:28 AM

**Q12 NEW OPPORTUNITIES** If Victor Township were to provide an additional outdoor recreation opportunity to residents and visitors, please list the ONE type of outdoor recreation opportunity/facility/activity that your household would most strongly support.

Answered: 32 Skipped: 1





Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Non-motorized Trails	9.38%	3
Baseball/Softball Facilities	3.13%	1
Swimming	3.13%	1
Tennis Courts	0.00%	0
Bike Lanes/Roads	9.38%	3
Boating/Jet Skiing/Lake Access	0.00%	0
Archery/Shooting	0.00%	0
Volleyball Courts	3.13%	1
Outdoor Concerts/Live Music	0.00%	0
Dog Park	6.25%	2
Kids' Activities	15.63%	5
Winter Activities	0.00%	0
Equestrian Trails/Facilities	3.13%	1
Motorized Trails	6.25%	2
Fishing	0.00%	0
Flea Market	6.25%	2
Farmers Market	3.13%	1
Gardens	0.00%	0
Oppose New Development	6.25%	2
Playground for Younger Children	0.00%	0
None/Unsure/No Opinion/N/A	3.13%	1

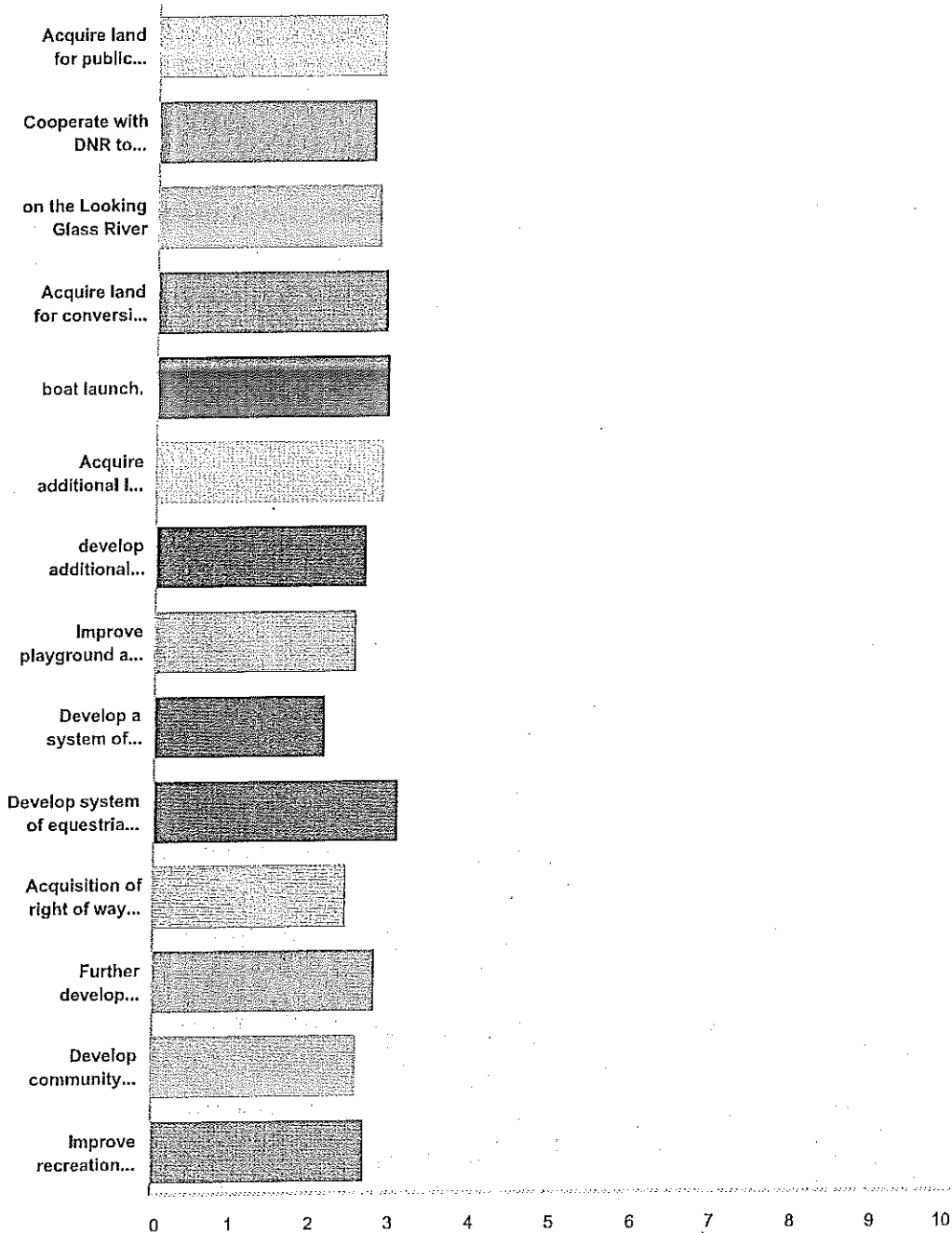


Other (please specify)	21.88%	7
<b>Total</b>		<b>32</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	pickleball courts	3/23/2016 6:40 AM
2	splash pad	3/11/2016 10:10 AM
3	non-motorized trails - develop the old railroad line from Laingsburg to Bath and into Lansing. Of course that would require multi-jurisdictional cooperation.	3/11/2016 6:12 AM
4	Dedicated area for flying radio controlled planes	3/10/2016 2:12 PM
5	use state park	3/8/2016 10:38 PM
6	excellent just how it is .....	3/7/2016 10:04 AM
7	no need to add more services, improve on what we have already, the hall/kitchen facilities are old and need updating alone with more space, table and chairs, which would bring more revenue to the township	3/4/2016 9:23 AM

**Q13 Please indicate your level of support for each potential new public outdoor recreational opportunity using the following scale**

