

## CITY OF ANN ARBOR MICHIGAN

100 North Fifth Avenue, P.O. Box 8647, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107

Phone (313) - 994-2780

Parks and Recreation Department

November 22, 1983

Nancy Davis, Supervisor  
Ann Arbor Township  
3792 Pontiac Trail  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Dear Ms. Davis:

As requested by Leslie Morris, member of the Ann Arbor Park Advisory Commission, I am forwarding several items for your attention and information. If, on any of the items, you have questions or should desire further discussion, please do not hesitate to contact me.

1. The Michigan Rowing Association, at the Park Advisory Commission September 20th meeting, proposed the idea of a boathouse located on public parkland. The Park Advisory Commission asked the staff of the Department of Parks and Recreation to study the idea and report back with preliminary recommendations and observations. At the November 15th meeting of P.A.C., the attached material (Attachment B) was included in the packet material for Park Commission members. This material is being forwarded for your information, and, as you can see, is in a very preliminary stage. Currently, the Michigan Rowing Association is being asked to prepare more specific information pertaining to a building plan, site plan, and operational plan for the boathouse if such a facility is to be located at Barton Park. The proposed location at Barton Park is in the ravine between the existing railroad tracks and dike. The Rowing Association will report back to the Park Commission at their December 20th meeting (3:00 p.m., second floor Fire Station conference room) at which time the Park Commission will decide if it desires any further consideration of the proposal. If the Commission indicates an affirmative response, it is recognized that a public hearing would be set for early January to receive input and comments from all concerned individuals and/or groups. We will notify Ann Arbor Township of the status of this proposal after the December 20th meeting, but you would be most welcome to attend the Park Commission meeting so as to learn of the plans as proposed by the Michigan Rowing Association.



2. In an effort to eliminate any confusion, the plan which the Department of Parks and Recreation is following and committed to implement regarding the Barton Park boat launch, is that plan adopted in June, 1981 by the Ann Arbor City Council. The pedestrian access, as adopted by Ann Arbor City Council on May 3, 1982, exists as the official, adopted plans for Barton Park. Any other proposed plans, sketches, etc., have no standing and are not being considered. Implicit in this, is the fact that no trailer storage is provided for in the June 1981 plan, nor has the special access committee felt that trailer storage should be accommodated in the initial plan. As with all park development, the Park Advisory Commission and City Council have the responsibility and authority to review and adopt plans, which they have done with Barton Park. Any changes or modifications to plans would require their explicit review and authorization. Should such modifications be contemplated, or new "ideas" introduced (such as the boathouse proposal), park users, neighborhood groups and Ann Arbor Township would be explicitly notified so as to participate in considering the new ideas or proposals.

It is hoped that this information will be helpful, and we will keep you advised regarding the boathouse proposal if it materializes and proceeds beyond the conceptual stage.

Sincerely,



Vern J. Hartenburg  
Superintendent  
Department of Parks and Recreation

VJH:dcs

cc: Godfrey Collins, City Administrator

Leslie Morris, member Ann Arbor Park Advisory Commission

attachments: June 1981 Barton Park Adopted Plan

May 3, 1982 Adopted Pedestrian Access, Barton Park

Michigan Rowing Association Site Analysis Material

MICHIGAN ROWING ASSOCIATION  
BOATHOUSE LOCATION ANALYSIS

TO: Park Advisory Commission

FROM: Vern J. Hartenburg, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

DATE: November 9, 1983

Attached is a summary analysis of seven (7) public and two (2) private alternative locations considered for the proposed Michigan Rowing Association boathouse. The Barton Park Site C (ravine area between the railroad tracks and pond dike) and Gallup Park Site B (peninsula along pathway) seem best suited for further consideration.

At this point, we will ask the Michigan Rowing Association to complete a detailed study of the Barton and Gallup locations, including the preparation of a site plan for both, floor plan(s), building elevations/sections, landscape plans, water access/dock plans, etc. It is anticipated this material would be presented to the Park Advisory Commission at the December 20, 1983 meeting. If, at this time, Park Advisory Commission believes either of these sites warrant further consideration, it is recommended a public hearing be held in January, to receive comment and input regarding the Michigan Rowing Association's proposal.

