

2015 Public Input

Community-Wide Survey. In response to changing conditions, new parkland acquisition, and in anticipation of an update to the township Parks and Recreation Plan upon its expiration, the Township undertook a Township-wide opinion survey. Complete survey results along with other results of public input in 2015 can be found in Appendix 10. A summary of the findings is provided below.

- Parking improvements and providing restrooms at Crescent Shores boat launch site are high priority for respondents.
- Walking, swimming, hiking, and boating are the recreational activities that respondents reported participating in most often.
- Crescent Shores Boat Launch, Taylor Park, and Gilbert Park are the Township-owned recreational facilities survey respondents reported visiting most often.
- In regards to trails, respondents felt that the Timbers Recreation Area was most in need of improvement.
- The Timbers Recreation Area was the park most respondents would like to see groomed for winter trail use.
- Gilbert Park is the location most respondents would like to see improvements to sports fields/playgrounds/courts.
- In regards to new or improved recreational opportunities, the highest priority for respondents was for biking trails, roadside bike lanes, regional trail connections, ice skating rink, sledding hill, canoe and kayaking, cross-country skiing, dog parks, and picnic sites.

Timbers Recreation Area Focus Group Meetings. Following final acquisition of the Timbers Recreation Area, the Township held two public focus group meetings to facilitate the development of a management plan for the property. At the first meeting held on July 30, 2015, meeting participants were asked to suggest potential uses for the Timbers Property in three categories: Facilities, Trails, and Programming/Rules. Under facilities, picnic and restroom facilities near the water, dock on Long Lake, and fishing platform on Fern Lake were highest priorities. In regards to programming/rules, the participants most favored programming for educational events and most supported banning open fires. In regards to trails, mountain bike trails, a mixture of trail types, providing universal access trails, and winter trail grooming received the most support.

At a follow up meeting on August 27, 2015, results from the first meeting were presented along with alternative design solutions addressing preferred uses. The participants offered additional comments and refinements.

Crescent Shores Boat Launch Focus Group Meetings. Due to dangerous conditions, high levels of use, and annual ice floe damage to the boat launch, the Township applied for and received a Waterways Grant in 2014 to undertake preliminary feasibility study and engineering design for the Crescent Shores Boat Launch and associated parking lot.

The Township contracted with Gosling Czubak to complete preliminary design and engineering. As part of this process, the Township held two focus group meetings to review preliminary plans, take comments, and address questions and concerns from the public. Both public meetings were well attended with over 60 members of the public – mostly nearby residents – present. The first meeting, held on April 29, 2015, resulted in the following issues needing revision or further study:

- We should consider less parking because of the limited ramp capacity
- We should consider some oversight of the ramp operation and parking and peak hours/days
- We should perform use counts at both launch sites this summer
- We should have another meeting this summer

Following easement language finalization with neighboring property owners, discussions with outside agencies including the Grand Traverse County Road Commission and the Sheriff, plans were revised. A second focus group meeting was held on August 20, 2015. Revised plans were introduced at this meeting. The public gave additional comment and had an opportunity to ask questions.

Fishers Run Natural Area

- Trail management and development master plan to address:
 - Surface treatments
 - Trail width
 - Trail delineation
 - Tree identification
 - Signage
 - Maintenance
- Lake Dubonnet
 - Consider, design and implement appropriate connections to the lake
- Disc golf
 - Consider and implement disk golf, if appropriate
- Westwoods Elementary
 - Consider and implement cooperative planning

Land Acquisition for Natural Feature Preservation and Passive Recreational Use

- Protect or acquire properties where opportunities exist, where the need to serve the public with unmet recreational opportunities exists, and/or where important natural lands can be protected and made available to the public.

Timbers Recreation Area

- Develop trail designed for universal accessibility
- Develop picnic areas and accessible restrooms near waterfront
- Construct fishing platform on Fern Lake

Crescent Shores Boat Launch

- Develop off-street parking for vehicles with boat trailers
- Reconstruct boat launch to improve safety, provide for better turning radius, eliminate congestion and circulation conflicts
- Provide for accessible walkways between parking area and launch, restrooms, storm drainage, and landscaping

Implementation Summary

This section of Chapter 7 provides a listing of recommendations. Some are ongoing efforts that will involve time, commitment, planning and coordination; while others are physical improvements that will require investment of time and money. This summary of implementation, presented in Table 7, includes the top priority items that will entail financial commitment from the Township. It is recommended that the plan be reviewed annually and as part of that review, estimated costs should also be evaluated and updated as necessary.

The cost estimates in Table 7 are provided in 2010 dollars generally and based on information available at the time the plan was prepared. These figures must be viewed as preliminary estimates and not actual or proposed costs. Actual costs may

be influenced by natural features, wetland presence, property owners, tree removal, topography, land values, trail-road crossings, material costs, right-of-way acquisition, engineering design fees, permit fees, and other factors. The details and costs of each specific project must be evaluated on an individual basis as plans and grant applications are prepared.

In addition to the facility-specific action items outlined in Table 7, this Plan incorporates an on-going objective to increase non-motorized trail linkages within the community. The Township will encourage opportunities to facilitate trails that link residential areas to parks and schools. This will involve working with private developers and land owners to assure that access between and among facilities is incorporated to eventually result in convenient non-motorized links to not only recreation and school facilities but also to other destination land uses as well as to regional trail facilities that may be developed in the future as included in Appendix 3.

Table 7			
Implementation Summary			
Phase	Projects	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources / Resource Partners
1	Cedar Run Natural Area – Boundary Survey and Demarcation Staking. Property line survey and marking intermittent lines. Place metal posts every 100 feet. Install ownership signs on the west edge of the property.	\$6,500	Township Local Foundations
2	Gilbert Park – Design/Engineering & Construction. Walkway & beach edge materials improvements, ADA access to the dock and park area. Storm water control working with the County Road Commission	\$20,500	Township Local Foundations L&WCF*
3	Haywood Park - Expansion Master Planning Process. Public Input Process, Conceptual Plan Master Plan, further site planning and projections for park expansion.	\$2,900	Township Local Foundations
4	Cedar Run Natural Area – Survey, Design, Engineering & Construction. Trail head parking off of Tucker Road & expanded parking at Cedar Lake Road	\$55,000	Township Local Foundations L&WCF
5	Fishers Run – Trail Improvements and Signage.	\$6,500	Township Local Foundations
6	Bullhead Lake – Design/Engineering & Construction. The allowed parking area, retaining walls, storm water detention & fishing dock.	\$15,500	Township Local Foundations L&WCF
7	South Long Lake Natural Area – Survey, Design, Engineering & Construction. Trail Head Parking off of Luhrs Trail near Bass Lake Road	\$30,000	Township Local Foundations L&WCF*
8	Land Acquisition for Natural Feature Preservation and Passive Recreational Use. As opportunities arise in locations with high quality natural features or amenities meeting population's needs.	Varies	Township, Local Foundations Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, L&WCF*, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
9	Trail Management & Planning. At various facilities as opportunities, need, and resources are available.	Varies	Township, Local Foundations Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, L&WCF*, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
10	Timbers Recreation Area. Construct universally accessible trail, picnic areas, fishing platform, and restrooms	\$300,000	Township, Local Foundations Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
11	Crescent Shores Boat Launch. Reconstruct boat launch, construct off-street parking, accessible walkway and restrooms, associated landscaping and storm water management	\$650,000	Township, Michigan Waterways Commission Boating Infrastructure Grant Program

* L&WCF: Land and Water Conservation Funds administered by the State of Michigan DNR.

**Appendix 10 – 2015 Public Input and Recreation Survey
Results**

Long Lake Township Recreation Survey

Results of this survey will help the Township prioritize and make funding decisions regarding recreation improvements. Other factors will also influence decision-making.

Thank you for your participation.