Answered: 32 Skipped: 1

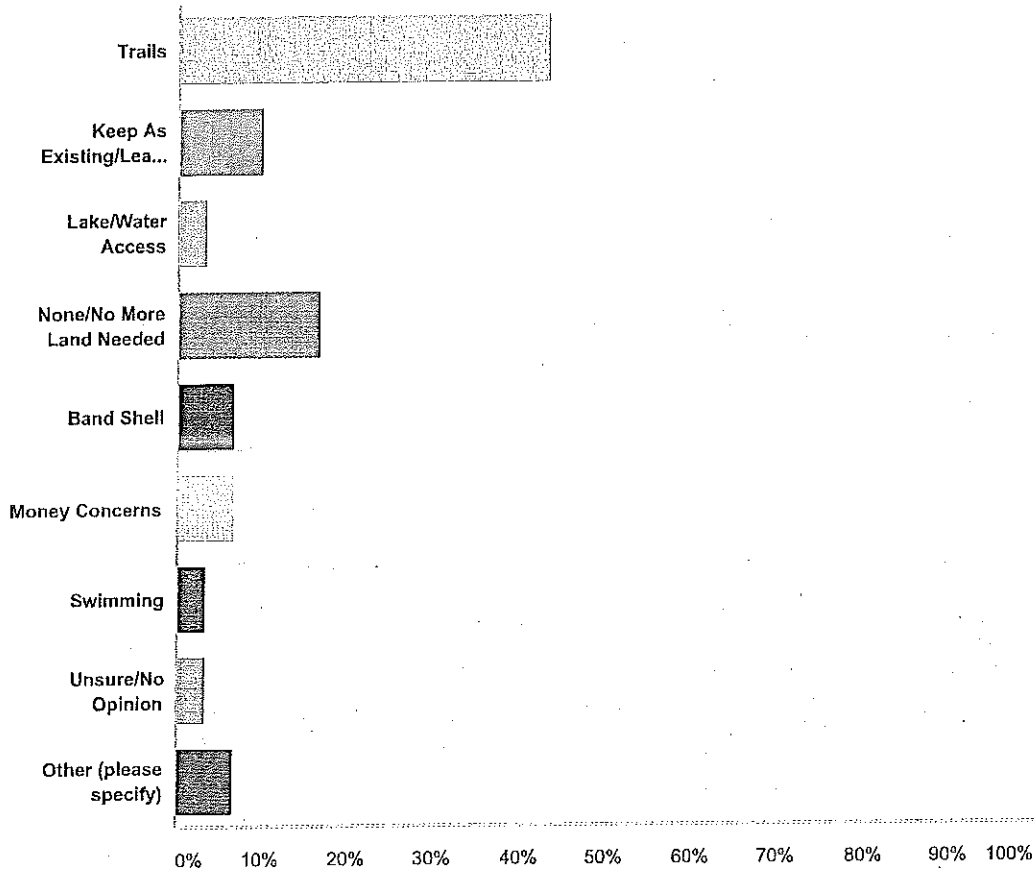


	Strongly Support	Moderately Support	Neutral	Strongly Oppose	No Opinion	Total	Weighted Average
Acquire land for public access park & boat launch on Looking Glass River	16.13% 5	19.35% 6	32.26% 10	25.81% 8	6.45% 2	31	2.87

Cooperate with DNR to develop/manage state-owned access site (Babcock's Landing) on the Looking Glass River	16.13% 5	32.26% 10	25.81% 8	12.90% 4	12.90% 4	31	2.74
Acquire land for conversion of sand/gravel mining operation to public access lake, park, boat launch.	9.68% 3	29.03% 9	29.03% 9	25.81% 8	6.45% 2	31	2.90
Acquire additional land for future expansion of Victor Township Hall Park.	11.11% 3	25.93% 7	25.93% 7	33.33% 9	3.70% 1	27	2.93
develop additional soccer fields other athletic fields at Victor Township Hall Park	9.68% 3	25.81% 8	35.48% 11	25.81% 8	3.23% 1	31	2.87
Improve playground at Victor Township Hall Park	16.13% 5	32.26% 10	29.03% 9	16.13% 5	6.45% 2	31	2.65
Develop a system of walkable/bikeable trails (on or off of the existing road system) in Victor Township to link populations and assets such as parks, schools, and other recreation facilities	19.35% 6	32.26% 10	32.26% 10	9.68% 3	6.45% 2	31	2.52
