



Tallmadge Charter Township

Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028

Tallmadge
Charter Township est. 1837

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

*Prepared for the
Tallmadge Charter Township Board
1451 Leonard St. NW
Grand Rapids MI 49534
616-677-1248
<https://tallmadge.com>*

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks and
Recreation Committee Board Members:

Mark Bennett

Mike Eppink

Val Schwallier

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COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

Comprising of approximately 33 square miles and over 8,800 residents, Tallmadge Charter Township is a single public entity, which has composed this plan for the benefit of its residents, businesses, and visitors. While the majority of park land within the Township is owned by the City of Grand Rapids, Tallmadge Charter Township owns only one park and seeks to continue to provide recreational opportunities under its permanent control for its community as well as bordering neighbors.

As the residential and business population of Tallmadge Charter Township continues to increase, the amount of recreation area per person is reduced, creating access challenges to recreational opportunities. Areas of recreation provide gathering places for residents, employees of local businesses and visitors to socialize, relax, be physically active and build community.

In an effort to guide the development of recreational opportunities in Tallmadge Charter Township, this Tallmadge Charter Township Community Recreation Plan was created. The Recreation Plan is a guide for the future development of recreational opportunities for the residents, businesses, and visitors of Tallmadge Charter Township. In an effort to ensure that continued success in serving the community and the appropriate expansion of recreational facilities within Tallmadge Charter Township, this Recreation Plan will establish the community planning and financial framework to make those expansions possible. This Recreation Plan is designed to meet the needs of the community over the next five years and was created by doing an internal assessment, community engagement, collection of data and resources and coming up with implementation goals necessary to plan the future recreational needs of the community.

PLAN FOCUS

The Township recognizes that as the community continues to grow at a significant rate and strategically located open land becomes increasingly scarce, the need for an extensive pathway network, convenient parks and recreation facilities will become more critical.

Given this, the plan contains three points of focus. The first is to update and improve the existing recreational facilities, which consists of a Township Park located in the heart of Tallmadge. The Township Park contains two baseball diamonds, tennis courts, pickleball courts, large open fields, playground equipment, a beach volleyball court, two basketball courts, a bike path, a gazebo, bathroom facilities, picnic tables as well as grills among other attributes.

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The second focus is to construct recreational pathways within Tallmadge Charter Township that connect adjacent municipality pathways to create a larger recreational network within our borders that benefit the entirety of the community, including the residents, businesses and visitors within Tallmadge Charter Township and the region.

The third and final focus is to identify additional areas of recreational needs throughout the Township, in particular additional park land, playgrounds, natural trails, and the like to provide adequate recreation service to the community.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

INTRODUCTION

Execution of the Tallmadge Charter Township Recreation Plan depends on appropriate funding from the Tallmadge Charter Township Board of Trustees and operational support from staff and volunteers. Given the coordination of these entities, below the Recreation Plan identifies administration, funding and relationships within the Township that support parks and recreation programs and planning.

PERSONNEL

Tallmadge Charter Township Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is the legislative body in the Township. As with most Michigan townships, it is comprised of a supervisor, clerk, treasurer, and trustees. Members of the Board are elected to serve four (4) year terms. The primary role of the Board of Trustees is to develop legislative policies (which include the adoption of the Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance, Capital Improvements Plan and the Recreation Plan) and establish the annual budget for the Township.

Members of the Board of Trustees in 2023 include:

Mark R. Bennett	Township Supervisor
Lenore Cook	Township Clerk
Valdyne Schwallier	Township Treasurer
Joel Terpstra	Township Trustee
Mike Eppink	Township Trustee
Tip Bronkema	Township Trustee
John Bronkema	Township Trustee

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Tallmadge Charter Township Parks and Recreation Committee (Committee) was originally formed in January of 2015 to involve the community in the development of the existing Township Park. The group continues to work on the park but is expanding their role into all areas of park and recreation planning. Three members of the Committee are members of the Township Board.

Members of the Committee are as follows:

Mark R. Bennett, Township Supervisor
Mike Eppink, Board of Trustees Representative
Valdyne Schwallier, Township Treasurer

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All Tallmadge Charter Township Parks and Recreation Committee members are serving as volunteers to the Township.

Township Staff and Organization

The Township staff is comprised of the supervisor, clerk, and treasurer (elected) as well as several appointed and contracted employees. At the present time, all appointed and contracted employees¹ work part time on various days of the week. The Township is also responsible for the Fire Department and its fire fighters.

The primary staff involved in the development of this plan is the Township Planning and Zoning associate.

BUDGET AND FUNDING

Park and Recreation Budget

The only recreation facility the Township currently maintains is the Township Park. The maintenance is performed by the Buildings and Grounds employee, paid through the general fund of the Township.

The Board of Trustees currently budgets for this and future recreational facilities. The proposed 2024 annual budget earmarks approximately \$254,500.00 for payroll, supplies, equipment, maintenance, and to add the outdoor fitness center and resurface the pickleball and tennis courts.

Funding for recreation within Tallmadge Charter Township is provided primarily by the General Fund through the Board of Trustees. Additional revenues are collected from use fees from the Township Park. Additional funds for specific capital improvement projects are assigned on an as needed basis.

CURRENT BUDGET for Parks and Recreation 2023 - 2024: \$254,500

PROJECTED BUDGET for Parks and Recreation 2024 - 2025: \$259,500

ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The Township at this time does not have any volunteer groups/programs at this time involved in parks and recreation. The Township does have a partnership with a private organization called "Turf Plus" to cut and trim grass at the Township Park.

¹ Township staff includes assessing, planning and zoning, reception/clerical, building and grounds as well as the building department

RECREATION INVENTORY

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Publicly Owned

The Township constructed a Township Park on its property located at O-1451 Leonard Street, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49534. The park is approximately 27 acres and contains two baseball diamonds, tennis courts, pickle ball courts, large open fields, playground equipment, a beach volleyball court, two basketball courts, a bike path, a gazebo, bathroom facilities, picnic tables as well as grills among other attributes.

Aman Park, owned by the City of Grand Rapids and located within Tallmadge Charter Township at O-1859 Lake Michigan Drive, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49534, has been operated by the city as a park and natural area since approximately 1930. It consists of 330 acres of natural area with over 1-1/2 miles of Sand Creek flowing through it from north to south.

Lamont Park is located in the Village of Lamont on Leonard Street on the northeast side of the Township. The site contains approximately 1/10 of an acre and consists of a memorial and a garden area.

Other recreational facilities include a number of semi-public facilities within the Township such as sportsman clubs and Camp Optimist, which is a special purpose camp that is used almost exclusively by the Grand Rapids Public School system.

Privately Owned

The sportsman clubs are hunting and shooting organizations primarily with memberships open to Tallmadge Charter Township residents and surrounding communities. The West Walker Sportsman Club, located at O-601 Leonard Street, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49534, has a membership of over 1,000 with approximately 200 of these from the Township. The facility has a club house that is available for rent on a limited basis and ranges for archery, skeet, trap, rifle, and pistol shooting. There are 30 to 35 stations for skeet and trap alone. The Marne Conservation Club, located at approximately 1701 Johnson Street, Marne, Michigan, 49435, has some similar facilities but on a smaller scale.

Lamont Community Park located at 4615 Leverette Street, Coopersville, Michigan, 49404, was created in 2012 through the Lamont Civic Association and is intended to contain a pavilion, volleyball court, basketball court, playground, memorial, pergola, trails and other recreational amenities. Given that the park is privately funded, only portions of the park have been completed.

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DESCRIPTION OF METHODS USED TO CONDUCT THE INVENTORY

The methods used to conduct the recreation inventory was talking with the park and recreation committee, and previous staff that have been involved in creating and updating the Township Park.

INVENTORY DETAIL OF COMMUNITY-OWNED PARKS

Tallmadge Township Community Central Park

- Area
 - 27 acres
- Description
 - Community Park containing two baseball diamonds, tennis courts, large open fields, playground equipment, a beach volleyball court, two basketball courts, a bike path, a gazebo, bathroom facilities, picnic tables as well as grills among other attributes.
- Service Area
 - Entire Township and adjacent municipalities
- Recreation and Support Facilities
 - None
- Map
 - Attached is an aerial map of the Tallmadge Township Community Central Park outlined in blue.



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- Accessibility Assessment
 - The accessibility assessment was conducted by Stacey Trowbridge associate of Lakeshore Disability Network. The full assessment can be found in the appendix (Appendix A)
 - The references used during the assessment was the ADA Checklist and a comparison of all the parks facilities to the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.
 - Accessibility Grade: 3
- Grant Assisted Facility
 - This park is a grant assisted facility through the DNR Grants Management Division and is in good standing and is open to the public.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING & PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Proper recreation planning is important in our community to ensure our quality of life. Providing sufficient recreational opportunities enables our residents, business owners and visitors to achieve their own recreational needs and promotes a healthy lifestyle. Recreation planning is one means of measuring the needs of the community, developing realistic goals and policies as well as developing criteria to measure success.

Planning Method

Since the primary objective of the Tallmadge Charter Township Recreation Plan is to restore, update and improve the existing recreational facilities and provide new recreational facilities, including new parks in the future for the community, the planning process we used was the Equity-Based Planning System Four Steps:

1. Internal Assessment
2. Community Engagement
3. Resources and Data Collection
4. Implementation

The Equity Based Planning System was utilized by the Tallmadge Charter Township Parks and Recreation Committee to assess the recreation and open space needs of the Township community. We conducted an internal assessment before starting the Park and Recreation. The Park Committee first met to formulate questions for a community survey to lay the foundation for the vision and mission of the Township and the 5-year Recreation Plan.

Secondly, we sought community engagement through a survey we sent to every resident in the Township with their taxes and provided the trailer parks in our community with copies of the survey QR code to show to their residents and we also provided paper copies in the Township office for people to take that aren't technology inclined and posted the QR code at a golf course and throughout Tallmadge's Park.

Third, once the survey closed the Township collected the data and analyzed it to come up with priorities of the Township based off the results to allocate resources to certain projects and needs that the respondents identified in the survey. Once priorities were identified the Township formulated goals and objectives for the Park and Recreation Plan to best serve the community. Additionally, the Township sought "Lakeshore Disability Network" to use as a resource to conduct an Accessibility assessment of Tallmadge Township Park. Once the assessment was complete the Township reviewed the assessment and incorporated the shortcomings of the park into the Recreation Plan to improve the parks ADA accessibility.

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Lastly, from the goals and objectives formulated by the Park and Recreation Committee an action plan was created by the Township to set forth the specific steps for future action. These actions include not only physical projects but also specific actions to improve recreational opportunities within the Township.

Early Public Input Process

The Tallmadge Charter Township Recreation Plan was developed by the Township Zoning Administrator/ Planning Associate with direction from the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Board of Trustees.

Criteria considered and evaluated for plan development evolved from the examination of goals and recreation standards determined through a wide variety of input sources. This information was collected from the inventory and review of existing facilities; the identification of recreation needs and deficiencies; public opinion; current regional recreation issues and priorities and future expectations.

Public input was sought throughout the process by means of: an online survey found on the Township Website, Township Newsletter that goes to every resident in the Township with their taxes, a paper copy in the Township office, paper copies of the QR code in the Township Park on the pickleball and tennis courts, the pavilion, the restroom building, a paper copy with the QR code on the door of Tallmadge Meadows trailer park office, Western Greens golf course put up a paper copy of the QR code, and it was in the newsletter made by the Leonard Gardens trailer park for their residents, to solicit public desires and concerns regarding recreational facilities within the Township.

The online survey was published June 30th, 2023, and was directly sent to every property owner within the Township in the Township newsletter, it closed on August 31st, 2023. This means of solicitation ensured that every property owner was provided the opportunity to comment on the recreation plan. A copy of the newsletter, survey and the responses are included within the Appendices of this Plan.

The township website published the survey link on the website to solicit public input. This means of solicitation provided an avenue for anyone within the region or beyond to provide comment on the recreation plan.

30 Day Public Review Period, Public Hearing, and Meeting

Once the draft plan was completed the residents were provided with a with a well-publicized opportunity of length of at least 30 days to review and comment on the plan before it was officially adopted from the date of December 3rd, 2023, to January 5th, 2024.

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The public hearing took place on January 9th, 2024, at the Township Hall. The meeting was advertised in the Grand Rapids Press Newspaper, which is a newspaper in general circulation within the Township and on the Township website. These means of solicitation ensured that anyone owning property within the Township, working within the Township or visiting the Township were afforded the opportunity to provide comment on the recreation plan. The meeting minutes can be found in the Appendices of this Plan. There were no public comments.

Subsequently, the Board of Trustees held a public meeting on the adoption of the Plan at their January 9th, 2024, regular meeting. The plan was adopted. The public notice of the time and place for the meeting and its date of publication are provided in the Appendices of this Plan. Additionally, included within the Appendices is the January 9th, 2024, meeting minutes.

Conclusion

We believe that the community survey was the ideal means to solicit public input. Through the Parks and Recreation Committee survey we believe we were able to obtain a public opinion from those groups less likely to attend meetings. As aforementioned, the results from the survey provided an extensive array of interests the Committee will utilize moving forward with recreation planning.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

As Tallmadge Charter Township reevaluates its current recreational improvements and is preparing for its future recreational needs to accommodate the increased population growth, the trends of the community signify a decrease in agricultural interests and an increase in development for residential land. The primary access to the Township through M-45, a major state arterial through the center of the Township, along with interstate I-96 located at the extreme northeast corner of the Township, both significantly contribute to the circulation of traffic and ease of destination to and from Tallmadge Charter Township, which become contributing factors to our increased residential interests. Moreover, interests in commercial and industrial developments have increased because of the convenience of these traffic corridors and coupled with available public utilities. As a result, the business development provides significant employment opportunities, which in turn increases residential demand. Consequently, we are further stressed to provide adequate recreational facilities.

Given the aforementioned factors among other community attributes as well as throughout the public input process outlined in the Description of the Planning and Public Input Process section of this Plan, the following goals and objectives were developed. These goals have been written for the plan based on public input for current and future recreational opportunities. Each goal is further defined by its objectives. The Action Program section of this plan will determine proposed projects to help meet these goals. These goals are not necessarily presented in priority order and the numerical sorting is for identification only.

Following the objectives, we offer insight into how the public played a role in the goals and objectives formation through our public input survey and by looking at demographic characteristics of the population being served.

Goal #1: Continue to develop multi-use pathway systems within the Township and increase connectivity between existing pathways.

Objectives: Continue to require developers to design connectivity pathways along public street frontage, particularly Lake Michigan Drive and Ironwood Drive.

Plan future Township funded pathway systems.

Public Role: The public role played in their formation is in the survey the respondents were asked to rate the importance of the Township investing in developing multi-use pathway systems and 42% said its very important and 29% said it was somewhat important.

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Goal #2: Develop new parks and recreational facilities.

Objectives: As resources and opportunities allow, appropriate lands should be purchased by the Township for future park and recreational facilities.

Encourage developers to incorporate small areas for public use in their site designs. These areas could be equipped with a number of facilities including park benches or playground equipment.

Build more pavilions.

Provide more picnic areas.

Provide water refill stations throughout the park.

Build a first responder/military memorial in the park.

Public Role: The role public input played in their formation is in the survey when respondents were asked if the Township had extra funds how would they like it prioritized out of 8 different choices the top picked answer was Parks and Recreational Facilities. 63% of the respondents ranked picnic areas as high priority, 60% ranked pavilions as high priority, 66% playgrounds as high priority, 47% benches/seating areas as high priority.

Additionally, 46% ranked a splash pad as a high priority, and 33% ranked sledding as a high priority both of which are not possible at our park right now due to the location, so acquiring more land for new parks is important. Also, according to the United States Census Bureau Tallmadge Township has an estimated 26% under the age of 18. Providing new parks and recreation facilities for the younger age groups as they continue to grow and eventually have kids of their own is vital.

Goal #3: Assure that there are adequate lands and amenities for parks and recreation for future generations by acquiring park space as it becomes available.

Objectives: As resources and opportunities allow, appropriate lands should be purchased by the Township for future open space or parks.

Plan future parks and recreation areas with the needs of all segments of the population considered.

Public Role: The role public input played in their formation is in the survey when respondents were asked to assign a priority to a variety of recreational activities and facilities. There was a wide variety of responses and through the variety of responses it is

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fair to say that acquiring more land for future parks and recreation facilities for needs/preferences of the population is important.

Additionally, the US Census Bureau estimates Tallmadge Township has 17.6% of the population over the age of 65, and a little over 26% under the age of 18. Given this, the majority of the Tallmadge population is young, and the population will continue to grow and providing new park and recreation facilities will be vital. Also, the Census estimates 5.5% of the population live in poverty, planning future parks all around the Township would help decrease the struggle of some of the population not being able to travel to parks and recreational facilities due to it being too far away if they do not own a car or have other financial challenges that prevent them from accessing recreation or exercise.

