



**AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR  
MEETING  
Tuesday, January 13, 2025, 4:30pm  
Televised – Town Hall

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**REGULAR MEETING – 4:30PM**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
4. PRESENTATION
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. November 18, 2025 Park Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
7. COMMUNICATIONS
  - A. January and February Stewardship Calendars
8. DISCUSSION ITEMS
9. ACTION ITEMS
10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
  - A. Michigan Department of Natural Resources – Natural Resource Trust Fund Grant Recommendation.
  - B. DALMAC Grant Application
  - C. Meridian Parks and Recreation 5 Year Master Plan Update
  - D. Budget Updates
  - E. 2026 Capital Improvement Plan Projects
  - F. Staffing Updates
  - G. Cricket Updates
11. PUBLIC COMMENT
12. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS
13. ADJOURNMENT

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All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Parks & Recreation Director, Courtney Wisinski: 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.



**MINUTES**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
PARK COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, November 18, 2025, 4:30pm  
Service Center

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**REGULAR MEETING – 4:30PM**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
  - A. Chair Nardo-Farris called the meeting to order at 4:33 PM.
2. ROLL CALL
  - A. Present: Chair Nardo-Farris, Commissioners Lick, Phelps, and Stephens
  - B. Commissioner McDonald arrived at 4:40 PM.
  - C. Staff present: Director Wisinski and Administrative Assistant Pachucki
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
  - A. Kathy Peterson, 1673 Haslett Rd #339, expressed her support for a three-sided shelter at the Small Dog Park.
  - B. Don Frank, 5277 Cornell Rd, expressed his support for a year-round shelter at the Small Dog Park.
4. PRESENTATION
  - A. Eagle Scout Presentation – Raptor Wing Span Exhibit at Harris Nature Center
    1. Nickolas Liddick, a member of BSA Troop 97 presented on a planned raptor wingspan exhibit at Harris Nature Center. The commissioners asked Mr. Liddick about the project materials, fundraising plan, and volunteers for the project. The commission also provided advice, including potential funding partners to Mr. Liddick.
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  - A. Commissioner Phelps motioned to approve the agenda, as is. Commissioner Lick seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.
6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. October 14, 2025 Park Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
    1. Commissioner Phelps motioned to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2025 regular meeting. Commissioner Lick seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.
7. COMMUNICATIONS
  - A. November Stewardship Calendars
    1. Director Wisinski gave an overview of the stewardship calendar for November, and highlighted upcoming seed sorting parties.
    2. Commissioner McDonald asked if the stewardship team is seeing an increase in off-leash dogs in preserves. Director Wisinski indicated that it is an on-going battle and that stewardship staff is reporting cases to Meridian Township Police Department so that citizens can be cited. Chair Nardo-Farris noted that the public doesn't always realize how dangerous it is.
  - B. Nancy Moore Traffic Signs Request
    1. Director Wisinski shared an email exchange between a frequent Nancy Moore park user and herself regarding speeding around the curve at the entrance to Nancy Moore Park. A week after the email exchange, Superintendent Adams had new signs installed, encouraging motorists to slow down and obey posted speed limits.

- C. Parks and Recreation 5-Year Plan – Request for Proposals
  - 1. Director Wisinski posted a request for proposal on the Parks and Recreation 5-Year Plan on the Meridian Township website. The proposals are due by the end of November, and as of the Park Commission meeting, she has already fielded a few inquiries from interested companies. Commissioner Stephens and Chair Nardo-Farris noted that it is easier for consultants or companies to reach the public better, and to make it relevant for residents. Chair Nardo-Farris asked Director Wisinski to notify the Park Commission when a selection has been made. Commissioner Lick asked if the online document could be more searchable or incorporate bookmarks.
- D. Eagle Scout Project Proposal
  - 1. Commissioner Phelps moved to place communication item 7.D. to 9.B. Commissioner McDonald seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Proposed 2026 Park Commission Meeting Dates
  - 1. Commissioner Phelps motioned to move discussion item 8.A. to 9.C. Commissioner Stephens seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Possible Cricket Field Locations Summary

- 1. Director Wisinski summarized the work that staff and the Park Commission has done on the project so far. Director Wisinski provided a list of possible locations that staff has evaluated for placement.
- 2. Chair Nardo-Farris recognized the challenge for location and cost, but noted that it was worth pursuing. She also asked Director Wisinski to provide the number of potential cricket players, number of youth sport participants that are waitlisted each season, and number of fields per sport at a future meeting.