About You

Please choose one answer that best describes you

- Full-time Long Lake resident
- Part-time Long Lake resident
- Not a resident, but own property in Long Lake
- Frequent visitor to Long Lake
- Other:

Household Ages

This information is to help us better serve our population. Choose all that apply:

- Household includes children of preschool age (ages 4 and under)
- Household includes children of school age (ages 5 through 18)
- Household includes adults aged 19-39
- Household includes adults aged 40-64
- Household includes adults 65 and over

Differently Abled

This information is to help us better serve our population, please choose all that apply:

- Household includes children 18 or under with mobility restrictions
- Household includes adults with mobility restrictions
- Household includes children 18 or under with visual impairments
- Household includes adults with visual impairments
- Household does not include any individuals with physical restrictions or impairments

Taylor Park	<input type="radio"/>						
Bullhead Lake Natural Area	<input type="radio"/>						
Haywood Park	<input type="radio"/>						
Fisher's Run	<input type="radio"/>						
South Long Lake Forest Natural Area	<input type="radio"/>						
Crescent Shores Boat Launch	<input type="radio"/>						
Bass Lake Public Access (State owned)	<input type="radio"/>						
Cedar Lake Access (State owned)	<input type="radio"/>						
Twin Lake Park (County Owned)	<input type="radio"/>						
Pere Marquette State Forest (State owned)	<input type="radio"/>						
Carter Strong Bird Sanctuary	<input type="radio"/>						
Timbers Recreation Area	<input type="radio"/>						
Long Lake Islands	<input type="radio"/>						
Private Neighborhood Park	<input type="radio"/>						
Long Lake Elementary Playground/Fields	<input type="radio"/>						
Westwoods Elementary Playground/Fields	<input type="radio"/>						
Buffalo Springs (TCAPS owned)	<input type="radio"/>						
Other	<input type="radio"/>						
Other	<input type="radio"/>						

Explain

Tell us what your "other" answers refer to

Facility Improvements: Trails

Tell us whether TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS at these park sites are important to you:

	No improvement needed	Improvement needed - low priority	Improvement needed - medium priority	Improvement needed - high priority	Don't Know
Cedar Run Creek	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Timbers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
South Long Lake Forest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bullhead Lake	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fisher's Run	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Haywood (paved trail)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Explain

Tell us more about the trail improvements needed (optional)

Facility Improvements: Parking/Vehicle Access

Tell us whether PARKING/VEHICLE ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS at these sites is important to you:

	No improvement needed	Improvement needed - low priority	Improvement needed - medium priority	Improvement needed - high priority	Don't know
Cedar Run Creek	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Gilbert	<input type="radio"/>					
Crescent Shores Boat Launch	<input type="radio"/>					

Facility Improvements: Accessibility for the Differently Abled

Tell us whether ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS at these sites is important to you:

	No improvement needed	Improvement needed - low priority	Improvement needed - medium priority	Improvement needed - high priority	Don't know
Cedar Run Creek	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Timbers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
South Long Lake Forest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bullhead Lake	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fisher's Run	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Haywood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Taylor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gilbert	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Crescent Shores Boat Launch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Explain

Tell us more about the accessibility improvements needed (optional)

Facility Improvements: Playground/Sports Court/Sports Fields

Tell us whether PLAYGROUNDS/MULTI-USE COURTS/SPORTS FIELD improvements at these sites is important to you:

No improvement needed
 Improvement needed - low
 Improvement needed - medium
 Improvement needed - high
 Don't know

	needed	priority	medium priority	priority	
Fisher's Run	<input type="radio"/>				
Haywood	<input type="radio"/>				
Gilbert	<input type="radio"/>				
Taylor	<input type="radio"/>				

Explain

Tell us more about the improvements needed at playgrounds/courts/fields (optional)

Facility Improvements: Winter Trail Grooming

Tell us whether WINTER TRAIL GROOMING (for cross country skiing, hiking/snow shoeing, or walking) at these sites is important to you:

	No improvement needed	Improvement needed - low priority	Improvement needed - medium priority	Improvement needed - high priority	Don't know
Cedar Run Creek	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Timbers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
South Long Lake Forest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bullhead Lake	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fisher's Run	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Haywood (trail cleared for walking)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

New or Expanded Facilities

Tell us whether development of NEW OR EXPANDED FACILITIES in the Township are important to you. (These are not location-specific)

	No improvement needed	Improvement needed - low priority	Improvement needed - medium priority	Improvement needed - high priority	Don't know
Sledding Hill	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ice Skating Rink	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing Platform	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Archery Fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hunting Opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Roadside Separated Bike Trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Roadside Bike Lane	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional Trailway Connectors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Picnic Sites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tennis Courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Camping Opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boat Launch Sites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Canoe/Kayaking Opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cross Country Skiing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Horseback Riding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shooting Range	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional Water Trail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kite flying	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dog Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Snowmobiling opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Explain

Tell us what your "other" answers refer to

Under Served Populations

Tell us what Township populations (age groups, abillites, etc.) are underserved for recreational oppourtunities

Underserved Areas

Tell us what areas of the Township are under served for recreational oppourtunities

Parkland Acquisition

Do you think the Township should acquire additional parkland? Which statement best reflects your views?

- Yes, save more natural areas from development
- Yes, acquire special purpose parkland in strategic locations
- No, but support and facilitate the acquisition of parkland by others (State/County/Conservancy)
- No, there is enough parkland in the Township
- Other:

Funding

How should the following be funded at Township-owned parks? (Notes: 1.Bike lanes and regional

bike trails would not be within Township parks 2. User fees may be prohibited at facilities with MDNR funding)

	Township general budget	Grants/Donations	User Fees/User Donations	Millage	Should not be funded
Acquisition of New Parkland	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regular Maintenance at Existing Parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playfield (soccer, baseball) Maintenance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hiking/Biking Trail Maintenance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Winter Trail Grooming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development of Recreation Facilities in Existing Parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional Bike Trails Development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Roadside Bike Lanes Development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

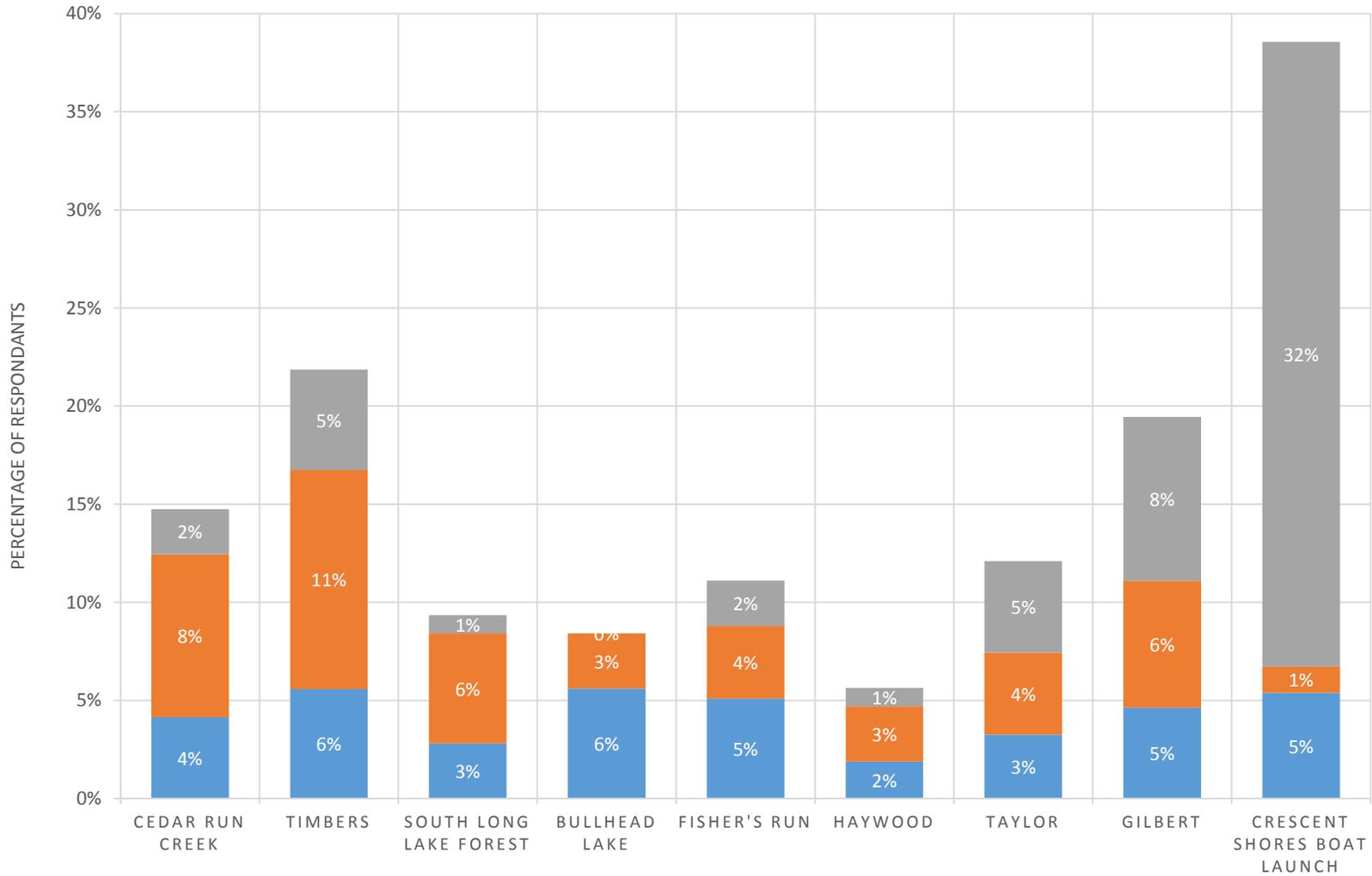
Any other comments?

