



OLDER ADULTS NEEDS COMMITTEE

FINAL REPORT | JULY 22, 2024





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INTRODUCTION

Americans are aging. One in 5 Americans will be 65 years or older in 2040. This will have profound impacts on American society, including changes in our communities, health care, employment, the economy and government.

City Council recognized the need to understand some of the needs of our older residents and in 2023 formed the Older Adults Need Committee (see resolution in appendix).

The Committee's charter included the following responsibilities:

- To advise the City Council regarding activities, needs, and volunteer community opportunities for older individuals and groups in Novi
- To discuss programs, projects, and facilities as they pertain to Novi older adults
- To focus on dissemination of information and advocacy regarding recommended services for older adults in the areas of health information and referral, volunteer services, counseling, outreach to the home-bound, recreation, education, and other needs
- To identify best practices for programs and service delivery needs for Novi older adults
- To formulate and recommend plans to assist in meeting the critical needs of older adults and adults with disabilities

The Committee was composed of three members of City Council and four residents: Laura Casey, Kathy Crawford, Jay Dooley, Kim Nice, Brian Smith, Ericka Thomas, Debbie Wrobel

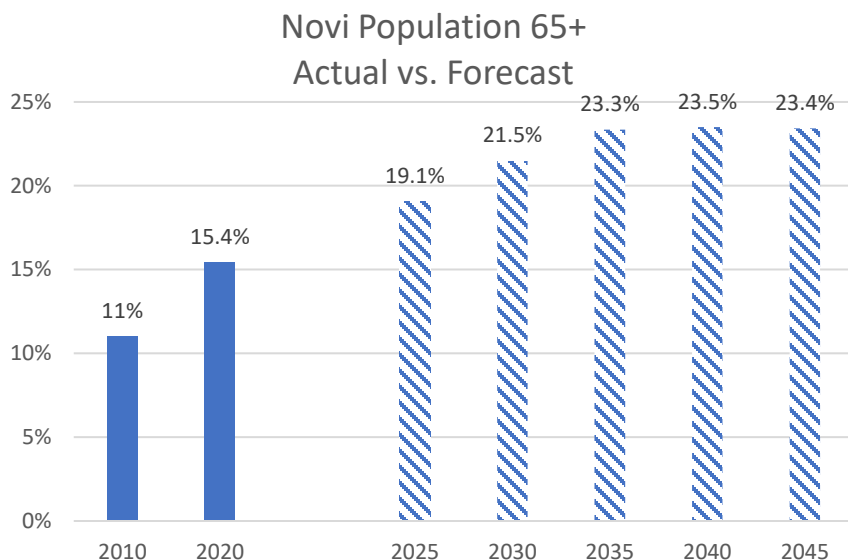
The Committee met bimonthly starting in February 2023. The Committee embarked on a learning journey, hearing presentations from the Novi Public Library, Novi Police, Novi Fire, Novi Code Enforcement, Novi Older Adult Services, Meadowbrook Commons, Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, Novi Community Planning Department and Novi Community Relations Department. The Committee heard from representatives from AgeWays (formerly Area Agency on Aging 1B), Oakland County Older Adult Services and Senior Center Managers from Hartland, Auburn Hills and OPC (Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township).

The Committee is grateful for all of the support from the individuals and teams listed above and the support and partnership of Kit Kieser, Older Adult Services Manager, Jeff Muck, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services and Melissa Morris, Deputy City Clerk.

While the Committee's charter was broad, there are a few areas that the Committee did not study and should be addressed by the appropriate City department or committee:

- The Committee did not make any recommendations relating to nomenclature and uses "older adult" and "senior" interchangeably in this report. The Committee recommends that the City revisit the topic and determine, with input from residents, which term is preferred for use
- The Committee believes that the Mobility Committee and the Long-Range Strategic Planning Committee should explore universal design and deeper means of engaging residents with disabilities

Novi's Older Adult Population



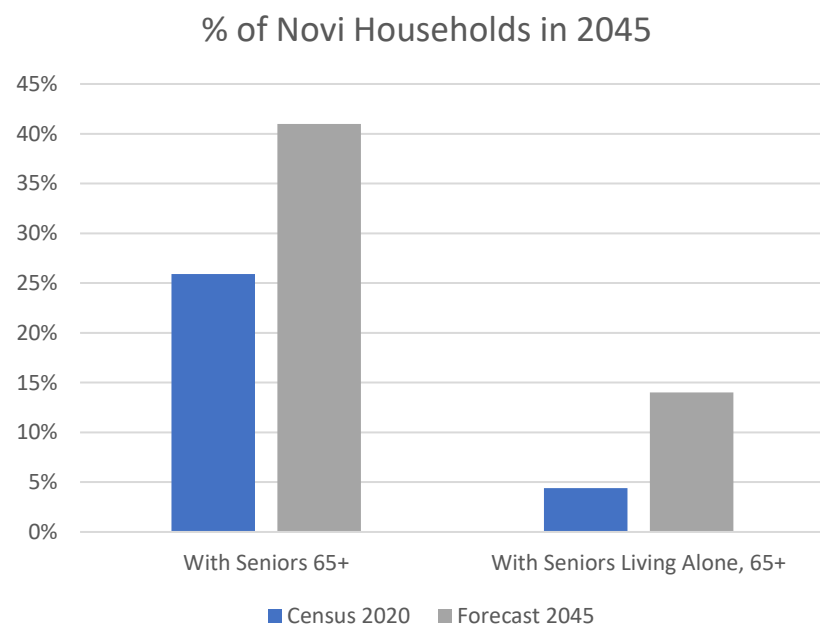
<https://cityofnovi.org/community/census-update>

Novi has seen a significant increase in population in the last two decades. Our population is now well over 66,000 residents according to the 2020 Census.

There are two data sources that are helpful to the City and our committee. The first is the US Census, last completed in 2020. The second is the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG). They provide demographic information on all of the municipalities in the 7-county region and have a methodology for forecasting populations, which is useful for our planning. The forecast data on the next two charts is from SEMCOG and can be found on the City's website.

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One particular note on the chart above: this data represents a percentage of total households. SEMCOG projections are that among the households with a resident over the age of 65, that resident will be living alone in 1/3 of those households.

One of the City's strengths, noted by residents and our business community, is our diversity. The City currently works purposefully to engage residents of all cultures in City activities and events. Older adults from different cultures, and their families, have differences in their perceptions of aging. The Committee believes that extra effort should be taken to communicate with and further understand the needs of the older adults across the various cultural groups in our City.

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Transportation

BACKGROUND/CURRENT STATE

The City of Novi's Older Adult Transportation program provides specialized transportation for residents of Novi age 55+ or those under 55 with a limiting disability with curb-to-curb service for doctor appointments, shopping, special events, classes, programs, etc. Please see the appendix for maps showing the most frequent destinations and pick-up locations.

The goal of the Older Adult Transportation program is "to provide a safe and cost-effective transportation option for Older Adult residents age 55+ or those under 55 with a limiting disability, which can help them stay active in the community, maintain their sense of independence, and reach a variety of destinations."

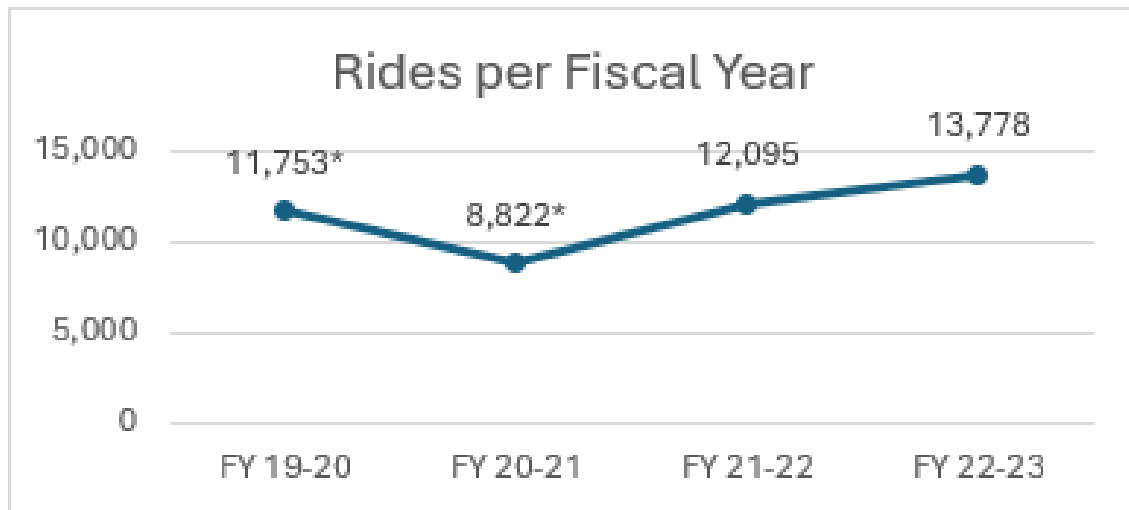
Senior Transportation Service was launched in 1986 with one vehicle and a volunteer driver through a partnership with Independence for Life Association. The fleet currently consists of 6 vehicles with 4 to 5 operating at any given time. The Transportation staff consists of 3 part time Transportation Schedulers, who serve as dispatchers, and 18 part time Transportation Drivers. Transportation is offered 8am-7pm Monday-Friday and 9am-3pm Saturday.

Rides must be scheduled at least one day in advance and riders can either call or email to schedule. Rides are free within the City and border shopping areas. Rides are \$5 one way outside of the city and within a 10-mile range (as measured from the Civic Center).

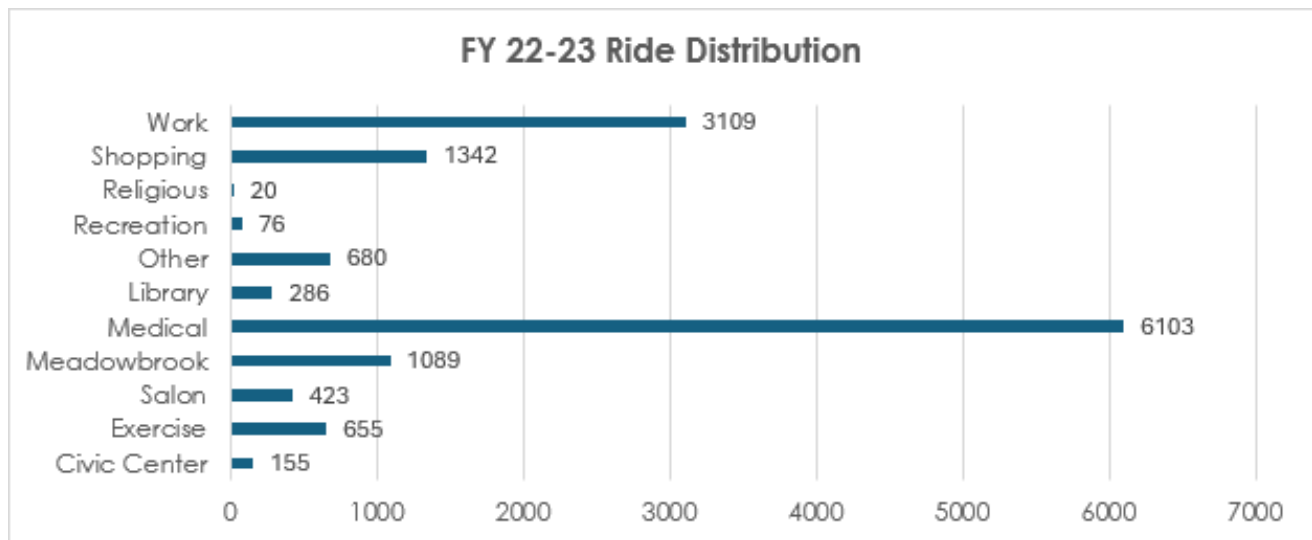
The voters of Oakland County passed a transit millage in 2022, which opens an opportunity to expand transit by working with a county-approved transit authority such as Western Oakland Transit Authority (WOTA) and People's Express (PEX). The cost for operating the service would be covered by the funding that Novi residents provide as part of the millage, but costs for rides are incremental.



Rides provided by Novi Older Adult Transportation – Historical Review



Rides provided by Novi Older Adult Transportation – FY 22-23



		Medical	Work	Other	Days Operated	Total Trips
FY 22-23	Q4	1,460	723	1,180	74	3,363
FY 23-24	Q1	1,609	633	1,447	77	3,689
FY 23-24	Q2	1,502	592	1,419	69	3,513
FY 23-24	Q3	1,509	465	1,318	70	3,292
Total		6,080	2,413	5,364	290	13,857
% of rides		43.88%	17.41%	38.71%		

Availability

While we require riders to schedule at least one day in advance, several factors are currently limiting our ability to provide rides with notice shorter than 7 days.

- A small number of riders in need of transport for multiple dialysis treatments each week. Appointments have strict arrival times and book an indefinite number of weeks into the future, which limits availability for other types of rides.
- We are not currently able to offer evening hours, which may exclude some residents from attending City events and activities.
- We are seeing an increase in rides from senior living facilities, where rides are more expensive

Retaining drivers

There is a consistent challenge with hiring and retaining drivers. To be competitive in recruitment and retention and match the current market rate for driver positions with similar or less responsibility, the City would need to increase starting salaries to \$18-\$20 an hour. The current starting salary is \$14 an hour.

Vehicle availability

The current lead time for obtaining any vehicle—ADA and non-ADA—is 12 months or more. To meet an increasing demand, we would need to increase the fleet by several vehicles. The current estimated cost of an ADA-outfitted van is approximately \$78,770.

TRANSPORTATION RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL ACTION



On October 6, 2023 the Committee presented early recommendations to City Council, including a strong recommendation that Council decide to join an Oakland County-approved transportation provider, like People's Express (PEX). This recommendation was based on the challenges noted above and the fact that Novi residents are now paying in to Oakland County transit per the millage passed in 2022. On March 18, 2024, City Council passed a resolution asking Oakland County to amend its agreement with People's Express (PEX) to include the City of Novi.

The City is planning to maintain two vehicles from the current fleet to be used for City-led older adult programs. Those vehicles are a 14-person van and an 8-person ADA-accessible shuttle.

As part of the transition from the City to PEX, a process has been built to have the City directly receive any rider complaints or issues so our staff is aware of what's happening and work with PEX to address and resolve.

Further action from the Committee included recommendations on subsidies on the cost of rides for residents. On April 22, the Committee recommended to Council that the City subsidize medical rides for residents 55+ and those with limiting disabilities that prevented them from driving. On May 6, the Committee recommended to Council that it expand the ride subsidies for to include all rides for residents 55+ and those with limiting disabilities. Council approved both recommendations.

Additional opportunities that the Committee discussed relative to enhancements to the City of Novi service should also be explored with PEX at a later date to see if they are feasible for PEX to adopt:

- Ensure that shuttles are stocked with each month's calendar of activities and other senior-focused materials.
- Include a social services brochure in the packet that each new rider receives.
- Continue to educate drivers in "active listening" and how to recognize to ensure that they are sharing concerns with our Social Services coordinator so that the City can offer help/direct resources if appropriate.

Housing

BACKGROUND/CURRENT STATE

As the baby boom generation ages, communities are beginning to focus on 'aging in place' and 'aging in community' to support older adults with staying in their current homes or finding an affordable, suitable place to live while remaining in their community.