Goal #4: Update and improve existing recreational facilities.

Objectives: Create a budget for park planning as well as for updates to recreational facilities.

Update pickleball courts.

Update existing park restrooms and build new restrooms.

Update and add more seating areas and benches.

Improve Park ADA accessibility throughout the park.

Public Role: The role public input played in their formation is in the survey when respondents were asked to assign a priority to a variety of recreational activities and facilities 47% ranked benches and seating areas as high priority, 39% ranked pickleball courts as high priority, 38% ranked rest areas as high priority, 48% ranked handicapped accessibility as high priority, and 62% ranked nature areas as high priority. It is fair to say with these results updating and improving existing recreational facilities within the park is important.

Goal #5: Establish a network of nature trails.

Objective: Explore opportunities for land exchanges and other similar programs or acquire more land to establish land for a network of nature trails.

Public Role: The role public input played in their formation is when residents were asked to rank priorities in the park 70% said walking trails were high priority and 62% said nature areas were high priority.

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Goal #6: Acquire Parks and Recreation staff.

Objective: Create a budget for park and recreation staff.
 Hire Park and recreation staff for upkeep of the park and for events the Township Park hosts.

Public Role: The role public input played in their formation is 31% said an outdoor performance area is high priority. Also, when respondents were asked if the Township put on events at the park if they would attend 73% said they would. From these results it is fair to say having park staff is important for the upkeep of the park and for park events.

ACTION PROGRAM

The Action Plan chapter is the section of the plan, which is based on the collected data, public input and goals and objectives information section. It sets forth the specific steps for future action. These actions include not only physical projects but also specific actions to improve recreational opportunities within the Township.

In 2023, a survey link and QR code was mailed to all property owners in the Township with their taxes asking for comments relating to recreation and park planning. Out of 8 different answer choices when asked if the Township had extra funds how they would like them prioritized the top picked answer was “Parks and Recreational Facilities.” Another 42% indicated that it is “very important” for the Township to continue to invest in developing multi use pathway systems, and 29% indicate this is “somewhat important.” When respondents were asked to rank priorities in the park, 70% indicated walking trails as a high priority. The respondents were asked if the Township should make the connection of existing pathways a priority and 30% said it was “very important” and 38% said it was “somewhat important.”

When respondents were asked to rank priorities in the park, 48% ranked paved bike paths as “high priority,” 46% ranked splash pad as a “high priority,” 38% ranked pickle ball courts as “high priority” (It is important to note that 40% of respondents play pickle ball), 47% indicated benches/seating areas as “high priority,” 62% indicated nature areas as a “high priority,” 60% ranked pavilions as a “high priority,” 63% ranked picnic areas as a “high priority,” 48% ranked handicapped accessibility as a “high priority,” 66% ranked playgrounds as a “high priority,” and 44% ranked water refill stations as “high priority.”

Through the survey, which was part of the planning process, the Tallmadge Charter Township Parks and Recreation Committee was able to identify those recreational opportunities as priority in the Township.

Those recreational priorities include the development of new pathways and connection of existing pathways as well as the reservation of property for future parks. In addition, needs included development of additional parkland with an emphasis on nature trails, playground equipment, public facilities such as picnic areas, water refill stations, splash pad, restrooms and pavilions. This chapter of the plan will focus on the facilities identified as priority by the township residents and discuss steps to take for the Township to realize these facilities.

This chapter will also discuss how the Township plans to address and resolve the shortcomings identified in the Accessibility Assessment of the Township Park to make the park more accessible to all.

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Non-motorized Pathways

The existing non-motorized pathway system is an extremely popular and important transportation system within the Township but is very limited. The pathway not only serves as a recreational resource for activities such as biking and walking but also as transportation network. Planning discussions regarding pathways at the Parks and Recreation Committee continue to be a priority.

For the entire five years of the plan, the Township will seek private and public funding to develop new pathways and complete existing non-motorized trails. In addition, the Township will continue its requirement that residential, commercial and industrial developers construct pathways along related public right-of-way frontage.

Public Facilities

The Tallmadge Charter Township Community Central Park contains many facilities, but these facilities could use upgrades and the survey indicated respondents would like more facilities at the park and additional park space.

For the entire five years of the plan, the Township will seek private and public funding to develop new facilities within the park and also seek to obtain additional park land for picnic areas, nature trails, playground equipment, water refill stations, restrooms, and pavilions.

For the entire five years of the plan, the Township will seek private and public funding to upgrade existing facilities within the park such as the existing pickle ball courts, restrooms, benches and seating areas, playground equipment, and bring the park up to ADA Accessibility requirements.

Park Accessibility

The Tallmadge Charter Township Community Central Park contains many facilities. When the accessibility assessment was conducted the park was given a DNR accessibility grade of “3” which means most facilities meet accessibility guidelines. In the assessment it identified shortcomings of the parks accessibility and gave recommendations on how to improve these shortcomings. They ranked the shortcomings on a scale from one to four. Four being low priority to improve/fix and one being high priority and should be completed/improved immediately. The Township intends to in the next 5 years of this recreation plan fix and improve the areas in the park they ranked as one, “high” priority and two “important” priority.

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Additional Amenities

The Tallmadge Charter Township Community Central Park also contains a basketball court, baseball fields, and a storage shed for equipment.

While balancing the higher priority recreational pursuits in the next 5 years the Township will also examine the costs to update these amenities as well.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

ADA Accessibility Assessment

Site Accessibility Evaluation



**Tallmadge Township Park
1451 Leonard St NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49544
Accessibility Evaluation
Inspection Date: 09/28/2023
Inspectors: Stacey Trowbridge
and Kristin Myers**

Prepared By

DISABILITYnetwork
(231) 215 - 4307
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Report Date: 10/03/2023

Powered by  BlueDAG

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Parking: Spaces and Access Aisles

Finding: 1

The accessible parking stall is not wide enough.

Each parking space must be at least 11 feet wide and shall be marked to define the width. The measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.

Alternatively, the stall can be 8 feet wide minimum and the access aisle may be 8 feet wide.

The measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings. Where the parking space is not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, the measurement shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 502.2

As Built:

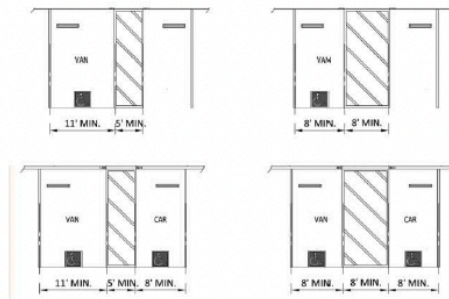
6'8" - van space

Recommendation:

Re-stripe space to 8' and access aisle to 8' since this van-accessible space shares an access aisle with an accessible car space.

Barrier Priority:

High (1): Should be completed immediately. (Includes; Findings that have little or no cost, were in violation of the codes at the time of construction, or pose an imminent safety threat)



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Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Parking: Spaces and Access Aisles

Finding: 2

The access aisle is not a minimum 8 feet to the centerline of the stripe.

The accessible parking stall access aisle must be a minimum of 8 feet wide measured from centerline to centerline.

Where parking spaces or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space or access aisle.

Alternatively, the stall can be 11 feet wide and the access aisle may be 5 feet wide.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 502.2
Exception

As Built:

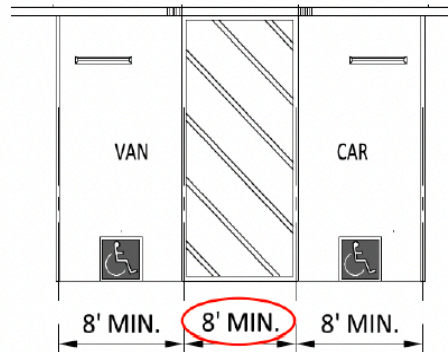
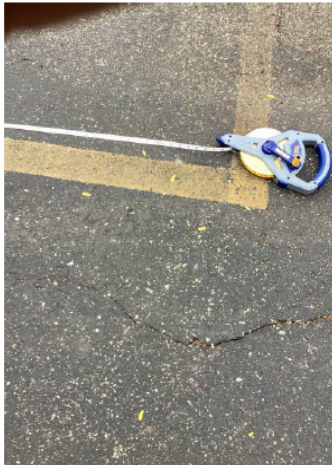
7'10" Access Aisle

Recommendation:

Re-stripe to 8'

Barrier Priority:

High (1): Should be completed immediately. (Includes; Findings that have little or no cost, were in violation of the codes at the time of construction, or pose an imminent safety threat)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Parking: Spaces and Access Aisles

Finding: 3

The accessible parking stall is not wide enough.

Each parking space must be at least 8 feet wide and shall be marked to define the width.

Alternatively, the stall can be 11 feet wide minimum with a 5 foot wide minimum access aisle.

The measurements of parking spaces and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings. Where the parking space is not adjacent to another parking space or access aisle, the measurement shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking space.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 502.2

As Built:

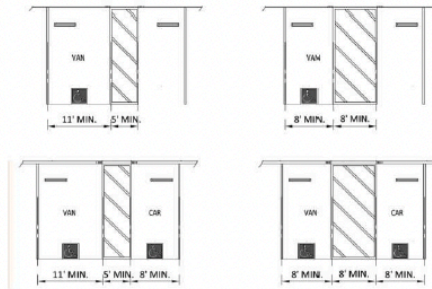
7'9" accessible space

Recommendation:

Restripe space to 8'

Barrier Priority:

High (1): Should be completed immediately. (Includes; Findings that have little or no cost, were in violation of the codes at the time of construction, or pose an imminent safety threat)



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Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Parking: Spaces and Access Aisles

Finding: 4

The accessible parking space is missing the required markings.

Vehicle spaces shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 502.2

As Built:

Back parking lot near the
Pickleball courts and Pavillion.
No accessible parking space
striping

Recommendation:

Restripe two accessible spaces and access aisles. At least one should be a van-accessible space.

Barrier Priority:

High (1): Should be completed immediately. (Includes; Findings that have little or no cost, were in violation of the codes at the time of construction, or pose an imminent safety threat)



Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Sports Activities: Volleyball Court

Finding: 5

There is no accessible route to the accessible element.

At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 206.2.2

As Built:

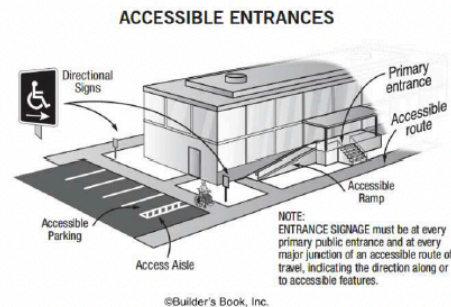
No accessible route to spectator seating.

Recommendation:

Add a concrete route from the sidewalk to the spectator seating, and create a companion seating space on a concrete pad next to the bench.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Sports Activities: Baseball Field

Finding: 6

There is no accessible route to the accessible element.

At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 206.2.2

As Built:

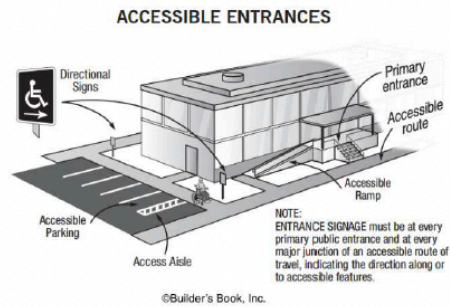
No accessible route to spectator seating at baseball fields.

Recommendation:

Add an accessible route from the walkway to the bleachers.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Sports Activities: Baseball Field

Finding: 7

The wheelchair seating spaces do not have the required companion seats provided next to them.

In row seating, companion seats shall be located to provide shoulder alignment with adjacent wheelchair spaces. The shoulder alignment point of the wheelchair space shall be measured 36 inches from the front of the wheelchair space. The floor surface of the companion seat shall be at the same elevation as the floor surface of the wheelchair space. Companion seats shall be equivalent in size, quality, comfort, and amenities to the seating in the immediate area. Companion seats shall be permitted to be movable.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 221.3

As Built:

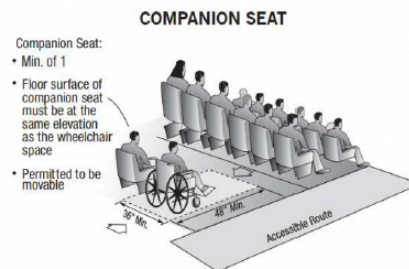
Baseball field - spectator seating

Recommendation:

Add companion seating for a wheelchair user next to the bleachers.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Courtesy ©Builder's Book, Inc.

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Sports Activities: Baseball Field

Finding: 8

The route of travel does not provide the required minimum width.

The minimum clear width for sidewalks and walks is 36 inches.

However, clear width shall be permitted to be reduced to 32 inches minimum for a length of 24 inches maximum provided that reduced width segments are separated by segments that are 48 inches long minimum and 36 inches wide minimum.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 403.5.1,
403.5.1 Exception

As Built:

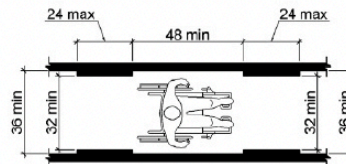
Approximately 31 1/2"

Recommendation:

Widening the opening to 36" would accommodate a coach (or player) who uses a manual wheelchair.

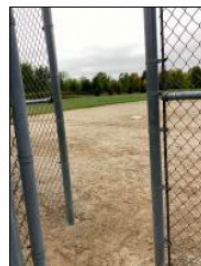
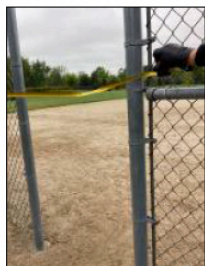
Barrier Priority:

Moderate (3): Should be completed as soon as possible, but there may be other items that will provide greater access to persons with disabilities. (Includes; Findings that have a high financial impact on the entity in relationship to the degree of access provided)



Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Finding #8 Additional Finding Photos



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Play Areas: Ages 5 and under

Finding: 9

The top of the handrail gripping surface is not within a compliant range.

The top of handrail gripping surfaces shall be 20 inches minimum and 28 inches maximum above the ramp surface.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 1008.2.5.3.2

As Built:

Ramp handrail on the elevated play component

Recommendation:

Place a lower handrail on both sides of the ramp.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Play Areas: Ages 6 and above

Finding: 10

There is no accessible route to the accessible element.

At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 206.2.2

As Built:

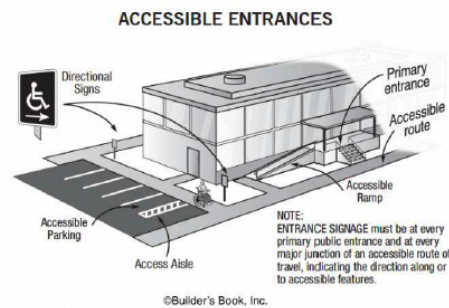
No access route to the play area for children over 5 years.

Recommendation:

Construct an accessible route from the existing walkway.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Play Areas: Ages 6 and above

Finding: 11

The top of the handrail gripping surface is not within a compliant range.

The top of handrail gripping surfaces shall be 20 inches minimum and 28 inches maximum above the ramp surface.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 1008.2.5.3.2

As Built:

Ramp handrail in over 5 play area.

Recommendation:

Install a lower handrail on all ramp portions of the play component.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Finding #11 Additional Finding Photos



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Play Areas: Ages 6 and above

Finding: 12

The outdoor seating area is not on an accessible route.

At least 5% of the seating in each functional area must be accessible. An accessible table must be on an accessible route (36 inches minimum) and have knee spaces at least 27 inches high, 30 inches wide and 19 inches deep. The tops of tables and counters must be 28 inches to 34 inches from the floor or ground.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 226.1

As Built:

Bench outside the play area

Recommendation:

Provide an accessible route and a concrete pad for companion seating to at least one of the benches outside of play areas

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Restrooms: Signage

Finding: 13

A compliant room identification sign is missing on the strike side of the door.

Wall signs identifying permanent rooms and spaces of a building shall be a horizontal format and the characters raised 1/32 inch minimum and shall be sans serif uppercase characters a minimum of 5/8 inch and a maximum of 2 inches high. Contracted Grade 2 Braille shall be in a horizontal format and shall be placed a minimum of 3/8 inch and a maximum of 1/2 inch directly below the tactile characters; flush left or centered. Signs with raised characters or Braille shall be located 48 inches minimum above the finish floor or ground surface, measured from the baseline of the lowest tactile character and 60 inches maximum above the finish floor or ground surface, measured from the baseline of the highest tactile character.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 216.2

As Built:

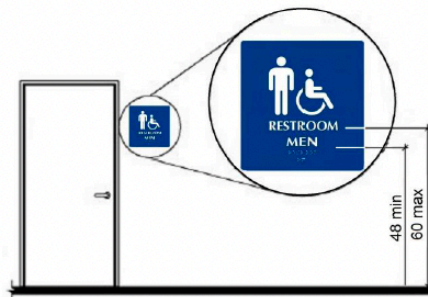
Men's and women's restroom -
missing sign

Recommendation:

Add an accessible restroom sign to both the men's and women's restrooms.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Restrooms: Sinks

Finding: 14

The water and drain pipes under the lavatory are not adequately insulated.

