



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, September 5, 2012 @ 5:30

Hall of Fame Room/City Hall (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, 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
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1	Communications
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Item #	OLD BUSINESS
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2	Division Street Park Lot Line
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3	Park Facilities Use
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4	Parks and Open Space Plan
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Item #	NEW BUSINESS
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5	Approval of the August 1, 2012 Minutes
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6	Memory Walk Vandalism/Maintenance
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7	Meeting Night Change Discussion
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6	Future Agenda Items
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ADJOURNMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012
Hall of Fame Room



Present: Alderpersons: Tim Swadley, Greg Jenson, Paul Lawrence and Parks and Recreation Director Tom Lynch and Mayor Donna Olson
Absent and Excused: Eric Olstad
Guests: Dan Spransy, David Kneebone

Call to Order

By Swadley at 6:00 PM

1. Communications

Utilities free night at Troll Beach was a great success. There were 321 customers from 3 PM-7 PM. Comments lead us to believe that many of the customers were first timers..

Old Business

2. Division Street Park Lot Line

Dan Spransy, the owner of the lot south of the park, spoke about wishing to purchase the 14' of park land on the north side of his lot. After a recent survey it was determined that the park lot line is 1'2" from his house. This request failed on a 3-0 vote at the last meeting but was brought back with new information from the chair.

Lawrence felt the meeting should be in closed session. That was not possible because the meeting was not noticed that way.

The meeting ended without quorum.



Stoughton
PARKS & RECREATION

Date: August 30, 2012
To: Parks and Recreation Committee
From: Tom Lynch, Parks and Recreation Director
RE: Division Street Park Lot Line

Beth and Daniel Spransy, of 100 S Division Street, are asking the City of Stoughton to consider selling them a 14'x 133' section of Riverside Park. The question before the Parks and Recreation committee is: Does this section of Division Street Park constitute surplus parkland.

As long as I can remember, the City has considered the shrubs at the south end Division Street Park, the lot line. The shrubs are about 15 feet from the Spransy home. The actual lot line is 1'2" from the house. It is a bad lot line created a long time ago.

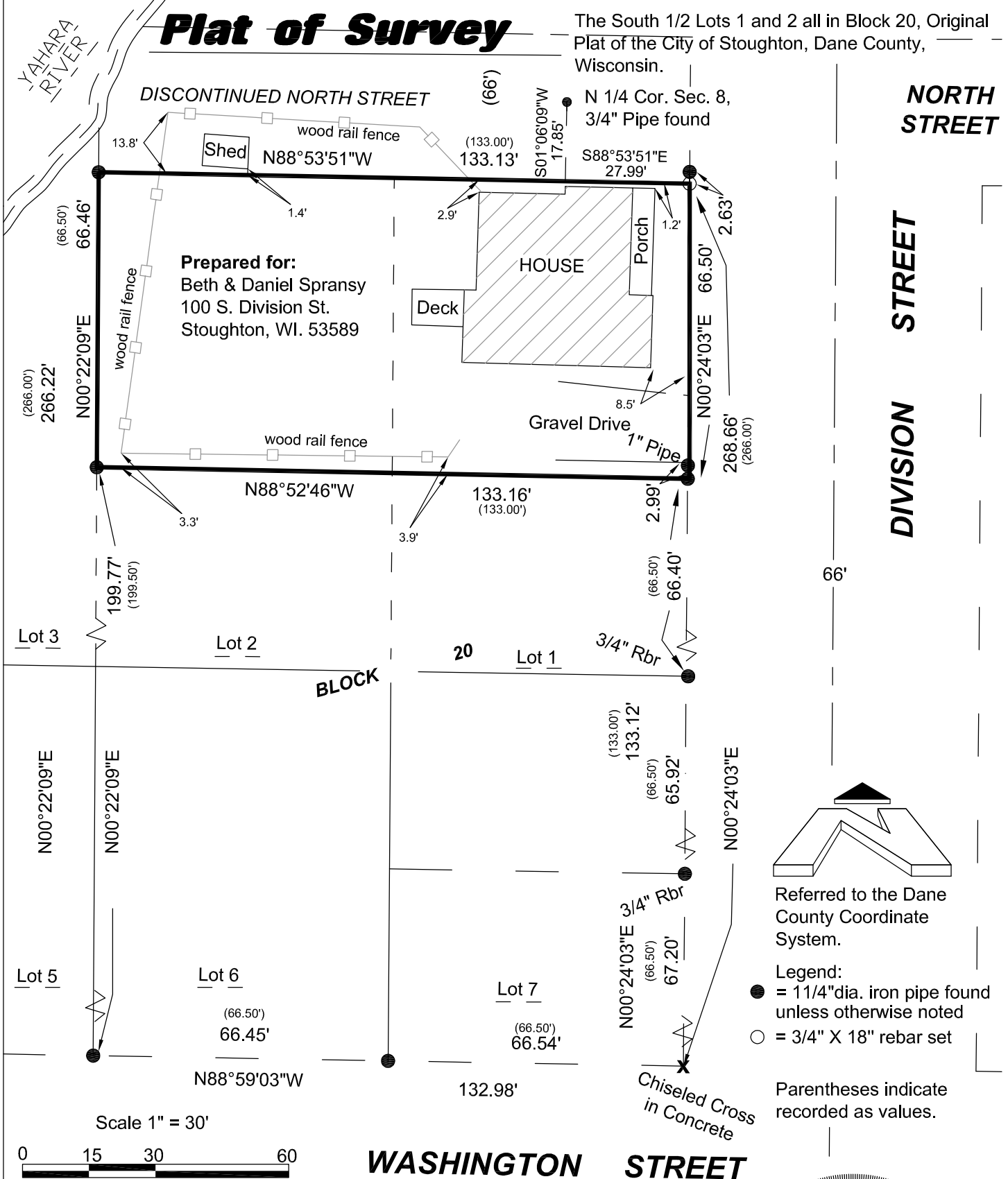
Reclaiming this land for the park will not change how the park is used. I know that the City would need to start maintaining that area and that the public would not use the land because it is so close to the home.

Allowing the Spransy's to purchase the land at a fair price determined by the City, would be in everyone's best interest. The money raised from the sale could help purchase other land that would have more value. We are currently entertaining two offers by home owners to add to our park space.

The concept of trading land for money should always be in the discussion. We do this each time there is a development in the City. I would recommend that the Parks and Recreation committee consider this surplus land and forward this item to the Finance committee for a discussion or approval.

Plat of Survey

The South 1/2 Lots 1 and 2 all in Block 20, Original Plat of the City of Stoughton, Dane County, Wisconsin.



Surveyors Certificate

I, David C. Riesop, Wisconsin Registered Land Surveyor, hereby certify that I have surveyed, mapped and monumented the lands as described hereon, and that such map is a true and correct representation of the boundaries of the lands surveyed, including any features shown hereon, and that I have fully complied with the State of Wisconsin Administration Code Number 7.01 in surveying and mapping the same, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

David C. Riesop S-1551



Whereas, Beth and Daniel Spransy have property located at 100 S. Division Street, in the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin,

and

Whereas, that property borders property owned by the City of Stoughton,

and

Whereas, Beth and Daniel Spransy assumed that their property included all land inside a fenced area to be a part of their property,

and

Whereas, in subsequent measurements it was discovered that the fenced area was encroaching upon property owned by the City of Stoughton,

let it be

Resolved, that the encroached upon property will fall under the temporary use and reasonable care of Beth and Daniel Spransy for as long as they both shall own and occupy the property at 100 S. Division Street, in the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin,

and, let it further be

Resolved, that the surveyed property is the only property to be included in any sale or transfer of ownership of property described as located at 100 S. Division Street, in the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin,

and, let it further be

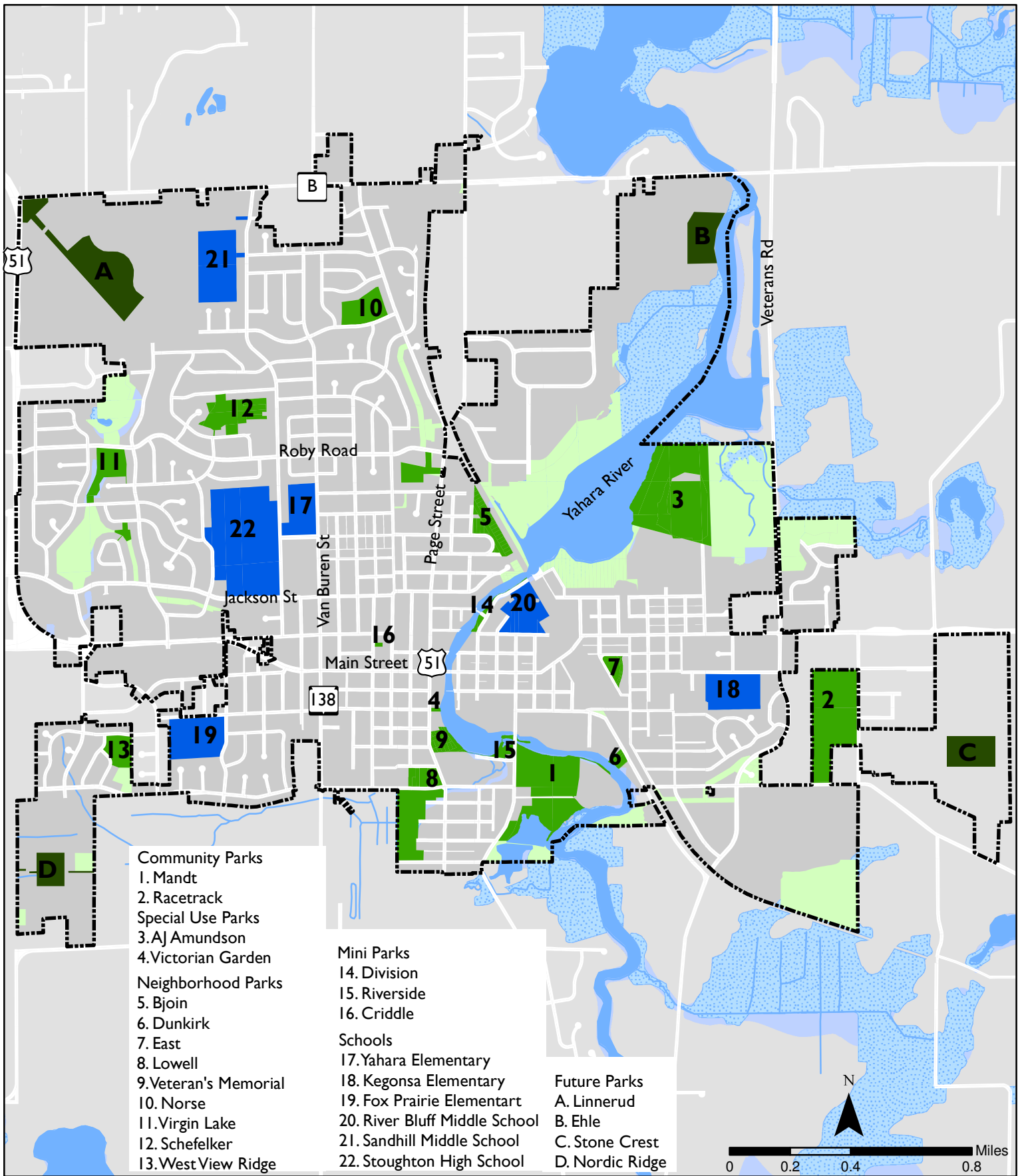
Resolved, both Beth and Daniel Spransy and the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin, are hereby joined in agreement, that the encroached upon property be understood to be that of the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin, that both parties are signatory to this resolution.

Mayor, City of Stoughton

Beth Spransy

Notary Public

Daniel Spransy

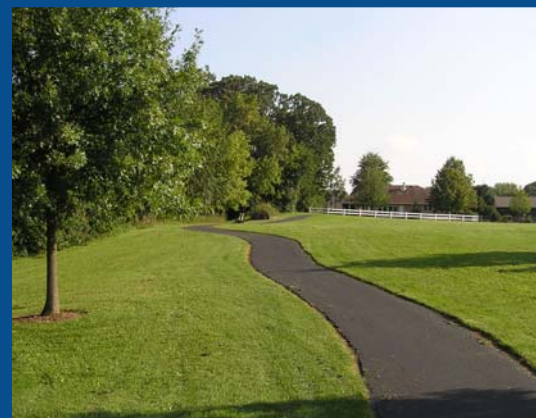


Future Parks and Open Space **City of Stoughton POSP**



Project # 2208
 September, 2007

City of Stoughton Parks and Open Space Plan



AUGUST 14, 2007

Common Council Minutes

Council Chambers, Public Safety building

Mayor Helen Johnson presided at a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Stoughton, Dane County, Wisconsin, held in the Council Chambers, Public Safety Building, on Tuesday, August 14, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

City Clerk Alme called the roll and the following Alderpersons were present: Christianson, Griffin, Lawrence, Locke, McKichan, Odland, Scovotti and Swangstu. Absent and excused: Chenoweth, Duranczyk, Schneider and Weiss.

Moved by Griffin, seconded by Christianson, to approve the following claims as recommended by the Finance Committee: General Fund \$718,094.45. Motion carried unanimously on roll call.

Communications: None.

Public Comment Period: Gail Zinda, 3294 Brooklyn Drive, Stoughton – spoke in support of the resolution in support of smoke-free worksites.

Linda Vernig, Scott Wegner and Jeff Bradley gave a presentation on their Leadership Stoughton project of creating a sister city relationship with Stoughton, Massachusetts.

Moved by Lawrence, seconded by Locke, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented:

Minutes of the July 24, 2007 Council Meeting; July 2007 Treasurer's Report; the following reports: Police & Fire Commission, Personnel Committee(2), River & Trails Task Force(2), Arts Council, Tree Commission, Special Planning Commission, Finance Committee, Public Safety Committee, Jt. Committee of the Whole and Planning Commission(2), Community Affairs/Council Policy Committee, Building Inspector's Monthly Report, Clerk's Office Report, Greenspire Report; Mayor's Appointment of Kendall McBroom, Jim Kennedy, Ted Ormond, Vik Malling, Doug Benham, Don Beresky, Marv Klitzke and Marsha McBroom to the Westview Ridge Construction Committee; Mayor's Appointment of Mary Carel Verden and John Beutel to the Opera House Board; Mayor's Appointment of Donna Tarpinian to the Joining Forces for Families Committee; Community Affairs/Council Policy Committee's recommendation to make no changes at this time to the public input portion of the Council agenda; Personnel Committee's recommendation to make no changes to section 2-2 Code of Ethics; Public Safety Committee's recommendation to grant an operator's license to Brian Alme; Public Safety Committee's recommendation to deny an operator's license to Sherri Johnson; Public Safety Committee's recommendation to grant a Class "B" Beer and Reserve "Class B" Liquor License to Kimia, Inc., Kami Eshraghi, Agent – dba The Ale Tavern at 171 W. Main Street; Public Safety Committee's recommendation to grant a temporary Class "B" Beer and Class "C" Wine License for September 14, 2007 from 5 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. for St. Ann's Parish Fall Festival in the parking lot to the north of the building at 324 North Harrison Street; Public Safety Committee's recommendation to approve the appointment of Kevin M. English as Agent for the "Class A" Beer and Liquor License for UltraMart Foods, LLC dba Pick'N Save #6390 dba 1750 Hwy 51W; Personnel Committee's recommendation to adopt goals for new Finance Director as presented; Planning Commission's recommendation to offer no objection to an extra-territorial conditional use permit request to allow continued use and possible future expansion of the ready mix concrete plant for Sundby Sand & Gravel at 2279 CTH A in the Town of Dunkirk; Planning Commission's recommendation to offer no objection to an extra-territorial rezoning request from A-1EX Exclusive Agriculture to R-2 Residential by Rika Jolie at 2100 Yahara Drive in the Town of Pleasants Springs. Motion carried unanimously by acclamation.

Moved by Scovotti, seconded by Lawrence, to adopt an ordinance to amend section 14-42(d) regarding point values for alcohol beverage license, outdoor consumption permit and cabaret license violations, revocations and suspensions, as presented. Motion carried unanimously on roll call.

August 14, 2007 (Continued)

Moved by Griffin, seconded by Christianson, to adopt a resolution regarding local depositories and authorized signatures for the City of Stoughton and Stoughton Utilities, as presented. Motion carried unanimously by acclamation.

Moved by McKichan, seconded by Scovotti, to approve eliminating the \$10 per meeting stipend for citizen members on the Planning Commission, Utilities Committee and Board of Appeals on an attrition basis through the current appointment. Motion carried unanimously on roll call.

Moved by McKichan, seconded by Lawrence, to adopt a resolution regarding election official compensation for 2008 and 2009, as presented. Motion carried unanimously on roll call.

Moved by McKichan, seconded by Lawrence, to reaffirm the Committee of the Whole recommendation regarding the preference for roundabouts where applicable in the Highway 51 corridor. Motion carried 7-1 on roll call with Alderperson Locke voting no.

Moved by McKichan, seconded by Lawrence, to accept the 2007 Parks and Open Space Plan as presented by Schrieber Anderson Associates, as presented. Motion carried unanimously by acclamation.

Moved by Scovotti, seconded by Lawrence, to adopt a resolution in support of smoke-free worksites, as presented. Motion carried 6-2 on roll call with Alderpersons Christianson and McKichan voting no.

Alderperson Scovotti placed an ordinance to amend section 70-176 parking prohibited at all times, to enact no parking on Industrial Circle from the driveway at 400 Industrial Circle (Zalk Joseph Fabricators) through the driveway at 250 Industrial Circle (Midwest Rubber) through May 1, 2008, for a first reading.

Moved by Lawrence, seconded by Griffin, to suspend the rules, waive the second reading, and adopt an ordinance to amend section 70-176 parking prohibited at all times, to enact no parking on Industrial Circle from the driveway at 400 Industrial Circle (Zalk Joseph Fabricators) through the driveway at 250 Industrial Circle (Midwest Rubber) through May 1, 2008, as presented. Motion carried unanimously on roll call.

Alderperson Scovotti placed an ordinance to amend section 14-41 regarding license cancellation and non-use of alcohol license, for a first reading.

Alderperson Griffin placed a detachment ordinance, detaching properties at 2768 Burritt Road from the City of Stoughton to the Town of Pleasant Springs, for a first reading.

Moved by Swangstu, seconded by Lawrence, to suspend the rules, waive the second reading and adopt a detachment ordinance detaching properties at 2768 Burritt Road from the City of Stoughton to the Town of Pleasant Springs, upon completion of all statutory requirements. Motion carried unanimously on roll call.

Alderperson Griffin placed an ordinance to rezone the southern portion of lot 15, Business Park North from I-1 Light Industrial to I-2 Heavy Industrial, for a first reading.

Alderperson Griffin placed an ordinance to rezone lot 1, CSM 11372, located on Pine Street from R-1 Single Family Residential to R-2 Two Family Residential, for a first reading.

Moved by McKichan, seconded by Odland to set a joint Planning Commission and Committee of the Whole Meeting for August 23, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. to address parkland dedication and fees in lieu of parkland dedication. Motion carried 5-3 on roll call with Alderpersons Christianson, Griffin and Locke voting no.

August 14, 2007 (Continued)

Moved by Scovotti, seconded by Lawrence, that there be a valiant attempt to submit any plans regarding parkland dedications and fees in lieu of parkland dedication, no later than the end of the day's business on Tuesday, August 21, 2007. Motion carried unanimously by acclamation.

Moved by Lawrence, seconded by Locke, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,
Luann J. Alme
City Clerk/Personnel Director

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.

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.

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.

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 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 and 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

Year	Jurisdiction			
	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.

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 a baseball field, a shelter/warming house, an ice skating rink (the rink has not been made since the winter of 2005-2006) a playground with equipment, tennis courts, and a basketball court.

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, a shelter, restrooms, a basketball court 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, pond, and playground. Many young

trees form three outdoor “rooms”. The future will provide a picnic shelter and a portable restroom.

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

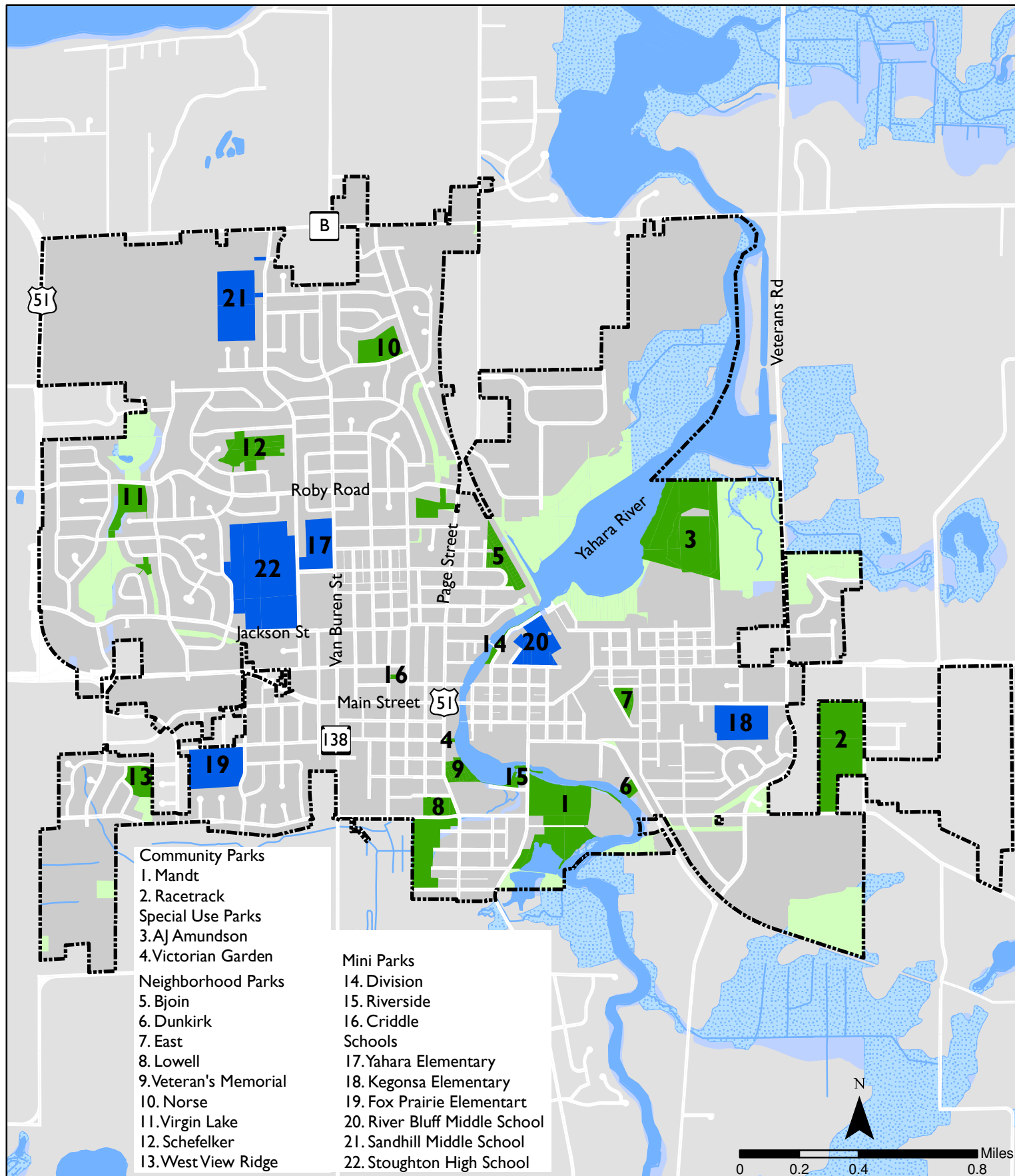
This park is located just west of a closed landfill on Stoughton’s west side. The 9 hole course is popular with local residents and Dane County disc golfers in general.

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.