For older adults staying in their homes, things like minimizing or eliminating trip and fall hazards, single floor living spaces or lift chairs/elevators, refitted bathrooms, and potentially help with maintenance issues are critical.

When transitioning to a new space, affordability and availability of assisted living and memory care become more important.

Other parts of aging in place/community include access to transportation, and places where people can gather. These are addressed in other sections of this report.

Older adults in Novi may be long time residents who want to stay in Novi, people moving to Novi to be closer to family already living here, or people moving to Novi for other reasons. It is important to help ensure that people don't feel pushed out due to circumstances outside of their own control.

The goal of aging in place or aging in community is to help people stay connected to family, social groups, medical care, and other activities that they've been a part of for years.

Aging in Place

Aging in place presents many challenges. A 2-story house with a large yard that was well suited to a young family can present safety and maintenance challenges for people as they age. Maintenance costs and property taxes can be a challenge for people living on a fixed income.

Aging in Place - assistance

The committee discussed resources currently available for older adults living in Novi

- Fire Department
 - Smoke alarm installation/inspection
 - 'File of Life' - important health and other information in a prominent location in the home in case of emergency

- Fall Prevention, grab bar recommendations
- Door key lock boxes
- Police Department
 - Wellness checks
 - Fraud prevention presentations
 - 'Citizens with Special Needs' database
- Code enforcement sometimes sees issues early that may indicate issues
 - Yard maintenance
 - Snow removal
 - General home maintenance
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Loan closet
- AARP Tax assist
- Meals on Wheels
- AgeWays (formerly Area Agency on Aging 1-B) can connect older adults in Novi to needed resources
- Senior targeted programming through Parks and Recreation

Connecting residents to available resources can be a challenge, particularly if individuals are not connected with email, social media or other online information. Novi's 'Engage' magazine has already been redesigned to make it more usable by older adults - larger print, color coded section for older adult activities and programs. This outreach could be extended to include presentations to HOAs on available resources, making flyers available in older adult transit vehicles and at the Novi Library. Additionally, we now have the opportunity to leverage our new Studio VI to do more senior programs and videos.

Other ideas discussed to support aging in place include

- Code Compliance assistance program. Connecting residents to volunteers and professionals to help as needed with home maintenance, lawn and snow services, sidewalk hazards, etc.
- Technology training - using smart watches, smart phones, smart speakers to help with daily life and get emergency assistance
- Offer assistance for dryer vent cleaning

Aging in Community

People remain in or leave a community for a variety of reasons. For older adults, proximity to family, health care, and recreation are important. Moving from Novi to warmer climates or to be near family is a factor. Wherever they live, affordability is critical.



Aging in Community - Meadowbrook Commons

Novi currently has one older adult living facility for individuals 55+ - Meadowbrook Commons, at Meadowbrook and Cherry Hill Roads. It is owned by the city, and managed by KSG Prestige Property Management. It is an independent living space, with 1- and 2-bedroom apartments in the 3-story main building, and detached 2-bedroom ranch style homes. Waiting list times vary, with longer waits for the detached ranch units. At the time this report was created, there were 198 applicants on the wait list and 29% of those applicants are currently Novi residents.

Current Novi residents wishing to move into Meadowbrook Commons are given priority, and currently make up approximately 30% of the

residents. It is not known how many residents moved from other communities to be near family in Novi.

Aging in Community - housing stock, planning and zoning

At our January 29, 2024 meeting, Novi City Planner Barb McBeth spoke to the committee regarding Community Development's role in Senior Housing (see appendix for presentation excerpts.) She outlined ordinances that have been established to set standards that depend on different zoning districts. For age-qualified housing

- RM-1 allow increased density for efficiency units from 5% to 30%, 1-bedroom apartments from 20% to all remaining units.
- RM-2 allow increased density for efficiency units from 10% to 40%, 1-bedroom apartments from 33% to all remaining units.

Detached single family homes are currently 50% of Novi's housing stock and 65% of proposed development. 40% of Novi's housing stock is multi-unit condos and apartments, 7% is manufactured housing.

Housing in the 'Missing Middle' fills the gap between detached single-family homes and mid-rise apartments with medium density housing such as duplexes, courtyard apartments, townhomes, and live/work spaces. Smaller units with reduced lot sizes in walkable areas are well suited to older adult living. Additional incentives for developers to include age-qualified housing such as height bonuses or increased density should be considered to help fill the 'Missing Middle.

The Master Plan should also identify specific areas in the City that will be in proximity to healthcare and other services, shopping, and recreational facilities for developing senior living facilities to enable the population of Novi to age in community.

HOUSING RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL ACTION

- The City should promote Meadowbrook Commons as city-owned and affordable to ensure that Novi residents are aware of this being an option for City residents
- Work with local realtors to find out why seniors are moving out of Novi - make sure we know the problems we are trying to solve.
- Review ordinances impacting auxiliary dwelling units (ADU) and additions - adding first floor living space, parent suites, etc. can help people stay in their homes or move in with family members. Potential issues include HOA covenants, and how to prevent or control use of ADUs as Air BnBs or rental units.
- The Committee has also expressed an interest in finding ways to encourage Planning Commission and City Council to seek out opportunities to encourage the development of first-floor living units (houses or condominiums) as a way to try to retain residents.
 - Understand if there are ways to incentivize developers to build single floor housing in one story buildings or multi-floor buildings with elevator service, or dedicate a portion of new projects to 55+ living spaces.
- Identify areas in the master plan for older adult living - near shopping, recreational and medical facilities.
- Add 'reason for moving to Meadowbrook Commons' to Meadowbrook Commons intake form, to gather data on why people outside Novi are moving in. This will help assess the potential need for other city owned senior housing. (currently in progress)
- Maintain the list of current housing stock targeting older adults and senior living facilities (see appendix)
- Continue to find new ways to reach out to older adults to deliver information on available programs and assistance to help them age in place
- Promote existing platforms for home repair/maintenance service sources and ratings
 - Novi Home Helper guide
 - Angie's List
 - Yelp
 - Google

Senior Center

BACKGROUND/CURRENT STATE

In recent years, the importance of social spaces beyond the home and workplace, often referred to as "third places," has gained recognition as essential components of community well-being. For our senior population, the need for such spaces becomes even more pronounced. As our city's demographics evolve and our senior community continues to grow, it is imperative to prioritize the establishment of dedicated senior space. This third space would serve not only as a hub for social interaction and engagement but also as a vital resource to enhance the overall health, connectivity, and vitality of our seniors. Such space would provide a welcoming environment where seniors can connect, participate in activities, access resources, and ultimately foster a sense of belonging and community. This report outlines the compelling case for why a senior space is crucial for addressing the needs and enriching the lives of our senior residents.

In January 2024, City Council met for its biennial goal setting session. One item that was briefly discussed during the meeting was the need for a community center. The intent of a community center would be to have space for all Novi residents, with either space or time of day designated for older adults only. While this section of our report speaks to the need for a "senior center", it should be understood that the ideal for this center would be as a component of a larger community center and not a stand-alone location for only older adults.

Current City Facilities

The Meadowbrook Commons currently serves as dedicated space for the Novi senior community, hosting activities like fitness classes and Meals on Wheels. However, the existing setup is confined to a single large room, which is insufficient to meet the needs of existing Meadowbrook Commons residents, much less our expanding senior population. Our seniors have clearly outgrown this limited space, underscoring the urgent need for a more expansive facility to foster the vital "third space" where seniors can truly thrive and engage in meaningful activities.



Residents have provided feedback on other City facilities like Lakeshore Park, which they find hard to get to and too loud for senior programs. Additionally, residents noted that Library programs for seniors tend to be during the day and seniors don't want to be in the Library during the afternoon due to the activity of the Teen Space. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff has shared there is a lack of space at the Civic Center for senior programs, given the increase in Youth programs and increased early voting opportunities with elections, among other uses.

Focus Group

In October 2023 the committee commissioned a focus group to learn more about the senior needs. We specifically wanted an improved understanding of what seniors need in terms of services and activities and what this group believes the City of Novi's role should be when meeting those needs. Please see the appendix for the focus group report.

Based on the key results from the focus groups comprised of Novi residents aged 50 and above, several important findings have emerged regarding the needs and expectations for a community center with a focus on senior services:

Current Likes and Dislikes:

Participants generally appreciate Novi's existing older adult service offerings but feel the city is catching up compared to neighboring communities.

The desire for a single location community center is prevalent, aiming to consolidate programs and activities for seniors.

What is Missing and Needed:

A warm pool for exercise is notably absent from available services, with strong support from participants for its inclusion.

There is a desire for more/increased enrichment activities (arts and concerts), physical fitness options (pickleball, chair volleyball, Zumba), social programs (trips, cards, coffee shop), and support services (meals on wheels, transportation).

Age-appropriate exercise facilities, such as a warm water pool and exercise room, are deemed essential.

Definition of a "Senior Center":

Participants prefer the concept of a "community center" over a strictly labeled "senior center," emphasizing inclusivity while focusing on senior-specific needs and programs and areas.

Willingness to Pay for Services:

Participants understand the financial implications of new programming and express a willingness to pay for activities, classes and programs.

Support is voiced for funding options including a small millage or monthly fees, with consideration for future generations benefiting from the facility.

Role of the City and Community Building:

Participants stress the importance of community-building opportunities within a single location community center.

Communication of services and activities is key, with participants highlighting the need to stay informed and involved.

The City should also focus on the outreach to the minority community to fully understand their wants and needs.

Preference for Renovation Over New Construction:

Renovating existing space for the community center is favored by a majority of participants over new construction.

The feedback from Novi residents aged 50 and above underscores a strong desire for a comprehensive community center with a dedicated space for seniors, featuring a warm water pool, diverse enrichment activities, and social opportunities in a consolidated and accessible location. The community expects the city to play a proactive role in meeting these needs through transparent communication, responsible funding approaches, and strategic facility development that enhances community well-being and inclusivity across generations.

Survey

In February 2024, the city utilized Flash Vote to take a community survey on Recreation (survey responses can be found in the appendix.) Respondents indicated that many of them utilized city spaces for recreation including the Civic Center (20.1%) and Meadowbrook Commons (7.3). Just over half of them utilize home fitness equipment. And almost half (49.8%) of respondents utilized recreational spaces outside of Novi.

Respondents were asked what services and amenities they would like in a possible new multi-generational center and an indoor walking or running track was overwhelmingly indicated with 73%. The next most sought-after amenity was a warm water pool with 61.5% of respondents indicating this would be important in a new facility. The third highest ranked

amenity desired is exercise equipment at 59.3%. Other notable items requested include gymnasium space and dedicated senior space.

When specifically asked about funding, the response with the most support was an intergenerational center with a larger tax increase with 35.2% of respondents indicating support. However, 23.8% said they would not support any new facility if it would result in an increase in taxes. The choices of responses were as follows:

- Wouldn't support any new facility if it increases my taxes
- Would support new senior center space, if it doesn't increase my taxes
- Would support new senior space (but not an all-ages recreation center), with some tax increase
- Would support an intergenerational center with a larger tax increase
- Not Sure
- Other

However, several respondents wrote in options of support with limited or moderate tax increases, indicating the need to ensure any proposal includes a value proposition.

Respondents were provided with an opportunity for comments and suggestions regarding a possible multi-generational space. Of the 100 comments provided, about 74 were generally in favor of a multi-generational space with comments like, "I love the Livonia Rec Center. I would definitely support something like that." Or "The city could use a community center. The library is currently shouldering a lot of the responsibility, without the funding to support it." About 15 respondents were in opposition with comments like "Taxes are high enough and the green space in Novi is disappearing too quickly. Preserve those things instead of building more." Or "Not a critical need for my household." While other comments were neither in favor or opposed but just sharing a point of view like, "Please don't drain wetland and cut down trees to build it."



Various types of amenities were recommended through the survey such as indoor walking tracks, basketball, volleyball and indoor pickleball courts. Meeting rooms, activity rooms and auditorium space. A cafe, with some flex working space maker space with more machinery than what is available at the library, An indoor pool that can offer swim lessons for the youth is also needed.

The Sterling Heights Community Center hosted many of the members of the City Council for a tour in April. Walking into the facility, the sound of the community spending time together was notable. The facility had

no fees for residents with a minimal fee for non-residents. There were drop-in activities available such as basketball, a walking track and e-sports as well as having many spaces for programming. Sterling heights has a dedicated Senior Center across the street from the community center. The funding for the Sterling Heights Community Center was provided by a millage .67 mils for capital and .3 mils for operating expenses. An outdoor pavilion was built that houses a farmers' market in the summer and ice rink in the winter. Sterling Heights also created a three-season building in their senior center a skate park and added outdoor exercise stations.

Numerous survey respondents have suggested additional centers to consider as potential models, such as the Livonia Rec Center, the Summit in Canton, and the Hawk in Farmington Hills. Given the considerable concern regarding costs, it is crucial that we thoroughly evaluate these centers and make decisions ensuring viability and sustainability. It is imperative to meticulously account for both construction and operational expenses.

SENIOR CENTER RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL ACTION

The Committee discussed that there may be a potential opportunity to have the City rent space in an existing building to develop a "interim" senior center until further plans for a community center can/will come to fruition. This will enable the City to meet the need we have for programming space, provide one location for older adult programming and provide the "third space" that our residents are seeking. We can also refine our skills in operating a senior center by starting with an interim location.

Staff reached out to apartment complexes, condominium associations and churches to understand if there was interest in allowing us to rent space in these locations. Unfortunately, this was not much interest in this opportunity from these groups for a variety of reasons, including the fact that some of the locations wanted events to be resident-only and some of the buildings were built before the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and did not meet current accessibility standards. There are, however, other existing buildings that might provide an appropriate option. The Committee recommends that City Council provide the resources to staff to locate, build and staff an interim senior center at an existing location in the City.

Additionally, the Committee discussed the idea of entering into a partnership or partnerships with other local communities to create a joint senior center. While there are some practical challenges related to funding across multiple municipalities or counties, and this idea is counter to the larger vision of a community center, this idea has some merit for an “interim” solution and the City is encouraged to open dialogue with neighboring communities.

With the intent of conducting further due diligence, the Committee recommends that City Council hire a consultant to develop a proposal with a range of options for potential community/senior center designs and costs for Council to consider. The proposal should use the input provided in this report, including ideas like a walking track, pool and gathering space, among others.

Advocacy

BACKGROUND/CURRENT STATE

In 2013, City Council passed a resolution establishing the Older Adults Advisory Board (the resolution forming the Advisory Board is located in the appendix.) The Board, comprised of 5 Novi residents of varying ages, has been meeting consistently since its inception. The work of the Board is coordinated by the Older Adult Services team in Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) and Board members are appointed by the PRCS Director.

The responsibilities for this Board, as identified in the original Council resolution, “would be to create new and innovating ideas, new trends in programming for both older adults (70+) and attracting the “boomer” generation (55+).” Additionally, the Board was charged with performing the following functions:

- Contribute to the completion of the twenty-five strategies that were outlines (sic) in the Older Adult Strategic Plan
- Assist the Library with strategic plan items pertaining to older adults
- Contribute to the financial support of the department by securing leads for sponsors for programming, special events and for transportation advertising program
- Become champions of advocacy for older adults in the community and to develop connections in Novi that will benefit older adults
- Promote community involvement

As noted in the introduction, the Older Adult Needs Committee was formed to look holistically at the needs of our senior residents and provide recommendations to Council, including what the future of advocacy for Novi's older adults looks like. This committee was intended to sunset when its work was complete, which will be done by a resolution from City Council after a request from the Chair of the committee.