Develop system of equestrian trails linked with Sleepy Hollow State Park	37.50% 12	31.25% 10	15.63% 5	9.38% 3	6.25% 2	32	2.16
Acquisition of right of way and/or land for nature corridor connecting Sleepy Hollow State Park and the Looking Glass River	12.90% 4	16.13% 5	35.48% 11	22.58% 7	12.90% 4	31	3.06
Further develop historic/cultural assets of Victor Township Hall Park	25.81% 8	32.26% 10	19.35% 6	19.35% 6	3.23% 1	31	2.42
Develop community gardens at Victor Township Hall Park	13.33% 4	26.67% 8	36.67% 11	13.33% 4	10.00% 3	30	2.80
Improve recreation signage and way-finding markers throughout Victor Township.	16.67% 5	30.00% 9	36.67% 11	13.33% 4	3.33% 1	30	2.57
	9.68% 3	25.81% 8	54.84% 17	6.45% 2	3.23% 1	31	2.68

### Q14 Please list any other suggestion for land acquisition or development to support outdoor recreation in Victor Township.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 3



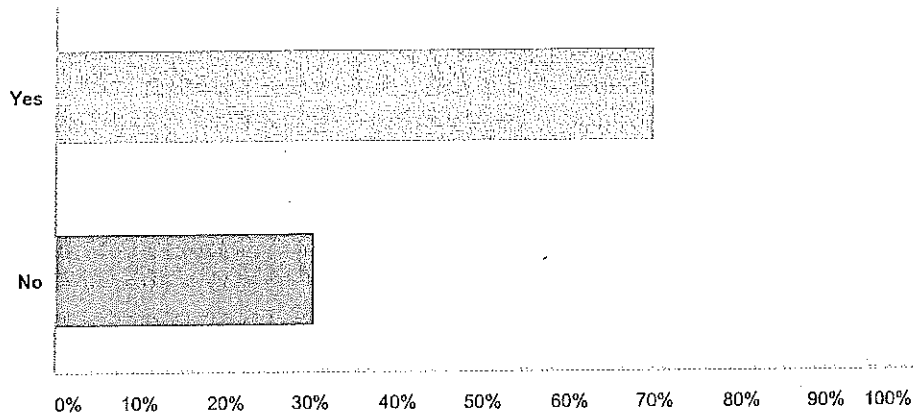
Answer Choices	Responses	
Trails	43.33%	13
Keep As Existing/Leave As Is	10.00%	3
Lake/Water Access	3.33%	1
None/No More Land Needed	16.67%	5
Band Shell	6.67%	2
Money Concerns	6.67%	2
Swimming	3.33%	1
Unsure/No Opinion	3.33%	1
Other (please specify)	6.67%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>