VJH:dcs  
attachment

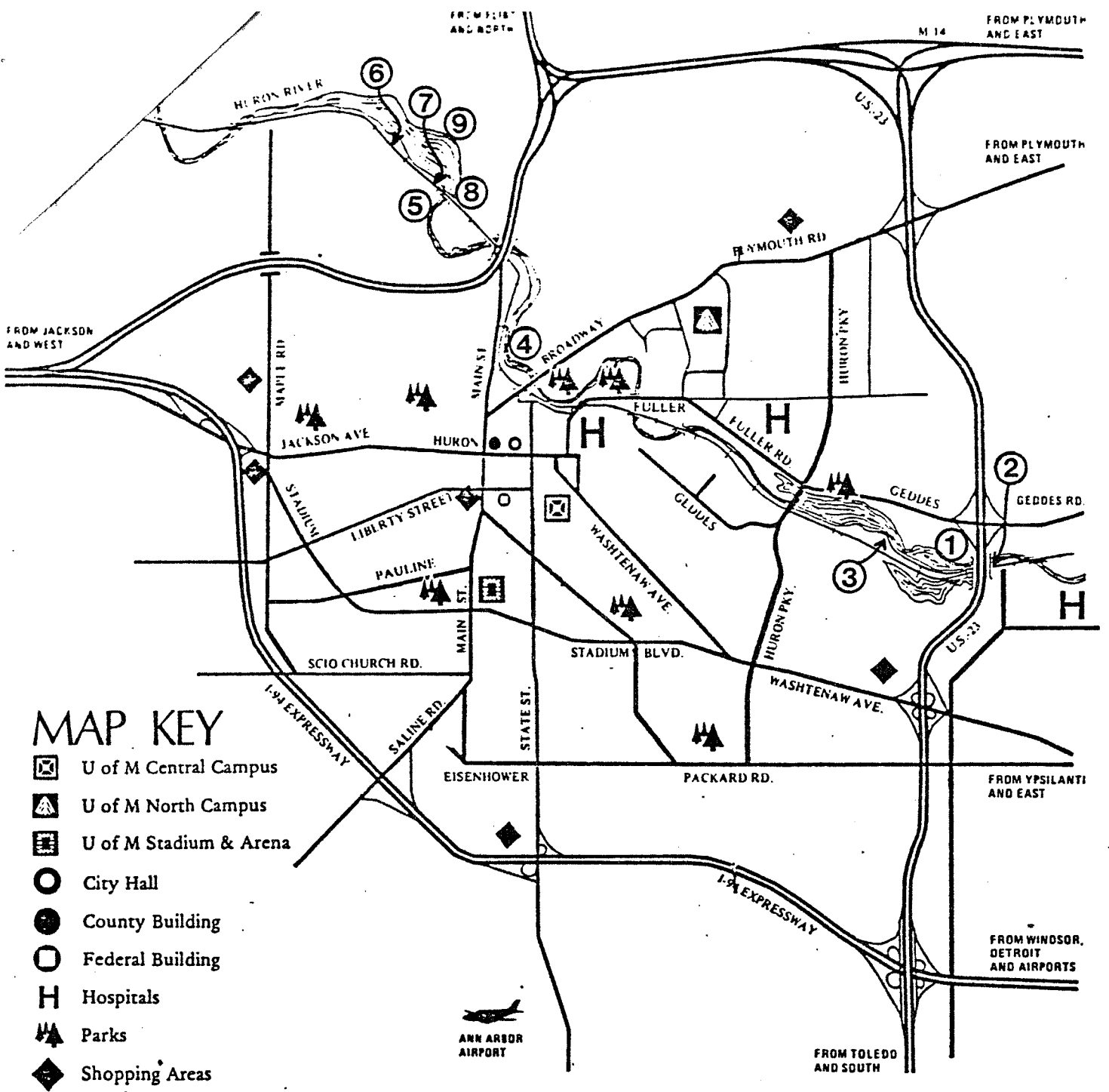
MICHIGAN ROWING ASSOCIATION  
SITE EVALUATION MATRIX