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.

100%: You made it.

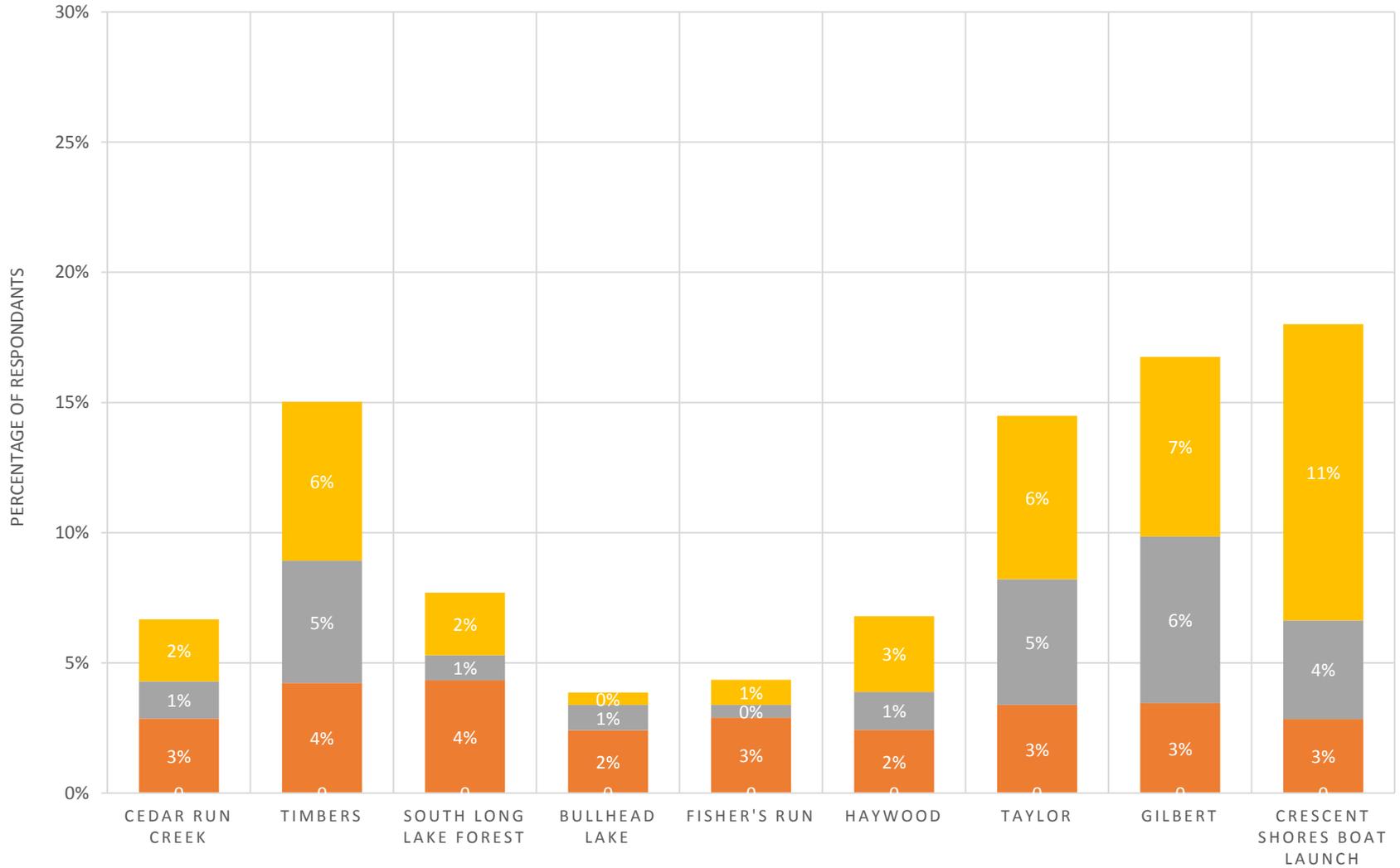
DO YOU THINK PARKING/VEHICLE ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED AT THE FOLLOWING PARKS?

■ Improvement needed - low priority
 ■ Improvement needed - medium priority
 ■ Improvement needed - high priority

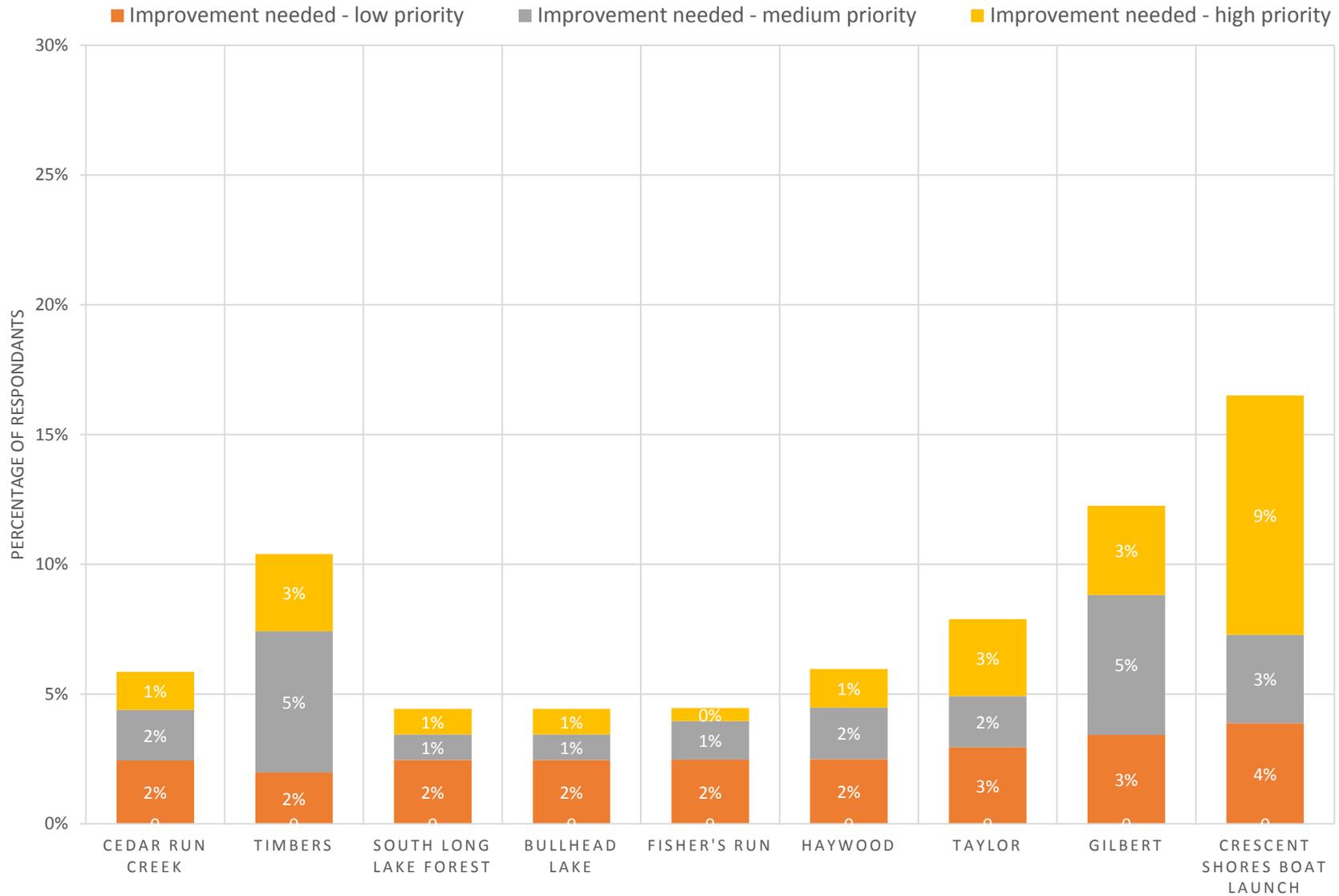


DO YOU THINK RESTROOM IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED AT THE FOLLOWING PARKS?