At 6:00 PM, the Chair called for a recess. The Park Commission reconvened at 6:05 PM.

9. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Election for 2026 Park Commission Officers
  - 1. Commissioner Lick moved to nominate Chair Nardo-Farris as chair. Commissioner Stephens seconded. Chair Nardo-Farris accepted the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, Chair Nardo-Farris closed the floor to nominations for Chair.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chair Nardo-Farris, Commissioner Lick, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Phelps and Commissioner Stephens

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 5-0

- 2. Commissioner Phelps moved to nominate Commissioner Lick as vice-chair. Chair Nardo-Farris seconded. Commissioner Lick accepted the nomination.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chair Nardo-Farris, Commissioner Lick, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Phelps and Commissioner Stephens

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 5-0

B. Eagle Scout Project Proposal

1. Commissioner Stephens inquired about a scenario where the funds for the project were not fully raised when it came time to construct. Director Wisinski shared that the candidate will circle back with staff, and staff will work with the candidate on alternatives.
2. Commissioner McDonald motioned to approve the Eagle Scout Project Proposal, as presented. Commissioner Phelps seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Proposed 2026 Park Commission Meeting Dates

1. Commissioner Stephens asked about potential work sessions, and Director Wisinski said that she would follow up with the Clerk's Office. Chair Nardo-Farris commented that she would like to have a few meetings in the future at park pavilions.
2. Commissioner Lick moved to adopt the resolution of the 2026 Park Commission meeting schedule. Commissioner Rambo seconded.

VOICE VOTE: YEAS: Chair Nardo-Farris, Commissioner Lick, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner Phelps, and Commissioner Stephens  
NAYS: None

Motion carried: 5-0

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Fair Food Network and Meridian Farmer's Market Temporary Food Assistance Program

- a. Director Wisinski explained the Fair Food Network grant to the Park Commissioners, and how the Double Up Food Bucks program works. She then reviewed the amendment to the current agreement that modifies the program until the end of 2025. Fair Food Network expanded the program in response to the federal government shut down, and the increased need among food insecure people across the state. SNAP recipients typically are limited to \$20 and are eligible for "Bonus Bucks" through this program.
- b. Commissioner Phelps inquired about the number of people that participate in SNAP at the Farmer's Market during the season, and how many more people were using Bonus Bucks over the next two months. Director Wisinski agreed to share that information with the Park Commission once the Farmer's Market had it compiled.

B. Sylvan Glen Homeowner's Association Meeting Update

- a. Director Wisinski recently attended the Sylvan Glen Homeowner's Association Meeting, and updated the HOA on significant events, changes, and challenges that the department is experiencing. She has also directed staff to create a one-page flyer that she can bring to community meetings that explain the department and different functions.

C. Senior and Community Center Updates

- a. Director Wisinski shared that township staff is still working on identifying new sites. One of the sites explored was Kellie's Estate Sales, Auction, Resale and Thrift, who was considering selling. Township staff noted that the site would take a lot to bring to ADA compliance. The township is continuing to work with Nokomis through the appraisal process. Staff will update the Township Board towards the end of the year with progress made.

D. Budget Updates

- a. Director Wisinski reviewed the budget updates for November 2025, including the NRTF grant for the Okemos Road Trailhead. There has been no movement from the Department of Natural Resources, but an award should be made by the end of the year.

- b. Director Wisinski reported on the progress of the Ottawa Hills and Towner Road inclusive playgrounds and shared that installation was happening now to be completed before the winter.
- c. For the Red Cedar Water Trail, Director Wisinski highlighted that kiosks have been purchased for Ferguson Park. The ADA launch will be installed at Ferguson in 2026.
- d. Director Wisinski shared that new picnic tables have been delivered at Marshall Park and are placed at the park. Chair Nardo-Farris asked if the tables are handicap accessible, and Director Wisinski will verify with Parks and Land Superintendent Adams.
- e. The remaining items have been encumbered, and there are no updates to provide.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Richard Miksicek, Environmental Commission liaison, spoke about the resignation of Environmental Commissioner John Sarver, and the vacancy. The term expires at the end of 2026, and the commission welcomes nominations. The environmental commission also heard a presentation about Bird City Michigan, and is proposing a resolution in support. He encouraged the Park Commission to consider doing the same in the future.

12. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Chair Nardo-Farris had a small update regarding the township board meetings, noting recognition of the Meridian Township Volunteers of the Year: David and Missy Foran, who volunteer at the Meridian Township Farmer's Market. She also noted that the Township Treasurer has been going through some health-related challenges. Chair Nardo-Farris reminded the commissioners that the next regular meeting for the Park Commission would be on Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4:30 PM. The meeting will be held in the Town Hall meeting room, and will be televised.

13. ADJOURNMENT

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 PM.

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# STEWARDSHIP

## STEWARDSHIP SATURDAYS 9:30 AM - 12 PM

These workdays occur every other Saturday year round.

- January 10th, Red Cedar Glen Preserve/Legg Park, invasive shrub removal & winter native seed sowing
  - Meet at the end of Sylvan Glen Drive in Okemos
- January 24th, Harris Nature Center, Invasive shrub & bittersweet vines removal
  - 3998 Van Atta Rd. | Okemos MI

## WEEKDAY WARRIORS | Bi-weekly | 1-3 PM

- January 15th, Davis Foster Preserve, Invasive shrub removal & winter native seed sowing
  - 5120 Van Atta Rd | Okemos MI
- January 29th, Okemos Road Preserve, Invasive shrub removal & winter native seed sowing
  - 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett MI

## TRAILSIDE ECOLOGY | OWL PROWL NIGHT HIKE

- Join us to learn about the courtship rituals of local owl species, such as the great horned & barred owl
  - January 27th, Red Cedar Glen Preserve
    - End of Sylvan Glen Rd. | Okemos MI



\*ALL EVENTS ARE WEATHER DEPENDENT & MAY BE CANCELLED THE DAY OF

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 Happy New Year	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY 9:30-12 PM
11	12	13	14	15 WEEKDAY WARRIORS 1-3 PM	16	17
18	19 MLK DAY OFFICES CLOSED	20	21	22	23	24 STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY 9:30-12 PM
25	26	27 TRAILSIDE ECOLOGY 7-8:30 PM	28	29 WEEKDAY WARRIORS 1-3 PM	30	31

PLEASE RSVP TO EMMA AT ECAMPBELL@MERIDIAN.MI.US, OR 517.897.3610

# FEBRUARY

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## WETLAND LOVE EDITION

### STEWARDSHIP SATURDAYS | 9:30 AM - 12 PM

- February 7th, Ted Black Woods Park, Invasive shrub & bittersweet vine cutting
  - Park at Grand River entrance, 540 W Grand River Ave.
- February 21st, Sumbal Preserve, Invasive shrub removal & native seeding
  - Park at Wonch Park, 4555 Okemos Rd

### WEEKDAY WARRIORS | 1-3PM

- February 12th, Okemos Road Preserve, Invasive shrub removal around vernal pools & native seed sowing
  - Park at Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
- February 26th, Nancy Moore Park, invasive shrub removal around vernal pools & native seed sowing
  - Park at 1960 Gaylord C. Smith Court



*World Wetlands Day*  
FEBRUARY 2

# STEWARDSHIP

**\*ALL EVENTS ARE WEATHER DEPENDENT & MAY BE CANCELLED THE DAY OF**

S M T W T F S

1	2 <i>World Wetlands Day</i> FEBRUARY 2	3	4	5	6	7 STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY 9:30-12 PM
8	9	10	11	12 WEEKDAY WARRIORS 1-3 PM	13	14
15	16 TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED	17	18	19	20	21 STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY 9:30-12 PM
22	23	24	25	26 WEEKDAY WARRIORS 1-3 PM	27	28

