

A. Introduction

There are many factors that support Portage's goal toward policies and practices that reinforce a healthy and desirable community. Some of those factors are influenced at the national or state level like the economy, while others are affected by the strength of the Kalamazoo/Portage region including quality education, stable or increasing property values, access to high quality healthcare, and employment opportunities. At the city level, there are additional factors such as quality police and fire protection, public infrastructure and city services, healthy and attractive neighborhoods, a variety of housing choices, recreation and cultural opportunities and non-motorized transportation networks that contribute to healthy lifestyles.

All of the above factors significantly influence quality of life and are covered in this chapter. These types of indicators are also important to the future and sustainability of Portage. A high quality of life in Portage will help retain and attract businesses and residents to sustain the vitality and diversity of its economy.

While the Transportation and Land Use + Character chapters also address topics that help achieve a high quality of life, this chapter focuses primarily on natural resources, parks and recreation, public infrastructure and services, and community placemaking.

Other important quality of life factors are undertaken by the city which are also detailed in the Community Snapshot Existing Conditions Report and other planning documents.

- *Parks and Recreation*
- *Capital Improvement Plan*
- *Housing and Community Development Needs*

Community + Quality of Life-related Opportunities

As noted in the Introduction Chapter, varied comments on community quality and life were garnered through the Open House and other public input. The following opportunities were identified relevant to the topics covered in this chapter:

- Continue the investment to expand and/or enhance city parks, bikeways and multi-use trails with emphasis on connecting areas not served to the central/existing system.
- Utilize Eliason Nature Reserve to its fullest potential and create connecting non-motorized links
- Enhance gateways to the city, fully utilizing the new city brand “A Natural Place to Move” to contribute to a strong sense of community.
- Create aging in place opportunities to ensure Portage residents can maintain an active lifestyle throughout their lifecycle and by providing a variety of housing types to accommodate a variety of age groups, with a special focus on seniors.

As noted in the Community Snapshot Report, various trends and findings were presented. The following relate to community quality and life issues within the community:

Did you know?

- The City was originally known for its fertile farmland and agricultural production, but Portage is now known as a community of excellent residential neighborhoods, a regional retail trade center and a community with a substantial industrial base.
- In 2013, concurrent with the 50th anniversary, the City undertook a placemaking initiative to recognize community investments in parks, bikeways and trailways that distinguish the city of Portage as a “Natural Place to Move”.
- The City experienced more than half of its population increase in the 1960’s, but the population is expected to continue to grow, albeit at a slower pace, for the next 20 years.
- Like most other communities, the city has a growing senior population that will demand services, housing and transportation options.
- The City has a highly educated population: 95.4% of residents have a high school diploma and 38.9% of residents have a bachelor’s degree or higher.
- Portage has seven lakes that account for 1,732 acres or 7.9% of the geographic area of the city.
- As the newest addition to the Portage Park system, the Eliason Nature Reserve property donated in 2011 adds 123 acres to the City’s extensive parks and open space land holdings. In 2013 an additional 18-acre parcel was acquired for inclusion in the Eliason Nature Reserve that provides access to Osterhout Road.
- The City’s utility system includes 247 miles of water main and 231 miles of sewer main, covering approximately 95% of the city with public water and sewer.

In this Chapter:



Recreation and Natural Features



Cultural, Historic, + Educational Resources



Public Services



Community Identity

A complete documentation of existing conditions are included in the Community Snapshot Report.



Based on the Community Snapshot Report, public input and prior Comprehensive Plans, these Vision, Goals and Objectives were established related to community quality and life.

Vision: Provide for the health, safety and welfare of Portage residents, employees, and visitors and maintain high quality community facilities to meet projected changing needs, demographics and life styles, enhance the quality of life and promote a strong community identity.

Community + Quality of Life Goals and Objectives:

Goal C1: Preserve and provide natural, historic and cultural resources for the benefit, enjoyment and quality of life of existing and future residents.

- C1.1: Protect and preserve environmentally sensitive areas and key natural and historic resources.
- C1.2: Link natural areas through greenways where appropriate, to maximize environmental, recreational benefits and non-motorized transportation alternatives.
- C1.3: Provide recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities by maintaining high quality parks and trails.

Goal C2: Efficiently provide, maintain and improve public services necessary to support the needs of existing and future residents and businesses.