ADVOCACY RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL ACTION



The Committee recommends that City Council establish a Commission on Older Adults, with the staff liaison being the serving Older Adult Services manager. The Commission should be composed of seven residents and members should be appointed by City Council in the same manner as all other City Boards and Commissions. The Commission charter should include responsibilities such as:

- Identifying gaps in services, programs and resources (including budget) and making recommendations for improvements to City Council
- Actively engaging in community outreach to promote services, programs and resources to Novi residents, including help in identifying sponsors to help support existing and new programs
- Setting annual or biennial goals based on their understanding of older adult needs, that they hold themselves accountable to meet
- Provide an annual report to City Council outlining the needs of our older adult population and the actions the Committee has undertaken in the past year
- Participate in strategy sessions for and community outreach related to a community center, should City Council decide to pursue the development of a community center
- Recommend podcast/ video programming topics for broadcast through Studio No.VI or other City communication channels

The Commission should target their efforts on residents who are 55 and older, ensuring inclusion of all cultural groups and recognizing that unpaid (family) caregivers have related needs and should be considered members of the target audience.

The Commission should expect to meet monthly, although the Commission may determine to meet more frequently than that as needs require. Commission members should also expect that attendance at OAS programs and events is a necessary component of their responsibilities.

The Committee discussed the “Blue Zone” solutions and the Netflix show “Live to 100” and suggests that the future Advocacy committee identify if there are aspects of these solutions that they should include in their planning.

Programs

BACKGROUND/CURRENT STATE



The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services team reviewed the current programming strategy with the Committee early in our schedule. The Committee determined that it would not provide specific feedback on the types of programs offered by PRCS and Older Adult Services. We believe that staff knowledge and the processes followed by OAS and PRCS to determine the types of programs offered are outside of our individual and collective expertise and that we would defer to their experience. Members of the Committee, however, heard directly from residents that there is a need for more support and programming related to learning about Medicare

annually and provided that input to the PRCS team.

Additionally, there are existing challenges with finding available space in the City to offer additional programs. The Civic Center space provides programming for all ages, in addition to civic functions like elections and groups scheduling meetings or their own events. Other locations in the City are also fully utilized for programs. Any opportunity to increase older adult programming is constrained by space limitations.

PROGRAMS RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL ACTION

The Committee made a recommendation that City Council consider adding to the OAS team staff by changing an existing part-time role into a full-time role. City Council approved that recommendation and staff hired a full-time programmer in 2023.

The Committee members also noted broadly that they believe that there was a need for more programming for our residents, but recognize that the existing limitations with space/locations and staff that are the purview of City Council and the Administration to address.

Communication

BACKGROUND/CURRENT STATE

As a matter of practice, the City uses every available channel to communicate with residents. The most common for our older adult population, as it is for all residents, is the Engage Magazine. Specifically, there is a section for older adults (55+) called Enhance, which includes information on OAS programs scheduled for the next quarter and consistently promotes services like transportation and the durable medical equipment loan closet among others. The Committee provided input to the Community Relations Department after a review of the Engage magazine. Among the recommendations were to increase the font size and to eliminate the use of white font on certain color backgrounds as that was hard to read and to ensure that there is a quick visual hint to make it easy to find the section within the magazine.

Additionally, the Committee provided feedback that there should be an older adult-specific e-newsletter, distinct from the e-engage from PRCS. The intent is to provide the most current program schedule and information as a reminder and encouragement to enroll in programs. One component of the e-newsletter should be a monthly calendar of activities. This calendar should include both City and Library activities and be available both electronically and in a print format available throughout the City.

With the creation of Studio No.VI, the City has the unique opportunity to develop programming specifically for our older adults. This could include monthly recurring series, recording and replaying exercise programs and other content of interest to older adults. Given the popularity of the PRCS “cutting the cable” program, older adults are interested in other means of consuming content and offering City-produced content on-demand is a great value-add for our older residents.

COMMUNICATION RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL ACTION

The Community Relations Department executed the recommended changes (e.g., font size, header color, visual hint to identify the Enhance section) to the Engage Magazine within a few months of the initial recommendation, starting with the Winter 2024 edition.

Community Relations and OAS should continue to prioritize an e-enhance newsletter to be launched as soon as reasonably practical.

The development of a City-wide monthly activity calendar, while complicated due to the different means the Library and the City use to create their events calendar, should also be prioritized, which likely requires additional staff resources.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Listed below is a summary of the recommendations provided in this report. For further detail, please see the specific section of the report.

Transportation

The Committee recommends to City Council that:

- ✓ The City should join an Oakland County-approved transportation provider like People's Express (PEX). *Completed*
- ✓ The City should maintain vehicles from current fleet to be used for City-led older adult programs. *Completed*
- ✓ The City should design a process to receive rider complaints instead of having that feedback go directly to PEX. *Completed*
- ✓ The City should pay for the cost of rides within the PEX boundaries for residents 55+ and those with limiting disabilities that prevent them from driving. *Completed*
- ❑ The City should explore with PEX additional opportunities like:
 - Ensuring that shuttles are stocked with each month's calendar of activities and other senior-focused materials.
 - Including a social services brochure in the packet that each new rider receives.
 - Continuing to educate drivers in "active listening" and how to recognize to ensure that they are sharing concerns with our Social Services coordinator so that the City can offer help/direct resources if appropriate.

Housing

The Committee recommends to City Council that:

- ❑ The City should promote Meadowbrook Commons as city-owned and affordable.
- ❑ The City should work with local realtors to find out why seniors are moving out of Novi.
- ❑ The City should review ordinances impacting auxiliary dwelling units (ADU) and additions.
- ❑ The Committee has also expressed an interest in finding ways to encourage Planning Commission and City Council to seek out opportunities to encourage the development of first-floor living units (houses or condominiums) as a way to try to retain residents.
- ❑ The City should identify areas in the master plan for older adult living - near shopping, recreational and medical facilities.

- ❑ The City should add 'reason for moving to Meadowbrook Commons' to Meadowbrook Commons intake form, to gather data on why people outside Novi are moving in. This will help assess the potential need for other city owned senior housing. (currently in progress)
- ❑ The City should maintain the list of current housing stock targeting older adults and senior living facilities
- ❑ The City should continue to find new ways to reach out to older adults to deliver information on available programs and assistance to help them age in place
- ❑ The City should promote existing platforms for home repair/maintenance service sources and ratings

Senior Center

The Committee recommends to City Council that:

- ❑ The City should investigate if there is a potential opportunity to have the City rent space in an existing building to develop a “interim” senior center until further plans for a community center can/will come to fruition.
- ❑ The City should investigate if there is a potential opportunity to enter into a partnership or partnerships with other local communities to create a joint senior center. While there are some practical challenges related to funding across multiple municipalities or counties, and this idea is counter to the larger vision of a community center, this idea has some merit for an “interim” solution and the City is encouraged to open dialogue with neighboring communities.
- ❑ The City Council should consider hiring a consultant to develop a proposal with a range of options for potential community/senior center designs and costs for Council to consider.

Advocacy

The Committee recommends to City Council that:

- ❑ City Council establish a Commission on Older Adults, with the staff liaison being the serving Older Adult Services manager.
- ❑ The Committee discussed the “Blue Zone” solutions and the Netflix show “Live to 100” and suggests that the future Advocacy committee identify if there are aspects of these solutions that they should include in their planning.

Programs

The Committee recommends to City Council that:

- ✓ City Council should add an additional resource to the OAS team by changing an existing part-time role to a full-time role. *Completed*

Communication

The Committee recommends to City Council that:

- ✓ The Community Relations Department should make a few changes to the Enhance section of the Engage Magazine (e.g., font size, header color, visual hint to identify the Enhance section). *Completed*
- ❑ The Community Relations Department and OAS should continue to prioritize an e-enhance newsletter to be launched as soon as reasonably practical.
- ❑ The development of a City-wide monthly activity calendar, should also be prioritized and additional staff resources would be necessary.

Appendix

OLDER ADULT NEEDS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

CITY OF NOVI
COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING
A CITY COUNCIL OLDER ADULT NEEDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Novi, County of Oakland, Michigan, held in the City Hall of said City on _____, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. Prevailing Eastern Time.

PRESENT: Councilmembers _____

ABSENT: Councilmembers _____

The following preamble and Resolution were offered by Councilmember _____ and supported by Councilmember _____.

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, older residents of the City of Novi are valued members of the community; and

WHEREAS, older adults are a diverse group of homeowners, taxpayers, employees, civic leaders, artists, and more; and

WHEREAS, ageism and social isolation experienced by seniors can lead to increased mortality and poor health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the City can help to address those and other issues by providing opportunities for education, physical activity, and social participation throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it advisable to consider all of its options for addressing needs and issues faced by older adults in the City, from health to security to housing; and

WHEREAS, the City Council previously established (2013) an Older Adult Services Advisory Board to advise and assist and report to the Parks Recreation & Cultural Services (PCRS) Commission and Department; and

WHEREAS, the Board has over ensuing years provided such advice and service in exemplary fashion, but the City Council now finds that establishing an Older Adults Needs Advisory Committee to report directly to the City Council as an advisory body would help the Council and the City empower seniors, create more opportunities for their input into City programs, understand senior needs, projects, and events, and would provide a

broader means by which seniors can comment upon and be involved in issues and decisions that affect them; and

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of the Committee would be to assess and understand necessities by, for, and with seniors throughout the City and to provide input to the City on matters involving older adults while reporting to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Committee shall be established in the first instance for a period of one year. It may be renewed thereafter as deemed necessary by the City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Committee to be known as the "Older Adult Needs Committee" is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall have seven (7) members, appointed by the Mayor with the approval of City Council:
 - Three (3) Members of City Council
 - Four (4) Members of the Community

A Staff liaison(s) to the Committee shall appointed by the City Manager.

3. The Committee's term of existence shall be for a period of one (1) year commencing on the date of this Resolution.
4. The Committee shall determine the number of times it shall meet regularly, and shall be charged with performing the following functions:
 - To advise the City Council regarding activities, needs, and volunteer community opportunities for older individuals and groups in Novi.
 - To discuss programs, projects, and facilities as they pertain to Novi older adults.
 - To focus on dissemination of information and advocacy regarding recommended services for older adults in the areas of health information and referral, volunteer services, counseling, outreach to the home-bound, recreation, education, and other needs.
 - To identify best practices for programs and service delivery needs for Novi older adults.
 - To formulate and recommend plans to assist in meeting the critical needs of older adults and adults with disabilities.

5. The Committee shall, at its first meeting following adoption of this resolution, choose a chairperson and secretary from among its members. All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public, in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

AYES:

NAYS:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

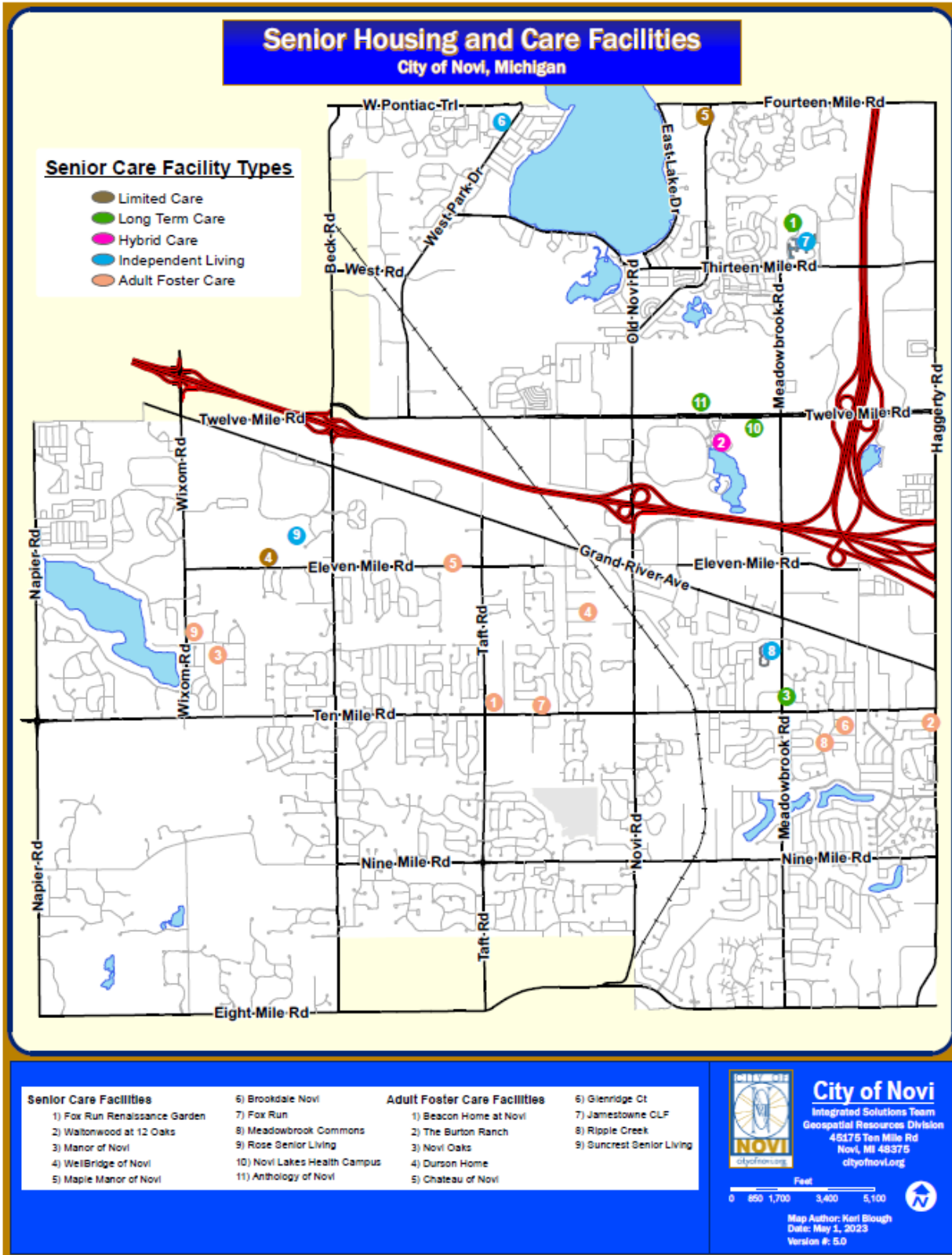
Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi, County of Oakland, and State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held this ____ day of _____, 2023, and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting have been kept and made available to the public as required by said Act.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk
City of Novi

SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES IN NOVI



MAP ID	FACILITY NAME	ADDRESS	CONTACT NAME	CONTACT PHONE	AFTER HOURS PHONE	MANAGED CARE BEDS	REHAB BEDS	HEALTH & REHAB BEDS	RESIDENTS
1	Fox Run Renaissance Gardens	41215 Fox Run Rd	Security/EMS	248-668-8600	313-299-1498	132	44	0	0
2	Waltonwood at 12 Oaks	27475 Huron Cir	Randy Norman, Maint. Superintendent	248-735-1500		94	0	0	477
3	Manor of Novi	24500 Meadowbrook Rd	Phil Hussey, Maintenance Director	248-477-2000	248-330-4310	140	0	0	0
4	WellBridge of Novi	48300 Eleven Mile Rd		248-346-2954		0	0	100	0
5	Maple Manor of Novi	31215 Novi Rd		248-624-8800	248-626-1114	0	0	140	0
6	Brookdale Novi	45182 West Park Dr		248-236-5625		0	0	0	113
7	Fox Run	41000 13 Mile Rd		248-668-8600		0	0	0	1200
8	Meadowbrook Commons	25075 Meadowbrook Rd		248-347-0414		0	0	0	175
9	Rose Senior Living	47400 Heritage Dr		248-513-8900		0	0	182	0
10	Novi Lakes Health Campus	41795 Twelve Mile Rd		248-468-1780		0	0	90	0
11	Anthology of Novi	42400 Twelve Mile Rd		248-308-5110		106	0	77	0
1	Beacon Home At Novi	45350 Ten Mile Rd	Main Phone	269-427-8400		6	0	0	0
2	The Burton Ranch	39413 Burton Dr	Main Phone	248-302-1918		6	0	0	0
3	Novi Oaks	24701 Dinser Dr	Main Phone	248-449-3119		6	0	0	0
4	Durson Home	44039 Durson St	Main Phone	248-380-4663		6	0	0	0
5	Chateau of Novi	45750 Eleven Mile Rd	Main Phone	248-380-4663		6	0	0	0
6	Glenridge Ct	24031 Glen Ridge Ct	Main Phone	248-302-1918		6	0	0	0
7	Jamestowne CLF	24243 Jamestowne Rd	Main Phone	248-348-9874		6	0	0	0
8	Ripple Creek	23839 Ripple Creek	Main Phone	248-442-8810		6	0	0	0
9	Suncrest Senior Living	25390 Wixom Rd	Main Phone	248-380-0077		6	0	0	0

Limited Care

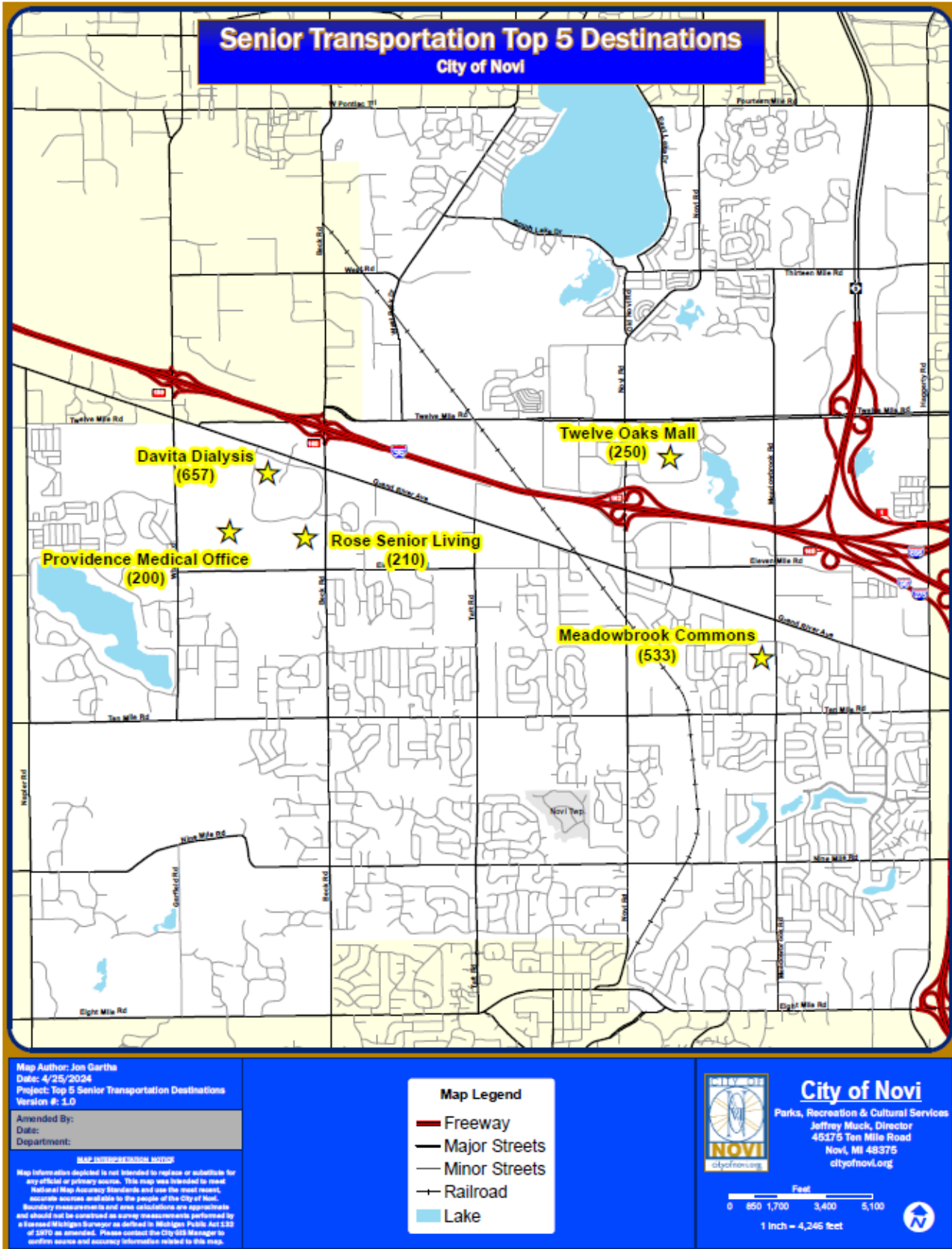
Long Term Care

Hybrid Care

Independent Living

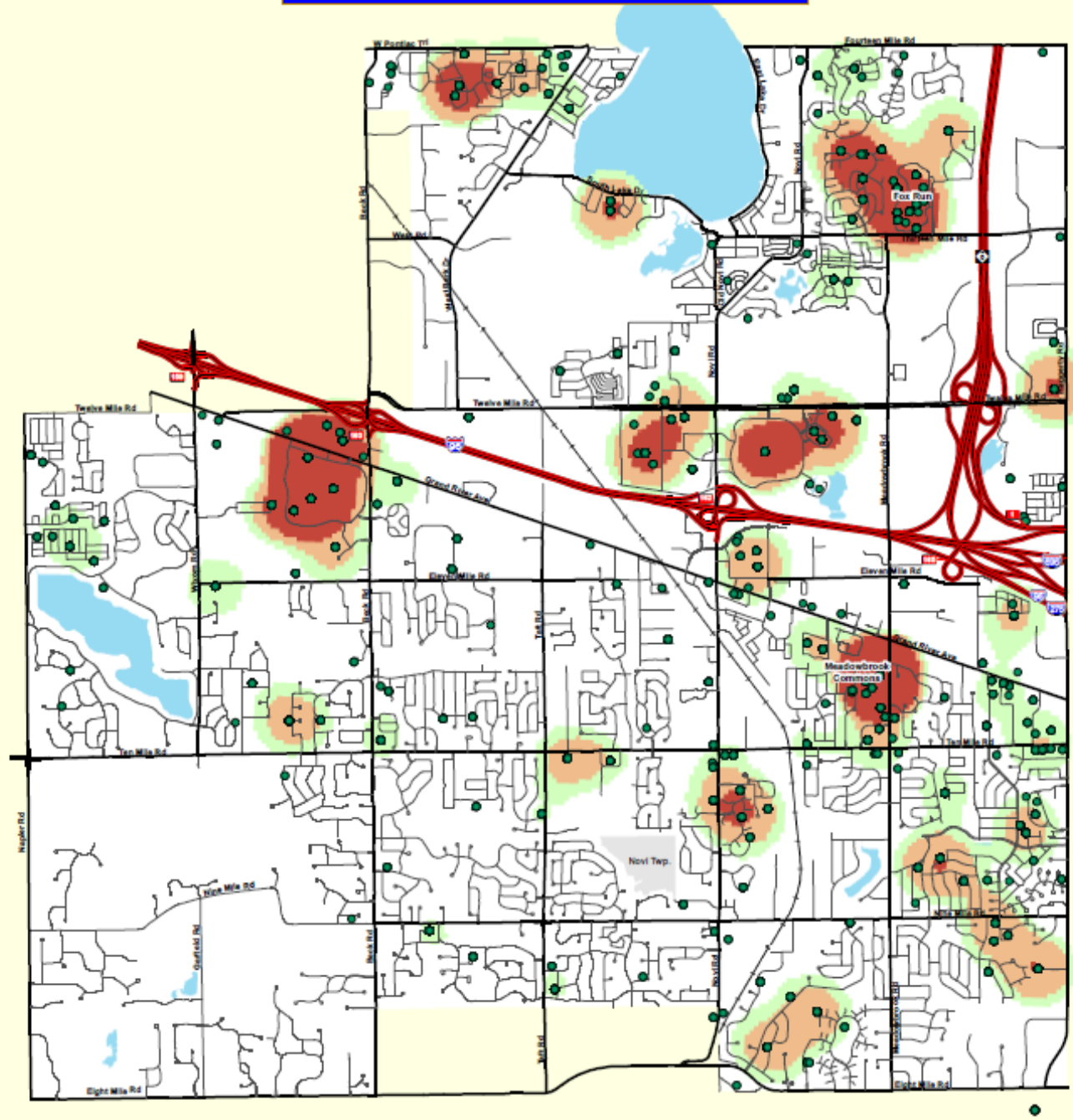
Adult Foster Care

TRANSPORTATION MAPS



Senior Transportation Clients

City of Novi



Map Author: Jon Gartha
 Date: 4/25/2024
 Project: Senior Transportation Clients
 Version #: 1.0

Amended By:
 Date:
 Department:

MAP INFORMATION NOTICE

Map information depicted is not intended to replace or substitute for any official or primary source. This map was intended to meet National Map Accuracy Standards and use the most recent, accurate source available to the people of the City of Novi. Boundary measurements and area calculations are approximate and should not be construed as survey measurements performed by a Licensed Michigan Surveyor as defined in Michigan Public Act 232 of 2010 as amended. Please contact the City GIS Manager to verify source and accuracy information related to this map.

Map Legend

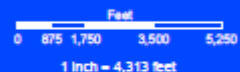
- Freeway
- Major Streets
- Minor Streets
- Railroad
- Lake

- Transportation Clients**
- High Volume
 - Medium Volume
 - Low Volume



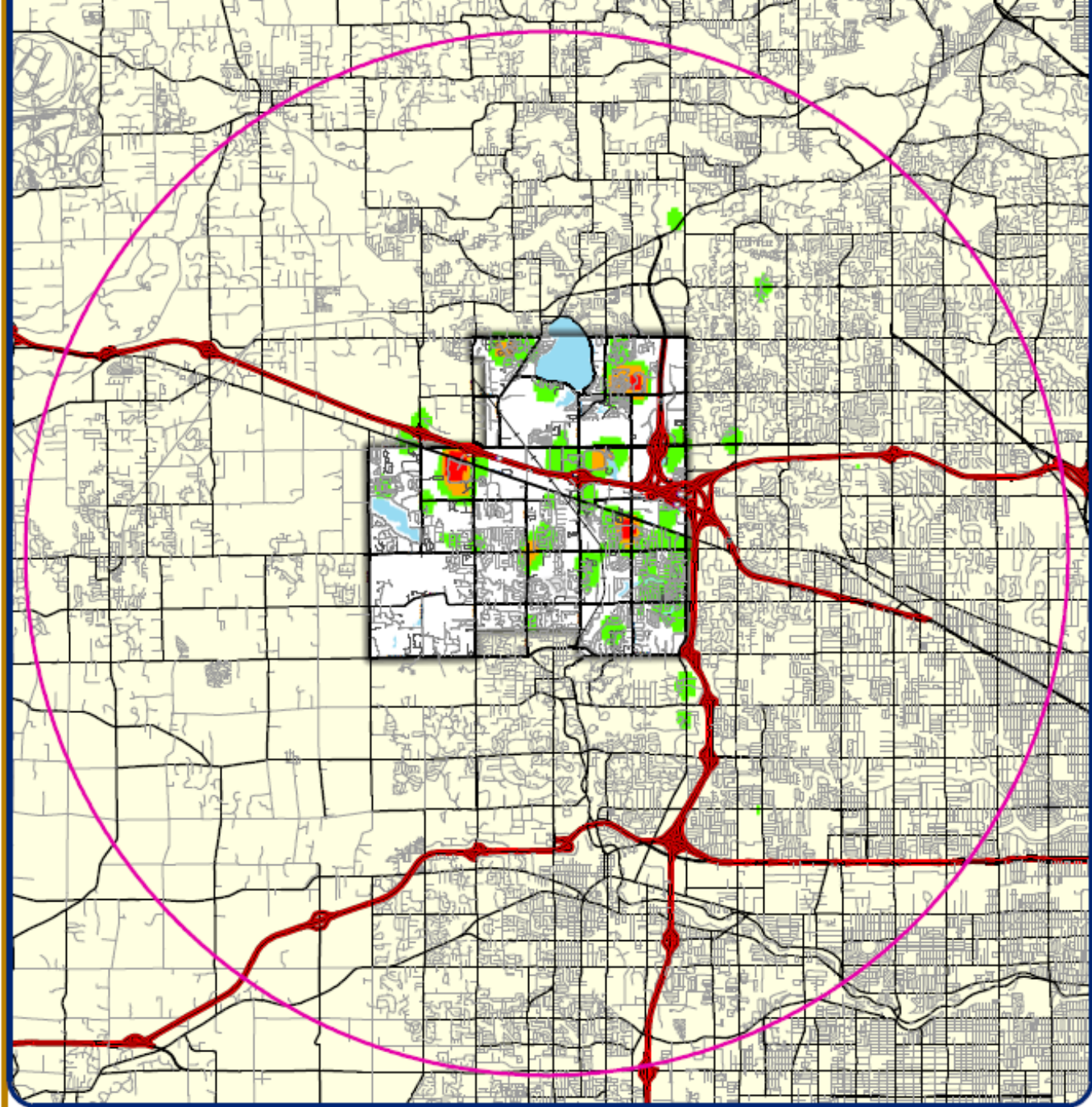
City of Novi

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
 Jeffrey Muck, Director
 45175 Ten Mile Road
 Novi, MI 48375
 cityofnovi.org



Senior Transportation Destinations

City of Novi



Map Author: Jon Gartha
 Date: 4/25/2024
 Project: Senior Transportation Destinations
 Version #: 1.0


Amended By:
 Date:
 Department:

MAP:1002002537004_1021207

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Map Legend


■ High Volume	 10 Mile Service Area
■ Medium Volume	 Freeway
■ Low Volume	 Major Streets
	 Minor Streets
	 Railroad
	 Lake



City of Novi
 Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
 Jeffrey Muck, Director
 45175 Tan Mile Road
 Novi, MI 48375
cityofnovi.org

Feet
 0 2,800 5,600 11,200 16,800

1 Inch = 13,886 feet





Housing and Aging in Place - Monday, January 29



Community Development's role in senior housing

At the City Council presentation prepared by the committee on October 9, some next steps were established, including:

“Talk with Community Development about how to engage developers on bringing smaller, ranch-style or first floor living housing to Novi, including exploring if that requires ordinance changes”



City of Novi Zoning Ordinance

Effective: January 8, 2015

Amended through June 4, 2015

City of Novi
www.cityofnovi.org
City Planning
www.ci.novimn.us/planning

Existing Conditions

- Existing senior housing is located throughout the City, whether by design (such as a senior living facility) or by convenience (single-story condos and homes or lower level apartment units)
- Intentional senior housing is often located near health facilities or recreational opportunities

