



## OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that the Parks and Recreation Committee of the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin will hold a regular or special meeting as indicated on the date, time and location given below.

Meeting of the:

Date /Time:

Location:

Members:

### **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF STOUGHTON**

**Wednesday, October 10, 2012 @ 5:30 PM**

**Fire Department Training Room (381 E Main St, Stoughton WI 53589)**

Eric Olstad, Greg Jenson, Tim Swadley, Paul Lawrence, Donna Olson

CC:

Attorney Matt Dregne, Department Heads, Stoughton Newspapers, Pili Hougan, Tamara Bader-Fleres, Debbie Blaney, Debbie Myren, Sean Brusegar, [oregonobserver@wcinet.com](mailto:oregonobserver@wcinet.com), Council Members

\* Note-For security reasons, the front doors of the City Hall building (including the elevator door) will be locked after 4:30 p.m. If you need to enter City Hall after that time, please use the entrance on the east side of City Hall (the planning department door). If you are physically challenged and are in need of the elevator or other assistance, please call 873-6677 prior to 4:30 p.m.

Item #	CALL TO ORDER
1	Communications
Item #	OLD BUSINESS
2	Park Facilities Use
3	Parks and Open Space Plan
4	Memory Walk Lighting
5	Budgeting for Outcomes
Item #	NEW BUSINESS
4	Approval of the September 5, 2012 Minutes
5	Parkland Purchase Opportunities
6	Future Agenda Items
ADJOURNMENT	

## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 5, 2012  
Hall of Fame Room



Present: Alderpersons: Tim Swadley, Greg Jenson, Paul Lawrence, Eric Olstad and Parks and Recreation Director Tom Lynch and Mayor Donna Olson

Absent and Excused:

Guests: Dan Spransy, David Kneebone, Sean Brusegar

### **Call to Order**

By Swadley at 6:00 PM

#### 1. Communications

The accessible fishing pier was installed at Riverside Park on Wednesday by the Street and Parks Department. Jenson suggested that the City check with CVMIC about proper signage for the pier.

### **Old Business**

#### 2. Division Street Park Lot Line

Discussion took place about whether the 14' x 133' section of the southern edge of Riverside Park should be considered non-utilized parkland. This piece of land has previously been considered part of the property at 100 S. Division St. owned by Beth and Dan Spransy.

Lynch felt that it was in the City's best interest to negotiate a sale rather than incorporate the piece back into the park. With the lot line 1'2" from the Spransy house the public would probably not use the land.

David Kneebone suggested creating a lease agreement as a way of keeping the parkland and allowing the Spransy's to use and maintain the area in question.

*Motion by Jenson, seconded by Olstad to recommend to Finance to consider the 14' x 133' section of land on the south edge of Division St. park, as non utilized property and a candidate for sale to Dan and Beth Spransy. Motion passed 4-1 (Lawrence)*

#### 3. Park Facility Use

Lynch spoke with both Mel Dow and Erica Pinkett about being involved with the school facilities committee when needed. The committee directed Lynch to ask for a meeting between the school's facilities committee and the Parks and Recreation Committee.

#### 4. Parks and Open Space Plan

The committee directed staff to come back with a plan to move forward with the Parks and Open Space plan with an emphasis on doing some of the work in house.

#### 5. Approval of August 1, 2012 Minutes

*Motion by Jenson, seconded by Swadley to approve the minutes of August 1, 2012. Motion passed 4-0*

#### 6. Memory Walk Vandalism/Maintenance

Diane Anderson talked about the vandalism to solar lights at the Memory Garden at Heggestad Park. She asked for a security camera and night lighting for the park. Without electricity in the park a night light installation may cost about \$1,400. Brusegar suggested using a hunting camera to monitor the area. Staff will look into lighting options.

#### 7. Meeting Night Change

The committee will look into the possibility of changing our regular meeting date to the second Wednesday of the month.

8. Future Agenda Items

Heggestad park lighting

Parks and Open Space plan

Park facilities

*Motion made by Olstad, seconded by Jenson to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM. Motion passed  
4-0*

# **CITY OF STOUGHTON COMPREHENSIVE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN**

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## **1 Introduction**

As the demand for parks, open space and leisure activities continues to grow throughout the country, the City of Stoughton has taken the proper steps to not only create a solid parks and open space system, but also to maintain and improve recreational opportunities within the community. With the development of this plan, the City of Stoughton has recognized the importance of providing quality recreational opportunities to its residents and visitors. Recreational needs can only be met by properly located sites that provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities and are convenient to potential users. These sites should possess natural characteristics appropriate to their intended functions. Providing these facilities has become an accepted responsibility of government at all levels - local, county, state, and federal. The increasing demand for outdoor recreation has produced three areas of concern for local government decision makers:

- The need to improve existing facilities and provide additional facilities to meet current and future demand for recreational activities.
- The need to provide recreational opportunities and facilities in a manner compatible with natural resources.
- The need to provide recreational opportunities and facilities in a manner compatible with limited fiscal resources.

Planning is an integral element in identifying community needs and providing facilities efficiently, effectively and economically. The approval of this plan by the Common Council and subsequent acceptance by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) will enable the City of Stoughton to be eligible for the next five years to pursue funding through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LAWCON), the State Acquisition and Development of Local Parks Program (ADLP), the Stewardship Program and through other state grant-in-aid programs.

### **1.2 The 2007 Comprehensive Park and Open Space Master Plan Goals and Objectives**

The initial task in preparing any type of planning document includes the formulation of a series of goals and objectives that outline the City's intent throughout the planning document. These goals and objectives will serve as a guide for the City to follow in providing a desired community-wide park and recreation system.

**Mission Statement** - The overall purpose of the park system and reason for the park land and recreation program provision.

**Goal** - A broad statement of direction and purpose. A goal should be based on the stated needs of the community. A goal should be long-range and timeless as well as idealistic.

**Objective** - Defined as a quantifiable aim within a limited time frame. Objectives should be derived from stated goals, quantifiable, specific and within a limited time frame.

A goal provides the City with its long-term destination; objectives act as mile markers along the way. All recommendations listed in the plan are specifically designed to address the goals and objectives listed here.

#### An Example of a Goal and Objective:

- **Goal**

Ensure that open space and recreation activities and programs are designed to meet the special needs of all residents, especially the elderly and handicapped.

- **Objective**

Convert all existing restrooms in the parks to accessible restrooms by the year 2010.

#### City of Stoughton Mission Statement

The City of Stoughton seeks to provide a park and recreation system that will: meet the needs of our current residents and future generations; preserve and protect the City's open space, water, historical and natural resources; and provide a park and recreation program that is designed to enhance City residence's quality of life.

#### City of Stoughton Goals and Objectives

1. Goal: Maintain an adequate amount of active and passive recreational lands to meet current and future recreational needs.
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#### Objectives:

- Acquire additional lands for active and passive recreational use based on current demand, demands created by increasing populations, and environmental significance of the land.
- Strive to achieve the goal of at least 10.5 acres of land suitable for active recreation for every 1,000 Stoughton residents.
- Acquire lands suitable for park and recreation use by explicitly stating acceptable characteristics of land for dedication in the parkland dedication ordinance.

2. Goal: Ensure that open space, recreation facilities and programs are designed to meet the special needs of all residents, especially the elderly and disabled.
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#### Objectives:

- Provide for barrier-free access in all new park facility construction and play areas.
- Achieve compliance with accessibility requirements in existing facilities by 2012.
- Encourage participation of elderly and disabled citizens at park and recreational meetings and in recreational programs.
- Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act as it applies to communication between the Parks and Recreation Department and the public.

3. Goal: Coordinate subdivision review with all departments responsible for providing or maintaining adequate park facilities.
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#### Objectives:

- Consult and incorporate the needs identified in the Comprehensive Park and Open Space Master Plan before subdivision plats are approved.
- Evaluate land dedicated for parks to differentiate between land appropriate for active park use, land appropriate for open space only, and land requiring protection from development. Land requiring protection from development should be protected via the zoning ordinances.
- Continually evaluate and update the subdivision ordinance so that it adequately addresses the park and open space needs of new and existing City residents.

4. Goal: Coordinate development efforts and the use and maintenance of recreational facilities among the City of Stoughton, Stoughton School District, and appropriate public recreation associations.

Objectives:

- Coordinate the public use of indoor and outdoor school recreation facilities.
- Encourage cooperative City/School/Sports Association development projects to help improve and expand recreation opportunities throughout the community in a cost-effective manner.
- Continue the existing policy formal use/revenue/maintenance agreements among the City, school district, and public recreation associations to help operate and maintain public recreation facilities in the City by 2009. Agreements will be reviewed every two years.

5. Goal: Stress the benefits of larger neighborhood and community parks that provide a wide range of facilities over the development of small playground and tot-lot facilities.

Objectives:

- Analyze the location, size and function of existing and proposed parks as annexations, residential development or land use changes occur.
- Use park service area criteria to help determine the location of future park sites (1/4 for a neighborhood park and 1 mile for a community park).
- A community park is needed in the northwest and the southwest sides of Stoughton.

6. Goal: Provide residents with safe and reliable park facilities and equipment throughout the City park system.

Objectives:

- Continue funding the replacement of old and deteriorating recreation equipment at all City parks.
- Continually monitor and maintain existing park equipment to ensure its longevity and safety.

7. Goal: Use all available resources to further enhance the quality of the City's park system.

Objectives:

- Continually pursue state and federal funding programs, which can aid in the purchase and/or development of desired park system improvements.



- Cultivate the existing positive relationships with public and private organizations for donations and volunteer help to aid in park system development.
- Update the City's Comprehensive Park and Open Space Master Plan every five years to maintain grant eligibility.
- Pursue the development of revenue generating recreational facilities and activities, which can aid in the development of new facilities and/or the maintenance of existing facilities.

8. Goal: Recognize the importance of an adequate park budget, which can financially address existing park hazards and allow for future parkland acquisition and future park facility development.

**Objectives:**

- Use the Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan's capital improvements program as a guide to establish yearly park budgets.
- Invest funds to develop facilities that will maximize existing park and recreation areas and provide exciting recreational programs to increase park use.

9. Goal: Continue to develop interconnected biking and walking trails that provide easy and safe access to all neighborhoods.

**Objectives:**

- Expand the mission of River and Trails Task Force to include their involvement in trail and bike path planning.
- Work with Public Works Committee to improve greenway landscaping and help define possible trails through the greenways.
- Work with Planning and Public Works Committee to add routes or bike lanes, when needed, on newly constructed streets that will serve to connect the existing system of biking and walking facilities.

### 1.3 Stoughton Demographics

Stoughton was a rapidly growing community over the past fifteen years with an estimated 2005 population of 12,755. This figure is 52 percent above the 1990 population of 8,786. This compares to growth rate of 24% for Dane County. Based on population forecasting with completed by the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration, Stoughton can expect a population of 15,000 by the year 2015 and 16,800 by the year 2025.

The town areas immediately surrounding Stoughton have been experiencing slower growth rates; however, with Stoughton's population, they have a combined population of over 19,000 (See Table 2). This means Stoughton's parks and open space system may face increasing pressure from surrounding areas. This will be especially true of border parks like Mandt, Racetrack Road Parks (See Table 3).

Stoughton residential housing stock is predominantly single-family dwelling units (60%). Since 1980 the proportion of multifamily units, including duplexes, has increased from 34 to 40 percent of total housing.

**Table 1: Population Trends**

Jurisdiction				
Year	City of Stoughton	Town Area*	Dane County	State of Wisconsin
2025	16,798		554,848	6,274,867
2020	15,867		527,534	6,110,878
2015	15,019		503,017	5,931,386
2010	14,229		480,573	5,751,470
2005	13,370		455,927	5,563,896
2000	12,354	6,881	426,526	5,363,715
1990	8,786	6,683	367,085	4,891,769
1980	7,589		323,545	4,705,642

\*Balance of Zip Code

## 1.4 Summary of the Existing Stoughton Park System

This section of the report contains a map showing the existing City Parks. The map is followed by a list of the parks, their respective acres and the facilities offered at each park.

### Stoughton Parks Inventory by Park Classification

#### Mini-Parks

##### **Criddle Park .125 acres**

This tot-lot is located in the center of the city about 1 block north of Main Street on Monroe Street. The city purchased this property but the park was developed by the neighborhood, the Friends of Criddle Park group and the U.S. Army Reserves. This park offers playground structure equipment, gazebo, basketball court, maze, sand area and park benches.

##### **Division Street Park .7 acres**

Located in the center of the city two blocks north of Main Street on N. Division Street, this picturesque passive park has frontage on the Yahara River. The park contains park benches and large flower boxes. It is heavily used during Syttende Mai, for the canoe race portage, city band concerts, and other activities. Fishing, sightseeing, canoeing and picnicking are common activities at this park. Geese have made this park their year round home.

##### **Riverside Park 1.0 acres**

Located on Riverside Drive next to Mandt Park, this is a quiet park with river frontage and park benches. The park is located next to the Fourth Street dam and the Mill Pond, which hosts the conclusion of the Syttende Mai canoe race each spring. Fishing and small craft boating occur at this park.

##### **Nottingham Park .125 acres**

This lot, located just north of the Jackson Street Greenway, is maintained as a mowed/ open area by the Parks Department. There are no development plans at this time.

##### **Howard Heggestad Park 1.0 acres**

This small park, located across from Virgin Lake Park on Roby Rd., is the home of the newly constructed Memory Walk and a memorial to Howard Heggestad and his love for trees. The park contains a small shelter and walk paths leading to Virgin Lake.

**Mill Pond Park . 125 acres**

Located along the Yahara River on S. Page St., this park contains the Memory Garden. Well maintained flowers and walk paths surround a beautiful fountain.

**Neighborhood Parks**

**Bjoin Park 4.4 acres**

This park is located in the central section of the city, on East Wilson Street. The land is level and clear with the exception of some attractive wooded areas. Existing facilities include a tennis court, horseshoe pits, volleyball court, play equipment, a ball field, and a picnic shelter with restrooms. The Yahara River trail borders its east side.

**Dunkirk Avenue Park 1.5 acres**

This park is located along the Yahara River on Dunkirk Avenue, on the city's near east side. The park has a play structure; interior plantings, a backstop, and a basketball play area.

**East Side Park 4.0 acres**

Located at Lynn Street and Park Street, this park contains a picnic shelter with restrooms, play equipment, a sand volleyball court, a tennis court, and a half basketball court.

**Lowell Street Park 6 acres**

Consisting of 6 acres this park is located on South Page Street in the southern part of the city. Current facilities include a youth baseball diamond with backstop and fencing, some picnic tables, a basketball hard surface play area, soccer field, bike trail, restrooms with a small picnic shelter and a BMX dirt/ramp bike track.

**Veteran's Memorial Park 4 acres**

Located at Page Street and Riverside Drive, this park is characterized by its rolling topography and river frontage. This area is nicely wooded, and is bordered on the south by a cemetery. Present facilities include play equipment and a small shelter, restrooms, tennis court, a Veteran's memorial, and a nice hill for sledding in the winter.

**Norse Park 7.75 acres**

This park is located on Kriedeman Drive in the northern part of the city. Facilities include baseball field, shelter/warming house, ice skating rink, playground with equipment, tennis courts, and a basketball court. This park was chosen as the site of a planned inclusive "dream park".

**John Nygaard Virgin Lake Park 7 acres**

Located in the Northwest part of Stoughton on Roby Road, this park has a 2-acre access to the Virgin Lake wetland area and another 5 flat acres to the south of Roby Road. The park is bordered to the west by a greenway that contains a trail running from Jackson St to Virgin Lake. This park currently includes a soccer field, shelter, restrooms, basketball and a playground.

**Schefelker Park 10 acres**

Located in the northwestern sector of the city off of Furseth Road, this park has a nice stand of oak trees and an open, flat area available for recreational use. The park has a prairie restoration project in the middle of the park that involves seasonal burning and seed collection; small parking lot; playground equipment, plantings of trees and shrubs, a paved trail and a backstop.

**Westview Ridge Park 5 acres**

The newest park in Stoughton, this 5 acre parcel (with 2.4 acres of adjacent storm drainage) is a rolling landscape with a soccer field, small basketball court, a pond, a small shelter, and a playground. Many young trees form three outdoor “rooms”.

**Community Parks**

**Mandt Park 14.4 acres**

This park is located in the southern part of the city on S. Fourth Street. Although Mandt Park is listed as 29.4 acres, 15 acres are backwaters of the Yahara River. This leaves 14.4 acres devoted to active recreation use.

Present facilities include one softball diamond with lights, 2 lighted basketball courts, play equipment, parking, open picnic shelter, swimming pool and a bathhouse, a skateboard ramp and the Mandt Community Center. Mandt Park also hosts the only Junior Fair in Dane County. A large grandstand is used during the fair as well as for special events.

**Racetrack Park 29 acres**

Located on the city's far east side on Racetrack Road. This park, once top farmland for growing corn, was willed to the city in 1987, including all buildings. This community park includes soccer fields, a full size basketball court, four youth baseball/softball fields, and a concession/shelter with restrooms.

**Conservancy Parks**

**Conservancy A (Roby/Page)**

Located at the intersection of Roby Rd and N. Page St., this piece of land was donated by a developer for City use. It contains a wide drainage ditch and an oak stand.

**Conservancy B (Amundson Park)**

This area is the fenced (former landfill) portion of Amundson Park. The City is currently making efforts to make this land available for park use. Expansion of the disc golf course and senior recreation opportunities are in the plans for this area.

**Special Use Parks**

**AJ Amundson Disc Golf Course 5 acres**

This park is located just west of a closed landfill on Stoughton's west side. The 9 hole course is popular with local residents and Dane County disc golfers in general.

**Victorian Garden Park 1 acre**

This converted residential lot on S. Page St. has river front access and a Victorian Garden on the street level. This garden is the work of volunteers. A bench and lamp post add to the amenities.

**Heggestad Memorial Park 2 acre**

Just north of Virgin Lake Park, this location is a memorial to Howard Heggestad for his interest in promoting trees in Stoughton. This park contains a bench area and a trail.

## **Map 1   Existing Parks and Open Space**

## 2 Analysis of the Stoughton Park and Open Space System

The number and type of parks and recreation facilities needed within a community are dependent on the demands of the local residents. Identifying the recreational needs and wants of community residents provides the justification for funding the acquisition and development of new facilities as well as the maintenance of existing recreational facilities. There are four generally accepted methods of determining recreation needs:

- A classification of existing parkland and a comparison to national acreage standards
- Comparison to generally accepted service area standards
- Comparison to regional quantitative studies – the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the Dane County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Soliciting public input and discerning local recreational facility needs

It is important to use all four of these methods in determining the need for additional parks and/or recreational facilities in the City of Stoughton. Each method focuses on one specific element of providing suitable parks and open space and types of facilities. Taken individually, they do not provide an accurate representation of community-wide recreation needs. However, used as a group, recreation needs and wants can be aggregated and identified and additional parks and recreation facilities can be justified.

This report uses the above four methods of analysis to develop a set of recommendations, which are discussed in Section 3.

### 2.1 Parkland Analysis

A parkland classification system is a useful tool to determine if an existing park system serves the needs of a community. Total acreage alone does not guarantee that the community's park needs are being met. A community should have a number of different types of parks to serve the various needs of the residents. They may have "met the standard" in acreage through the creation of one large park, but the community's needs have not truly been met in terms of accessibility and recreational activity variety. Table 2-1 explains the seven park classifications, the associated use, service areas, desirable size and desired acres per 1,000 population. A well-rounded park system offers at least one park in each classification.

For the purposes of this plan, an "active use" park is one that offers facilities such as a playground, ball fields, soccer fields, volleyball, picnic areas, swimming and the like. The active use park acres are likely to occur in parks that are in the Mini-Park, Neighborhood Park or Community Park classification.

Passive use parks are those that offer none of the above facilities, but may have trails, nature enjoyment, general open space. Passive use acres can usually be found in parks classified as Conservancy or sometimes the Special Use classification.

**Table 2-1 National Recreation and Park Association Parkland Classification System**

Component	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres/1,000 Population
<b>A. Local/Close-to-Home Space</b>				
Mini-Park	Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens.	Less than ¼ mile radius	1 acre or less	0.25 to 0.5A
Neighborhood Park/Playground	Areas for intense recreational activities, such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus area, skating, picnicking, wading pools, etc.	¼ to ½ mile radius to serve a population up to 5,000 (a neighborhood)	15+ acres	1.0 to 2.0A
Community Park	Areas of diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation, such as walking, viewing, sitting, picnicking. May be any combination of the above, depending upon site suitability and community need.	Several neighborhoods. 1 to 2 mile radius	25+ acres	5.0 to 8.0A
Total Local Space = 6.25 to 10.5 AC/1,000				
<b>B. Regional Space</b>				
Regional/Metropolitan Park	Areas of natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation, such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, and trail uses; may include play areas.	Several communities. 1 hour driving time	200+ acres	5.0 to 10.0A
<b>C. Space that may be Local or Regional and is Unique to Each Community</b>				
Linear Park	Area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel, such as hiking, biking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, canoeing and pleasure driving. May include active play areas. (NOTE: the above components may occur in the "linear park")	No applicable standard	Sufficient width to protect the resource and provide maximum use	Variable
Special Use	Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities, such as golf courses, nature centers, skateparks, marinas, zoos, conservatories, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, gun ranges, or downhill ski areas, or areas that preserve,	No applicable standard	Variable	Variable



Component	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres/1,000 Population
	maintain, and interpret buildings, sites, and objects of archeological significance. Also plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards, parkways.			
Conservancy	Protection and management of the natural/cultural environment with recreational use as a secondary objective.	No applicable standard	Sufficient to protect the resource	Variable

Table from Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, NRPA, 1983, pages 56, 57.

Once existing parks have been classified, a comparison can be made between the national standard acres per 1,000 population for each park type and existing acreage.

For this plan, the acreage standard for local park space is most relevant. The standard of 10.5-acres/1,000 population (taken from Table 2-1) is used as a basis for determining acreage needs. This acreage should be distributed among park types as follows:

#### Park Standards

Mini Parks	0.5 acres/1,000 population
Neighborhood Parks	2.0 acres/1,000 population
Community Parks	8.0 acres/1,000 population
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.5 acres/1,000 population</b>

Source: Table from Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, NRPA, 1983, pages 56, 57.

The City of Stoughton currently has 94.88 acres of land in active park classifications or 7.4 acres/1,000 residents (based on DOA population estimate of 12,755). The National Recreation and Park Association Parkland Classification System (1983) offers an acceptable range of "Total Local Space = 6.25 to 10.5 AC/1,000." Most park professionals use 10.5 acres/1,000 as the standard. However, the predominance of Stoughton's centralized neighborhood parks still provides for a very accessible park system.

**Table 2-2 City of Stoughton Recreation Areas by Park Classification**

Mini-Parks	Neighborhood Parks	Community Parks	Conservancy	Special Use
<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Criddle 0.125	Bjoin 4.4	Mandt 14.4	Conservancy "A"*** 4.2	AJ Amundson 5.0
Division 0.7	Dunkirk 1.5	Racetrack 29.0	(Roby and Page)	(Disc Golf & Trail)
Riverside 1.0	East Side 4.0		Conservancy "B"*** 22.3	Victorian Garden 1.0
	Lowell 6.0		(AJ Amundson)	
	Veteran's 4.0			
	Norse 7.75			
	Virgin Lake 7.0		Mandt Yahara River	
	Schefelker 10.0		Backwaters 15.0	
	Westview Ridge 5.0			
<b>TOTALS 1.8</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>

\* Nordic Ridge Park (6.6 acres) will be developed as the neighborhood fills in with homes during the next 5 to 10 years.

\*\*Area immediately West of Page Street, north of Roby Rd. maintained by Stoughton Parks and Recreation Dept.

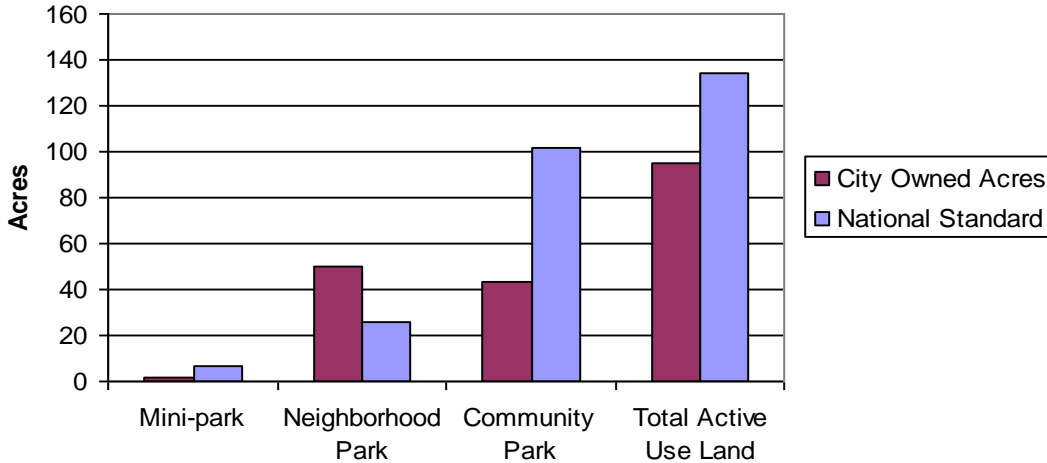
\*\*\*AJ Amundson site including wetlands and old landfill; excludes disc golf and recreation trail

**Table 2-3 Recreational Facilities Owned by Other Agencies by Park Classification**

Mini-Parks	Neighborhood Parks	Community Parks	Conservancy	Regional/Metro-politan Park
<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>
St. Anne's 0.5	River Bluff 2.0	Kegonsa Elem. 5.0	n/a	Viking County Park 105.8
	Yahara Elem. 2.0	Fox Prairie Elem. 5.0		
	Anderson Park 2.0	Sandhill School 6.0		
	Pleasant View Park 3.0	Stoughton H.S. 8.0		
	Oak Knoll Park 5.5			
<b>TOTALS 0.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>105.8</b>

Figure 2-1 below compares the amount of city-owned park acreage compared to the national standard for each park type. The figure indicates Stoughton surpasses the national standard for neighborhood parks by nearly twofold (49 city acres compared to 26 national standard). In every other category, Stoughton falls short of the national standard based a level of service by total population for each park category.

**Figure 2-1: City Owned Park Acreage Compared to the National Standard**



**Note:** National standard calculated by multiplying the standard for each park type per 1,000 residents by the number of residents. Acres needed to meet national standards are based on population estimates for the City of Stoughton, (approximately 12,755).

Figure 2-2 below compares total active parkland within the city compared to the national standard. These estimates include school district facilities and acreages to augment municipal park totals. As demonstrated in the chart, Stoughton has a shortfall of mini parks and community parks. Though the large number of neighborhood parks increases the total active use acres of parkland in the City of Stoughton, it still falls below national standards.

**Figure 2-2: City Plus Other Agency Acreage Compared to the National Standard**

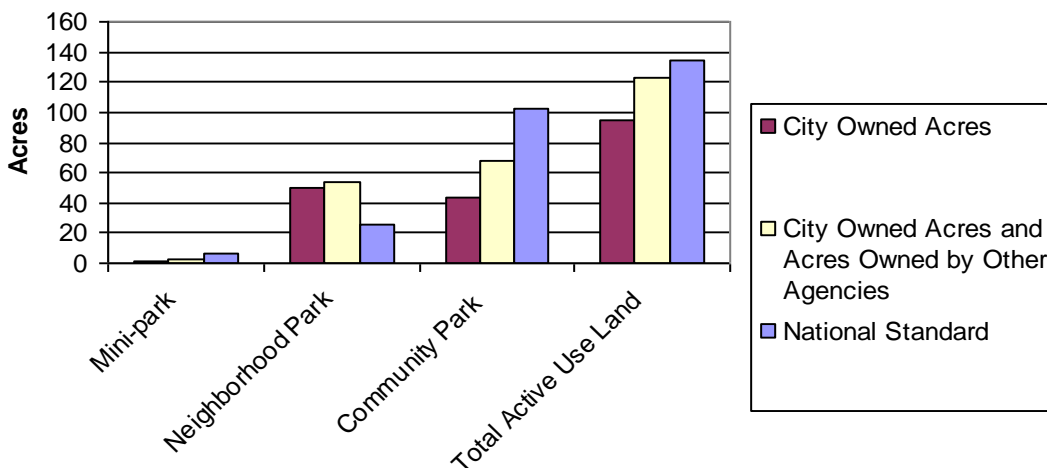


Figure 2-2 demonstrates that the addition of "other agency" land increases the City of Stoughton's active land use totals, but they still fall short of national standards.

## **2.2 Park Service Area Requirements**

The second method of evaluating a community's parkland needs and adequacy of service is to plot park service areas on a map of the park system and identify areas that are not being served. Utilizing the park service radii criteria established by the NRPA, park service areas were mapped for existing neighborhood and community parks in Stoughton.

### **2.2.1 Community Parks**

The national standard service area for a community park is a 1-mile radius.

Map 2 on page 17 delineates community park coverage in the southeast portion of the City. Both Mandt Park and Racetrack Park provide facilities in this area. North of Roby Road and west of Van Buren Street the City contains smaller neighborhood-scale parks and school facilities for recreational use, but no community parks.

### **2.2.2 Mini- and Neighborhood Parks**

All residents of the City of Stoughton should have reasonable access to City parks. Specifically, all City residents should reside within the park service area of a neighborhood park or a mini park. The national standard service area for a neighborhood park is a ½ mile radius and for a mini park it is a ¼ mile radius.

Map 3 on page 18 demonstrates that the majority of neighborhoods within Stoughton are within the service area of either a neighborhood park or a school facility that provides neighborhood park facilities. Gaps in the current service area for neighborhood parks include:

1. North of East Main Street and east of the railroad
2. East of North Page and North of Williams Drive
3. A small cluster of parcels west of the 400-700 block of North Page

In all instances, major roadways limit safe access to nearby parkland facilities. Map 4 provides a graphic representation of the school service areas.

## Map 2 Community Park Service Areas

**Map 3 Neighborhood Park, Mini Park Service Areas**

**Map 4 School Service Areas**

## 2.3 Review of State and Regional Recreation Plans

The third method of determining recreation needs in the community uses local, regional, and state recreation studies that apply to the area. These quantitative studies are statistically defensible surveys, polls, and other instruments that help identify user input from uniform sets of questions. These studies are very useful since they are a good indicator of recreation needs as perceived by recreation users. The two studies available at this time are the *2005-2010 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)* and the *2006-2011 Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan*.

### 2.3.1 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Since 1965 the State has developed and maintained the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) in an attempt to classify, measure, and ultimately provide for the preferences and needs of a statewide recreating public.

The 2005-2010 SCORP examines and assesses current and future recreational needs within the state. To aid in this process, Wisconsin was divided into a group of eight planning regions, each representing a loose collection of natural resource and tourism based assets. Together, the SCORP regions represent a wide spectrum of outdoor recreation settings offered across the Wisconsin landscape. With its comprehensive statewide and regional focus, this plan will guide the allocation of limited recreation funds to acquire additional recreation and conservation lands and support the continued development of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Developing and improving the supply of recreation in Wisconsin will have several benefits. Easily accessible, nearby recreation lands may be expected to increase the health of Wisconsin residents. Data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) indicates that 61% of all Wisconsin adults are overweight or obese and 24% of Wisconsin high school students are overweight or at risk of becoming so. Physical activity is an important factor in controlling obesity. With their miles of easily accessible trails, rivers, and forest, Wisconsin parks and recreation areas play an integral role in promoting activity among state citizens. Recreational activities such as hiking, biking, swimming, and skiing are all fun, easy ways of achieving the regular exercise key to maintaining a healthy body. On a community-wide level, parks and recreation areas provide space for social events such as picnics and family outings, events that help forge strong communities and healthy families.

The City of Stoughton is located within the Southern Gateways Region of Wisconsin, and the central presence of Madison impacts much of this region. Rapid suburban development within the greater Madison metropolitan area has made areas of Dane County among the fastest growing in the state. As urban populations increase, so too does the demand for traditionally urban-based recreation such as dog parks and developed sports facilities. These resources will continue to impact future recreation supply and demand.

### 2.3.2 Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan

The primary purpose of this plan developed by Dane County Park Staff, is to identify the parks and open space goals for Dane County for the period of 2006-2011 and to identify the process to meet those goals. Dane County plays a special role in the partnership of state, county and



local units of government, as well as private groups, that attempt to meet the recreational needs of Dane County's citizens.

One county park and county park project is in immediate proximity to the City of Stoughton, providing an opportunity for the city and the county to partner on projects that benefit City of Stoughton residents.

- Viking County Park – this 105.5-acre park is located on the Yahara River just north of Stoughton on CTH N. A bicycle-pedestrian path and bridge was recently completed that connects the park to the City of Stoughton. Upgrades have recently been done to the parking lot and dog exercise area. Recommendations for improvement include:
  - Consider replacing small open shelter near lagoon.
  - Work with WDNR on shoreline restoration and habitat improvement projects throughout the park.

## **2.4 Stoughton Parks Survey: Fall 2006**

Input from Stoughton citizens is a major driving force behind recommendations contained in Chapter 3 of this Plan. To understand usage of current parks, recreational facilities and open space, and to plan for future growth the Parks and Recreation Department surveyed Stoughton residents.

The survey was designed to provide accurate data to help Park and Recreation Committee members and City staff to identify key issues about park usage in Stoughton. The survey also posed questions about the size and quantity of existing facilities. This feedback is critical to City planners responsible for determining the types, locations and sizes of new park facilities and were to focus maintenance dollars on existing parks.

Data collection was conducted from mid-November through early December 2006. A paper copy of the survey was distributed in the November *Tower Times*, the City of Stoughton newsletter. An online version of the survey was also made available with links provided through the City's web site and through a 1,000 piece email drop.

A total of 677 responses were received from the paper copy and the electronic survey distributions for a response rate of 13.5 percent.

47.8% of the respondents use Stoughton parks on a weekly basis in the summer, and 32.7% use them weekly during other seasons of the year. Frequently used park facilities included toddler lots, baseball/softball fields, soccer/football fields, paved paths and nature trails.

Parks are important to very important to 92% of the survey respondents. 78% report high overall satisfaction with the Stoughton Parks System. Residents enjoy and appreciate the proximity of parks to their homes. They are very satisfied with the level of park maintenance and access to park play equipment and other park facilities.

The survey uncovered that there are four park user types in Stoughton, each seeking different park facilities and experiences. Stoughton has met the four group's needs in the

past and can continue to meet them with focused efforts. The four groups are listed below along with the types of facilities they seek:

Passive Activity Seekers (Trails and Picnics): This park user type enjoys experiencing nature and quiet when in the parks. They look for nature trails, walking and biking trails, open space with wildlife habitat, picnic areas and quiet places to just “be” outside.

Sporting Activity Seeker (Ball Players): This group goes to parks to enjoy organized sport activities such as softball, baseball, basketball, football and soccer. They seek well designed and maintained facilities to enjoy their chosen sports either in pick-up games or organized league play. Often times this group consists of parents and children, where the parents support the child or children in the family in various sports interest. This group also includes adult athletes (single and married) who seek to partake in sport leagues for the competition and the companionship.

Young Child Activity Seeker (Young Child Activities): This group includes parents of young children (under 8 years old or so), it also includes grandparents and other caretakers of young children. This park user type goes to a park to find play equipment and other activities (possibly swimming) for their young child to enjoy. They generally like the park and play equipment to be close to home to provide for easy access during frequent but short visits.

Teen to Young Adult Activity Seeker (Tween/Teen Activities): This park user type is looking for skate boarding facilities, possibly tennis or ice skating opportunities. They see parks as places to gather and enjoy the company of people their own age, a place to “see and be seen”.

Of course, one person may be a member of multiple groups, for example a person seeking a quiet nature walk while the kids are in school, attending a little league game in a park after dinner and then enjoying watching their toddler on a playground as the sun goes down. The groups however are useful in planning for park expansion, prioritizing maintenance dollars, future park locations and future park types. The City of Stoughton must take a balanced approach, as they have in the past, to provide park and park facilities that continue to meet the various needs of the groups identified in the survey.

A summary of the survey findings can be found in Appendix A. A complete report on the survey outcome is available at the City of Stoughton Parks Department and on the web at the city web site (<http://www.cityofstoughton.com>).

## **2.5 Stoughton Sports Associations and School District Concerns**

### **2.5.1 Stoughton Sports Associates**

The sports associations of Stoughton were surveyed about their current and future needs for additional fields and sport facilities. Tom Lynch collected this information using a short survey asking their current needs and their anticipated needs in the next 5 to 10 years in terms of sports facilities.

Below is a summary of the short and long term needs stated by each organization:

#### **Stoughton Area Youth Soccer Associate (SAYSA)**

- 1 adult size field now, a second field will be needed within 3 to 5 years, a third and fourth field by 2016
- SAYSA currently uses a mix of both park and school fields to meet its practice and game needs

#### Stoughton Area Little League (SALL)

- 2 additional baseball diamonds (to be used exclusively by Little League)
- SALL currently uses a mix of parks and school fields

#### Stoughton Area Youth Softball Association (SAYSA, Girls 8 to 18)

- SAYSA would like a park like Racetrack with 4 diamonds that their program can use
- Girls softball currently uses mostly school facilities and Racetrack on weekends only (Sat and Sun)

#### Stoughton Area Youth Baseball (SAYB)

- In five years SAYB would like to see an additional full size field at Racetrack and lights at two additional fields at Racetrack.
- Their long term goal is to have a new 4 ball diamond complex with lights and concessions
- SAYB activities currently take place at parks only

#### Stoughton Youth Football (SYF)

- A lighted field in addition to the high school would help relieve scheduling congestion on existing fields, more practice and game fields are needed
- SYF currently uses all school facilities and no park facilities

### 2.5.2 Stoughton School District

In an interview with Tom Lynch the High School Athletic Director said that he has a need in the next 5 years for 3 regulation (100 yard X 70 yard) soccer fields and a baseball diamond. The baseball field could be a conversion at Racetrack Park.

### **3 2007 Comprehensive Park and Open Space Master Plan Recommendations**

#### **3.1 Future Park Locations**

Future parks for the City of Stoughton are mapped on Map 5. There are four parks that are currently in the planning stages.

- Linnerud Property Park (A): This park is designated to become a community park. It is located in the center of the Linnerud property that is currently being planned for development.
- Ehle Property Park (B): Located along the Yahara River, this property has been in the planning stages for a while. The City of Stoughton has negotiated with the developers in terms of where the future park might be located on the property. The plan is to have the park closely associated with the river shore line and will provide land for the continuation of the existing trail system.
- Stone Crest (C): This new neighborhood park will serve the new neighborhood developing west of Racetrack park in the newly annexed portion of Stoughton.
- Nordic Ridge (D): This new neighborhood park will serve the new residents moving into the new neighborhood south of Milwaukee Street.

In addition to the above mentioned parks, the City of Stoughton should pursue the acquisition and development of a new athletic field/community park on the west side of Stoughton. The park could be acquired and developed in partnership with local sports associations and other units of government such as nearby towns.

#### **3.2 Trail Connections and Greenway Development**

Goal 9 of this plan states "Continue to develop interconnected biking and walking trails that provide easy and safe access to all neighborhoods". Due to its grid system streets, mix of land uses and its fledgling trail system, the City of Stoughton is very bike and pedestrian friendly already. The City should continue to pursue the development of its trail and greenway system over the next five years. Map 6 depicts the existing and the proposed on road and off road trail system for Stoughton.

- The River and Trails Task Force is in place and a very powerful partner to achieve Stoughton's trails and greenway goals. The Park Board has elected to deepen the River and Trails Task Force's involvement in trail and bike path planning and ask for task force help in moving forward on existing trail plans.
- The Public Works Committee and Department can play a helpful role in completing the desired trail system. The Parks and Recreation Committee has expressed interest in working with Planning and Public Works Committee to improve greenway landscaping and help define possible trails through the greenways.
- The Parks and Recreation Committee has also pledged to work with Planning and Public Works Committee to add bike lanes or routes when appropriate on newly constructed streets that will serve to connect the existing system of biking and walking facilities.
- Dane County continues to pursue a regional trail system in Dane County, with the current effort focused on connections between Madison, McFarland and Stoughton. The City of Stoughton will continue to cooperate with Dane County to make regional trail connections to Stoughton's trail system.



## Map 5: Future Parks and Open Space

### 3.3 Proposed 5-Year Action Plan

#### 3.3.1 Citywide Improvements

The following is a list of recommendations for the entire system of the City of Stoughton parks. The overall list of recommendations may seem overwhelming, however, they are meant to be long-term and they should be implemented over a period of years. The citywide improvements should be implemented over a ten to twenty year period, as opposed to implementing the Capital Improvements Program for specific sites in a five-year period. If all the citywide recommendations are implemented, the Stoughton Park and Recreation System will be significantly improved.

#### General Recommendations

- Retrofit all parks and park facilities to be disabled accessible, including shelters and restrooms. As park toilet buildings are built or upgraded, they should be designed to be barrier-free and accessible to all park users.
- Cover surfaces directly under play equipment and a safe zone around the play equipment with a 10-inch to 12-inch layer of resilient safety surface. Commonly used resilient surfaces are sand, pea gravel and bark or wood chips. To meet the Federal ADA requirements, the City of Stoughton should consider using "Wood Carpet" or a similar product that provides wheelchair accessibility as well as a resilient surface.
- Acquire additional parklands as appropriate to meet current and future recreational needs per the recommendations of the City's Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan.
- Develop a citywide, barrier-free, multi-purpose trail system that connects city parks and county parks and provides access to natural and cultural resources in the community and region. Cooperate with various transportation agencies to provide safe crossings at major street and highway intersections.
- Actively generate funds for park and recreation programs and park development.
- Revenue generating options
  - General Tax Revenue
  - Subdivision impact fee
  - Payment in lieu of dedication of parkland
  - Grants and donations
- Perform systematic routine maintenance of park facilities and equipment.
  - Play equipment
  - Courts and fields
  - Benches and picnic tables
  - Trail systems
  - Restrooms and shelters

### **3.3.2 Additional Park System Improvements**

#### **Park Improvements or Additions**

##### **Conservancy A (Roby/Page)**

Future uses include a trail (requiring a bridge over the drainage area) that would wind through the property, and a playground.

##### **Conservancy B (Amundson Park)**

This area is the fenced (former landfill) portion of Amundson Park. The City is currently making efforts to make this land available for park use. Expansion of the disc golf course and senior recreation opportunities are in the plans for this area.

##### **Northwest Community Park**

Consider the addition of a “community built playground” at this site. Examples of this playground type can be found in Monona and Fitchburg. This web site provides more details on this type of playground and answers some frequently asked questions:

[http://www.leathersassociates.com/entrance\\_frame.htm](http://www.leathersassociates.com/entrance_frame.htm)

Sometimes referred to as a “destination” playground, these are designed with local children’s ideas and built by local volunteers and are very popular with both kids and adults.

##### **New Sports/Community Park**

Continue to explore the idea of a new community park with sports facilities such as soccer fields and a clover leaf of ball diamonds to be located on the far west side of Stoughton, possibly in the southwest corner. This park will help relieve the pressure on existing sports fields and provide an active use community to the population of western Stoughton.

Continue to work with the senior center director to explore the idea of installing a LifeTrail in Stoughton. This is a newer product offered by playground suppliers and provides equipment for people 50 and above to work out on as they walk a trail. A nice example of such a facility is located at Lake View Park in Middleton, Wisconsin.

This website provides some information on the product.

[http://www.leerecreation.com/products/index.php?category\\_id=3093](http://www.leerecreation.com/products/index.php?category_id=3093)

#### **Policy Suggestions**

The City Parks and Recreation Committee and the sports and festival associations, and the school district athletic director should meet twice per year to discuss issues, future needs and projects they may be able to partner on. Close communications between these groups will bring about more efficient use of existing facilities and better planning for future facilities.

An aquatic center feasibility study is recommended. The City of Stoughton’s current swimming facility is not up to today’s standard expectation for a swimming facility and due to its age its maintenance cost will continue to rise. A feasibility study will determine if there is a need and a desire for a new facility, study locations, sizes and other issues that will help to determine if the City should pursue a new aquatic center.



Based on the public survey, seniors and their families desire and use parkland. Recommend that the Planning Commission consider parkland dedication for independent living senior housing.

### 3.3.3 Capital Improvements Plan 2007-2012

Capital improvements to a park are the addition of labor and materials that improve the overall value and usefulness of that park. Capital improvements are designated and funded individually through segregated municipal funds. Routine maintenance, on the other hand, is considered to be the repair and upkeep of existing park facilities, such as painting a shelter building. Routine maintenance of park facilities does not appreciably increase the value or usefulness of the park, and is traditionally funded through the park department's operations budget. Non-routine maintenance of park facilities, such as upgrading a toilet facility to be barrier-free is usually considered to be a capital improvement.

Most projects can be easily identified and categorized, but some are difficult. When a project falls on the borderline between a capital improvement and maintenance, the overall cost becomes the determinant. Projects with a high cost, such as for seal coating roads or parking lots, are categorized as capital improvements.

The capital improvements program for each park is a combination of several types of projects. These projects are ranked according to their importance and priority in the overall development of the park. Generally, capital improvements are ranked in the following manner:

- Improvements to Existing Facilities
  - Correct health and safety hazards
  - Upgrade deficient facilities
  - Modernize adequate but outdated facilities
- Installation of facilities as deemed appropriate and necessary through public demand (public meetings, PRFC input, expected population growth)
- Development of new facilities as deemed necessary through comparison to NRPA park and recreation standards

Specifically, improvements to existing facilities rank the highest in the capital improvements program, while new facilities are usually ranked lower, according to their relative need in the park. Improvements that correct health and safety hazards are always the highest ranking priority. Improvements that are deemed necessary through comparison to national park and recreation standards are usually ranked the lowest. Please see Table 3-1 for the Stoughton Parks Capital Improvements Plan. Table 3-2 is the Budget Summary. This table depicts the total dollars to be spent for each park annually until 2012.

**Table 3-1 City of Stoughton Capital Improvements Plan 2007-2012**

## **4 Park Acquisition and Development Mechanisms**

### **4.1 Parkland Dedication Ordinance**

Many communities, including the City of Stoughton, have developer exactions for parkland acquisition and recreational facilities development. These exactions are designed to help a growing community develop new park facilities to keep pace with new residential development. As residents move into a new subdivision, they place additional stress on existing park facilities. Developer exactions, agreed upon during the subdivision review and approval period, provide land or cash or a combination of both to the City to be used for the provision of park facilities for the new neighborhood.

The City of Stoughton ordinance (Chapter 66: Subdivision and Platting, Article IV. Required Improvements) provides the flexibility to accept land or fees on a case-by-case basis through a “subdivision fee”. This appears to work well for the City however recent Wisconsin legislation (2005 Act 477) establishes new requirements for impact fees. These include specific procedural requirements like requiring identification of specific projects to be completed as well as expending impact fee revenues within seven years of their collection. The current City of Stoughton ordinance no longer satisfies state requirements for the development of public facilities. Recommendations for how Stoughton can continue collecting land and funding parkland improvements are provided below.

#### **4.1.1 Suggestions for Improving the Parkland Dedication Ordinance**

##### Land Dedication

Land should be dedicated by the developer in new developments when parklands are specified in any official city planning document. Examples include official maps, comprehensive plans, and this comprehensive parks and open space plan. Planning for new parks should closely follow the demand and infrastructure capacity for new development within clearly delineated areas. These areas include those forecast for development over the next 20 years as identified on the “Planned Land Use” maps, City of Stoughton Comprehensive Plan. Map 5 “Future Parks and Open Space” on page 25 clearly identifies four future parks established to serve new development in planned neighborhoods identified in the Comprehensive Plan: “Linnerud” (Northwest Planned Neighborhood); “Ehle” (Northeast Planned Neighborhood); “Stone Crest” (Southeast Planned Neighborhood); and, “Nordic Ridge” (South Planned Neighborhood). When development of these neighborhoods occurs, the developer of these lands shall dedicate the appropriate number of acres as negotiated upon plat approval.

Some communities also require developers in planned neighborhoods where future parks are planned to develop park facilities in addition to dedicating land. The City of Stoughton (Parks and Recreation Committee) should determine whether to adopt this requirement locally. The City of Sun Prairie (Dane County, WI) should be used as a model on how to enforce these requirements, if adopted.

##### Usable Lands

An issue often discussed regarding dedication ordinances is what type of land is acceptable for parkland. The intent of the current ordinance is, and should remain, to focus on producing land for neighborhood parks. The current ordinance states, “Greenways, wetland and lands located in the 100-year floodplain shall not be accepted as dedicated parkland.”

Because the intent of parkland dedication requirements is to provide sufficient recreation lands for new residents, neighborhood parks should be developed within the new development. Neighborhood parks are designed to provide active and passive recreation activities, organized league recreation, as well as informal “pick up” play. The primary user ranges from 5 to 15 years of age. However, informal recreation opportunities cater to groups of all ages. The service area of ¼ mile radius includes the entire neighborhood, with some neighborhood overflow if features are unique. The average neighborhood park commonly ranges from 5 to 10 acres in size and serves from 1,000 to 5,000 people – basically one park for every elementary school.

An improved ordinance would include the following land specifications for negotiation with developers in planned neighborhoods:

- Land should be contiguous and in a configuration to serve the development(s) with proposed recreational components. Careful consideration should also be made for connections to other new or expected subdivisions. In cases where several new subdivisions are being developed within a “planned neighborhood”, the opportunity to develop a larger neighborhood park (5 to 10 acres) in a central location should be explored as opposed to several smaller parks that are less land intensive.
- Parkland shall have a minimum of 25% of the total perimeter directly fronting on a public roadway.
- Minimum secondary access shall be 40 feet wide, also the trail to the park needs to be built prior to the neighboring houses being built

#### **4.1.2 Funds for Park Improvement**

##### **Impact Fees**

Many communities collect “impact fees” at the time the building permit is issued for a new home. These impact fees can fund a variety of items including sewer and water construction, fire fighting equipment, library facilities and park development. Regardless of what particular facility or service, the fee must be reasonably related to or somehow serve the new neighborhood. These fees go into a separate account to be spent on capital development of parks (or improvements to existing parks) to serve the new residents.

As mentioned earlier in this chapter, Wisconsin legislation (2005 Act 477) establishes new requirements for impact fees. These include specific procedural requirements like identification of specific projects to be completed as well as expending impact fee revenues within seven years of their collection. If the City of Stoughton does not elect to require developers of planned neighborhoods to develop park facilities in planned parks, impact fees should be collected to fund facilities development.

To enact impact fees the City of Stoughton would need to develop a Public Facilities Needs Assessment that forecasts and quantifies the collection of developer exactions. It is likely Stoughton already develops a majority of the components necessary to justify impact fees. Examples include periodic capital improvement planning, population and household forecasting, and records related to current planning and zoning.

Once the justification for collection of impact fees has been completed, an ordinance to enable collection of fees must be adopted. Development of this ordinance should follow parameters

established in Wisconsin Statutes 66.0617. To enable spending of impact fees collected in planned neighborhoods, "impact fee zones" should be established for each of the planning areas where future parklands are forecast for development.

Another option to consider for park development would be a "Developers Agreement" such as is currently used by the City of Sun Prairie. In the developer agreement method, the City and the developer of a residential area come up with an agreement on the park land and the master plan for the park. The developer then actually installs the park to serve the new neighborhood as he completes all the roads, utilities and other public infrastructure to serve the new neighborhood.

The following table lays out the typical park development needs and costs. A park plan for each type will contain some of the items listed but not necessarily all of them. Parks will be designed based on need and physical layout of the land.

<b>BASE PARK COMPONENTS</b>	<b>Tot Lot 0.5 acres</b>	<b>Neighborhood 5 acres</b>	<b>Community 10 acres</b>
Grading and Seeding (\$8000/acre)	\$4,000	\$40,000	\$84,000
Landscaping and Site Amenities	\$2,500	\$25,000	\$50,000
Paved Path		\$32,000	\$44,000
Park Signage	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$2,800
Park Shelter (no restrooms)		\$35,000	
Park Shelter w/restrooms			\$75,000
Water Fountain		\$7,000	\$7,000
Benches ( furnish and Install )	\$1,500	\$2,800	\$5,600
Trash Receptacles ( furnish and Install )	\$800	\$1,800	\$3,600
Basketball Court (half court/full court)		\$4,000	\$8,500
Play Equipment	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$40,000
Soccer Goals and Nets		\$1,500	\$3,000
Softball (backstop only/full field)		\$8,000	\$20,000
Tennis Court(s)		\$30,000	\$60,000

## 4.2 Grant Information for Park Acquisition and Development

The state and federal government provides money to local governments for the acquisition and development of parks. It is important to note that most of the programs require that a local government submit to the WDNR a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan or master plan which has been approved by resolution by the submitting local government. By adopting the 2007 Comprehensive Park and Open Space Master Plan with a resolution, the City of Stoughton has met the eligibility requirement for these grant programs until the year 2011. This section provides general information and contact names for many of the grant programs that may be used to acquire and develop local park facilities. The Grant Information Matrix below is divided into two sections, the Stewardship Program and other grant programs.

The Stewardship Program was created by the 1989 Wisconsin Legislature. It originally provided for a 10-year program/\$250 million fund to enhance Wisconsin's outdoor recreational resources.

In 1999, the Stewardship Program was re-authorized for another 10 years. The program contains funds for state and local governments, as well as nonprofit conservation organizations (NCOs). To encourage partnerships and cooperation between the WDNR, local governments and NCOs, the Stewardship Program provides a matching grant that is available to non-profit organizations for the acquisition of land or land rights for a variety of land conservation and recreational purposes. The Grant Information Matrix (Table 4-5) contains only those specific Stewardship funds for which local governments or NCOs are eligible to apply.

Other grant programs listed in the grant information matrix include the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a federal grant program for the acquisition and development of local parks and the Urban Forestry Program, which contains state and federal funds for the development and preservation of urban forests, including park trees and a program to fund boat launching facilities.

**APPENDIX A: Stoughton Park System Existing Facility Matrix**

			Passive Areas					Informal Active Games					Hard Surfaced Courts					Seasonal					Special Event Areas			Service and Buffer									
Designation	Acreage	Facility	Open Space		Disc golf	Picnic area	Play equipment	Biking/walking	Soccer	Sandlot backstop	Baseball	Softball/baseball	Football	Sand Volleyball	Basketball	Tennis	Horseshoes	Skateboard Area	BMX / Freestyle Bike	Pool	Hockey	Ice Skating	Sledding	Fishing Area	Xcountry Skiing	Boat Access	Performance Stage	Zoo	Event area	Other building	Restrooms	Drinking Water	Parking Areas	Picnic Shelter	
MP	0.125	Criddle Park					●								●																				
MP	0.70	Division Street				●																													
MP	1.00	Riverside	●																						●		●								
MP	1.00	South Street																							●		●								
NP	4.40	Bjoin				●	●	●				●		●	●	●	●														●				
NP	1.50	Dunkirk Ave.					●			●					●																	●			
NP	4.00	East Side				●	●	●						●	●	●																●			
NP	14.90	Lowell				●	●	●	●		●				●				●													●			
NP	4.00	Veteran's Memorial				●	●	●							●	●							●									●			
NP	7.80	Norse				●	●	●			●				●	●																●			
NP	13.70	Virgin Lake				●	●	●	●					●	●	●						●							●		●		●		
NP	10.00	Schefelker	●				●	●		●					●																			●	
NP	7.40	Westview Ridge													●			●		●	●	●												●	
CP	29.40	Mandt	●			●	●	●				●			●			●		●	●	●		●			●		●				●		
CP	29.00	Racetrack Road	●					●	●			●	●		●					●	●	●					●					●	●		
SP	27.30	AJ Amundson	●	●				●							●																		●		
NP: Neighborhood Park																																			
CP: Community Park																																			
SP: Special Use Park																																			
MP: Mini Park																																			
CONS: Conservancy Area																																			





**APPENDIX C: CURRENT PARKLAND DEDICATION ORDINANCE**

	User Group	User Group	User Group
<b>Park Facilities</b>			
<b>Racetrack Park</b>			
Diamond 1	Stoughton Recreation		
Diamond 2	Stoughton Recreation	Stoughton Area Little League	Storm Girls Softball
Diamond 3	Stoughton Recreation	Stoughton Area Little League	
Diamond 4	Stoughton Recreation	Stoughton Area Little League	
Barn Area Soccer	Stoughton Recreation		
South Soccer Field	Stoughton Area Youth Soccer	Stoughton Lacrosse Club	
<b>Mandt Park</b>			
Roadside Diamond	Stoughton Recreation	Stoughton Area Little League	Stoughton Area Youth Softball
<b>Lowell Park</b>			
Baseball Field	Stoughton Baseball		
<b>Bjoin Park</b>			
Baseball Field	Stoughton Area Little League		
<b>Virgin Lake Park</b>			
Soccer Field	Stoughton Area Youth Soccer		
<b>Norse Park</b>			
Baseball Field	Stoughton Baseball		
<b>Contract Facilities</b>			
<b>Yahara School</b>			
Softball Field	Stoughton Area Youth Softball		
<b>Kegonsa School</b>			
Softball Field	Stoughton Area Youth Softball		
<b>Oak Knoll Park</b>			
Baseball Field 1	Stoughton Area Little League		
Baseball Field 2	Stoughton Area Little League		
<b>High School</b>			
Baseball Field	Stoughton Baseball		
Softball Field 2	Stoughton Area Youth Softball		
Softball Field 3	Stoughton Area Youth Softball		
Tennis Courts	Stoughton Recreation		
<b>Fox Prairie School</b>			
Baseball Field			

OFFER#51-13  
CITY OF STOUGHTON  
SELLER OFFER FOR 2013 BUDGET

OFFER/PROGRAM: <b>Park and Open Spaces Management</b>	
PAST PROGRAM / OFFER #: <b>51-13</b>	PAST PROGRAM NAME: Parks Create a Positive Community Image
RFR AREA/OUTCOME: <b>Attractive Welcoming Community</b>  Related Priority Areas: <b>Safe, Healthy and Secure</b> <b>Stable, Self Sufficient, Local Economy</b> <b>Well Run Government</b>	DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation  CONTACT PERSON: Tom Lynch PHONE NUMBER: 608-87306746  ALTERNATE CONTACT: Dan Glynn PHONE NUMBER: 608-873-6746

**DESCRIPTION OF HOW OFFERS ARE RELATED TO OTHER PRIORITY AREAS:**

1. Parks are important on so many levels for providing its citizen's opportunities to improve their health through recreation and trail use. (Safe, Healthy and Secure)
2. An attractive functional and useful parks system brings new people and business to Stoughton (LOCAL ECONOMY). Parks also increase home values.
3. Stoughton's parks are built and improved through "citizen involvement" and "public-private partnerships. This way of involving the community while saving costs is addressed strongly in LOCAL ECONOMY, SAFE AND HEALTHY, and WELL RUN GOVERNMENT.



**ABOUT THE OFFER:**

**DESCRIBE OFFER:**

1. The Parks and Recreation Department, by meeting the goals, objectives and standards of the 2008 Parks and Open Space Plan (POSP), provide for new parks, trails and facilities.
2. By working with developers for dedicated parkland, securing funding sources through donations and partnerships, and providing opportunities for volunteers, we effectively improve park and recreation options at a conservative price.
3. This offer includes the management of 14 parks, 2 prairies, 3 trail systems, 1 bike park, 1 disc golf course, 1 skate park, the community garden and the coordination of special events in our parks..
4. This offer handles the coordination of City, School and Township facilities that enable local sport groups the opportunity to provide more programming.
5. By conducting park projects through volunteers, we are able to provide the community with park improvements at a low cost.
6. This offer includes the administrative activities for the Parks and Recreation Department

**DESCRIBE HOW OFFER MEETS PRIORITY:**

**1. Factor 2/ Shared Public Experiences**

Stoughton's parks serve as the gathering places for public events ranging from Syttende Mai and the Junior Fair to baseball and soccer games.

**2. Factor 4/Positive Community Image**

- a. Well developed and maintained public parks draw visitors, home buyers and business to the community.
- b. Creates a sense of pride for it's citizens

**3. Indicator 2: Increased Participation Levels**

- a. Statistics show that recreation uses from programming are continuing to rise.
- b. Organized field use by sport groups is higher than ever.
- c. New park amenities such as the Memory Garden and the Riverside fishing pier increase park use.
- d. The Dream park project will bring more people of all abilities to parks than in the past.
- e. Troll Beach will show a 100% increase in attendance.
- f. In 2012 the Youth Center will see its largest numbers in the last 5 years.

**4. Indicator 3: Improved Community Engagement**

- a. This offer connects the schools, sport groups, civic groups, businesses, volunteer groups, churches, scout troops and the Chamber.
- b. Volunteer groups, along with grants and gifts, make it possible for Stoughton to have great amenities at little or no cost to the tax payer.

**5. Purchasing Strategy #2 Enrich the lives of residents and visitors through parks**

- a. As stated before, parks are the gathering places in our community. Hardly a day goes by from April to October that you won't find over a hundred people gathered together for some activity that enriches their lives.
- b. This offer helps give all residents a "free" source of entertainment and enjoyment.
- c. Visitors are common for seven months a year, whether it's attending a soccer game, going to the pool or being part of a celebration or shelter rental.

**6. Purchasing Strategy #3 Increase accessibility-connectivity and way-finding throughout the community**

- a. This offer includes our off road trail system.
- b. The Yahara River Trail and the Virgin Lake Trail connect the City north/south on both the east and west sides of the City.
- c. Steps are made each year to increase the connectivity of partial trail sections on the south side of the City.
- d. We are currently working on a trail connection to Madison with Dane County Parks.

**7. Purchasing Strategy #4 Emphasize partnerships and promote volunteerism to help costs and duplication of services**

- a. As stated in Indicator #3, Stoughton's parks system is structured to succeed through the efforts of volunteers, grants, gifts and other fundraising.
- b. Partnerships with sport groups improve athletic facilities.
- c. The trail system was created and expanded through the efforts of the volunteer River and Trails Task Force.
- d. Our greatest amenities such as the Memory Garden, Memory Walk, and Disc Golf Course would not happen without help.
- e. Troll Beach, the Riverside fishing pier and the Dream Park are examples current projects that are happening because of others efforts.



**WHY SHOULD THE CITY PROVIDE THE SERVICE?**

- 1. This service is essential for quality of life for the citizens.
- 2. All cities provide this service. The City needs to be the administrator of this service due to the structure with its take payers and developers.
- 3. This service provides amenities to the City with cost saving by the use of volunteers and grants. Examples:
  - a. 2012 Troll Beach improvements: A grant for \$23,000 coupled with \$41,000 from the City to make this possible.

- b. 2012 Fishing Pier at Riverside Park: Grants and gifts totaling \$10,000 along with Boy Scout volunteers helped this project see completion.
- c. 2012 Dream Park Committee continues to raise funds for an eventual \$400,000 playground improvement at Norse Park.
- d. 2011 Memory Walk Project: This project improved Heggstad Park with a \$60,000 upgrade completely funded by donations and volunteers.
- e. 2011 Youth Center Program: A full time Youth Center program became possible through a \$50,000 grant.

## MEASURES:

Provide a survey for our customers to rate our overall performance	Proposed Target	100% customer satisfaction
Engage volunteers in park projects	Proposed Target	Provide 1000+volunteer Hours in 2013
Engage in public-private partnerships	Proposed Target	Maintain 30+ public-private partnerships
Generate volunteer and/or grant value to exceed price of this offer	Proposed Target	>\$35,000

## SERVICE LEVEL DESCRIPTION:

The service level includes 40% of the Recreation Director position. The Parks and Recreation Department will provide for the standards set forth in the Parks and Open Space Plan by securing the land and building the facilities to meet the needs of the community in the most cost efficient way possible. The efficiencies are the result of using volunteers and fundraising opportunities. Troll Beach and the Fishing Pier at Riverside Park are good examples of this service level. The Dream Park will be another one.

This service level creates access for all groups in the City to use parks for gathering, athletic events, fundraisers and festivals.



## SERVICE LEVEL MEASURES:

New parks are safe and in ADA compliance  
Community needs for park use are being met

**Expectation** 100%  
**Expectation** 100%

## SERVICE LEVEL ALTERNATIVES:

Decrease: The offer could be decreased by increasing the price for groups using park facilities.

Increase: The Parks and Recreation Department has no support staff. With an additional halftime staff person (\$13,000) we could move the lower end tasks and focus on providing more volunteers (1000+ per year) and increased funding for park improvements through grants and donations.

**EXPLANATION OF ANY STATE/FEDERAL MANDATES:**

New park facilities must be ADA (American Disabilities Act) compliant. Current facilities that are currently not compliant must show progress towards becoming compliant.

**MAJOR CHANGES:** There isn't a major change in this offer.



**OFFER#05-26**  
CITY OF STOUGHTON  
SELLER OFFER FOR 2013 BUDGET

OFFER/PROGRAM: <b>Recreational Opportunities</b>	
PAST PROGRAM / OFFER #: 3-24	PAST PROGRAM NAME: A Healthier Stoughton Through Recreation
RFR AREA/OUTCOME: Attractive Welcoming Community  Related Priority Areas: Stable Self Sufficient Economy Safe, Healthy, and Secure Community Well Run Government	DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation  CONTACT PERSON: Tom Lynch PHONE NUMBER: 608-873-6746  ALTERNATE CONTACT: Dan Glynn PHONE NUMBER: 608-873-6746

**DESCRIPTION OF HOW OFFERS ARE RELATED TO OTHER PRIORITY AREAS:**

City sponsored recreational programs promote a healthy lifestyle through physical activity. We have started to use a scientific model with programming that has been proven to increase lifelong participation in physical activity and sports. Many of the local businesses benefit from increased sales that are directly related to recreation programs. Some of these businesses include hotels, restaurants, taverns, convenience stores, and sporting goods stores. Many of the programs offered use volunteers that make our operation more efficient.



**ABOUT THE OFFER:**

**DESCRIBE OFFER:**

The Parks and Recreation Department offers a comprehensive recreation program. A comprehensive recreation program includes activities for all citizens whether they are old or young, and/or have a disability. It also includes programmed activities such as art instruction to unstructured activities like open gym basketball. In addition to programming activities, this offer includes being the central contact for citizens to find out about recreational activities that outside user groups offer and acting as a liaison to these user groups to help steer their programs in the right direction.

We currently cover 100 percent of the direct costs of every program that we offer and most of the indirect costs. The indirect costs include mostly department full-time staff cost. The general fund subsidy has been closing over the last few years and we have a goal to have this area be self-sufficient through user fees.

**DESCRIBE HOW OFFER MEETS PRIORITY:**

This offer applies best to the Community that Values Arts, Culture, & Recreational Opportunities outcomes offer. A nationwide study conducted by Pennsylvania State University provides backing for our claims below. Please see this offer's logic model for more details.

**1. Factor 2 Shared Public Experience:**

- a. Recreation programming brings more people together on a regular basis than any other medium.
- b. This program promises over 39,000 recreation occurrences for the participants. Most of our programs bring families together as fans and instructors.
- c. There is nothing else that helps the community connect like our programs and the programs we support.

**2. Factor 3 Engaged & Informed Community:**

- a. Our participation levels continue to increase with more programs being offered each year.
- b. We provide opportunities for volunteers to become engaged as volunteers through our various programs. In 2011, 183 volunteers were used and accounted for over 1800 hours in recreation programming.
- c. This offer also provides the central contact for information to citizens about recreational pursuits in Stoughton. This is done through emails by our recreation software where over 4,000 emails are sent out.
- d. We also post events and activities on our Twitter and Facebook accounts. An example of this was us sending out information about Stoughton Youth Hockey Association's Try Hockey for Free event. This helped them accomplish a goal of retaining and recruiting new hockey players, and put their organization in the top 10 percent nationally in growth of members in 2011.

**3. Factor 4 Positive Community Image:**

- a. Recreation is a vital component of portraying a positive community image. We partner with other Dane County recreation departments to offer programs. This brings people from their communities, and raises awareness of what Stoughton is and has to offer.
- b. Young parents who are looking to move to a community often look to see how the school system is and what recreation opportunities there are for their children.

**4. Purchasing Strategy #2 Enrich the lives of the residents:**

- a. One of the definitions of *Enrich* is "to add **greater** value or significance to". We believe that recreation opportunities for our citizens do exactly that. With our programs, people come together, compete with each other, cheer with each other, and share experiences of all types together.
- b. We provide activities that get people through their work days or bring them together for life-long friendships.

**5. Purchasing Strategy #4 Emphasize partnerships and promote volunteerism:**

- a. As stated above in #2, this offer will use volunteers and partnerships with others to keep our cost to the City as low as possible. Many of our programs use volunteer coaches and instructors. We see this as not only cost effective but as a way to give adults an outlet for their needs to share their knowledge and experiences.
- b. This offer includes partnerships with everyone from sport groups sharing the use and maintenance of athletic fields to high school coaches and teachers providing high levels of instruction. Youth Hockey creates and runs programs for the community at lower costs that benefit everyone.

**6. Purchasing Strategy #5 Strengthen existing and encourage new offerings:**

- a. This offer includes improvements to all of our sports programs. The Long term Athletic Development model is the key to life-long physical activity. See more on LTAD in the logic model.
- b. This offer includes new offerings for the public in recreation. Our golf program will include new options to meet the growing demand. Girls volleyball is another area of need that is being met with improved programming.



- c. More programs will evolve as we move through this year.

### **WHY SHOULD THE CITY PROVIDE THE SERVICE?**

The City can offer recreational programming at a low-cost, high-quality level of service that everyone in the community benefits from. Besides connecting people, our programs provide fun ways to be healthier. This is one of the most directly used services that the City offers for a very low cost.

### **MEASURES:**

Number engaged in recreational activities	Proposed Target: Provide 39,000 program occurrences
Achieve customer satisfaction through survey	Proposed Target: 100% satisfaction rate
Engage volunteers in recreation programming	Proposed Target: Engage volunteers in 1500+ hours

### **SERVICE LEVEL DESCRIPTION:**

This service level provides a comprehensive recreation program that includes all ages and abilities. With our efficiencies and use of volunteers we are able to provide recreation at a cost to the City of less than 60 cents per recreation occurrence (one game, one class, one event).

### **SERVICE LEVEL MEASURES:**

Cost to City per recreation occurrence	Expectation: <60 cents
Increase program options	Expectation: 75+ program offerings

### **SERVICE LEVEL ALTERNATIVES:**

Reducing a position would effectively end all recreation programming through the City. Increasing the office staff with a support person (1039 hours x 12.00/per hour = \$12,468) would allow us to increase and improve programs, engage more volunteers, and improve our economic impact to Stoughton.

**EXPLANATION OF ANY STATE/FEDERAL MANDATES:** None for this offer

### **MAJOR CHANGES:**

**OFFER #05-25**  
CITY OF STOUGHTON  
SELLER OFFER FOR 2013 BUDGET

OFFER/PROGRAM: <b>Troll Beach</b>	
PAST PROGRAM / OFFER #: <b>3-26</b>	PAST PROGRAM NAME: Mandt Park Pool: A Unique Combination of Pool and Beach
RFR AREA/OUTCOME: <b>Attractive Welcoming Community</b>  Related Priority Areas: <b>Safe, Healthy and Secure</b> <b>Stable Self Sufficient Economy</b> <b>Well Run Government</b>	DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation  CONTACT PERSON: Tom Lynch PHONE NUMBER: 608-87306746  ALTERNATE CONTACT: Dan Glynn PHONE NUMBER: 608-873-6746

**DESCRIPTION OF HOW OFFERS ARE RELATED TO OTHER PRIORITY AREAS:**

**Safe, Healthy and Secure:** Troll Beach is a park amenity that offers aquatic based recreational activity. Recreation activities that are physical in nature are directly tied to healthier residents.

**Stable Self Sufficient Economy:** The pool attracts non-residents to the city which in turn brings revenue to the local economy.

**Well Run Government:** We require certified lifeguards (knowledgeable, well trained staff)

**ABOUT THE OFFER:**

**DESCRIBE OFFER:**

1. This offer provides the community a unique outdoor swimming experience that is well maintained, clean, and safe.
2. The million gallon sand bottom pool is supplied with city water, treated weekly with organic agents that both clean the water and eliminate the forming of algae. The use of aerators and Ionizers further improve the quality of the water.
3. The pool is staffed by certified lifeguards, an admissions person and a concession operator.
4. Amenities include:
  - a. Two playground slides,
  - b. Three inflatable play structures
  - c. Roped off areas for young swimmers
  - d. Restrooms
  - e. Concession stand
  - f. Guard room
  - g. Birthday party room.
  - h. storage building
  - i. Pool chairs
  - j. Shaded platform
5. The offer includes the costs for the chemicals, the staff, the operating supplies and 5% of the Parks and Recreation Director's salary. Revenues from gate sales and the concession stand reduce the cost of this offer to the City.



## DESCRIBE HOW OFFER MEETS PRIORITY:

This offer applies best to the Attractive Welcoming Community

1. **Factor 2 Shared Public Experience:** Recreation programming brings more people together on a regular basis than any other medium. On a given day the pool brings up to 400 people of all ages together for a wonderful shared experience.
2. **Factor 3 Increased Participation Levels:** With the positive changes and great weather, Troll Beach set modern day records for attendance. Projections show the attendance tripling last season's totals.
3. **Factor 4 Increased Citizen Engagement:** Creating and maintaining Troll Beach required participation from groups including Leadership Stoughton, The Bryant Foundation and volunteers from Lakeview Church.
4. **Request for Offers/Positive Community Image/Unique Community Identity:** This request focuses on promoting the Norwegian heritage. Troll Beach is based on all things Norsk. Signage, rosemauled litter barrels, Ole and Lena restrooms and by next year, carved trolls lurking on the beach.
5. **Request for Offers/Shared Public Experience/Parks and Open Space Amenities:** A successful pool raises the quality of life in Stoughton while giving people from other places, yet another reason to move to Stoughton.

## WHY SHOULD THE CITY PROVIDE THE SERVICE?

It is fact that Parks and Recreation amenities are valuable assets for a community in that they bring people together, provide opportunities for exercise, attract new people to Stoughton and help business with outside visitors. This pool is safe, cost effective, and popular.

## MEASURES:

Increase pool attendance	<b>Proposed Target</b>	>12,000 visits
Avoid major accidents and injuries	<b>Proposed Target</b>	0
Increase pool attendance w/non-residents	<b>Proposed Target</b>	>20% non residents



## SERVICE LEVEL DESCRIPTION:

The Parks and Recreation Department provides low-cost water based recreational activity for the Stoughton community for up to 70 days (337 hours) each season. The season length is dependent on weather and usage.

## SERVICE LEVEL MEASURES:

70 open swimming days	<b>Expectation</b>	100% (weather dependent)
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Provide required certified staff

**Expectation** 100%

**SERVICE LEVEL ALTERNATIVES:**

The pool could lower its cost to city by opening fewer days, becoming an unguarded facility with a small staff, or closing altogether.

**EXPLANATION OF ANY STATE/FEDERAL MANDATES:**

**MAJOR CHANGES:** This offer increases the amount of guards to protect the customers the pool.



OFFER#03-25  
CITY OF STOUGHTON  
SELLER OFFER FOR 2013 BUDGET

OFFER/PROGRAM: <b>Youth Center</b>	
PAST PROGRAM / OFFER #: <b>3-25</b>	PAST PROGRAM NAME: Creating a Better Future for Stoughton's Youth
RFR AREA/OUTCOME: <b>Safe , Secure and Healthy</b>  Related Priority Areas: <b>Attractive Welcoming Community</b> <b>Stable Self Sufficient Local Economy</b> <b>Well Run Government</b>	DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation  CONTACT PERSON: Tom Lynch PHONE NUMBER: 608-87306746  ALTERNATE CONTACT: Dan Glynn PHONE NUMBER: 608-873-6746

**DESCRIPTION OF HOW OFFERS ARE RELATED TO OTHER PRIORITY AREAS:**

The Stoughton Youth Center is an after-school program for children in grades 5-12. The YC is a WELCOMING place for all children. As a place to feel included, the Youth Center provides a SAFE AND HEALTHY place for Stoughton's youth. It provides a place where citizens can get involved in volunteering. The youth center also supports a strong residential workforce in two ways: By providing extra educational opportunities to youth and by elevating Parental After-School Stress Syndrome. Volunteering is at the core of what we offer, from the staffing to the goals for the youth.

**ABOUT THE OFFER:**

**DESCRIBE OFFER:**



1. We are offering an after school program designed for students in grades 5-12 that operates during non school hours from 3-6 on school days, weekend nights, summer afternoons and whenever there is a special activity.
2. The program includes a facility that has 35 school connected computers, a gym, game tables, kitchen, lounge area, activity room and several televisions and gaming devices.
3. This offer provides a full time staff person, a part time staff person and 1-2 volunteers each day.
4. Activities include homework help, healthy lifestyles education, fitness opportunities, job coaching, education and enrichment classes, and peer and community connecting options.

**DESCRIBE HOW OFFER MEETS PRIORITY:**

1. **Indicators for Success: Decreased crime rate, improved citizen health and wellness, enhanced outreach and interagency coordination**  
The Youth Center provides public safety, promotes health, and creates community involvement and partnerships. Research shows that the 3:00-6:00 pm is the peak time for youth to commit crimes. By having the youth center open during these times, we are providing better alternatives. The Youth Center also promotes health through the many programs that are offered there. Some of these programs include having speakers talk to the children about gangs, drugs, alcohol, and nutrition. The Youth Center provides a gym where for physical activity and is a

central place for community outreach. The Friends of the Youth Center Committee provides public input into the planning and direction of the Center.

2. **Purchasing Strategies: Promote accessibility to health based outreach, educational and recreational opportunities**
  - a. The Youth Center program is dedicated to providing healthy eating options and education. Programs are in place with Rotary, Kiwanis and Lakeview Church to meet these goals.
  - b. Healthy choices with drugs and alcohol
  - c. Physical activities such as karate, swimming, basketball etc. are helping to create a lifelong appreciation for fitness and a healthier life.
3. **Purchasing Strategies: Engage in public and private partnerships that cooperate in promoting citizen-based health and safety opportunities.**
  - a. Computer and education programs with Stoughton Schools
  - b. Karate education with Karate America
  - c. Healthy food education with the Kiwanis Club
  - d. Pic N Save will provide healthy food options
  - e. Dane County and Stoughton Hospital provide classes in drug and alcohol education
4. **Seeking offers/ Community Involvement and Partnerships/Community Outreach/Promote coordination and collaboration:**
  - a. Teaching anti-bullying classes at the school
  - b. Cummins, Stoughton Trailers and the Bryant Foundation collaborate to bring programming to the Youth Center
5. **Seeking offers/ Community Involvement and Partnerships/Community Outreach/programming and development:**
  - a. The Youth Center runs programs in the school such as anti-bullying and continuing education.
6. **Seeking offers/ Community Involvement and Partnerships/Community Outreach/Enhance public/private partnerships:**
  - a. Cummins employees provide tutoring help
  - b. Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, Lakeview Church provides healthy snacks and help
7. **Seeking offers/ Health Promotion/Community Outreach/Programming and development:**
  - a. Provide bullying classes at the center
8. **Seeking offers/ Health Promotion/ Drug and alcohol prevention and intervention strategies:**
  - a. Dane County and Stoughton Hospital provide classes in drug and alcohol education

## **WHY SHOULD THE CITY PROVIDE THE SERVICE?**

Evidence shows afterschool programs improve educational performance, reduce childhood delinquency, help decrease health care costs due to childhood obesity, increase positive behavior, increase economic contributions, and help develop self-confidence.

## **MEASURES:**

Serving the 5-12 grade age group	<b>Proposed Target</b>	6000+ Youth Center attendance
Scholastic Improvement	<b>Proposed Target</b>	30 students will show grade improvement

## **SERVICE LEVEL DESCRIPTION:**

This offer maintains the current level of service. Increasing to a full time program position would increase our measures, the ability to attract and supervise children, increase the amount of volunteers and increase the amount of funds raised. I can't see a scenario where lowering the funding wouldn't cause the center to close. Increasing the staff time and programming options through fund raising would take the Center to a level that the new building deserves. We will be looking into those options moving forward.

**SERVICE LEVEL MEASURES:**

Service hours per year	<b>Expectation</b>	1500 hours (afterschool, summer, weekends )
Meet staff needs	<b>Expectation</b>	Minimum 3 staff per service hour

**SERVICE LEVEL ALTERNATIVES:**

This offer maintains the current level of service. Increasing to a full time program position would increase our measures, the ability to attract and supervise children, increase the amount of volunteers and increase the amount of funds raised. I can't see a scenario where lowering the funding wouldn't cause the center to close. Increasing the staff time and programming options through fund raising would take the Center to a level that the new building deserves. We will be looking into those options moving forward.



**EXPLANATION OF ANY STATE/FEDERAL MANDATES:** No mandates for this

**MAJOR CHANGES:** The Youth Center offer is different from the offer that went through the process last year but similar to the program that ended up being funded. The offer differs in that due to an ongoing \$50,000 grant from the Bryant Foundation we are able to offer a full time program with more programs and more space with a similar cost to the City. These changes help us meet more of the requirements in the Safe, Healthy, and Secure priority.