- C2.1: Continue to be a leader and active participant in local and regional government leadership, seeking opportunities for cooperation to deliver better services to the community.
- C2.2: Provide safe and efficient public utilities, public facilities and public safety services.
- C2.3: Follow best management practices concerning storm water facilities to avoid flooding and protect/preserve surface and groundwater supplies.

Goal C3: Strengthen community identity so residents and businesses realize an enhanced sense of Portage as a distinct community.

- C3.1: Promote a sense of community through the "Natural Place to Move" brand to improve and encourage active and passive recreational opportunities fully utilizing cultural and recreational amenities.
- C3.2: Create friendly walkable business centers with inviting streetscape and quality site design that integrate with the existing commercial/retail district.
- C3.3: Promote the City Center Area's unique characteristics and potential as a walkable area and business center that connects entertainment, restaurants and retail venues to the city's non-motorized system.
- C3.4: Enhance communication between local government, citizens, the business community, and the local educational institutions on city projects and services.
- C3.5: Encourage Portage neighborhoods to celebrate and reinforce the sense of their neighborhood as a distinct place in the city.

B. Community Resources

Natural Features

The natural environment is an important element that continues to shape the physical development and quality of life in the city. The importance of protecting and preserving valuable natural resources has been a community-wide goal since the city was established. The various components of the natural environment interact as part of an overall ecosystem. Natural elements such as streams, lakes, open spaces, woodlands and wetlands are a community resource that should be celebrated and preserved. In some cases, natural resources are protected by being on public lands or regulated by federal or state laws. Others can be conserved by directing development to areas on a site that can best sustain the physical changes to the landscape while minimizing impacts to the most sensitive natural resources. The Natural Features Map identifies lands within the city where there are unique or otherwise important resources, or where human activities could adversely impact resources on adjacent lands.

Land Resources and Greenways

Portage contains significant public land areas that have remained relatively undisturbed. Collectively, these areas are not only significant in size but also demonstrate a wide variety of natural habitats. Several kinds of grassland, woodlands, and wetland environments are found. Such environmental diversification results in a wide array of wildlife including a number of rare plants and animals, and significant populations of game animals such as deer and turkey. These natural areas provide educational, recreational, aesthetic, and wildlife preservation benefits with minimal maintenance costs.

Natural areas are primarily located in the southern half of the city. Lands in the vicinity of Hampton and Sugarloaf lakes are primarily under State ownership and are used as game areas. The Portage South Central Greenway includes Bishop's Bog, the West Lake Nature Preserve and the newly established Eliason Nature Reserve, which include large and wooded wetland areas under city ownership that preserve unique natural resources. In the southeast quadrant, Mandigo Marsh, also owned by the City, provides additional wetland areas and unique features.

Greenways also provide opportunities to protect natural resources and wildlife habitat by offering interconnected green space throughout a community. As noted above, the Portage South Central Greenway is an excellent example of a greenway, that together with connections to Schrier Park and South Westledge Park, provides 450 acres of connected greenspace. In addition, Portage Creek Bicentennial Park highlights the creeks and related wetland areas along a three mile green corridor, also owned by the City. In this area, Portage has been a leader in developing trails and connecting its parks and natural areas, and should continue to plan for green connections in the future.

Green Development: Best Practices

As a way of protecting natural resources and promoting overall sustainability, green development practices can contribute towards sustainability by ensuring that site and building projects minimize environmental impacts, resource consumption, and energy use, while simultaneously providing healthier living and working environments for people. Healthier environments not only attract residents and businesses, but have been shown to increase worker productivity, encourage healthy lifestyles that reduce medical costs, and build community



Goal C1:

Preserve and provide natural, historic and cultural resources for the benefit, enjoyment and quality of life of existing and future residents.