Existing Parks and Open Space

City of Stoughton POSP

Legend

- Park
- Passive Open Space / Stormwater
- School



Project # 2208
September, 2007

Map I

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
A. Local/Close-to-Home Space				
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. Regional Space				
Regional/Metro-politan 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
C. Space that may be Local or Regional and is Unique to Each Community				
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
Total	10.5 acres/1,000 population

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						
Nottingham	0.125	Lowell	6.0			Conservancy "B"****	22.3	Victorian Garden	1.0
		Veteran's	4.0			(AJ Amundson)		Heggestad Mem.	2.0
		Norse	7.75						
		Virgin Lake	7.0			Mandt Yahara River			
		Schefelker	10.0			Backwaters	15.0		
		Westview Ridge	5.0						
TOTALS	1.95		49.7		43.4		41.5		8.0

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

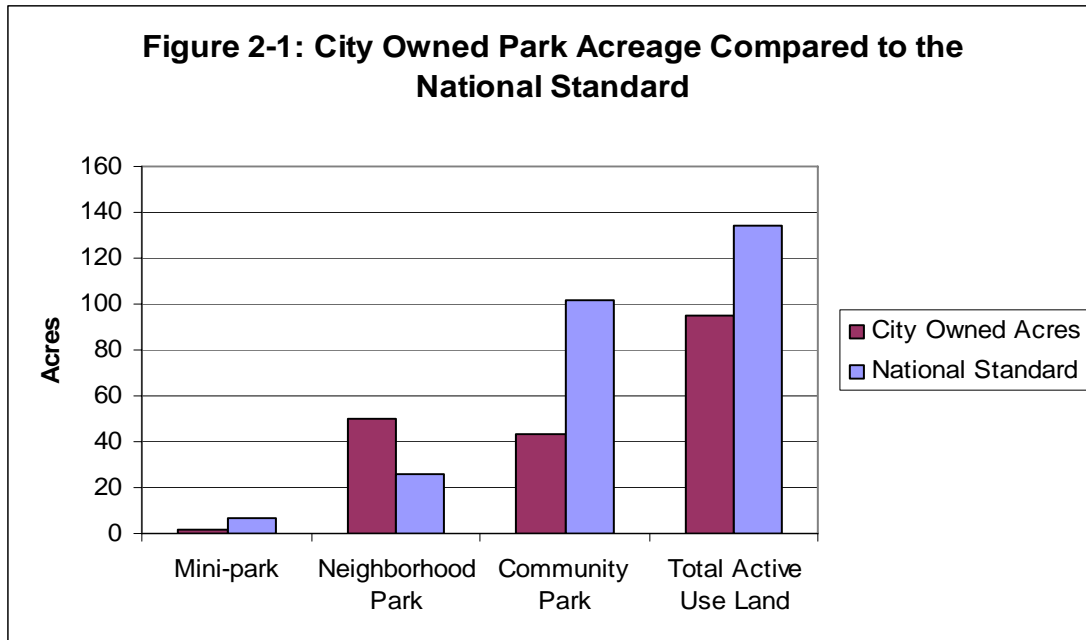
**Area immediately West of Page Street, north of Roby Rd. maintained by Stoughton Parks and Recreation Dept.

***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		River Bluff	2.0	Kegonsa Elem.	5.0	n/a		Viking County Park	105.8
School	0.5	Yahara Elem.	2.0	Fox Prairie Elem.	5.0				
		Anderson Park	2.0	Sandhill School	6.0				
		Pleasant View		Stoughton H.S.	8.0				
		Park	3.0						
		Oak Knoll Park	5.5						
TOTALS	0.5		4.0		24.0		0		105.8

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 on a level of service by total population for each park category.



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.

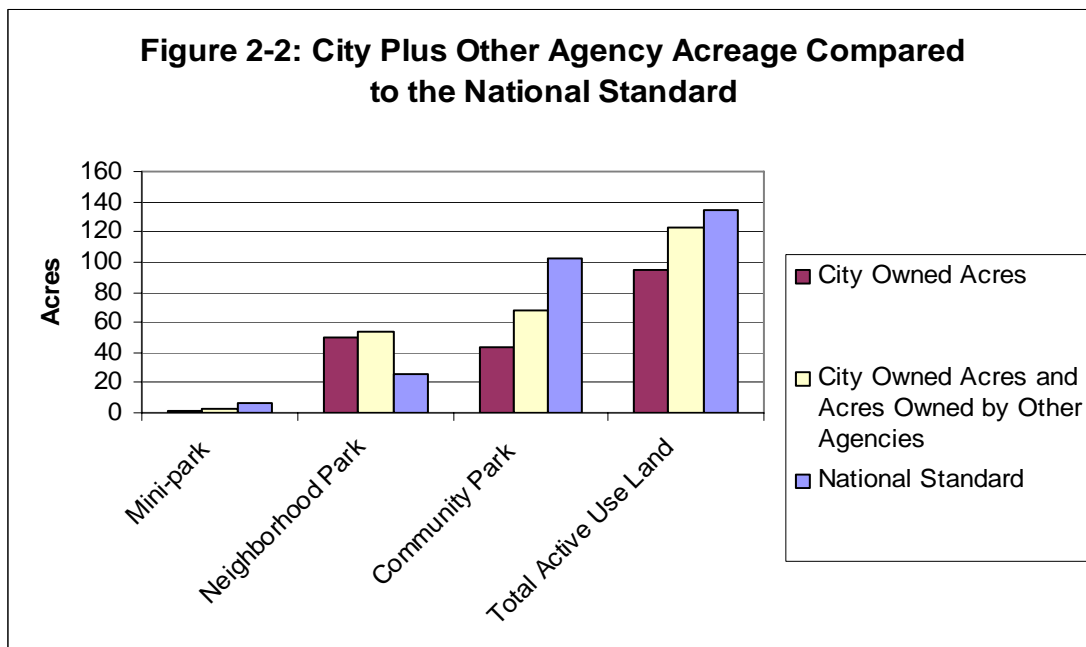


Figure 2-2 demonstrates that the addition of "other agency" land increases the City of Stoughton's active land use totals, but they still fall short of national standards.

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.

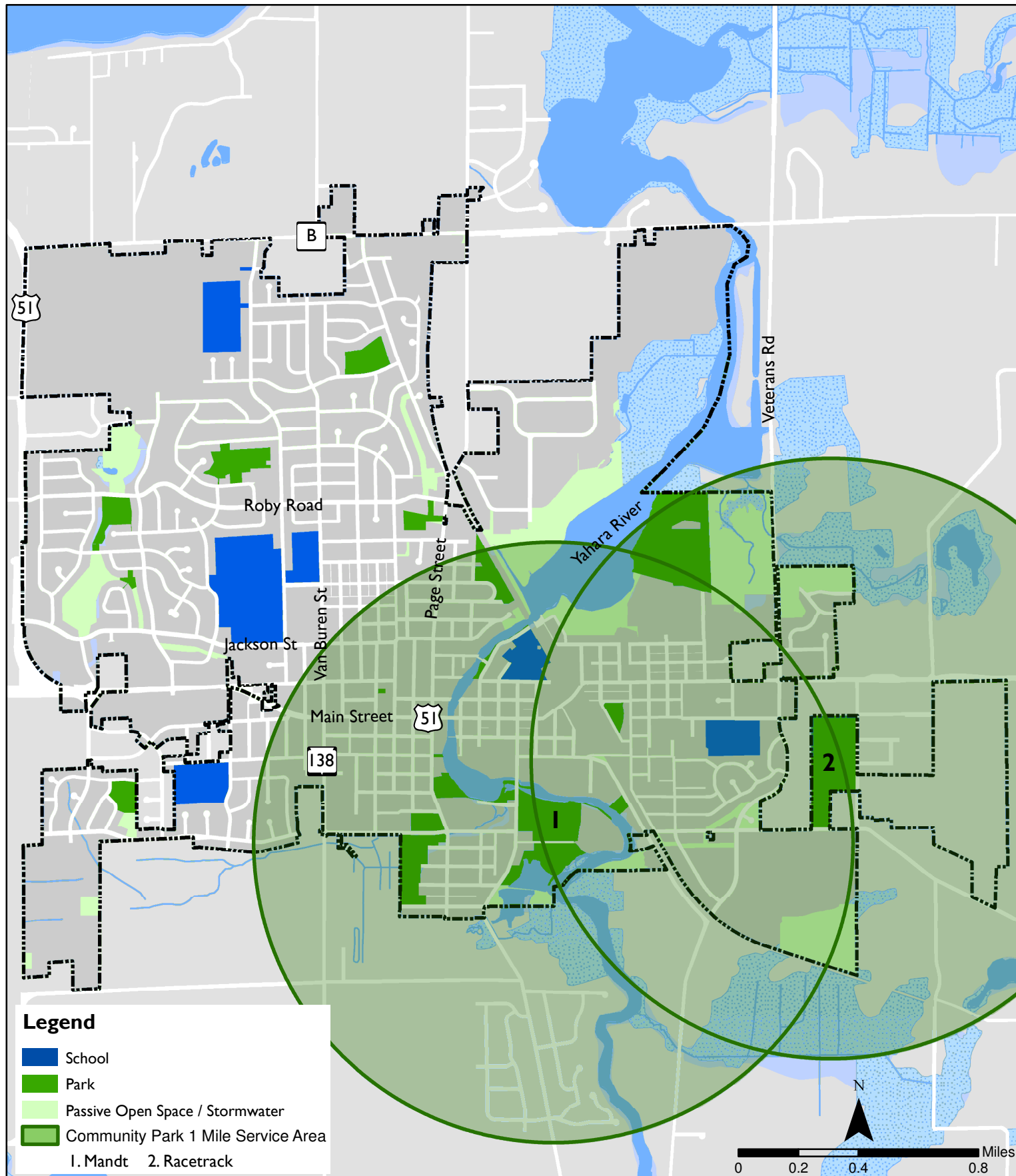
2.2.2 Mini- and Neighborhood Parks

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:

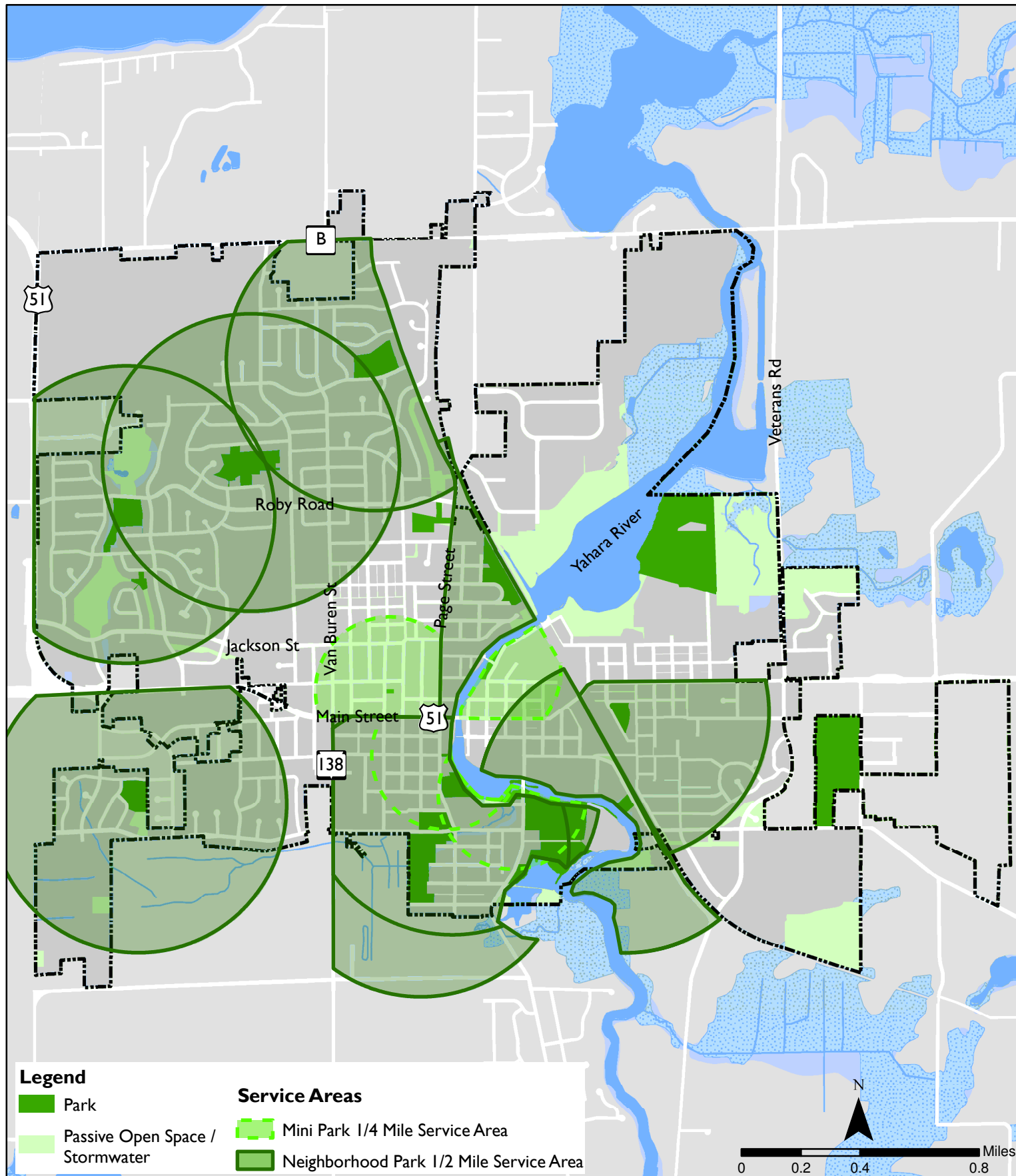
1. North of East Main Street and east of the railroad
2. East of North Page and North of Williams Drive
3. A small cluster of parcels west of the 400-700 block of North Page

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

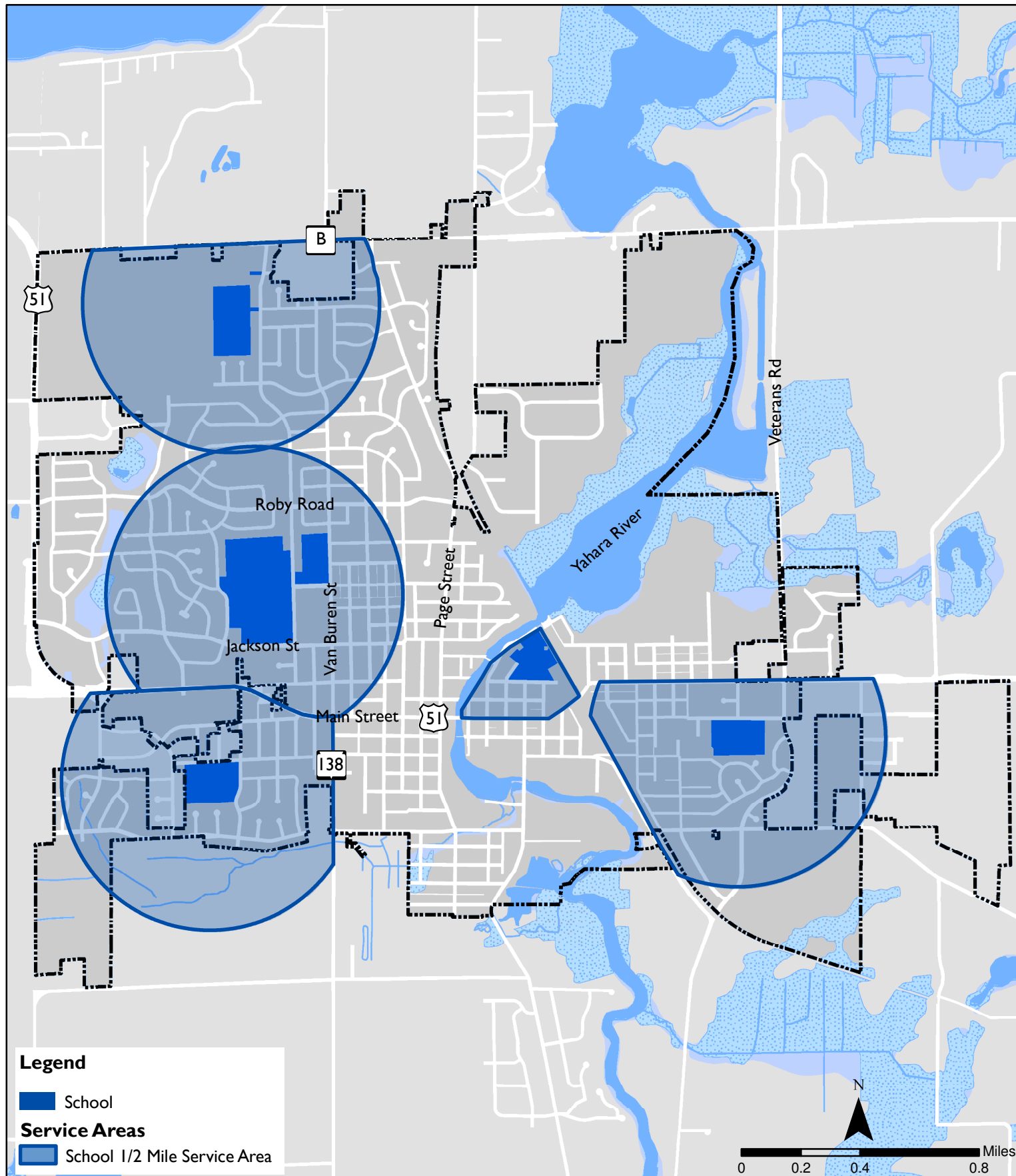


Community Park Service Areas

City of Stoughton POSP



Neighborhood Park, Mini Park Service Areas City of Stoughton POSP



School Service Areas

City of Stoughton POSP

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 various sports interests. Sports activity seekers also include adult athletes (single and married) who seek to partake in sports 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, and identifying future park locations and types. The City of Stoughton must take a balanced approach, as they have in the past, to provide parks 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 highlighted on Map 5. Four parks are currently in the planning stages.

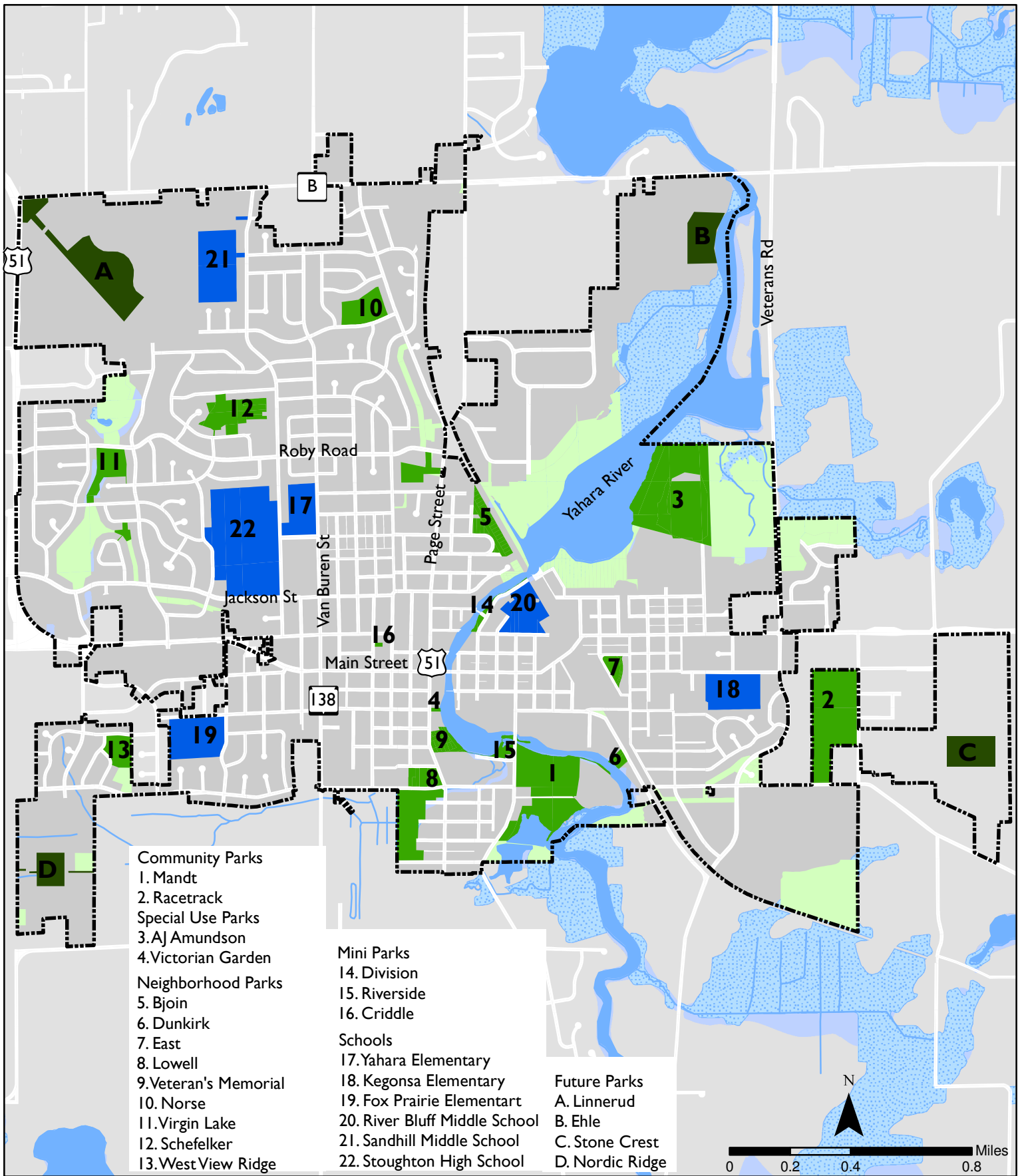
- Linnerud Property Park (A): This park is designated to become a community park. It is located in the center of the Linnerud property that is currently being planned for development.
- Ehle Property Park (B): Located along the Yahara River, this property has been in the planning stages for a while. 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 recently 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 of 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 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 the 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.



Future Parks and Open Space City of Stoughton POSP



Project # 2208
September, 2007

Map 5

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

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

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 gauge community needs and desires for a new aquatic center and study locations, sizes and other issues to help the City move forward.

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.

Schreiber Anderson Associates

August 2007

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.

Capital Improvements 2007-2012

Parks

Parks/Recreation	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	TOTAL
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Bjoin Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Criddle Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Dunkirk Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - East Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Lowell Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bridge to Eighth St.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grandstand Parking	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Mandt Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal Mandt Park Swim Pool	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Norse Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2 Youth Baseball Diamonds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Baseball Conversion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Lighting for (2) diamonds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,000
Subtotal - Racetrack Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,000
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Urban River Trail	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Youth Center Project	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Riverside Dr. Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal - Schefelker Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Development	\$ -	\$ 56,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 116,000
Subtotal - Stone Crest Park	\$ -	\$ 56,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 116,000
Development	\$ -	\$ 29,000	\$ 29,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,000	\$ 116,000
Subtotal - Nordic Ridge Park	\$ -	\$ 29,000	\$ 29,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,000	\$ 116,000
Shelter w/Restrooms	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000
Subtotal - Veteran's Park	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000

Capital Improvements 2007-2012
Parks

Parks/Recreation	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	TOTAL
Baseball/softball fencing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000
Subtotal - Virgin Lake Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000
Park Development	\$ 42,500	\$ 24,250	\$ 24,250	\$ 24,250	\$ 24,250	\$ 24,250	\$ 163,750
Subtotal - Westview Ridge Park	\$ 42,500	\$ 24,250	\$ 24,250	\$ 24,250	\$ 24,250	\$ 24,250	\$ 163,750
Tool Cat	\$ 37,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,000
14-16' Three Deck Mower	\$ -	\$ 37,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,000
One Ton Truck		\$ -	\$ 33,000	\$ -	\$ 36,300	\$ -	\$ 69,300
Two Zero Turn Mowers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Parks Maintenance	\$ 37,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 33,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 36,300	\$ -	\$ 168,300
Total	\$ 119,500	\$ 146,250	\$ 113,250	\$ 204,250	\$ 94,550	\$ 58,250	\$ 736,050

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.

BASE PARK COMPONENTS	Tot Lot 0.5 acres	Neighborhood 5 acres	Community 10 acres
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.