#	Other (please specify)	Date
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1	Strong opposition above relates to cost, tax increases, to support ideas listed. Support is difficult without firm knowledge whether essential services (fire, management, etc.) are well covered first.	3/17/2016 11:34 AM
2	Indoor basket ball courts	3/11/2016 10:10 AM

### Q15 Did anyone from your household visit Sleepy Hollow State Park in the past 12 months?

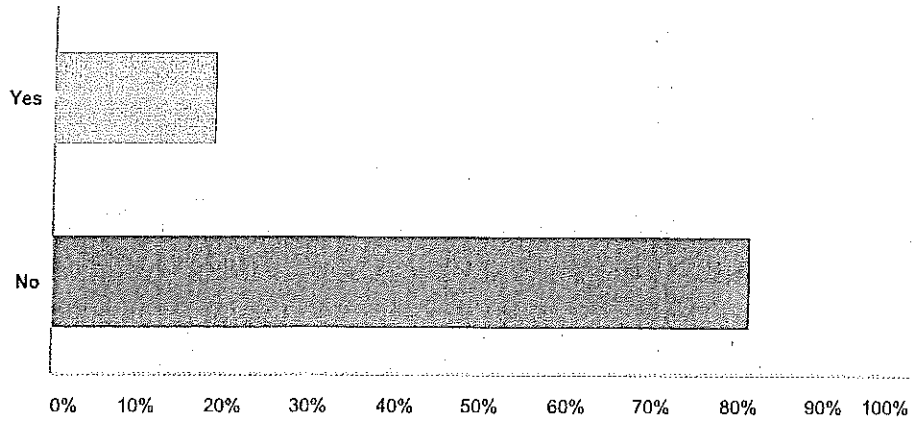
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	69.70%	23
No	30.30%	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>33</b>

### Q16 Did anyone from your household fish, swim, or boat on Round Lake in the past 12 months?

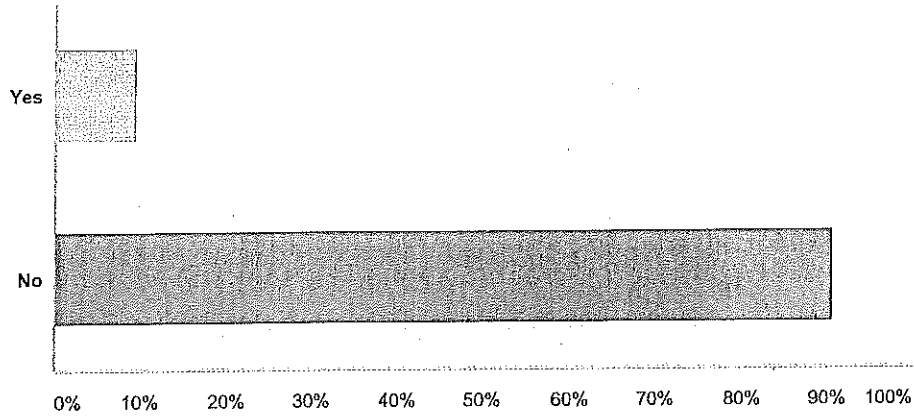
Answered: 32 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	18.75%	6
No	81.25%	26
<b>Total</b>		<b>32</b>

### Q17 Did anyone from your household fish, swim, or boat on the Looking Glass River in Victor Township in the past 12 months?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 1