Best "Green Development" Management Practices

- *Reduces storm water runoff volume and improves storm water quality.*
- *Protects community character/aesthetics.*
- *Reduces salt usage and snow removal on paved surfaces.*
- *Improves urban wildlife and habitat opportunities.*
- *Provides additional storm water capacity for nonconforming sites without modern detention facilities.*

Natural Features Map

Date: 3/14/2014

Legend

-  Water Feature
-  100 Year Floodplain
-  Wetlands, National Wetland Inventory (NWI)
-  Woodlands (>10 acres)

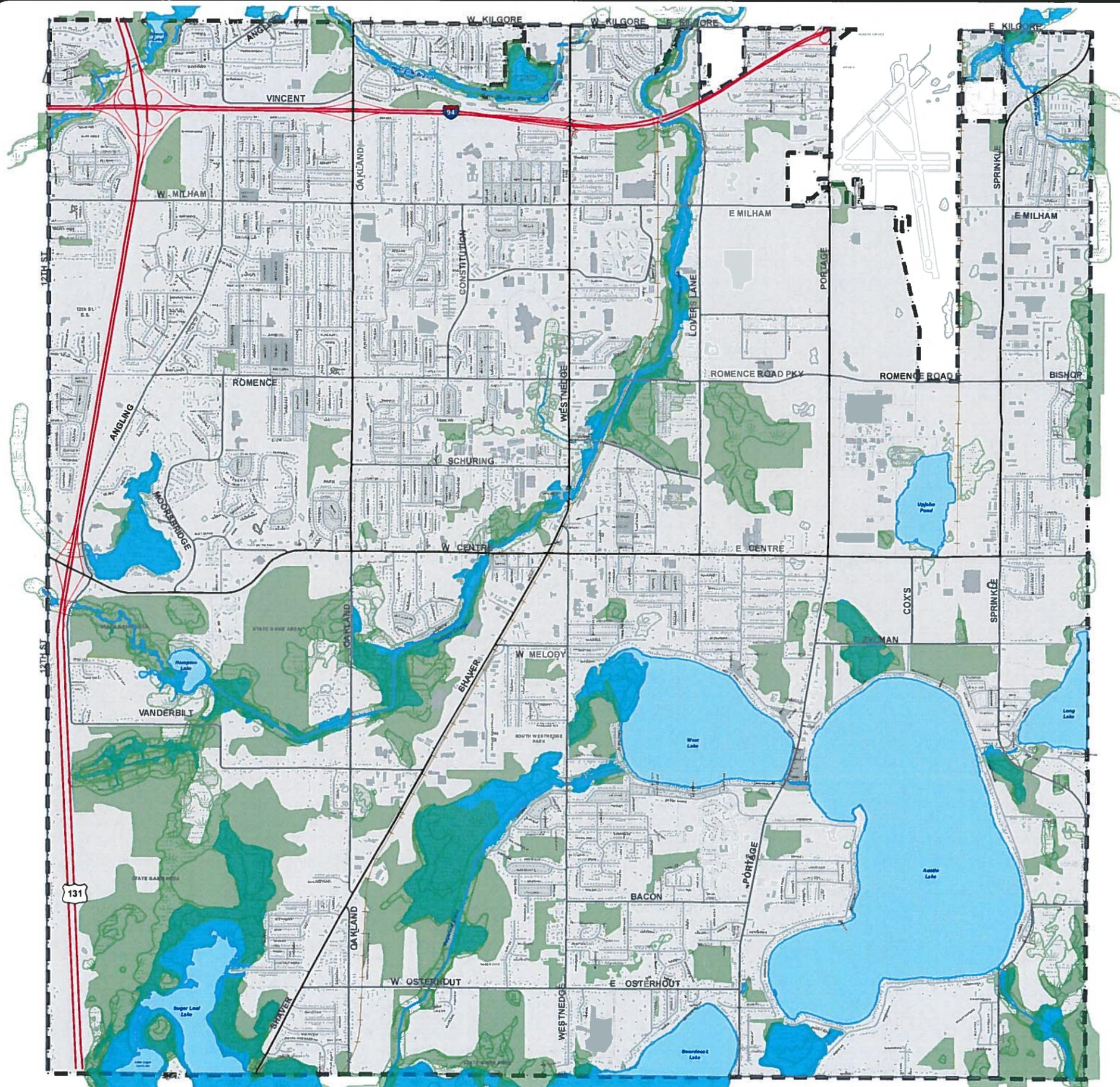
Data Sources: Base Information - City of Portage (2013), NWI (1994), FEMA (2010)



Note: This map is intended to depict the general location of natural features and to serve as a guide for community-wide planning. This map does not create any legally enforceable presumptions regarding whether property that is or is not included on this map is or is not in fact a regulated wetland or floodplain. There may be areas not shown on this map that are subject to regulation. This map should not be considered a substitute for on-site field inspections which are necessary to delineate the precise boundaries of protected natural features.