Water supply and drain pipes under lavatories and sinks shall be insulated or otherwise configured to protect against contact. There shall be no sharp or abrasive surfaces under lavatories and sinks.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 606.5

As Built:

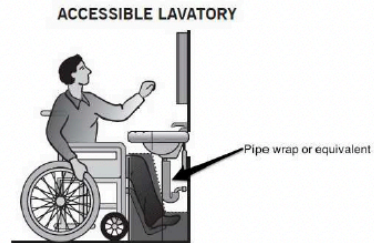
Men's and woman's room

Recommendation:

Insulate sink pipes in both the men's and women's restrooms.

Barrier Priority:

High (1): Should be completed immediately. (Includes; Findings that have little or no cost, were in violation of the codes at the time of construction, or pose an imminent safety threat)



Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Restrooms: Accessible Stalls

Finding: 15

The locking/latching hardware is not accessible.

Hand-activated door opening hardware, handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operating devices on accessible doors shall have a shape that is easy to grasp with one hand and does not require tight grasping, tight pinching or twisting of the wrist to operate.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 604.8.1.2

As Built:

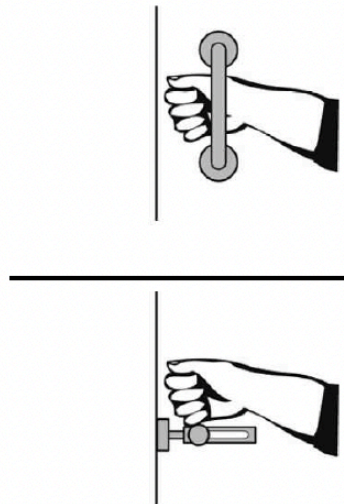
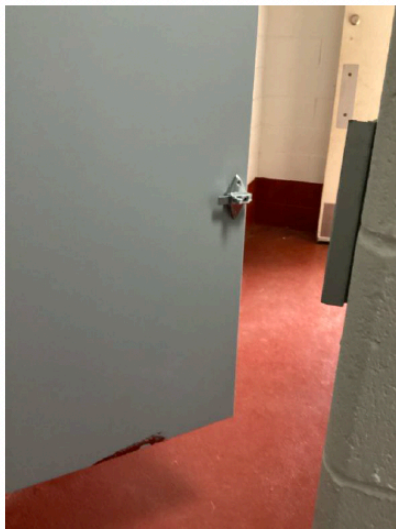
Men's and women's accessible
stall door - missing handle

Recommendation:

Install easy-to-grasp handles on the inside and outside of the accessible stall doors, in both the men's and women's restrooms

Barrier Priority:

High (1): Should be completed immediately. (Includes; Findings that have little or no cost, were in violation of the codes at the time of construction, or pose an imminent safety threat)



Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Restrooms: Accessible Stalls

Finding: 16

The toilet is not located within the range allowed from the side wall or partition.

The centerline of the toilet must be 16 to 18 inches from the side wall.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 604.2

As Built:

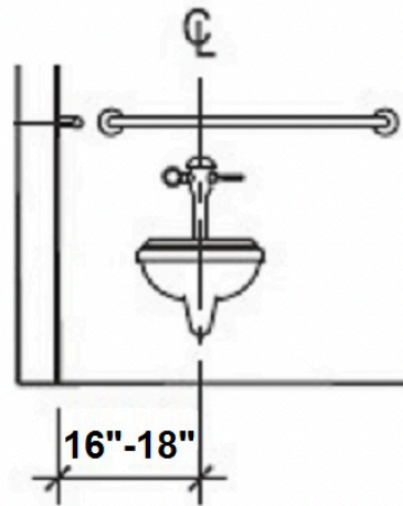
20" from toilet paper dispenser

Recommendation:

Toilet should be moved at least 2" closer to dispenser.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Other: Pavilion

Finding: 17

Based on the number of seats provided in this area (32), there should be a minimum of (2) wheelchair seating spaces.

Wheelchair spaces shall be provided in assembly areas with fixed seating.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 221.2,
221.2.1.1

As Built:

Seating in pavilion.

Recommendation:

Replace two tables with a version that provides wheelchair seating space.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Number of Seats	Minimum Number of Required Wheelchair Spaces
4 to 25	1
26 to 50	2
51 to 150	4
151 to 300	5
301 to 500	6
501 to 5000	6, plus 1 for each 150, or fraction thereof, between 501 through 5000
5001 and over	36, plus 1 for each 200, or fraction thereof, over 5000

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Other: Walkways

Finding: 18

There is no accessible route to the accessible element.

At least one accessible route shall connect accessible buildings, accessible facilities, accessible elements, and accessible spaces that are on the same site.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 206.2.2

As Built:

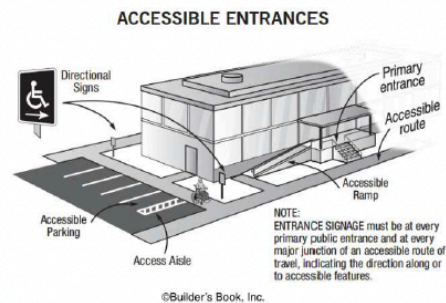
Grill

Recommendation:

Install an accessible route that will allow a wheelchair user or user of a walker to independently use at least one grill.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Other: Walkways

Finding: 19

The walking surface is obstructed. A 36 inch wide minimum walking surface is required.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 403.5.1

As Built:

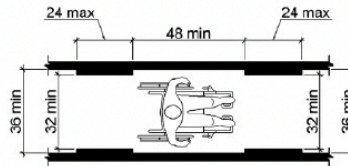
Garbage can placed in the walkway.

Recommendation:

Move the garbage can to the grass, but within reach of someone using a wheelchair.

Barrier Priority:

High (1): Should be completed immediately. (Includes; Findings that have little or no cost, were in violation of the codes at the time of construction, or pose an imminent safety threat)



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Park - 1451 Leonard St NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Other: Bench seating

Finding: 20

The outdoor seating area is not on an accessible route.

At least 5% of the seating in each functional area must be accessible. An accessible table must be on an accessible route (36 inches minimum) and have knee spaces at least 27 inches high, 30 inches wide and 19 inches deep. The tops of tables and counters must be 28 inches to 34 inches from the floor or ground.

Citation:

2010 ADAS Section: 226.1

As Built:

Benches located along walkways throughout the park

Recommendation:

Extend a concrete walkway to at least 5% of the benches, throughout the park. Add a concrete pad next to each bench for companion seating.

Barrier Priority:

Important (2): Should be completed as soon as possible. (Includes; Findings that would remove barriers to the greatest number of people to your goods and services)



Appendix B
Supplemental DNR Attachments

Copy of flyer for Recreation Plan Survey with QR Code

Survey Results

Newsletter of Survey QR Code

Public Notices

Public Hearing and Resolution of Adoption Meeting Minutes

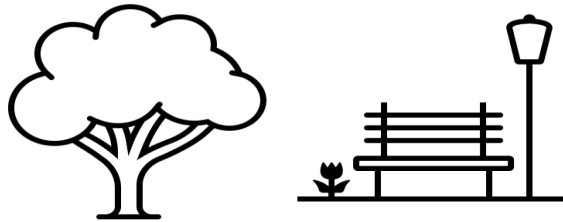
Formal Resolution to Adopt the Plan

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Copy of flyer for Recreation Plan Survey with QR Code

Got a minute?

Let us learn more about you and hear your thoughts about Tallmadge Township Park and Recreation Facilities so we can better serve you!



Please Scan the QR Code below to access the Park and Recreation Survey. Or use the URL below the QR code.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParkandRecreation>

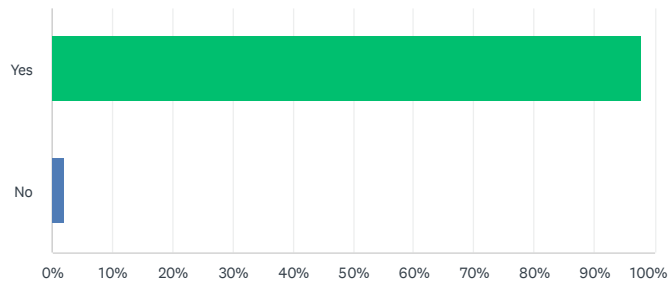
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Survey Results

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

Q1 Are you a resident of Tallmadge Township?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



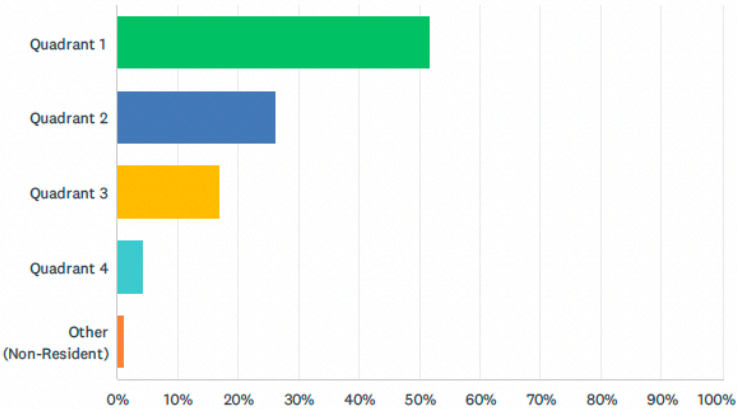
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	97.89%	93
No	2.11%	2
TOTAL		95

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

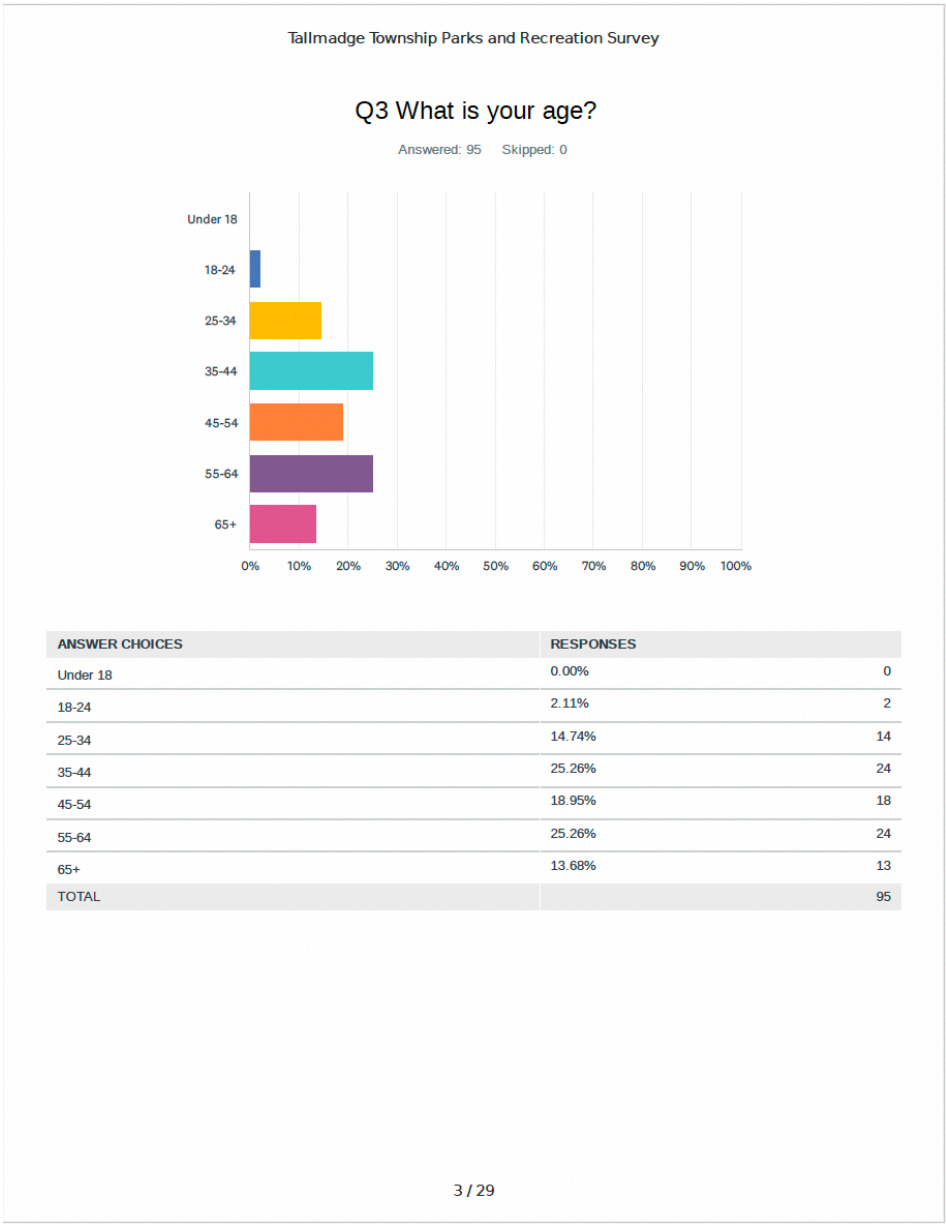
Q2 Using the map below, please identify the quadrant that contains your property.

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Quadrant 1		51.58%	49
Quadrant 2		26.32%	25
Quadrant 3		16.84%	16
Quadrant 4		4.21%	4
Other (Non-Resident)		1.05%	1
TOTAL			95

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

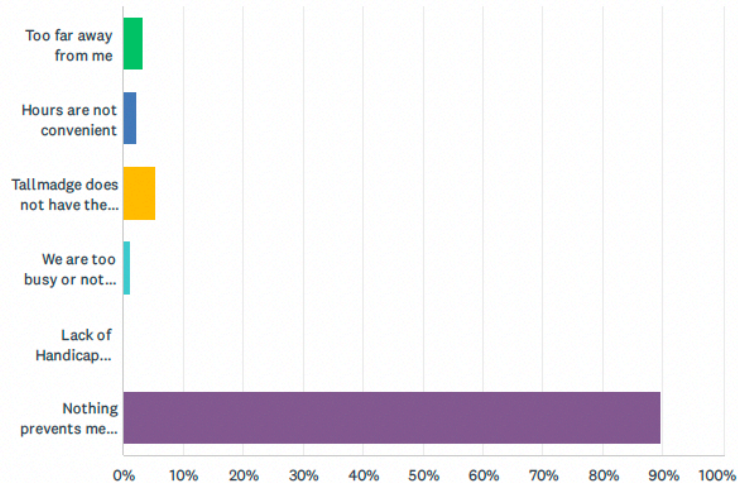


Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

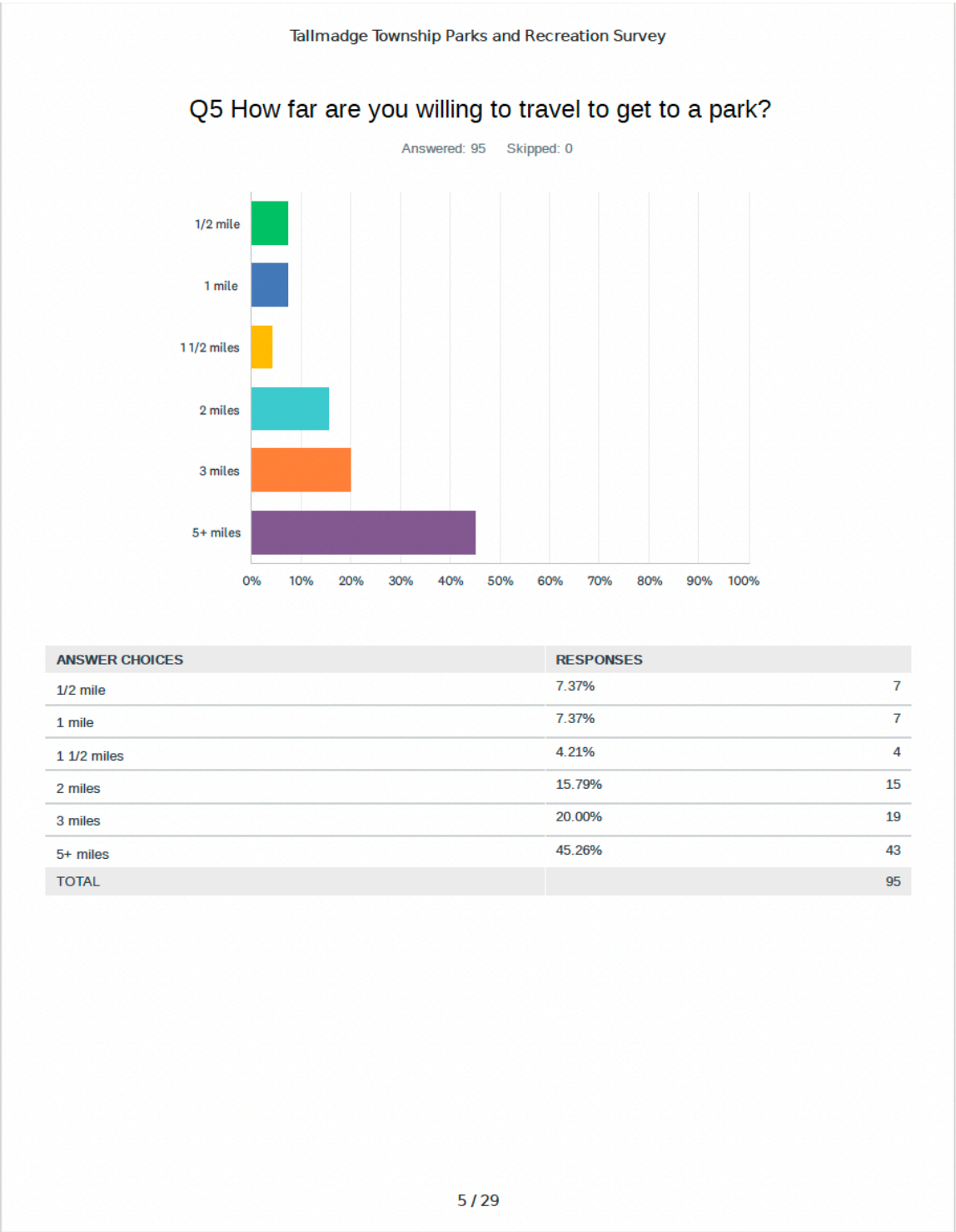
Q4 Do any of the following factors prevent you from visiting the Tallmadge Township Park more often? (Mark all that apply)