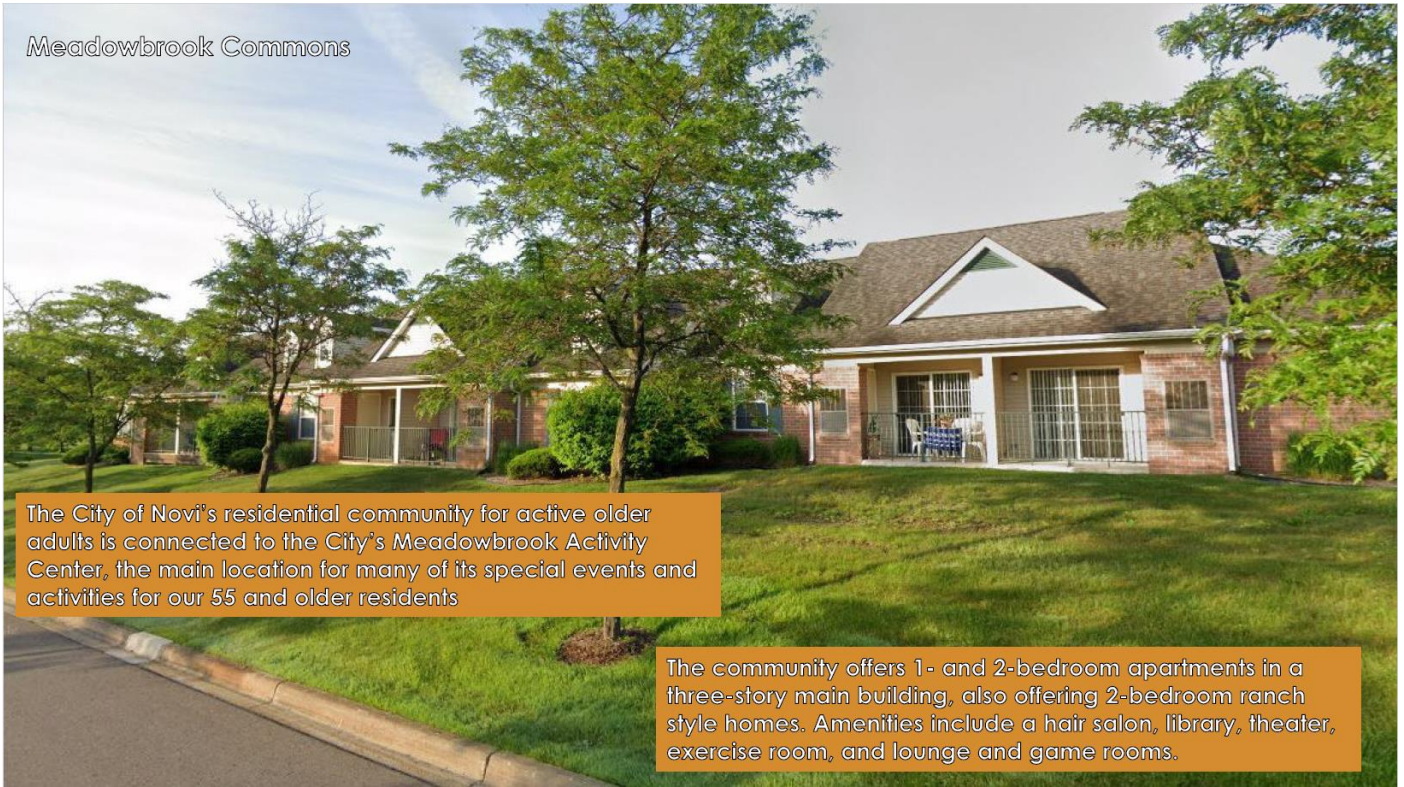


Home in the Jason Sub



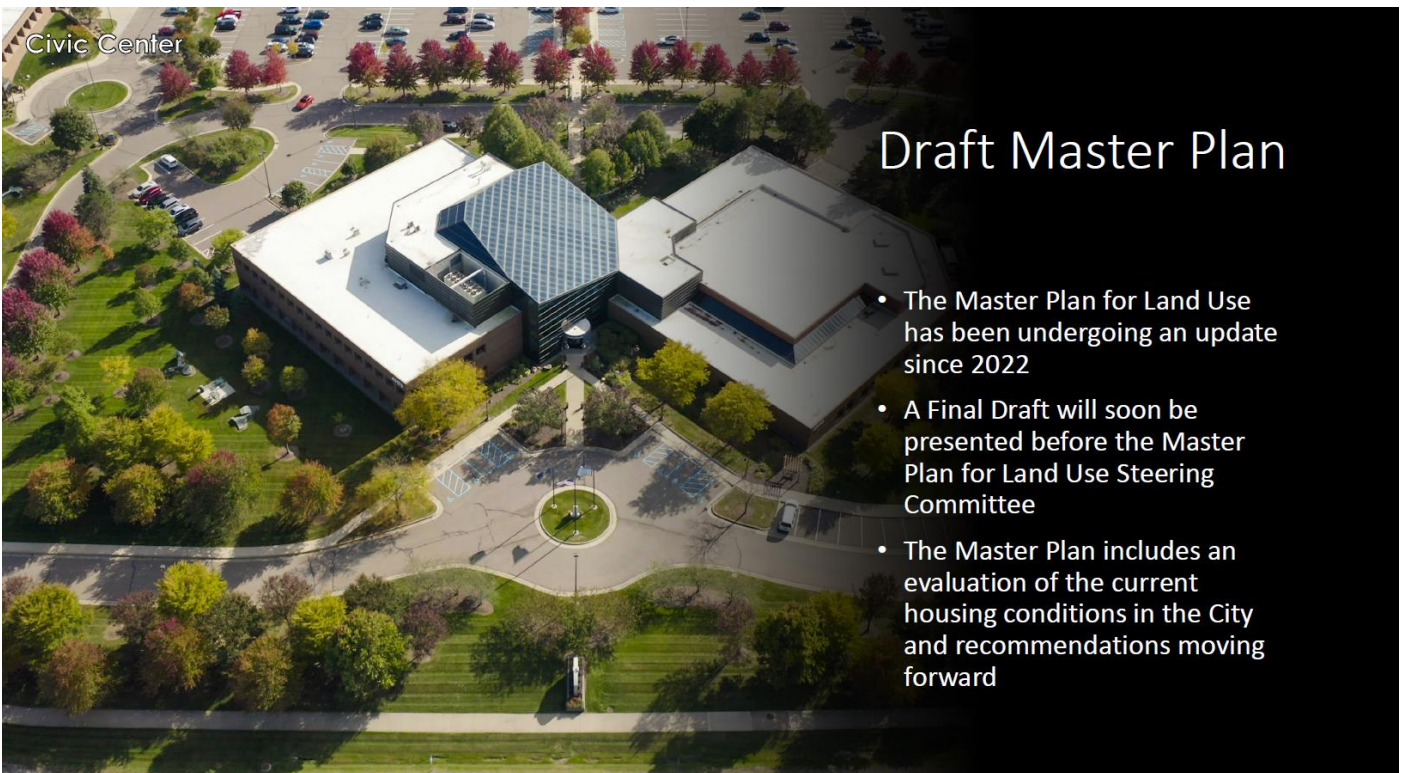


Meadowbrook Commons



The City of Novi's residential community for active older adults is connected to the City's Meadowbrook Activity Center, the main location for many of its special events and activities for our 55 and older residents

The community offers 1- and 2-bedroom apartments in a three-story main building, also offering 2-bedroom ranch style homes. Amenities include a hair salon, library, theater, exercise room, and lounge and game rooms.



Draft Master Plan

- The Master Plan for Land Use has been undergoing an update since 2022
- A Final Draft will soon be presented before the Master Plan for Land Use Steering Committee
- The Master Plan includes an evaluation of the current housing conditions in the City and recommendations moving forward

Homes along Shawood Lake



Current Residential Market

- Median age of 39.2 years
- 40% of the population is above the age of 45
- Novi's housing stock is growing but the housing demand outpaces supply
- A trend for empty nesters and seniors is to gravitate towards smaller homes from both an affordability and maintenance standpoint
- Renting is becoming more popular due to higher housing costs and inventory shortages

Housing

- Diversity of housing typologies is important in catering to the growing housing demand
 - Novi has good mix of existing diversity in housing types
 - New builds and proposals will contribute to that diversity
- Novi's supply of housing units increased 13% from 2010 to 2020, but the population grew by 20%
- Novi issued the highest number of single-family residential permits in Oakland County in 2020



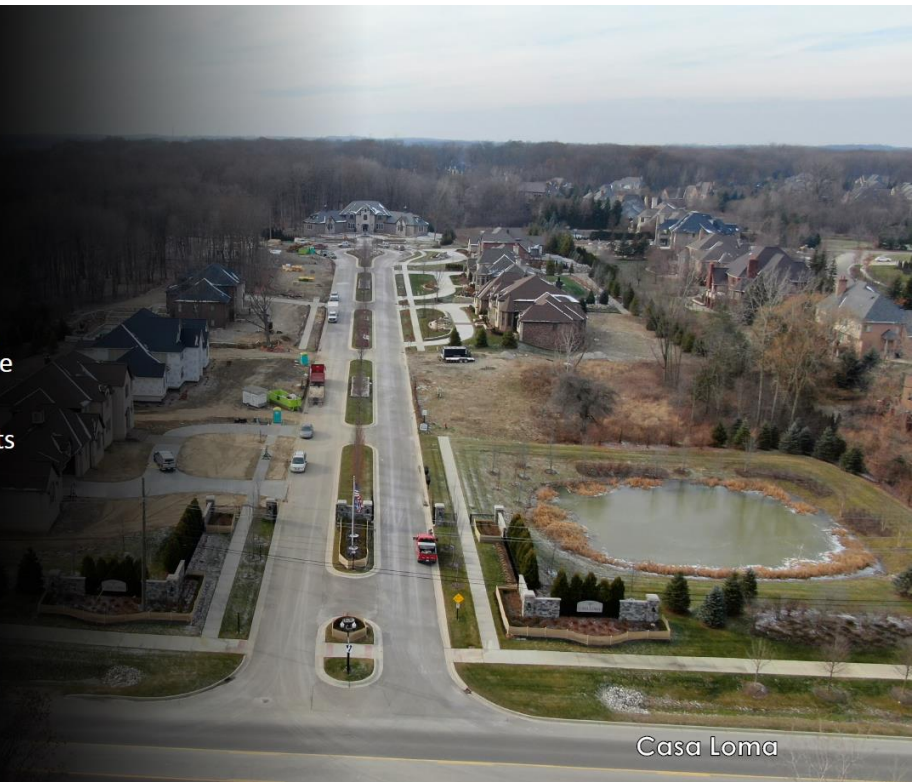


Missing Middle Housing

- Medium density but lower perceived density
- Smaller, well-designed units
- Reduced lot sizes
- Walkability and multi-modal access

Homeowner Market

- Rising home values makes homeownership challenging, especially for low to moderate income households
- Owner-occupied housing units account for a majority of occupied units (about 64%)

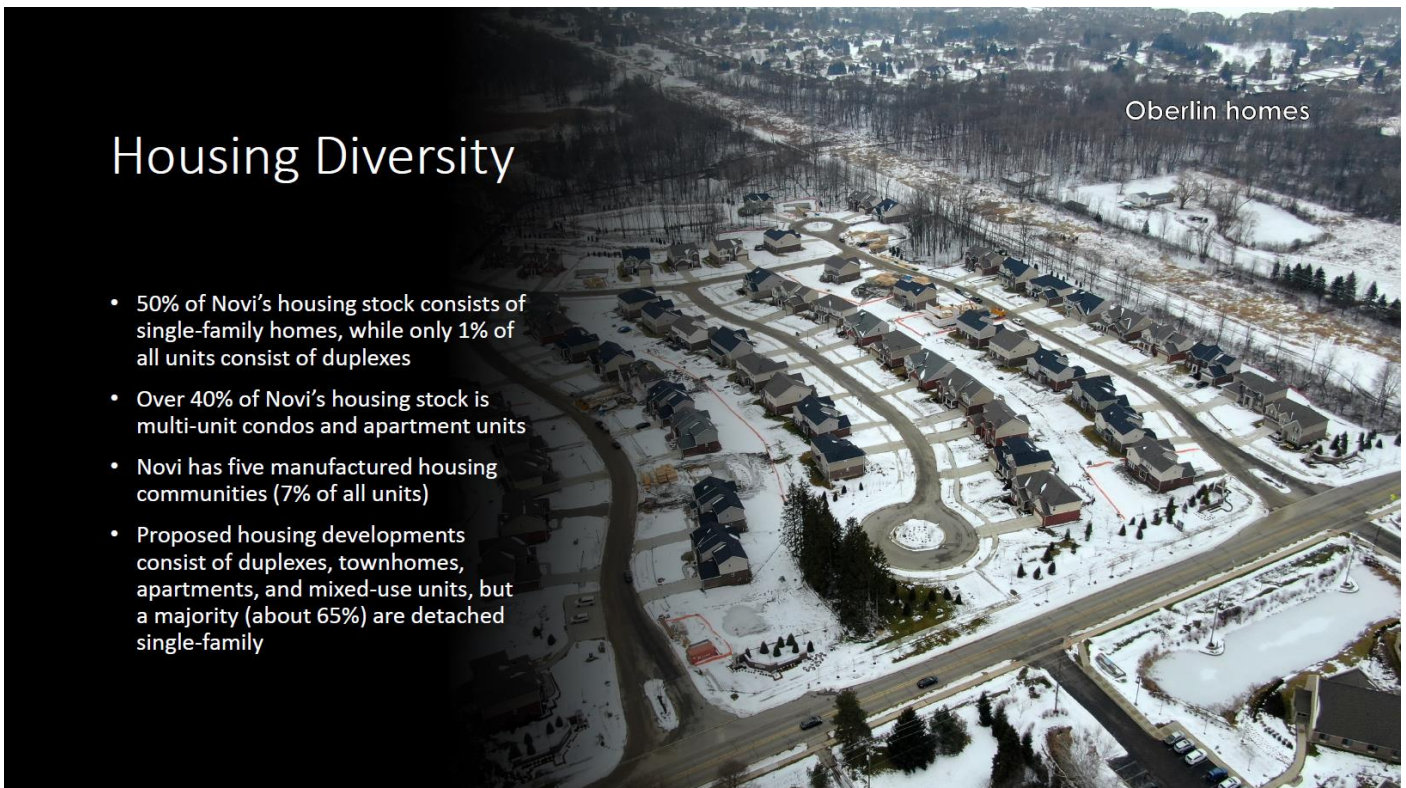




Main Street Apartments

Renter Market

- The spillover effects of a tight homeowner market create higher demand for rentals, increasing rents and making them a less affordable option
- Renter units account for 32% of Novi's occupied housing units
- Average rent of an 1,100 square foot unit is \$1,736
- Over three quarters of the rental communities in Novi were built prior to 2000