November 1983

Evaluation Scale

0 Unsuitable  
1 Marginally Suitable  
2 Somewhat Suitable  
3 Suitable  
4 Very Suitable  
5 Extremely Suitable

Sites	Evaluation Criteria													Total Points as Evaluated by Michigan Rowing Assoc.	Compatibility w/Existing Park Use	Compatibility w/Park Master Plan or "Planned Use"	Impact/Relationship to Residential Neighbors	Potential for "Shared" Facilities (i.e., Storage, Restrooms, Rentals, etc.)	Availability of Park Support Features (i.e., Parking, Water, Pathways, etc.)	Topography/Soils/Sand General Site Conditions	Total Points as Evaluated by Dept. of Parks & Rec.	Grand Total Points From M.R.A. and Parks & Rec.	
	Site Availability	Length of Waterway	Calmness of Waterway	Availability of Docking Site(s)	Distance from Dock to Boathouse	Distance from Parking to Boathouse	Spectator Area Availability	Handicapped Accessibility	Visual Screening of Site	Size of Building Site	Expansion Potential	Utility Availability	Public Transit Availability										Site Impact on Project Cost
1. Concordia College	1	4	4	4	4	2	5	2	1	3	3	2	2	1	38	N/A	N/A	-	0	N/A	N/A	-	38
2. Gallup Park-Site A <i>Close to Exeter PA</i>	3	4	4	4	4	4	5	2	1	1	3	2	2	1	39	3	2	3	2	3	1	14	53
3. Gallup Park-Site B <i>Close to Exeter PA</i>	3	4	4	5	5	2	5	3	5	3	1	2	4	4	50	3	2	3	3	1	2	14	64
4. Argo Canoe Livery	3	1	5	3	3	3	1	3	2	1	3	3	3	3	35	5	5	4	4	4	4	26	61
5. Barton Park-Site A <i>By New Parking Lot</i>	3	5	3	3	3	5	4	4	1	2	3	1	4	44	2	2	0	4	4	3	15	59	
6. Barton Park-Site B <i>on bridge between Boat Festival &amp; Age</i>	3	5	3	4	5	2	4	2	2	3	2	1	3	41	1	3	0	1	0	1	6	47	
7. Barton Park-Site C <i>Between Exeter Road &amp; K. by Boat</i>	3	5	3	5	3	4	4	4	4	5	3	1	4	54	4	4	3	4	3	3	21	75	
8. Barton Powerhouse <i>3.5 A adjacent to power house</i>	1	5	3	1	3	1	4	0	2	0	3	1	4	28	3	3	2	2	1	3	14	42	
9. Barton Hills Boat Club	0	5	3	1	3	1	4	1	2	0	3	1	1	25	N/A	N/A	-	0	N/A	N/A	-	25	



M E M O

To: Vern J. Hartenburg  
Superintendent of Parks & Recreation November 9, 1983

From: R. Bruce Laidlaw *R. B. L.*  
City Attorney

Subject: Land Transactions

This will respond to your memorandum of October 21, 1983.

You first asked whether the City could lease public parkland to a private organization. Specifically, consideration is being given to leasing land in either Gallup or Barton Park to the Michigan Rowing Association. There is no restriction, either in the City Charter or State law, which would prohibit such a lease. The lease would have to be approved by City Council and, since it involves an interest in land, the approval would have to be by at least 8 affirmative votes.

You also asked whether the City could obtain an easement over land outside the City limits. Specifically, consideration is being given to an easement which would permit a trail between Dolph Park and Saginaw Forest. Michigan home rule cities are authorized to own land, including park land, outside their city limits. As an easement is an interest in land, it could be acquired like any other land outside the City limits. Such an acquisition would also require City Council approval by 8 affirmative votes.