■ Improvement needed - low priority
 ■ Improvement needed - medium priority
 ■ Improvement needed - high priority

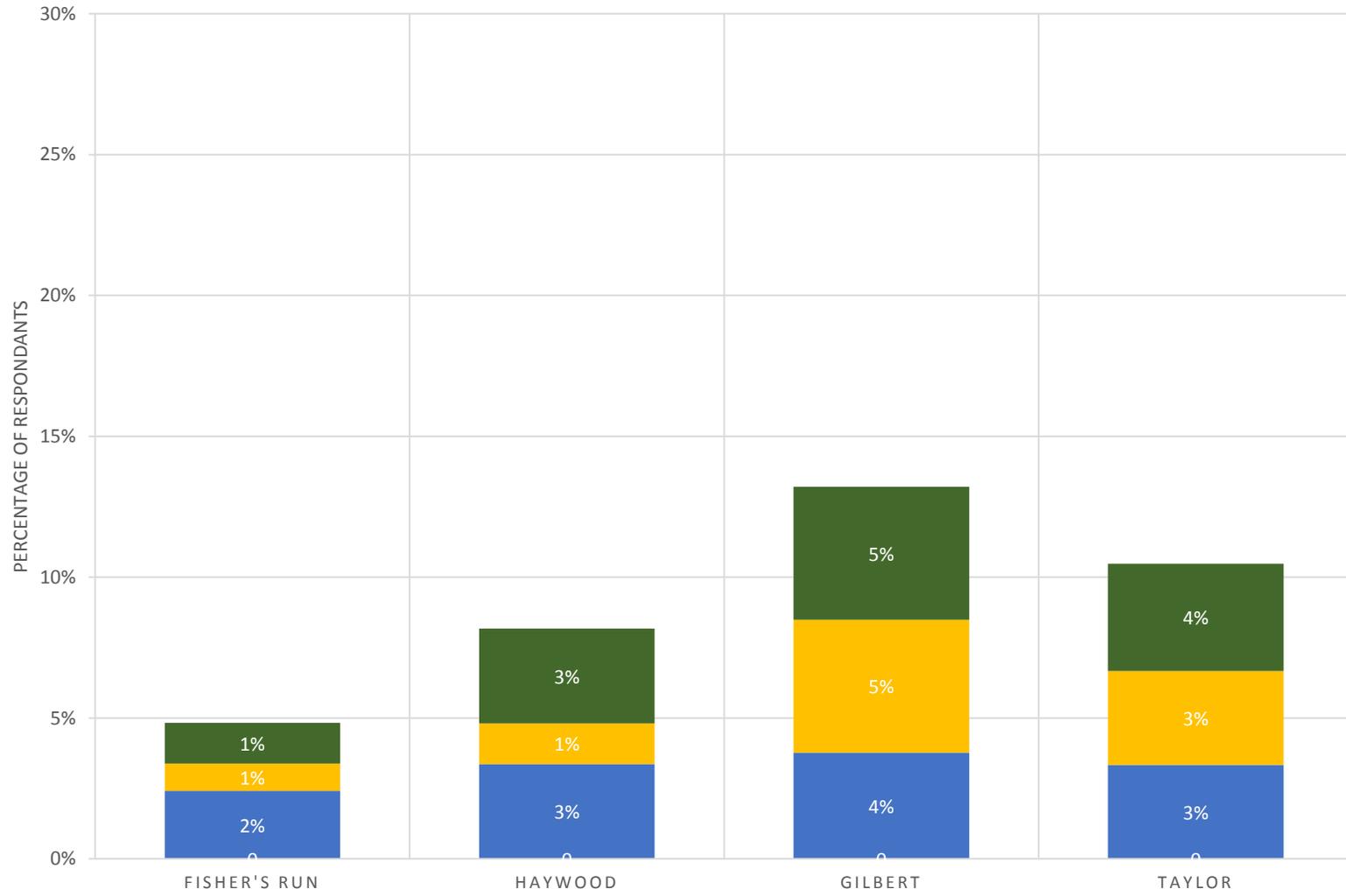


DO YOU THINK IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE DISABLED ARE NEEDED AT THE FOLLOWING PARKS?

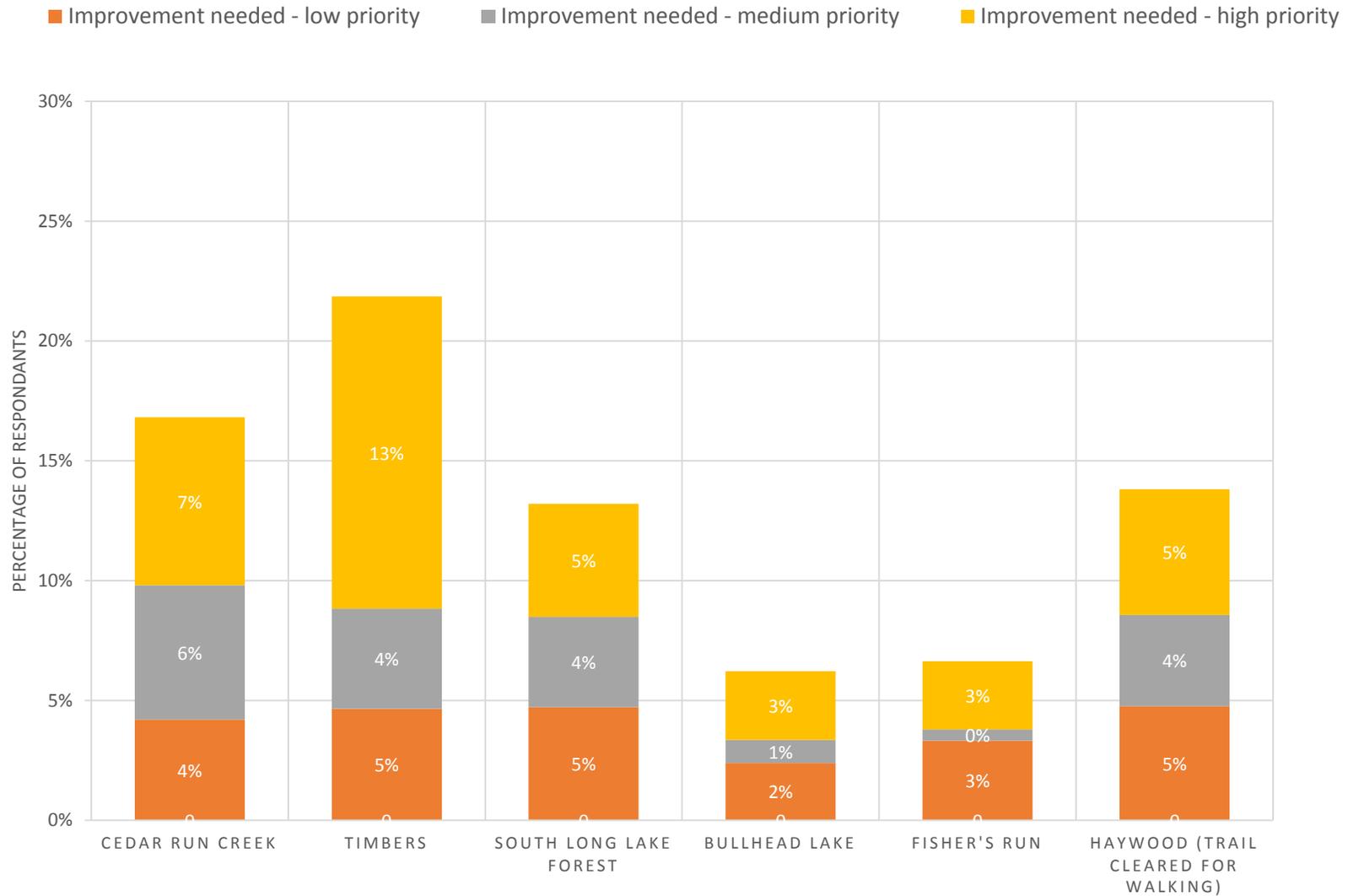


DO YOU THINK IMPROVEMENTS TO SPORTS FIELDS/COURTS/PLAYGROUNDS ARE NEEDED AT THE FOLLOWING PARKS?