1 inch = 3,200 feet



stewardship. Portage can promote a green philosophy through education and promotion to encourage their use across the city:

- Native species used in landscaping
- Recycling/composting to reduce waste
- Water conservation and reuse
- Low-Impact Development (discussed below)
- Appropriately scaled and placed accessory wind or solar energy units (discussed below)
- Adaptive reuse of buildings
- LEED or other green building practices
- Encourage use of alternative fuel vehicles through parking priorities and charging stations
- Vehicle trip reduction programs such as encouraging use of carpools, transit, or telecommuting
- Providing non-motorized transportation opportunities
- Requiring bike racks on public and private development sites

In some cases, the City could provide incentives for projects that provide a high level of green development. For example, providing bicycle parking could require fewer parking spaces; adaptively reusing a building could provide more flexibility in use; or using Low-Impact Development tools and native species could reduce the amount of landscaping required.

Low Impact Development/Storm Water Management

Each (re)development site is required to manage storm water on-site in accordance with City of Portage Storm Water Master Plan and Design Criteria Manual. Connection to the municipal storm water systems located in the public road right-of-ways by adjacent private property is not permitted due to capacity availability. Traditionally, on-site storm water collection/retention systems have been designed utilizing a comprehensive underground collection system and pre-treatment facilities (when necessary) and infiltration by means of an above ground retention basin. Another more environmentally responsive strategy used to manage storm water collection and disposal involving both private development sites and municipal projects is through the use of Low Impact Development (LID) methods. LID is an alternative approach to development aimed at conserving natural resources and protecting the environment by strategically managing rainfall close to its source, minimizing



Bioswales treat runoff in Indianapolis



Porous pavement and a rain garden in Columbus, OH

impervious coverage, using native plant species, and conserving and restoring natural areas during site development or redevelopment. Design techniques are focused on the use of applications that are modeled after nature, rather than building costly infrastructure and water quality restoration systems.

While low impact design is encouraged wherever it can be applied, it is specifically warranted in areas where vegetation may be installed in lieu of impervious surfaces (i.e. pavement). It can be applied to open spaces, rooftops, streetscapes, parking lots, sidewalks, and medians. In many cases, these beneficial design alternatives offer a significant long-term cost savings, even when factoring in some additional maintenance costs. Design options to consider include use of rain gardens, native plant species, street trees (i.e. Planter Boxes, Tree Pits), bioswales and pervious pavement.

Alternative Energy

Alternative energy refers to energy sources that are not based on the burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas. The renewed interest in alternative energy resources is the result of undesirable effects of fossil fuel consumption including pollution and increasing cost of these non-renewable resources. While there are many alternative energy resources, three in particular are the subject of discussion in terms of application in southwest Michigan:

- **Wind Power:** Wind turbines can be utilized as small, stand-alone applications for residential homes or individual businesses, or they can be utilized in larger applications connected to a utility power grid. The City adopted a Wind Energy Ordinance to regulate placement and use of wind turbines.
- **Solar Power:** Solar heat and light provide an abundant source of energy that can be harnessed in many ways. A variety of technologies have been developed to take advantage of solar energy, both in large-scale commercial and industrial applications and in small-scale residential applications.
- **Geothermal Energy:** Geothermal energy sources include heat, hot water or steam reservoirs from beneath the earth surface. Geothermal pumps are relatively inexpensive and use much less energy than conventional heating/cooling systems while reducing air pollution. Larger scale use of geothermal energy accessed by drilling into hot water or steam reservoirs situated deep beneath the ground can also be utilized by power generation plants to drive generators and produce electricity.

Recreational Facilities

Parks and natural systems, such as stream corridors, woodlands, and wetlands, play a vital role in defining the city's quality of life. Public parks, nature preserves, greenways and other open spaces provide access to the outdoors for passive or active recreation. These recreational amenities encourage healthy active lifestyles and help retain and attract residents. High quality and healthy natural systems also help protect public health with clean water, uncontaminated soils, and diverse wildlife and plant communities.