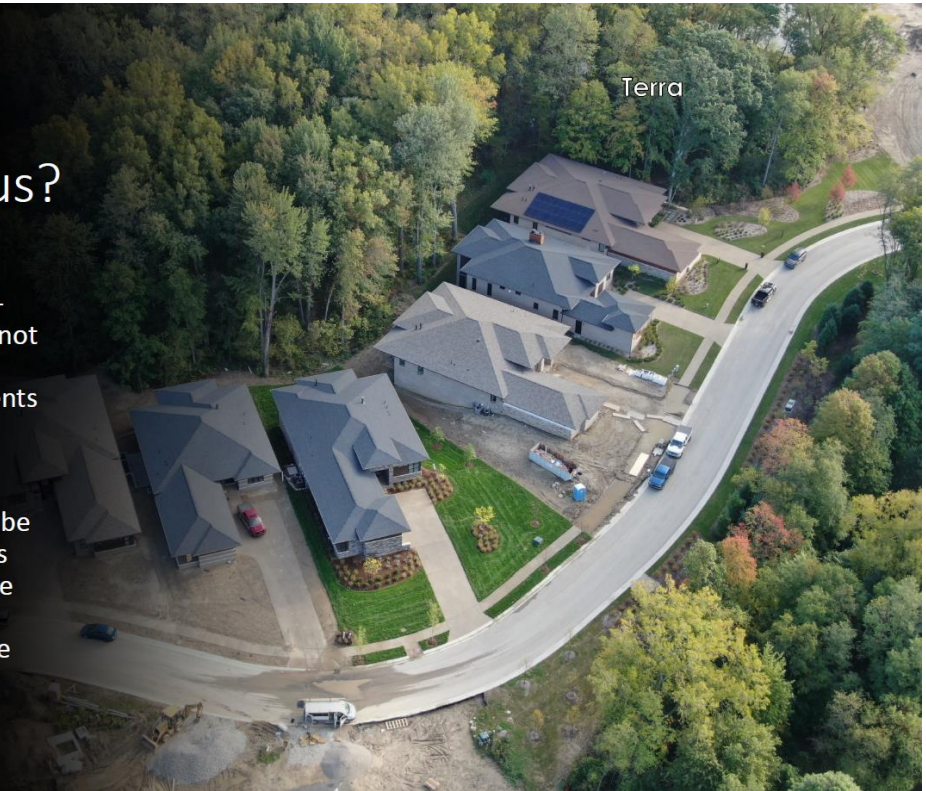
Oberlin homes

Housing Diversity

- 50% of Novi's housing stock consists of single-family homes, while only 1% of all units consist of duplexes
- Over 40% of Novi's housing stock is multi-unit condos and apartment units
- Novi has five manufactured housing communities (7% of all units)
- Proposed housing developments consist of duplexes, townhomes, apartments, and mixed-use units, but a majority (about 65%) are detached single-family

What do developers tell us?

- They respond to the market – new developments are likely not going to be as affordable to residents as older developments may be.
- Senior-targeted housing may be more expensive to developers due to limiting height to single story units or incorporating accessibility elements into the design, such as elevators



What do developers look for?

- Zoning
 - Multiple Family (RM-1, RM-2, PSLR)
 - **RM-1**: Low-Density, Low-Rise Multiple-Family (e.g. Waltonwood)
 - **RM-2**: High-Density, Mid-Rise Multiple-Family (e.g. Meadowbrook Commons)
 - **PSLR**: Planned Suburban Low-Rise (e.g. Rose Senior Living)
 - Office Service Districts* (OS-1, OSC, OST):
 - **OS-1**: Office Service (e.g. Storypoint)
 - **OSC**: Office Service Commercial (e.g. Ascension Providence Health campus)
 - **OST**: Office Service Technology (e.g. Novi Lakes Health Campus)

*convalescent homes, hospice care, and assisted living facilities are permitted in the Office districts subject to conditions listed in Section 4.64

What do we do currently?

A greater percentage of Efficiency and One Bedroom apartments are permitted if they are age-qualified

This is considered an incentive because to developers, these types of units are more profitable

3.12.5.E.vi Residential Densities			
	Residential Only Developments	Mixed-Use Developments	Mixed-Use Developments
A. Density ^{1, 2, 3, 4}		Single-Use Building	Multi-Use Building
i. Efficiency (1 room)	—	—	—
ii. 1 Bedroom (2 rooms)	13.6 DU/AC	22.92 DU/AC	27.2 DU/AC
iii. 2 Bedroom (3 rooms)	9.07 DU/AC	15.28 DU/AC	18.15 DU/AC
iv. 3+ Bedrooms (4 rooms)	6.81 DU/AC	11.48 DU/AC	13.6 DU/AC
B. Maximum Percent of Dwelling Units By Type			
i. Senior, Age-Qualified Housing			
a. Efficiencies	20%	40%	
b. One Bedroom	50%	100%	
ii. Other Housing in Single-use Building			
a. Efficiencies	5%	5%	
b. One Bedroom	15%	25%	
iii. Other Housing in Multi-use Building			
a. Efficiencies	NA	10%	
b. One Bedroom	NA	25%	
C. Minimum distance between Buildings ⁵			
D. Floor Area Ratio	0.50	0.75	
E. Maximum Building Height	Fifty (50) feet	Fifty (50) feet ⁶	
F. Maximum Number of Stories ⁷	3	3	
G. Retail Development	N/A	1. No individual retail sales or personal service establishment shall exceed twenty thousand (20,000) square feet of total gross floor area, exclusive of basement areas leased and utilized by the tenant of the building for storage purposes only. 2. For a mixed use development, the total gross floor area maximum for retail uses shall be thirty-five thousand (35,000) square feet and one (1) individual retail anchor tenant space may be permitted up to twenty thousand...	

What we do currently?

- **RM-1 District**

- Shared Senior Citizen Housing receives greater flexibility/density
 - Up to 30% efficiency units
 - The balance must have at least 1 bedroom

Compared to...

- Non-age-restricted multiple family housing
 - No more than 5% efficiency
 - No more than 20% 1 bedroom
 - The balance must have at least 2 bedrooms

What could be done?

- Modify zoning ordinance standards for better clarity and updated terminology
- Consider possible modifications to the ordinance to allow opportunities for aging in place Accessory Dwelling Units, or allowing additions to existing homes for "granny flats"
- Review best practice zoning ordinance standards for Older Adult Housing
- Review State standards and requirements, as applicable



Accessory Dwelling Unit

Fox Run

What could be done?

- More incentives
 - Bonus height incentives for including a certain percentage of workforce housing - affordable to those making between 60%-140% of the Area Median Income (AMI).
- Requirements under conditional approvals
 - Modify the Ordinance to require a certain percentage of accessible units

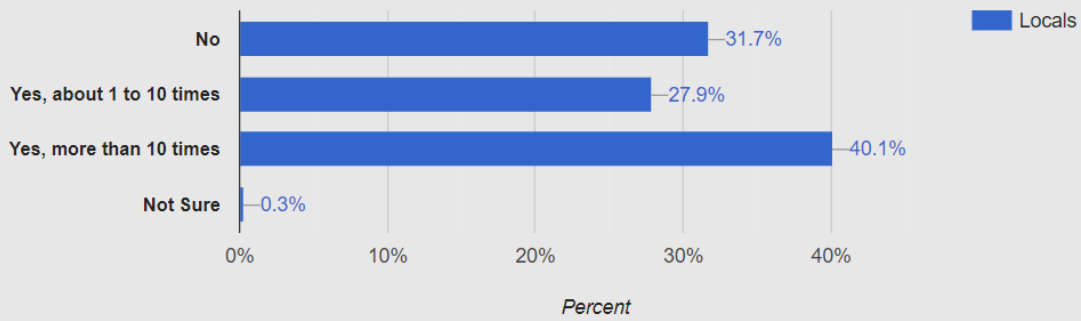
FLASH VOTE SURVEY: RECREATION CENTER

Q1 In the last 12 months, have you or your household visited an indoor facility to play a sport, work out, take a class or do some other recreational activity?

(344 responses by locals)

[Touch or click chart bars for details]

Show table view

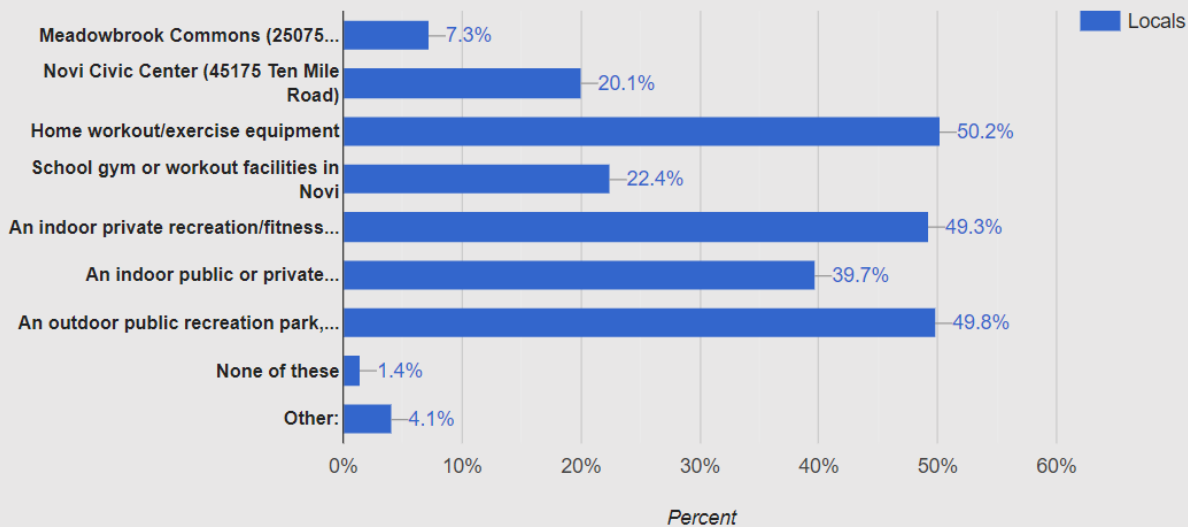


Q2 In the last 12 months, which of the following have you used for a recreational activity, if any? (Choose all that apply)

(219 responses by locals)

[Touch or click chart bars for details]

Show table view



Show only the first 5 responses



Planet Fitness Adell Center

Mall walking

ella mae park

Novi Ice Arena

Physical Therapy

The Novi Dog Park

Novi Library

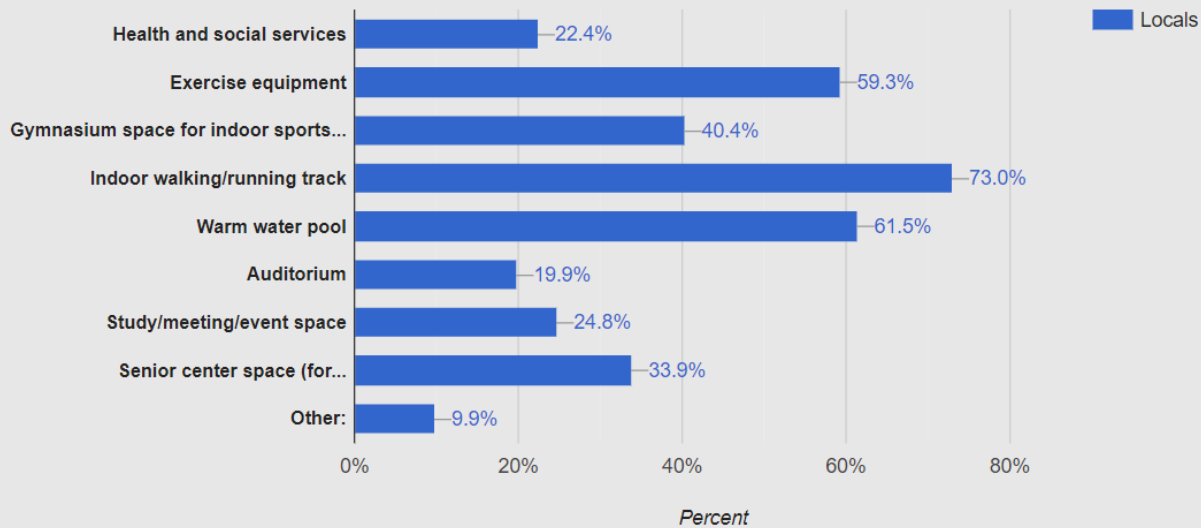
Holy Family church gym

Q3 As our population has grown, the City of Novi is thinking about a possible new multi-generational center that could include the following services and amenities. Which would you or your family be most likely to use, if any? (You can choose up to FIVE, if any)

(322 responses by locals)

[Touch or click chart bars for details]

Show table view

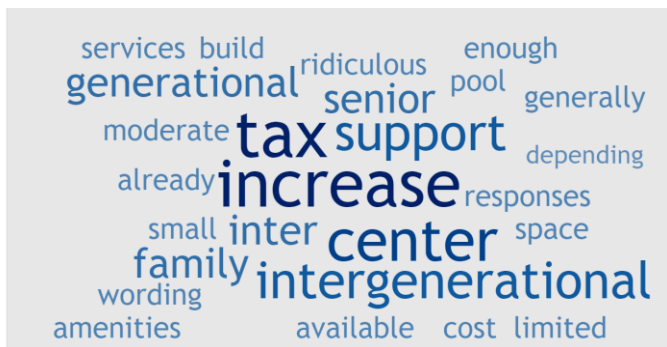
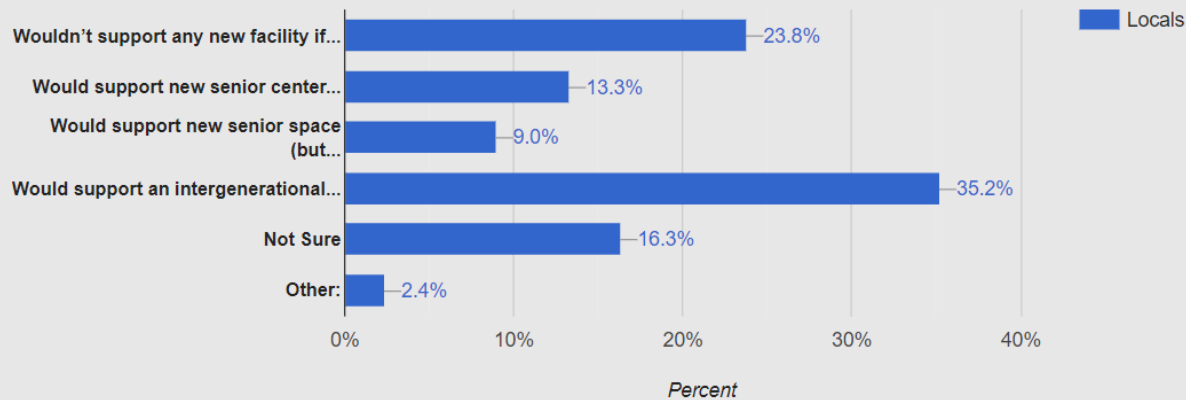


Unfiltered responses	
	Crafting space and classes
	Whirlpool or hot tub
	Indoor pickleball courts with proper flooring and backstops
Space for REC classes for all ages	Pickleball
Outdoor music stage for all ages	Mountain Bike Trails
Weight management coaching	None of the above
Indoor kids recreation/playground/scape	Pickleball!!!
I prefer to utilize a privately owned facility. I don't desire my tax dollars supporting a	Indoor family friendly pool with shallow areas and splash areas
Indoor rollerskating	Indoor rowing and biking
Zumba class	Pickleball
tennis courts	Outdoor running/cross country skiing track
None	How about a Millennial space for activities, games and classes
Tennis courts	Pickleball indoor and outdoor
Indoor tennis courts	Indoor bike/skate board/inline skate park with bike track around it
Indoor pickleball courts	Paddle ball courts
1.)Pickleball Courts, preferably outdoors. 2.) Paved bike trails.	Pickleball Courts
Arts center for band, choir and dance classes	Pickleball courts
	Improve the parks we already have. They're really starting to look tired and unkept.