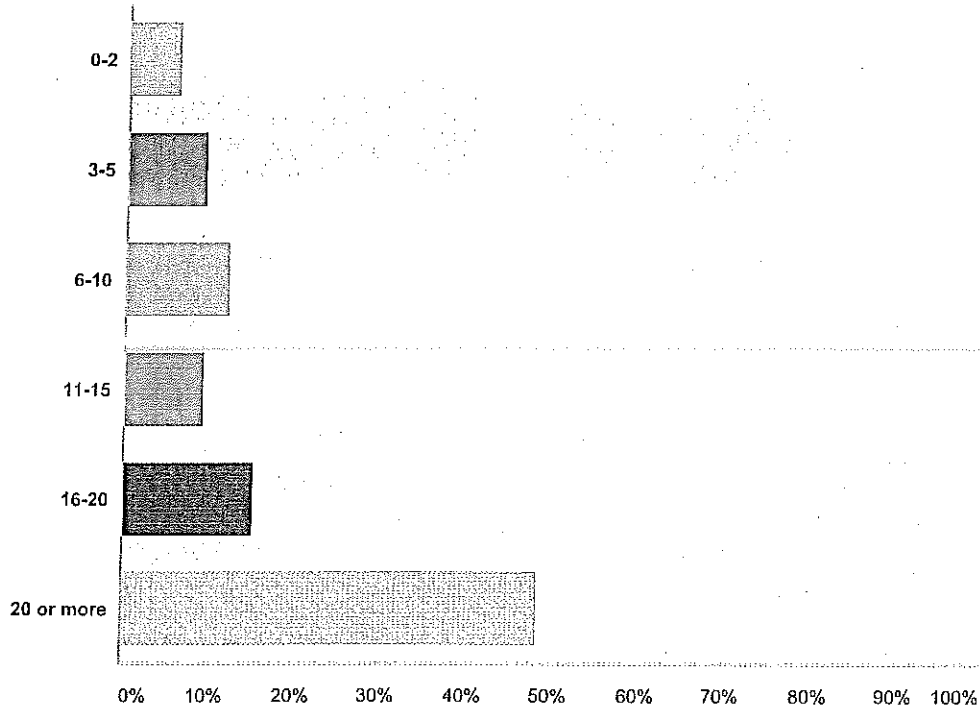


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	9.38% 3
No	90.63% 29
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>



**Q18 ABOUT YOUR HOUSEHOLD** These household questions help interpret how your views relate to others in like circumstances. How many years have you lived in Victor Township?

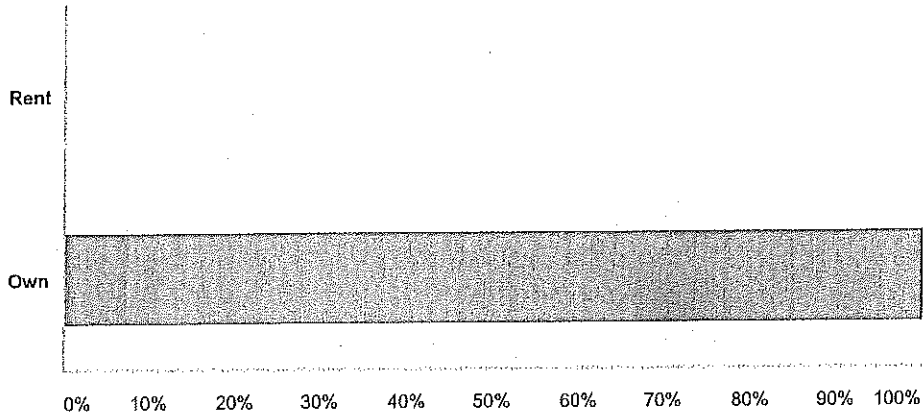
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
0-2	6.06% 2
3-5	9.09% 3
6-10	12.12% 4
11-15	9.09% 3
16-20	15.15% 5
20 or more	48.48% 16
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