**PLEASE RSVP TO EMMA AT [ECAMPBELL@MERIDIAN.MI.US](mailto:ECAMPBELL@MERIDIAN.MI.US), OR 517.897.3610**

**From:** [noreply-migrants@intelligrants.com](mailto:noreply-migrants@intelligrants.com)  
**To:** [Courtney Wisinski](#)  
**Subject:** Application Outcome for TF25-0126 - Meridian Regional Trailhead  
**Date:** Thursday, December 18, 2025 3:23:59 PM

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You don't often get email from [noreply-migrants@intelligrants.com](mailto:noreply-migrants@intelligrants.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Meridian Charter Township,  
TF25-0126  
Meridian Regional Trailhead

Congratulations! On behalf of Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Director Scott Bowen, I am writing to inform you that the application noted above was among those recommended for funding by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Board of Trustees to receive a grant in the amount of \$349,600.00.

A formal grant offer will be made in the form of a project agreement (PA) after funds are appropriated by the State Legislature. This process could take 4-6 months. When funds become available we will contact you again with information on the PA. The following steps can be done before you enter in to a PA with the DNR Grants Management Section. **If for any reason your PA is not approved or fully executed, your community will be liable for any expenses incurred.**

#### **Acquisition Projects**

1. Begin preparing your legal description and boundary map.
2. Beginning in January, you may incur costs for environmental due diligence and 40-year title search.
3. Once Grants Management approves the title work and environmental due diligence you will be authorized get an appraisal.

#### **Development Projects**

1. Begin preparing your legal description and boundary map.
2. Finalize any easements or other land rights if all or a portion of the project area is not owned by the agency receiving the grant.
3. Retain the services (internal staff or consultant) of a prime professional.
4. Make sure local matching funds are in place.
5. Beginning in January, you may, begin to incur costs associated with the preparation of plans, specification, and bid documents for your project.

Please refer to the project procedures booklet throughout the grant administration process. Even if you have received a MNRTF grant in recent years, you should read this booklet carefully since it provides updated information on project procedures.

For details on the required supporting documentation to accompany the project agreement, please review either the "Acquisition Project Procedures" booklet or the "Develop Project Procedures" booklet available on our website: [www.Michigan.gov/DNR-Grants](http://www.Michigan.gov/DNR-Grants). Under "Recreation" click on "Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Program". Under "Forms and Information for Grantees" click on the project procedures booklet.

If you have any questions regarding your project or the MNRTF program, please contact your Grant Coordinator.

Sincerely,  
Grants Management Section  
Finance and Operations Division  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

# Final Scores - Development Scoresheet

<b>Grant Amount Requested</b>	\$349,600
<b>Match Percentage</b>	30%
<b>Match Amount</b>	\$150,000
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	\$499,600
<b>Preliminary Score</b>	340
<b>Final Score</b>	360

**Development Core Criteria**

**1. PUBLIC SUPPORT**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) The proposed project received multiple support documents by diverse stakeholders in the community. The applicant is addressing any public opposition or concerns. Opposition based primarily on the desire to keep the public from the state's natural resources will not be considered.	10	10	10
B) The proposed project received minimal support documents. The applicant is addressing any public opposition or concerns. Opposition based primarily on the desire to keep the public from the state's natural resources will not be considered.	5		
C) The proposed project received no support documents.	0		
<b>Maximum Possible Points</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

*A; multiple letters of support provided.*

**2. PROPOSED MAINTENANCE**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) Maintenance plan demonstrates a sufficient detail of dedicated funding, operational staff, multi-year contracts, or formal endowments which relate to continual and on-going care of the proposed improvements.	10	10	10

B) Maintenance plan provides insufficient details to show that there will be continual and on-going care of the proposed improvements.	0		
<b>Maximum Possible Points (A or B)</b>	<b>10</b>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>

**Comments to Applicant:**

*A: maintenance plan is sufficient.*

**3. SITE QUALITY**

	<b>Maximum Possible Points</b>	<b>Preliminary Score</b>	<b>Final Score</b>
<b>A) PARK VISIBILITY</b>			
I) The site is easily recognizable as a public park and is easy to locate or will have adequate directional or identification signage in place.	10	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>
II) The site is moderately recognizable as a public park, or the location needs signage improvements to be more easily recognized.	5		
III) Site is difficult to locate and is difficult to recognize as a public park	0		