Parks and Recreation

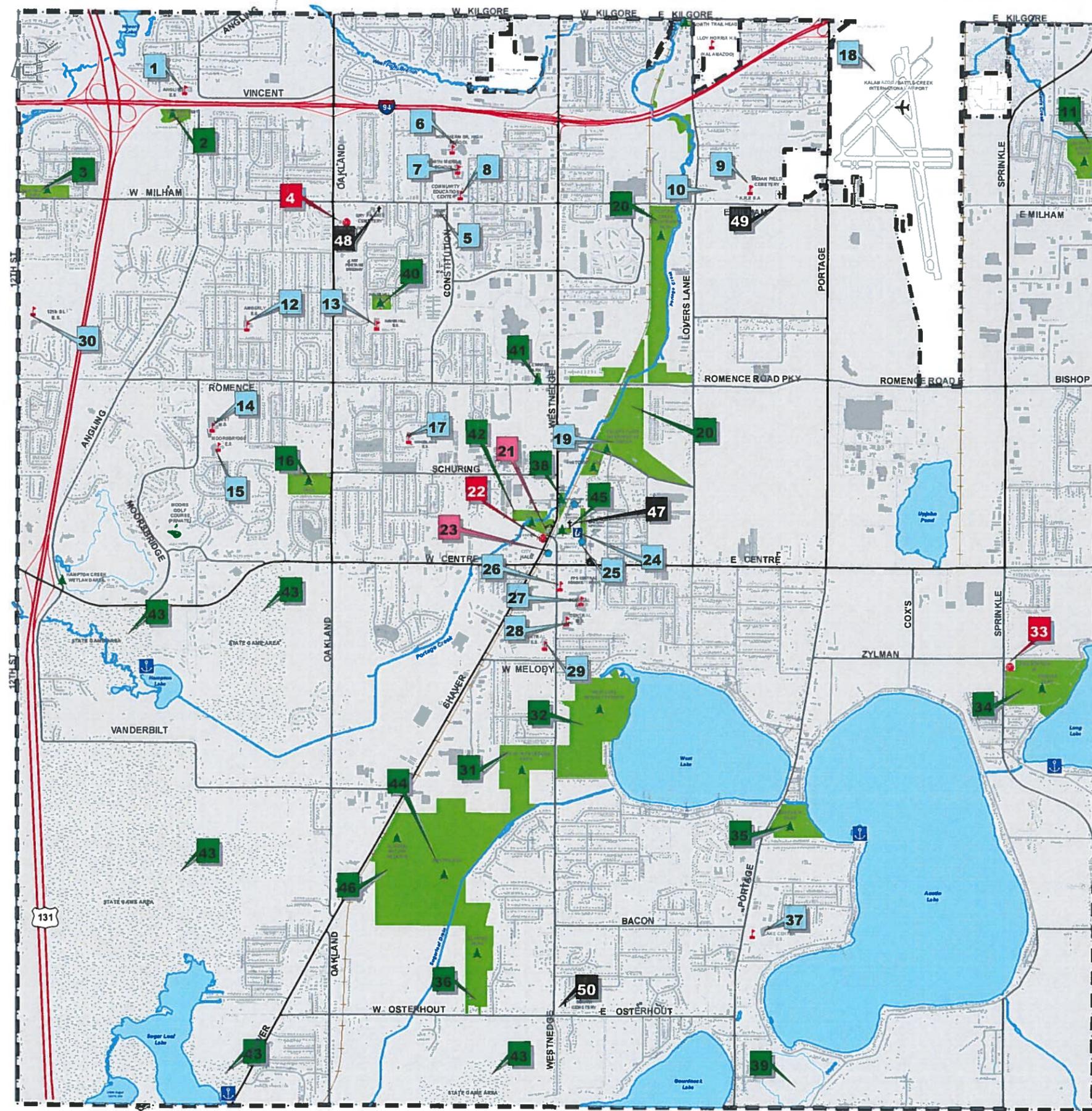
Numerous and diverse recreational opportunities are provided throughout the community. As noted in the Community Snapshot Report and shown on the Community Facilities Map, there are several different types of recreational areas/facilities including neighborhood, community and regional parks, nature