### Q19 Do you rent or own your home in Victor Township?

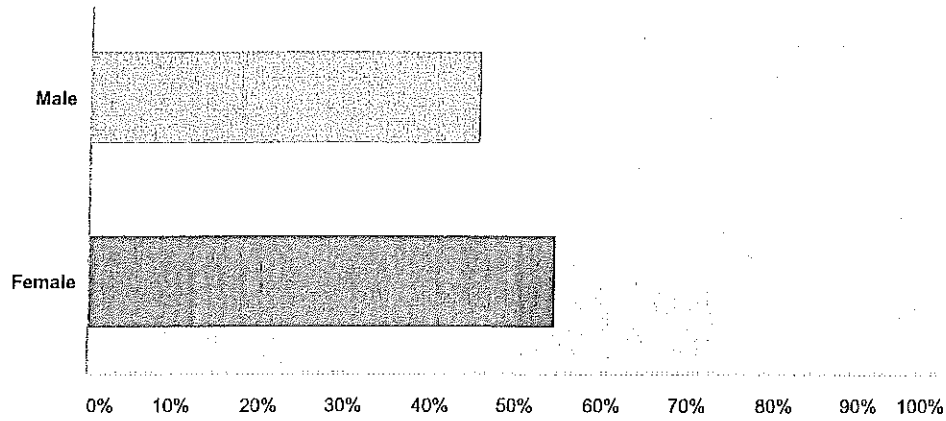
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Rent	0.00% 0
Own	100.00% 33
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

### Q20 Are you male or female?

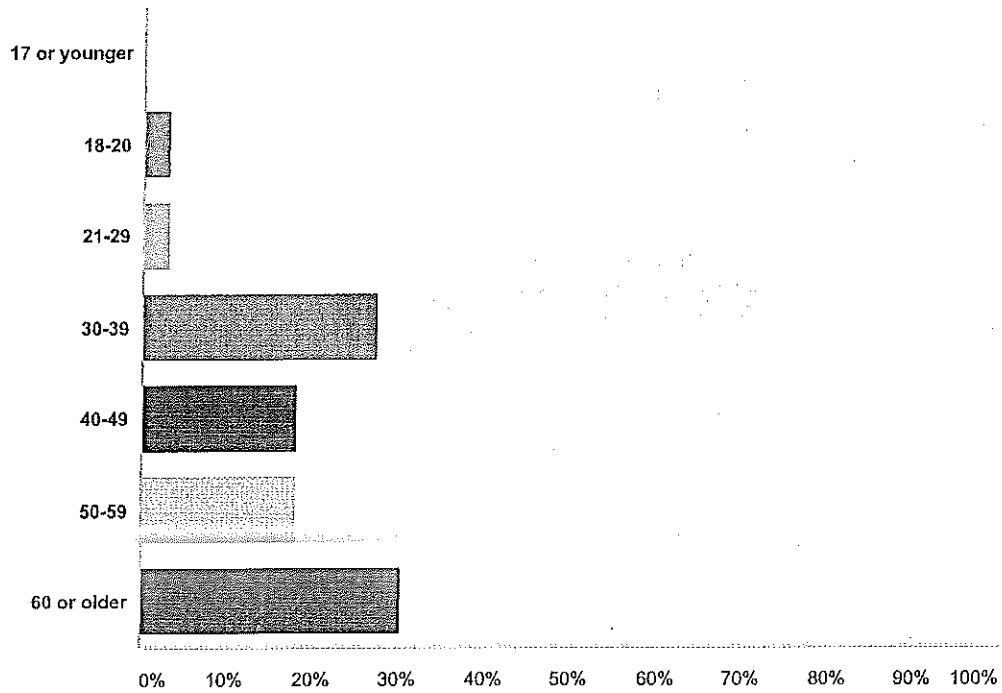
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Male	45.45% 15
Female	54.55% 18
Total	33

### Q21 What is your age?

Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
17 or younger	0.00% 0
18-20	3.03% 1
21-29	3.03% 1
30-39	27.27% 9
40-49	18.18% 6
50-59	18.18% 6
60 or older	30.30% 10
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