**Table 4-1 Grant
Information Matrix**

GRANT PROGRAM	Funding as of 2006	Fee Simple Purchase	Easements	Facilities	Land Practice	Habitat Restoration	DNR	Local Government	Local NCD	Match by DNR	Comp. Plan Required	Contact
Stewardship Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP) 	\$4.0	X		X		X	X	X	X	50%	YES	Community Services Specialist, South Central District 275-3218
Stewardship Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Rivers 	\$1.6	X		X		X	X	X	X	50%	YES	Community Services Specialist, South Central District 275-3218
Stewardship Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Greenspace 	\$1.6	X		X						50%	YES	Community Services Specialist, South Central District 275-3218
Stewardship Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of Development Rights 	\$700k		X				X	X	X	50%	YES	Community Services Specialist, South Central District 275-3218
Federal Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land and Water Conservation Fund 	\$250k	X		X			X	X		50%	YES	Community Services Specialist, South Central District 275-3218
Federal Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational Trails Act 	\$1.0	X	X	X			X	X		50%	NO	State Trails Coordinator Peter Biermeier 264-6136
Other State Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Forestry 					X			X		50%	NO	Urban Forester South Central District Dave Stevenson 275-3227
Recreational Boating Facilities and Sport Fish Grants				X				X		50%	NO	Larry Freidig 266-5897

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																																		



Presented to
Stoughton City Council

By
Dr. Carol Scovotti
Chief Consultant, SMR Communications
Assistant Professor, UW-Whitewater

March 13, 2007

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Final Survey Results

*City of Stoughton
Parks & Recreation Department*



Introduction to the Study

- Obtain input from City residents about current & future use of park facilities
 - Critical part of *Stoughton Parks & Open Space Plan Update*
 - Future parks should address the interests of residents, not be a “cookie-cutter” of other cities of similar size
- Survey created by Ross Scovotti with input from Denise Duranczyk, members of the Parks & Recreation Committee, Tom Lynch, & Ann Freiwald
- Data was collected through 4-page survey in late 2006
 - Electronic version link from City web site & 1000 piece email drop
 - Paper version distributed through *Tower Times*

City of Stoughton Parks & Recreation Department Resident Survey

The Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Stoughton is in the process of revising its *Parks and Open Space Plan*. This survey is designed to help us understand your opinions about the facilities and recreational activities currently offered in our existing parks as well as serves as a blueprint for the types of facilities that might be built in the future. Your input is vital to our better understanding how you use and what you expect out of our City parks. Thank you for taking the time to help us serve you better.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please mark (circle or check) the response that best reflects your opinions about the following:

1. How often do you use the following park facilities offered by the City of Stoughton?	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	All the time
Neighborhood playgrounds/toddler parks	1	2	3	4	5
Baseball/softball fields	1	2	3	4	5
Soccer/football fields	1	2	3	4	5
Paved pedestrian bicycle paths	1	2	3	4	5
Nature/multiuse trails	1	2	3	4	5
Basketball courts	1	2	3	4	5
Tennis courts	1	2	3	4	5
Nature press areas	1	2	3	4	5
Picnic areas	1	2	3	4	5
Swimming facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Skateboard parks	1	2	3	4	5
Open space park areas/nonspecific use	1	2	3	4	5
Ice skating rinks	1	2	3	4	5

2. This past summer, how many times did a member of your household visit or use park facilities in Stoughton?
☐ NEVER ☐ SELDOM ☐ MONTHLY ☐ TWICE A MONTH ☐ WEEKLY ☐ DAILY

3. In the fall, winter, and spring, how many times does any member of your household typically visit or use park facilities in Stoughton?
☐ NEVER ☐ SELDOM ☐ MONTHLY ☐ TWICE A MONTH ☐ WEEKLY ☐ DAILY

4. Which Stoughton park do you visit or use most often? _____

5. Regardless of how often you use the parks system, how would you rate the importance of parks and open space to the general "quality of life?"
☐ VERY UNIMPORTANT ☐ UNIMPORTANT ☐ NEUTRAL ☐ IMPORTANT ☐ VERY IMPORTANT

6. Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following:	Extremely Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Extremely Satisfied
Overall satisfaction with Stoughton parks	1	2	3	4	5
Park safety	1	2	3	4	5
Park cleanliness	1	2	3	4	5
Maintenance of equipment/facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of equipment/facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of access to equipment/facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of equipment/facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Proximity of park to your home	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of parking	1	2	3	4	5
Park furnishing (e.g. picnic tables)	1	2	3	4	5
Number of restrooms	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of restrooms	1	2	3	4	5

7. As Stoughton expands, how important do you believe it is for the City to add, or increase the number of the following types of facilities?	Extremely Unimportant	Unimportant	Neutral	Important	Extremely Important
Neighborhood playgrounds/toddler parks	1	2	3	4	5
Baseball/softball fields	1	2	3	4	5
Soccer/football fields	1	2	3	4	5
Paved pedestrian/bicycle paths	1	2	3	4	5
Nature/multiuse trails	1	2	3	4	5
Basketball courts	1	2	3	4	5
Tennis courts	1	2	3	4	5
Volleyball courts	1	2	3	4	5
Nature press areas	1	2	3	4	5
Picnic areas	1	2	3	4	5
Swimming facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Pet exercising areas	1	2	3	4	5
Skateboard parks	1	2	3	4	5
Community gardens	1	2	3	4	5
Open space park areas/nonspecific use	1	2	3	4	5
Ice skating rinks	1	2	3	4	5

8. As Stoughton moves forward with its plans to build new parks, priorities must be established. There are 14 options listed below. Please indicate what your **TOP 6 PRIORITIES** are based on the expected use by you and/or members of your household. Do not assign the same priority to any two items.

Please select only 6, with 1 being your top priority. Don't use the same number twice.

Lots of open space	_____	Children's play equipment	_____
Wildlife preserve/wetlands	_____	Tennis courts	_____
Walking/bicycle paths	_____	Open picnic facilities (grills, tables, etc.)	_____
Basketball courts	_____	Covered picnic facilities	_____
Volleyball courts	_____	Skateboard park	_____
Baseball/softball diamonds	_____	Riverwalk	_____
Soccer football fields	_____	Other _____	_____

9. Which statement best reflects your opinion about the current number of parks in Stoughton?

☐ TOO FEW ☐ SUFFICIENT NUMBER ☐ TOO MANY

10. Which statement best reflects your opinion about the current sizes of the parks in Stoughton?

☐ TOO SMALL ☐ ADEQUATE SIZE ☐ TOO LARGE

11. Please indicate where you vote.

- ☐ District 1, First Lutheran Church, 310 E. Washington Street
☐ District 2, Stoughton EMS, 516 S. Fourth Street
☐ District 3, United Methodist Church, 525 Lincoln Avenue
☐ District 4, Lakeview Church, 2200 Lincoln Avenue

12. Your gender:

☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

13. Your age:

☐ 18 - 29 ☐ 30 - 44 ☐ 45 - 59 ☐ 60 - 69 ☐ 70+

14. Please indicate the number of people living in your household by age:

Number of adults (over 18) _____
 Number of children 0 to 5 _____
 Number of children 6 - 12 _____
 Number of children 13 - 17 _____

15. (OPTIONAL) Please indicate your ethnic background.

☐ AFRICAN AMERICAN ☐ ASIAN ☐ NATIVE AMERICAN
☐ HISPANIC ☐ CAUCASIAN ☐ OTHER

16. Which of the following best represents your household's gross income?

☐ UNDER \$15,000 ☐ \$15,000 - \$29,999 ☐ \$30,000 - \$49,999
☐ \$50,000 - \$74,999 ☐ \$75,000 - \$99,999 ☐ \$100,000 - \$149,000
☐ OVER \$150,000 ☐ I prefer not to say

Thank you for your participation.

We value your opinions and will use them as we complete the assessment of our *Park and Open Space Plan* for the future.

Please return this survey no later than Tuesday, December 5, 2006.

Equine

Be sure to fold on lines provided, make sure the mailing address below is visible and seal with tape or staple.

Equine

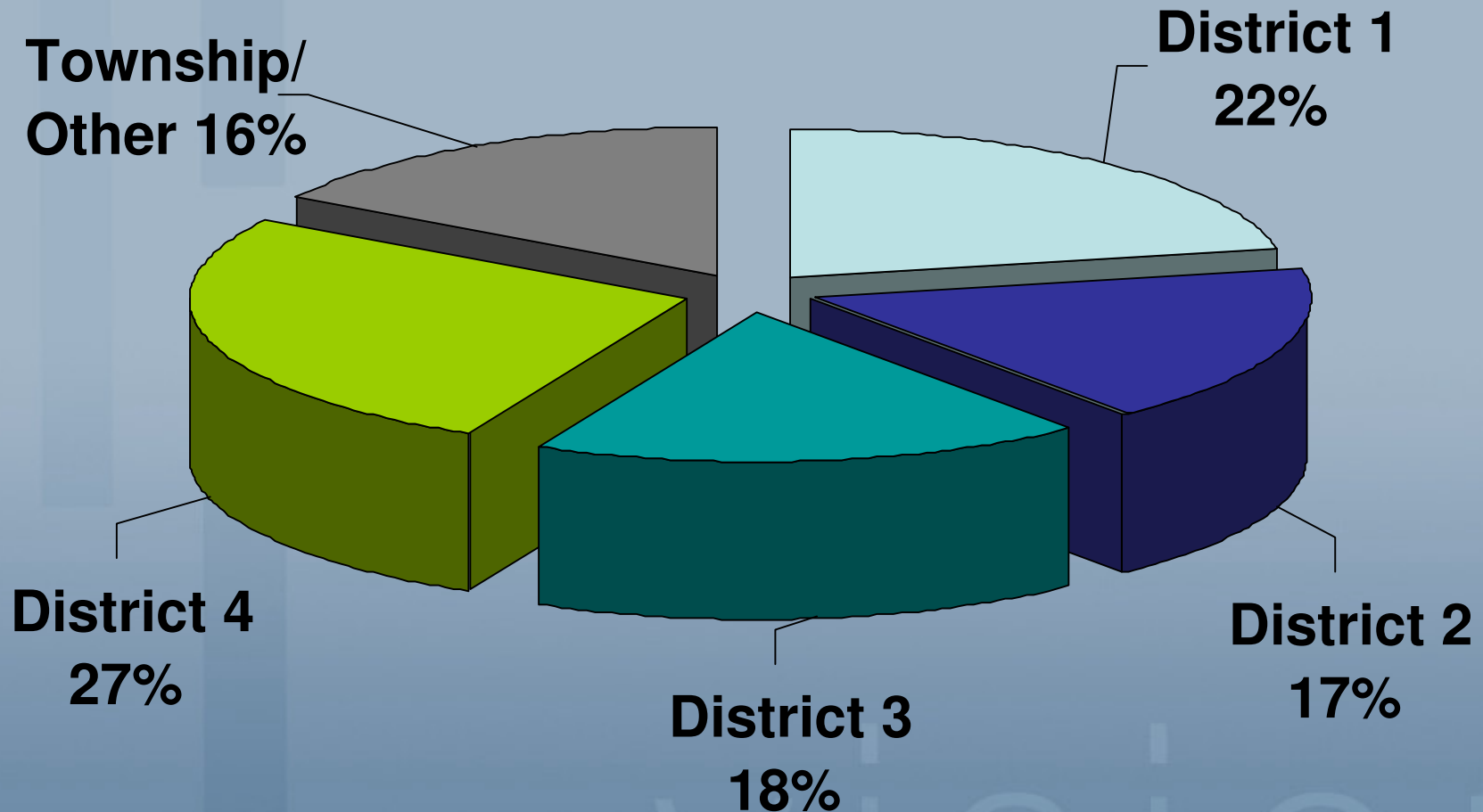
Please affix postage here

Parks & Open Space Survey
 City of Stoughton
 Parks & Recreation Department
 321 S. Fourth Street
 Stoughton, WI 53589

vision



677 Responses!





Primary Research Questions

- What are the most and least widely used types of facilities?
- How often do residents use Stoughton parks?
- How should priorities for future facilities be established?
- How satisfied are residents with Stoughton parks?
- Is the amount of space currently devoted to parks and the number of parks sufficient?





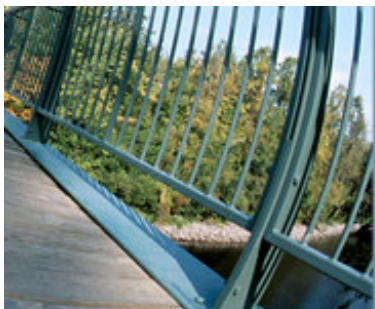
Park Facilities

Usage Importance

• Multiuse Nature Trails	3.02	3.96
• Paved Ped/Bike Paths	3.01	4.27
• Neighborhood/Toddler Parks	2.98	3.90
• Nature Preserves	2.62	3.96
• Baseball/Softball Fields	2.59	3.49
• Open Space/Nonspecific Use	2.52	3.70
• Picnic Areas	2.48	3.72
• Soccer/Football Fields	2.42	3.50
• Swimming Facilities	2.38	3.89
• Basketball Courts	2.22	3.36
• Ice Skating Rinks	2.07	3.29
• Tennis Courts	2.03	3.18
• Skateboard Parks	1.43	2.74

1 = Never Use;
5 = Use all the time

1 = Ext Unimportant;
5 = Ext Important



13 Activities Represent 4 Categories of Park Usage

Principle Component Analysis
with Varimax rotation. 68.3%
of variance explained.

Activity Relationship Matrix				
Unique Activities	Dimensions			
	Trails & Picnics	Ball Players	Young Child Activities	Tween/ Teen Activities
Nature Trails	.896			
Paved/ Bike Paths	.814			
Nature Preserves	.805			
Picnic Areas	.667			
Open Space	.610			
Baseball/ Softball		.858		
Basketball		.774		
Soccer/ Football		.760		
Swimming			.735	
Neighborhood/ Toddler Parks			.632	
Ice Skating				.810
Skateboarding				.660
Tennis				.541



Key Findings, Recommendations

- Trails are the most frequently used type of park facility. Has highest perceived importance for all Stoughton residents
 - *New trails in new parks a must*
- Neighborhood/toddler parks also extremely used and important in households with 3+ children & seniors 60+
 - *Neighborhood/toddler parks a must for all future neighborhood developments geared to residential construction for families with children*
 - *Senior housing developments should include neighborhood/toddler parks*



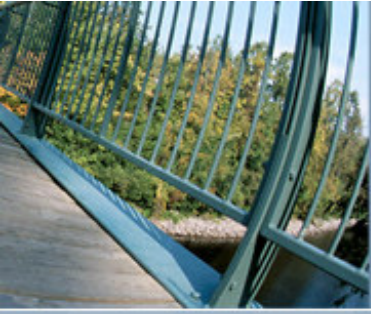
Key Findings, Recommendations

- Baseball/softball & soccer/football fields frequently used by households with 3+ children
 - *Ball fields should be part of future neighborhood developments if residential construction is for larger families*
- Least frequently used park facilities are skateboard parks, tennis courts & ice skating rinks.
 - *Facilities Stoughton currently maintains are sufficient*
 - *No future investment in additional facilities is warranted*



Frequency of Park Facility Use

Cluster Analysis Results				
Park Use	User Categories			
	Non Users	Infrequent Users	Seasonal Frequent Users	Year Around High
Overall Use <i>(Mean Score & Scale Classification)</i>	1.46 Never - Rarely	2.23 Rarely - Sometimes	3.46 Sometimes - Often	4.15 Often – All the time
Summer Use	Monthly	2x/Mo	Weekly	Daily
Fall, Winter, Spring Use	Seldom	Monthly	2x/Mo	Weekly
Quantity in Cluster	124	181	225	86



Key Findings, Recommendations

- Stoughton park facilities are enjoyed by residents year around
- No correlations between how parks are used & how often parks are used
- No correlation between size of household & frequency of park use



Future Park Facility Priorities

Rank		Total	Top Priority	Significance based on # Children in HH
1	Ped/Bike Paths	553	152	No
2	Riverwalk	445	51	No
3	Child Play Equip	431	111	Yes – Significant with any number of children and those in the 60+ age group with no children
4	Wildlife Preserve	408	74	No
5	Open Space	381	52	No
6	Open Picnic	372	17	No
7	Covered Picnic	344	17	No
8	Baseball/Softball	230	71	Yes – Significant with 3+ children
9	Soccer/Football	224	27	Yes – Significant with 3+ children
10	Basketball	178	17	Yes – Significant with any number of children
11	Tennis	128	13	No
12	Other*	118	46	Yes – Significant with 3+ children
13	Volleyball	72	4	Yes – Significant with any number of children
14	Skateboard Park	45	9	Yes – Significant with 3+ children



Key Findings, Recommendations

- Trails are **THE TOP PRIORITY** of **ALL** Stoughton residents
 - *Future park developments should be linked by trails, have sections of open space, nature preserves, open & covered picnic areas*
- Children's play equipment a high priority for Stoughton families with children
 - *Smaller toddler parks throughout the city satisfies the need for access to children's play equipment*
 - *Should be part of future community plans, especially senior housing*
- Ball fields appear as a secondary priority because households with no children rate very low. When 3+ children are in the household, ball fields are a high priority
 - *Current ratio of ball fields to population is acceptable*
 - *Expansion of ball fields should correspond to projected increases in population*



Resident Satisfaction with Parks

- Overall satisfaction with Stoughton parks is excellent (3.85/5.00)
- Outstanding
 - Proximity to home
- Excellent
 - Safety
 - Cleanliness
 - Ease of access to equipment
 - Availability of parking
- Very good
 - Equipment maintenance
 - Equipment variety
 - Park furnishings
- Satisfactory
 - Number of restrooms
 - Restroom cleanliness



Adequacy of Parkland Allocation

- 69.7% indicate number of parks is sufficient
 - Large percent of people who suggest parkland allocation is insufficient come from the townships or didn't indicate a voting district (35%)
 - 39% of Year Around High users thinks there are too few parks
- 82.5% indicate the current size of parks is adequate
- No statistically significant difference in adequacy of size or quantity of parks based on number of children in household



Key Findings, Recommendations

- Vast majority of Stoughton residents are satisfied with the number and size of parks
 - *Increasing park acreage allocation requirements based on population is unwarranted*
 - *The existing acreage ratio should not be reduced*
- A significant percent of “Year Around High” users think there are too few parks in Stoughton (39%)
 - *Year Around High users represent the smallest subsegment of park users responding to this survey*
 - *Question of satisfying such a small minority is answered in the political system & within budgetary parameters*
 - *Data collected in this study cannot offer guidance*



Conclusions

- You asked. Residents responded.
 - 677 responses
 - 98% confidence
 - Margin of error +/- 3%
- Use what you have learned to develop the park facilities Stoughton residents say they want
 - This is NOT a cookie-cutter community!





Thank You

Final Survey Results
City of Stoughton
Parks & Recreation Department

APPENDIX C: CURRENT PARKLAND DEDICATION ORDINANCE

**CITY OF STOUGHTON POLICY REGARDING
DEDICATION OF PARKLAND AND IMPROVEMENTS
Approved by Council August 8, 2006**

Pursuant to the authority granted under, and the requirements of, Wis. Stats. §236.45 and Ordinance Section 66-105, the City of Stoughton Common Council adopts the following policy regarding the dedication of parkland and park improvements as part of the process for considering annexation of land and/or proposed land divisions within the City.

1. As a standard requirement of proposed annexations and land divisions, the City shall require the dedication of land for parks and open spaces as well as the installation and dedication of improvements to said parks and open spaces. The requirement to dedicate land and improvements for each proposed development shall bear a rational relationship to the need for the dedication and improvements resulting from the proposed annexation or division of land. The basis for the land dedication requirements shall be the Parks and Open Space Plan previously adopted by the City and as it is subsequently updated from time to time. The basis for the requirement that the property owner or developer install improvements to the dedicated parkland or open space shall be area, state, or national standards for parks and open spaces, as incorporated into and established by the City's adopted Parks and Open Spaces Plan.
2. The requirements for dedication of parkland and park improvements shall be a condition of plat approval. Said requirements shall be based upon the needs of a basic neighborhood park to accommodate the proposed land division area. The Council recognizes that the expansion or upgrading of said parks to accommodate community wide or regional users should be the responsibility of all City tax payers and should be financed by the general city tax levy.
3. The requirement to install improvements in the dedicated parks or open spaces may include, depending upon the standards established in the Parks and Open Spaces Plan as well as the anticipated needs of the proposed development, grading, seeding, landscaping, installation of play equipment, athletic or recreational fields, walking paths, ponds, or other amenities.
4. The land owner or developer may request a waiver of the requirements to dedicate land and improvements as described in this policy. If the City consents to such a waiver, in its sole discretion, the property owner or developer shall make payment to the City in lieu of satisfying the dedication requirements. The payment shall be based upon the formulas contained in Ordinance Section 66-105 for fees in lieu of parkland dedication and park improvements.
5. Any waiver of the dedication requirements and agreement to pay the fees described herein as consideration for said waiver shall be documented in an annexation agreement or development agreement as a condition of improving the proposed annexation or land division. Payment of said fees shall be made at the start of each building phase as outlined in an approved developer's agreement. The City may record a portion of any such agreement to bind subsequent owners of the subject property.



Village of Oregon 2011 Park and Recreation Plan



Recommended by the Plan Commission: June 2, 2011

Recommended by the Parks Board: June 20, 2011

Adopted by the Village Board: June 20, 2011

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Village Board

Steve Staton, President

Eric L. Poole

Phil Harms

Randy Way

Darlene Groenier

Jon S. Lourigan

David Donovan

Park Board Members

Jon Blanchard, Chairperson, Oregon Jaycees

Dan Olson, Vice Chairperson, Citizen Member

Amy Brauns, Secretary, Citizen Member

Andy Weiland, School District Representative

David Donovan, Village Board Representative

Chad Winklepleck, Chamber Representative

Rich Strohmenger, Rotary Representative

James Hermus, Youth Representative

Resource Staff

Mike Gracz, Village Administrator

Mark Below, Director of Public Works

Gary Disch, Assistant Director of Public Works

Planning Assistance

Mike Slavney, FAICP, Principal

Jessica Schmiedicke, AICP, Associate

Brandy Howe, Assistant

Dan Eckberg, GIS Technician

Nicole Anderson, Planning Assistant

Vandewalle & Associates

120 E. Lakeside Street

Madison, WI 53715

(608) 255-3988

www.vandewalle.com

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I INTRODUCTION

The Village of Oregon realizes that planning is a process and that the purpose of any planning is implementation. The Village has the opportunity to use this plan to acquire and develop park and playground land. Completion of this Outdoor Recreation Plan qualifies the community for cost sharing under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LAWCON), the Outdoor Resources Action Plan (ORAP 200) and State Stewardship grants. Eligibility for these programs, however, does not guarantee adequate recreation space and facilities; in fact, implementation depends more upon commitment by the community, service groups, and residents to adapt and carry out these recommendations. The plan and the funding opportunities, including park fees and grants are the framework within which the community can work.

As Oregon grows, the Village should strive to provide diversity in function, location, size, development and service area of recreational facilities. This can best be accomplished by the Village taking the lead in assuring that these objectives are met through land acquisition, development and improvement. It must be the responsibility of the Village to guide recreational planning for the future.

This plan begins with a presentation of definitions and recreational planning methodology. This is followed by a discussion of existing recreational facilities and recreational needs in the Village. It concludes with the 5-year park acquisition recommendations and discussion of long-range goals, objectives and implementation procedures.

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II BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. General Regional Context and Village History

The Village of Oregon (see Map 1) is located in the southern half of Dane County in southern Wisconsin approximately 10 miles south of Madison. The overall size of the incorporation area is 2,779 acres.

Early growth of the community was based on farming. Farming is still a significant element in the local economy. Oregon has three commercial centers and has mostly service and convenience shops with Madison providing area residents with a wider selection of goods. Industry is presently limited with some increase expected in the next 5 to 10 years.

The present street system evolved from an extension of the original route patterns established in the 1800s. The phenomenal rise in the number of motor vehicles coming into or passing through Oregon has resulted in heavier traffic problems during morning and afternoon rush hours. U.S. Highway 14 bypasses Oregon to the north and east, and connects with Madison to the north and Evansville to the south. There are no active railroads in the Village. The closest commercial airport providing passenger service is in Madison, located north of Oregon.

