



Master Plan

VILLAGE OF FORESTVILLE, MICHIGAN

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Master Plan

VILLAGE OF FORESTVILLE, MICHIGAN

Prepared with the assistance of



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Acknowledgments

Thank you.

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In particular, we acknowledge the efforts of:

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01.

Introduction

What is Planning?

Planning is a process which involves the conscious selection of policy choices relating to land use, growth and development in the community. Planning guides policy makers in ensuring that the growth of the municipality is functional and practical. Planning also assists with ensuring that local resident voices are heard as it relates to the development of the municipality

What is a Master Plan?

A master plan is used as the basis for a community's zoning ordinance. One of the requirements that make zoning constitutionally valid is that the ordinance be based on a comprehensive plan for the development of the jurisdiction. The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (P.A. 110 of 2006, as amended) requires that zoning ordinances be based on a master plan.

In context of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, the master plan is a study of the present and future growth of a municipality that identifies the land needed for various types of activities, including agriculture, single-family and multi-family residences, commerce, and industry. After a master plan is adopted, a municipality can then adopt a zoning ordinance to assure that land is available and allocated to meet the community's long-term needs.





How is the Plan to Be Used?

The plan serves many functions and is to be used in a variety of ways:

The Plan is a general statement of the Village's goals and policies and provides a single, comprehensive view of the community's desire for the future.

1. The Plan serves as an aid in daily decision-making. The goals and policies outlined in the Plan guide the Planning Commission and Village Council in their deliberations on zoning, subdivision, capital improvements and other matters relating to land use and development. This provides a stable, long-term basis for decision making.
2. A third function of the Plan serves to provide the statutory basis upon which zoning decisions are based. However, it is important to note that the Master Plan and accompanying maps do not replace other Village Ordinances, specifically the Zoning Ordinance and Map. Zoning is only one of many legal devices used to implement the Master Plan.
3. The Plan attempts to coordinate public improvements and private developments. For example, public investments such as road or sewer and water improvements should be located in areas identified in the Plan as resulting in the greatest benefit to the Village and its residents.
4. Finally, the Plan serves as an educational tool and gives citizens, property owners, developers, and adjacent communities a clear indication of the Village's direction for the future.

A master plan presents the vision of a community over the next 20 years, but also includes a number of specific, short term implementation activities intended to realize the overall vision of the Plan.

This document, then, is the Master Plan that has been developed and adopted by the Village of Forestville Planning Commission and accepted by the Village Council pursuant to the Michigan Planning Enabling Act.

Public Input

This Plan was prepared following an analysis of existing conditions, a review of key issues identified by the public, consultation with adjoining units of government and other governmental agencies and discussions with the Planning Commission and the Village Council. Public input was gathered through surveys. The results of the Public Input can be found in Section B of the Appendix.

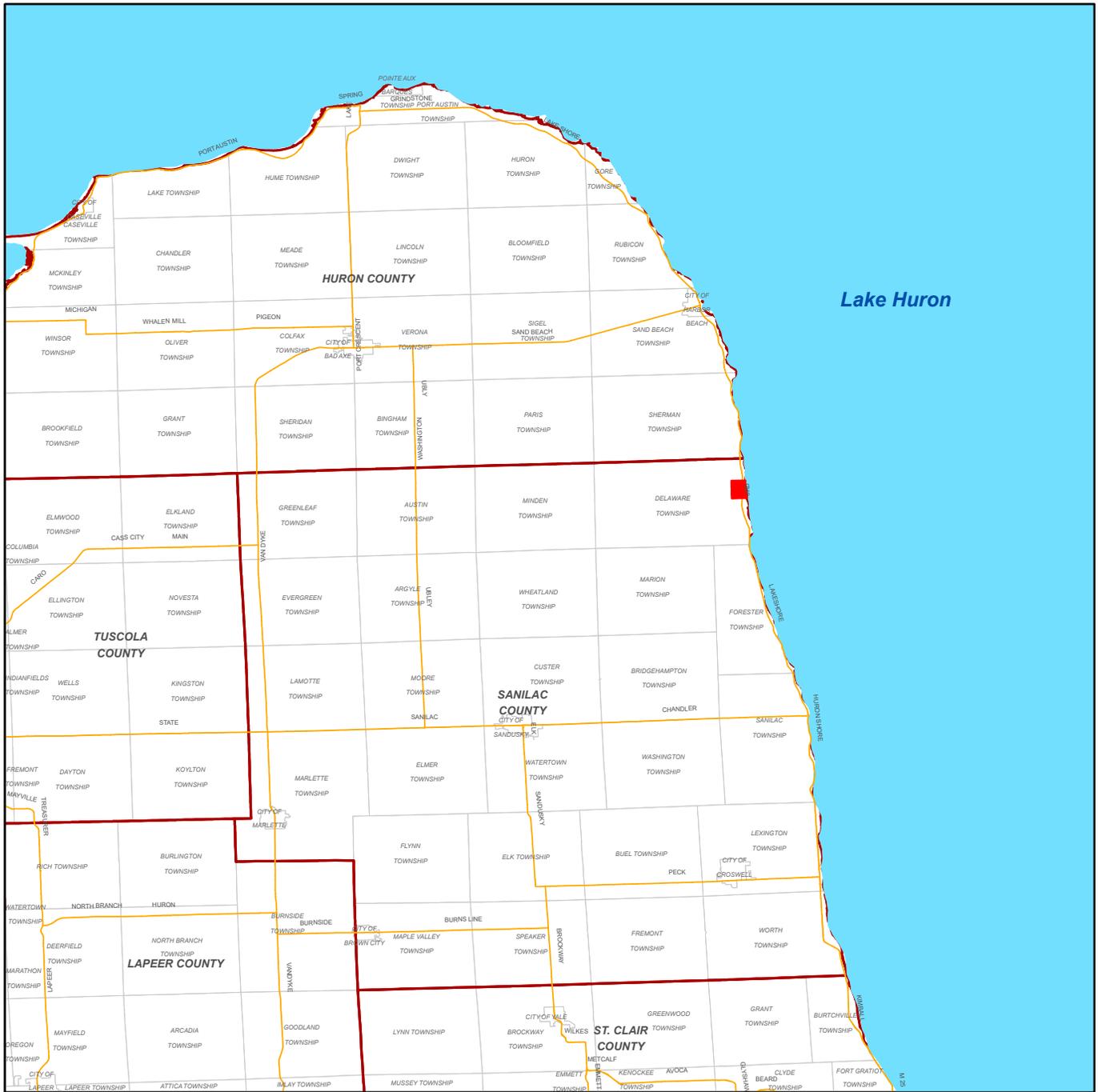
02.

Community Profile

Location and Regional Context

Forestville is located along the shores of Lake Huron in the northeast corner of Sanilac County. It does not have a true harbor onto Lake Huron, but the village does have a boat launch site. Forestville receives city water from nearby Harbor Beach, which is located approximately 13 miles to the north. The village is within Delaware Township. Forestville occupies 0.8 square miles.





Regional Context

Village of Forestville
Sanilac County, Michigan

January 27, 2022

LEGEND

-  State Roadways
-  City & Township Boundary
-  Village Boundary



Basemap Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, v. 17a. Data Source: Sanilac County, McKenna 2022.