Community Facilities Map

Date: 3/14/2014



- 1 Angling Road Elementary School
- 2 Harbors West Park
- 3 Westfield Park
- 4 Fire Station #2
- 5 Post Office
- 6 Portage Northern High School
- 7 Portage North Middle School
- 8 Portage Community Education Center
- 9 Kalamazoo Regional Education Service Agency (KRESA)
- 10 WoodsEdge Learning Center (KRESA)
- 11 Lexington Green Park
- 12 Amberly Elementary School
- 13 Haverhill Elementary School
- 14 Portage West Middle School
- 15 Moorsbridge Elementary School
- 16 Oakland Drive Park
- 17 Woodland Elementary School
- 18 Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport
- 19 Celery Flats Interpretive Center
- 20 Portage Creek Bicentennial Park
- 21 Police Station
- 22 Fire Station #1
- 23 City Hall
- 24 Library
- 25 Senior Center
- 26 Portage School Administration
- 27 Portage Central High School
- 28 Portage Central Middle School
- 29 Portage Central Elementary School
- 30 12th Street Elementary School
- 31 South Westnedge Park
- 32 West Lake Nature Preserve
- 33 Fire Station #3
- 34 Ramona Park
- 35 Lakeview Park
- 36 Schrier Park
- 37 Lake Central Elementary School
- 38 Liberty Park
- 39 Mandigo Marsh
- 40 Haverhill Park
- 41 Millennium Park
- 42 Central Park/Bandstand
- 43 State Game Area
- 44 Bishops Bog
- 45 Veterans Memorial Park
- 46 Eliason Nature Reserve
- 47 Portage Central Cemetery
- 48 Day Prairie Cemetery
- 49 Indian Fields Cemetery
- 50 South Cemetery

- 00** Cemeteries
- 00** Fire Stations
- 00** Municipal Buildings
- 00** Public/Institutional
- 00** Recreation/State Game Area
- 00** State Game Area Boundaries
- 00** City Recreation Boundaries
- 00** Public Access



1 inch = 3,200 feet

<Photo of Celery Flats>

Celery Flats Interpretive and Historical Center. A quaint, picturesque slice of the past is hidden in the heart of the city. The center features an 1856, one-room schoolhouse, a 1931 grain elevator, playground facilities, a picnic area, hiking trails and the Hayloft Barn Theatre.

Goal C2: 
Efficiently provide, maintain and improve public services necessary to support the needs of existing and future residents and businesses.

preserves and cultural event facilities. The City currently owns and maintains 17 park facilities within city boundaries. In addition, Portage provides an extensive network of over 17 miles of paved shoulder bikeways and non-motorized multi-use trails. Such amenities are a valuable resource and contribute to the quality of life in Portage.

Community parks and open space account for the majority of the public land dedicated to recreational uses in Portage. Passive recreational areas not formally dedicated as parklands are classified as open space areas. The City's extensive parks and open space system is planned by the Parks, Recreation and Public Services department, and further addressed in the City of Portage 2013 Recreation and Open Space Plan. The complete Recreation and Open Space Plan is an element to the Comprehensive Plan and is updated, as needed, to 1) fulfill the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) requirements for grant funding and 2) to ensure project priority as part of the annual Capital Improvement Program process.

Cultural and Historic Resources

Culture and entertainment is an important part of a community's quality of life and contributes toward Portage's unique identity. Cultural amenities include museums, historic resources, and access to the arts. Cultural resources shape the character of the city and a shared understanding of the past and future reinforces a sense of community.

The City of Portage is a distinctive city with a rich history. As provided on the Historical Sites Map included in the Community Snapshot Report, the city contains 47 historic district homes and/or sites. These homes and sites not only serve as monuments to the past, but enrich the aesthetic quality of the city today and offer unique contributions to the architectural quality and diversity of the community. The non-renewable nature of these cultural resources, however, reflects the need to ensure their preservation. The sites should be carefully taken into consideration when future planning decisions are made within these areas.

C. Public Services

The availability of high quality public services influences the development and redevelopment of land, protection of natural features, recreational opportunities and enhances the quality of life in the community. The City of Portage continues to invest in the provision of public services and in partnering with other public entities to meet current and future demands. Public services offered in the community include:

- Public Utilities (sanitary sewer, storm sewer, public water and drainage improvement)
- Public Safety Facilities (police and fire services)
- Recreational Facilities (parks and recreational programming)
- General Government (City Hall, Public Services, and Senior Center)
- Library Facilities (operated separately from municipal services)
- Educational Facilities (operated separately from municipal services)

More detailed aspects of the above public services are addressed in the Community Snapshot Report and the location of key facilities, including parks, are shown on the Community Facilities Map.