■ Improvement needed - low priority ■ Improvement needed - medium priority ■ Improvement needed - high priority

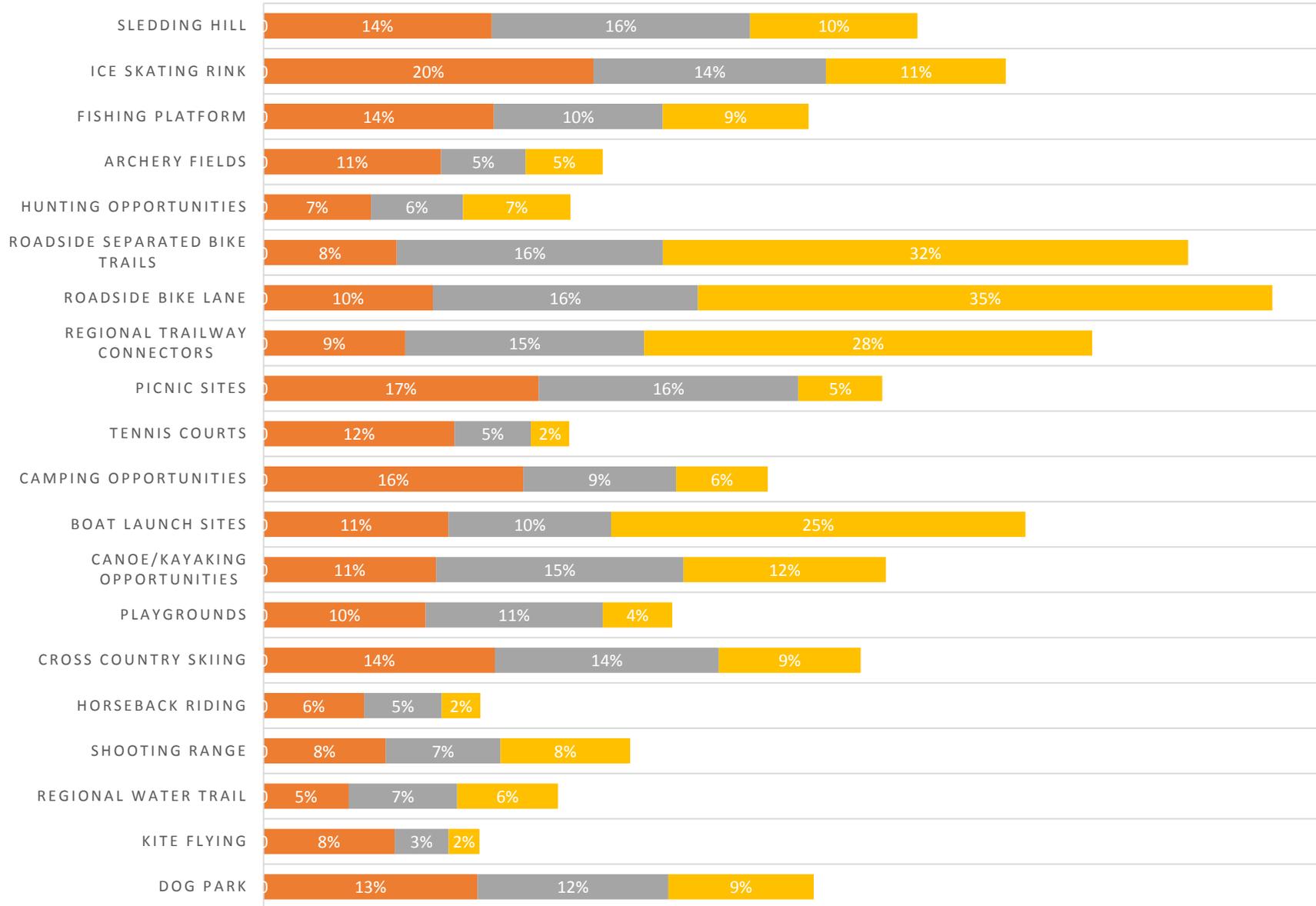


DO YOU THINK WINTER TRAIL GROOMING IS NEEDED AT THE FOLLOWING PARKS?



WHICH FACILITIES SHOULD BE EXPANDED OR NEWLY CREATED IN THE TOWNSHIP?

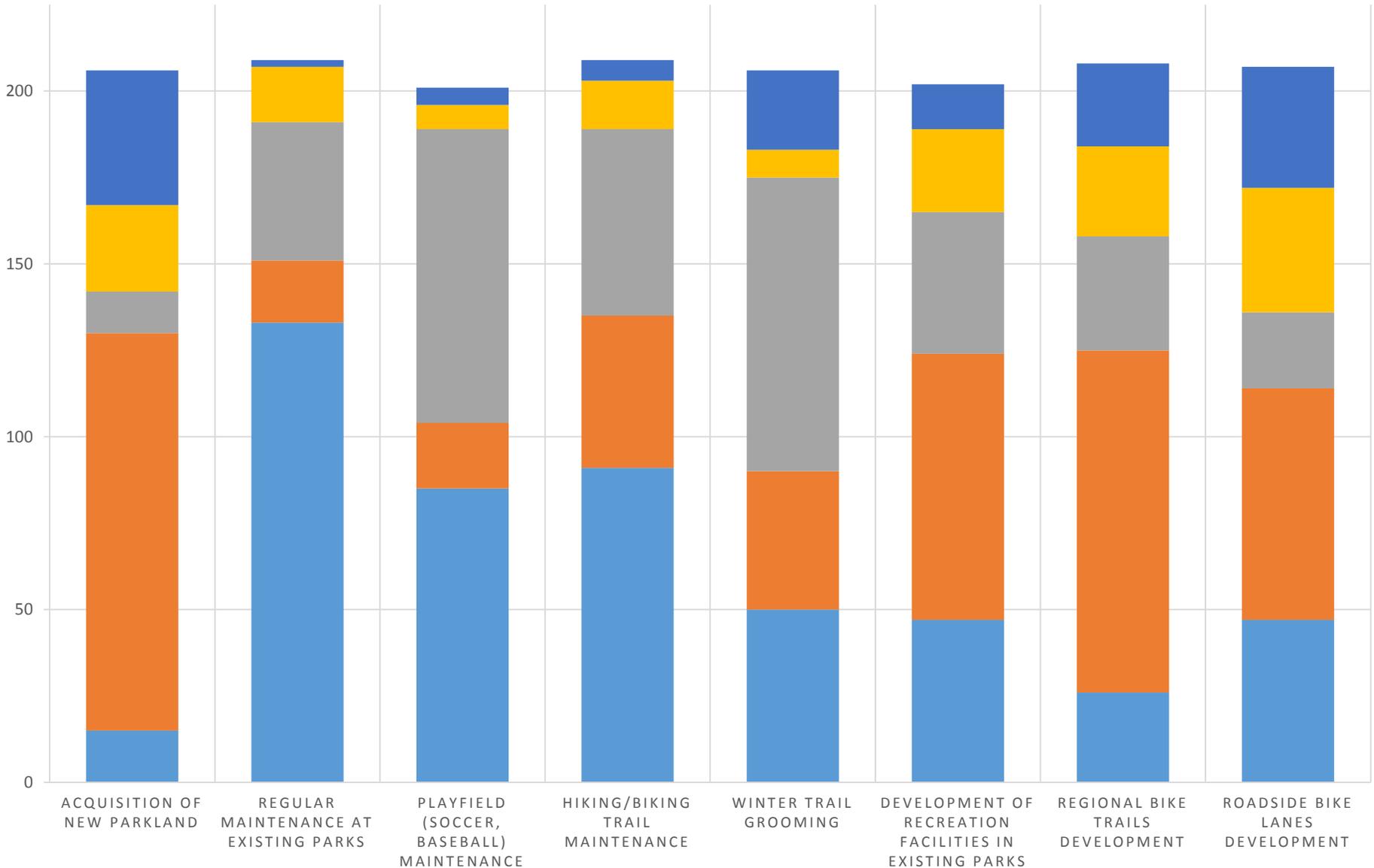
■ Improvement needed - low priority
 ■ Improvement needed - medium priority
 ■ Improvement needed - high priority