Q4 Which ONE best describes which type of new facility and funding would you support, if any?
(332 responses by locals)

[Touch or click chart bars for details]

Show table view



- We already have a senior center. Would support a center for families
- Inter generational w small increase in taxes
- Would support an intergenerational center with some tax increase.
- the wording on the responses is ridiculous. the seniors have enough services. build a family space
- Generally support with a LIMITED tax increase.
- Intergenerational center with no tax increase
- pool

Q5 Any other comments or suggestions about possible multi-generational center options and space needs in Novi?

(100 responses by locals)



Unfiltered responses

Show only the first 5 responses

This would be amazing. Thanks for considering it. This is missing from Novi.

A facility with an indoor walking track surrounding multiple courts (basketball, volleyball, pickleball) and some indoor turf spaces (for soccer, football, training) is sorely needed. Having meeting rooms, activity rooms, dance studios and an auditorium would also allow for many types of activities from youth dance to senior cards to take place.

I'd like to have a recreational center in Novi like the one other cities have (gym, swimming pool, etc).

Having Pickleball courts and lap swimming pools would really help because both are fast growing sports.

I strongly support the city of Novi, creating parks and amenities for citizens to enjoy. I am happy to pay more taxes to pay for such amenities. I believe such amenities actually add value to my home.

I like Livonia's Community Center concept

I believe that a multi-general center space would be an excellent idea where everyone could come for activity offerings. Because Michigan has approximately 7-8 months of colder weather, an indoor facility would be a great addition for things such as: euchre tournaments, open swim, yoga, fitness area, indoor tennis, etc. The only worry is that people may not support this is the cost is too great.

We need an indoor/outdoor recreation facility, which includes a large pool/diving area, similar to a YMCA for our community to use.

if it had an indoor pool, walking track, exercise equipment, I wouldn't mind an increase in taxes

I do not believe we need this in Novi. There are already several facilities and private clubs you can join to address specific interests. I personally do not want to pay for someone elses activities.

Have more community rental places in Novi could be very beneficial for all the events hosted by different organizations in the city

Please do this. Novi needs a community center with these amenities.

Would love to increase the amount of toddler/ child friendly areas within Novi. Many other cities have wonderful facilities with pools/water park, indoor/outdoor playgrounds that we wish we had in Novi.

Build it in the "downtown" Novi wasteland replacing all the boarded up businesses, cracking sidewalks and vacant land.

Novi is blessed to have many privately owned recreational facilities. Thus, I do not see a need for the city to get into owning/managing an inter generational facility. Note: Medicare Advantage coverages pay or subsidize for membership fees in most privately owned facilities

We need more sidewalks, especially in Orchard Ridge Estates. Sidewalks offer multi-generational exercise opportunities and are much safer than walking in the street.

I love this, would pay more in taxes for this. More 3rd spaces is a plus in my opinion. Would be great if there was also space for teens to hang out, I know the library is sometimes hitting capacity with teens wanting to gather there. The local businesses seem to discourage teens as patrons/customers and without 3rd spaces teens are more likely to be at home using devices for community since there is not a physical place for them to gather. A cafe, with some flex working space would be useful also now that working from home is now frequent amount households. (My wife is 100% work from home). A place that she could go on occasion would be nice. Personally I would like a maker space with more machinery than what is available at the library, like woodworking equipment but that might not be something the whole community needs. Also would love if there was a pool available for exercise, especially in the winter. My children are stoked about the splash pad opening in the spring.

Our taxes are high enough, I do not want higher taxes.

Make special programs that are available to children who live in Novi also available to grandchildren of people who live in Novi (we seniors pay taxes as much as the parents of children do - and it will give us a way to connect to our grandchildren -- especially for those grandparents who provide caregiver services for the children's parents.

I think we have great options in Novi for those who need access to sport equipment or pools - many gyms and other sport centers in the area. With how high the taxes already are, I'd rather make sure the city can support and maintain infrastructure we already have, no need to extend it.

Great idea. And, please include pickleball courts.

We already have a senior center. The civic center is severely lacking in space for the community. Calling this a multi-generational building is a stretch, call it what it is a community rec center. Please model this after what other communities have(Livonia and Canton) for example. A indoor walking track above, basketball and volleyball courts is needed. An indoor pool that can offer swim lessons for the youth is also needed. I have been trying for 3 years now to get my kids in at the high school and the spots go in seconds. The number one cause of death in children is drowning. Community rooms at this potential place can host a number of events for young and old. The population calls for this amenity in the city. A workout facility is desperately needed for the city as well.

A warm water pool would be really great. I wouldn't want to support it with taxes, but I would be willing to pay a regular membership fee.

Taxes are high enough and the green space in Novi is disappearing too quickly. Preserve those things instead of building more.

I would love if the city had it's own gym for residents.

Read the news about FarmHills and problems they are having with their center.

The center will enhance health and wellness in the area. It will provide free access, especially for seniors on fixed income, where activities such as walking is not limited to walking the Mall and the trails.

Also include spaces for the Arts like the Hawk

Increase number of indoor Pickelball courts that are not basketball courts - real Pickelball surfaces for year around play

I love the Livonia Rec Center. I would definitely support something like that.

I think many families, teens, and young adults would benefit from a low cost recreational facility. It would be a great addition to the already great services the city offers.

Show only the first 5 responses

The city could use a community center. The library is currently shouldering a lot of the responsibility, without the funding to support it.

There seem to be many existing options for children & families. Options directed at adults of all ages would be welcome. Would love a warm water pool for adults only!

There are a lot of private organizations providing such facilities. Would not recommend the city get into this business and builds a permanent facility that needs to be maintained using tax dollars.

Novi needs an indoor events and recreational facility that support all ages, not just seniors. There are plenty of great examples of these in southeast Michigan and across the country. I'm not interested in something that's for seniors-only and I know many seniors agree.

Programs and Accessibility for disabled people who are not seniors

Intergenerational activity centers enhance a community and add value to the properties in that community.

Not a critical need for my household.

I think a multi generational center would work if organized properly. How it would be funded needs some thought/

Novi definitely needs more indoor and outdoor pickleball spaces

Have set times for senior activities and others for family activities. Put all in one large central location rather than all over town.

A facility like the Livonia Rec Center would be welcomed in this community.

I belong to Lifetime Fitness

A multi-generational center like the Salter Center in Royal Oak with an auditorium is needed in Novi. Seniors use that center during the day for classes, luncheons and activities. The facility Novi needs is for more gym space for classes and games. We need an auditorium for the dance recitals, concerts (band and choir) so that there is not a need to pay \$700 to \$1,000 to the school district. The school district get priority of city events, so if Novi had an auditorium they could make money instead of spending money.

Summit on the Park in Canton would be an excellent facility and programs to model after.

Please locate this new center on the new parkland we will soon acquire near the ITC Park at Napier and Eight Mile Road. Thank you.

there are plenty of models out there - the Hawk, the Summit in Canton. this could be revenue producing. we need indoor and outdoor community spaces for summer festivals, performance spaces, recreation and relaxation. get it together, novi. other communities can do it, we should be able to also.

Please for the love of god build a facility like the Livonia rec center

Novi city itself has very high property tax so doesn't suppose any thing which will increase my tax

I would love a facility like Lavonia has for the community center with the pool and a track and exercise equipment for the residence

A concert venue and farmers market would be nice.

Activity centers and spaces are needed for all age groups, not just seniors. I would support for just seniors, but the need is there for everyone

Show only the first 5 responses

The facility needs to be for all of Novi and not just one demographic of our population. Our civic center is very outdated and our community needs more space for activities for all residents. If Seniors need more dedicated space, great. That is a very valid need. But the whole facility still needs to be multi-generational. My taxes should go to things available to all of Novi.

There are enough private sector options for the elderly.

Pickleball facilities outdoor with lights, parking.

Concert space for adult groups

Awesome idea ! Please consider carefully the best location to make it easily accessible to all residents.

A place purposely designated for Seniors without students and children at least in half a building is very much needed in the City of Novi. Specific space for this population will enhance the desirability for the senior population to want to live in Novi.

Accessible hours beyond the traditional 10-6 shift. Needs to be open at 6am till 9pm

Free rental space for clubs and small business

No new taxes.

A gym membership is cheap. If it will cost me and will provide not enough "gym" facility it would be a waste of money to partially replicate what a gym would offer. City shouldn't offer anything that is available elsewhere. Offer things that are not offered in other places and don't increase the tax. Please.

Something definitely with an indoor pool is needed in Novi. A place where it starts at an inch or so of water to a depth for deeper swimming. Something with a track to walk indoors.

I'd like to see how other cities (Novi, Livonia, Hartland, etc.) funded their activity centers. Seems like Novi should have the funds, and could possibly acquire a building that could be used for such purposes without starting from scratch. I see a lot of "For Lease" signs everywhere.

I really think Novi would benefit from a family friendly indoor pool or leisure center with pool.

The Livonia center is really nice, it seems like something similar would be great for our family

It is unbelievable that this does not already exist in Novi and I've lived here since 2008

There are plenty of private sector entities in our community residents can join. Other communities, such as Farmington Hills are losing millions with a city subsidized recreational facility. We should not be in a business provided by private companies. Focus on improving your fire stations and police department - those services can't be done by the private sector.

Indoor pickleball would especially be appreciated.

Need more pickleball courts....indoor and outdoor.

Please don't drain wetland and cut down trees to build it.

People would do more in Novi if the traffic wasn't so bad. Please widen the roads. It should not take 30+ mins to get from Haggerty to Wixom rd on 10 mile

Show only the first 5 responses

While the population is aging, Novi needs facilities and amenities that attract young families if it wants to maintain top quality schools and a growing tax base.

Please thoroughly investigate the financial impact that these types of facilities have in other communities (Livonia, Dearborn). Also, please investigate if there is an option to partner with a nearby community to ensure enough utilization to make financial sense

Taxes are too high as it is Approach look to local businesses for financial partnership. Example Northvilles' Tom Holzer baseball field

I'd be looking for a lap pool...

Our community needs more senior facilities...

Livonia has multiple facilities that are great as does Farmington. Something like either of them would be a huge asset to Novi. But it needs to be centrally located.

Depends upon the amount of tax increase

I LOVE the idea of a community pool, and I would pay an annual membership to have access, maybe \$100/adult person, \$50-75 for children/students/seniors.

Novi Tax Revenue should be way up with all the building and home price increases and should be able to fund things like this without tax increases.

Use existing school facilities after hours and during the summer and other times they are available. All of the tracks, pools, gathering rooms, and exercise facilities already exist.

Dedicated space for seniors to socialize that and hold events. Fitness space could be multi-age with some dedicated times for older adult specific needs.

Could you partner with the schools?

SENIOR CENTER SITE VISIT ANALYSIS FROM 2002

Summary of Findings

Our study group found, in order to continue to improve the experiences of Older Adult Services, we can adopt some desirable items that we observed in three different stages. The first group of items can be done with low-cost, low risk, and mostly done through the administration (Implement). The second group may need some budget attention or more planning and goal setting (Tactical). Finally, the third area would be where we want the Older Adults Service program and department to go (Direction).

One item we want to focus on immediately is improving the socialization of our Seniors. Improving socialization can be the gateway for more interaction and building of relationships which also opens doors for being aware of and utilizing City of Novi programs. Some of the items we want to implement right away are:

Implement

- Increased visibility of the Civic Center as a place for senior activities.
- Evaluate the name “OAS” since “Older Adult Services” may imply or be interpreted as an office you go to for assistance rather than activities.
- Comfortable and welcoming space(s) for seniors to gather and socialize before and after programs
- Centralize all senior programming information (experiment with different media platforms to see what gets traction or improve program enrollment, E.g., Senior Newsletter, Digital Platforms, Activities at a glance Sheet).
- Videos of interest specifically for older adults
- Evaluate opportunities to promote senior adult gathering spaces, such as, at Library in mornings for socialization/café, Lakeshore Park, Villa Barr, etc.

Tactically, we can move forward items that will take some planning, designing or budgetary focus. Some of the items we want to tactically start moving are:

Tactical

- Additional program employees as we increase older adult programs
- Bocci Ball court outside Civic Center or Meadowbrook Commons
- Pickleball courts at Meadowbrook Commons with gathering space and shade
- Senior Home Assistance Repair Program (SHARP)

Finally, with a clear direction, we can move forward items that will require City Council Direction and public input. Some of the items with Directional focus are:

Direction

- Additional City owned Senior Housing
- Evaluate need for additional adult activities center
 - Warm water therapy pool
 - Indoor Pickleball Courts
- Staffing to facilitate and maintain additional spaces/amenities and programs

Introduction:

This report is a snapshot of a multi-month endeavor to evaluate where our Older Adult Services (OAS) division ranks comparably to the best senior facilities/programs across the State of Michigan. Additionally, we looked at staffing models and local government-operated housing for the OAS population. I engaged Kathy Crawford to assist due to her decades of committed advocacy for all things related to the OAS population. To round out our team, our Director of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PRCS), Jeff Muck, added his expertise with almost 30 years of programming, managing facilities, and overseeing staff working with populations of all ages.

The process started with Mrs. Crawford selecting five (5) of the top agencies/facilities in the State of Michigan to visit, inspect and learn from and compare to. I then requested Director Muck to select three (3) additional programs/facilities that he would see as comparable. The first five (5) are listed in the order of visits selected by Mrs. Crawford, and the next three (3) are the ones selected by Director Muck:

[Hartland Senior Activity Center](#), 9525 E Highland Rd, Howell, MI 48843

[Loose Senior Center in Linden](#), 707 N Bridge St, Linden, MI 48451

[Auburn Hills Community Center](#), 3350 E. Seyburn Dr. Auburn Hills, MI 48326

[Oceana County Council On Aging](#), 4250 W Tyler Rd, Hart, MI 49420

[Charles & Lynn Zhang Portage Senior Center](#), 203 E Centre Ave, Portage, MI 49002

[OPC \(Older Persons Commission\) Rochester](#), 650 Letica Dr, Rochester, MI 48307

[Troy Community Senior Center](#), 3179 Livernois Rd, Troy, MI 48083

[Senior Friendship Center Westland](#), 1119 N Newburgh Road, Westland, Mi 48185=

Due to each community being different, the process of recording and blending our observations was simplified by each member turning in notes after the visits with Likes, Dislikes, and Other Observations. This allowed the combination of items into the three distinct buckets. The dislikes are important but, at this point, don't add value, and after review of the items, we found seven (7) categories that make sense when we perform an overview of Novi OAS, where we are at and help us continue to improve on where we are going. Those categories are:

- Facilities
- Programs
- Personnel
- Boards/Advisory Committee
- Transportation
- Housing

Facilities

Common observations and characteristics from visiting each facility:

- Parking that is adequate and close to the building. Covered drop-off area. No step entrees.
- Aesthetics and design are welcoming and not oversized, with a fireplace, nice seating/gathering space, views of nature, and large restrooms.
- Most popular features included a billiard/game room, fitness equipment, indoor walking track, pickleball courts, and a warm water pool. The building easily flows to outdoor spaces for programming. No need for computer rooms.
- Sufficient storage.
- Patio, meeting/program rooms, and spaces that can be utilized for banquets and conferences, as well as private events that bring revenue to the center.
- Members have learned how to use the online scheduling system for the pool and classes. (OPC, Portage)
- Private multi-story senior housing facility next door to OPC. Residents don't use OPC much as they have their own amenities in their complex. (Much like the amenities that our private sector housing provides in Novi)
- Large crafts room for pottery, basket weaving, and wood carving
- Water Aerobics and water therapy
- Well-equipped exercise room
- Large areas of the property that could be used for outdoor activities such as Bocce Ball etc.
- All rooms had large windows with lots of natural light
- A small greenhouse maintained by seniors was attached to the center.
- Park grounds with pavilion, picnic area, and room for having Hot Dogs on the grill, Walking path, cornhole, and programable space. Area for socialization outdoors.
- Outside bocce ball court and shuffleboard with shade areas

How does Novi Compare?