Demographics

In preparation for the development of the Village of Forestville's Master Plan, population, housing and economic data were compiled and analyzed. Familiarity with this information is essential in recognizing and addressing potential community needs for various housing types or public facilities, as well as determining the potential for future land development. The primary sources used in compiling this data include the U.S. Census, and American Community Survey. The results of this analysis can be found in Appendix A of this document.

Existing Land Use

A fundamental procedure prior to the formulation of a community Master Plan is an analysis of existing land uses. This analysis will not only identify what and where particular uses are, but it will also highlight where future development might occur and where land use conflicts may exist or develop.

The land use analysis performed delineates five land use categories including: Residential, Parks and Recreation, Public/Semi Public, Open Space/Natural Features and Vacant. The current survey of existing land uses was prepared by field survey in 2022 and is portrayed on Map 2.

LAND USE CLASSIFICATIONS

In preparing the 2022 land use inventory, the following land use classifications were used.

Residential - This classification is for those land areas containing residential dwelling units and accessory structures.

Parks and Recreation - Public parks and publicly owned open space are featured in this category.

Public / Semi Public - Includes land areas and facilities such as religious institutions, library, government buildings, utility sites and the like.

Open Space/ Natural Features – This category encompasses the vast amount of forested land and open fields in the Village as well as land that is utilized for agricultural purposes.

Vacant – Designated for buildings that have been abandoned or are unoccupied



Existing Land Use

Village of Forestville
Sanilac County, Michigan

March 21, 2022 - DRAFT

LEGEND

- Unclassified
- Open Space
- Parks & Recreation
- Public/Semi Public
- Residential
- Vacant
- Road Network
- Parcel Boundary
- Village Boundary



Basemap Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, v. 17a.
Data Source: Village of Forestville. McKenna 2022.



Residential is the predominant land use within the Village of Forestville in terms of frequency. Open Space/ Natural Features is the second largest land use designation within the Village regarding land coverage, comprising an estimated 40% of the Village.

Table 1 below shows a detailed analysis of the existing land uses in Forestville based on acreage and percentage of the total land. The following frequency and analysis was determined based on parcel data provided by Sanilac County.

Table 1 – Existing Land Use Breakdown, 2022

Existing Land Use	Frequency	Square Feet	Acres	Percentage of Total
Residential	202	12,153,183	279	49.79%
Parks and Recreation	6	166,617	3.82	0.6%
Public/ Semi-Public	6	202,296	4.64	0.8%
Open Space/ Natural Features	34	9,821,321	225	40.15%
Vacant	5	151,355	3.47	0.61%
Unclassified Right-Of-Way	34	1,912,601	43.9	7.83%
Total	287	24,407,373	560.3	100.00%



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03.

Future Land Use

The Village of Forestville Master Plan is intended to encourage the use and development of lands in accordance with their character and adaptability, to ensure that uses of land are situated in appropriate locations, to ensure that new development and buildings respect and enhance the Village's existing historic character. These considerations are legitimate governmental interests bearing a substantial relationship to public health, safety and welfare. In particular, the Forestville Master Plan advances the government's interests to acknowledge and protect, within fair and acceptable parameters, the Village's historic character and important natural features without negatively impacting land value.

To that end, the Forestville Master Plan is rooted in the existing conditions of the Village while recognizing and balancing realistic and reasonable future expectations of landowners. The Land Use Plan presented herein illustrates the proposed physical arrangement of land uses within the Village of Forestville. The plan is prepared to serve as a policy guide for the Village regarding land use issues and decisions, investments in public improvements and future zoning decisions. The plan is intended to be a working document which will provide for the orderly development of the Village, assist the community in its effort to maintain, and enhance a pleasant living environment, while fostering development and redevelopment where needed.

The Future Land Use Map (see Map 3) was created from the combination of professional planning expertise as well as ideas that were expressed through public engagement and Planning Commission/Village Council meetings. The prevailing aim through this long-range planning process was to designate the highest and best use of land in various segments of the Village and to avoid conflicts between incompatible uses.

Although the Future Land Use Map divides the Village into distinct land use classifications, it should be viewed as being flexible enough to allow for amendments as social, physical, or economic conditions change. The map should also serve the Village as a guide for revising the zoning map and for assessing the appropriateness of future land use changes.

Summary descriptions of each district within the Village of Forestville Future Land Use Plan Map are provided below.



Single Family Residential

Areas planned Single Family Residential have the character that is most often observed in the Village. These areas tend to have large lot sizes. Appropriate land uses in Single Family Residential areas include detached single-family units and uses that can be compatible with single family dwellings such as schools, churches, municipal and civic buildings.

Multiple Family Residential

Multiple Family Residential areas permit apartment-style attached dwelling units. This is the residential land use category that permits the highest density development in the Village. Uses that can be compatible with residential development such as schools, churches, municipal and civic buildings are also appropriate for Multiple Family Residential areas. The Future Land Use map does not designate a specific area of the Village for Multiple Family Residential development.

Commercial and Industrial

The primary emphasis for future commercial development is for the Central Business District. The uses in this category encompass the uses permitted in the Commercial & Industrial (CI) and Central Business District (CBD) zoning districts.

Open Space Preservation

This category is primarily designated for maintaining the characteristics of the natural environment, such as forested land, agricultural sites, and open space. Open Space Preservation is intended to limit intensive future land uses, such as commercial and industrial sites, multiple family housing, and other developments that would negatively impact the “as is” environment.