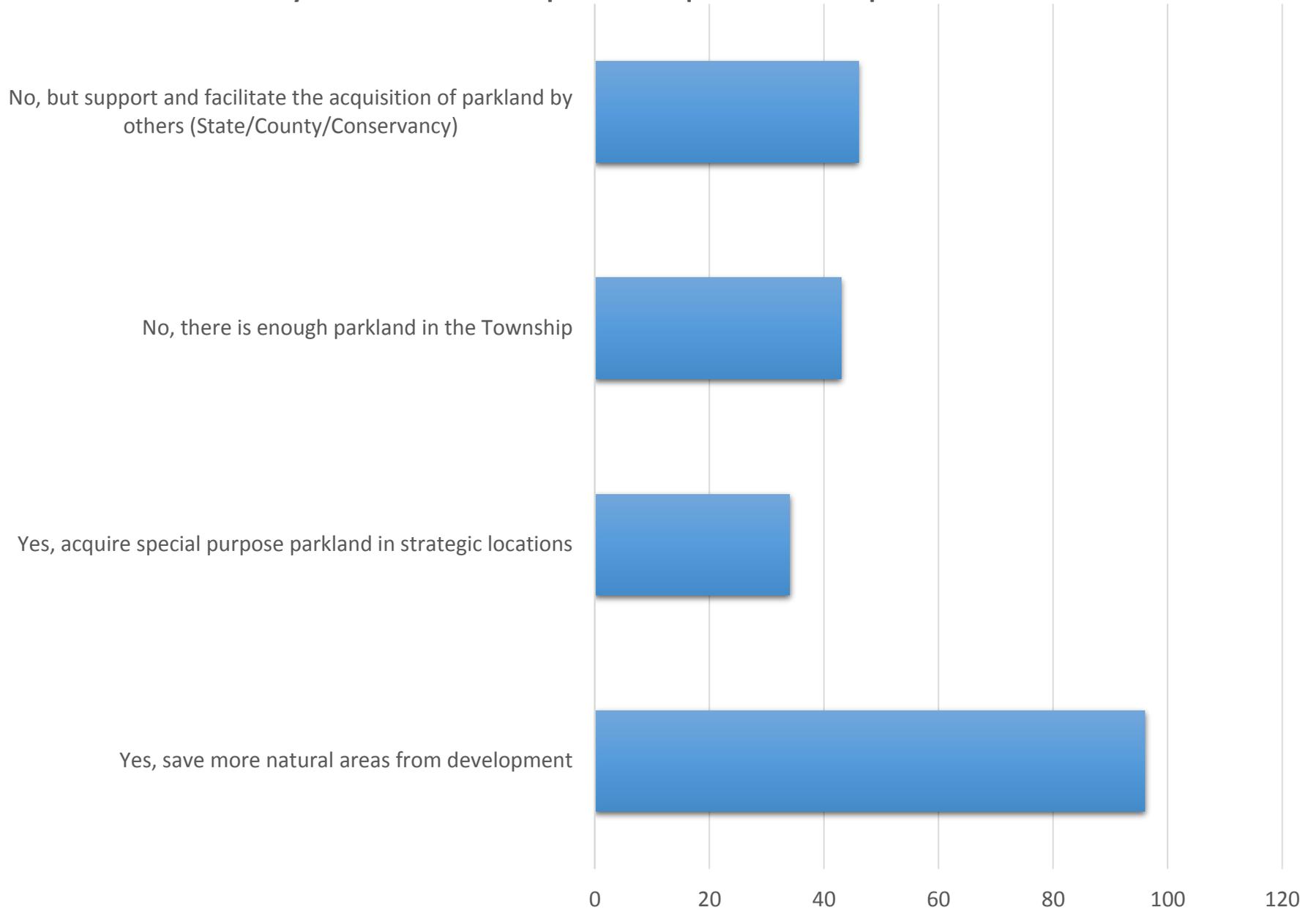
PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDANTS

HOW SHOULD THESE RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS OR MAINTENANCE BE FUNDED?

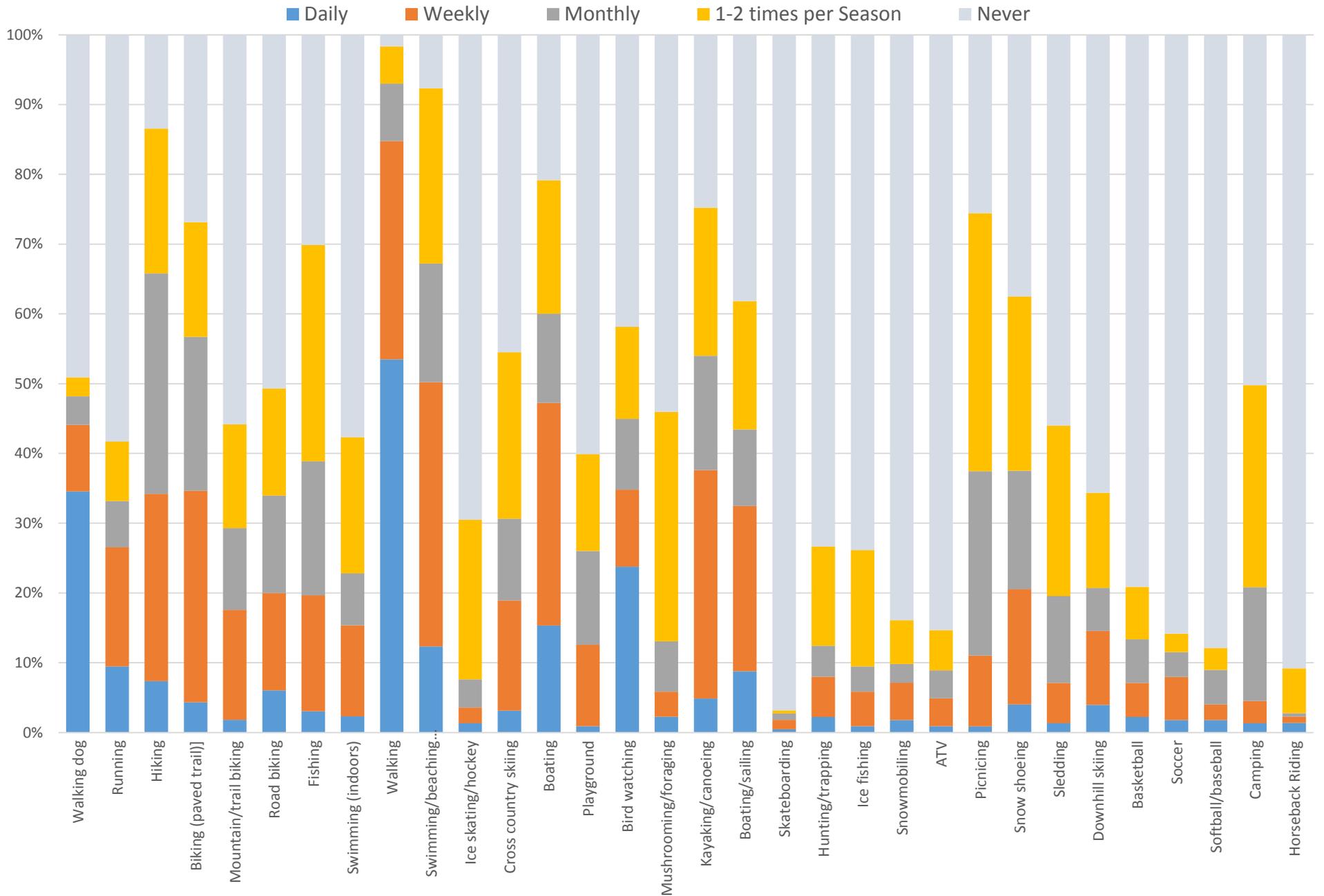
■ Township general budget
 ■ Grants/Donations
 ■ User Fees/User Donations
 ■ Millage
 ■ Should not be funded



Do you think the Township should acquire additional parkland?



How often do you or someone in the household engage in these activities? (in season/not location specific)



Crescent Shores Boat Launch Meeting #2

August 20, 2015

Ron Kennedy: on the 4th, some people parked on Crescent Shores Drive. Klaus: attendants and improved design should help this situation.

Overall, most attendees felt that the road should be improved as part of this process.

There were 34-39 vehicles parked on the road this past Sunday, both sides of the road.

The road is signed for speed limit of 40 mph. This is excessive for the conditions, can this be changed?

There is a lot of fishing done right at the launch, there is a drop off here where you can fish for panfish.

Boats tie down within the boat launch area and often block intersection. Will the tie down area be moving? Klaus: yes.

Sometimes even Gilbert Park has full parking and people park off site. How will you control this?

Klaus: pressure should be put on Sherriff's office to patrol and ticket for off-site parking.

Non-residents don't care that they're bothering neighbors.

Most convenient place to park is along the road. Shoulders should be narrowed to prevent this.

Anything planned for boat wash/invasive species?

Long Lake does not yet have zebra mussels.

What size boat will use the launch? Klaus: we are designing for 22-26 foot boats. There is not enough turning radius for anything bigger.

How will trash be handled? Some people dump trash near their parking spot now.

What is the buffer between the parking area and Lake Drive? Klaus: an evergreen buffer is proposed. Can it be a fence? Klaus: costs and maintenance is an issue with a fence.

What will the hours of use be? Twp: Most of the parks are signed with hours from dawn until 10:00. There will be fishers that will go earlier/later.

If you let them, people will park in the parking lot overnight and stay on their boat, or they'll bring in their boat after midnight and camp in an RV overnight in the parking lot.