Public Utilities

From a land use planning perspective, the location and type of public sewer and water systems influence the location and type of development within a community. For example, high density or more intense land uses require public water and sanitary sewer service. Certain types of projects have special demands for high capacity utility lines or high pressure water systems or even specialized electrical service. Decisions concerning the expansion of public utilities must be made in order to accommodate service demands, as well as development and redevelopment activities. Importantly, for Portage, connection to the public sanitary sewer system helps protect valuable ground and surface water resources in the city.

A long-standing goal of the City has been to extend public sewer and public water service throughout the city – approximately 95% of the city is served by public utilities. Programming for sanitary sewer, water and drainage improvements to meet needs is provided through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP is annually updated and includes ten years for planning/budgeting purposes.

Regionalism and Partnerships

Along with Kalamazoo, Portage is the heart of the region's economy. Portage and its neighboring communities are all dependent on each other as a region so cooperation is essential. The proximity to Kalamazoo College and Western Michigan University creates opportunities for partnerships between the communities, their educational institutions, and the diversifying technology, medical, and information industries to both leverage economic development and attract residents. Portage should continue to participate in regional environmental, transportation, economic, and social services coordination.

D. Community Identity

There are many factors that can contribute to a community's sense of place as a distinct and unique community. The following touch upon recent best practices in regard to community identity.

Placemaking

The concept of "placemaking" is woven throughout this plan and supports a greater initiative statewide to promote healthy, sustainable, attractive communities where people can live, work, shop, and recreate across the state. Portage has re-branded the community as "A Natural Place to Move", and this recent effort supports the principles of placemaking by celebrating not only the city's desirable recreation and trailway systems, but also the community's balanced economy and local employment options, variety of housing choice and attractive neighborhoods and overall positive quality of life.

In this plan in particular, the City Centre and Lake Center subarea chapters delve more deeply into creating stronger "places" to help contribute to Portage's unique identity. These subarea plans draw from recommendations made in this, the Transportation, and Land Use + Character chapters to show how all these strategies can work together.

In addition to the above referenced subarea plans, a continued focus on preserving and enhancing Portage neighborhoods is paramount to community and quality of life. As discussed in more detail in the Land Use + Character chapter, providing a range of housing choices, including affordable housing and options for seniors to "age in place" will be important to the long term sustainability of the community. In addition, ensuring that the city has a well



Goal C3:

Strengthen community identity so residents and businesses realize an enhanced sense of Portage as a distinct community.



local businesses in St. Louis sponsored custom bike racks for outside their business



local artists painted Lexington, KY storm drains

an Evansville, IN bike rack is whimsical and functional



maintained housing stock and attractive neighborhoods to live and play will require continued focus as the community overall matures.

Public Art and Entertainment

Many cities throughout the country have supported and/or encouraged public arts programs recognizing the need for public support and contribution to the arts. Public art programs promote life-long participation and learning in the arts and integrate art into the urban environment. They provide opportunities for local and national, established and emerging artists in the area to celebrate the city's diversity. Other cities nationwide have held design competitions for unique streetscape features, public works projects, and other "functional art," including custom bike racks, tree grates, storm drains, benches, garbage bins, light posts, and newspaper stands. Such efforts may assist Portage in developing a stronger sense of community.

Related to public art are entertainment resources like performance venues, restaurants, night-life, and other attractions help bring people together, contribute to vibrant and successful city districts, and attract outside visitors and investment. These uses should particularly be encouraged in the City Centre, which is consistent with the goals of the City Centre subarea plan. In addition, park facilities such as Central Park, the Celery Flats, and the nearby Millennium Park have already been developed to provide outdoor performance venues. Finally, existing entertainment and cultural institutions like the AirZoo can spur tourism and provide unique opportunities for local dining and shopping, especially along Portage Road.

Fresh and Local Food

Communities across the country are rediscovering the health, financial, and environmental benefits of local food production and consumption. An increasing number of consumers want to know where their food comes from and how it was produced. "Local food" includes food grown in community gardens, sold at farmers markets, or grown in close proximity to the community, as well as animal sources such as meat, dairy, and honey production.