Parks and Recreation

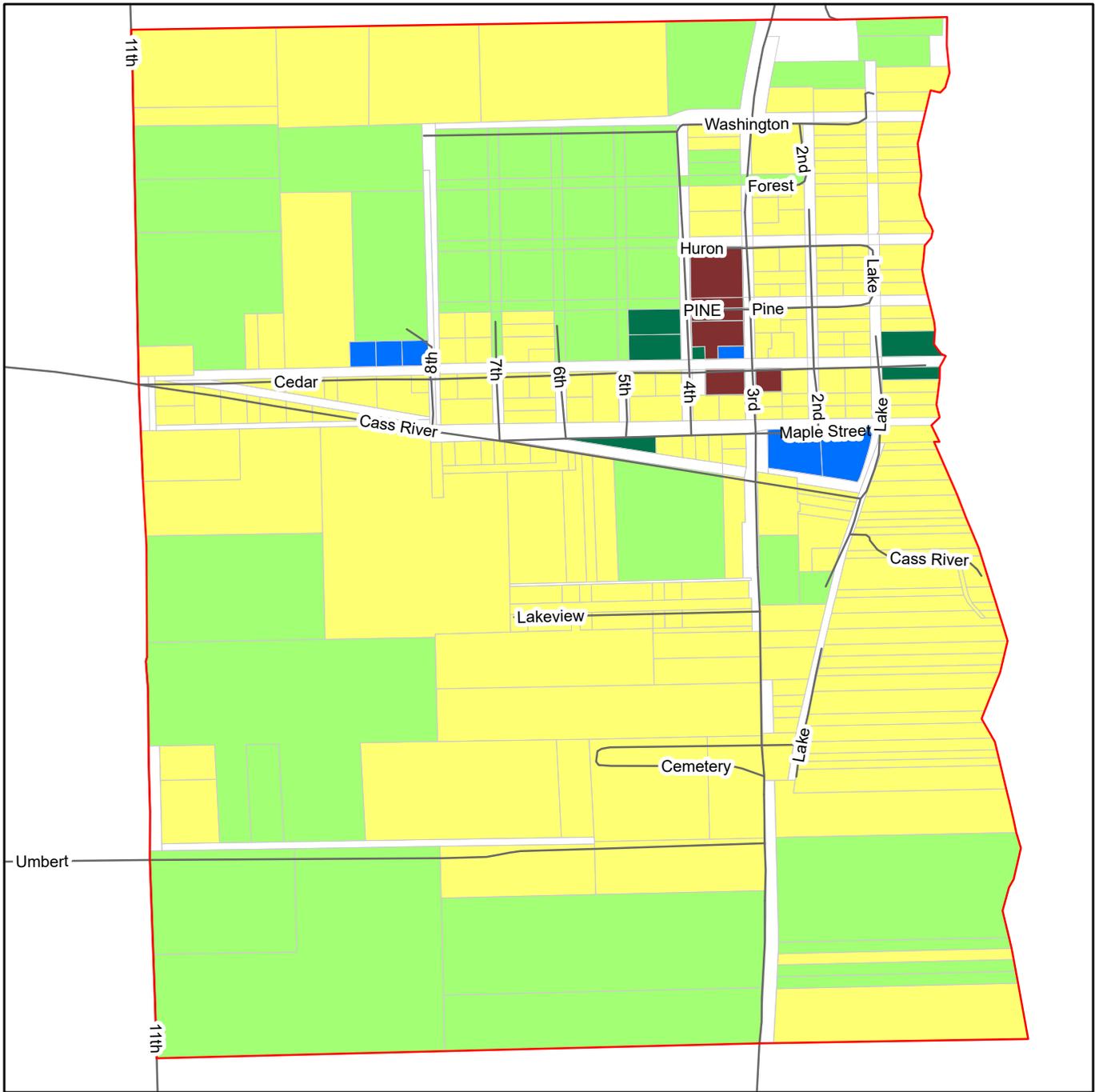
This category is reserved for the three Village owned parks that provide recreational space for Village residents.

Public/ Semi-Public

The public and semi-public designation identifies municipal buildings and religious institutions including the post office, Village Hall

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Future Land Use

Village of Forestville
Sanilac County, Michigan

March 22, 2022 - DRAFT

LEGEND

- Single Family Residential
- Commercial & Industrial
- Open Space Preservation
- Parks & Recreation
- Public/Semi Public
- Parcel Boundary
- Road Network
- Village Boundary



Basemap Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, v. 17a.
Data Source: Village of Forestville, McKenna 2022.



04. Zoning Plan

Table 2 – Zoning Plan

Land Use Category	Zoning Category
Residential	R Single Family Residential RM Multiple Family Residential MHP Manufactured Housing Park
Public / Semi-Public	
Parks and Recreation	
Open Space Preservation	AR Agricultural and Residential
Commercial and Industrial	CBD Central Business District CI Commercial and Industrial

The Michigan Planning Enabling Act (Public Act 33 of 2008) bridges potential disconnects between a municipality’s Master Plan and the Zoning Ordinance. The Zoning Ordinance is the primary land use implementation tool available to the Village.





Role of the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance

The Master Plan sets forth the vision, goals, policies for growth and development in the Village for the next twenty (20) years. It includes strategies for managing growth and change in land uses over this period.

The Zoning Ordinance regulates the use and development of land. By Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended, it is based on a plan designed to promote public safety and general welfare and several additional items as described in the Act.

Role of the Zoning Plan

The Zoning Plan illustrates the relationship between the future land use categories in the Master Plan and the comparable Zoning Ordinance districts. The Zoning Plan is required by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act (P. A. 33 of 2008).

05.

Non-Motorized Plan

This section is a guide for future policy and infrastructure decisions and can be used to help Forestville strategically identify the means to establish a built and cultural environment that supports and encourages safe, accessible, comfortable, and convenient transportation options, focusing on non-motorized means such as biking and walking, for both people and goods throughout the Village. Such a multimodal transportation environment will result in a greater number of individuals choosing alternative transportation modes, including walking and bicycling. This increase will lead to a safer transportation system, an increased quality of life of residents and visitors, and neighborhoods and business districts that are more attractive.

A comprehensive transportation system is vital to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Forestville. Improvements to non-motorized facilities, such as those for bicyclists and pedestrians, and multimodal facilities, those points where two or more types of transportation interact, are improvements for not only Forestville's households that do not own a vehicle, but all individuals, as almost all trips begin and end as a pedestrian. The benefits of a comprehensive transportation system extend beyond the users of the system to the public as a whole.

A well-implemented transportation system will:

STIMULATE THE LOCAL ECONOMY

- Reduce the costs associated with automobile parking, automobile maintenance, and fossil fuels, making this money available for other goods and services.
- Increase workers' access to job sites, ability to reliably reach those jobs, and the employment pool from which potential employers may choose.
- Make Forestville's commercial district attractive and easy place to visit and do business through improvements to the whole transportation network.
- Sustain and increase property value throughout Forestville.

CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES

- Reduce the local air, water, and noise pollution from automobile use by providing excellent alternatives to automobile travel.
- Reduce congestion by reducing the overall number of automobile trips taken.
- Reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

IMPROVE HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Encourage healthy lifestyles and help to prevent chronic disease by promoting active transportation.
- Improve safety, for those who are often dependent on nonmotorized facilities and connections between multiple modes of travel.



- Add “eyes on the street,” which not only foster community but also serve to deter crime.
- Reduces vehicular collisions due to reduced dependence on automobiles.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Travel

Forestville’s neighborhoods would benefit from construction of sidewalks and bike paths to facilitate non-motorized transportation. These improvements are needed for public safety, to provide continuous flow between neighborhoods, and to improve the general appeal of the neighborhoods.

It is vital that pedestrian circulation be provided in any new developments that occur within the Village. These connections will encourage residents to enjoy the local community with less vehicle use.

It is recommended that 5-foot-wide sidewalks be provided along major roads in the Village. Non-motorized pathways accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists, and should have a minimum width of 6 feet. The pathways can be paved or a compacted aggregate surface.

Non-Motorized Pathway Configurations

There are three major configurations for non-motorized pathways as defined by the American Association of State Highway Officials:

- Dedicated pathways separated from vehicle traffic lanes,
- Bicycle lanes that are part of the roadway,
- Shared roadways where motorized and non-motorized users share the same space on the roadway.

Each of the above configurations is appropriate in certain instances, and a non-motorized pathway system can consist of a combination of pathway configurations.

The following is a description of the pathway configurations and a summary of when each configuration is appropriate, which should serve as a guide as the Village implements a non-motorized pathway system.



DEDICATED PATHWAY

A pathway physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or a barrier and located either within a road right-of-way or in an independent right-of-way.

Users: Dedicated pathways are appropriate for any non-motorized user, including pedestrians, walkers, joggers, wheelchairs, bicyclists, rollerbladers, etc.

Design: Dedicated pathways normally accommodate two lanes of travel and should be at least 10 feet wide. Motor vehicle crossing points, including road and driveway crossings, should be kept to a minimum.