People leaving the parking lot overnight will spot light houses on Lake Drive with headlights. Klaus: good point, we will be sure to consider this with the landscaping choices for the buffer. With a variety of sizes and types of plantings, a full screen can be achieved.

Can you just expand the width of the road and allow people to park there instead of spending all of this money on the parking lot?

What will the timing of the launch versus the parking lot be? Klaus: no specific timeline, but this will have a long time horizon. We will be submitting a grant application to the Waterways Commission in April 2016, the earliest construction associated with that would be 2017. Depends on funding source whether the parking lot may happen first.

Why aren't there pull-through spaces, which are easier to navigate? Klaus: pull-through spaces would severely limit the number of spaces that can be provided at this site. The design provides for very generous drive aisles and parking space widths (20' and 10-12').

Who will own the launch? Klaus: Long Lake Township

Will the Township pay for an attendant? Township officials: Yes

Based on behavior at other popular boat launches, once the parking lot is full, people may line up on the road waiting for someone to leave the parking lot. Klaus: an attendant would not allow this to happen.

Klaus: We need to accommodate the people coming to the boat launch and we must work with the limitations/site restraints that we have that cannot be changed. There are no perfect solutions. Another option is to close the launch completely. 3-5 people said that they'd like to see the launch closed. Others agreed that the launch should remain.

Has a study ever been conducted to find a launch site on the other side of the lake? No

Is the Township considering ongoing monitoring to create a management plan after the first few years of operation of the new launch? Klaus: we need more formal and current tallies of users at the launch throughout the season.

Once the facility is upgraded and available – usage will go up.

Can we require paid parking? Klaus: an attendant is the best way to do this.

Concern about groups congregating at the launch or the parking lot. Klaus: the design does not encourage or easily allow picnicking or other activities beyond launching boats and retrieving boats.

Overnight parking is a concern.

Road safety is a concern – tie down interfering with emergency access. Klaus: the tie-downs have been relocated west. It will be well signed and the attendant should ensure that people move down to the designated areas to tie down.

People won't use the parking lot, they'll just park on the road. Klaus: it will take some time to change behavior, but with ticketing and monitoring, we should be able to stop people from doing this.

At night, vehicles towing boats leaving the ramp blind on-coming east bound traffic due to the relative grade at the launch and of the roadway. Klaus: did not know that, that's good information; final design should alleviate this issue.

The Township MUST monitor the launch with attendants. A lot of the conversation tonight has been suggested that the Township MAY use attendants. Why are there so many unknowns at this time?

Klaus: This is still a long time frame project. Some decisions are premature at this time. As the design is finalized, the operational framework will be decided in context of the design.

Make more plans for non-motor boat users – swimmers, paddlers, etc. Why are we spending more money to encourage more motorboats to use the lake that is being overloaded with motorboats?

What is the plan to upgrade the road from the Road Commission? Klaus: The Road Commission has minimal funding. This must be financed with shared funding from the Road Commission and the Township. The Township has a lot of say about the design and the timing, if they have the match money.

Will you be able to launch a sail boat from this launch – with the sail up? Klaus: due to the location of overhead lines, sail boat launching will be limited to small boats with the mast down.

Has a wetland determination been done? Klaus: the survey crew has marked off the likely location of the edge of the wetland. A full delineation will be completed by the DEQ prior to issuing any permits.

How does the Zimmerman driveway impact the design? Klaus: There is an existing paper road easement that hugs the easement for Crescent Shores Drive. The tie-down areas are all west of the easement and west of the wetland areas through here.

Is there room for two ramps here? Klaus: there is room for two ramps but the back up angles required for launching here are not conducive to two launches, so only one can be accommodated here.

Klaus: As of now, we are showing a non-motor boat launch site north of the launch. The proposed motor boat launch is shifted 10-12 feet north of the existing launch ramp.

The second launch should be designed such that it could not be used by motor boats, or people will try to use it.

At this time, a canoe launch would work better on the south end of the site because of the location of a drop off. Klaus: final grades may change this such that the north end would work better.

Timing? April '17 is the first available construction timing under grant funding.

Need to integrate the facility planning with the design planning now, not in the future after the design is complete.

Leland is an example of a launch site that should be looked at.

We don't want the huge crowds and over usage seen on Torch Lake to happen here.

There is not enough discussion about the management of the launch site.

Can we stake the area to show people where the launch ramp, etc. are proposed?

What are the feedback opportunities? Klaus: no limit on the time or means of getting us access. Contact the Township. Email the planner at planner@longlaketownship.com

Construction budget? Klaus: no cost estimates have been done as of yet.

Launch fees experienced at other sites? Attendees: \$2-\$5

Karen: We are working with the Road Commission and the Sheriff and our goal is to get people off of the road to improve safety. There will be the same number of parking spaces as there now are on the road and our goal is to improve safety and not expand the usage of the launch in any way.

April 29, 2015 Crescent Shores Boat Launch Meeting Notes

About 60-65 people in attendance

Discussion led by Klaus Heinert of Gosling Czubak. Klaus polled the crowd and found that about 1/s of the crowd are boaters and pretty much all in attendance live within the impacted area.

Questions/comments from the public and responses:

- Have you considered emergency access? Car parking (without trailer), jetski parking?
- Comment: I have seen 5-6 cars at once queued and waiting to use the boat launch, causing a lot of conflicts/congestion
- Any designated parking for law enforcement? There is now a designated location for parking for launching a law enforcement boat.
- The parking should be designed for peak times (summer and winter)
- Is the road going to be upgraded?
- What are we doing to save lives/public safety?
- If you don't fix the road to eliminate the ability to parking on the road, people will still park on the road
- There should be no parking from the new parking lot east to the boat launch. The road should be fixed from the new parking lot west.
- The last known road improvement here (minor improvements) was something like 1991
- Have you estimated the effect of these improvements? How many additional users will come to the launch? More and bigger boats will be attracted to the launch and this should be programmed into the proposed improvements.
- What will be the impact on Gilbert Park launch? We need user counts at both launch sites.
- The Township officials should meet with the Grant Traverse County Road Commission and the GTC Sheriff's Department.
- Lot of people in the audience don't want the proposed up to 40 parking space.
- Will there be lighting at the launch/parking lot?
- This will impact property values on Lake Drive. Klaus: new buffering trees will in part address this.
- Consider that not all of the rigs will be trucks with trailers.
- Parking now occurs on the north side of the road right next to the boat launch.
- This new parking lot will increase pressure on the boat launch because people actually walk from further distances now when there are a lot of parkers on Crescent Shores Road.
- Sheriff has been reluctant to ticket people illegally parking, the Township needs to talk to them.
- Why can't there be 2 ramps at this location?
- There is a bottleneck in the water of people trying to leave when the weather turns, etc. on busy days. Need to direct people at the launch on busy days.
- Will there be no allowed parking on Crescent Shores Drive?
- There are 60 vehicles parked here at times.
- Does the Township pay for marine patrol?
- Who will plow parking lot?
- How long are the proposed spaces, my rig is 45' long? Klaus: 40' and can be expanded to 44'-45'.

- Have you looks at the launch at the narrows on Lake Leelanau? There is a dual launch there for incoming and outgoing boats, would this work here?
- Observation: line bumpers are a problem.
- Why is the Township interested in doing this project? What are the cost?
- If there's more parking there will be more "ugliness" at the ramp site
- If you make this facility accommodate more users, you'll get more users. The conditions here now self-regulate the number of users.
- Klaus: the capacity is limited by the space available, the road width creates a chokepoint
- You should fix the road and allow parking on the road, it would be cheaper than a parking lot and will regulate the number of users.
- The Township should use trained volunteers to help enforce/direct traffic
- Klaus: Empire is a good example of parking enforcement working
- Why do this project if there will still be chaos here?
- Can we have an attendant there will direct people and send them to another launch site when the parking lot is full?
- Adjacent property owner to parking area: There should be fencing, there is trespass now.
- How will you deal with storm water drainage on the site? Klaus: LIDS (low impact Development Standards) have been used to more naturally deal with storm water. These are in the center island and also around the ramp (all water from the road must be kept off of neighboring properties)
- Can the Township charge for parking? Klaus: there are some limitations when MDNR monies are used.
- Will the MDNR say you can't have this much parking? Klaus: their guidelines suggest that anywhere from 10-25 parking spaces are appropriate for a single ramp. They are more interested in regulating the minimum amount of parking, not the maximum, but they may ask for less parking than shown.
- The mailbox pod is also the location for trash totes (1 regular and 1 recycling tote per residence) you should plan a location for this
- If you restrict the use at this site, you'll push people to the other launch
- I like the porta potty proposed
- I don't like the porta potty proposed
- Can you have seasonal permits/annual fees for locals to use the launch?
- Will you have another meeting maybe in June for seasonal residents who aren't here yet?
- This could maybe happen at the Lake Association meeting
- What is the timeline for finalizing plans and construction?
- You should make the road impossible to park on (railing or something) to keep people from parking on it.

Written Comments:

- Single ramp, no more than 25 spaces and no road parking. If road parking is allowed, don't develop any further it won't help and is costly.
- Keep parking lot to minimum possible to accommodate usual current use (maybe 20)
- Promote non motor recreation – kayak etc. this means not increasing area for boats but making sure there is area for cars to park, cars to carry kayak/canoe, etc.

- No lights: we want to see our night sky, keep it dark.
- Decrease speed limit on Crescent Shores Road from 40 mph to 25 mph
- Add curbing and/or bollards around parking loop and bays
- My recommendation is this project is badly needed and should go forward

Klaus gave a summary of his take away:

- We should consider less parking because of the limited ramp capacity
- We should consider some oversight of the ramp operation and parking and peak hours/days
- We should perform use counts at both launch sites this summer
- We should have another meeting this summer

Summary of Facilitated Voting

Timbers Recreation Area Management Plan Focus Group Meeting – July 27, 2015

Use	votes for	votes against	rating
Facilities: Picnic Tables near water with facilities (bathrooms?)	11	0	11
Facilities: Dock on Long Lake	8	0	8
Facilities: Fishing Platform for Fern Lake	8	0	8
Facilities: Benches along trails	6	0	6
Facilities: Event Space (rental) @ Dining Hall	6	0	6
Facilities: Interpretive/Visitor Center	4	0	4
Facilities: Dining Hall converted to open-air pavillion	2	0	2
Facilities: Bathroom near Long Lake Beach	0	0	0
Facilities: Replace boathouse with dock	0	0	0
Facilities: Vault Toilets	0	0	0
Facilities: Parking Expansion	0	2	-2
Facilities: Warming Hut	0	2	-2
Facilities: Winter camping (use of existing structures)	0	2	-2
Facilities: Athletic Fields	0	7	-7
Programming/Rules: no open fires	5	0	5
Programming/Rules: Educational Events	4	0	4
Programming/Rules: Donation Pipe	2	0	2
Programming/Rules: Friends Group	1	0	1
Programming/Rules: winter day camps	1	0	1
Programming/Rules: Dawn to dusk hours of operation	0	0	0
Programming/Rules: Fire in fire rings	0	0	0
Programming/Rules; Primitive Camping for Non-Profit Groups	0	1	-1
Programming/Rules: Limited Camping by Permit	8	10	-2
Programming/Rules: Overnight use	0	5	-5
Trails: Mountain Bike	10	0	10
Trails: mix of trail types	9	0	9
Trails: Universal Access	7	0	7
Trails: winter grooming (skiing)	7	0	7
Trails: Portage connector between Long and Fern Lakes	5	0	5

Trails: Interpretive signs on trails	4	0	4
Trails: trail to south (west?) end of Fern Lake for fishing access	3	0	3
Trails: Arcadia Dunes model	2	0	2
Trails: Universal Access (long)	1	0	1
Trails: consider trail width	0	0	0
Trails: multi-use	0	0	0
Trails: Horses	1	6	-5
Trails: motorized vehicle use	0	5	-5

Timbers Public Input Meeting

September 16, 2015

Meeting Notes

Chris Sullivan, GTRLC, gave an overview of the pre-conditions of the use of the property. Among the uses anticipated in the grant are: hunting, fishing, interpretive signage, trails (both UA and ADA standard), and guided educational hikes.

At this time, future use of the dining hall and the health center is undecided. This will be tackled later, not part of this process.

Chris reviewed the results from the first input meeting. Some highlights:

Under the Facilities topic area:

- Positive votes were recorded for picnic facilities near the water, a dock on Long Lake, and fishing platform on Fern Lake.
- Low votes/negative votes were recorded for winter camping, athletic fields

Under the Trails topic area:

- High positive votes were recorded for mix of trail types and winter grooming
- Low votes were recorded for motorized trails

Under the Programming topic area:

- High positive votes were recorded for educational events
- Low votes were recorded for open fires and camping

Comments/Questions from the Public

- Are winter fat tire bikes anticipated? If so, these trails should be separated from other users. A: classic skiing only is anticipated for now
- Not a problem to try to comingle trails for cross country skiing and dogs or snowshoeing.

Chris showed a proposed concept drawing with picnic facilities near the Long Lake frontage, a dock on Long Lake, and a connector trail to Fern Lake

Comments/Questions from the Public

- Any Eurasian Milfoil here? If so we should protect Fern Lake from spread of Eurasian Milfoil.
- Swimmer's itch at this location on Long Lake? If so, people may prefer to swim in Fern Lake.
- How about a lock box for canoe rental for use on Fern Lake instead of portage from Long Lake?
- Will the shoreline remain as is, naturalized? A: Yes, the intent is to leave it as it is now.

Chris showed a concept drawing for a possible mountain bike trail. There is a potential for approximately 4 miles of trails here for mountain biking, restricted primarily to the northern part of the

property. The concept drawing shows a new trail established for this use, some existing trails in this area would remain. The soils are an issue on parts of the property for a mountain bike trail.

Comments/Questions from the Public

- Could xc skiing be a secondary use on the mountain bike trails? A: No.
- This would not be a destination trail for serious bikers. They will be looking for a trail system with 12-20 miles of trails.
- This would be good for beginner mountain bikers/kids
- Is clearing necessary for trail development? A: A few feet of brush clearing, they would work around significant trees.
- Mountain bike trails are not necessarily a big priority if its not a good location for them
- Don't target expert mountain bikers.
- Can't you combine some of the trails? A: The existing trails on the site are probably not good for mountain biking and there would be user conflicts.
- South Long Lake Forest trails are not improved, but the existing trails work well for mountain biking.
- The challenge is to create a multi-use park here.
- I'm neutral on mountain bike trails
- Are the existing trails on the north end attractive for hiking? A: Yes, but they are not maintained, they are overgrown.
- South Long Lake Forest might be a better location for mountain biking.

General Comments/Questions from the Public

- Plans for picnic tables? Yes, several locations shown on concept plan.
- Could this be a boat launch location? A: No, there are site limitations and based on public opinion gathered it is incompatible with the intended use of the park.
- How many people have given input on the plans for the park? A: Approximately 30 at the first meeting, approximately 260 answered the Recreation Survey, about a dozen have made individual contact with the GTRLC during the fundraising activities.
- There should be wider distribution of information for Timbers planning through property owner associations. Try to work with them to get more feedback.
- The small lakes at the park are beautiful. Access to those should be a priority with platforms, etc., rental boats and access for boats.
- Loon nests/platforms should be considered. A: Resource management is a high priority for this park and its development
- What is the timeline for reconstruction of Timbers Trail? There is a problem with a gas line that held things up, but construction can still happen this fall.
- The Township should start with some trail upgrades while waiting to finalize the plans.
- Wildlife considerations are important. We are against the removal of beaver. Leave wildlife in tact.
- Can there be baseball fields here? A: One area is a potential for an athletic field. This idea was not well-received by the public. Would also need more parking and subsequent clearing for this.

- What are the plans for deterring parking on Lamp Post Lane and Forest Lodge Road? A: There are signs now posted; they seem to be working.
- Old Farm Lane was also a problem for parking last winter. A: We'll look into this further, we had not heard this.
- What are the plans for the buildings? A: Barns and silos to remain. Dining hall and Health Center are undecided and will not be part of the current planning process. Other dispersed buildings may be removed or used for bathrooms.
- Any bear at the park? A: Yes, but not many.
- Next steps? A: Finalize the draft management plan, then send out for additional input from the public. Updated plan will be sent to the Township. The Township Board will be the body to adopt the plan. May get input from the Recreation Committee or the Planning Commission prior to adoption.
- April 1st is the deadline to apply for state-wide DNR grants. This plan should be in place well before the April 1st deadline.
- Have you considered a lock dock system for people to keep their boats here? Seems like a good idea. Many used to keep their boats there unlocked all season. It could be a lock box on the honor system or you could pay a fee to use it. A: It is a possibility and has been looked at.

Addendum via phone call:

- Consider time frames to allow for dual use trails (i.e., certain morning hours are exclusively for bikers, certain evening hours are exclusively for walkers, or something similar)
- The trail spurs into the neighborhood should be designed for bikes. That way neighbors can bike onto the property without having to go to N Long Lake Road or put their bikes in a car.