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## Final Report

### Synopsis

**Project Title:** The Harbor Point Project Phase 1

**Grantee Organization:** City of Gladstone

**Project Team:** City of Gladstone , Timberland Engineering, Great Lakes Fishery Trust, Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund, CMI- Brownfield Redevelopment

**Contact Person:** Nicole Sanderson, Parks & Recreation Director- City of Gladstone  
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**Grant Amount:** \$188,263.000

**Time Frame:** October 1, 2008-July 30, 2010

**Focus Areas:** Access

### Summary:

The Harbor Point Project was completed in July 2010. The project transformed an unusable segment of the park into a functional, beautiful, focal point within Van Cleve Park. The area has become a destination and attracts all ages.

The restroom, fish cleaning station, sidewalks and parking lot meet ADA requirements and has proven to be a great area for people with limited mobility to recreate.

The area has provided the needed amenities for people to enjoy hours of fishing. Local families bike, roller blade and use strollers to access the area. Ample parking entices people, especially senior populations and out of town traffic to the area.

The fish cleaning station provides a clean and efficient area for people fishing off the pier and shoreline. Anglers fishing the lake in boats also heavily use it. We have seen an increase in users because of this service.

### Project in Context:

The City of Gladstone Motto is "Year Round Playground". The city has few revenue sources; recreation and especially fishing is greatly needed for our economically depressed area.

Supplying this fishing facility to the public attracts fishing tournaments, transient boaters, potential homeowners and helps to boost our economy. Due to the design and amenities, all populations use this area.

### Goals of the Effort:

The project goal was to clean up an unusable area and provide a first class fishing zone that would be comparable to the world-class fishery we have.

**Results:**

The feedback has been very good. We used a local contractor, engineer and fabricating business, which was well received.

**Products and Resources:**

Our feedback was good due the fact that we publicized the project to an extreme. We made it clear that the money was coming from grants and that the buildings and landscapes were designed with low maintenance as a priority.

<http://www.dailypress.net/> Search for Harbor Point Project.

<http://www.uppermichiganssource.com/> Search Harbor Point Project

**Final Narrative Report:**

**Background/Overview---** The project like most projects started with two simple goals, provide access to the fishing pier and clean up the area. The project grew and through community input created a project that would make a significant impact on the park and how it was used. After writing the grants and putting together the preliminary plans, we decided the lighthouse would be an attractive focal point. That line item grew and grants needed to be shifted, as a result, GLFT awarded the city a generous additional amount of funding. The result is absolutely worth every penny and will last long after I am gone.

**Outcomes--** The "point" is the doorway to the pier, so by providing walkways and parking we thought we would attract mostly kids and families. A surprise is the senior populations that are using it. Some of the comments I am receiving from them are:

- \*The walk to the pier is just long enough to get some exercise
- \*They are able to interact with youth and families
- \*It gets them outside
- \*The bathrooms are a necessity
- \*I cannot fish anymore so I love to watch the kid's fish.

I enjoy the fact that this area now is not age specific and anytime that youth, adults, seniors and people with limited mobility can interact is absolutely beneficial. Without all the scope items, I feel we might have lost some of the people using the area.

This particular area was used primarily for the boat launch and recently the pier. A large amount of traffic both motorized and non-motorized have created a problem we did not expect. We were hard pressed to find a solution to separate motorized from non-motorized. An unexpected partnership was formed with our local Health Department and an extensive additional non-motorized path throughout the park will be complete by the end of September. This project and the pier project has spurred enthusiasm in the community; numerous benches, tables, trees are being donated. This is special if you remember we are extremely economically depressed. People want to feel good and the park has generated renewed interest.

### Site Specific Information

6. The area is about 1.5 acres. The shoreline protection allows for shore fishing, the design of the restroom/fish cleaning station is neutral colors and unobtrusive, the lighthouse is faced with stone and is accented to match the pier. The sidewalks, parking, benches and tables create a comfortable area. The natural and extensive landscape finishes it off.

7.

a. The address is Van Cleve Park. The entrance is at the Beach house, you can travel to the point on the road, non-motorized pathways or for boaters harbor access is available. The lighthouse, pier, restrooms, fish cleaning station and parking lot are all within 1.5 acres. All walkways are connected to the city's non-motorized trail system.

b. The point provides restroom, fish cleaning station, lighted parking, benches, tables, extensive landscapes and areas for shore fishing.

c. We have no interpretative signage at this time; however we have a lighted cabinet that will house educational materials that pertain to the different fish species.

d. The species of fish are wide ranging due to a strong current in the lake. At any given time, you can catch all species --perch, blue gill, large & small mouth, rock bass, brown trout, Northern Pike, splake, salmon, sun fish are what I have personally caught. The point is busy from ice out until first ice and so far, there has been no off time for catching fish.

e. The DNR stocks fish in Little Bay de Noc but not specifically at the Point.

f. I cannot tell you what I use to catch fish --that's a secret. I can tell you that I have observed anglers using all types of bait. Natural hatches provide temporary bait, live store bait is popular with the younger anglers and older anglers tend to use harnesses and lures. All work well due to the fact that there are so many types of fish.

g. The Gladstone Motel, Lakeside Motel, Kipling House B& B and the Gladstone Campground are offered to visitors.

h. Gladstone is a small community with many recreational opportunities and offers a safe place to play.

i. The final project far exceeded our expectations.

### Related Efforts:

The fishing pier and Harbor Point project were both funded by GLFT and both projects have complimented each other. In addition, as I mentioned this has sparked a renewed interest in the park. Talks are in progress to start Harbor Point Project Phase 2.

### Reflection:

This was a project that involved 3 grant sources, city match and force account work. I am exhausted and I have told everyone do not ever let me do this type of project again. With that being said --Harbor Point Phase 2 here we come.

Working with the GLFT has been seamless I appreciate all of the staff, they are professional, kind and helpful.