BICYCLE LANE

A portion of the roadway that has been designated by striping, signing, and pavement markings for the preferential and exclusive use of bicycles.

Users: Bicycle lanes are most appropriate for bicyclists, although any non-motorized user, including pedestrians, can use a bicycle lane in the absence of a sidewalk and if the lane is sufficiently wide to permit a bicycle to pass a pedestrian walking in the lane without encroaching on a motorized vehicle lane.

Design: Bicycle lanes normally accommodate one-way travel in the same direction as adjacent motor vehicle traffic and are typically four or five feet wide. It is important that highly visible demarcations separating motorized and non-motorized traffic be maintained at all times.



SHARED ROADWAY

A situation where motorized and non-motorized traffic share a street with no special treatment for non-motorized traffic except for signage.

Users: Appropriate for any non-motorized user, including pedestrians, joggers, bicyclists, rollerbladers, etc.

Design: Shared roadways are only appropriate on low-volume, low-speed streets such as neighborhood streets. Shared roadways require minimum 12-foot wide travel lanes.

Table 3 – Pathway Design Guidelines

Road Condition	Dedicated Pathway	Bicycle Lane	Shared Roadway
Vehicular Traffic Volume (ADT)	Medium to High (5,000 to 20,000+ trips)	Medium to High (5,000 to 20,000+ trips)	Low (less than 5,000 trips)
Speed Limit	35 to 45 mph	25 to 45 mph	25 mph or less
Street Type	Regional Arterial Regional Thoroughfare Avenue	Regional Thoroughfare Avenue Neighborhood Street	Neighborhood Street
ROW/Lane Width	Sufficient to accommodate 10-foot wide separate path	4-foot minimum	12-foot travel lanes required
Mixture of Traffic	Heavy truck and automobile traffic	Light truck traffic, heavy automobile traffic	Residential
Curb Cuts	Best with few curb cuts	Use where there are numerous	Residential curb or driveway cuts only

Source: FHWA

Complete Streets

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Guidance (2000) stated that walking and bicycling facilities may be incorporated into some transportation projects. The creation and maintenance of facilities that effectively accommodate non-motorized travel can reduce the risk of injury by up to 30%.

Complete Streets is an inclusive context sensitive design framework and infrastructure that enables safe and convenient access for transportation users of all ages and disabilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motor vehicle drivers. Complete Streets are achieved when transportation agencies routinely plan, design, construct, re-construct, operate, and maintain the transportation network to improve travel conditions for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit, and freight in a manner consistent with, and supportive of, the surrounding community. Development of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure offers long term cost savings and opportunities to create safe and convenient non-motorized travel.

Streets that support and invite multiple uses, including safe, active, and ample space for pedestrians, bicycles, and transit are more conducive to the public life and efficient movement of people than streets designed primarily to move automobiles. Increasing active transportation (e.g., walking, bicycling and using public transportation) offers the potential for improved public health, improved recreational and social activities, economic development, a cleaner environment, reduced transportation costs, enhanced community connections, social equity, and more livable communities.

The Michigan Legislature has passed Complete Streets legislation through Public Acts 134 & 135 that requires the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to consider all users in transportation-related projects and work with residents, townships, cities, and villages to include planning for Complete Streets in their transportation programming. The Village of Forestville should encourage the Road Commission of Sanilac County, other local road agencies (if any), and other contracted agents in the county responsible for the construction or reconstruction of transportation facilities to do so in accordance with Complete Streets principles. The Village of Forestville shall adopt Complete Streets policies and practices that consider all users in transportation related projects, when funding is available. Doing this will show that Forestville recognizes the importance of street infrastructure and modifications such as sidewalks, crosswalks, shared use paths, bicycle lanes, signage, synchronized signals and accessible curb ramps that enable safe, convenient and comfortable travel for all users.

Opportunities for Improvement

Although Forestville has an established non-motorized network there is room for enhancements. Map 4 shows the Non-motorized Map for Forestville. It shows areas where a sidewalk or path currently exist (green) and where the installation of new sidewalks would allow for further enhanced connections (blue). The following areas should be focused on when future non-motorized connection projects are undertaken.



CEDAR AVENUE

Cedar Avenue is the main east and west thoroughfare for the Village of Forestville. As can be seen from Map 4, Cedar Avenue contains sidewalks in some areas but does not provide sidewalks in other areas which creates an inconsistency for non-motorized travelers. Developing sidewalks along this corridor will greatly strengthen the non-motorized connections throughout the Village. Specifically, it would provide better access for residents to Stephens Park which is located at the east end of Cedar Avenue.



M-25

M-25 is the main thoroughfare within the Village of Forestville. Currently, a paved shoulder exist which allows the ability for bicyclists to utilize this space. It is recommended a bike lane symbol be provided on the paved shoulders on M-25, similar to the pictures shown earlier in this chapter. In the future, when funding is available, it is recommend including sidewalks on both sides of M-25 that are separated from motor vehicles by a curb or another form of barrier to provide a buffer between pedestrians and motorized users.



VILLAGE PARK

Currently there are no sidewalks providing direct access to Village Park making it non-accessible for some non-motorized users. Providing sidewalks and/or crosswalks along the Cedar Ave and 4th Street intersection would enhance the accessibility to Village Park. Furthermore, providing sidewalk connection from the parking lot to the pavilion will allow users with physical handicaps the opportunity to enjoy the park.



Non-Motorized Transportation

Village of Forestville
Sanilac County, Michigan

March 22, 2022 - DRAFT

LEGEND

- Proposed Sidewalks
- Existing Sidewalk Network
- Road Network
- Parcel Boundary
- Village Boundary



Basemap Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, v. 17a.
Data Source: Village of Forestville, McKenna 2022.



06.

Goals and Objectives

The initial and most critical task in the preparation of a community's master plan is to develop a set of goals and objectives. Goals are general in nature and, as related to community planning, are statements of ideals toward which the Village wishes to strive. They represent the ultimate purpose of an effort stated in a way that is both broad and immeasurable. Goals also express a consensus of community direction to public and private agencies, groups and individuals. Goals are long-range considerations that should guide the development of specific objectives. The goals will guide the Planning Commission and Village Council in evaluating proposals with the social and economic well-being of the Village, the preservation of its historical resources and its quality of life in mind. Following each goal will be one or more objectives.

Objectives are a means to achieve the overall goals of the Plan. Objectives take the form of more measurable standards or identify the methods in which the goals of the plan may be realized. In some instances, they are specific statements which can be readily translated into detailed design proposals or action recommendations.

Together, the following goals and objectives provide the foundation of the Master Plan and a framework for future implementation strategies.

Goal 1: Create a stable downtown business area that serves the needs and desires of Village residents in a safe, pleasant, and harmonious environment.

OBJECTIVES

- A. Encourage the redevelopment of vacant and underutilized properties within the Village.
- B. Create a lively downtown environment by arranging downtown events and advertising them effectively.
- C. Encourage the attraction of new businesses to Forestville to provide the proper variety and mix that will attract customers.
- D. Maintain effective zoning and land use.



Goal 2: Maintain the integrity of the Forestville Master Plan and other planning documents to ensure it is a usable and effective document in preserving the character of the community and protecting the aspirations of its residents.

OBJECTIVES

- A. Review the Master Plan on a 5-year basis and revise it as necessary to keep up with changing conditions.
- B. Prepare and adopt a Zoning Ordinance and zoning map consistent with the Master Plan.
- C. Communicate information of interest to Village residents through Village’s website.
- D. Propose Village representation and participation in county, regional and state planning activities.

Goal 3: Provide a high quality of life to the Citizens of Forestville.

OBJECTIVES

- A. Promote and maintain recreation, social and cultural opportunities through existing parks and open space areas, library programs, and schools.
- B. Improve access and make improvements to Stephens Park.
- C. Promote the development of recreation facilities by private sources and non-profit organizations.
- D. Develop sidewalks along Cedar Avenue, M-25, and at Village Park.

Goal 4: Maintain Forestville’s primarily residential community by creating a pleasing living environment.

OBJECTIVES

- A. Utilize site plan reviews to achieve quality development in a pleasant environment.
- B. Encourage non-residential uses to be located in areas that will have minimal impact on established residences.
- C. Permit residential development only in accordance with the availability of necessary public services including utilities, road construction and maintenance, police and fire services, governmental administrative services, and educational services.

07.

Implementation Plan

The Master Plan represents a vision for the future of Forestville – a vision to preserve and enhance the best characteristics of the Village while making the most of opportunities that come with new development. The Plan in itself is a vision and provides goals and objectives that should be considered in daily decision-making. Successful implementation of the Plan will be the result of actions taken by elected and appointed officials, Village staff, public sector agencies, and private citizens and organizations.

Finally, this chapter concludes with a chart summarizing the recommended actions or strategies, and the entities primarily responsible for implementing each action or strategy.

Summary of Expectations

This chapter identifies and describes actions and tools available to implement the vision created in this Master Plan. Broadly stated, the Plan will be implemented through:

PLANNING AND ZONING

Evaluation of the Village’s Zoning Ordinance, and if necessary, amendments to Village regulations if necessary to implement the recommendations of this Plan. Continuous evaluation of the recommendations of this Plan must occur at regular intervals to ensure that the overall vision for the future development of the Village remains relevant.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements such as parks, public spaces, and utility systems fall into this category. Civic improvements are generally funded through public funds and are tangible “bricks and mortar” projects.

CIRCULATION IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements to the Village’s motorized and non-motorized circulation system fall into this category.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This category includes the economic and physical development of the Village. These improvements include a wide range of activities from physical development activity to promotion and marketing, and may be completed by public or private entities, or some combination thereof.





Implementation Program

The charts on the following pages present a detailed summary of all of the recommended implementation activities, who is responsible for completing the activity, and available funding resources for each activity.

KEY			
Priority		Timeframe	Responsibility (Color)
A	Most Important	1 W/in one year	■ Project Lead
B	Very Important	2 1-3 years	■ Key Participant
C	Important	3 3+ years	■ Contributor
		4 As available	
		5 Ongoing	

RESPONSIBILITY (ABBREVIATION)		
PC	Forestville Planning Commission	forestvillemichigan.com
PO	Property Owners	N/A
DPW	Department of Public Works	forestvillemichigan.com
VC	Forestville Village Council	forestvillemichigan.com

FUNDING	
Public	Includes public funds from the Village operating budget, County, and State funding. May also include local government bonds.
Private	Includes funds from private sources.

PLANNING AND ZONING ACTIONS

PROJECT	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	PARTNERSHIP			FUNDING	
			VILLAGE	OTHER GOV'T	PRIVATE	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
1.1 Revise the Zoning Ordinance to be consistent with this Plan	A	1	PC	VC		•	
1.2 Adopt Parks and Recreation Plan every 5 years	A	5	VC	PC		•	
1.3 Rezone properties according to the Forestville Plan and new Zoning Ordinance	B	5	VC	PC		•	
1.4 Review this Master Plan every 5 years, or sooner as necessary to address changing conditions, redevelopment opportunities, and the changing needs of the community	B	5	PC	VC		•	
1.5 Create zoning standards that protect the Village's primarily residential character	B	5	PC	VC		•	

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	PARTNERSHIP			FUNDING	
			VILLAGE	OTHER GOV'T	PRIVATE	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
2.1 Add biking/hiking paths, picnic and playground facilities, bathrooms and fishing/kayaking/ canoeing access to Stephens Park	A	2	VC	PC		•	
2.2 Maintain and expand existing sidewalks infrastructure	B	2	VC	DPW		•	
2.3 Replace aging infrastructure as necessary	B	4	VC	DPW		•	
2.4 Improve identification of community and Village amenities, such as parks, with wayfinding signs	C	4	VC	PC		•	
2.5 Add additional landscaping / streetscaping along sidewalk, parks and government buildings; lighting, unique local wall art, sculptures; covered pavilions with picnic benches and grills; wooden bridges for trails over low lying areas	C	3	VC	PC DPW		•	
2.6 Provide public restrooms as needed in Village parks	C	4	VC	DPW		•	
2.7 Promote the maintenance of existing parks and recreation facilities	C	5	DPW			•	



ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMNT

PROJECT	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	PARTNERSHIP			FUNDING	
			VILLAGE	OTHER GOV'T	PRIVATE	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
3.1 Create a business plan to attract new businesses	A	5	VC	PC		•	
3.2 Encourage realistic businesses that can thrive in the current downtown environment, such as a small grocery store. A drive thru business option may be a draw for commuters driving through Forestville	A	5	VC	PC		•	
3.3 Develop and promote Downtown events and activities	A	5	PC	VC	PO	•	•
3.4 Perform retail market study to determine economic potential of Forestville	B	4	PC	VC		•	
3.5 Create a façade program to fund building façade improvements to Downtown buildings	B	2	PC	VC		•	

CIRCULATION IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	PARTNERSHIP			FUNDING	
			VILLAGE	OTHER GOV'T	PRIVATE	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
4.1 Develop a community non-motorized walkway system to connect all parts of the Village to Downtown	A	4	PC	VC		•	
4.2 Replace aging infrastructure as necessary, such as sidewalks and roads	B	5	VC	DPW		•	
4.3 Construct sidewalks on all Village streets where feasible	B	5	VC	PC		•	
4.4 Connect sidewalks or walkways to existing and proposed recreation areas in the Village such as Stephens Park	B	2	VC	DPW		•	
4.5 Ensure sidewalks are compatible with ADA standards	C	5	VC	DPW		•	

Land Use Controls

ZONING REGULATIONS

Zoning is the primary regulatory tool used by the Village to implement the Master Plan. Zoning regulations and procedures should be amended to reflect the recommendations identified in this plan.

CONVENTIONAL ZONING PROCEDURES

Rezoning to Implement the Master Plan

The land use classifications on the Future Land Use Map provide the basis for evaluating future rezoning requests. Zoning actions that are consistent with the Future Land Use Map usually receive deferential and favorable judicial review if challenged. The Master Plan should be the principal source of information in the investigation of all rezoning requests. The Village may initiate rezoning's necessary to place land in conformance with the Future Land Use Map, or they may wait for property owners to come forward.

Planned Development

Planned development involves the use of special zoning requirements and review procedures that provide design and regulatory flexibility, to encourage innovation in land use planning and design. Planned developments should achieve a higher quality of development than might otherwise be possible. Continued use of planned development is recommended to achieve development in accordance with the goals and objectives of this Plan.

Planned development can be used as the regulatory tool to permit open space zoning or cluster development and to facilitate mixed use development in the Downtown area.

Performance Standards

Rather than simply regulate development based on dimensional standards, many communities are establishing performance standards to regulate development based on the permissible effects or impacts of a proposed use. Performance standards should be used to supplement conventional zoning standards. Performance standards can be developed to regulate noise, dust, vibration, odor, glare and heat, safety hazards, and environmental impacts such as air and water pollution. The complexity of the performance standards should be based in part on the capacity of Village staff to administer the standards. Although currently Forestville does not have the Village Staff available to administer these standards this may become applicable in the future.

Performance standards can be particularly useful in achieving environmental and resource protection goals. If based on a strong body of research, standards can be developed that relate to critical environmental areas (such as floodplains, wetlands, lakes, woodlands, groundwater recharge areas, and unique wildlife habitats), and natural resource areas (such as forest lands).

Incentive Zoning

Incentive zoning allows a developer to exceed the dimensional limitations in the Zoning Ordinance if the developer agrees to fulfill conditions specified in the Ordinance. Incentive zoning should be considered to promote innovative land planning techniques identified in the Plan. For example, a possible increase in density can be used as an incentive for developments that implement open space standards or complete streets practices.

Nonconforming Uses

The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act of 2006, allows the creation of different classes of nonconforming uses. This allows a community to create a preferred class of nonconforming uses that meet a defined set of criteria. The Village should consider amending the zoning ordinance to allow a preferred class of nonconforming uses. These uses would then be treated as an allowed use, granting them the ability to update and maintain their property in a manner beneficial to the Village.

INNOVATIVE ZONING TECHNIQUES

Overlay Zoning

Overlay zoning allows the Village to impose a new set of regulations on a special area within an existing zoning district. In an area where an overlay zone is established, the property is placed simultaneously in the two zones, and the property may be developed only under the applicable conditions and requirements of both zones. Thus, the overlay district regulations supplement the regulations of the underlying zoning district. Overlay zoning has been used in other communities to address special conditions and features, such as historic areas, wetlands, and other environmentally sensitive areas, without disrupting the underlying zoning plan.

Development Agreement

Although there is no explicit legislative authority for such agreements, many Michigan communities have used development agreements to achieve a mutual understanding between the developer and municipality concerning the conditions under which development can occur. Development agreements are often negotiated as part of a planned development approval, allowing the community and developer to address complex issues that cannot be adequately addressed on a typical site plan. Development agreements might prove useful to achieve desired developments, especially if or when a mixed-use development is proposed.

Complete Streets

A Complete Streets Plan addresses all facets of the transportation system in the Village including roads, bicycle ways, pedestrian ways, public transportation, railroads, and freight facilities and routes. It describes the extent and character of the transportation system and its interconnections considering all legal users of the right of way. It can also address specific “fixes” for greater walkability and bikeability.

Low Impact Development

Low Impact Development (LID) incorporates green infrastructure into projects to manage storm water in an environmentally sensitive way. Utilizing LID strategies during the development design phase can improve water quality and aesthetics, and reduce project & legacy costs. LID strategies include using permeable pavement, rain gardens, and bio-swales. The Village may wish to amend the zoning ordinance to encourage Low Impact Development strategies.

Economic Development Tools

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a funding method that authorized bodies may use for public purposes. When a TIF district is established, the total state equalized value for property in the district is recorded. Every year thereafter, the property tax revenue generated by increases in the total state equalized value is captured by the TIF. Tax Increment Finance Authorities capture the year-to-year growth in property values on an annual basis, and reinvests those dollars in public facilities.

The following is a summary of bodies that can use tax increment financing and other funding resources:

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (PUBLIC ACT 197 OF 1975)

A Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is a non-profit development corporation which exists for the purpose of promoting a desirable environment for businesses and residents, and implementing economic development projects. A variety of financing techniques are available to DDAs, including bond issues, (TIF), and public and private contributions. In order to establish a DDA, the Village must demonstrate evidence of stagnant or declining property values within the boundary of the proposed DDA. The link below is an informational piece on DDA's provided by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. Further information regarding Downtown Development Authorities is available from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC).

<https://www.michiganbusiness.org/49fab3/globalassets/documents/reports/fact-sheets/downtowndevelopmentauthority.pdf>

CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY (PUBLIC ACT 280 OF 2005)

This recently passed legislation establishes a new method of improving older commercial corridors without establishing a DDA. The Corridor Improvement Authority Act allows local governments to create one or more Corridor Improvement Authorities (CIA) to address established, deteriorating commercial corridors located outside their downtown areas. The primary benefit of this tool is to provide local governments with the option of using TIF for improvements in the district(s), and to undertake a wide range of activities to promote economic development and redevelopment in commercial areas.

In order to be eligible to create a CIA, the development area must have a minimum size of 5 acres, consist of at least 50% commercial property, and be zoned to allow mixed-uses, including "high-density" residential use. A municipality must also expedite the local permitted and inspection process in the development area and promote walkable nonmotorized interconnections throughout the development area.

An advantage of this act is that it allows more than one CIA to be established in a community, in addition to the one DDA that a community is typically permitted to establish. The link below is an informational piece on CIA's provided by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

<https://www.miplace.org/4a14e7/globalassets/documents/fact-sheets/corridor-improvement-authority-pa-280.pdf>

BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (PUBLIC ACTS 381, 382, AND 383 OF 1996)

Communities are authorized to create one or more Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities (BRA) in the community. BRAs may be used to finance the cleanup and reuse of contaminated property. Costs that can be funded by a BRA include the demolition of buildings necessary to remove hazardous substances and new construction if needed to protect against exposure to hazardous substances that are to remain.

BRA may use a TIF to pay back a developer for activities needed to facilitate the redevelopment of the site. Once the developer has been paid back for initial site remediation, the additional captured property taxes may go into a local site remediation fund to pay for cleanup and rehabilitation activities on other brownfield sites in the community. The link below is an informational piece on BRA's provided by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

<https://www.michiganbusiness.org/49c3a7/globalassets/documents/reports/fact-sheets/brownfieldredevelopmentauthoritypa381.pdf>

PRINCIPAL SHOPPING DISTRICT/ BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (PUBLIC ACT 120 OF 1961)

This Act provides for the establishment of principal shopping districts and for the undertaking of certain activities within these districts. Municipalities are permitted to complete street and pedestrian improvements, acquire property for and construct parking facilities (including parking garages), along with other facilities that “serve the public interest.”

The municipality may also create a board for the management of certain ongoing activities, including various initiatives to promote economic development (i.e. market studies, public relations campaigns, and retail and institutional promotions). In addition, the maintenance, security, and operation of the principal shopping district may be carried out through this board. For ease of description, this board is often referred to as a Downtown Management Board (DMB) and the area it represents as the Principal Shopping District (PSD).

The DMB is composed of a number of members determined by the Village at the time of authorization with a majority of the members being nominees of individual businesses within the PSD. One member is a representative of the adjoining residential neighborhoods, and one member is a representative of Village government. All board members are appointed by the chief executive officer of the Village with the concurrence of the governing body.

The DMB may be funded through grants and contributions and may also use the proceeds of special assessment levied by the governing body on property within the PSD specifically for maintenance, security, and operation purposes. All assessments are levied in accordance with the Village's special assessment policies and procedures.

PSDs are a useful tool for addressing issues such as parking structure construction and operation by shifting responsibility and accountability to a single organization. The organization is business driven, yet closely linked to the Village through the appointment process and funding arrangements. It is therefore an organizational expression of the partnership between the Village and business interests. Its powers to conduct cooperative advertising and promotion, public relations, maintenance, and general operations are broad enough to address many of the previous strategies.

PSD's do not, however, possess the authority to conduct broad redevelopment or public infrastructure development activities. It also does not have access to a dedicated property tax millage or the ability to undertake TIF. The link below is an informational piece on Principals Shopping Districts and Business Improvement District provided by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

<https://www.miplace.org/4a14e6/globalassets/documents/fact-sheets/business-improvement-district--principal-shopping-district--business-improvement-zone-pa-120.pdf>

COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION ACT (PUBLIC ACT 210 OF 2005)

The Commercial Rehabilitation Act enables local units of government to create one or more rehabilitation districts in which rehabilitated commercial property may receive property tax reductions for one to 10 years from the municipality (excluding personal property and the land upon which the rehabilitated facility is located).

These tax reductions or abatements may be used to encourage redevelopment in the community; however, they do reduce the amount of tax revenues collected by the Village. Therefore, this tool should be used judiciously. The link below is an informational piece on the Commercial Rehabilitation Act provided by the State of Michigan.

https://www.michigan.gov/taxes/0,4676,7-238-43535_53197-213167--,00.html

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AUTHORITY (PUBLIC ACT 281 OF 1986)

A Local Development Financing Authority (LDFA) is intended to assist industrial development, to promote economic growth, and prevent unemployment. Eligible activities include the support of business investment in districts where the primary activity is the manufacture of goods or materials, agricultural processing, or high-tech activities such as product development, engineering, product testing, or research and development. The link below is an informational piece on LDFA's provided by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

<https://www.miplace.org/4a14e6/globalassets/documents/fact-sheets/local-development-financing-act-pa-281.pdf>

MDNR Recreation Grant Programs

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Program is a Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Program administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). The LWCF Program provides matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high-quality recreation areas and facilities and to stimulate non-federal investments in the protection and maintenance of recreation resources across the United States. Funds to local governments are provided on a 50/50 basis. The link below is an informational piece on the LWCF Program provided by the National Park Service.

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/stateside.htm>

MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

This grant program was established by the Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act (PA 204 of 1976) and uses revenues from oil and gas wells for acquisition and development of recreational lands on a 75/25 match basis. The MNRTF provides for natural resource protection and outdoor recreation. By law, no more than 25 percent of the Trust Fund revenues available for appropriation each year can be used for development, therefore the majority of funding is allocated for acquisition projects. The link below is an informational piece on the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund provided by the State of Michigan.

https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79134_81684_79209_81657---,00.html

MICHIGAN RECREATION GRANT PASSPORT PROGRAM

This grant program was established by PA 32 of 2010 to be used for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Money for this fund is derived from the sale of the Recreation Passport which replaces the resident Motor Vehicle Permit (MVP) — or window sticker — for state park entrance. The minimum grant amount is \$7,500 and the maximum grant amount is \$150,000. Applications for this grant program can be sent after a Parks & Recreation Plan is developed. The link below is an informational piece on the Michigan Recreation Grant Passport Program provided by the State of Michigan.

https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79134_81684_79209_81659---,00.html

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS (CDBG)

CDBG's can be used for numerous community improvement projects in addition to housing rehabilitation. Criteria, however, require that they be used primarily to improve housing opportunities, and recreational and social opportunities for distressed portions of the community. CDBG funds can also be used for community economic development. Therefore, those areas of Forestville where the lower income households live should be identified and targeted for projects needed to improve conditions in those areas. Small area neighborhood plans would aid in identifying what types of projects would benefit areas in decline to stabilize those areas and permit them to reverse the conditions which are negatively impacting them. By using CDBG funds in distressed portions of the community, funds that would have been spent in completing those improvements are freed up to be used elsewhere. Therefore, while the residents of a distressed portion of the community benefit directly from the CDBG program, the Village in general benefits by having funds that would have been spent available for other improvements. The link below is an informational piece on the CDBG Program provided by the Housing & Urban Development Program.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-entitlement/cdbg-entitlement-program-eligibility-requirements/>

DONATIONS/ FOUNDATIONS

Businesses, corporations, private clubs and community organizations will often contribute to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit communities. Private sector contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, the donation of land, the provision of volunteer services, or the contribution of equipment or facilities.

A foundation is a special non-profit legal entity that is established as a mechanism through which land, cash, and securities can be donated for the benefit of parks and recreation services.

LEASE OR CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS

Contracts with private entrepreneurs to provide services at Village owned park facilities, such as recreation programming, food service, or facility maintenance should be considered. Typically, the privatization of services can increase recreation opportunities available to residents, while minimizing the Village's administrative costs. Examples of these could be renting a park space for the use of a yoga class, tennis lessons on the tennis courts, or putting lessons at Village Park. These are all small-scale recreation programs that do not require cost to the Village.

A.

Appendix



Population, Housing, and Economic Characteristics

Forestville’s current demographic characteristics and trends provide understanding to the types of recreation facilities and amenities that are needed. The figures used in this Plan come from the US Census Bureau’s 2020 data and the 2019 American Community Survey.

POPULATION

The population increased approximately 7% from 2000 to 2010, as indicated in the table below. The population decreased approximately 7% from 2010 to 2020.

Table 4 – Population Change, 2010-2020

Population	Forestville	% Change
2000	127	–
2010	136	+7.09%
2020	104	-23.53%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

HOUSING

The table below was populated using 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) as census data was not available for housing in Forestville. ACS data is the best estimate possible based on surveying. Households are defined as a person or group of people occupying a housing unit. The number of households in Forestville has decreased, as indicated in the table below.

Table 5 – Household Percentage Change, 2010-2020

Households	Forestville	% Change
2000	56	—
2010	58	3.57%
2019	50	-13.79%

Source: 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

AGE DISTRIBUTION

An understanding of the age distribution in the Village is essential in planning for future parks and recreation needs. As we pass through the various stages of life, our activity requirements change resulting in the need for different facilities and programs. Each of these groups has different demands for parks and recreation facilities and programs. The goals of the plan should reflect the different needs of an aging population while at the same time account for the youth and adults in the community. Healthy living, recreational, and cultural opportunities play a major role in where people choose to live, raise families, and retire.

Comparatively, Forestville has a lower level of preschool, early school, and adolescent-aged children when compared to Sanilac County as a whole. However, a larger share of the Forestville population is in the retirement age category (65+) when compared to Sanilac County.

Table 6 – Age Distribution

Age Group	Life Phase	Forestville		Sanilac County	
		#	%	#	%
0 – 4	Preschool	2	1.9%	2,145	5.2%
5 – 9	Early School	4	3.8%	2,530	6.1%
10-19	Adolescents	10	9.7%	5,134	12.4%
20 – 64	Adult	52	50%	22,836	55.3%
65 +	Retirement	36	34.6%	8,678	21%

Source: 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates



EDUCATION

The typical Forestville resident holds a High School diploma as their highest level of educational achievement. On the other hand, Sanilac County communities as a whole have a greater makeup of residents who have received either a Bachelor's Degree or Associate's Degree. However, Forestville has a higher rate of residents who have a graduate or Professional Degree when compared to Sanilac County.

Table 7 – Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment	Forestville	Sanilac County
Less than High School	20.4%	11.7%
High School Graduate	35.2%	41.2%
Some College, No Degree	22.7%	23.6%
Associate Degree	8.0%	9.4%
Bachelor Degree	3.4%	9.2%
Graduate or Professional Degree	10.2%	4.9%

Source: 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Understanding the status of persons with disabilities in the Village will assist in planning future programs, which also entails seeking appropriate locations for such facilities and activities. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires that all public services, including parks, recreation, and cultural facilities, be subject to barrier-free requirements. Public providers must eliminate any eligibility requirements for participation in programs, activities, and services. As the population ages, the proportion with one or more disabilities steadily increases. This trend is consistent with the figures for the Village. Approximately 18.7% of the Village's population has one or more disability, with nearly 35% of the population 65 years and older having a disability. The Village must account for the needs of these residents and continually examine the existing inventory for compliance.

Economic Characteristics

The following is a description of the economic characteristics of Forestville, which includes income and employment. The economic profiles of Village residents are important in making decisions for the community with regards to parks and recreation and other capital improvements as it has an impact on the quality of life that is expected and the amenities that are able to be provided.

INCOME

Median household income is a broad measure of relative economic health. It is defined as the income level where half of all households earn more and half earn less. In 2010, the median household income in Forestville (\$28,929) was significantly lower than Sanilac County as a whole (\$40,818). From the 2010 to 2019, Forestville's median household income has increased by 46.9% while Sanilac County has increased by 16.8%.

Table 8 – Median Household Income

Year	Forestville	Sanilac County
2010	\$28,929	\$40,818
2019	\$42,500	\$47,672

Source: 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

EMPLOYMENT

Employment in the Village has been relatively low in the past in relation to the region. In 2019, the unemployment rates for Forestville, Sanilac County, and the State of Michigan has decreased significantly with Forestville at 11.6%, Sanilac County at 6.0%, and the State of Michigan at 5.9%.

A blue-tinted photograph of a beach. The foreground is filled with small, smooth pebbles and shells. The middle ground shows the gentle ripples of the ocean water meeting the shore. The background is a clear, deep blue sky meeting the horizon.

B.
Appendix



Summary of Public Input

SURVEYS

The most important component of the public engagement program for the 2022 Master Plan is the online and “hard copy” survey. The survey was designed to allow respondents to complete in less than 10 minutes. Surveys that are designed to be easy to complete and are conscious of residents and interested persons time to complete tend to have a higher response rate. At the end of the survey period, the Village received 45 responses. The bullet points below highlight the main takeaways from the survey responses:

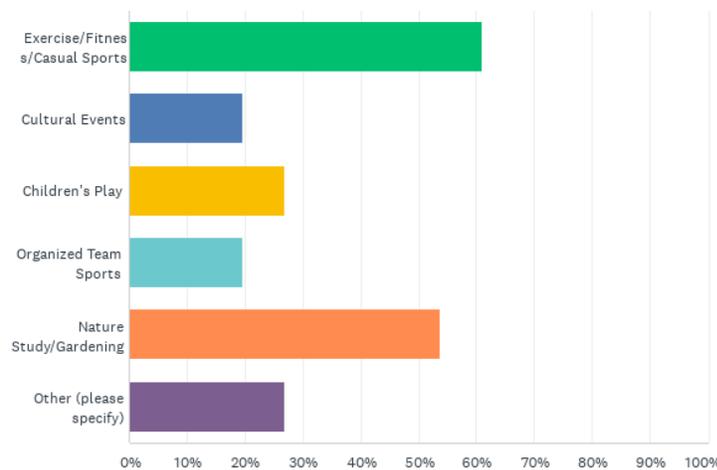
- Majority of survey respondents were Forestville full time residents with a vast majority of them living in the Village for 20 or more years.
- Nearly 72% of survey respondents ranked the quality of life in Forestville as “Good”. Nearly 20% ranked the quality of life as “Excellent”.
- One of the questions asked, “If you had a magic wand and could change anything about Forestville, what would you do?” Majority of responses to this question were to make downtown Forestville more appealing. Other frequent answers were beach improvements and road enhancements.
- When asked, “How do you feel about growth in Forestville?” a vast majority (63%) of respondents indicated that growth should be encouraged in planned areas while only 6% indicated growth should be discouraged
- Majority (64%) of respondents indicated they have not attended a community event in Forestville in the past three years. For those that have attended a community event, picnics were the most common.
- The most common development priorities to address over the next 5 to 10 years indicated by the survey was the preservation of natural features (floodplains, woodlands, stream, and/or shoreline). Nearly 82% of respondents indicated that natural features preservation was either important or extremely important.
- 84% of respondents indicated that the top economic development goal was to protect the Village’s small-town and rural character.
- Nearly 60% of respondents indicated that the amount of commercial services offered in the Village is concerning. 29% of respondents indicated that they do not mind traveling for commercial services. Travel time for basic commercial services, such as groceries or a pharmacy was mostly between 11-20 minutes (37% of respondents) and over 21 minutes (58% of respondents).
- The word cloud below summarizes the responses to the question “What new types of businesses or service providers would you support in the community?” The larger the word the higher the frequency of that response.

ice cream gas convenience store party store
grocery restaurant store small gas station pharmacy
shop

- When asked what things you find most appealing about Forestville the responses overwhelmingly were small town feel (71%) and rural character (73%).
- When asked “Where does Forestville have opportunities to improve?” the following responses were most common:
 - » Grocery options (76%)
 - » Shopping/dining options (67%)
 - » Walking or biking trails (51%)

- When asked, “Which Forestville parks and recreation facilities are you familiar with or have visited in the past?” most respondents indicated Stephens Park (66%) and Village Park (58%) where only 21% indicated Cass River/ Maple Park.
- When asked, “How often do you or members of your household visit a Forestville park or recreational facility?” majority of respondents (37%) indicated they visit a Forestville park or recreational facility less than once a month with only 2% indicating they visit almost daily.
- Question 18 is summarized in the figure below. Majority (61%) of respondents indicated that participate in exercise/ fitness/ casual sports. The other category included write ins such as water recreation, dancing, and running.

Q18 In general, what kinds of recreation/leisure activities do you and your family members participate in(please select all that apply)?



- For those that do not visit Village parks the question was asked “If you do not visit village parks, recreation facilities, and/or programs, why not?” The most common answer was that they do not know the location of parks and facilities.
- Nearly 54% of respondents strongly agreed that parks, trails, open space, and recreational programs are vital in our community.
- When respondents were asked to rate aspects of the public parks and recreation facilities in Forestville, availability of walking paths (including sidewalks) and the availability of bike paths were identified as the aspects requiring the most attention.
- When asked, “What new or enhanced features would you like to see within the village?” the following responses were the most common:
 - » Hiking/Walking Trails (59%)
 - » Bicycling (54%)
 - » Fishing Access (49%)
- The Village website and email were the communication strategies identified as being the most useful for the dissemination of announcements to Village residents.



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