The general land use pattern in Oregon is typical of most villages founded around agriculture. Commercial development occurred in Oregon's center originally as a marketplace for surrounding farms. Supporting commercial activities developed as a convenience for the shoppers. Schools, doctor and dentist offices, and churches developed near this activity node. With Oregon's growth, new commercial development occurred on North Main Street, Jefferson Street, Wolfe Street, and along Janesville Street.

In general, residential growth developed as single family homes close to the central market district. As the demand for land increased, residential development moved outward to the west, north, south and east. This development is expected to continue.

B. Natural Resources

Topography

The area's landforms are mostly glacial drift features. Gently rolling, forested hills surround the Village, providing a beautiful backdrop. The slopes in this area are gentle to moderate, with broad, rounded hilltops. Elevations in the Village range between 935 and 1,100 feet above sea level.

Water Resources

There are no perennial streams flowing through the Village. However, a drainage system that begins on the west side of the Village serves as the headwaters of the Oregon Branch of the Badfish Creek. There are few surface water features within the Village limits. A small pond is located in Lerner Conservation Park on the west side of the Village, and another is located northwest of the intersection of West Netherwood Road and the railroad tracks. Several small prairie pothole lakes are located to the west of the Village.

Climate

South central Wisconsin's climate is characterized by four distinct seasons. Warm summers generally span the months of June through August. The winter months of December, January, and February are cold, with average temperatures below freezing. The region is characterized by temperate conditions in spring and autumn. The first autumn freeze typically occurs around the second week of October, and the last spring freeze is usually during the first week of May.

Soils

Soil suitability is a key factor in determining the best and most cost-effective locations for new development, including parks. Problems that limit development on certain soils include slumping, poor drainage, erosion, steep slopes and high water tables. As defined by the United States Department of Agriculture, the soils in the Village of Oregon are of two major soil associations:

- The *Dodge-St. Charles-McHenry* association is the predominant soil association in the Village. This association is characterized by both well-drained and moderately well-drained soils with silt loam subsoil, and is underlain by sandy loam glacial till. When undeveloped, this land is productive for agriculture, with common crops being corn, soy beans, and alfalfa.
- The *Batavia-Houghton-Dresden* association is some areas in the center of the Village. This association is characterized by both well-drained and poorly-drained, deep and moderately deep silt loams and mucks underlain by silt, sand, and gravel. These soils were formed by outwash material near streams or adjacent to glacial moraines. This association is also productive, with corn being the most common crop.

More specific information about soils in the Village can be found in the Soil Survey of Dane County (1978), conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service. With proper construction practices, most of the soils found in the planning area are generally suitable for development. Exceptions include soils with steep slopes over 12 percent and areas where high ground water and wetlands exist.

Flora and Fauna

Although originally covered with oak-savannah vegetation, almost no remnants are to be found since most lands were cleared and farmed or left to grow to dense oak woods. Species of wildlife that are common to the south central Wisconsin region are rabbits, squirrels, woodchucks, raccoons, muskrats, and beavers. Larger mammals such as white-tailed deer, coyotes, and foxes also inhabit the region. Common bird species include pheasants, cardinals, robins, wood thrushes, great blue herons, and killdeer.

C. Population and Demographics

Population Trends and Projections

The 2010 population of Oregon was 9,231. This represents an increase of 22.9% over the 2000 census population of 7,514. The increase in population is due primarily to the number of people who have moved in search of the rural, small town character, but who hold their job in nearby Madison.

The Village of Oregon experienced a large growth in population during the 1990s. The Village has experienced steady, high growth since the 1970's, with a population increase of 52 percent between

1970 and 1980, and 17 percent between 1980 and 1990. According to the 2000 Census, the Village grew from 4,519 residents in 1990 to 7,514 residents in 2000, which represents a 66.3 percent increase (see Table 1).

Table 1: Population Trends

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	Percent Change 2000-2010
Village of Oregon	2,553	3,876	4,519	7,514	9,231	22.9%
Town of Oregon	1,115	1,798	2,428	3,148	3,184	1.1%
City of Fitchburg	4,704	11,973	15,648	20,501	25,260	23.2%
City of Madison	171,809	170,616	190,766	208,054	233,209	12.1%
Dane County	290,272	323,545	367,085	426,526	488,073	14.4%
Wisconsin	4,417,821	4,705,767	4,891,769	5,363,675	5,686,986	6.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

To ensure consistency with the Village's Comprehensive Plan, for the purposes of this Plan population projections will be based on the number of new residents per year from 1990 to 2010 (236) applied to each year in the future, as depicted in Table 2. While these projections use the same methodology as the Comprehensive Plan, they have been updated to reflect the 2010 population and use that figure as the starting point for the calculations. These figures will ensure conservative estimates for park system planning.

Table 2: Village of Oregon Population Projections

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Linear Growth (based on number of new residents per year from 1990 to 2010)	9,231	10,409	11,587	12,765	13,943

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vandenvalle & Associates.

Race and Ethnicity

Table 3 compares the race and ethnicity of the Village of Oregon's population to surrounding communities, the County, and the State. In general, the Village and Town of Oregon are less diverse in populations than neighboring cities, Dane County, and the state—though comparable to one another.

Table 3: Race and Ethnicity, 2010

	% White	% Black	% Hispanic	% Asian
Village of Oregon	95.4%	1.2%	2.2%	0.8%
Town of Oregon	97.8%	0.4%	1.5%	0.4%
City of Fitchburg	72.2%	10.4%	17.2%	4.9%
City of Madison	78.9%	7.3%	6.8%	7.4%
Dane County	84.7%	5.2%	5.9%	4.7%
Wisconsin	86.2%	6.3%	5.9%	2.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Age and Gender Distribution

Table 4 compares the age and gender distribution of the Village of Oregon's population to surrounding communities, the County, and the State. General trends in age distribution are an important factor when considering the future demand for housing, schools, park and recreational facilities and the provision of social services.

As shown in Table 4, the Village's median age was lower than that of the Town of Oregon and the State and higher than the median age in Dane County, Fitchburg, and Madison. The percentage of the Village's population under age 18 is the highest among comparison communities, the County, and the State. The percentage of the Village's population that was aged 65 and older was higher than the Town of Oregon and the Cities of Fitchburg and Madison, but slightly lower than Dane County and much lower than the State. The relatively high percentage under 18 should be considered when comparing per capita recreational expenditures with other communities.

The average age of Oregon's population has fluctuated over the years. Today, the median age is reported to be 34.8. In 2000, the median age was slightly older at 37.5, compared to 31.8 in 1990, and 27.7 in 1980.

Table 4: Village of Oregon Age and Gender Statistics

	Village of Oregon	Town of Oregon	City of Fitchburg	City of Madison	Dane County	State of Wisconsin
Median age	34.8	42.8	33.5	30.0	33.8	37.8
% Under 18	28.4%	27.5%	22.8%	16.8%	21.1	23.6%
% Over 65	9.4%	7.9%	7.2%	9.0%	9.6	13.2%
% Female	49.8%	51.1%	46.4%	51.0%	50.4%	50.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2005-2009

Employment Characteristics

A community's labor force is the portion of the population that is employed or available for work. The labor force includes people who are in the armed forces, employed, unemployed, or actively seeking employment. According to 2009 American Community Survey data, 4,967 Village residents aged 16 and older were included in the labor force. The highest percentages of workers in the Village are employed in managerial and professional occupations, followed by sales and office occupations.

Table 5: Occupation and Labor Force

Occupational Group	% of Labor Force
Management, professional, and related occupations	44.4%
Sales and office occupations	29.6%
Service occupations	8.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	8.5%
Construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations	8.2%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2005-2009

Table 6 shows the percentage of the Village's labor force employed by industry. About twenty percent of the labor force is employed in education, health, and social services industrial group. This is undoubtedly a result of Oregon's proximity to Madison and employment at the University of Wisconsin and the State.

Table 6: Industry and Labor Force

Industrial Group	% of Labor
Educational, healthcare, and social assistance	19.3%
Retail trade	15.8%
Manufacturing	11.3%
Finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing	11.0%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	10.3%
Construction	8.7%
Public administration	6.7%
Other services	4.6%
Information	3.8%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services	3.7%
Wholesale Trade	2.9%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	1.6%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	0.5%

Source: American Community Survey, 2005-2009

Table 7 presents income, labor, and education characteristics for the Village of Oregon and surrounding communities. According to 2009 American Community Survey, the Village's median household income was \$78,671, higher than all surrounding communities except the Town of Oregon. The per capita income is defined as the total personal income divided by the total population and is used as a measure of wealth of the community. The Village's per capita income is \$33,179, which is higher than the City of Madison, Dane County, and the State, but slightly lower than the City of Fitchburg and the Town of Oregon. The percentage of unemployed persons is nearly 6 percent, higher than all comparison communities, and only somewhat lower than the State.

Educational attainment is another characteristic of a community's labor force. The Village of Oregon's population is generally well-educated—with nearly 97 percent of the population having received a high school diploma and over 40 percent have obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Table 7: Economic and Labor Force Characteristics

	Village of Oregon	Town of Oregon	City of Fitchburg	City of Madison	Dane County	Wisconsin
Median Household Income	\$78,671	\$97,125	\$63,088	\$51,288	\$59,546	\$51,569
Per Capita Income	\$33,179	\$39,176	\$35,434	\$28,840	\$31,846	\$26,447
% High School Graduate or Higher	96.8%	97.5%	92.9%	93.4%	93.9%	89.0%
% Bachelor's Degree or Higher	41.2%	37.8%	45.0%	51.1%	44.4%	25.5%
% in Labor Force	77.3%	76.9%	72.9%	72.4%	74.2%	69.0%
% Persons Unemployed	5.9%	2.1%	4.4%	5.0%	4.7%	6.1%

Source: American Community Survey, 2005-2009

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III EXISTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

A comprehensive land use survey was conducted to inventory existing recreation areas and facilities and their relationship to residential and potential residential developments. Included in the inventory were municipal and educational recreational areas which contribute to the recreational supply and opportunities in the Village.

A. Park System Overview

The following is a description of each recreational area and its facilities including park-specific recommendations for improvements (not including regular maintenance). A summary of the existing areas is presented in Table 8. Existing recreation areas are located on Map 1.

Table 8: Existing Park and Recreation Areas

Function	Park Name	Acreage
Mini Park/Tot Lot	Scott Street Tot Lot	0.19
Mini Park/Tot Lot	Liberty Park	0.48
Neighborhood Park	Bergamont Park	6.48
Neighborhood Park	Bethel Greenacre Park	6.06
Neighborhood Park	Forest View Park	2.31
Neighborhood Park	Gasner Memorial Park	1.63
Neighborhood Park	Hawthorne Estates Park	3.04
Neighborhood Park	High Meadows Park	4.45
Neighborhood Park	Meadow View Park	1.08
Neighborhood Park	Merri-Hill Park	1.85
Neighborhood Park	Rustic Vineyards Park	4.46
Neighborhood Park	Stone Ridge Park	2.24
Neighborhood Park	Thomson Park	2.93
Neighborhood Park	Windcrest Park	1.76
Neighborhood Park	Netherwood Knoll Elementary	4.97
Neighborhood Park	Prairie View Elementary	7.03
Neighborhood Park	Rome Corners Intermediate School	9.17
Community Park	Keller Alpine Meadows	104.92*
Community Park	Kiser Firemen's Park	10.99
Community Park	Oregon Jaycee Park	46.40
Community Park	Jaycee Park East	20.14
Special Facility	Deqa Park	1.43
Special Facility	Lerner Conservation Park	48.34
Special Facility	Madsen Memorial Park	0.05
Special Facility	Waterman "Triangle" Park	0.26
Special Facility	Oregon School District Swimming Pool	1.60
Special Facility	Oregon Middle School	19.78
Special Facility	Oregon Senior High School	17.10

*70 acres developed for recreation; the remainder of the park is dedicated to natural resource restoration.

B. Tot Parks

Liberty Park

This small 0.48 acre neighborhood park includes a newly installed “community built” play structure.

Scott Street Tot Park

The Scott Street Tot Park consists of a 0.19 acre on Scott Street. The lot is small and rectangular shaped. Trees are located on the eastern boundary and houses are located on the northern and southern boundaries. The public access is on the western side of the park. Playground equipment for small children has recently been installed with wood chip fall zones.

C. Neighborhood Parks

Bergamont Park

Bergamont Park is a 6.48 acre park located on the east side of Bergamont Boulevard just south of Oakmont Street; the useable park area is much less than 6.48 acres due to steep grades. Access to this park is off of Bergamont Boulevard and via a path from adjacent Meadow View Park. This park has a paved path crossing near a custom community built playground. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.

Potential future improvements:

- Basketball court.
- Tennis courts.
- Shelter.
- Tree planting.
- Landscaping.

Bethel Greenacre Park

Bethel Greenacre Park is a 6.06 acre park located on the east side of S. Burr Oak Avenue. The park has considerable low land. The park has a backstop with a grass field. Even with the low land, there are some places of higher ground where trees, playground equipment, a small park shelter and 3/4 size basketball court are located. This park also includes a dog run area on the easterly half of this park. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.



Potential future improvements:

- Level uneven areas to be used for additional ball fields.
- Restrooms.

Forest View Park

Forest View Park is a 2.31 acre park located on the west side of the Village bordered by Jefferson Street to the north and behind the homes located on the west side of Lynne Trail. Access to the park is from Lynne Trail and a walking path from Edenberry Lane. This park includes playground equipment with wood chip fall zones. Approximately 7 acres of open area adjacent to the park is used for storm water management. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.

Potential future improvements:

- Landscaping.
- Walking path and a connecting bridge to the west.



Gasner Memorial Park

Gasner Memorial Park is a 1.63 acre park located adjacent to South Main

Street and Scott Streets and the Village water tower standpipe. A small shelter exists in conjunction with well No. 4 pump house. A sledding hill, playground equipment with wood chip fall zones, and a 3/4-size basketball court are located in this neighborhood park. A stone memorializing Mr. Allen Gasner was donated and installed by the Oregon Rotary Club, where Mr. Gasner was a member.

Hawthorne Estates Park

This 3.04 acre site is located to the east of the Fox Glen East subdivision in the Hawthorne Estates subdivision (former Gefke property) and the Foxboro Golf Course. It is to the south of Park Street and to the west of Highway 14 on Lexington Drive. This park has extensive resident donated and maintained landscaping and a custom designed community built playground with a wood chip fall zone. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.

Potential future improvements:

- Park shelter.

High Meadows Park

This 4.45 acre park is located behind the homes on the east side of Scott Street with the south border of the park being Ames Street. The park connects with the Scott Street Tot Park at its northwest corner. Facilities in High Meadows Park include a competitive soccer field, open space for baseball with a backstop, play structures with wood chip fall zones, water retention area for stormwater in the southeast corner, and an area for a future parking lot. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.

Meadow View Park

This 1.08 acre park includes a newly installed “community built” play structure. Running through the park near this play area is a paved pathway that continues on into the adjacent Bergamont Park.

Potential future improvements:

- Gazebo.

Merri-Hill Park

This 1.85 acre park is located in the northern part of the Village. It is surrounded by single family residential homes located on East Richards Road to the north, Saratoga Circle to the east, Landover Drive to the south and Potomac Place to the west. Main accesses to the park are paved paths from each developed access street. Merri-Hill Park features playground equipment and a basketball court. Landscaping and tree planting has been completed in this area. The park has a gradual slope to the south. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.



Rustic Vineyards Park

This 4.46 acre park is located north of East Netherwood Street on Vinyard Drive with additional access from Fairfax Avenue. The land is level with a concrete waterway located on the northern edge of the park. There is a small footbridge crossing over the waterway coming off of Violet Lane. Other features to this park include playground equipment with wood chip fall zones, park benches and trees. In 2009 a new ball diamond was developed jointly by the local youth baseball, girl's softball organizations and neighborhood homeowners. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.

Potential future improvements:

- Possible expansion with the development of Merri-Hill subdivision to the west.
- Shelter.

Stone Ridge Park

Stone Ridge Park is a 2.24 acre park located near the intersections of Cherry Wood Drive and Oakwood Drive. This park has approximately 1.36 acres of useable park and recreation land which would remain dry during the 2 and 10-



year rain events. Approximately 2.3 acres of open area adjacent to the park is being used for storm water management. This park has playground equipment with a wood chip fall zone and a foot path through the wooded parcel of this park. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.

Thomson Park

Thomson Park is a 2.93 acre park located in the east central part of the Village, south of Janesville Street and on the corner of South Perry Parkway and Thomson Lane. The land is flat with a good amount of trees and brush. It is bordered on the north by Butter Factory Creek which is fed by a spring located in the northwest corner of the park. There is an additional spring located in the center of the park which also runs toward the creek. This park has great potential to serve the neighborhood in which residents of all ages live. This park includes playground equipment with wood chip fall zones and some landscaping.

Potential future improvements:

- Landscaping.

Windcrest Park

This 1.76 acre site is located west of South Burr Oak Avenue, north of Leeward Lane and south of Windward Way. The land is level and dry with a retention area located on the east edge of the park. This is located in a residential neighborhood with the Rome Corners Intermediate School and recreational facility one block to the north. This park includes playground equipment with wood chip fall zones, a walking/bike path, and volleyball court. The remaining open area can be used for other types of field play.

Potential future improvements:

- Tennis court.
- Park shelter.

D. Community Parks

Keller Alpine Meadows Park

This 104.92 acre park has been purchased with two major goals being: (1) to enhance the Village's long-term parkland development with additional ball fields and soccer fields; and (2) to assist the Village's storm water management goals by creating wetlands and wildlife habitat areas.

Improvements to this park include an extensive paved pathway which includes a concrete decked bridge. This path is very popular for biking, walking and running. There are benches and picnic tables located along this pathway. In 2009 and 2010 volunteers planted approximately 150 trees in this park. There are plans to continue this effort into the future. A parking lot has been added on the north side of this park.

This community park will continue to enhance the natural environment in the northwest quadrant of the Village by complementing the formal development of Lerner Park, bordered by the easterly side of this parcel through enhancement and restoration of wetlands lost due to extensive agricultural uses over the years. This parcel is anticipated to be used as both passive and active recreation. The south half of this area has been developed for storm water management by including

a series of ponds to control storm water as well as water quality and wetland restoration. These ponds have enhanced the wildlife habitat with irregular shorelines.

There is school district owned property adjacent to this park. The village and the school will work together to develop active play areas in the future. The wetlands and pond system for wildlife and plant life observation will be used in conjunction with the School system for educational programs. It is the intent of the Village to actively pursue state and federal grants to accomplish the future goals for this multi-purpose park.

Potential future improvements:

- Tree planting.
- Shelter.
- Ball field.
- Soccer field.
- Playground equipment.
- Pathways.



Kiser Firemen's Park

Kiser Firemen's Park covers 10.99 acres of

level land bordered by N. Oak and Brook Streets and is one of the most used parks in the community. Improvements include a lighted and fenced skateboard park, three lighted and fenced tennis courts, soccer fields, two lighted and fenced softball diamonds used extensively by youth and adult summer recreation programs, lighted picnic shelter, picnic tables, a restroom facility with an attached open shelter, a black topped bike trail, and a parking lot. Kiser Firemen's Park is also the site of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce's annual Summer Fest celebration. An upgrade to the electrical system of the entire park and an upgrade to the lighting of the softball diamonds were completed in 1997. With additional funding provided by local non-profit organizations that use the ball fields, two new scoreboards were installed in 2010.

Potential future improvements:

- Tree planting.
- Enhance the ball fields including adding safety netting in foul ball areas.
- Reconditioning the tennis court.

Oregon Jaycee Park

The 46.40 acre Oregon Jaycee Park, located east of Oak Street extending to North Perry Parkway, is the major community park in the Village. The bike trail path was paved in 1995. Two composite wood bridges provide access to the park from Oak Street. Numerous trees and prairie grasses have been planted throughout the park. Oregon Jaycee Park features two ball diamonds, four permanent and four temporary soccer fields, a park shelter, playground equipment near the shelter, and a volley

ball court. The park also has newly refurbished restroom facilities and two parking lots. The Village recently prepared a Master Plan for this park (see Appendix A).

Nearby land on the east side of North Perry Parkway, behind the new indoor skating facility is host to an additional soccer/lacrosse field, a sledding hill, and dog run area. This soccer field doubles as a practice field for the Oregon marching band and the sledding hill is used for fitness training in the warmer months. This land is reserved for future wastewater treatment plant expansion, not long term parkland.

Potential future improvements:

- Tree planting.
- Possible renovations based on final master plan.

E. Special Facilities

Dega Park

Dega Park is a 1.43 acre park on North Burr Oak Avenue one block north of Jefferson Street on the western side of the Village and is bordered on the south side by the Badfish Creek. Due to annual flooding issues, the Village reverted this land to a natural area and removed the playground equipment. The existing footbridge will remain in the park.

Lerner Conservation Park

Lerner Conservation Park is a 48.34 acre specialized recreational area located on the northwest corner of the Village. The park is low, wet, grassy land which will basically remain in its current state to accommodate storm water management. Lerner Park has been under development for a number of years, with many hours of labor donated by both the Rotary Club and the local Boy Scout Troops working on trail development and habitat restoration. This park is currently designated as a dog run area. This park is also being developed to complement the adjacent Keller Alpine Meadows Park. The path systems in these two parks will connect. Other features built in conjunction with the Eagle Scout program include an outdoor classroom, an information kiosk and a bridge built in memorial to a local business and community leader. This park also serves as a learning area for local schools with projects taking place several times each year.

Potential future improvements:

- Tree planting.
- Planting shrubs and prairie plants.
- Expanding the path system.
- Burning the marsh.
- Brush clearing.
- Posting educational signs.

Madsen Memorial Park

Madsen Memorial is a 0.05 acre special park in the center of downtown adjacent to Waterman “Triangle” Park and within walking distance of the Senior Center, Village Hall, Library and Genesis Housing for the elderly. This park includes shade trees, bushes, and benches which provide quiet

places for senior citizens and other community members in the downtown area. Madsen Memorial Park was recently renovated as part of the downtown redevelopment efforts.

Waterman “Triangle” Park

Waterman “Triangle” Parks is a 0.26 acre special park in the center of downtown adjacent to Madsen Memorial Park and within walking distance of the Senior Center, Village Hall, Library and Genesis Housing for the elderly. This park includes shade trees, bushes, and benches which provide quiet places for senior citizens and other community members in the downtown area. A brick and block bandstand in this park serves as a site for regularly scheduled summer concerts and other community events. Waterman “Triangle” Park was recently renovated as part of the downtown redevelopment efforts.

Potential future improvements:

- Tree planting.

F. Oregon School District Owned Properties

While many school recreation facilities such as gyms, theaters, and play areas are used extensively by Village residents for a wide variety of activities throughout the year, school sponsored activities are given first priority when it comes to the scheduling and use of these facilities. The Oregon School administration, the School Board and educators have worked in cooperation with the Village of Oregon and the coordinators of youth and adult recreation programs in the development of the outside facilities.

Netherwood Knoll Elementary School

Netherwood Knoll Elementary is located north of the central business district, east of Main Street, south of Prairie View Elementary School and adjacent to the indoor swimming pool. The area surrounding the school is flat and partly wooded with a paved area between the building and the 4.97 acre play area. Part of this school’s paved area is used as the location of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce annual Summer Fest celebration. Kiser Firemen’s Park is located next to the school property on the southeast side. Netherwood Knoll’s facilities include a large gym with stage and bleacher system, small gym, soccer field, woodchip playground area with a variety of equipment including an area which is ADA approved, small arboretum with a turtle pond, and two basketball/volleyball courts.

An area of the school building and play area is used by the After School Club. There are no planned improvements at this time.