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Too far away from me	3.16%	3
Hours are not convenient	2.11%	2
Tallmadge does not have the facilities I want	5.26%	5
We are too busy or not interested	1.05%	1
Lack of Handicap Accessibility	0.00%	0
Nothing prevents me from visiting the park	89.47%	85
Total Respondents: 95		

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

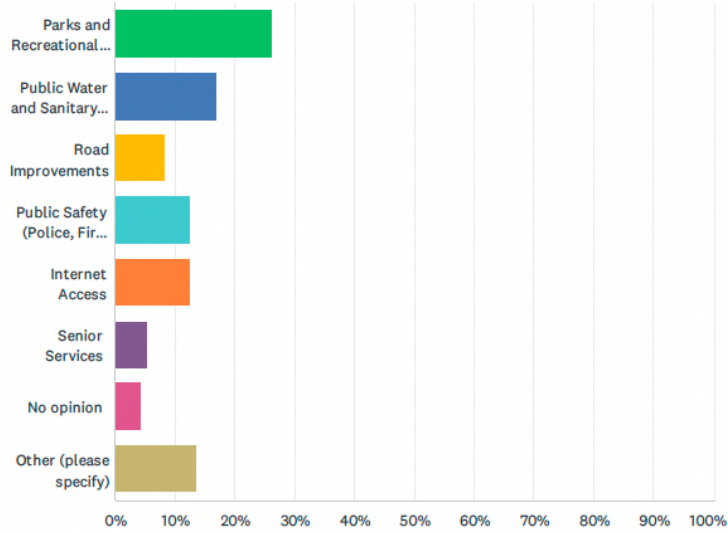


Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

Q6 If the township had extra funds, how would you prioritize its use?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



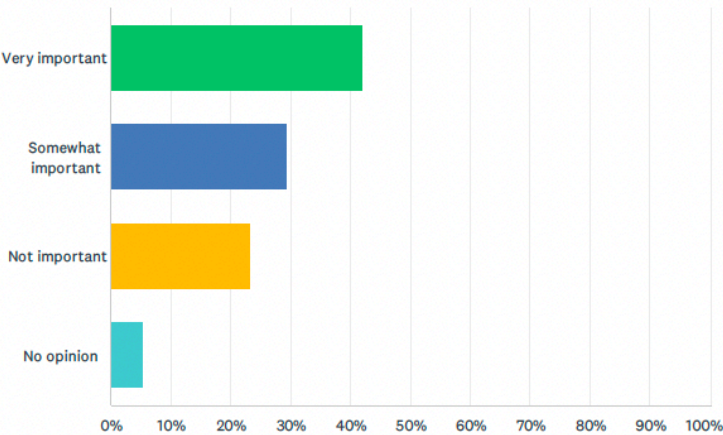
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Parks and Recreational Facilities	26.32%	25
Public Water and Sanitary Sewer	16.84%	16
Road Improvements	8.42%	8
Public Safety (Police, Fire, EMS Department)	12.63%	12
Internet Access	12.63%	12
Senior Services	5.26%	5
No opinion	4.21%	4
Other (please specify)	13.68%	13
TOTAL		95

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

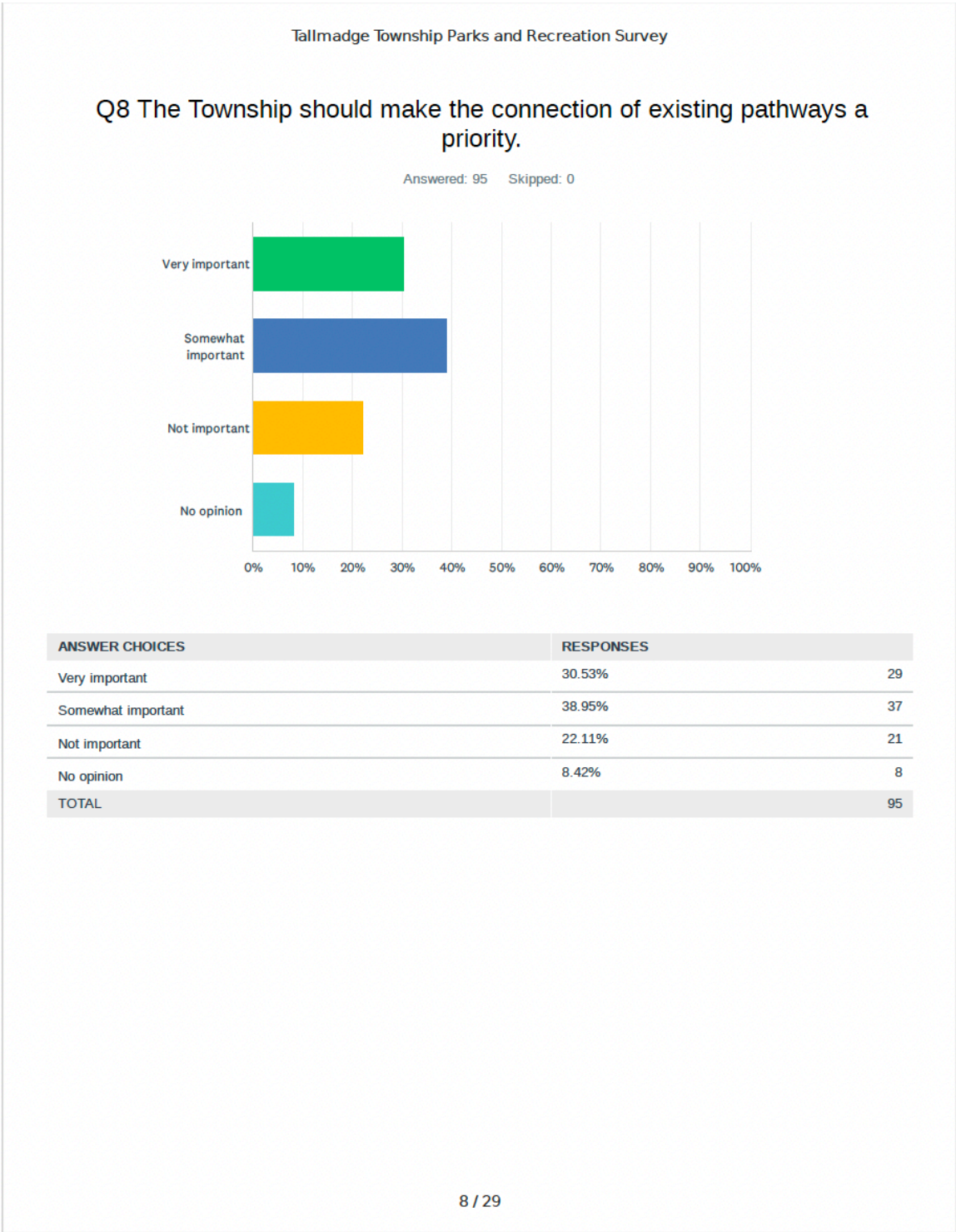
Q7 The Township should continue to invest in developing a multi-use pathway system to accommodate bicyclists, runners, walkers, wheelchairs, and skaters along major Township roads.

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0

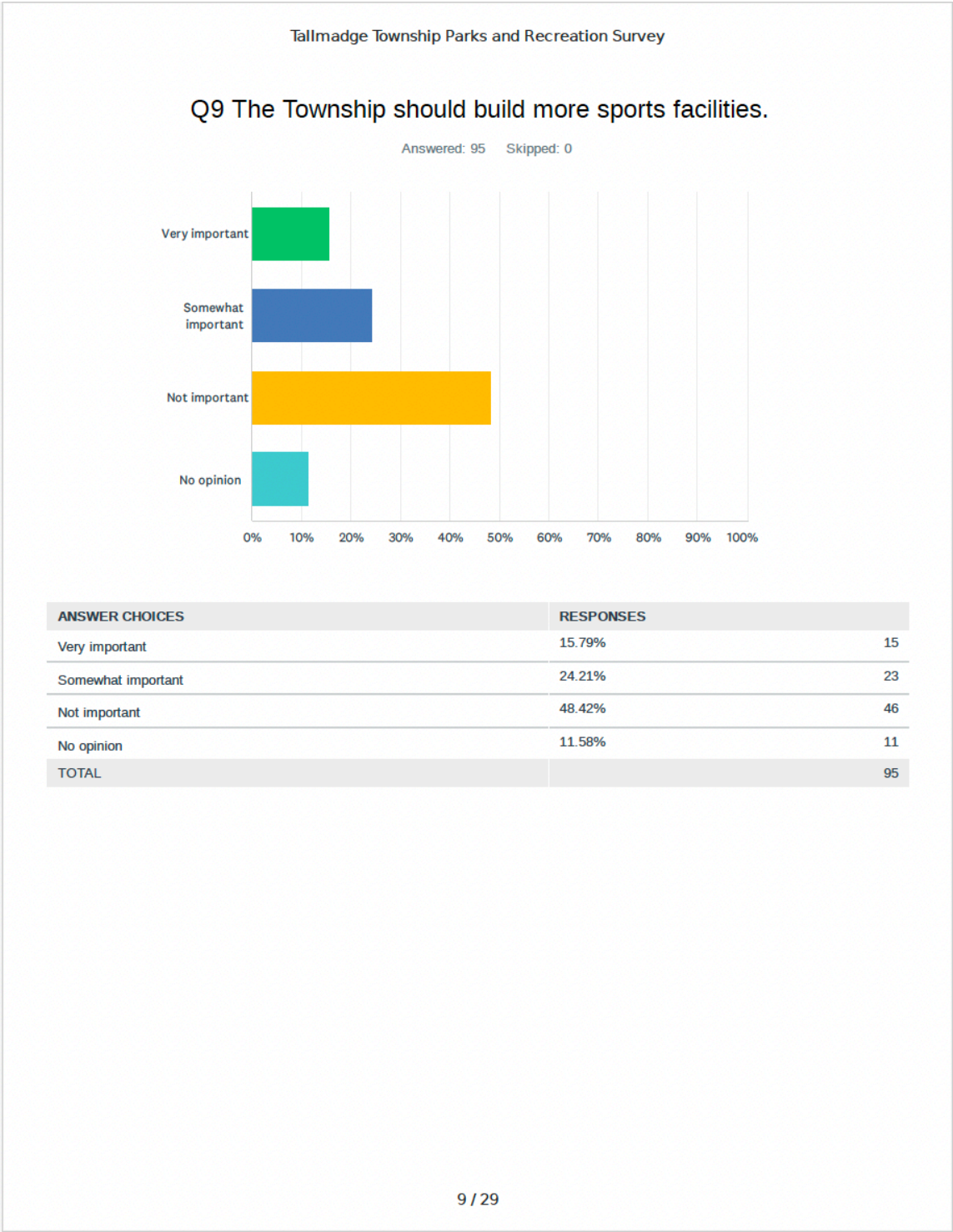


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	42.11%	40
Somewhat important	29.47%	28
Not important	23.16%	22
No opinion	5.26%	5
TOTAL		95

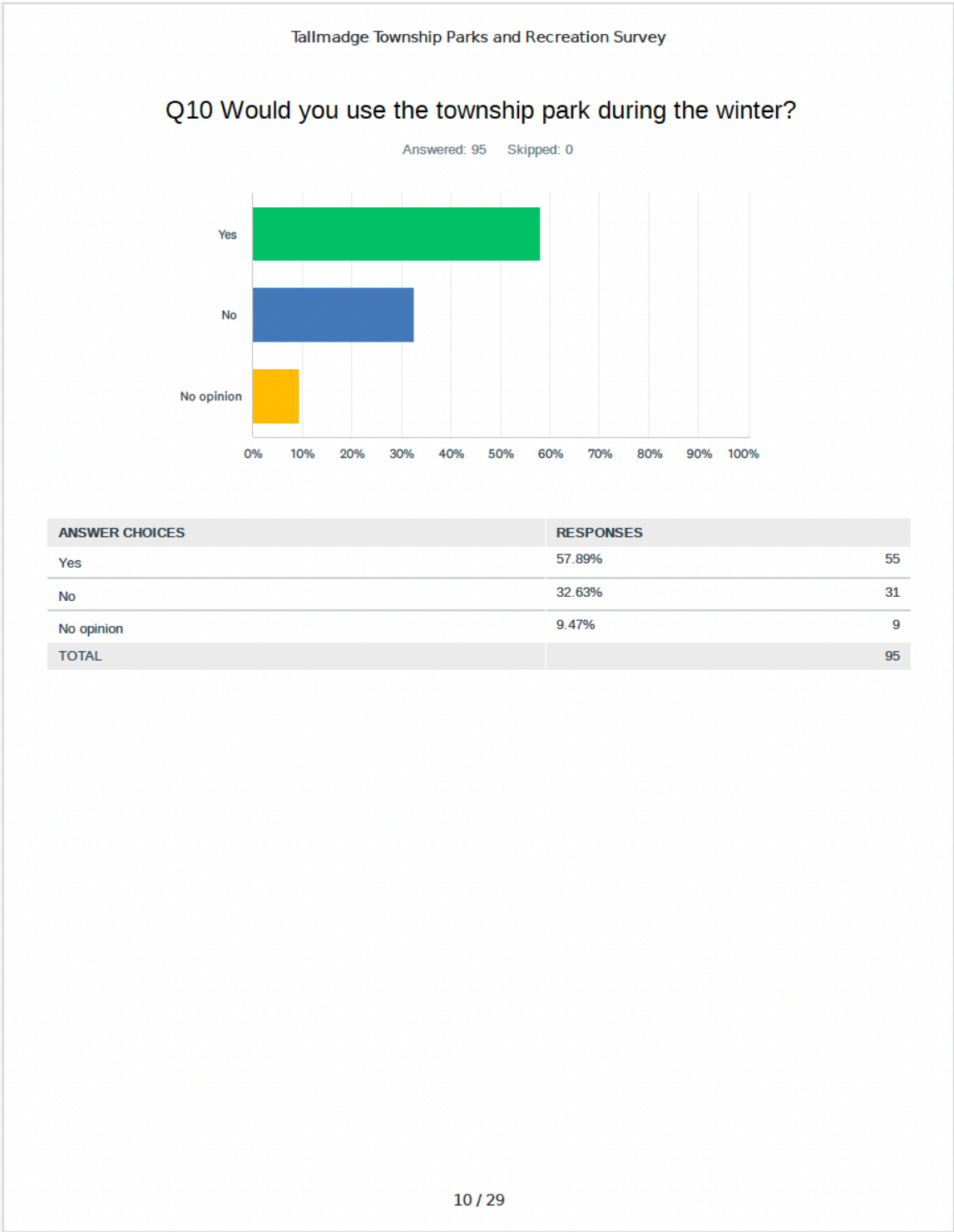
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



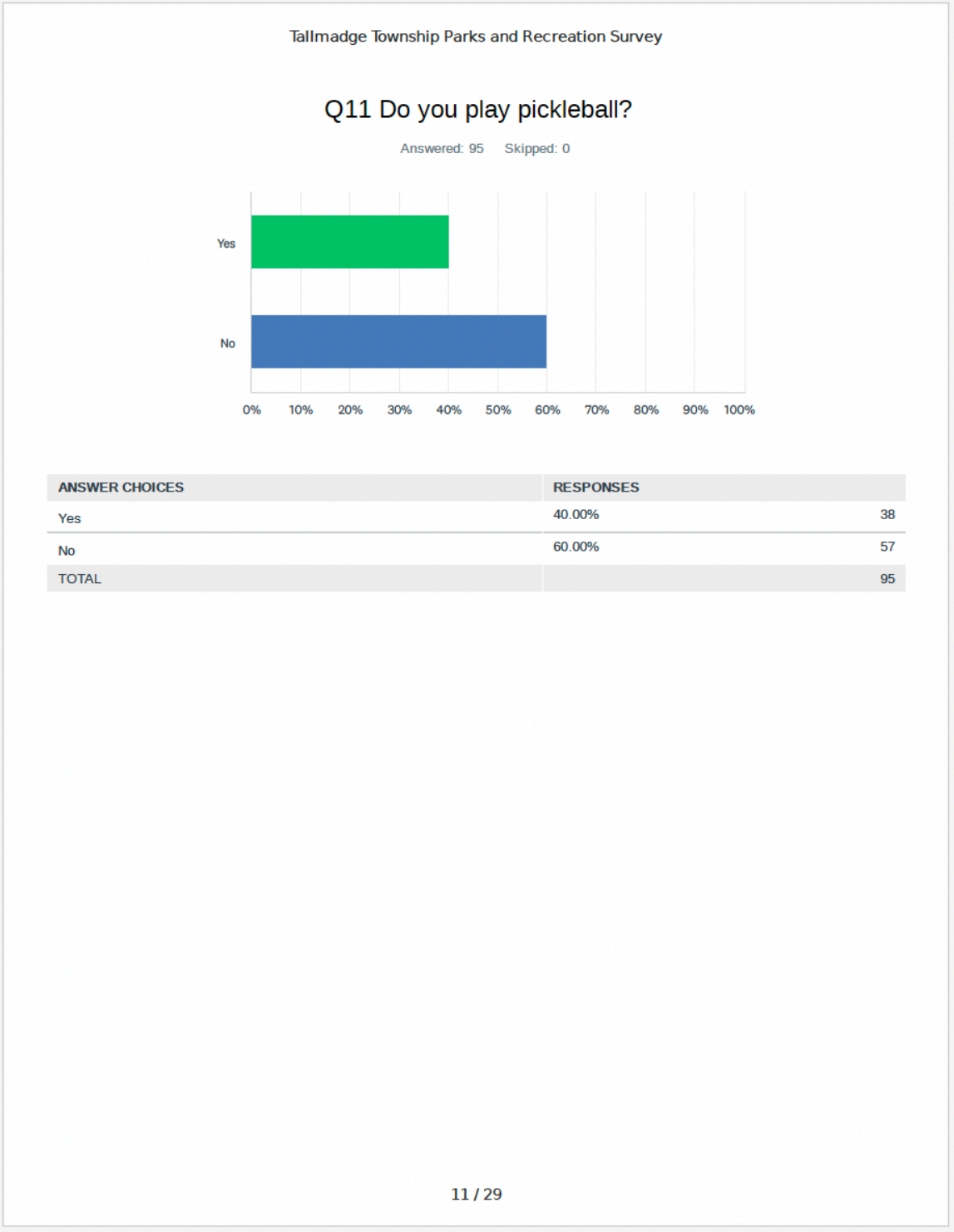
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



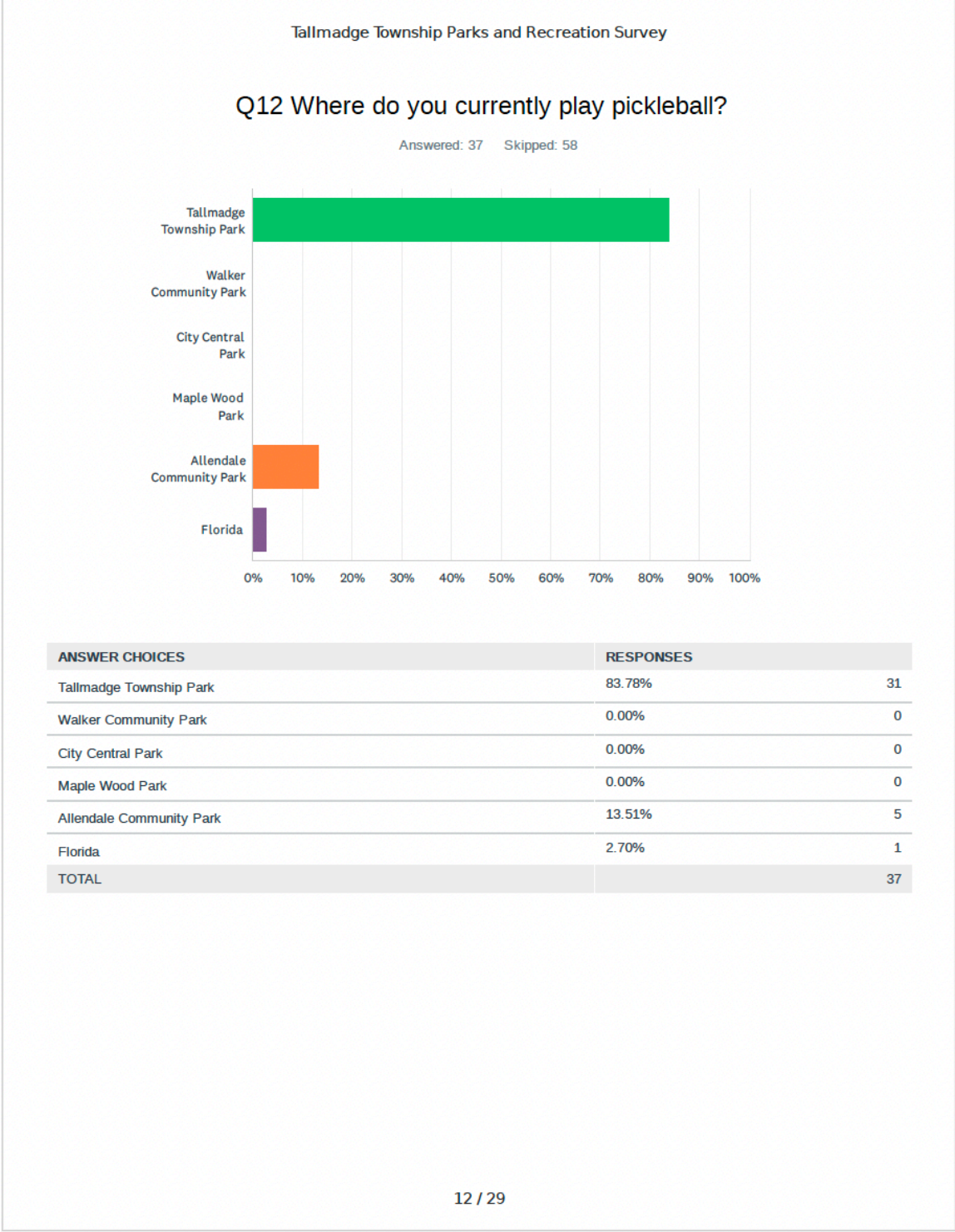
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

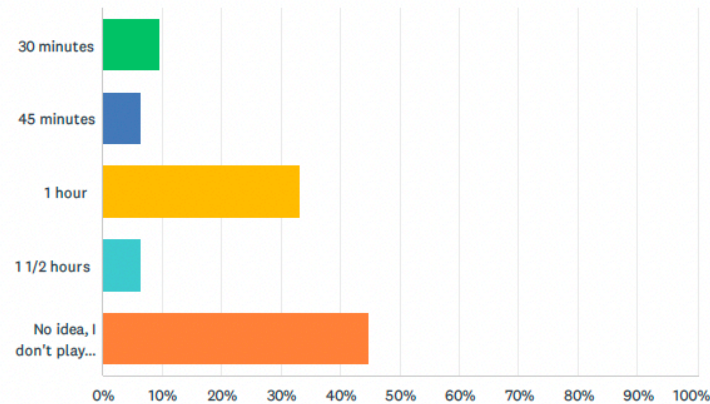


Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

Q13 What time limit would you suggest for a group of people to play pickleball to allow for another group to play after?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 1



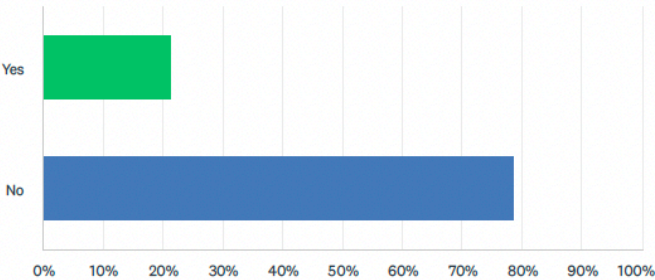
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
30 minutes	9.57%	9
45 minutes	6.38%	6
1 hour	32.98%	31
1 1/2 hours	6.38%	6
No idea, I don't play pickle ball	44.68%	42
TOTAL		94

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

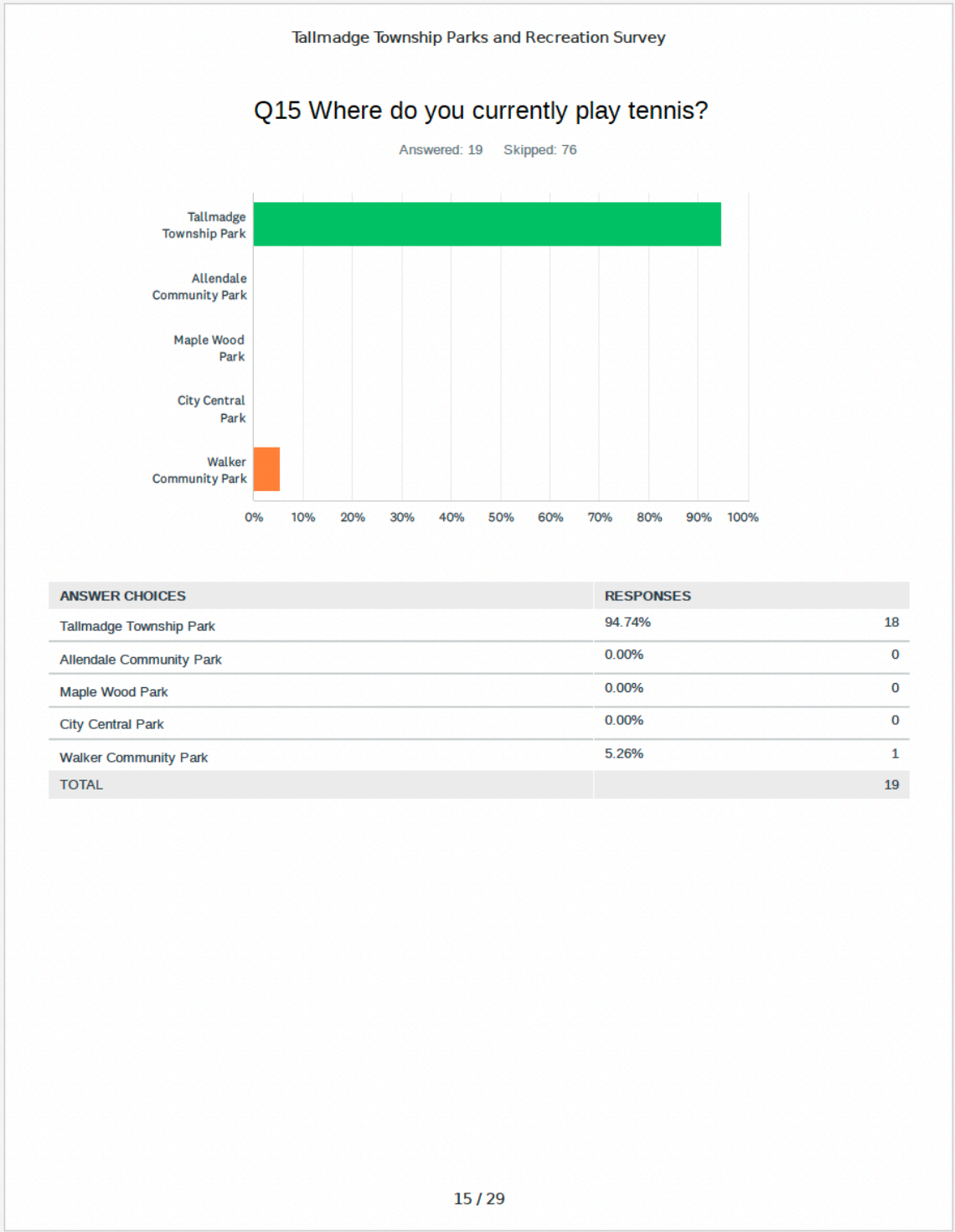
Q14 Do you play tennis?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	21.28%	20
No	78.72%	74
TOTAL		94

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

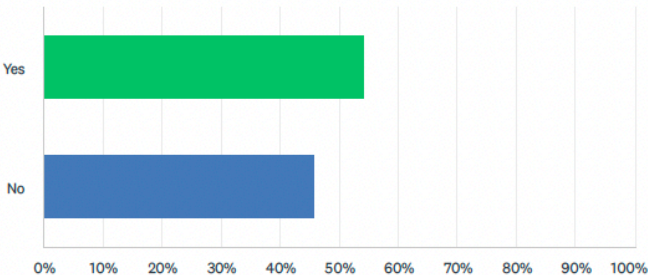


Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

Q16 Do you have a dog?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 1



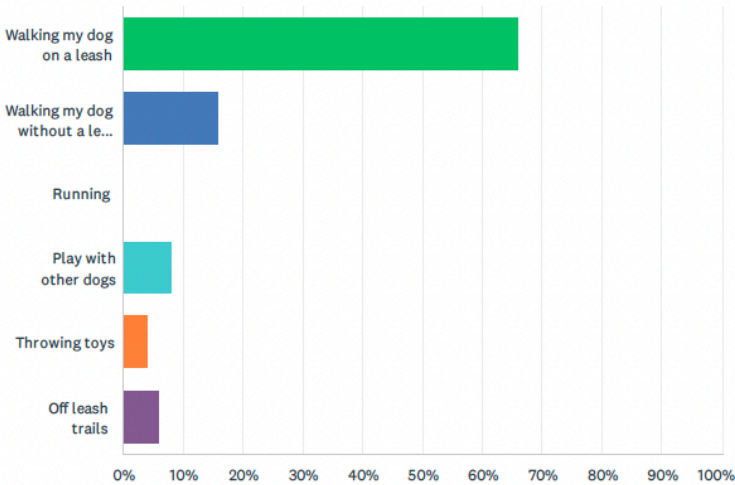
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	54.26%	51
No	45.74%	43
TOTAL		94

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

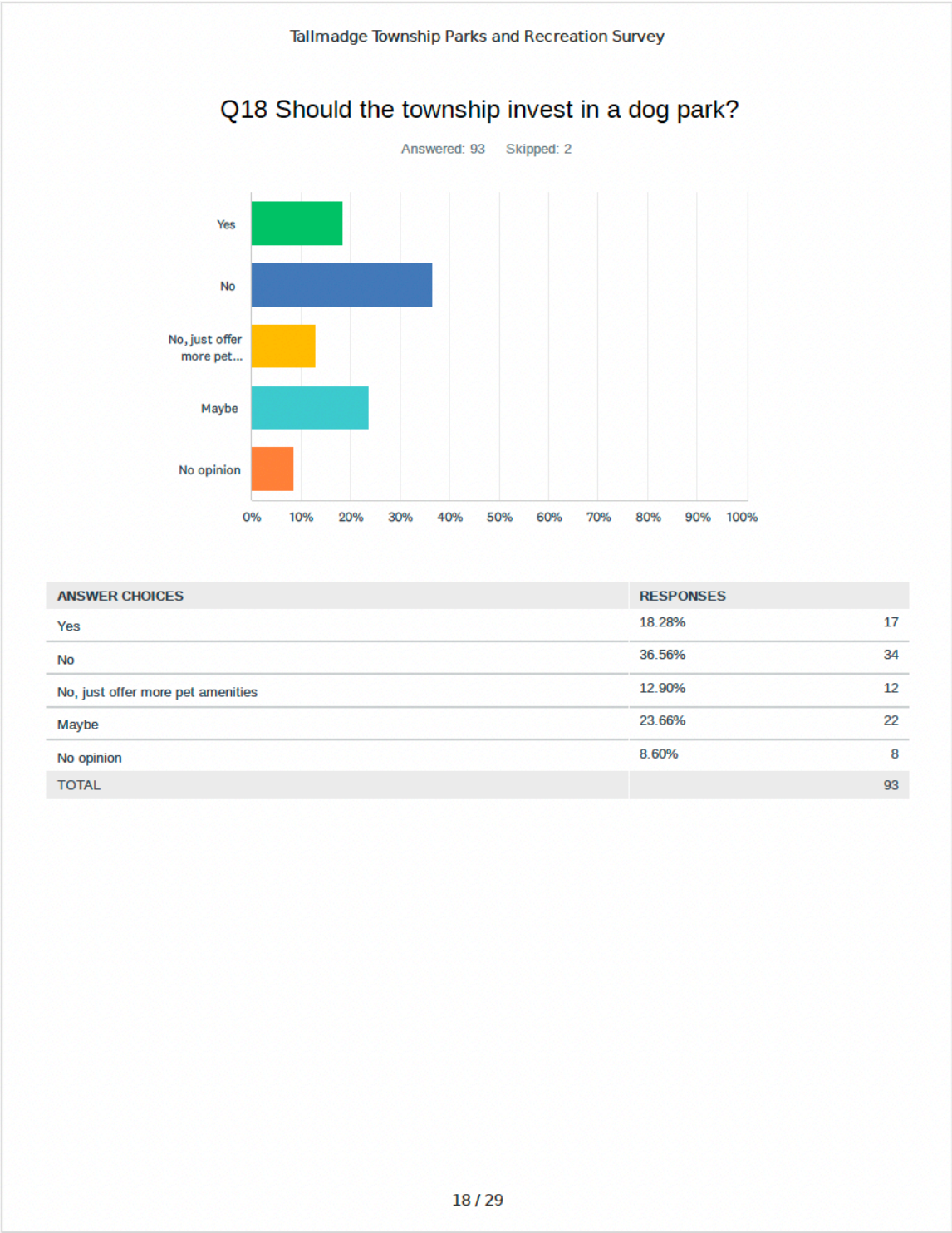
Q17 What activities do you like to do with your dog?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 45



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walking my dog on a leash	66.00%	33
Walking my dog without a leash	16.00%	8
Running	0.00%	0
Play with other dogs	8.00%	4
Throwing toys	4.00%	2
Off leash trails	6.00%	3
TOTAL		50

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

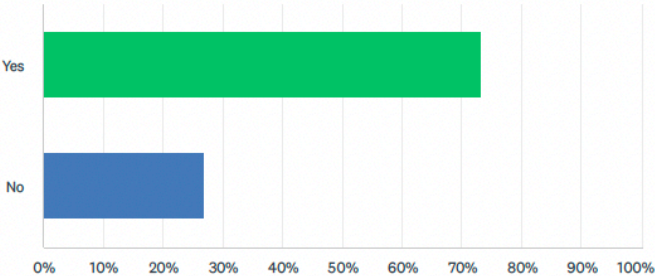


Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

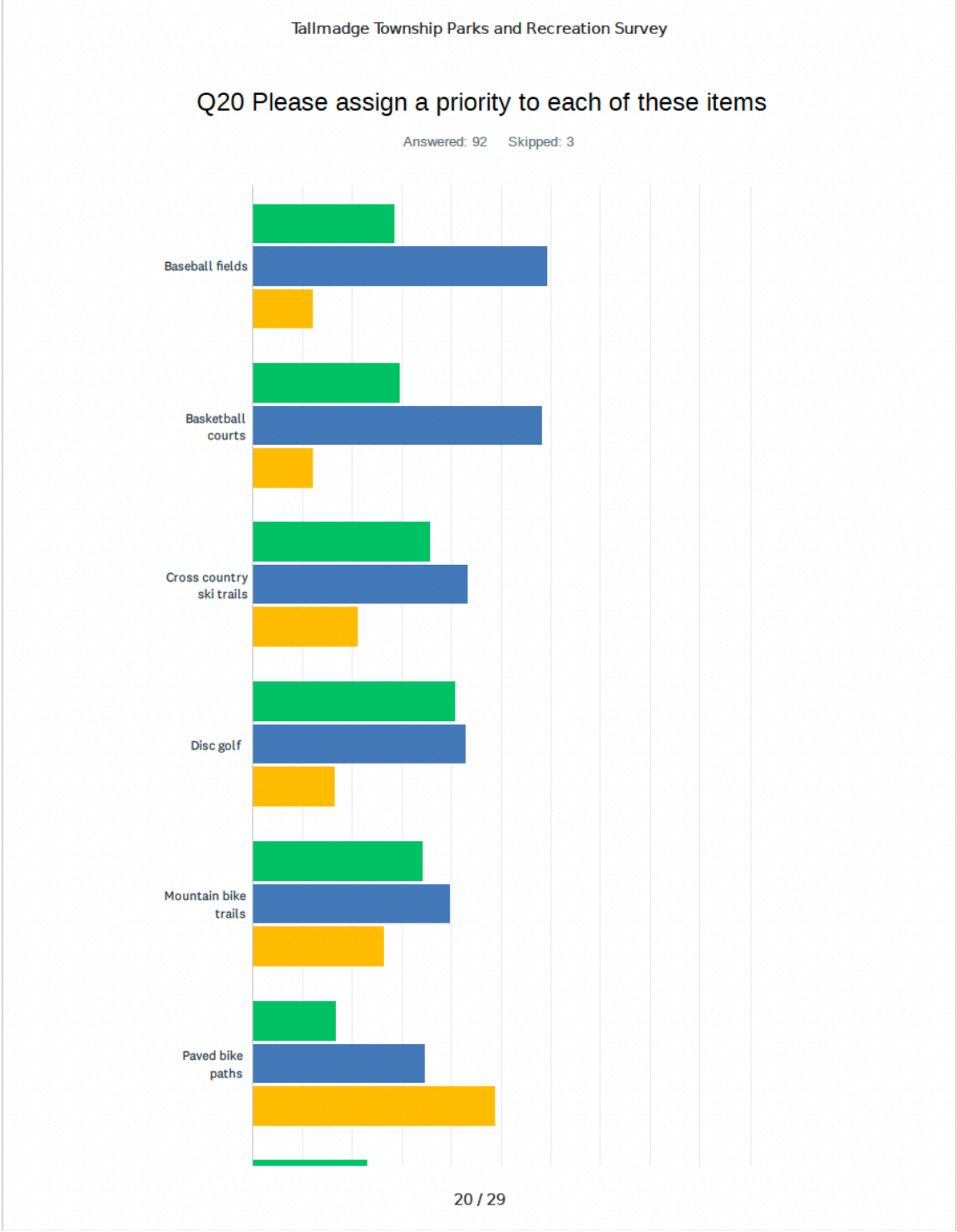
Q19 If the township invested in doing events at the township park would you attend?

Answered: 93 Skipped: 2

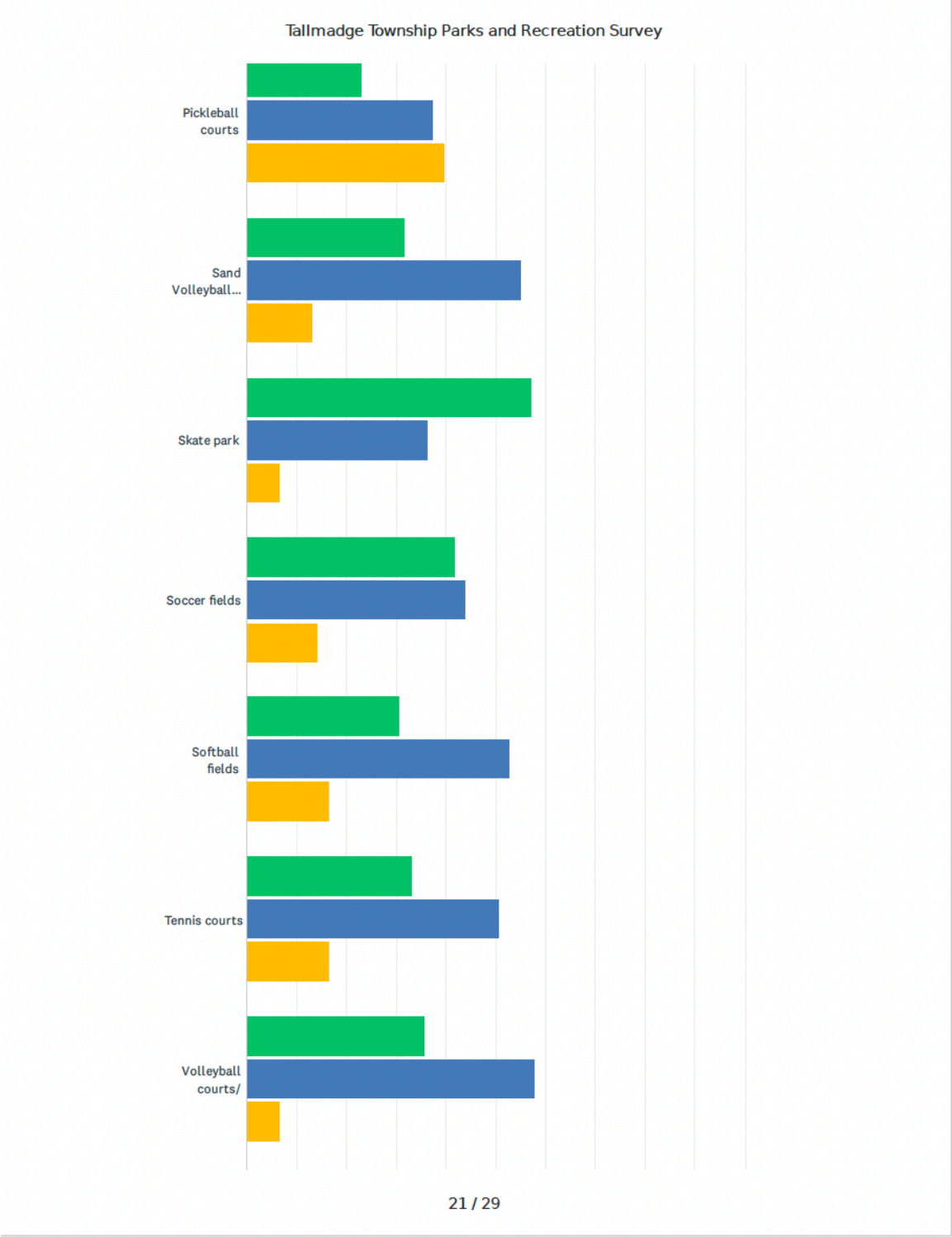


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	73.12%	68
No	26.88%	25
TOTAL		93

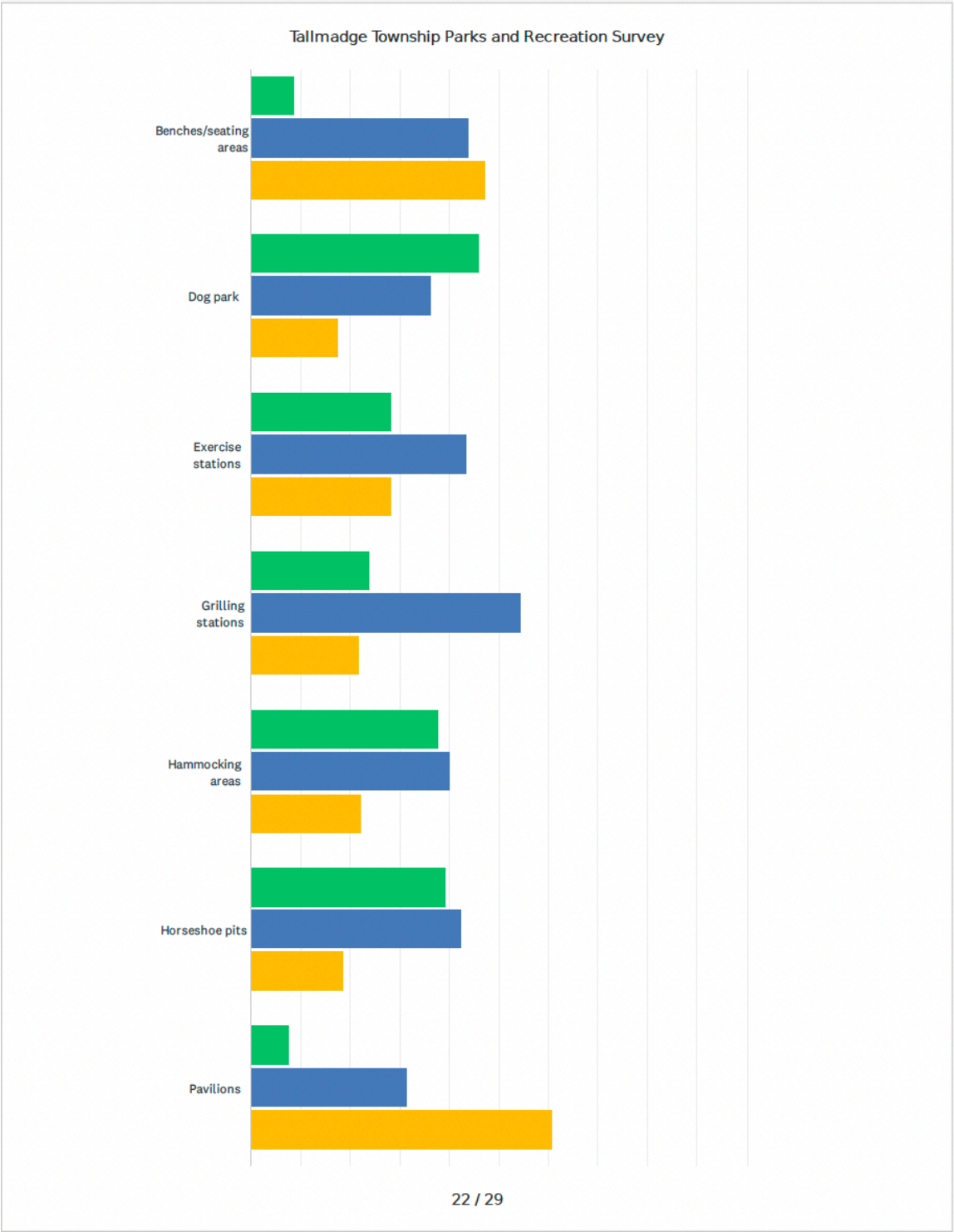
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



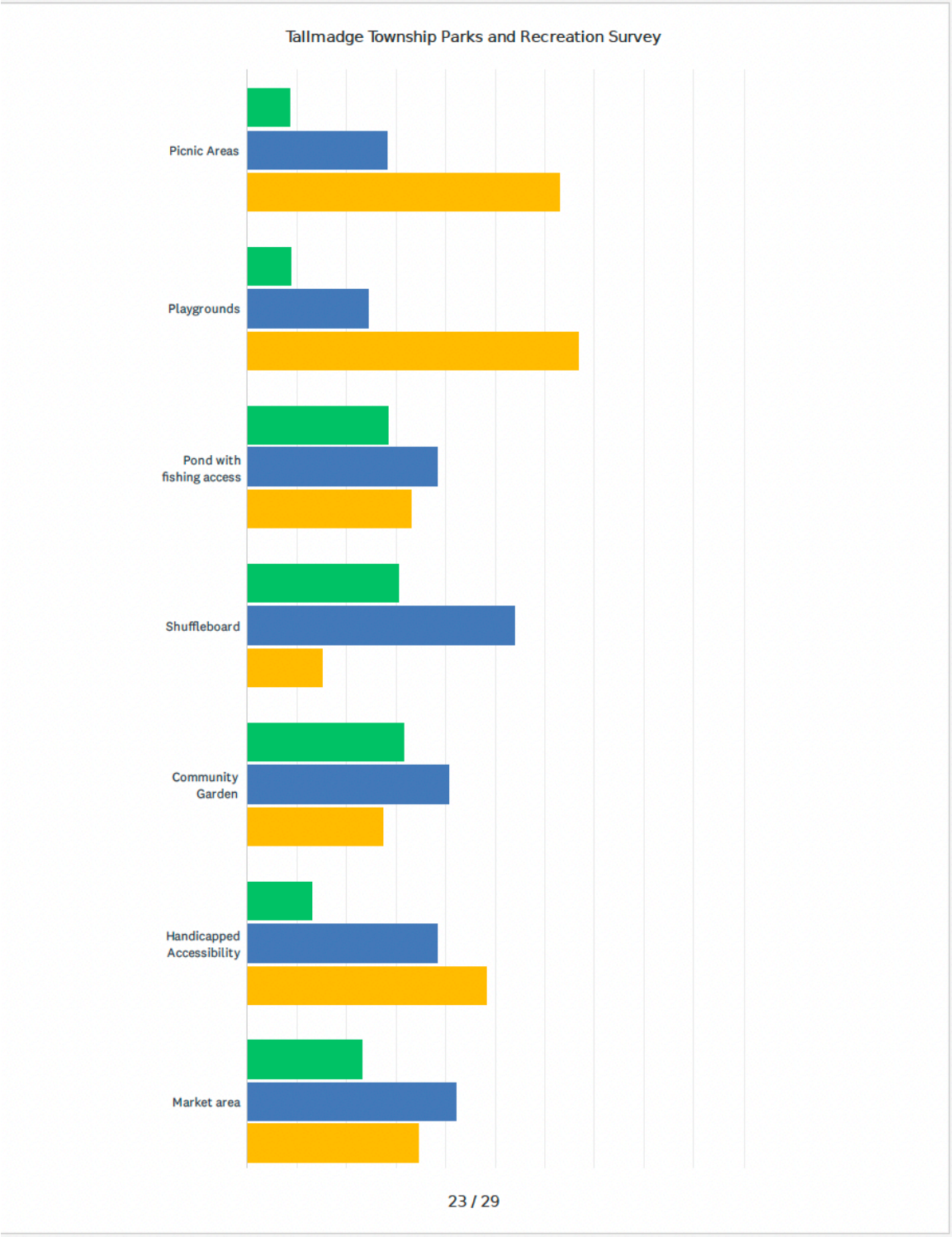
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



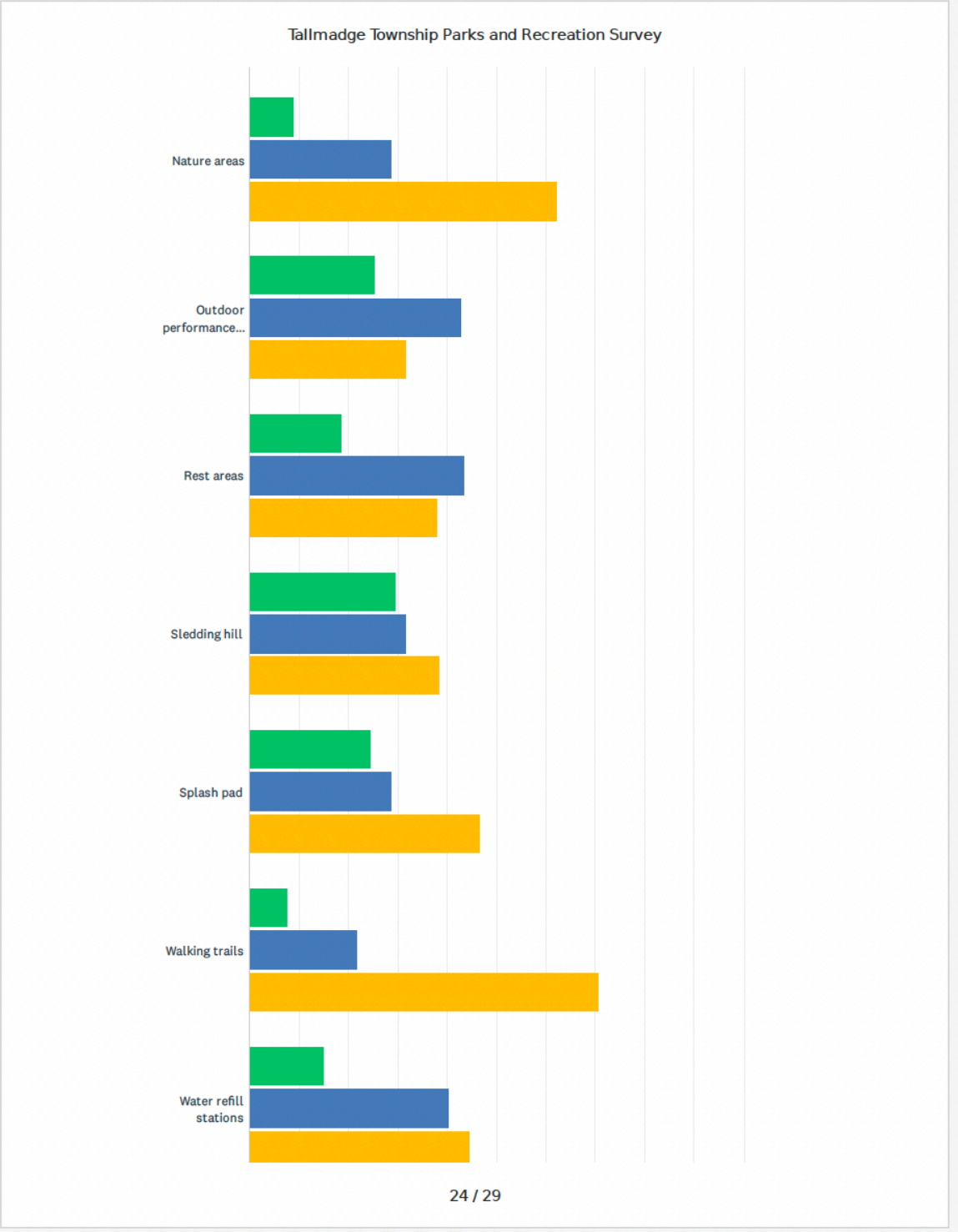
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



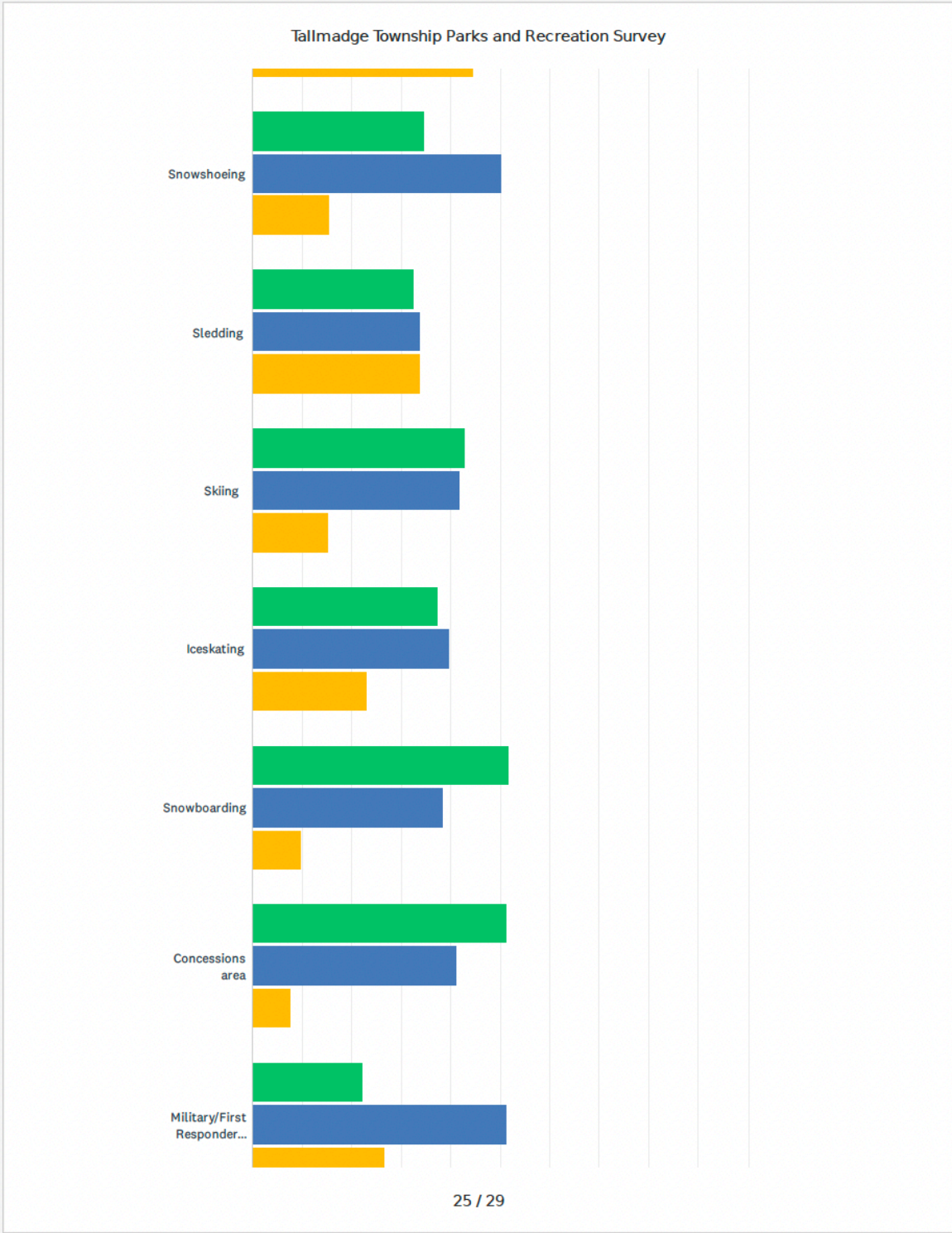
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



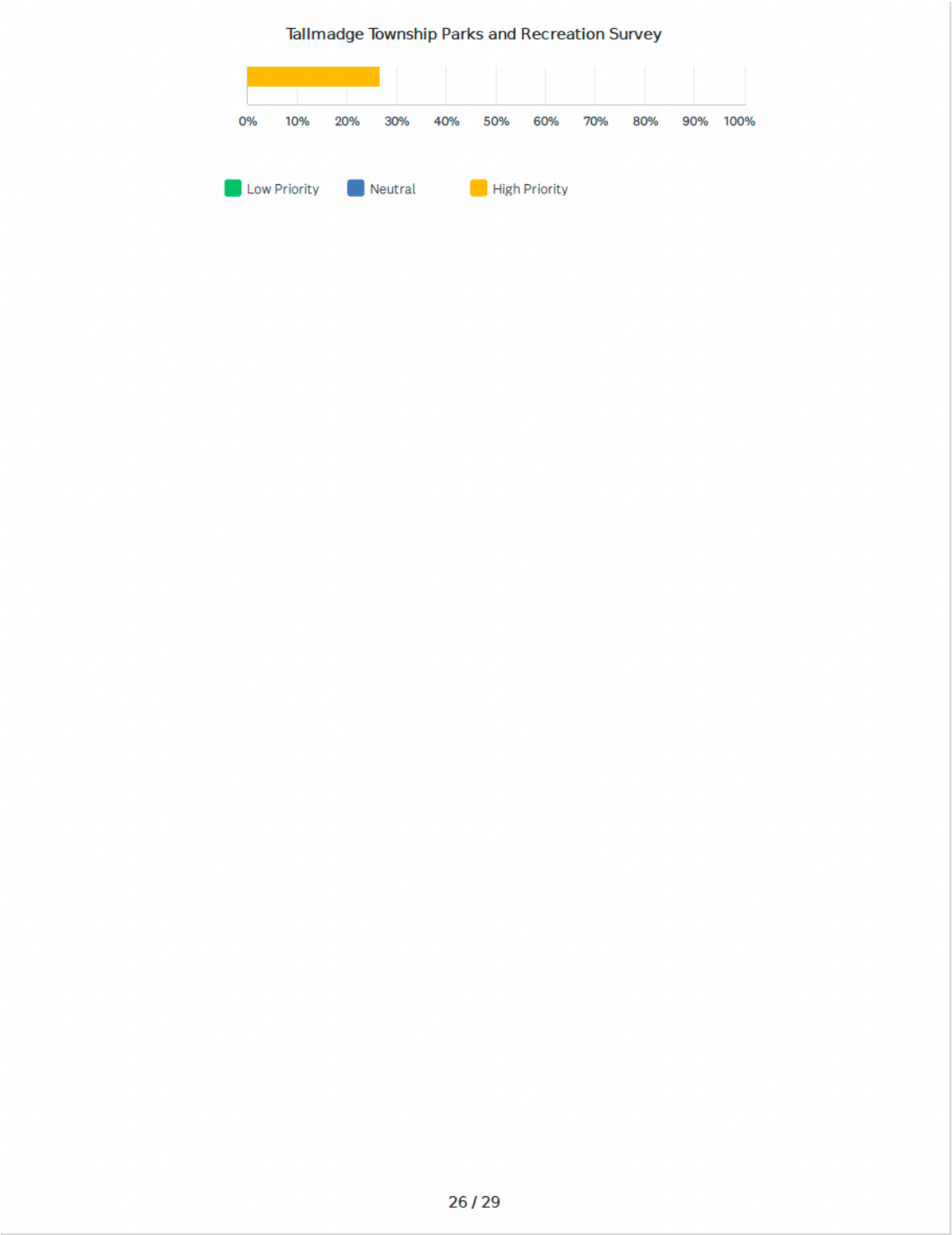
Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan



Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

	LOW PRIORITY	NEUTRAL	HIGH PRIORITY	TOTAL
Baseball fields	28.57% 26	59.34% 54	12.09% 11	91
Basketball courts	29.67% 27	58.24% 53	12.09% 11	91
Cross country ski trails	35.56% 32	43.33% 39	21.11% 19	90
Disc golf	40.66% 37	42.86% 39	16.48% 15	91
Mountain bike trails	34.07% 31	39.56% 36	26.37% 24	91
Paved bike paths	16.67% 15	34.44% 31	48.89% 44	90
Pickleball courts	23.08% 21	37.36% 34	39.56% 36	91
Sand Volleyball Courts	31.87% 29	54.95% 50	13.19% 12	91
Skate park	57.14% 52	36.26% 33	6.59% 6	91
Soccer fields	41.76% 38	43.96% 40	14.29% 13	91
Softball fields	30.77% 28	52.75% 48	16.48% 15	91
Tennis courts	32.97% 30	50.55% 46	16.48% 15	91
Volleyball courts/	35.56% 32	57.78% 52	6.67% 6	90
Benches/seating areas	8.79% 8	43.96% 40	47.25% 43	91
Dog park	46.15% 42	36.26% 33	17.58% 16	91
Exercise stations	28.26% 26	43.48% 40	28.26% 26	92
Grilling stations	23.91% 22	54.35% 50	21.74% 20	92
Hammocking areas	37.78% 34	40.00% 36	22.22% 20	90
Horseshoe pits	39.13% 36	42.39% 39	18.48% 17	92
Pavilions	7.61% 7	31.52% 29	60.87% 56	92
Picnic Areas	8.70% 8	28.26% 26	63.04% 58	92
Playgrounds	8.89% 8	24.44% 22	66.67% 60	90
Pond with fishing access	28.57% 26	38.46% 35	32.97% 30	91
Shuffleboard	30.77%	53.85%	15.38%	

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

	28	49	14	91
Community Garden	31.87%	40.66%	27.47%	
	29	37	25	91
Handicapped Accessibility	13.19%	38.46%	48.35%	
	12	35	44	91
Market area	23.33%	42.22%	34.44%	
	21	38	31	90
Nature areas	8.89%	28.89%	62.22%	
	8	26	56	90
Outdoor performance area	25.27%	42.86%	31.87%	
	23	39	29	91
Rest areas	18.48%	43.48%	38.04%	
	17	40	35	92
Sledding hill	29.67%	31.87%	38.46%	
	27	29	35	91
Splash pad	24.44%	28.89%	46.67%	
	22	26	42	90
Walking trails	7.61%	21.74%	70.65%	
	7	20	65	92
Water refill stations	15.22%	40.22%	44.57%	
	14	37	41	92
Snowshoeing	34.44%	50.00%	15.56%	
	31	45	14	90
Sledding	32.58%	33.71%	33.71%	
	29	30	30	89
Skiing	42.86%	41.76%	15.38%	
	39	38	14	91
Iceskating	37.36%	39.56%	23.08%	
	34	36	21	91
Snowboarding	51.65%	38.46%	9.89%	
	47	35	9	91
Concessions area	51.11%	41.11%	7.78%	
	46	37	7	90
Military/First Responder Memorial	22.22%	51.11%	26.67%	
	20	46	24	90

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

Q21 Any other requests or comments about the Townships Park and Recreation Facilities

Answered: 27 Skipped: 68

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I would not like my tax money to be spent on exercise equipment or a dog park. thank you.	8/18/2023 1:26 PM
2	I love this park and have had reunions there. I did have a request for bathrooms closer to the pavilion, but I do appreciate the bathroom you have now. I would like a fenced in area where my dog could run.	8/6/2023 6:08 PM
3	Grandkids like the playground. Splash pad would be fun. Some of the suggestions would be nice. Not sure how much they would be used. Haven't played Pickleball but know it's growing so facilities would probably be used.	8/2/2023 2:07 PM
4	Bathrooms closer to PB/Tennis courts. Lights for pickleball/tennis Paint in pickleball lines on tennis courts. Makes 4 more Pickleball courts. Have a shed with access to retractable nets for pickleball.	7/30/2023 9:05 PM
5	Add lights to pickleball courts and add more courts, or another location in tallmadge with courts	7/30/2023 7:39 PM
6	Outdoor lights for pickle ball court More courts Should be able to play for a court if they r full	7/30/2023 7:31 PM
7	-is there any way for township residents to have priority to facilities over non residents? -More pickle ball courts -mark tennis courts for pickle ball, tennis players would have priority. -paddle holders outside of pickle ball courts for players to rotate in after a game finishes when courts are full. -better enforcement of dogs on leashes. Too many people let their dogs run off-leash in the park.	7/28/2023 10:18 AM
8	Sidewalks	7/28/2023 10:01 AM
9	Please please install at least 2 drinking fountains!!! Please get city water and sewer out here!!!	7/24/2023 5:54 PM
10	More lights	7/22/2023 6:02 PM
11	We love bringing our kids to the park, I think a splash pad would be very popular (we have lots of young families in the township too). And as always, I truly believe our community would benefit largely from some sort of paved trail pathway along the road to connect residents to the park area! Thanks for doing this survey!	7/17/2023 9:12 AM
12	Don't put exercise equipment in outside. Real dumb idea	7/16/2023 10:42 PM
13	If the township is going to invest in making a dog park that is the only area dogs should be allow. Currently not all dog owners clean up after their dogs.	7/11/2023 2:51 PM
14	Walk in access during the winter to walk the paved trail when there is no snow or ice on it.	7/11/2023 2:17 PM
15	It's not a large park. Space seems maxed out already. No option provided for "reduce taxes/return tax money to taxpayers instead of spend it all", which is my first choice. Lots of park amenities in our area; township park is nice for what it is. If we have all this money laying around, how about some tax relief??	7/11/2023 7:55 AM
16	I'd love to have things here that aren't offered nearby. The idea of skiing is exciting! My kids drive out to Cannonsburg often and I'd love to have an option nearby! We also enjoy pickle ball casually and might appreciate the courts getting improved a little.	7/11/2023 7:39 AM
17	Pave Winans street. It can no longer be maintained by Ottawa county roads or the township. In the last 10 years 10 new house have been built from 26th (off LMD) to the dead end off Winans. 20 plus more drivers, not including their kids, ups, fedex etc. Fix and pave the darn road! It's a health hazard and I should be able to walk my dogs on the road I live on and I can't. I don't have time to drive to a park to do that.	7/11/2023 6:47 AM
18	Cross country ski trails and pickle ball are what interest me.	7/10/2023 4:41 PM

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Tallmadge Township Parks and Recreation Survey

19	We love the park and visit it frequently with our 3 children. The entrance on 14th ave has been a huge asset for us so that we can walk/bike there without having to travel on Leonard which is too busy with young children. We also think that a splash pad would be a really great asset to the community. The playgrounds get so hot in the summer, so on those hot days there really isn't anything to do there because there's no relief from the heat other than sitting under the pavilion. On days like that, we'll usually drive into Allendale to go to their park/splash pad even though Tallmadge is just across the street from us.	7/10/2023 3:51 PM
20	Last time I was at the park, I thought the pavilion was too far to walk - especially carrying tons of picnic things. (Maybe that has changed? It's been a while since I have been there) I LOVE the idea of having a splash pad!	7/10/2023 12:44 PM
21	Too much of what you list would be used by "for profit" companies vs the benefit of all local residents (soccer fields?)	7/10/2023 3:37 AM
22	Our family would love a splash pad! We use the park on a weekly basis.	7/6/2023 11:46 AM
23	Splash pad	7/6/2023 11:12 AM
24	More pickle ball courts, please! And also post some guidelines for pickle ball etiquette if there are people waiting to play - open play 4 on 4 off or 2 games then rotate groups. Something like that. See Belknap Park rules for ideas. Thank you!	7/5/2023 9:45 PM
25	We love the park and use it to ride bikes and play pickleball! More courts and a system in place to have people waiting be able to play.	7/5/2023 5:49 PM
26	More bathroom facility, plant more shade trees. Park caretaker, Additional lighting for fall and spring.	7/5/2023 11:36 AM
27	We really like the park (I have kids 6 & 7) but do feel like it's under utilized and with a few Improvements could be an even better place for township residents	7/4/2023 8:36 AM

Newsletter of Survey QR Code

| www.tallmadge.com | 0-1451 Leonard St. NW | p. 616.677.1248 | f. 616.677.6133 | The Gateway to Ottawa County Summer 2023 |

Tallmadge Charter Township



Supervisor - Mark Bennett

m.bennett@tallmadge.com

As we approach the halfway point of 2023, I hope that you are all able to take some time to enjoy the beautiful weather with your loved ones. As your township supervisor, I always appreciate the opportunity to meet with residents in person or over the phone. It is my hope that we can all work together to make Tallmadge Charter Township the best place it can be for all of our citizens.

I am thrilled to share some exciting updates on the progress of several projects at our township park. We have been working diligently on designing a new park entrance on the west side of our property, which will eliminate concerns about park traffic mixing with emergency vehicles. After a series of public meetings, the board of trustees has approved the design and we will soon be sending out bid requests for the project. We anticipate that once completed, this project will make access to the park safer and more convenient for all visitors. In addition, we are considering keeping the pedestrian access to the park open year-round.

We have also secured a grant from the National Fitness Center in the amount of \$40,000 to aid in the construction of a new outdoor fitness court in the park. Thanks to generous donations from local businesses, we are able to recognize those who have contributed to this project on the fitness structure itself. To ensure that we are meeting the recreation priorities of our residents, we will be conducting a public survey to gather feedback and ideas for future park projects. This survey will also help us to be more grant-eligible in the future.

Another recent priority for us has been improving the Maplewood Cemetery in Lamont. We have hired a private contractor to cut the grass, cleared downed trees and brush from along grave sites, and removed debris from the north vacant side of the cemetery to improve its appearance.

Finally, we have become aware of elevated levels of PFAS/PFOS at a local daycare center near the intersection of 8th Ave and Lake Michigan Dr. The center remains open and is using bottled water, and we are closely monitoring the situation and working with the center to find possible solutions. As more testing is done, we will continue to keep residents informed through the township website and board minutes.

I hope that you all have a wonderful summer, and please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

TOWNSHIP HOURS:

Monday - Thursday

9:00 - 3:00 PM

Closed Holidays

Please call to schedule after hour appointments.

Monthly Township Meetings:

All meetings are held in the Township Board Room
at 7:00 PM

Zoning Board of Appeals:

1st Tuesday, as needed.

Township Board Meeting:

2nd Tuesday of the month.

Planning Commission:

4th Tuesday of the month.

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

Supervisor: Mark Bennett

Clerk: Lenore Cook

Treasurer: Veldyne Schwallier

Trustees: Clifford Bronkema, Joel Terpstra,
Michael Eppink, John Bronkema

Assessor: Tyler Tacoma - Thurs. 9:00-3:00

Planning: Greg Ransford - Thurs. 9:00-1:00

Zoning: Alexis Sorrell - Monday-Wednesday
9:00-3:00

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

TAX DAY

Thursday, September 14th, 2023

We will have extended hours from 9:00-5:00.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for our holiday hours!

Treasurer: Valdyne Schwallier
vschwallier@tallmadge.com



Here's a fun fact!

What is a mill anyway?



Property tax rates are expressed in "mills". A "mill" is one-tenth of a cent (\$0.001) or one-thousandth of a dollar.

1 mill is equivalent to \$1.00 in taxes due per \$1,000 of taxable value.

Got a minute?

Let us learn more about you and hear your thoughts about Tallmadge Township Park and Recreation Facilities so we can better serve you!



Please Scan the QR Code on the left to access the Park and Recreation Survey. Or use the URL below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParkandRecreation>

WRIGHT - TALLMADGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The fire department continues to see increasing call volumes. We currently operate with 2 full-time employees that supplement the paid-on-call response of the fire department during the weekday daytime hours. We are always looking for applicants for the paid-on-call firefighting positions. If you have ever considered joining this fire department, we would love to talk with you about the position.

We take fire safety seriously, which is why we have partnered with the MI Prevention Smoke and CO alarm program to equip homes in our area with functioning alarms. Shockingly, 65% of fatal fires in Michigan in 2022 occurred in homes without working smoke alarms. We are proud to offer this program to our community at no cost, and we encourage you to contact us at 616 677 1610 to schedule an appointment for us to check your alarms.

Chief: Mike Gavin
Deputy Chief: Joe Alkana



Assessor - Tyler Tacoma

ttacoma@tallmadge.com

TALLMADGE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP

ASSESSOR
(616) 677-1248
tallmadge.com/assessor

The Assessor's Office is busy this time of year making property site visits for building permit appraisal reviews. We are also continuing our "20% Review" schedule of visiting all properties once every 5 years. After having completed the first thorough visits in 2016-2020, we are finding these re-visits go much more quickly. Follow-up inspections consist mainly of getting fresh exterior photos and visiting with our residents about assessment questions they might have. We look forward to seeing you as we are out and about in our community this fall.

The Assessor's Office works closely with the local Treasurer. Their office is responsible for the appraisals of our properties used to determine assessments and taxable values. They also manage our parcel ownership information and principal residence exemption data, among other duties. Assessments are kept current with an annual study of the real estate market. Property ownership is updated following the [state law required] filing of a Property Transfer Affidavit by a buyer. Principal Residence Exemptions are granted to owner-occupied properties through the filing of a PRE form by the homeowner.

Note - The year after a property sells, the taxable value is "uncapped" and reset to wherever the assessment is in the year after sale. The Assessor's Board of Review will be coming in on Tuesday, July 19th in order to correct any clerical errors, apply Veteran's Exemptions, and process any late-filed PRE forms. They do not have authority to discuss property values, which had to be considered prior to the adjournment of their annual March meeting.

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Newspaper Notice



Grand Rapids Press

LEGAL AFFIDAVIT

AD#: 0010791707

Total

\$180.92

State of Michigan,) ss

County of Kent and County of Ottawa)

Nancy Block being duly sworn, deposes that he/she is principal clerk of MLive Media Group; that Grand Rapids Press is a public newspaper published in the city of Grand Rapids, with general circulation in Kent and Ottawa county, and this notice is an accurate and true copy of this notice as printed in said newspaper, was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of said newspaper on the following date(s):

Grand Rapids Press 12/03/2023

Principal Clerk of the Publisher

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of December 2023

Notary Public

TEASHA R. PAYNE
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF MI
COUNTY OF MECOSTA
COMMISSION EXP FEB 24 2026
ACTING IN COUNTY OF Kent

**NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD FOR TALLMADGE
TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION PLAN AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING FOR TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION PLAN**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Tallmadge Charter Township has posted the Park and Recreation Plan on December 3rd, 2023, for public review and comment in the office of the Tallmadge Charter Township Clerk, Tallmadge Charter Township, 0-1451 Leonard Road, N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan (telephone: 616-677-1248), and on the Township website at www.tallmadge.com. Public comments regarding the Park and Recreation Plan may be made to zoning@tallmadge.com, until January 5th, 2024.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that on January 9th, 2024, at 7:00pm Tallmadge Charter Township Board of Trustees will be holding a Public Hearing at their regular scheduled meeting to hear and consider the Park and Recreation Plan. The meeting will be held at Tallmadge Charter Township Hall, 0-1451 Leonard Road, N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan (telephone: 616-677-1248).

Dated: December 3rd, 2023

Lenore Cook, Clerk
Tallmadge Charter Township

10791707-01

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

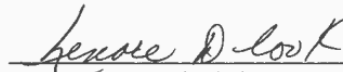
Notice In Office and on Website of the 30-Day Review and Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD FOR TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION
PLAN AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR TALLMADGE TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION
PLAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Tallmadge Charter Township has posted the Park and Recreation Plan on December 3rd, 2023, for public review and comment in the office of the Tallmadge Charter Township Clerk, Tallmadge Charter Township, 0-1451 Leonard Road, N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan (telephone: 616-677-1248), and on the Township website at www.tallmadge.com. Public comments regarding the Park and Recreation Plan may be made to zoning@tallmadge.com.

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Dated: December 3rd, 2023


Lenore Cook, Clerk
Tallmadge Charter Township

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

)ss

COUNTY OF OTTAWA)

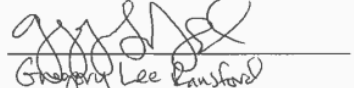
The undersigned, Lenore Cook, the Tallmadge Charter Township Clerk, being first duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

1. That she posted a proposed Recreation Plan for Tallmadge Charter Township public review in the Township Clerk's office and on the Township's website at www.tallmadge.com on December 3rd, 2023.
2. That she posted a notice of public review for the Recreation Plan in the Township Clerk's office and on the Townships website at www.tallmadge.com on December 3rd, 2023.
3. That she posted a notice of public hearing for the Recreation Plan in the Township Clerk's office and on the Townships website at www.tallmadge.com on December 3rd, 2023.



Lenore Cook, Clerk
Tallmadge Charter Township

Subscribed and sworn to before this
3rd day of December, 2023.



Gregory Lee Ransford

Notary Public, Ottawa County, Michigan

Acting in Ottawa County, Michigan

My commission expires: April 15, 2026

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Public Hearing and Public Meeting Minutes of Adoption

**TALLMADGE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HELD ON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024
AT 7:00 P.M.
www.tallmadge.com**

I. CALL TO ORDER Mark Bennett, Supervisor, called the meeting to order and Joel Terpstra opened with Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Mark Bennett, Lenore D. Cook, Clifford Bronkema, Michael Eppink, Joel Terpstra, and John Bronkema. Absent: Valdyne Schwallier.
Also present were approximately 16 residents.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Joel Terpstra moved, Michael Eppink supported, to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023 regular meeting and to approve the bills to be paid in January 9, 2024 as presented and to accept as information the treasurer's report, legal update, and correspondence if any. Motion CARRIED.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION Allison Miedema, Ottawa County Commissioner, gave an update on the workings of the Commissioners.

A resident expressed his concern regarding the Ironwood Corridor Overlay District.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC HEARING – TALLMADGE CHARTER TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION PLAN Michael Eppink moved, Clifford Bronkema supported, to open the meeting to the public. Motion CARRIED. Alexa Gulker, Township Planner/Zoner explained what the Recreation Plan involved – gives to the Township the eligibility to apply for grants and also gives an overview of future Park plans.

A call for public comment and questions was made, there were no comments or questions. As there were no questions from the public, Joel Terpstra moved, Lenore D. Cook supported to close the Public Hearing. Motion CARRIED.

B. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION OF TALLMADGE CHARTER TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION PLAN. After discussion Joel Terpstra moved, Mark Bennett supported, to adopt the RESOLUTION. Motion CARRIED by a unanimous roll call vote.

C. PUBLIC HEARING – RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT - Joel Terpstra moved, Michael Eppink supported, to open the meeting to the public. Motion CARRIED. Greg King, with Lake Shore Advantage explained that a Development District allows for the applicant to apply for an IFT. Doug Doelder owner of Premier Protective Packaging said they have 47 employees now with a growth to 100. The district covers 21+ acres and the building will be approximately 140 thousand square feet. Joel Terpstra moved, Clifford Bronkema supported, to close the Public Hearing. Motion CARRIED

Joel Terpstra moved, Michael Eppink supported, to adopt the Resolution to Establish an Industrial Development District for Parcel Number 70-10-01-200-037. Motion

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

CARRIED by a unanimous roll call vote.

D. FIRST READING – ZONING TEXT AND MAP AMENDMENT

IRONWOOD CORRIDOR OVERLAY DISTRICT – Chapter 12A of the Zoning Ordinance.

E. TOWNSHIP ROOF REPAIR – After much discussion Lenore D. Cook moved, John Bronkema supported to award the bid to West Michigan Roofing at a cost not to exceed \$145,000 with a 20 year guarantee. Motion CARRIED.

VI. SUPERVISOR COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Supervisor: Mark Bennett

+ Update on new gates to park entrance – one remote – one manual

Planning Commission: Joel Terpstra -

Zoning Board of Appeals: Clifford Bronkema

Fire Board Report:

Fire Dept – Michael Gavin, Fire Chief

+ 1138 calls for the year 2023

+ Installing smoke alarms to residents who request them

+ Many calls for medical and lift assists

VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Fire Board Minutes (if needed)

B. Sheriff Department report

C. List of Building Permits for December of 2023

D. Planning and Zoning report

VII. ADJOURNMENT was at 7:48 p.m.

Sincerely yours,
Lenore D. Cook, Clerk

Tallmadge Charter Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Formal Resolution to Adopt the Plan

B

Tallmadge Charter Township Park and Recreation Plan

For Tallmadge Charter Township Board of Trustees, Ottawa County

WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Committee has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2024 through 2028,

WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Committee is made up of representatives from the Board of Trustees, and

WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Committee began the process of developing a Park and Recreation Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of Tallmadge Charter Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the plan to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and


WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Committee has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for Tallmadge Charter Township, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Tallmadge Charter Township Board of Trustees voted to adopt said Tallmadge Charter Township Park and Recreation Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Tallmadge Charter Township Board of Trustees hereby adopts the Tallmadge Charter Township Recreation Plan.

Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

I, Lenore Cook, Township Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees at a Regular meeting thereof held on the 9th day of January, 2024.


Lenore Cook,
Township Clerk