- [The city's OAS Housing \(Meadowbrook Commons\) has a covered drop-off area. Novi Civic Center, Library, and Lakeshore Park facilities have closed parking but are not covered.](#)

- Civic Center, Library, Lakeshore Park, and Meadowbrook Commons all have no step entries and large restrooms.
- We do not have a “Sr. Center” with a fitness room, but we do have a fitness center available to Meadowbrook Commons residents.
- Currently, the Lakeshore Park building flows into the park with the deck, proximity to the pavilion, and views of Shawood lake. The library has a patio that opens to Fuerst Park. Meadowbrook Commons has an open courtyard for residents and exercise equipment for all abilities, with a nearby gazebo.
- While restrained from building banquet facilities by city charter, the city still has a steady revenue stream by renting out meeting rooms for private events at the library, the Civic Center, Township Hall/Fuerst Park, and park shelters. Currently, the policy at Lakeshore Park is no renting of the building space.
- Warm water pools, fitness centers, and indoor pickleball courts are provided by the private sector.
- Novi seniors utilize online registration for our programs and services.

Programs

Program and Service observations:

- Comprehensive programming: special events, classes, social services, travel, opportunities to socialize and volunteer, center meals and home delivered, leagues and fitness programs.
- Open Mic night for musical instruments.
- Utilize surveys to assess senior needs.
- Opportunities to facilitate inter-generational programs.
- Senior Home Assistance Repair Program (SHARP) at Auburn Hills and Troy. The SHARP program provides home repair to senior and disabled residents. The labor is free; the homeowner pays for the cost of the materials. Trained volunteers will provide miscellaneous home repairs and maintenance.
- Adventure-type activities (Kayaking, biking, Cross-Country skiing) and an out-of-state travel program (ex: white water rafting) have positive revenue for the center (Oceana).
- Counselors on site for assistance with Medicare, and Medicaid.
- Support groups were provided.
- Adult Day Care on site, beneficial to users but was not staffed by or licensed at the State level. (Oceana)
- On-site health programs (BP, Pulse, Oxygen) are provided by Ascension Health (OPC). Collaboration with the private sector to provide Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine on site
- Collaboration with the Nature Center and Troy Historic Village for free enrichment events such as Autumn Jewels, Preservation Conversations, and Michigan’s Native Americans.
- Large, equipped computer center for classes and use by seniors
- Intergenerational programming

- Considerable focus on providing Cable TV shows of interest to older adults...particularly information related to Medicare and Medicaid scams. (Westland)
- Friends of Troy Seniors group organized tax prep, Document shredding, Monthly Brunch & Learn, Health screenings, Community Garage Sale and Flea Market, Senior Indoor Picnic, Ice Cream Social, and other programs.
- Sell fitness center passes. (Troy)
- Seniors pay full price for classes (Troy)

How does Novi compare?

- Novi provides a full complement of programs and services, including Meals on Wheels and luncheons, Medicare/Medicaid Counseling, social services, transportation, and enrichment. A few that we do not offer are SHARP, white water rafting trips, and open mic night.
- The Novi Concert Band and the Novi Choralaires are two community groups organized under PRCS. Participation is mainly seniors.
- SOS survey conducted in Fall 2021, National Citizens Survey, Parks and Rec Master Plan survey, ongoing program surveys, and after-action reports are all utilized to assess programming needs and wants.
- Offer programs such as fitness, crafts, birding, and walking clubs that do not have age ranges. Working with Novi Schools on robotics collaboration for seniors. We are planning to offer several more programs over the next few months, including kayaking.
- Novi contracts with travel companies and offers some staff-led trips. We generate revenue on our travel programs that outpace expenditures.
- Support groups held at Meadowbrook and the Civic Center have included Hearing Loss, Tech Assistance, Bereavement Support, and Care Giver Support. SOS guide provided to the entire community, including links and phone contact for support groups. OAS Social Services Coordinator acts as our city “concierge” to refer those in need of services. Maintain Boomers and Beyond Facebook page that provides messaging on support services and OAS programs.
- We have worked with Ascension for years. They have been reluctant to be in person at our location since Covid and have been offering virtual opportunities.

Personnel

Common observations, and characteristics from visiting each facility:

- Director had passion, drive, professionalism, and knowledgeable.
- The staff seems to be familiar with many of the participants and calls them by name.
- One staff person and one part-time employee are dedicated to the senior program (Troy)
- Centers we visited had their own variety of Senior Newsletter, a monthly calendar, bi monthly publication up to just producing a spring and summer program to cover the entire year.

- Full-Time Director and then a few part-time workers who were not necessarily educated regarding seniors but are seniors themselves who need a job to supplement their limited income (Westland).

How Novi compares:

- Novi has 6 Nationally Certified Parks and Recreation Professionals, 1 Certified Dementia Practitioner, and one (1) certified Program Planner through The Learning Resources Network (LERN).
- Staff attend mParks, National Recreation and Park Association, Michigan Alliance of Senior Centers, and National Council On Aging conferences and webinars.
- PRCS/OAS staff are very familiar with clientele that attend cards and fitness classes and Meadowbrook residents. Madison and Judy have explicitly been complimented by participants for their work at lunches and events.

Boards/Advisory Committee

Observations from other communities:

- Their eleven-person volunteer board was diverse in their passion, active in the center, and had very specific areas of expertise in different activities offered by the center. (Hartland)
- There is a FRIENDS of the Portage Senior Center that has a 501(c)3 status that fundraises for the center, active in fundraising, including golf outings and purse exchange events.
- No advisory board for some agencies.

How Novi compares:

- Nine (9) member PRCS Commission (includes two [2] student reps). OAS Programs and Services is a standing agenda item monthly.
- OAS Advisory Board has six (6) members. Meets bi-monthly. Acts in an advisory capacity but does not actively volunteer or lead activities
- Novi Parks Foundation has contributed to pickleball courts and ITC Trail. Novi Rotary Club built a gazebo at Meadowbrook Commons

Transportation

Observations from other communities:

- Hartland offers transportation. Employs one full-time van driver. Transportation M-F 8 am to 5 pm, no service when school is closed or inclement weather. \$1.50 to \$3.00 per one-way trip.

- OPC- Transportation is provided with a one mill levy that does not cover the annual cost of the system. There is a nominal fee on weekdays from 8:15-4:30 and Saturdays from 9-4 pm. They average 200/day (for reference, Novi around 50-60 per day). Own 28 vehicles, 14 on the road every day. Supported by one mill levy across three (3) communities just for this transportation, but this program runs on deficit spending.
- Transportation via Troy R.Y.D.E, separate from Parks or Seniors.
- Transportation is provided for seniors and non-seniors for a cost and offset with CDBG Funds. (Oceana)

How Novi compares:

- Transportation is available 8am-7pm Monday-Friday (last pick-up is at 6:30pm in Novi or 6:00pm out of Novi) and 9am-3pm Saturday (last pick-up is at 2:30pm).
- Free rides within the City of Novi and border shopping areas.
- \$5 one way outside the city limits within a 10-mile range (begins at the Novi Civic Center).
- Seven (7) vehicles, three (3) PT schedulers, and an average of 12 PT drivers
- Average 50-60 rides per day

Housing

- Novi is the only community we visited that supplies Older Adult Housing supported by the city. Most rely on the private sector to provide. We currently have approximately 2,000 Older Adult apartments in Novi and additional 500 beds for older adults with specialized care.

Extra/Comments

- Local business and vendor support- OAS has support from local businesses such as O'Brien Sullivan, Walton Woods, Anthology Senior Living, Maple Manor, and Mission BBQ for specific program sponsorships, but not to the scope in other communities we visited where this was a major source of funding.
- Newsletter/ Quarterly Programming guide/ Yearly calendar. This ran the gamut based on different factors in the communities; some mailed to members and available at the center, some monthly, most quarterly, and the common phrase of "Residents know to look for it." (Similar to Engage).
- Senior/Recreation Department lost \$700k last year. Projected to lose 1.7 million this year (Troy) for operations.
- "Why are you visiting us? You guys have what we want."
- We are trying to be "Not your parent's senior center"
- Many of these centers are attempting to attract more users by dropping the age to age 50. There could be many motives or reasons for this. Factors such as, early retirements, blending the younger

generation for ease of transition and staying active with programs such as Golf and Softball Leagues as well as Pickleball and Bocce Ball. Some of the younger seniors might also begin first by volunteering to assist in these programming prior to participating.

Conclusion

The good news is we are not off track on the intergenerational programming that we are doing, and it is what other agencies are attempting to implement. That being said, we also witnessed the preverbal solid wall built between different municipal work groups. Silos between Parks and Recreation and Senior Departments. Some with their own HR and finance personnel, etc. We also witnessed other agencies with very limited hours for Senior centers, E.g. open from 9 am to 3 pm, limited weekends.

Our team of three spent a lot of time traversing the State in a car, which gave us the opportunity time to explore the likes and dislikes of what we saw, what we thought we might be able to implement, and some ideas for long-term strategies for Older Adult Services. We also discussed what type of output or recommendation we could make to city council. We thought of a three-prong agenda that city council may choose to prioritize. The first would be low-hanging fruit, or items we could implement quickly. These items could be implemented quicker with fewer planning or budgetary changes. The second were more tactical or short-range items that may cause us to shift or change some direction and need budgetary priority. The third would be more directional or longer-range items that may be transitory in nature.

Implement

- Increased visibility of the Civic Center as a place for senior activities.
- Evaluate the name “OAS” since “Older Adult Services” may imply or be interpreted as an office you go to for assistance rather than activities.
- Comfortable and welcoming space(s) for seniors to gather and socialize before and after programs
- Centralize all senior programming information (experiment with different media platforms to see what gets traction or improve program enrollment, E.g., Senior Newsletter, Digital Platforms, Activities at a glance Sheet).
- Videos of interest specifically for older adults
- Evaluate opportunities to promote senior adult gathering spaces, such as, at Library in mornings for socialization/café, Lakeshore Park, Villa Barr, etc.

The above items, and other similar ideas, would be lower in cost and low risk in which we could easily measure and adapt to acceptance or rejection by the older adult population.

Tactically, we can move forward items that will take some planning, designing or budgetary focus. Some of the items we want tactically start moving are:

Tactical

- Additional program employees as we increase older adult programs
- Bocci Ball court outside Civic Center or Meadowbrook Commons
- Pickleball court at Meadowbrook Commons
- Senior Home Assistance Repair Program (SHARP)

We are already seeing positive feedback and growth of new programming that is being implemented such as nature walks, bird watching and different in-house travel programs. If this trend continues, additional staffing to support these endeavors could be necessary and we should plan on, including up to a managing director of OAS.

We visited places that had Bocci Ball courts, and these could be added to some of our facilities. We have also witnessed the growth of Pickleball in the last decade and since placing courts at Wildlife Woods Park see that demand increasing. The SHARP program is a great way for people to donate their time to help those who need minor things done around their households. This would take some organizational time to get up and running, then help to oversee operations.

Finally, with a clear direction and vision, we can move forward items that will require City Council Direction and public input. Some of the items with Directional focus are:

Direction

- Additional City owned Senior Housing
- Evaluate need for additional adult activities center
 - Warm water therapy pool
 - Indoor Pickleball Courts
- Staffing Opportunities to facilitate and maintain

Anecdotally, we hear of people in the Older Adult population that are looking for affordable ranch style housing. A result of our good governance creates some friction as the property values are higher than those properties outside the City of Novi. This makes “affordable” developments difficult as the private sector developers must recoup their investment and cost. If the city wants to pursue additional subsidized housing, we could look at existing city own properties or acquiring other land to develop under this portfolio.

Other communities find their Older Adults appreciate a warm water therapy pool to stay active with low impact. Likewise, indoor Pickleball courts could allow active OAS programs year long. Depending on the speed and growth of facilities and programming the city will have to adapt staffing to help ensure OAS success. We did recognize many of the communities we visited did not do this and are now struggling to operate how they envisioned.

OLDER ADULT ADVISORY BOARD RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CREATION
OF A PARKS RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES
OLDER ADULT SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD**

City of Novi
County of Oakland, Michigan

Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Novi, County of Oakland, Michigan, held in the City Hall of said City on _____, 2013, at 7:00 P.M. Prevailing Eastern Time.

PRESENT: Councilmembers _____

ABSENT: Councilmembers _____

The following preamble and Resolution were offered by Councilmember _____ and supported by Councilmember _____.

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, the City of Novi Older Adult Services has continued to grow since beginning services in 1981 with the higher demand in services; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of Older Adult Services is to provide programs, recreation and special events to residents but to allow them to stay as independent as possible; and

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of the Advisory Board would be to create new and innovating ideas, new trends in programming for both older adults (70+) and attracting the "boomer" generation (55+).

WHEREAS, it is anticipated the Advisory Board would meet monthly and provide quarterly updates to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Commission. At the end of the Older Adult Services Advisory Board's first year of operation, a review of the Board's recommendations, and the results of its activities will be made to the PRCS Commission and forwarded to City Council.

WHEREAS, the Advisory Board shall be established in the first instance for a period of 2 years. It may be renewed thereafter as deemed necessary by the City Council, City Administration, and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Advisory Board to be known as the "Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Older Adult Services Advisory Board" is hereby established.

2. The Advisory Board shall have five (5) members:

- 5 Interested residents appointed by the PRCS Director
- 1 Staff liaison from the Novi Public Library
- 1 Staff liaison from Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services – Older Adults Services Manager

3. The Advisory Board's term of existence shall be for a period of two (2) years commencing on the date of this Resolution.

4. The Advisory Board shall meet monthly, and shall be charged with performing the following functions:

- Contribute to the completion of the twenty-five strategies that were outlines in the Older Adult Strategic Plan
- Assist the Library with strategic plan items pertaining to older adults
- Contribute to the financial support of the department by securing leads for sponsors for programming, special events and for transportation advertising program
- Become champions of advocacy for older adults in the community and to develop connections in Novi that will benefit older adults
- Promote community involvement

5. There shall be no separate budget or appropriations to the Advisory Board, any necessary resources shall be provided from the PRCS budget.

6. The Advisory Board shall provide at least quarterly reports to the PRCS Commission.

AYES:

NAYS:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi at a regular meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2013.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk
City of Novi

SUPPORTING OLDER ADULTS THROUGH PARKS AND RECREATION: KEY FINDINGS BY THE NUMBERS

Of the park and recreation agencies responding to this survey:

