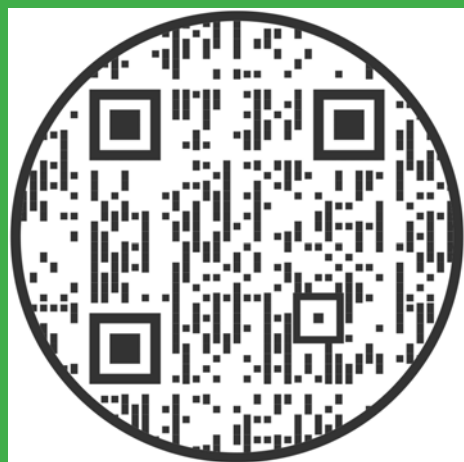


A NEW STATE PARK IN FLINT & GENESEE COUNTY

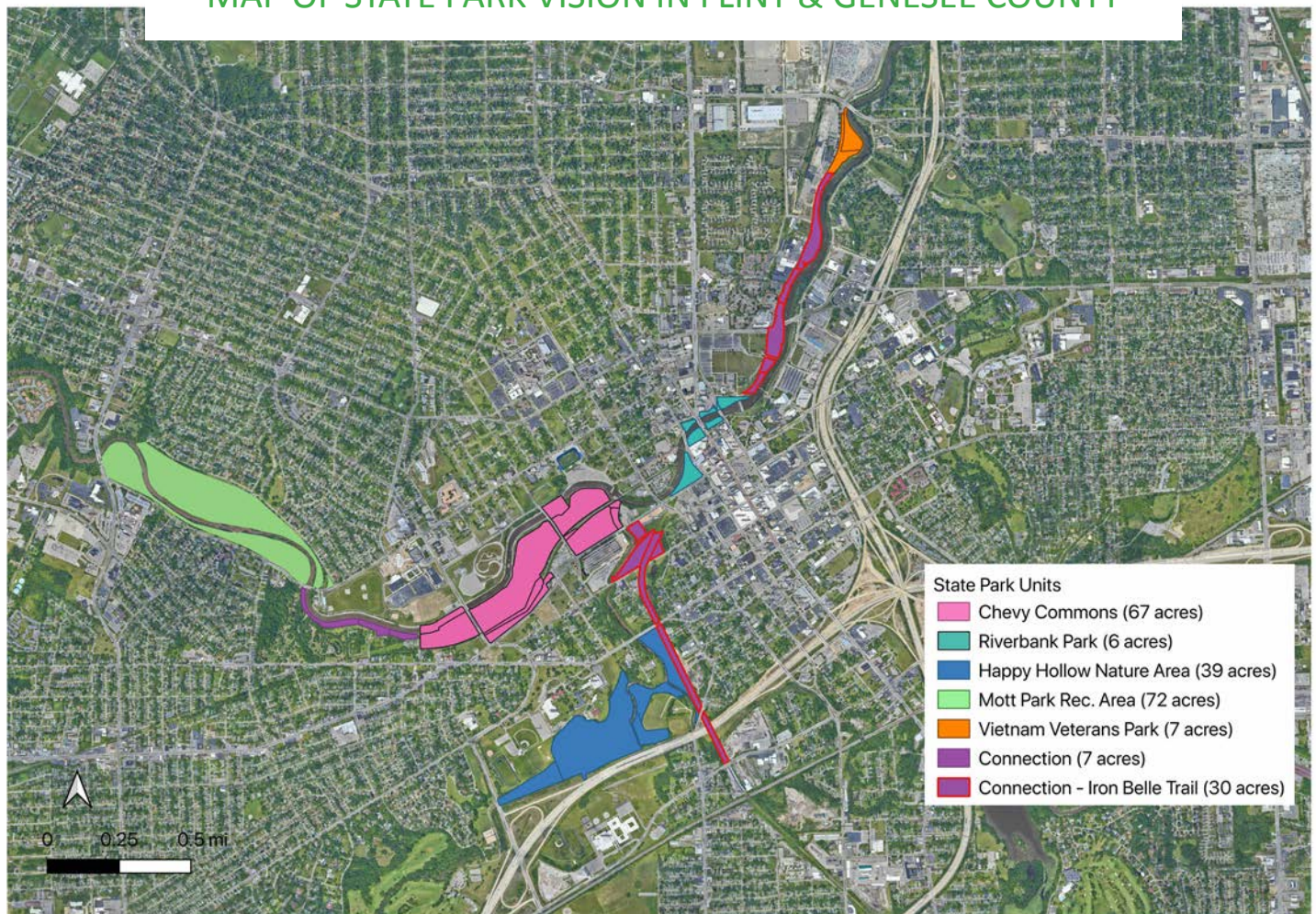


Share your input and ideas for the new state park!
Scan the QR code below to take the survey.



In March of 2022, the State of Michigan announced that it would establish a new state park in the city of Flint. This will be the first state park in Genesee County, the only county in Michigan without land that is managed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and will become Michigan's 104th state park. The announcement by the State of Michigan included \$30.2 million to support the creation of the state park. The park is envisioned to consist of 230 acres that stretch approximately 3 miles east to west and more than 1.5 miles north to south. The area includes five park units and three trailway connections, which will provide visitors non-motorized access to the entirety of the park. This composition will provide diverse land use typologies and recreational uses for Flint and Genesee County residents and all park visitors.

MAP OF STATE PARK VISION IN FLINT & GENESEE COUNTY



Flint River Restoration

The investment in establishing the state park is expected to include completing the removal of Hamilton Dam. Originally built in 1920 for the logging industry, the dam has been a threat to public safety in recent years and was classified as a “high hazard critical dam” by the State of Michigan. In 2018, the “superstructure” of the dam was removed. The vision is to complete the removal of the dam by removing the existing weir and constructing six “rifles” along the Flint River to manage the river water level. The rifles are designed to mimic naturally occurring in-river structures and will be placed at strategic locations within the river to avoid harmful interference and the flooding of adjacent properties. Once completed, this work will restore access to the Flint River that has been absent for more than a century, including opening an astounding 25 miles of waterways for fish passage.



Riverbank Park

Riverbank Park is located on the banks of the Flint River between just upstream of Harrison Street to Grand Traverse Street. The park that you see today was designed by Lawrence Halprin, a renowned landscape architect, in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the early 1970's as part of a flood control mitigation project. Today, the park is owned by the City of Flint, is underutilized, and is in dire need of investment to make it safer and more accessible. Park improvements are expected to include improving and restoring park land along the Flint River by creating new terraces to the water's edge resulting in safer river access and egress, landscaping, opening site lines, installing new pedestrian trails and improving existing trails, enhancing barrier-free access, and designing these improvements in a manner which complements the original design.



Chevy Commons

Chevy Commons is located on the banks of the Flint River between Grand Traverse Street and Chevrolet Avenue. Formerly the “Chevy in the Hole” industrial facility, the site sat vacant for years but was recently transformed into a park. Today, the park consists of 67 acres of non-motorized trails along low maintenance landscaping, which is owned and maintained by Genesee County Parks. Genesee County has committed to donating the property to the State of Michigan for the purpose of creating the state park. The current vision is to enhance recreational value for children and families within the park by constructing a signature playscape with new connections to Atwood Stadium.





Mott Park Recreation Area

Mott Park Recreation Area is located on the banks of the Flint River between Nolen Drive and Ballenger Highway. Formerly Mott Park Golf Course, the park was reinvented by the neighborhood after the golf course closed in 2010. Today, the 72-acre park includes a disc golf course, improved kayak access to the Flint River, and a renovated clubhouse. The park is owned by the City of Flint. The Mott Park Recreation Association has been improving and maintaining the park for more than a decade and currently has an agreement with the City of Flint to operate the clubhouse. This agreement will remain valid, and the Mott Park Recreation Association will

continue to operate the clubhouse. The current vision is to connect the park to the rest of the state park by constructing a new trail that will run along the southern bank of the Flint River to Chevy Commons.



Vietnam Veterans Park

Vietnam Veterans Park is located on the bank of the Flint River just downstream of Hamilton Avenue Bridge at James P. Cole Boulevard. The park consists of 7-acres owned by the City of Flint. Currently the park is underutilized and has amenities that are outdated and in disrepair. The Park will be connected to the rest of the state park by replacing the existing sidewalk on the south side of James P. Cole Blvd with a new trail that will run along the north side of the Flint River to Riverbank Park. Improvements are expected to include constructing a new pavilion and public toilets; building an improved boat ramp, skid pier, drive entry and walkways; and new ADA river access and landscaping.



Happy Hollow Nature Area

Happy Hollow Nature Area is located on the banks of Swartz Creek, east of Hammerberg Road and north of I-69. Historically a nature area, this unit of the new state park will provide new public access to a unique nature area within Flint. It consists of approximately 39 acres, the majority of which are privately owned and planned for donation to the State of Michigan for the purpose of creating the state park. The current vision is to construct a non-motorized trail across the Happy Hollow Nature Area and to connect the area to the rest of the state park by extending the non-motorized trail

across adjacent City of Flint property to the Grand Traverse Greenway Trail.

For more details on the vision for the new state park
in Flint & Genesee County, visit:
Michigan.gov/stateparkprogress

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