3/23/2016 6:40 AM

2016 11:34 AM

1/2016 6:12 AM

3/7/2016 10:04 AM

SurveyMonkey

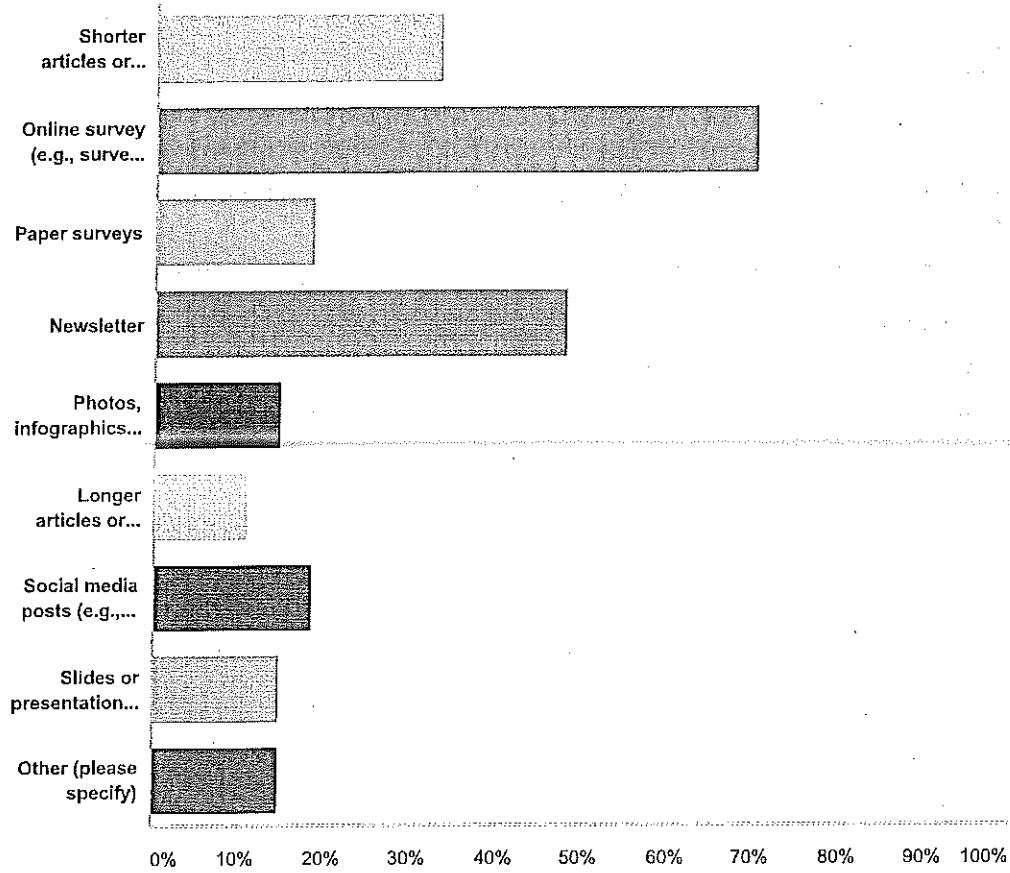
### Q22 Additional comments Please provide any suggestions for Victor Township Parks and Recreation plan.

Answered: 5 Skipped: 28

Responses	Date
Explain how costs for near term and long term ideas/plans will be paid. For example, if there are grants available to cover bulk of costs for some ideas, that would generate more support from our household and neighbors, friends.	3/17/2016 11:34 AM
Trial or bike path to connect Sleepy Hollow State Park to Laingsburg. I really enjoy historical preservation of buildings	3/11/2016 6:12 AM
any land purchases would be from warren malkin, haven't we given him enough of our money ? if people want to live like our neighbors in meridian township then move there, i liked it when it was more rural 25 plus years ago, now taxes are as if i'm living in meridian township !!!!	3/8/2016 10:38 PM
one that I can think of	3/8/2016 11:39 AM
the excellent way it is ,, if you need a more important subject to spend money on ,, try harder to pave E. Pratt Rd from St. Clair to Chandler Rd which would improve our home values and generate more property tax rev.	3/7/2016 10:04 AM

### Q23 Would you be interested in completing future communications or updates in any of the following formats?

Answered: 27 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Responses
Shorter articles or content (e.g., email newsletter, blog post)	33.33% 9
Online survey (e.g., survey monkey)	70.37% 19
Paper surveys	18.52% 5
Newsletter	48.15% 13
Photos, infographics, images, videos or illustrations	14.81% 4
Longer articles or content (e.g., eBook, downloadable guide)	11.11% 3
Social media posts (e.g., tweet, Facebook post)	18.52% 5
Slides or presentations at township hall.	14.81% 4
Other (please specify)	14.81% 4
<b>Total Respondents: 27</b>	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
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