

Goals & Objectives



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

During the community engagement phase of this process, the community reflected upon the goals and objectives from the previous Parks and Recreation Plan. The community agreed that many of these goals still applied and with minor revisions they will be used to guide this Parks and Recreation Plan.

The table below shows the seven goals from the previous Pittsfield Township Parks & Recreation Master Plan, ranked according to importance, as well as their average score on a scale from 1 – 5, where 5 is the highest. It also shows participants' assessment of progress toward that goal, again scored on a scale of 1 – 5. In all cases, progress scores lagged importance scores, and this difference is shown in the last column of the table.

Goal	Importance	Progress (Rank)	Difference
#1 Maintain and upgrade existing park facilities that create clean, safe, attractive, and functional environments.	4.41	3.88(2)	.53
#2 Develop park facilities that respond to residents' recreational needs	4.38	3.71 (4)	.67
#3 Participate in the establishment of a Township-wide nonmotorized transportation system	4.35	3.94 (1)	.41
#4 Continue to provide for an efficient and fiscally prudent administration of parks and recreation services	4.20	3.80 (3)	.40
#5 Maintain and enhance the quality of parks and recreation programming and services	3.79	3.69 (5)	.09
#6 Acquire future parkland and open space to meet the future recreational needs of the community	3.76	3.56 (6)	.20
#7 Continue to evaluate the need for a new community center	3.33	2.47 (7)	.87



Overall, the creation of “clean, safe, attractive, and functional” recreation environments was the most important goal to participants, and they felt that the Township was generally meeting it. The community survey documented agreement among the citizen respondents, with 84% reporting that they feel safe when visiting Township parks. Attendees recognized the greatest strides toward the establishment of a Township-wide nonmotorized transportation system, and agreed that this was one of the three most important recreation goals. However, as shown in the survey results, the respondents tended to be more affluent than the average Pittsfield resident. Even though the nonmotorized transportation systems is a recognized improvement, the importance of alternative transit modes is likely even more important than recorded as many vulnerable who were not present for community engagement exercises would benefit more from such infrastructure. As such, even though Pittsfield Township has fully implemented the Transit Plan it outlined and envisioned in the 2010 Pittsfield Master Plan, the need to sustain these services is important.

For all of the goals with Importance scores above 4, resident assessment of the Township’s progress toward that goal trailed in importance by just 0.5 points. This can be read as an excellent indication that the Township is aligning

its actions with resident priorities, and that it is effectively demonstrating competence in those actions.

With regard to the remaining three goals, importance scored dropped significantly but still indicate widespread support. The programming and services goal and the parkland acquisition goal both had progress scores quite close to the importance scores, suggesting that a perfectly adequate level of Township resources are being dedicated to those activities. This is also evidenced by 80% of participants stating that the Township should invest in more parkland acquisition, particularly in the northeastern and northwestern parts of Pittsfield.

At the bottom of both rankings was the Community Center goal, with the largest gap in scores and the only progress score below 3. Though the comments from stakeholder groups mentioned particular needs for more space and afterschool activities, the prevailing sentiment was that a Township center would likely duplicate services and amenities offered by Washtenaw County and the City of Saline.