**RECEIVED**

NOV 09 1983

**PARKS DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the City of Ann Arbor acquired land south of Barton Pond in 1963 from Detroit Edison for park and recreation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Ann Arbor in 1971 authorized the sale of general obligation bonds for the purpose of providing access and limited development of Barton Pond Park, as provided for in a Master Plan adopted March 8, 1971, by the Ann Arbor City Council; and

WHEREAS, numerous boat launch plans to provide safe and adequate public access to Barton Pond for fishing and recreation use of small crafts (sailing, canoeing, rowing, etc.) were presented to City Council by the Department of Parks and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 1981 Mayor Belcher established a special committee to recommend a plan in which access could be provided to Barton Pond, taking into consideration the objections and concerns expressed with plans previously prepared; and

WHEREAS, the special Barton Pond Access Committee has met and has formulated a recommendation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a plan for providing pedestrian and "carry-in" water craft access by supported by the Ann Arbor City Council, at a location approximately 800 feet west of the existing Barton Pond Dam. This site and plan (on file in the City Clerk's Office) would include the following:

- a) parking lot for 30 cars, with possible future expansion to 50 cars to provide parking for Barton Pond Park;
- b) landscaping of the site;
- c) dock and "step" ramp into the water; and
- d) pedestrian-type grade crossing of railroad tracks to conform to safety specifications as may be required by ConRail (i.e., signalization, fencing, construction details, etc.).

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the development and operational plans for the project include the following items:

- a) installation of a gate so that access to the parking lot may be closed between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.;
- b) efforts, on behalf of the City of Ann Arbor and Ann Arbor Township, to achieve an "electric motor only" designation for all pond users; and
- c) the City Council recognizes the necessity for quality maintenance of the park site and supports the necessary scheduling of personnel/financial resources of the Department of Parks and Recreation to accomplish such maintenance.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- a) the boat launch shall be operated by concession on a year to year basis;
- b) the concession shall be responsible for the launching of boats, by the use of small motorized vehicles, of people who do not wish to launch their own boats.