**B) EASE OF ACCESS**

I) Ability to get to the site in multiple ways besides an automobile, such as: sidewalks, trail, public transportation, and/or watercraft	10	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>
II) Ability to get to the site in an additional way besides an automobile	5		
III) Site can only be accessed by automobile	0		

**C) SUSTAINABLE DESIGN**

I) Entire proposed project is designed with sustainable systems or features, where applicable.	25		
II) A majority of the proposed project is designed with sustainable systems or features, where applicable.	20		

III) Some of the proposed project includes sustainable systems or features, where applicable.	15	15	15
IV) None, or an unsubstantial amount, of the proposed project includes sustainable systems or features, where applicable.	0		

**D) RENOVATION**

Renovation or removal and replacement of an existing outdoor facility that is at least 20 years old with the same type of facility OR renovation of a building or structure that is at least 40 years old. The cost of the renovation must represent a majority of the total project cost.	25	0	0
<b>Maximum Possible Points (A + B + C + D)</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

*A: proposal includes adequate signage for new trailhead.  
 B: sidewalk connection, transit, regional trail.  
 C: bike repair station, recycle bins, water bottle filling station  
 D: new build*

**4. SITE PLAN AND PROJECT QUALITY**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) Site Plan: Site plan shows existing features to remain and all proposed scope items, is compatible with its intended purpose and is clear and understandable.	10	0	10
B) Application clearly describes the proposed and existing facilities at the site. Development is feasible and fully compatible with the size, natural and physical characteristics of the site. Expected traffic flow pattern is safe and convenient, access routes are provided to all facilities, facilities are placed to have the least environmental impact, layout maximizes groundwater infiltration.	20	20	20
C) Application clearly describes the proposed, existing, and future facilities at the site, including clear site plans. However, there are concerns about expected traffic flow, access to facilities, environmental impacts.	10		
D) The application does not clearly describe the proposed, existing, and future facilities at the site or there are strong concerns about the expected traffic flow, access to facilities, environmental impacts.	0		
<b>Maximum Possible Points A + (B or C or D)</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

*A: Please illustrate route of access pathways from accessible parking to all scope.  
 B: application is complete and proposal is compatible with site.  
 SUPPLEMENTAL- updated site plan provided with parking and access path*

**5. APPLICANT HISTORY**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) Applicant has not received a development grant from the recreation grant program in the past 10 years (MNRTF, LWCF, Recreation Passport).	20		
B) Per capita development grant assistance (MNRTF, LWCF, Recreation Passport) received by the applicant in the past 10 years is less than the median value awarded to all communities over the past 10 years.	10	10	10
C) Per capita development grant assistance (MNRTF, LWCF, Recreation Passport) received by the applicant in the past 10 years exceeds the median value awarded to all communities over the past 10 years.	0		
Applicant's per capita development grant assistance in past 10 years:	\$19.87		
D) Compliance with program procedures: The applicant is in compliance with all requirements at park sites that have been acquired or developed with recreation grant assistance in the past, including plaque requirements. Also, the applicant has complied with Department procedures while completing grant-assisted projects in the past 5 years. Issues that are evaluated and considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required DNR reviews of plans, specifications and bid packages prior to advertising</li> <li>• Required DNR reviews of contracts prior to awarding</li> <li>• Submittal of final reimbursements within 90 days after the end of the project period</li> <li>• Documented history of non-responsiveness to open and active existing grants (examples: expired agreements/amendments, annual progress reporting, lack of progress within the 2-year project period)</li> <li>• Performance of long-term grant obligations including post completion self-certification reports and plaque photos</li> </ul>	25	25	25
E) Applicant has a formal recreation department, division or parks committee/board.	10	10	10
F) Conversion History: Applicant has a known unresolved conversion of a grant-assisted site to a use that does not qualify as public outdoor recreation (applies to all grant programs).	-50	0	0
<b>Maximum Possible Points (A or B or C) + D + E + F</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

B: applicant is below GPC median: \$19.87  
 D: applicant is in compliance  
 E: applicant has a formal rec department and committee  
 F: no active conversions.

**6. NATURAL RESOURCE BASED RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) Project provides direct access to the highest quality natural resource-based recreation opportunities such as Critical Dune Areas, frontage on Great Lakes or their connecting water bodies (Detroit River, St. Mary’s River, St. Clair River, or Lake St. Clair), frontage on Designated Natural Rivers, land that is or will become part of a dedicated wilderness, natural area, or Pigeon River Country State Forest.	60		
B) Project provides direct access to good quality natural resource-based recreation opportunities such as inland lakes, rivers, natural communities or resources.	40		
C) Project provides direct access to fair quality natural resource-based recreation opportunities.	20		
D) Project will provide minimal natural resource-based recreation opportunities OR no natural resource values were noted in the application materials.	0		
E) Project will provide supporting amenities and features of the Natural Resources at the site. Support includes trailheads, parking lots, restroom buildings, or interpretation. If supporting A - 30 points, B - 20 points, C - 10 points.	30	10	20
<b>Maximum Possible Points (A or B or C or D or E)</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

D: trailhead supports adjacent natural area.  
 SUPPLEMENTAL- amenity to good quality natural resources (SW Meridian Uplands Preserve)

**7. FINANCIAL NEEDS OF THE APPLICANT**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
DNR will score this section based on available statewide data and the geographical location of the proposed project using United Way’s ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) index.	5-40	25	25
<b>Maximum Possible Points (5-40)</b>	<b>5-40</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

25 ALICE score

**8. URBAN AREA RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES (PARKS WITHIN URBAN BOUNDARIES AS DEFINED BY THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU)**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) Park is within the political boundaries of a core or inner ring city for a Metropolitan Statistical Area.	60	60	60
B) Park is within the Urbanized Area for a Metropolitan Statistical Area	45		
C) Park is within the political boundaries of a core city for a Micropolitan Statistical Area	30		
D) Park is within an Urbanized Cluster--areas surrounding the core city of a Micropolitan Statistical Area or other, smaller communities defined as Urban Clusters.	15		
E) Park is not within an Urban Area	0		
Urban Area in which the project is located:	<i>Lansing Metro</i>		
<b>Maximum Possible Points (A or B or C or D or E)</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

A: *Lansing Metro*

**9. APPLICANT MATCH\***

Local Match Percentage	5 ALICE	10 or 15 ALICE	20 or 25 ALICE	30 or 35 ALICE	40 ALICE
0-25%	0	0	0	0	10
26-29%	0	0	10	15	20
30-39%	0	10	15	25	30
40-49%	10	15	25	35	40
50%+	15	25	35	40	45

\* Only match that is documented and secure is used to score this criterion.

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
<b>Maximum Possible Points</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

30% match at 25 ALICE

**10. ENTRANCE FEES**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) No entrance fees; OR Site is readily accessible by methods other than the automobile (applicant must demonstrate this through site records or other means) and there is no entrance fee when using these alternative methods to get to the park (e.g., public transportation, bicycle, walk-in); OR Entrance fees in place with partial or complete waiver available and applicant can demonstrate that the waiver policy is effective in bringing people with low incomes into the park.	25	25	25
B) Entrance fees in place with partial or full waiver but effectiveness in bringing people with low incomes into the park is questionable; OR Park entrance fees are waived, reduced, or by-donation-only on a regular basis for all users.	15		
C) Entrance fees in place with no waiver.	0		
<b>Maximum Possible Points (A or B or C)</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

A: no proposed entrance fees

**11. UNIVERSAL ACCESS DESIGN**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) 1.) Prior to April 1 of the application year, the applicant obtained a project review from a person with a disability in their community, an organization representing people with disabilities or an advocate for persons with disabilities. Documentation of this review was provided.	20	20	20
A) 2.) After April 1, but before October 1 of the application year, the applicant obtained a project review from a person with a disability in their community, an organization representing people with disabilities or an advocate for persons with disabilities. Documentation of this review was provided.	15		
B) The entire project is designed using the Principals of Universal Design with the intent to provide accessible recreation for all users. These criteria apply to scope items where ADA standards and guidelines apply.	25		
C) A majority of the project is designed using the Principals of Universal Design. These criteria apply for scope items where ADA standards and guidelines apply.	15	15	15

D) Some of the project is designed using the Principles of Universal Design. These criteria apply for scope items where ADA standards and guidelines apply.	10		
E) ADA standards and guidelines do not apply to the scope items OR scope items do not exceed ADA standards.	0		
<b>Maximum Possible Points (A1 or A2 + (B or C or D or E))</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>

**Comments to Applicant:**

*A: design review provided by Tri-County Office on Aging  
 B: 6ft access pathways; benches with backs/armrests and companion seating; drinking fountain with varied height; bathroom to be unisex,  
 SUPPLEMENTAL- parking meets ADA but does not exceed (3 spaces total -1 ADA)*

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS UNDER CORE DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA 1-11</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>310</b>

**PRIORITY PROJECT TYPES OF THE MNRTF BOARD**

**1. TRAILS**

	Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
A) Regional land trail/trailhead or documented or designated (state or federal) water trail: Development of a trail or trailhead which is documented, promoted, and easily identified (signs).	50	50	50
B) Local land trail/trailhead or documented water trail: Development of a trail or trailhead which is documented but not as promoted or easily identified as A.	30		
C) Trail amenities: The emphasis and intent of the overall project is focused on supporting amenities for a local or regional trail such as signs, kiosk, pavilions or other trail or trailhead items.	10		
D) Trail project does not meet the criteria for A, B, or C	0		

**2. REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT**

Maximum Possible Points	Preliminary Score	Final Score
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<p>A) The Department has determined that the project is regionally significant to their prosperity region, the state of Michigan, the Midwest or the country through a combination of their planning processes, diversified partners, and uniqueness and significance of natural resources or recreational opportunities. In addition, the project would provide public natural resource based recreational opportunities that are not otherwise available within a reasonable distance. When viewed in its entirety, the project is likely to significantly affect the quality of life for the regional community and visitors.</p>	50		
<p>B) Project is not regionally significant to the prosperity region, the State of Michigan, the Midwest, or the country.</p>	0	0	0
<p><b>Maximum Points for Priority Project Criteria = 50 Total Points (highest score from 1 or 2)</b></p>	<b>50</b>	50	50

**Board Priority Comments to Applicant:**

<p><i>A: MSU to Lake Lansing/Inter-urban/Lansing River Trail regional trail network.</i></p>			
<p><b>Maximum Points Possible = 500</b></p>	<p><b>Total Application Points</b></p>	340	360

**General Comments to Applicant:**

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2025 Meridian Township Parks & Recreation Budget Report - January 2026				
Park Millage				
Project Name	2025 Approved	2025 Expended/ Encumbered	2025 Remaining Balance	Updated Project Notes
Natural Resource Trust Fund Grant - Okemos Road Trailhead	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	Grant Recommended to Advisory Board by MDNR. Construction will occur in 2026
Towner Road and Ottawa Hills Inclusive Playground	\$350,000	\$338,590	\$11,410	Complete
Red Cedar Water Trail Project	\$10,000	\$5,700	\$4,300	Regional Water Trail Map Printing and EGLE permits for Harris Nature Center and Ferguson Launch Sites
Marshall Park Amenities	\$50,000	\$3,803	\$46,197	Awaiting Columbia watershed project for pathway. Picnic tables purchased and located. Additional costs to incur in 2026 is a pathway through the park.
Cricket Engineering/Site Prep - Proposed N. Me	\$100,000	\$2,515	\$97,485	Professional Services - wetland delineation complete
Towner Road Baseball Field Restoration	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	Complete

Meridian Township Parks & Recreation 2026 CIP Projects				
Park Millage				
Project Name	2026 Approved	2026 Expended/ Encumbered	2026 Remaining Balance	Updated Project Notes
Natural Resource Trust Fund Grant - Okemos Road Trailhead	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	Grant Recommended to Advisory Board by MDNR. Construction will occur in 2026. (Total Project Costs \$499,600)
Nancy Moore Pavilion and Restroom Renovation	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	Renovate the restroom facility and partner with the Moore Family to renovate the pavilion.
Farmers' Market Windscreen	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	Replace three damaged windscreens at Marketplace on the Green.
Ferguson Water Trail Landing	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	Installation of an ADA accessible floating dock system and approach.
Harris Nature Center Water Trail Landing	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	Installation of an ADA accessible floating dock system and approach.
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$460,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$460,000</b>	