There is a growing interest to continue expanding opportunities for local food production. This includes removing barriers to food production such as ordinance restrictions and improving the City's process to identify potential sites for new community gardens and supporting their development. In response to broad citizen interest, the city adopted a Keeping of Chickens ordinance as a residential accessory use. In addition, there are several community gardens in the city which are located on properties where there is a principal permitted use on the property, which is permitted by the Zoning Code. Finally, the Zoning Code permits private stables on a minimum of 2 acres, specialized agriculture on unplatted land with a minimum of 5 acres and general agriculture on unplatted land on a minimum of 10 acres. While the city has become a primarily urbanized community, the above mechanisms provide opportunities for small scale local food production.

Lifelong Learning

Creating a culture of education is more than just supporting formal education. Partnerships with non-profits, nature centers, foundations, and other agencies can be sought to support educational programs and activities for all ages. These programs can have wide appeal across jurisdictional boundaries, appeal to a broad audience, and increase a shared sense of community. Increased collaboration, support and promotion of "K through Grey" lifelong

learning systems will strengthen the city's academic performance, improve workforce skills, and enhance quality of life for all ages. In this regard, continued partnerships with the Portage District Library, Portage Public Schools and the Senior Center are recommended.

E. Implementation Strategies

This table will appear in the final Implementation chapter accompanied by strategies from the other two chapters. The strategies listed below will be summarized here in the narrative organized by topic.

	Land Use Regulations	CIP	Programs or Studies	Partnerships	Short Term	Long Term	Ongoing
Consider incentives to encourage green development practices such as density bonuses, flexibility in uses, or reduced parking or landscaping requirements.	✓				✓		
Continue to pursue the long and short term goals identified in the Recreation and Open Space Plan consistent with the "Natural Place to Move" placemaking effort, and update the Plan as needed to maintain eligibility for state funding.		✓	✓				✓
Encourage innovative storm water treatment options consistent with the Storm Water Master Plan and Design Criteria that are environmentally friendly and aesthetically pleasing.	✓		✓				✓
Consider the use of pervious pavement for appropriate uses and locations by raising awareness on long-term benefits, practical applications, and how to maintain it.			✓				✓
Encourage planned development and/or cluster development to preserve key natural features on sites and link open space with adjacent open space, via greenways when and where appropriate.	✓				✓		
Continue the best management practices associated with site design to protect, lakes, streams, groundwater and well-head facilities, including low-impact design techniques.	✓						✓
Continue public awareness campaign for homeowners through ongoing promotion and working with neighborhoods and other organizations on what they can do to protect the quality of the lakes and other natural features.			✓	✓			✓
Continue to support the Environmental Board in their efforts and programs to protect and improve environmentally sensitive areas in Portage.			✓				✓
Protect water resources through management practices covering discharges into streams and lakes, storm water infiltration, and hazardous material spill prevention programs.			✓	✓			✓
Continue to support the Historic District Commission in the effort to preserve historic structures and sites in the City of Portage.			✓	✓			✓
Conserve key natural and historic resources through public acquisition, flexible zoning or tax incentives that encourage private preservation, public dedication, or adaptive reuse.	✓		✓	✓			✓
Consider low impact design and other green development practices for city-funded capital projects where appropriate.		✓					✓
Continue to guide development to areas of the city served by public water and public sewer and where capacity is available.	✓		✓				✓

This table will appear in the final Implementation chapter accompanied by strategies from the other two chapters. The strategies listed below will be summarized here in the narrative organized by topic.

	Land Use Regulations	CIP	Programs or Studies	Partnerships	Short Term	Long Term	Ongoing
Utilize the City's website, social media, PMN Cable Access, newsletter and emerging technologies to educate residents and keep them informed of community development-related issues.	✓		✓				✓
Ensure that municipal infrastructure is adequate to accommodate the demands necessitated by a proposed development project. This may require participation by the developer to fund improvements to meet the demands associated with a proposed project.		✓	✓				✓
Promote underground utilities (electric, telecommunications, etc.).	✓		✓	✓			✓
Continue sidewalk and public utility (water, sanitary sewers and drainage) improvements in neighborhoods throughout the community.		✓					✓
Maintain and improve essential public services including police protection, fire and emergency services		✓					✓
Modify or expand community facilities based on applicable standards and the changing needs of the city such as changes to demographics and types of land uses. This may include land acquisition when key parcels become available.		✓		✓			✓
Continue to communicate with regional partners to deliver quality and cost-effective services to the city's residents, businesses, and employees.				✓			✓
Partner with the public schools and library to promote a high quality school system and lifelong learning.				✓			✓