BARTON POND

BRONX RD

LONG AVE

DOCK

MILWAUKEE CROSSING

MILWAUKEE AVENUE

HILMAN RIVER

DRIVE

TRUCK

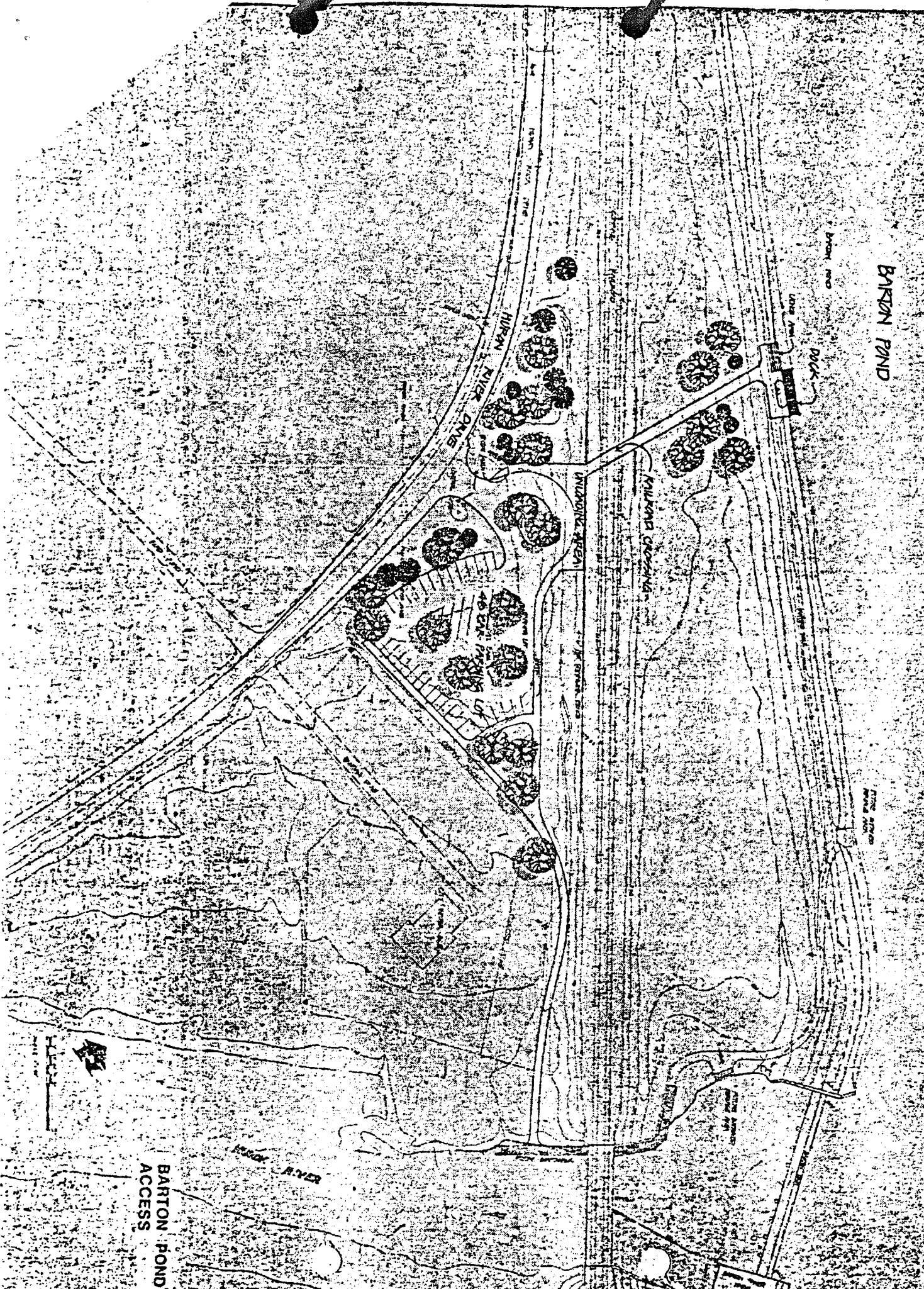
AREA

TRUCK

AREA

BARTON POND  
ACCESS

BRONX RD



RESOLUTION REGARDING

BARTON PARK

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the Ann Arbor City Council, on June 1, 1982, adopted a plan to provide boat access to Barton Pond; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized, however, ~~that current financial resources do not exist to implement that adopted boat access plan; and~~

WHEREAS, the City Council ~~has expressed a desire to begin initial improvements to Barton Park, and to provide, as a minimum, safe, legal pedestrian access to Barton Pond; and~~

WHEREAS, the Park Advisory Commission, by request of City Council, has reviewed alternatives to providing safe, legal pedestrian access to Barton Pond, and on April 20, 1982, endorsed the attached plan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ann Arbor City Council:

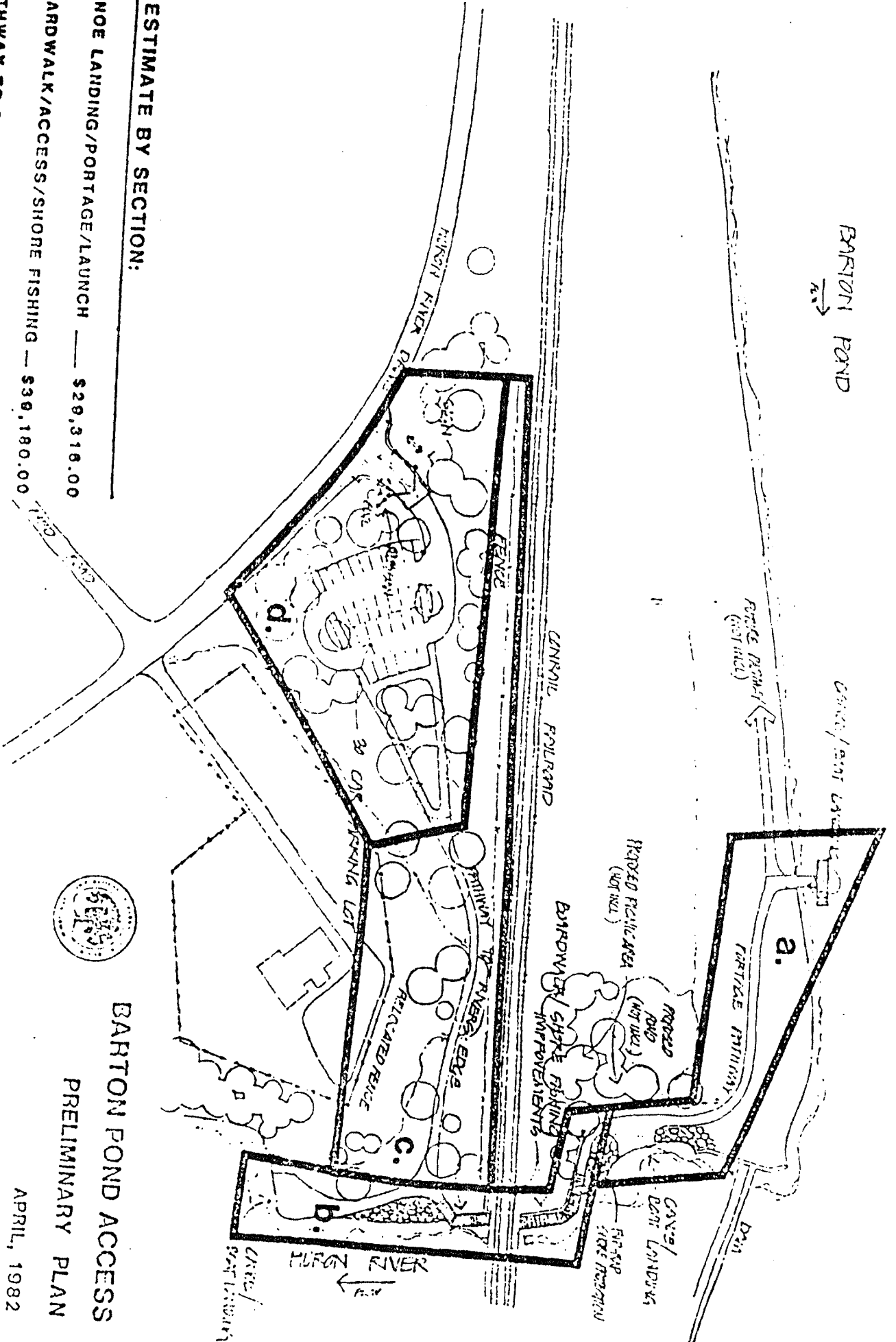
- a) accepts the conceptual plan (as attached) for pedestrian access to Barton Pond. (This design was also included in the March 8, 1971 adopted Master Plan for Barton Park); and
- b) directs the Department of Parks and Recreation to proceed in the preparation of bid documents for implementation of the plan, with top priority to areas a, b and c; and
- c) recognizes this Barton Park project is the last development project to be initiated from the 1971 Park Bond issue, and that the available unappropriated cash balance (approximately \$29,000) be tentatively "earmarked" for Barton Park improvements, making the total financial allocation of approximately \$89,000 (\$60,000 remaining from appropriated Barton Park funds and \$29,000 of unappropriated 1971 Park Bond money).

attachments

Ann Arbor City Council May 3, 1982  
(Parks & Recreation)

VJA:dcs

- COST ESTIMATE BY SECTION:**
- a. CANOE LANDING/PORTRAGE/LAUNCH — \$29,316.00
  - b. BOARDWALK/ACCESS/SHORE FISHING — \$39,180.00
  - c. PATHWAY TO RIVERS EDGE — \$10,980.00
  - d. PARKING AREA IMPROVEMENTS — \$36,610.00



**BARTON POND ACCESS  
PRELIMINARY PLAN**

APRIL, 1982

AS REVIEWED AT THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF APRIL 20, 1982