Prairie View Elementary School

Prairie View Elementary School is located north of the central business district, east of Main Street and north of Netherwood Knoll



Elementary. The area surrounding the school is flat and sparsely wooded. Part of this school's paved play area/bus drop off area is used as the location of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce annual Summer Fest celebration. The 7.03 acre Prairie View facility includes two gymnasiums, (one used as a cafeteria), "Little Theatre", two soccer fields, a baseball diamond, a variety of playground equipment ADA approved, two 1/2 court basketball courts, and small track on a bus parking lot. There are no planned improvements at this time.

Rome Corners Intermediate School

This School has provided additional green space and recreational facilities to the community by adding a softball diamond, two soccer fields, playground equipment with a woodchip fall zone, and a hard surface play area which features two basketball courts. The total recreational area encompasses 9.17 acres. There are no planned improvements at this time.

Oregon Middle School

Oregon Middle School is located on the south side of the Village and is bordered on the south by Pleasant Oak Drive and the east by Wolfe Street (CTH MM) and is located near Foxboro Golf Course. The Middle School's facilities include gym, cafeteria area used for concerts, programs and both school and community meetings; arboretum with established trails; three softball diamonds; three basketball hoops; soccer field; football field; running track; large open areas which could be used as additional play fields; and many old oak trees. The total recreational area encompasses 19.78 acres. Future plans include constructing a hoop house in the near term and constructing an "eco-center" in the long term that would serve as a classroom/lab for horticulture and environmental classes.

Oregon High School

The 37.26 acre Oregon High School playfield is located on the east side of the Village. The school is bordered by U.S. Hwy 14 to the east, the Oregon Jaycee Park to the south, North Perry Parkway to the west and School Road to the north. On the main campus, the High School's facilities include a multi-purpose gym, field house, performing arts center, athletic field used for football, soccer and track and field events, two practice football fields, two softball diamonds, one baseball diamond, batting cages, eight non-lighted tennis courts, an eight-lane track and various open areas for use of a wide variety of sports. There are no planned improvements at this time.

Jaycee Park East

In 2010 the Village deeded the east portion of the Jaycee Park to the Oregon School District. This 20 acre parcel is located east of North Perry Parkway and has been used by the district for many years. The acquired area includes three high school baseball/softball diamonds and two soccer fields. This portion of the park was leveled and improved in cooperation with the Village and the Army Corps of Engineers in 1995. The main soccer field was improved by the school district in 2009. The Oregon School District is in the process of developing a master plan for this site that would be implemented over several years.

Oregon School District Swimming Pool

The Oregon School District indoor swimming facility is located on a 1.6 acre site adjacent to Kiser Fireman's Park and Netherwood Knoll Elementary building. Features of this facility include a twenty five meter, six lane pool with a diving well, handicapped chair lift, whirlpool tub, and shower

and locker room areas. The pool facilities are used extensively for school physical education classes and for the Oregon SEALS and high school girls and boys swim teams. Community program offerings include open, family, lap and adult swim times, co-ed water volleyball, water exercise classes, youth fitness swimming and lessons for all ages. There are no planned improvements at this time.

G. Private Recreation Facilities

There are a variety of private recreational facilities in the Village including:

- Athletic Center is located on Braun Road and provides a variety of sports activities.
- Oregon Community Sports Arena is a non-profit multi-functional sports facility located on Perry Parkway. This facility is home to the Oregon Hockey Inc, the Oregon Youth Hockey program, high school hockey, and the skating school. Other activities held in the rink are open skate, family skate, open hockey, and speed skating. In addition to the skating facilities there is also a 150-person capacity Angela Drake community room.
- Foxboro Golf Course is a public 18-hole course located on Wolfe Street (CTH MM).
- Bergamont Golf Course is a private 18-hole course located in the southwestern portion of the Village. This facility also includes a practice range, chipping green, putting green, clubhouse, pool, tennis, and fitness center.

H. Existing Recreation Areas in the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction

There are three parks in the Town of Oregon located near the Village of Oregon:

- The 7.9-acre Kennedy Park is located in the Fahey Heights subdivision at the end of Kennedy Park Road off of Highway MM. The park is mostly open ground with playground equipment near the road.
- The 20-acre Bicentennial Park is south of the Village and on the west side of Highway MM and across from the Fahey Heights subdivision. This is a conservation park with mostly wooded areas.
- The 24-acre Town Park is southwest of the Village on Glenway Road. This is a walking park with playground equipment.

Insert Map 1 Existing Facilities

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IV GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

In order to conduct a thorough and accurate planning process, it is important to establish a set of goals, objectives, and policies that will serve as the basis for the recommendations in this Plan.

Goals are broad statements that express general public priorities. Goals are formulated based on the identification of key issues, opportunities, and problems that affect the park system.

Objectives are more specific than goals and are generally attainable through strategic planning and implementation activities. Implementation of an objective contributes to the fulfillment of a goal.

Policies are rules and courses of action used to ensure plan implementation. Policies often accomplish a number of objectives.

The Village of Oregon's long range recreational goals and objectives are based upon a continuing concern for quality recreational facilities and for the future growth and development of the community. Recreational goals beyond the current 5-year planning period must be a result of a periodic re-examination of this plan, a review of the adequacy of facilities and area, as well as a review of recreational demand. The following list of goals, objectives, and policies is based on the information that has been presented in previous chapters of this Plan.

A. Goals

- 1) Ensure the provision of a sufficient number of parks, recreational facilities, and natural areas to enhance the health and welfare of Village residents and visitors while maintaining existing parks and equipment. Such facilities should accommodate special groups such as minorities, the elderly, the handicapped, and teenagers.
- 2) Preserve the Village's natural resources and amenities for the benefit of current and future residents and visitors.

B. Objectives

- 1) The type of park facilities must be scaled to the needs of the area and population served both present and future.
- 2) The various types of park facilities must be available and reasonably accessible to all social and economic groups and geographic areas of the community.
- 3) Acquisition of parklands must occur in advance of development to provide for reasonable acquisition costs and facilitate site planning.
- 4) Preservation of the lowlands, wooded lots, natural waterways and marshes in their natural state must receive special attention to insure their maintenance as wildlife and fish habitats, as natural drainage areas, and as reservoirs for sedimentation deposits. Particular attention should be given to linking the community's high and low areas so as to preserve and enhance the community's water resources.
- 5) The Park Plan must reflect the community's financial program, but should be flexible enough to take advantage of any financial opportunities that may occur.
- 6) Park and recreational facilities may be combined with school facilities where possible.

- 7) Planning must be coordinated among local agencies, (e.g. Village Board, Park Board, Planning Commission, civic organizations, Village Administrator, Director of Public Works, Village Engineer, and adjacent town governments) to insure unity on the implementation of the Park Plan.
- 8) The Park Plan must be coordinated with the land acquisition, land use control and planning programs of all federal, state, county and local agencies concerned with parks and conservation.

C. Policies

- 1) The Village should be sensitive to potential acquisition of recreational land inside and outside its present boundaries. This is particularly important when and where a recreational resource can be preserved for future use, or development pressures indicate that a site will eventually serve a neighborhood.
- 2) The dedication of suitable parkland by developers will be strictly enforced. The Village will insure all areas of the Village will be adequately served by parks. A combination of fee in-lieu-of land and land dedication may be acceptable with the agreement of the Park and Village Boards.
- 3) The Park Board will review all plans of possible residential development of any lands inside the boundaries of, or being considered for annexation to the Village of Oregon for the need of parkland dedications. This statement is intended to insure that areas not designated in this plan as proposed or potential locations for future parks are not overlooked when a developer designs a plan for their properties.
- 4) Careful consideration will be given when any areas such as (private) golf course, water flow, water detention or retention areas, or greenways are proposed by developers to meet the requirements of the parkland dedication formula. These types of areas will not be considered suitable for use as parkland.
- 5) Acquisition and development during the plan period should be guided to meet recreational demands, service area and acreage requirements. The Village shall not plan their recreational facilities on the basis of dedications but shall aggressively meet demands and needs through acquisition and development.
- 6) The Village shall develop a 5-year Capital Improvements Program which will be subject to periodic review. The annual cost of maintaining neighborhood parks and playgrounds, community facilities, and open spaces shall be included in the annual budget process with input from the Oregon Park Board.



- 7) The Village shall consider recreation facilities for Oregon's elderly residents.
- 8) The Village shall make maximum use of all grants and assistance available to aid the acquisition and development of parks and recreational areas. Grants available for 2011 include Land and Water Conservation Fund Act Program (LAWCON), Aids for Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP), Urban Green Space Program (UGS), Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP), Streambank Protection Program (SPP), Open Project Selection Process (OPSP), Stewardship Grants.
- 9) The Village should continue to ensure that existing park facilities are upgraded to comply with American with Disabilities Act design guidelines. Future parks should be designed to be barrier-free and accessible to persons with disabilities.
- 10) Improvements to existing parks or development of new parks must include features to help the handicapped, such as ramps, traction walkways, grab rails, special seating, and special playground equipment. Currently, many handicapped individuals are restricted from both passive and active recreation opportunities.
- 11) The Village shall concentrate on providing facilities for "lifetime" recreational activities. These are activities both young and old can enjoy, such as horseshoes, volleyball, hiking, jogging, skating, and tennis.
- 12) Civic and service organizations, along with neighborhood associations, shall be approached for help in defraying costs and assisting with maintenance of facilities.
- 13) The Village shall encourage the continued preservation of open spaces, greenways, wetlands, woodlands, and scenic areas.

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V PARK AND RECREATION STANDARDS

In order to guide the park planning process, it is important to establish a set of minimum standards for park and recreational facilities. Such standards enable a community to quantitatively measure how well its existing facilities are meeting the needs of residents and to plan for future facilities based on projected population growth. As such, park and recreation standards are commonly expressed as a ratio of the number of minimum acres recommended per 1,000 residents. For example, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommends that for every 1,000 residents, a community should provide 1 to 2 acres of neighborhood parks.

Although such national standards provide acceptable target guidelines for the provision of parks and open spaces, a more thorough and accurate analysis of Oregon's park system must emphasize the *local* demand for recreational resources. Therefore, a calculation of community-specific standards is more likely to identify those park system deficiencies that would not otherwise be captured by universal standards. Furthermore, a locally-derived standard will do a better job of taking into account the *quality* of the park system as well as the quantity of parklands provided.

It should be noted that some existing Village parks may not meet the standards suggested in this Chapter. The standards listed under each park type are intended to be used as guidelines when developing new recreational facilities; park size, neighborhood recreation needs, unique site features, and other factors should also be considered.

A. Mini Parks/Tot Lots

General Description: These parks offer specialized facilities that serve a centralized or limited population or specific group such as young children or senior citizens.

Recommended Service Area: Less than ¼ mile in residential areas

Desirable Size: Up to 1.5 acres

Acres per 1,000 Population: 0.25 – 0.5 acres

Basic Facilities and Activities:

- Coordinated play equipment and structures for pre-school and elementary school age children
- Conversation and sitting areas arranged to permit easy surveillance by parents
- Landscaped areas that provide buffering and shade
- Lighting for security at night (full cut-off fixtures should be used)
- Parking is typically not required

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- Suited for intense development
- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Located in close proximity to residential development
- Accessible by walking or biking
- Well buffered by open space and/or landscape plantings and separated from roadways by physical barriers, such as fences

B. Neighborhood Parks

General Description: These parks are designed specifically to accommodate residents living within the service area. They are often characterized by active recreational facilities such as baseball and soccer fields, but can also incorporate passive recreational areas for picnicking and nature-study.

Recommended Service Area: ½-mile radius uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers

Desirable Size: 1.5 to 10 acres; 5-10 acres is optimal

Acres per 1,000 Population: 1-2 acres

Basic Facilities & Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as playfields, tennis courts, softball/baseball fields, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ice-skating rinks
- Passive recreational facilities such as picnic/sitting areas and nature study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms
- Lighting for security at night
- Off-street parking based on intended uses

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Accessible by walking or biking

C. Community Parks

General Description: Community parks are intermediate in size and are able to accommodate visitors from the surrounding community and multiple neighborhoods. These sites focus on both the developed aspects of the park, such as playfields and tennis courts, as well as the natural-resource amenities.

Recommended Service Area: 2 miles

Desirable Size: As needed to accommodate desired uses; 30-50 acres is optimal

Acres per 1,000 Population: 5-8 acres

Basic Facilities & Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, biking/walking/skiing trails, playfields, playgrounds, tennis courts, softball/baseball fields, soccer fields, and basketball courts, including lighted fields
- Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and nature study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms
- Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park
- Community Center building with multi-use rooms for crafts, theater, restrooms, social activities, and senior adult use
- Lighting for security at night
- Adequate off-street parking spaces, where the size of the park and the neighborhood context allow

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- May include natural areas, such water bodies or wooded areas
- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Accessible by walking or biking

D. Special Facilities

General Description: Special Facilities enhance an overall park and open space system by maintaining and improving the community's natural resource base, accommodating special activities that aren't included in other parks, and providing interconnections between isolated parks and recreation areas. Special Facilities often cannot be measured by a quantifiable standard because of their unique and diverse contributions to the community.

Examples of Special Facilities are varied but can include those lands that accommodate passive or special recreational activities, such as golf courses, sledding/skiing hills, marinas, beaches, display gardens, arboreta, and outdoor amphitheaters, as well as lands that have been protected for their environmental significance or sensitivity and provide limited opportunity for recreational use. Examples of the latter may include water bodies, floodplains, wetlands, shorelands and shoreland setback areas, drainage ways, stormwater management basins, conveyance routes, environmental corridors, wildlife habitat, areas of rare or endangered plant or animal species, prairie remnants, and restoration areas.

Recommended Service Area: Variable—depends on function

Desirable Size: Variable—depends on function

Acres Per 1,000 Population: Variable—most Special Facilities are not included in the overall community calculation of park and recreation space per 1,000 persons

Basic Facilities and Activities: Variable, but some may include:

- Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, skiing hills, biking/walking/skiing trails, skating rinks, and golf courses
- Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and natural study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, equipment storage/rental, concessions, and restrooms
- Signage, trail markers, trash receptacles, information booths
- Lighting for security at night
- Adequate off-street parking spaces, where the size of the park and the neighborhood context allow

E. School Parks

General Description: School parks have many of the same characteristics as neighborhood or community parks, depending on their size. As such, school parks primarily serve as locations for active recreational facilities associated with school functions; however, these sites can and do benefit the surrounding community during off-school hours. These parks may be owned and maintained by the municipality or the school district, but are open to all neighborhood residents.

Recommended Service Area: Variable – depends on function

Desirable Size: Variable – depends on function

Acres per 1,000 Population: Variable – depends on function

Basic Facilities & Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as playfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ice-skating rinks, including lighted fields
- Passive recreational facilities such as picnic/sitting areas and nature study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms
- Lighting for security at night
- Adequate on-street and off-street parking spaces

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Accessible by walking or biking

F. Trails and Bike Routes

General Description: Recreation trails and bike routes accommodate various outdoor activities, such as biking, hiking, walking, jogging, horseback riding, nature study, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. A well-designed park system provides connections between parks and open space lands and effectively integrates urban and suburban areas with the surrounding natural environment by linking off-street trail segments with on-street bike routes. Recreation trails can be designed to serve different functions and to accommodate various, and sometimes conflicting, activities.

Treatment in this Plan: There are generally two types of trails and bike paths: on-street bike facilities and off-street recreation paths. Both are described below.

On-Street Bicycle Facilities

General Description: There are two primary types of on-street bicycle facilities: bicycle lanes and paved shoulders. Bicycle lanes are areas of the road striped off for exclusive use by bicyclists. They are the preferred bicycle facility for urban arterial and higher volume collector streets (generally more than 2,000 vehicles per day). Striping bicycle lanes establishes designated traffic channels that promote an orderly flow by both bicyclists and motorists. Typically, bicycle lanes are established on roadways that are 32 feet or wider with no on-street parking. Shared bicycle/parking lanes generally function well where sufficient space is provided and the parking turnover rate is not too high.

Paved shoulders are not a bicycle facility per se, but rather a roadway condition that improves bicycle travel and bicyclist safety. They function much like a bicycle lane by separating the motor vehicle travel from bikes. Paved shoulders are ideal for higher volume streets or highways (more than 1,000 vehicles per day) with rural cross sections (i.e. no curb and gutter).

Linear Miles per 1,000 Population: N/A

Off-Street Recreation Trails

General Description: there are two primary types of off-street recreation trails: multi-use paths and rural walking/hiking trails. Multi-use paths are designed to accommodate bicyclists, walkers, runners, and in-line skaters. Such facilities are often located along railroad rights-of-way, rivers and lakeshores, and through parks and environmental corridors. Rural trails provide connections between urbanized areas, and access to parks to open space areas. Walkways may be restricted to pedestrian use because of environmental conditions. In certain locations, they may also be suitable for equestrian and/or bicycle use. Rural walkways are often sited along creeks, streams, rivers, field boundaries, and other natural linear systems.

Linear Miles per 1,000 Population: The provision of trails is best related to an analysis of supply versus demand and the size of the community, rather than a single quantitative standard. However, a commonly accepted minimum standard for recreation corridors is 0.16 linear miles per 1,000 population.

Trailheads

General Description: Trailheads can provide visible access points to major off-street paths in the community's system. They generally provide a parking area, locational and directional maps or other information about the trail system. Some might contain restroom facilities, picnic tables, or benches for snacks or breaks. Such facilities should be sited with easy and direct access to the trail system.

Treatment in this Plan: This Plan will make general recommendations regarding the future location of trailheads. Suggestions will be based upon both existing and proposed park facilities and parking locations.

Number of Facilities per 1,000 Population: N/A

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VI PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The short and long term recommendations in this Plan are realistic and implemental. The Village of Oregon must establish which of these recommendations have the highest priority. The community's outdoor recreation needs and priorities in the next five years are closely tied to the rate at which the Village grows. This will exert considerable influence as to whether or not acreage will be purchased in the recommended locations and whether specific improvements are to be carried out.

A. Public Open House

As part of the planning process for this Plan, a public open house was held on June 1, 2011, to provide Village residents with an opportunity to share their perspectives on the existing park system and its future, and to ask questions about the park planning process.

A compilation of the input received at the open house suggests that participants are concerned about preserving the rural character of the community, the impacts of organized sports in neighborhood parks, and maintaining the existing park system. Additionally, regarding future recreational facilities, participants suggested the following:

- Expanding fields for organized sports.
- Ensuring adequate parking and bathroom facilities in the new Jaycee Park.
- Adding bathrooms in parks.
- Expanding the trail network.
- Developing leashed dog parks.

B. Public Hearing

A public hearing was held on June 20, 2011 to allow residents to comment on the Draft 2011 Park and Recreation Plan.

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VII ANALYSIS OF EXISTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

This report analyzes existing recreational facilities in the Village of Oregon to determine whether current recreational needs are being met. The adequacy of the Village's existing park and recreation system will be evaluated in the following ways:

There are four methodologies which can be used to analyze the Village's current and future outdoor recreational needs. The most common is to relate spatial park needs to numbers of people. The second appraises each park's serviceability of the age groups most likely to use the facilities. The third calculates future demand for facilities and activities based upon recognized public demand. The fourth does not attempt to quantify need, but to identify and preserve valuable land for parks. The definitions, standards, and other criteria outlined earlier in this report have been applied in this analysis.

- Development and application of local park acreage standards to reliable population projections for the Village (quantitative analysis).
- A qualitative analysis of the Village's park system based on both an understanding of the Village's goals and objectives and an evaluation of the local demand for parkland and recreational facilities.
- An analysis of the geographic distribution and accessibility of park and open space systems.
- A consideration of public input regarding the future of the Village's park and open space system.
- A review of Wisconsin's State Outdoor Recreation Plan and Dane County's Park Plan.

The results of this analysis will serve as the basis for recommendations presented in the next Chapter of this Plan.

A. Quantitative Analysis

The following table presents a comparison of the local standards (acres per 1,000 persons) to the Village's existing park system. As indicated in Table 9, the Village currently has 22.5 acres of developed mini park/tot lot, neighborhood, community, and school parks and open space areas per 1,000 residents. It should be noted that for the purposes of this analysis elementary and intermediate school parklands were classified as neighborhood parks and that 70 acres of Keller Alpine Meadows Park was considered to be "developed." The public middle and high school facilities (except Jaycee Park East) were not included in this calculation as they serve special recreation purposes and are mostly used for school district activities. Based upon these calculations, the Village currently has a sufficient amount of mini, neighborhood, and community parkland.

In general, NRPA standards recommend a minimum of approximately ten acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. It should be noted, however, that national standards do not factor in characteristics of individual communities. Therefore, it is appropriate and necessary for each community to develop their own local park standard. Local standards have been applied in the analysis in this plan.

Table 9: Park Acreage Analysis, 2011

Park Type	2011 Total Acres	2011 Acres per 1,000 persons*	Local Standard Acres Per 1,000 persons
Mini Parks/Tot Lots	0.67	0.1	0.1
Neighborhood Parks**	59.44	6.4	6.4
Community Parks	147.53	16.0	16.0
Total	207.65	22.5	22.5
Special Use Parks	88.56	N/A	N/A
Total	310.99	N/A	N/A

* Based on 2010 population estimate (8,840)

** For the purposes of this analysis, elementary and intermediate Oregon School District facilities are considered neighborhood parks

B. Qualitative Analysis

Recreation demand was measured qualitatively by discussing demand with the Oregon Park Board. The methodology used involves estimating what types of activities and areas are in demand and who will use them. This approach most closely matches facilities with current and future needs and the recreation activities of the residents.

A close examination of the park inventory indicates that there are four Village areas with a present and/or future need for neighborhood recreation areas or better access to existing facilities. The four areas are located surrounding the Village on all four sides. Three of these areas are within or on the edge of the current Village boundaries. All of these areas are experiencing subdivision growth. Included in the areas mentioned above where residential development is likely to occur in and around the Village, there are three areas outside the Village which may be developed and which would eventually require the services of a recreational area. The Village shall plan accordingly through its extraterritorial plat review process.

One important factor in meeting needs and planning for the future is to conserve and preserve potential recreation lands. It is never too early to think in terms of acquiring potential parkland. Scenic hilltops and glens, wooded areas, wetlands, streams, and well-located parcels are frequently attractive for development. This competition for potential recreation land necessitates that local units of government and regional agencies plan to acquire and protect these resources.

The quantitative analysis presented in the previous section considers public elementary and intermediate schools as neighborhood parks. There are no set standards or guidelines for classifying school open space areas; however, in the Village of Oregon, school facilities serve many of the recreational needs of the residential neighborhoods that immediately surround them. It should be recognized that school facilities are not consistently open to the public, and school sponsored activities are given first priority when it comes to the scheduling and use of these facilities. For this reason, it is important for the Village to provide and maintain an adequate number of its own facilities and parklands to accommodate programming needs and to meet local demand.

According to the results of the public participation process, the Village's existing park system is deficient in fields for organized sports (e.g. soccer fields, softball fields, etc) and fenced dog park facilities.

C. Geographic Analysis

The location and distribution of parks and recreational facilities provides a good indication of how well the existing park system is meeting the needs of the Village's residents. A neighborhood recreation area has limited usefulness if its access is blocked by a heavily traveled thoroughfare. It is obvious that the extent to which an area is frequented is heavily dependent upon its effective service area.

To illustrate this distribution, Map 2 depicts the service areas of the Village's parks. The service areas on Map 2 are based on the NRPA standards identified in Chapter V of this Plan. The old Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Corridor, Main Street, Janesville Street, Jefferson Street (C.T.H. CC), Netherwood Street, Oak Street and C.T.H. MM are considered pedestrian barriers.

An analysis of Map 2 suggests that existing parks are generally well distributed throughout the Village. Still, in a number of cases, access problems significantly restrict service areas. Also, while the far western portion of the Bergamont neighborhood is not served by public parkland, the development has private recreation facilities.

D. Review of Existing Plans

Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (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. The Village of Oregon is located in the Southern Gateways Planning Region.

One of the primary purposes of the SCORP is to identify shortfalls in recreation facilities across the state. This identification process relies on both primary data gathering techniques such as surveys, local park and recreation plans, as well as anecdotal comments on recreation user perceptions.

In the Southern Gateways Planning Region, the SCORP identifies the following nature-based supply shortages: backcountry/walk-in camping; carry-in boat launches; parks; natural areas; public water access; and hiking and horseback riding trails. The SCORP also includes the following developed recreation supply shortages: trailerable boat launches; educational camps; dog parks, ice skating rinks; nature centers; picnic areas; sailboat clubs and rentals; tennis courts; tennis programs; and bicycle trails.

Several recreation needs are common throughout the state. Common deficiencies within the nature-based category include a shortage of parks, camping, carry-in boat launches, and certain trail types. These elements are, for the most part, provided at a federal, state, or county level of development. Within the developed setting category, local shortages such as basketball courts, ice skating rinks, trailerable boat launches, and dog parks are the most common.

At the time of writing, the State Department of Natural Resources was in the process of preparing the 2011-2016 SCORP. The following six elements outline the planning process to be used in the updated Plan. The Village should review the updated SCORP after adoption to understand how it can address state-wide recreational needs at the local level.

A. Goals and Objectives in Outdoor Recreation Planning

B. Demand for Outdoor Recreation in Wisconsin

- C. Outdoor Recreation, Health, and Wellness: Understanding and Enhancing the Relationship
- D. The Evaluation of Urban Park and Greenway Open Spaces
- E. Connecting Urban and Rural Populations to Open Space Lands for Recreation and Conservation
- F. Wetlands Planning Summary

Dane County Park and Open Space Plan

At the time of writing, Dane County was in the process of updating its Parks & Open Space Plan. The current Dane County Parks & Open Space Plan 2006-2011 seeks to identify significant cultural, historical, and natural resources that should be considered for possible protection, preservation or restoration over the five year planning period. The current Plan identifies countywide recreation needs and Dane County's role in providing facilities to meet anticipated demands. In response to public input and forecasted residential growth, a new 129-acre county park is proposed in the south-central region of the County immediately south of the Village of Oregon. This new park is described in Chapter VIII. The Plan also recommends a number of off-road bicycle and pedestrian trails connecting the Village of Oregon to Madison, Stoughton, Verona, and the Village of Brooklyn.

E. Future Park System Needs

Based upon the analyses provided in this Chapter, the Village's local minimum standard for park acreage is **22.5 acres per 1,000 persons** for mini parks/tot lots, neighborhood parks, and community parks. Broken down by park type, the minimum standards per 1,000 persons are 0.1 acres for mini parks/tot lots, 6.4 acres for neighborhood parks, and 16 acres for community parks.

Tables 10 and 11 define the additional park and open space acreage needed to accommodate the Village's projected population through the planning period (2016) and long-term (2030).

Minimal additional parkland is recommended by 2016. As growth occurs, the Village will need to create additional neighborhood parks to meet the needs of new and existing residents. While the projections call for an additional 15.8 acres of community parkland by 2016, it is anticipated that the existing facilities will meet the needs of some additional future population. However, the Village intends to maintain the local standard of 16 acres of developed community parkland in the long term. This would mean expanding existing community park facilities or planning a new community park to serve growth areas. A new park could be developed incrementally as land develops and population grows.

Table 10: Park Acreage Needs: Mini Parks/Tot Lots, Neighborhood, and Community Parks, 2016

Park Type	Village Standard Acres Per 1,000 persons	Recommended Acreage based on Acres per 1,000 persons*	2011 Total Acres	Minimum Additional Acres Needed by 2016
Mini Parks/Tot lots	0.1	1.06	0.67	0.39
Neighborhood Parks	6.4	68.13	59.44	8.69
Community Parks	16.0	170.32	147.53	22.79
Total	22.5	239.51	207.6	31.9

* Based on 2016 population estimate (10,645)

Table 11: Park Acreage Needs: Mini Parks/Tot Lots, Neighborhood, and Community Parks, 2030

Park Type	Village Standard Acres Per 1,000 persons	Recommended Acreage based on Acres per 1,000 persons*	2011 Total Acres	Minimum Additional Acres Needed by 2030
Mini Parks/Tot Lots	0.1	1.39	0.67	0.72
Neighborhood Parks	6.4	89.24	59.44	29.79
Community Parks	16.0	223.09	147.53	75.56
Total	22.5	313.72	207.6	106.07

* Based on 2030 population estimate (13,943)

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Insert Map 2 Park Service Areas

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VIII RECOMMENDED PARK AND OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

The short and long term recommendations in this Plan are realistic and implemental. The Village of Oregon must establish which of these recommendations have the highest priority. The community's outdoor recreation needs and priorities in the next five years are closely tied to the rate at which the Village grows. This will exert considerable influence as to whether or not acreage will be purchased in the recommended locations and whether specific improvements are to be carried out.

The following recommendations are based on projected growth rates and distributional deficiencies identified in the preceding chapters of this *Plan*. Over the next 20 years, it is recommended that the Village acquire and develop land for two new neighborhood parks. In addition, it is recommended that over the next five years, improvements are made to existing parks.

Based upon 2030 population projections, these recommendations would satisfy NRPA's park and recreation standards, as well as the Village's local park standards. The timing of parkland acquisitions and development should coincide with the actual demand for recreational facilities in the Village's developed and newly developing areas. Proactive identification of lands suitable for active parks, or natural areas worthy of conservation, is recommended early in the development process.

A. Recommended Additional Parklands

Map 3 shows the approximate locations for future neighborhood parks in the Village. More precise park boundaries will be determined during the preparation of detailed neighborhood plans and when lands are acquired or platted. Following are general descriptions of the park recommendations.

Recommended Mini Parks/ Tot Lots

Mini parks or tot lots tend to be maintenance intensive and receive minimal use. The acquisition of mini parks or tot lots is not recommended, with the following exceptions:

- High need is defined within a neighborhood which is not served by a neighborhood park and open space is not sufficient for a neighborhood park.
- As development occurs, the Village should incorporate mini parks into the design of office, commercial, and mixed-use districts. Mini parks located in these areas should be oriented more towards adults than children, providing open areas to eat lunch, read the newspaper, and take a break from working or shopping. These parks may include paved areas, but should also accommodate some green space. Trees, landscaping, and water features should be incorporated into these park spaces wherever possible.

Recommended Neighborhood Parks

Additional acquisition of approximately 9 acres of neighborhood parkland is recommended by 2016 as the Village's population increases. Recommended general locations for short term (within 10 years) and long term (beyond 10 years) future neighborhood parks are identified on Map 3; proposed short term neighborhood parks are also described below. However, the precise boundaries of these sites may not be decided until development occurs and/or land is acquired or platted. The development of these lands will include, where appropriate, park shelters, restroom areas and playground equipment. Areas to play basketball, tennis and volleyball will be considered where space permits, as well as passive recreational activities.

- **Northeast portion of the Village:** This site is located to the north of Richards Road and east of the cemetery. This area is part of the Merri-Hill subdivision and will have residential development in the future. This Park shall be a neighborhood park with a minimum area of 5 acres up to the maximum of 10 acres as per the village planning methodology as stated previously. The Village will consider incorporating an off-street parking lot into this park which will be developed in conjunction with the Rustic Vineyards Park previously mentioned.
- **Southeast area of the Village:** A park site is needed in the southeast area of the Village. Consideration shall be given to a portion of the Oregon Land LLC property when and if it is annexed to the Village and developed. This area borders on the Autumn Woods Fairway Estates and Ridge View subdivisions. This park should be a neighborhood park with a minimum area of 5 acres up to a maximum of 10 acres as per the Village planning methodology as stated previously.
- **West of the Village:** Any development or annexation to the west of the Village should be seriously considered for the need of suitable park space.

Recommended Community Parks

While the projections call for an additional 23 acres of community parkland by 2016, it is anticipated that the existing facilities will meet the needs of some additional future population. Specifically, the Village will continue to add recreational facilities to Keller Alpine Meadow as outline in Chapter III. However, the Village intends to maintain the local standard of 16 acres of community parkland in the long term. This would mean expanding existing community park facilities or planning a new community park to serve growth areas. A new park could be developed incrementally as land develops and population grows.

Dog Park

In recent years, dog parks have become a popular and common component of community park systems. These fenced-off areas provide no-leash zones where community residents can take their dogs to run and socialize with other dogs in a safe and appropriate environment. Ideally, parks should be centrally located and should be at least one-acre in size. The Park Board intends to explore potential



locations for a future fenced dog park. It is recommended that the Village engage local dog owners in the planning and development of these facilities. Encouraging a community group to sponsor dog parks and to take a major role in the on-going maintenance of these facilities will help ensure the long-term success of the park. Charging a nominal annual fee is a common way for municipalities to fund the on-going maintenance of dog parks.

Future County Park

Dane County is proposing a new 129-acre park in the Town of Oregon on the east side of Union Road between the Village limits at CTH A. The exact uses and facilities in this park have yet to be determined. At the time of writing, the County was working on a master plan for the property.

B. Recommended Trails

Map 3 depicts recommended future on road and off road bike trails. These proposed would complement the existing bike route system and connect the recommended recreational facilities described above. Additionally, the proposed trails would connect regional recreational facilities including a new off-road biking route from Downtown Oregon to the Badger State Trail. This trail offers residents of the region enhanced access to existing state natural areas and establishes a key linkage in a network that could connect Verona, Brooklyn, Fitchburg, Stoughton, and McFarland. It would also create another connecting loop between the Badger State Trail and Capital Springs Trail.

Design Guidelines

Although this Plan presents general recommendations regarding locations for future trails and bike routes, more formal and detailed recommendations regarding type and location would require more in-depth analyses of the Village's road network, including traffic patterns and street widths. Design standards for both types of trails and bike routes are described below.

Desirable Design Criteria for Multi-Use Paths:

- In urban areas, paths should be a minimum of ten feet to accommodate two-way bicycle traffic. Paved surfacing is recommended to facilitate bike, walking, running, and skating.
- In rural areas, the path should be a minimum of eight feet wide, surfaced with limestone screenings or similar material.
- Avoid placement alongside roadways where multiple cross-streets and driveways are or will be present.



Desirable Design Criteria for Bicycle Lanes:

- Minimum width should be 4 feet, or 5 feet along an arterial street.
- When used along side a parking lane, should be at least 5 feet wide and located to the traffic side of the parking lane.
- Where bike lanes and on-street parking is provided, minimum combined width should be 11 feet (13 feet where there is substantial parking or turnover of parked cars is high).

- Lanes painted with a bicycle pavement symbol or the words “bike lane” according to American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards.
- Street signs should be used to identify bicycle lanes.

Desirable Design Criteria for Paved Shoulders:

- Minimum width should be 4 feet, or 5 feet where traffic speeds exceed 50 miles per hour.
- A stripe separating shoulder from roadway is recommended.
- These are generally not marked as an exclusive bike facility.
- Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards.
- Street signs should be used to identify bicycle lanes.

Desirable Design Criteria for Rural Walking/Hiking Trails: Because these trail facilities often travel through sensitive environmental areas, they are generally not paved. Rather, they are surfaced with crushed limestone, wood chips, hard packed earth, or mowed grass.

C. Recommended Improvements to Existing Parks

In addition to the recommendations presented in the previous sections of this Chapter, which mainly focus on the acquisition and development of new parklands in the Village, recommendations for improvements to existing parks and open spaces are as follows:

1. The Village intends to continue to develop and maintain existing parks. All parks will be continually improved to include playground equipment, picnic tables, benches, trash containers, landscaping, and wood chip fall zones. Civic and service organizations, along with neighborhood associations, will be approached to assist in defraying costs for neighborhood park equipment. Specifically, the Village intends to further develop Lerner Conservation and Keller Alpine Meadows Parks.
2. The Village should develop master plans for each of its community parks. These master plans should indicate current use and conditions of the facilities, equipment, and park grounds. Once established, these master plans form the basis for developing a capital improvements program. The Village is currently working on a master plan for Oregon Jaycee Park while the School District is preparing a master plan for Jaycee Park East.
3. The Park Board and Village staff should work closely with the Plan Commission to locate neighborhood parks when detailed neighborhood plans are prepared for undeveloped areas.
4. Continue to participate in regional and county planning efforts, particularly through implementation of the Oregon portion of Dane County’s park and open space plan and working with the County and regional organizations on bicycle and pedestrian trail links.
5. The Village should reevaluate parkland dedication requirements, parkland acquisition fees, and park improvement fees in its Land Division Code based on recommendations in this Plan.

Insert Map 3 Future Facilities

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IX COST ESTIMATES FOR FUTURE FACILITIES

This chapter contains detailed capital cost estimates for new park and recreational facilities recommended in this *Plan*. The information is intended to assist the Village with budgeting and planning for future parks and to satisfy 66.0617 and 236.29 of the Wisconsin Statutes regarding parkland dedication, fees-in-lieu of dedication, and playground improvement fee collection. However, the adoption of this *Plan* does not commit the Village of Oregon to collecting these fees through an ordinance.

A. Cost Estimates for Future Park and Recreational Facilities

The following cost estimates for future park and recreational facilities are based on the following assumptions:

- According to State Statutes, park fees must be used within 10 years of collection; therefore, these calculations are based on the amount of parkland needed to serve new residents within that 10 year period (i.e., from 2011 to 2021);
- According to State Statutes, the Village cannot require land dedication for special use parks. In addition, mini-parks/tot lots were not included in these calculations as this park type is not recommended except under the circumstances outlined in the previous chapter. Therefore, calculations are based on the Village's standard of 22.4 acres of parkland per 1,000 persons for neighborhood and community parks; and

Based on these assumptions, the Village should plan to spend an estimated \$2,623,000 (2011 dollars) for parkland acquisition. Assuming the addition of 873 households, a fee-in-lieu of land dedication of \$3,005 per new dwelling unit would meet this demand. The alternative dedication of 2,646 square feet (0.0607 acres) per dwelling unit would satisfy this requirement, if land dedication were preferred. However, land dedication per this provision must be suitable for the development of a neighborhood or community park. The process for arriving at these calculations is described in Table 12 below.

Table 12: Projected Parkland Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication

Calculation	
A. Projected Population Increase from 2011 to 2021	2,356 individuals
B. Projected Dwelling Units Increase from 2011 to 2021 (Based on Current Average Household Size of 2.7)	873 dwelling units
C. Additional Acres Needed to Accommodate Population Increase ((Row A/1000)*22.4)	53 acres
D. Land Dedication Requirement per Dwelling Unit (Row C/Row B)	0.0607 acres per dwelling unit (2,646 square feet)
E. Land Cost per Acre Estimate	\$45,000
F. Projected Cost of Land Acquisition (Row C*Row E)	\$2,385,000
G. Legal, Engineering, and Design Costs (Row F*10%)	\$238,500
H. Total Land Acquisition Cost (Row F + Row G)	\$2,623,500
I. Calculated Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication per Dwelling Unit (Row H/Row B)	\$3,005

B. Cost Estimates for Future Playground Improvements

Each park type should have a minimum amount of playground equipment/opportunities available. The cost of certain playground equipment varies by park type and age range of the intended users. Equipment in neighborhood parks is intended for younger children and the equipment available in larger parks should accommodate a wider age range of children. However, State law currently restricts the type of park improvements for which a community may collect fees. Table 13 outlines the collectable playground costs for neighborhood and community parks in Oregon. A cost of \$854 per dwelling unit would be required to cover playground improvement costs.

Table 13: Projected Playground Improvements by Park Type

	Calculation	Neighborhood	Community
A.	Cost of Play Equipment per Park	\$25,000	\$50,000
B.	Cost of Benches per Park	\$6,000	\$12,000
C.	Total Estimated Cost (Row A + Row B)	\$31,000	\$62,000
D.	Typical Park Size (based on NRPA standards)	5	25
E.	Average Improvement Cost per Acre (Row C/Row D)	\$6,200	\$2,480
F.	Landscape Cost per Acre	\$1,500	\$1,500
G.	Sidewalk Cost Per Acre (within parkland)	\$9,000	\$9,000
H.	Average Improvement Cost per Acre (Rows E+F+G)	\$16,700	\$12,980
I.	Acres per 1,000 Residents (based on Village standard on page 36)	6.4	16.0
J.	Percentage of Cost Allotted to 1,000 New Residents (Row I/22.4)	29%	71%
K.	Average Improvement Cost per Acre (= \$16,700*29% + \$12,980*71%)	\$14,059	

Table 14: Projected Playground Fees

Calculation	Value
A. Projected Additional Population in 2021 (individuals)	2,356
B. Projected Additional Dwelling Units in 2021 (dwelling units)	873
C. Calculated Additional Acres Needed ((Row A/1000)*22.5)	53
D. Average Park Playground Improvement Cost per Acre Estimate (Row K from Table 13)	\$14,059
E. Projected Cost of Playground Improvements (Row C*Row D)	\$745,127
F. Calculated Playground Improvement Cost per Dwelling Unit (Row E/Row B)	\$854

C. Total Fee

In Oregon, park fees should be imposed on each new dwelling unit unilaterally. By using the fees outlined in Tables 12, 13, and 14 for parklands and playground improvements, **the total park fee per dwelling unit will be \$3,859 (\$3,005+854)**. In instances where development has dedicated lands, the collected fee will be \$854 per dwelling unit.

D. Impact on Low-Income Housing

As part of the public facilities needs assessment process, Wisconsin Statutes 66.0617(4)(a)(3) requires estimating the effect of imposing fees on the availability of affordable housing within the community. For this type of analysis it is first assumed that housing in Oregon is affordable if:

- A monthly mortgage payment consumes no more than 30 percent of a household's adjusted gross income;
- Homeowners borrow no more than 2½ times the Village of Oregon median household income for a home mortgage (which in 2000 was \$78,671 according to U.S. Census American Community Survey data in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars); and
- Homeowners make a minimum down payment of 10 percent of the total home cost.

Based on these assumptions, if an individual spends 2½ times Oregon's median household income for a home mortgage (\$196,678), and makes a 10 percent down payment, an affordable house in the Village of Oregon costs approximately \$216,345. (According to U.S. Census 2005-2009 American Community Survey data, the median value of an owner-occupied housing unit in the Village of Oregon is \$217,000). Assuming a typical single-family detached housing price of \$216,345, a 10 percent down payment, a 30-year mortgage at an interest rate of 6.0 percent, and a mortgage amount of \$196,678, the typical monthly mortgage payment is \$1,179.

The Village's imposed fees for parkland, park improvements, and recreation trails would be an integral part of the housing unit mortgage amount. Based on the recommendations of this Plan, the park fee added to the home mortgage amount is \$3,859. After adding this fee, the mortgage amount for the typical single family detached home would increase to \$200,537; and assuming the same 30-year mortgage at an interest rate of 6.0 percent, the monthly mortgage payment would be \$1,202. This increase in monthly mortgage payments due to the imposition of the park fee is \$23 per month. Therefore, using the assumptions for a home in the Village of Oregon, this study finds that the park fee requirements will have a minimal effect on the provision of affordable housing in the Village.

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X IMPLEMENTATION

Adoption of this plan by the Village is the first step in the implementation process. Following adoption, the Village may wish to appoint a committee to officially establish project priorities and to prepare a capital improvements program, complete with costs and an estimated timetable for implementation. In Oregon, the Park Board might very well handle these tasks.

If the community desires to pursue acquisition and development of parkland, it is recommended that the Community Services Specialist for Southern District of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) be advised as to the Village's eligibility to participate in Federally-sponsored grant programs and other outdoor recreation grant in aid programs. These programs are administered by the Wisconsin DNR and potentially reduce the cost of recreation land acquisition, development, and planning by 50 per cent. The Village may submit an outdoor recreation project to DNR for cost sharing at any time during the 5-year eligibility period. Potential funding sources available to help finance implementation are listed in Appendix A.

Implementation of the Parks Plan is as dependent on citizen support and involvement as it is on monetary assistance. Funding assistance coupled with a community effort to acquire, develop and improve parkland can insure implementation of Oregon's 5-year Outdoor Recreation Plan.

The Village currently requires a dedication of 2,900 square feet of parkland or \$750 per dwelling unit; there is no park improvement fee. The Village's fee in lieu of land is lower than communities of similar size in the region. The Village should reevaluate parkland dedication requirements, parkland acquisition fees, and park improvement fees based on recommendations in this Plan. A commitment to pay these fees should be agreed to as part of Annexation Agreements and should be calculated and applied during the zoning or land division process.

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APPENDIX A OREGON JAYCEE PARK MASTER PLAN



RETTLER corporation
3317 Business Park Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54482
Telephone: 715-341-2633, Fax: 715-341-0431
email: info@rettlr.com web: www.rettl.com

OREGON JAYCEE PARK
PREFERRED CONCEPT PLAN
PARK BOARD MEETING - FEBRUARY 9, 2011
VILLAGE OF OREGON, WISCONSIN

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APPENDIX B OUTSIDE FUNDING SOURCES

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)	To provide funds for land acquisition or development of public nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities (e.g. trails, fishing access, park support facilities).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Funds are allocated on a regional basis with 70% distributed on the basis of each county's proportionate share of the state population and 30% distributed equally to each county.	July 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Priority given to projects that implement state and local comprehensive outdoor recreation plans	Wisconsin DNR	Mary Zickermann South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Urban Green Space Program (UGS)	To provide funds for land acquisition in urban or urbanizing areas to preserve the scenic and ecological values of natural open spaces for nature-based outdoor recreation, including non-commercial gardening.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis	July 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Priority given to projects that implement state and local comprehensive outdoor recreation plans	Wisconsin DNR	Mary Zickermann South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Urban Rivers Grant Program (UR)	To provide funds for land acquisition on or adjacent to rivers flowing through urban or urbanizing areas to preserve or restore the scenic and environmental value of rivers for nature-based outdoor recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The UR has a cap per applicant based on 20% of the total funds allocated to the program each fiscal year.Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis.	July 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Priority for land acquisition or land rights that preserve or restore natural values, including aesthetic values, and enhance environmental quality along urban waterways.	Wisconsin DNR	Mary Zickermann South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR)	To provide funds for acquisition of development rights (easements) for the protection of natural, agricultural, or forestry lands to enhance nature-based outdoor recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis	July 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Priority given to property with frontage on rivers, streams, lakes, or estuaries.	Wisconsin DNR	Mary Zickermann South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	To create parks and open spaces, protect wilderness, wetlands, and refuges, preserve wildlife habitat, and enhance recreational opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">50% local match per project.	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Land acquisition, development, and renovation projects for public outdoor recreation purposes are eligible projects.	Wisconsin DNR	Mary Zickermann South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Recreational Trails Act (RTA)	To provide funds for maintenance, development, rehabilitation, and acquisition of land for motorized, non-motorized, and diversified trails.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maximum \$45,000 funding limitEligible sponsors may be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the total project costs.	June 15	Projects are ranked in order of funding priority: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rehabilitation of existing trails.Trail maintenance.Trail development.Trail acquisition.	Wisconsin DNR	Mary Rothenmeier South Central Region (608) 275-3322
Urban Forestry Grants	To provide funds for tree maintenance, planting, and public awareness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$1,000 to \$25,000 grants awarded with a 50% local match.Match may include in-kind services and donations	October 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Projects may include (but not limited to) development of urban forestry plans, community tree inventories, vegetation ordinances, and urban forestry tree boards or tree action groups	Wisconsin DNR	Jeff Roe Regional Urban Forestry Coordinator (608) 267-3338

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
Safe Routes to School (SRTS)	To provide funds for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, planning and promotional projects near schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">100% federally funded.	Projects solicited in even numbered years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Projects must be within two miles of a kindergarten to 8th Grade school.	WisDOT	Renee Callaway (608) 266-3973

RESOLUTION # 11-11

**ADOPTION OF VILLAGE OF OREGON
2011 PARK AND RECREATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Plan has been completed and thoroughly reviewed at the regular meeting of the Park Board; and

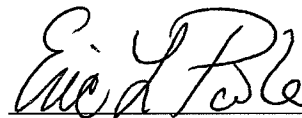
WHEREAS, the plan will serve as a guide for making future decisions related to the expansion and development of needed recreation areas in the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Oregon does hereby go on record to adopt the 2011 Park and Recreation Plan for the Village of Oregon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Board does here by request the Department of Natural Resources to make the community eligible for participation in the LAWCON and ORAP programs.

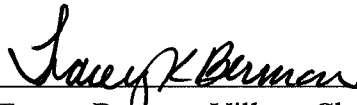
Adopted this 20th day of June, 2011.

Approved:



Eric Poole, Vice-Village President

Attest:



Tracey Berman, Village Clerk

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APPENDIX D PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE VILLAGE OF OREGON PARK AND RECREATION PLAN UPDATE

A Public Open House will be held by the Oregon Park Board on June 1, 2011, from 6:00 to 7:00pm in the Village Hall Community Room, 117 Spring Street to review the proposed updates to the Park and Recreation Plan and receive input from citizens.

A copy of the draft Park and Recreation Plan and maps are on file in the office of the Village Clerk, 117 Spring Street Oregon, Wisconsin and may be inspected between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Additional copies may be inspected at the Oregon Public Library.

Tracey Berman
Village Clerk

Published: May 19, 2011

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APPENDIX E PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Village of Oregon
Public Hearing on Draft 2011 Park and Recreation Plan

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Oregon will hold a public hearing on June 20, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 117 Spring Street before the Park Board and Village Board.

The public hearing will be held to gather public input on the *Village of Oregon Draft 2011 Park and Recreation Plan*. The draft Plan is intended to help guide the acquisition, preservation, and development of land for parks, recreation trails, and other open spaces to meet the needs of Oregon's growing and changing population. It is designed to be used by Village officials as a policy guide to preserve appropriate areas of the Village over the next 20 years.

The draft Plan is available for review at Village Hall and on the Village's website www.vil.oregon.wi.us. Written comments on the draft Plan should be submitted before the public hearing date to the Village Administrator at mgracz@vil.oregon.wi.us. All written comments will be forwarded to the Park Board and Village Board.

Dated this 6th day of June, 2011

Tracey Berman, Village Clerk

Published: June 9, 2011

COMPREHENSIVE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

VILLAGE OF WAUNAKEE, WISCONSIN

ADOPTED DECEMBER 7, 2009



COMPREHENSIVE PARK AND OUTDOOR OPEN SPACE PLAN

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document has been developed to serve as a guide for the Village of Waunakee in planning for the acquisition and improvement of parks, open space, and outdoor recreation facilities for the five-year period 2010 through 2015.

The plan is also intended to be a support document and component of the *Village of Waunakee Comprehensive Plan*. This plan, along with the Village's other long-range plans and development-related ordinances, will be used to implement the Village's park and outdoor recreational facilities program.

The State of Wisconsin requires communities to prepare and adopt a five-year park and outdoor recreation plan in order to maintain eligibility for State and Federal grants and loans. This plan follows the "Guidelines for the Development of Local Governmental Comprehensive Recreation Plans" published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and is intended to meet the WDNR criteria for a local park and outdoor recreation plan.

2. GOALS AND POLICIES

A. PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITY GOALS

1. To provide permanent open space throughout the Village for outdoor recreation and environmental protection.
2. To provide each neighborhood within the Village access to neighborhood parks and playgrounds within safe walking distance.
3. To provide community parks throughout the Village that meet the needs for organized recreational and athletic activities.
4. To provide safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle access between residential neighborhoods, schools, parks, and other recreational sites.
5. To preserve environmental corridors as permanent open space areas.
6. To maintain a park and open space system that is sustainable with respect to annual maintenance and operations costs and servicing capacities of the Village.

B. PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES POLICIES

1. Provide neighborhood park and playground facilities that are safely accessible by children within all developed residential neighborhoods. Neighborhood parks typically range from 2 to 5 acres in size and provide picnic areas, playground equipment, and playfields suitable for informal activities, such as soccer and softball games.
2. Provide sufficient community park facilities to serve community-wide park and outdoor recreation interests. Typically, community parks range from 5 to 20 acres and include picnic facilities, shelters with restroom facilities, and athletic facilities suitable for organized recreational and team sport activities.
3. Utilize drainageways, greenways, and environmental corridors as part of a permanent open space system suitable for passive recreation use, including nature walking, wildlife habitat preservation, and trail development. Such environmental areas are generally not suitable as neighborhood or community parks because of topography and drainage limitations.
4. Coordinate Village park and open space planning and improvements with the Town of Westport, Dane County, and other owners and managers of public, quasi-public and private open space in the community.
5. Require new developments to provide land or fees-in-lieu-of-land sufficient to meet the parkland needs generated by such development, based on park standards adopted in this plan.
6. Collect park impact fees from new developments sufficient to meet the anticipated cost, on a per household basis, of providing park improvements at a level equivalent to the park standards adopted in this plan.

7. Design park facilities to meet the requirements of the American's With Disabilities Act (ADA).
8. Budget sufficient funds for on-going maintenance and operations of park and outdoor recreation facilities. Long-range maintenance and operations costs should be taken into consideration at the time new parklands are acquired through land dedications or other means
9. Investigate the increased use of low-maintenance ground cover in parks and conservancy areas.
10. Incorporate a program of tree planting into neighborhood, community, and special purpose parks.
11. Coordinate periodic updates of the *Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan* with updates of the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Plan*.
12. Establish a process for planning for and funding major regional recreational and athletic facilities that are not a part of the typical community and neighborhood park facilities. Examples of facilities with a broad regional benefit include:

Swimming Pool / Water Park
Indoor Ice Skating / Ice Hockey Facility
Athletic Complex

These are "special purpose" facilities that generally have a targeted user groups and are usually funded by a combination of private and governmental sources.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

The planning process for this plan is part of ongoing efforts by the Village Parks and Recreation Committee and the Village Board to meet the park and recreational needs of the community. Updates of the Village's *Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan* are prepared every 5 to 10 years. The last update was adopted in 2003.

A. PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS

The Parks and Recreation Committee has conducted a series of workshops to review the status of current park and outdoor recreation facilities and discuss methods for meeting future park and outdoor recreation facility needs of the community. As a starting point the Committee reviewed the 2003 plan and evaluated the adequacy of the plan and facilities with respect the changing needs of the community and user needs. These meeting were conducted between April and October, 2009.

The Plan Commission and Parks and Recreation Committee will hold public review meeting on the entire draft prior to approving the plan and recommending adoption by the Plan Commission and Village Board.

B. COMMUNITY SURVEY

A community survey was conducted in the Spring, 2009 to solicit public input on park and outdoor recreation facilities. The following are some of the key respondent characteristics and responses to the survey:

1. The 614 individuals responded, which is equivalent to responses from approximately 15.5 percent of the households in the Village.
2. The majority of respondents were in the range of 36-50 years old, which is the general age group of parents with children using parks and recreation programs.
3. 62.2 percent of the responses were female and 37.8 percent male.
4. All quadrants of the Village are well-represented among the respondents.
5. Respondents indicate that bike and pedestrian paths are the most heavily used recreation facilities in the Village; followed by playground equipment, baseball / softball fields, and soccer fields.
6. Support for additions and improvements to various general categories and classifications of parks and facilities are as follows:
 - Trails (85.8 percent)
 - Conservancy / Natural Areas (71.3 percent)
 - Regional Sports Complex (64.6 percent)
 - Smaller Neighborhood Parks and Playgrounds (58.3 percent)

Larger Community-Wide Parks (56.6 percent)

7. There is generally a high level of satisfaction with respect to park facilities. The only exceptions are some dissatisfaction regarding the outdoor ice skating facilities and lack of trees in parks.
8. There are strong (over 50 percent) constituencies for indoor and outdoor skating / hockey facilities and an outdoor pool / water park.

Note: There is some evidence of coordinated responses favoring these facilities.

9. There is moderately strong (over 40 percent) support for more woodlots / conservancy areas, environmental education facilities, sand volleyball courts, community gardens, and an outdoor performance amphitheater.
10. 93.0 percent of the respondents believe the Waunakee parks are either better or comparable to neighboring communities. 7.0 percent believe the Waunakee parks are worse than neighboring communities.

A full copy of the survey responses is available for public review at the office of the Parks and Recreation Director in the Village Center.

C. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Following approval and recommendation by the Parks and Recreation Committee, the Plan Commission will schedule a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the *Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan* as a component of the Village of Waunakee Comprehensive Plan. Final adoption of the plan will be the Village Board.

Electronic versions of the of the draft version and final adopted *Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan* will available for review in a downloadable format on the Village of Waunakee webpage. Hard copies will be available for review at the Village Hall, Village Center and Waunakee Public Library.

4. PARK PLANNING DEFINITIONS AND STANDARDS

A. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are used in this plan. Where terms referred to in this plan are not defined, the Village adopts the terms, definitions, and standards that appear in the "Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines" (4th Edition) published by the National Recreation and Park Association.

Neighborhood Playground: Neighborhood playgrounds are Village-owned parks typically serve a residential neighborhood within a ¼-mile radius and are less than 2 acres in size. They primarily include playground equipment, benches and picnic tables, and informal play areas serving the immediate neighborhood. An example of a neighborhood playground is Augusta Park.

Neighborhood Park: Neighborhood parks are Village-owned recreational facilities serving a residential neighborhood within a ¼ - ¾ mile radius. Generally neighborhood parks range from 2 to 5 acres. Typically, a neighborhood park includes playground equipment, playfields, and picnic facilities. Larger neighborhood parks may include tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, and restroom facilities. Examples of neighborhood parks include Savannah Park and Scenic Valley Park.

Community Park: Community parks are large recreation facilities serving a population within a 1- to 2-mile radius. Typically, community parks include all of the improvements found in a neighborhood park, plus ball diamonds and play fields designed for competitive athletics, tennis and basketball courts, off-street parking, and shelter and restroom facilities. Community parks may have lighted playfields, spectator areas, and concession areas. Community parks are generally 5 to 20 acres. Larger community parks may include adjacent natural areas and may be significantly larger. Examples of community parks include Ripp Park, Centennial Park, and Village Park.

Regional Park: Regional parks are publicly-owned open spaces and facilities designed to serve a broad area that generally includes several local government jurisdictions. Regional park facilities are owned and maintained by a county, state, or a regional park district. Regional parks generally feature both natural areas for passive recreation and active recreation facilities. Examples of regional parks include Schumacher County Park and Governor Nelson State Park.

Special Purpose Park: Special purpose parks are Village-owned recreational and open space facilities that are designed to serve a specific purpose, such as an aquatic facility or indoor ice skating and hockey facility. In Waunakee, special purpose parks also include smaller plazas, such as Reeves Park, or the Village Center grounds.

Conservancy Park: Conservancy parks are publicly-owned area that is managed primarily for its natural resource qualities, such as wetlands, wildlife habitats, or unique vegetation. Generally, trails and other passive recreational facilities are installed within conservancy parks. Conservancy parks are usually not suitable for active recreation facilities such as playfields or athletic facilities.

Drainageways or Greenways: Drainageways or greenways are undeveloped open lands that are maintained primarily for stormwater management purposes. Some of the drainageways and greenways are adjacent to parks and provide open space linkages. While drainageways and greenways have recreational benefits, they are periodically flooded or have poor drainage and are generally unsuitable for most types of active recreational improvements.

Environmental Corridors: Environmental corridors are delineated open space corridors that contains a high concentration of environmentally significant features such as wetlands, wildlife habitats, woodlands, and unique or endangered species sites. Often environmental corridors are linear areas following natural drainageways. Environmental corridors may contain private lands, as well as public open spaces. In the Waunakee area, the environmental corridors have been delineated by the Capitol Area Regional Planning Commission and are reflected in the Village's Comprehensive Plan.

Service Areas: Service areas are the zone of influence of individual parks. Service areas are usually determined by the average distance users are willing to travel to reach a facility. Although expressed in terms of service radius, features such as arterial roads, rivers, or other disruptions to normal travel may influence the extent of the service area.

B. PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING STANDARDS

Waunakee's park and open space areas offer a high level of service that sets the Village apart from neighboring communities. Waunakee is continually striving to improve service to its residents; therefore the Village needs strong park and outdoor recreation planning standards.

For this reason, the following service standards for the "core system" of developed public neighborhood and community parks are somewhat higher than the standards set forth by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

Park Type	Acreage Standard	Service Area Radius
Neighborhood Parks and Playgrounds	5 acres per 1,000 population	¼ to ¾ mile
Community Parks	10 acres per 1,000 population	1 to 2 mile
Special Purpose Parks	No acreage standard	
Conservancy Parks	No acreage standard	
Public Walkways	No acreage standard	
Total Waunakee Municipal Parks	15 acres per 1,000 population	

5. COMMUNITY GROWTH TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS

A. POPULATION GROWTH AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTER

The Village of Waunakee is a “fast-growth” suburb of Madison, Wisconsin. The most recent preliminary population estimate provided by Demographic Services Center, Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA) for January 1, 2009 is 11,170, which represents 24.2 percent growth since the 2000 U.S. Census. The Village is projected to have a population of 12,623 by the year 2015

Waunakee is characterized as a family-oriented community with a relatively high percentage of children and young families compared to other Dane County communities. Many families move to Waunakee because of the school system and “quality of life” factors.

The tables below indicate the general historical and projected growth trends in the Village based on data from Demographic Services Center, Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA)

Year	Population
1980	3,866
1990	5,897
2000	8,995
2009 (Prel. Estimate)	11,170
2010 (Projection)	11,500
2015 (Projection)	12,623
2020 (Projection)	13,784
2025 (Projection)	15,011

B. LAND USE PATTERN

The Village of Waunakee has developed in a relatively concentric pattern extending outward from the historic downtown area on Highway 19 east of County Trunk Highway Q. Newer commercial development has occurred along the primary arterials entering the Village. The intersection of Highway 19 and County Trunk Highway Q is the focal point for most of the recent commercial development.

The primary industrial and non-retail business and office park areas are located east of the downtown district and south of Highway 19. This area has been designated as the Village's "enterprise district" and is generally planned for non-retail business development.

In recent years there has been extensive new residential development in the south, southeast, north and northwest quadrants of the Village. The most prominent new residential development areas since 2000 have been the Southbridge (south), Savannah Village (southeast), Meadowbrook (northwest), North Ridge Estates (north) and Westview Meadows (southwest). Park lands have been dedicated as part of all of the recent subdivisions.

The *Village of Waunakee Comprehensive Plan* indicates that the next new residential development areas will be the Tierney / Pulvermacher property and the next phase of MeadowBrook Subdivision in the northwestern part of the Village and the development of the Veridian / Kippley parcel in the southwestern part of the Village. New park land dedications will be required to meet the park and outdoor recreation needs of the newly developing residential neighborhoods.

There is also likely to be more infill redevelopment in the central part of the Village. Much of this development is likely to be multifamily condominiums and apartments with a high proportion of seniors and mature adults.

6. INVENTORY OF PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

A. VILLAGE-OWNED PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Village-owned park and recreational facilities in Waunakee include 160.69 acres of Community Parks, 26.04 acres of Neighborhood Parks and Playgrounds, 11.76 acres of Special Purpose Parks, 120.58 acres of Conservancy Parks, and 2.64 acres of public walkways.

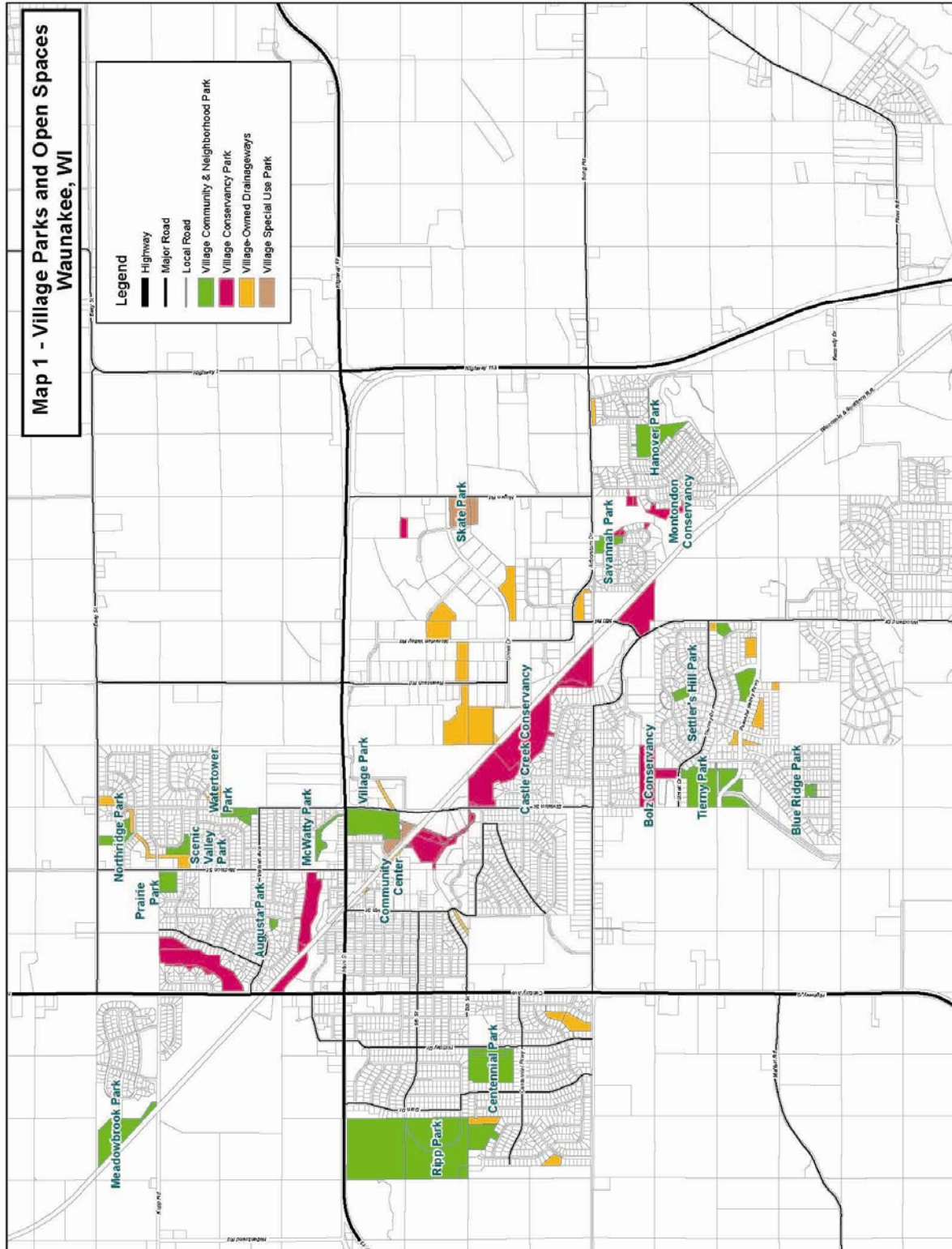
There is a total of 321.71 acres of Village-owned parkland.

The following is an inventory Village-owned park by park-type:

Park Name	Location / Subdivision	Acres
COMMUNITY PARKS		
Centennial Park	West / Central	16.00
Hanover Park	Southeast / Savannah	10.71
MeadowBrook Park	Northwest / MeadowBrook	11.92
North Ridge Park	North Ridge Estates	5.53
Ripp Park	West	84.90
Tierney Park	South / Southbridge	19.53
Village Park	Central Village	12.10
Subtotal Community Parks		160.69
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS		
Augusta Park	Six Mile Creek	0.82
Blue Ridge Park	Blue Ridge Addition	1.58
<i>Kilkenny Add Park (Foggy Mountain Rd.) - Unimproved</i>	Kilkenny Addition	1.67
<i>Kilkenny Add Park (Peaceful Valley) - Unimproved</i>	Kilkenny Addition	4.69
McWatty Park	Original Plat	3.60
Prairie Park	Six Mile Creek	3.84
Savannah Park	Savannah Village	3.33
Scenic Valley Park	North Ridge Estates	2.70
Settlers Park	Ashlawn Addition	1.51
Water Tower Park	Capitol Estates	2.30
Subtotal Neighborhood Parks and Playgrounds		26.04
SPECIAL PURPOSE PARKS		
Reeve Park (Depot)	100 E. Main St.	0.64
Village Hall Rotary Plaza	500 W. Main Street	0.10

Skate Board Park (<i>Future Recreation Complex</i>)	1130 Prairie View Dr.	8.14
Village Center	333 S. Madison St.	2.88
Subtotal Special Purpose Parks		11.76
CONSERVANCY PARKS		
Bolz Conservancy		12.39
Castle Creek Conservancy		47.67
Montondon Conservancy		16.16
<i>Six Mile Creek Conservancy (Madison to Century)- Unimproved</i>		14.83
<i>Six Mile Creek Subdivision Conservancy - Unimproved</i>		18.01
Village Center Pond Conservancy		9.79
<i>Waunakee Business Park Hillside Conservancy - Unimproved</i>		1.73
Subtotal Conservancy Parks		120.58
PUBLIC WAKWAYS		
Blue Ridge Walkways	Southbridge - Blue Ridge Addition	0.98
Castle Creek Walkway	Castle Creek	0.09
Centennial Park Access	Centennial Heights	0.25
Savannah Village - Montondon Walkways	Savannah - Montondon Addition	1.01
Savannah Village Walkway	Savannah Village.	0.19
Southbridge Walkway	Southbridge	0.06
Village Center Pond Access Walkway		0.06
Subtotal Public Walkways		2.64
TOTAL VILLAGE PARKS		321.71

Map 1 on the following page shows the existing parks in the Village.



B.1 NON-VILLAGE-OWNED SCHOOL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

In addition to the Village-owned facilities, there are six school facilities that provide additional neighborhood recreation benefits. These include:

1. Heritage Elementary School (South Street)
Playground equipment, playfields
2. Prairie Elementary School (N. Madison Street)
Playground equipment, playfields
3. Arboretum School (Arboretum Drive)
Playground equipment, playfields
4. Waunakee Intermediate School (South Street)
Playground equipment, basketball courts, playfields
4. St. John's School (3rd Street)
Playground equipment, basketball courts, playfields
5. Waunakee Community Middle School Playfields (South Street)
Playground equipment, basketball courts, playfields
6. Waunakee Community High School (South Street)
Athletic facilities, basketball courts, playfields

C. REGIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Other nearby regional park facilities that provide recreational benefits to Waunakee residents include the following:

Schumacher County Park

Schumacher Park is a 117.85-acre natural resource area located on the north side of Highway 19 adjacent to the Village of Waunakee. The park includes a historic farmstead, demonstration gardens, prairie restoration, and natural trails.

Governor Nelson State Park

Governor Nelson Park is a 422-state park located approximately three miles south of Waunakee on CTH M. The park has extensive picnic, hiking, cross-country skiing, and boating facilities. There is a swimming beach.

WDNR and Dane County own several additional lowland conservancy areas along Six Mile Creek and Dorn Creek. The *Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan* indicates that these areas will be connected to Governor Nelson State Park to form a linear conservancy and recreational corridor.

Mendota County Park

Mendota County Park is a 20-acre county park with approximately 300 feet of frontage on Lake Mendota. The park is located adjacent to the City of Middleton on CTH M. Facilities include park shelters, picnic areas, swimming beach, tennis and basketball courts, boat mooring lagoon, and a 25-unit campground with showers, electricity, and trailer dumping areas. .

Indian Lake County Park

Indian Lake Park is a 442-acre county park located approximately 6 miles west of Waunakee in the Town of Berry. The park has outstanding natural and historic resources. Facilities include extensive hiking and cross-country ski trails and a shelter. There is a launch for non-motorized craft on Indian Lake. There is dog-park at the western end of Indian Lake. The park is managed and maintained primarily as a passive recreation area.

Cherokee Marsh

Cherokee Marsh is an approximately 1000-acre publicly-owned conservancy area and wetland-complex located along the Yahara River. The area is owned and maintained jointly by Dane County, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the City of Madison. While maintained primarily as a conservancy area, there are extensive recreational trails and other passive recreation facilities within the Cherokee Marsh area. A portion of the parkland adjacent to Highway 113 is managed as a dog park.

Waunakee Marsh

Waunakee Marsh is an approximately 100-acre wetland complex located several miles west of Waunakee that is owned and managed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as a conservancy area.

Metropolitan Refuse Site

The former metropolitan refuse site on Century Avenue is a 137-acre site managed for recreational use. The site is owned jointly by the City of Madison, City of Middleton, Village of Shorewood and Metropolitan Refuse District. The primary activity at the site is a dog park. There are some adjoining soccer fields to the south.

D. OTHER QUASI-PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RECREATION AREAS

In addition to publicly-owned open spaces in and around Waunakee, there are a wide range of quasi-public and private open spaces that are protected through ownership and zoning.

These areas include:

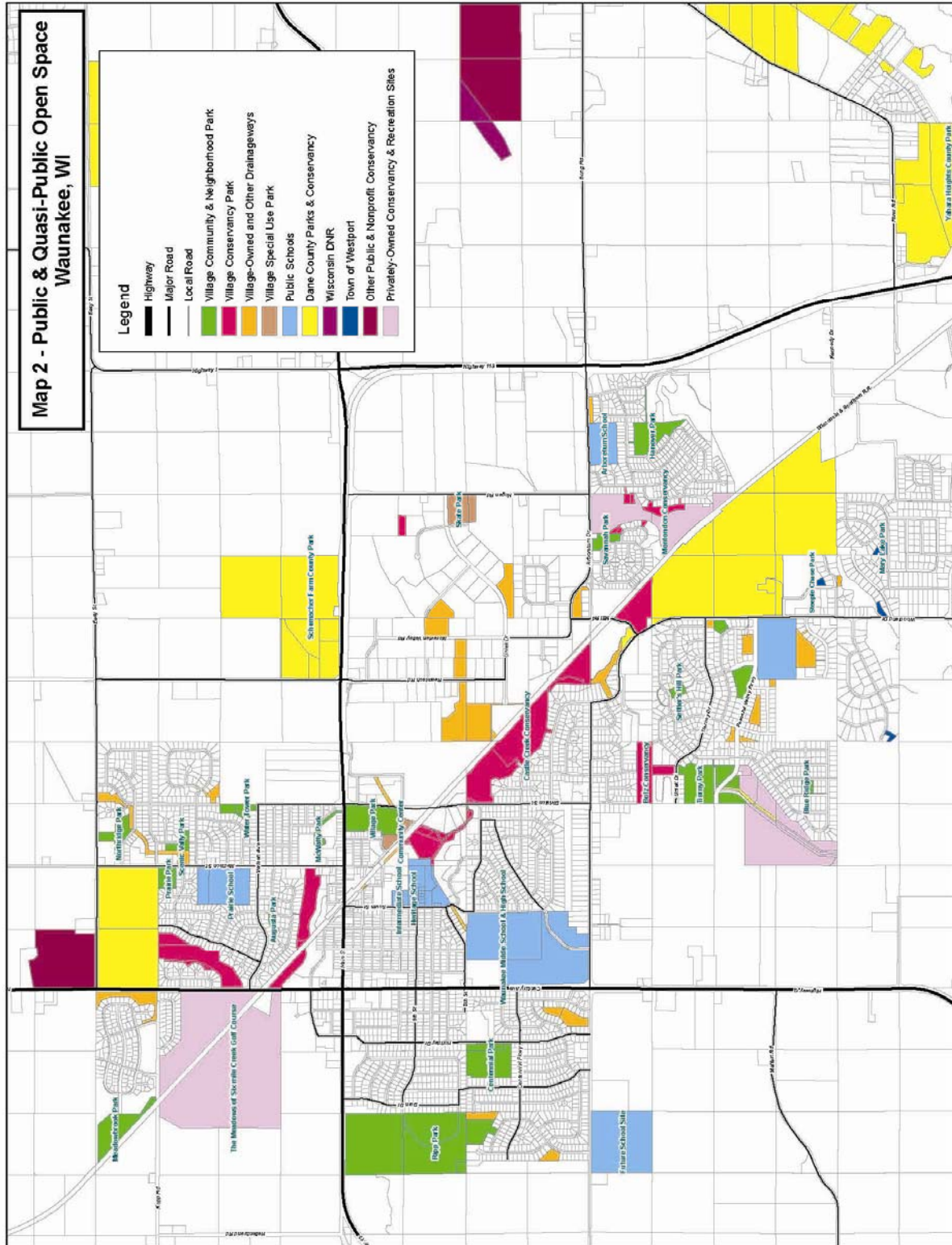
- Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation parcels

- Home owner association recreation facilities

- Privately-owned recreational facilities (e.g. golf courses, private swimming pools)

- Privately-owned conservancy lands that are protected through Conservancy zoning.

Map 2 on the following pages shows a composite of all of the public, quasi-public, and private recreational open spaces in the Waunakee area.



E. TRAILS

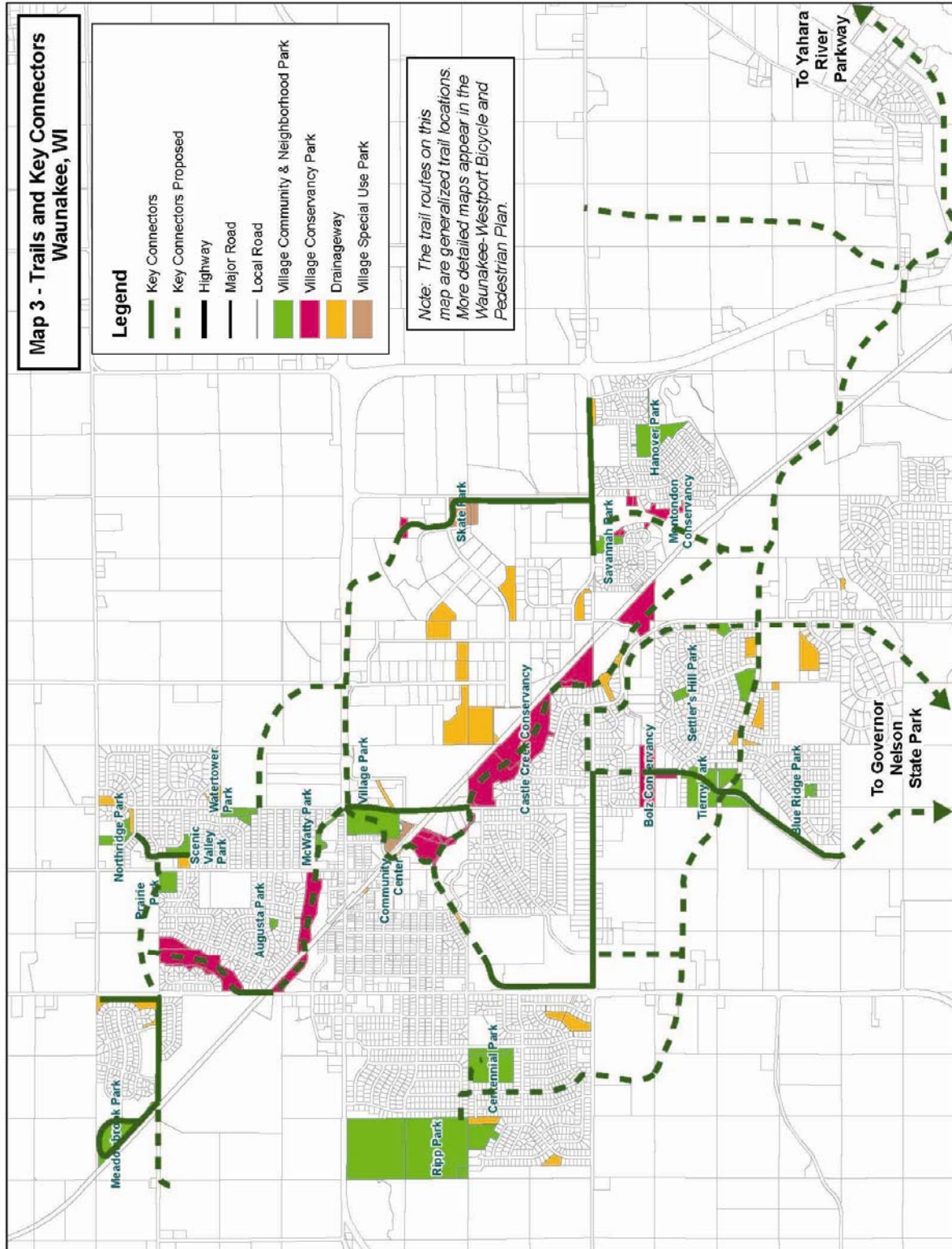
Waunakee has an extensive system of trails and pathways that are an important part of the overall park and outdoor recreation facilities system. The trails and pathways consist of a combination of trails and sidepaths constructed within the street rights-of-way on major collector and arterial streets and off-street paths.

The trails and pathways within public street rights-of-way and the paved multi-use trails are generally managed and maintained as public works.

The trail and pathways system also includes a series of pedestrian pathways within platted subdivisions that connect to neighborhood parks. These pathways are managed as part of the park facilities.

The Village adopted the *Waunakee-Westport Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan* in 2004 which guides the development of new trails in the community.

Map 3 on the following page shows the key trail linkages connecting to Village parks.



7. PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A. EXISTING PARK NEEDS

The Village's existing supply of neighborhood and community parks generally meets the Villages standards. As shown in the table below, based on total acreage of neighborhood and community parks the standard of 15 acres per 1,000 persons is exceeded by approximately 13.16 acres.

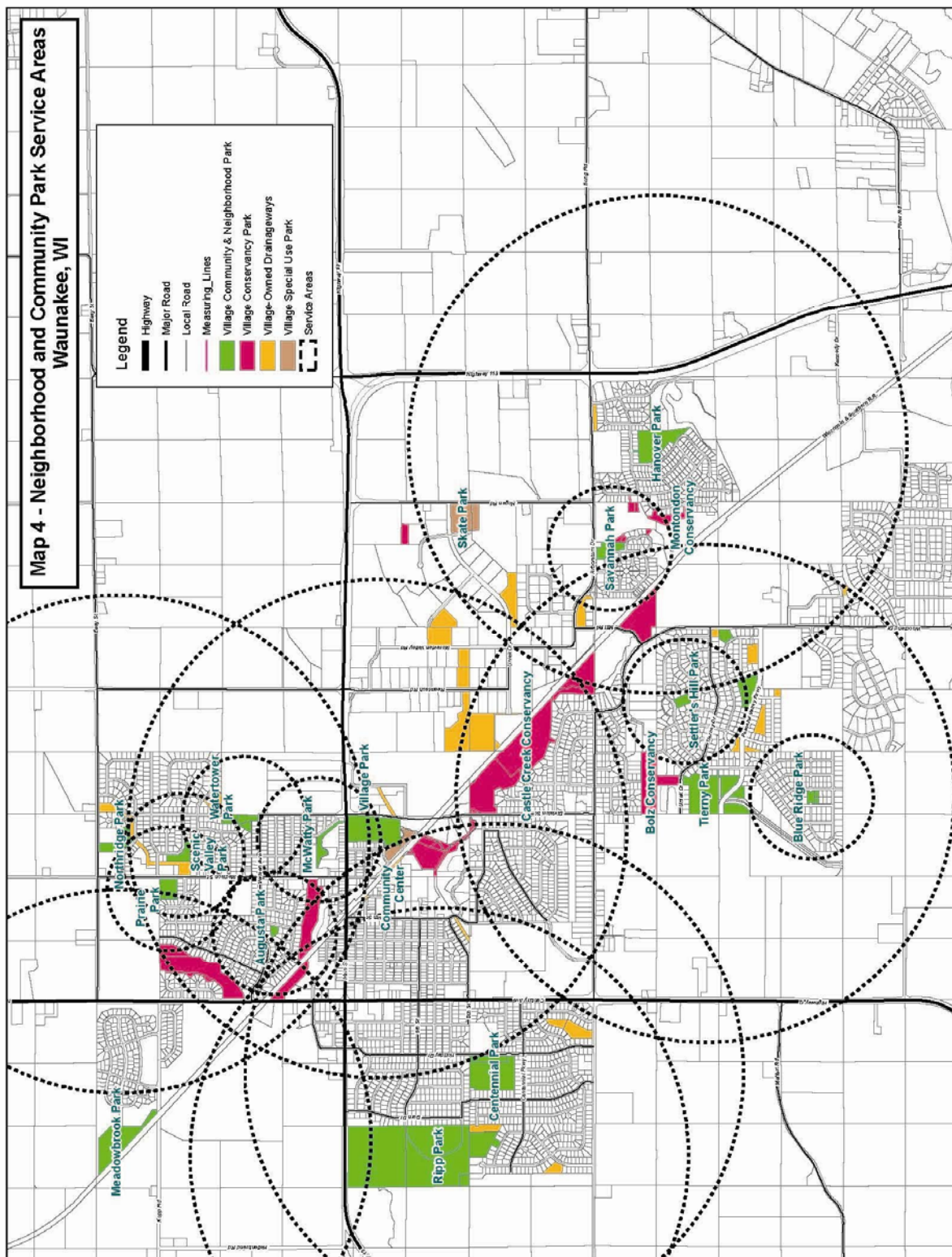
Statistically, there is an "undersupply" of neighborhood parks and an "oversupply" of community parks. However, this mismatch is somewhat misleading, since nearly all of the community parks have playground equipment and playfields generally associated with neighborhood facilities and they generally serve as the neighborhood park for their immediate neighborhoods.

Park Type	Acreage Standard	Need Based on Standard	Current Supply	Deficit / Surplus
Neighborhood Parks and Playgrounds	5 acres per 1,000 population	55.85 Acres	26.04 Acres	-29.81
Community Parks	10 acres per 1,000 population	111.70	160.69	+42.99
Total Neighborhood and Community Parks	15 acres per 1,000 population	173.55	186.73	+13.18

The neighborhood and community parks are well distributed throughout the Village and most neighborhoods are well-served by nearby parks. This fact is confirmed by the findings of the Community Survey, in which respondents from throughout the Village expressed satisfaction at the type and amount of parkland serving their neighborhood.

The only part of the Village that could be described as park-deficient is the central area east of Century Avenue and west of Six Mile Creek between E. Main Street and Woodland Drive. There are no designated neighborhood parks in this area. However, this deficiency is somewhat compensated for by the school recreation facilities in this area.

Map 3 on the following page shows the service areas for neighborhood and community parks in the Village.



B. FUTURE PARK NEEDS

Park Needs 2009 to 2015

The Village population is expected to increase to 11,500 persons by the year 2010 and to 12,623 persons by the year 2015. Based on WDOA population projections, between 2010 and 2015 the population of the Village by an additional 1,123 persons.

To meet the needs of the approximately 1,123 new residents projected by the year 2015, the Village will need new neighborhood park facilities in the key areas proposed for new residential development. These areas include:

Tierney / Pulvermacher Area (Kopp Road)

Developer Don Tierney has proposed to dedicate land for 10 to 11-acre community park located off of Kopp Road, plus a 1 to 2-acre neighborhood park in the central portion of the development,

MeadowBrook Subdivision Expansion Area (Kopp Road)

Developer Pat O'Connor has proposed predominantly senior housing in the next phase of MeadowBrook Meadow. The primary needs for a senior population will be trails linking to MeadowBrook Park and the Village's trail system and passive recreation facilities.

Veridian / Kippley Area (South of Woodland Drive west of Southbridge)

Veridian Homes has proposed to dedicate land for a significant expansion of Tierney Park and several smaller dedications for neighborhood playgrounds and parks. There will also be a significant amount of conservancy land associated with the Veridian project.

Concept plans have been submitted to the Village for each of these areas showing proposed park locations. More detailed park site plans will need to be developed by the Village for each of these parks.

In addition, the Village will need to complete improvements in the unimproved and partially improved parks with existing subdivisions which are only partially developed. These include

Kilkenny Addition to Southbridge (2 unimproved park sites)

North Ridge Estates (completion of improvements to North Ridge Park)

Longer Term Park Needs

The Village's Comprehensive Plan indicates potential longer-range residential expansion areas.

These include:

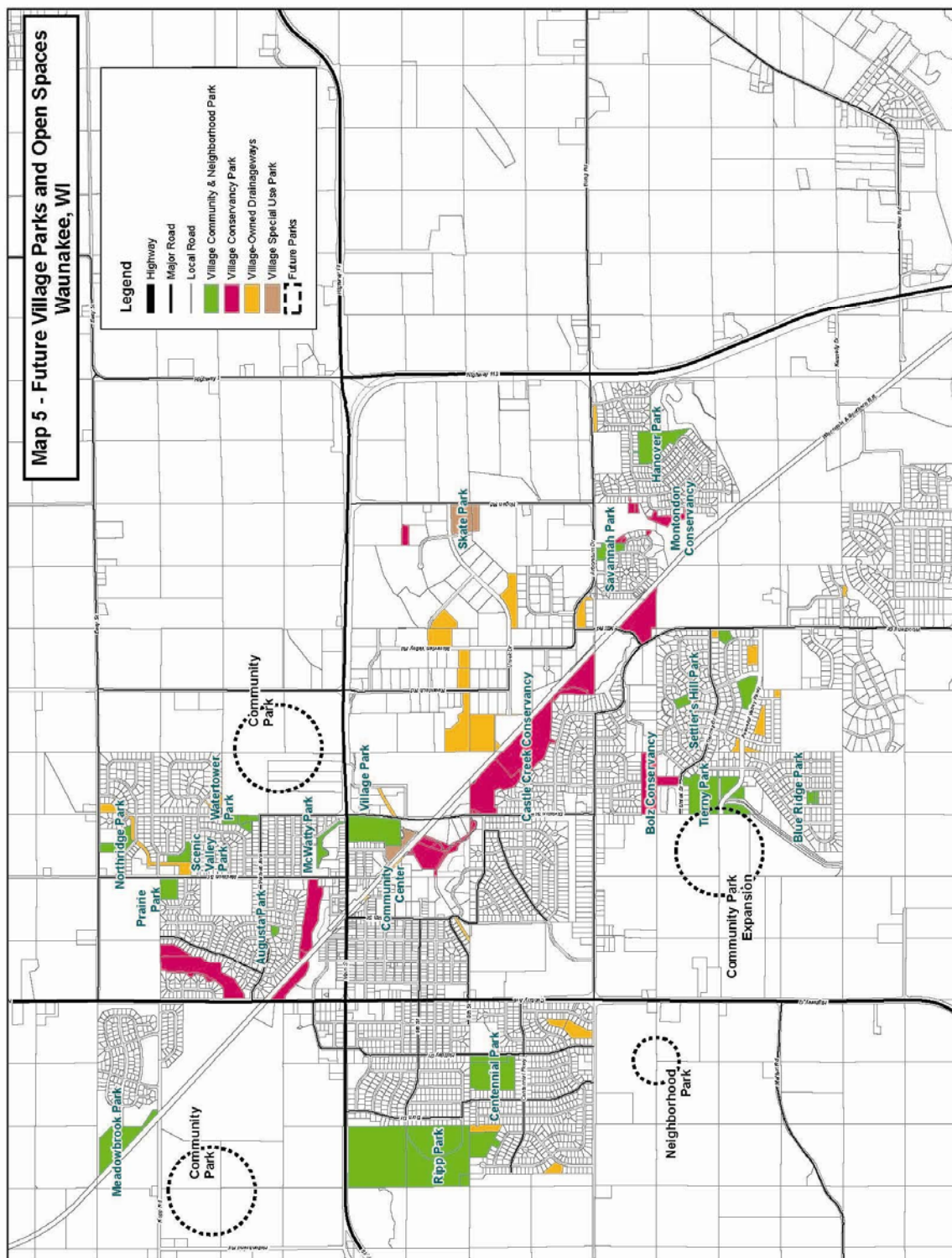
Breunig Property (North of E. Main Street and east of Divisions Street)

A community park will be needed to serve this quadrant of the Village. The park could include an expansion of Water Tower Park or a new community park site.

Southwest Quadrant (West of Century Avenue and south of Woodland Drive)

At some point after 2015, the area west of Century Avenue and south of Woodland Drive is anticipated to be developed as a predominantly residential area. The development will occur after substantial completion of the proposed Kippley neighborhood (Veridian Homes) to the east. One or more future neighborhood parks will be to serve this quadrant of the Village.

Map 5 on the following page shows the general location of proposed parks serving new residential development areas.



8. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXISTING PARKS AND FACILITIES

The following section describes individual parks and includes an inventory of existing facilities, description of improvements either scheduled for 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan, and other potential future park improvements.

The parks discussed in this section include:

Community Parks

Centennial Park
Hanover Park
MeadowBrook Park
North Ridge Park
Ripp Park
Tierney Park
Village Park

Neighborhood Parks

Augusta Park
Blue Ridge Park
Kilkenny Addition Parks- Unimproved
McWatty Park
Prairie Park
Savannah Park
Scenic Valley Park
Settlers Park
Water Tower Park

Special Purpose Parks

Reeve Park (Depot)
Skate Park (*Future Recreation Complex Site*)
Village Hall Rotary Plaza
Village Center

Conservancy Parks

Bolz Conservancy
Castle Creek Conservancy
Montondon Conservancy
Six Mile Creek Conservancy (Madison to Century Avenue) - Unimproved
Six Mile Creek Conservancy (Six Mile Creek Subdivision) - Unimproved
Village Center Pond
Waunakee Business Park Hillside Conservancy - Unimproved

A. COMMUNITY PARKS

Centennial Park

Centennial Park is a fully-developed, 16.00-acre community park with heavily used athletic facilities. Most of the park facilities have been renovated in recent years and the facilities are in good condition. Centennial Park functions as a festival park for Waunafest, which is the Village's primary festival held every summer.

Existing improvements in the Centennial Park include:

- Signage
- Picnic shelter with restrooms (north)
- Picnic shelter without restrooms (south)
- Concession stand
- Lighted baseball diamonds with team benches and bleachers (2)
- Full-court basketball court
- Soccer field
- Open playfield
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Tennis courts (2)
- Parking areas (2)
- Paved pathways

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 – 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- Park lot resurfacing
- Playground equipment upgrades and safety surfacing
- Resurfacing basketball court, installation of new standards, backboards and hoops
- Remodel concession area
- Score board replacement

Other potential improvements:

- Spray park

Note: Funds have been proposed for spray park construction in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan, but no decision has been made to date on the final site or timing of construction.

Centennial Park Site Plan



Centennial Park Photographs



Hanover Park

Hanover Park is fully-improved, 10.71-acre community park serving the Montondon Addition to Savannah Village. The surrounding neighborhood has a high proportion of young families and the park is particularly heavily used by children. Park improvements have been installed within the past five years and the park is in good condition.

Existing improvements in Hanover Park include:

- Signage
- Picnic shelter without restrooms
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Youth softball / baseball field
- Tennis courts (2)
- Combination tennis / basketball court - lighted
- Open playfields
- Parking lot
- Diagonal on-street parking

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements:

- Final grading of the sledding hill
- Restrooms

Hanover Park Photographs



MeadowBrook Park

MeadowBrook is a developed, 11.92-acre community park that serves the MeadowBrook Subdivision and other areas in the northwest portion of the Village. MeadowBrook Park is moderately utilized at the present time, but is expected to be more heavily used and central to its service area as the surrounding area develops. The next phase of MeadowBrook Subdivision, which is located west of the railroad corridor, is planned as a predominantly senior-oriented neighborhood.

Existing facilities in MeadowBrook Park include:

- Signage
- Baseball / softball diamonds
- Combination tennis / basketball court
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Picnic tables
- Paved pathways

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- Ball diamond bleachers
- Picnic shelter with restroom

Other potential improvements:

- Trail linkages to the west along Kopp Road connecting to the proposed next phase of MeadowBrook and the Pulvermacher / Tierney subdivision.

MeadowBrook Site Plan



MeadowBrook Photographs



North Ridge Park

North Ridge Park is a partially-developed, 5.53-acre community park serving the North Ridge Estates Subdivision and the northeast portion of the Village. The park adjoins several stormwater management basins and is linked to Scenic Valley Park by an open space trail corridor. North Ridge Park is not heavily used at the present time, but greater use is expected as the surrounding area develops.

Existing facilities in North Ridge Park include:

- Signage
- Youth softball / baseball field
- Open playfields

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- Engineering for hard surface improvements
- Parking lot
- Combination tennis / basketball court
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Landscaping
- Picnic shelter with restrooms

Other potential improvements:

- Tree planting
- Trail improvements

North Ridge Park Site Plan



North Ridge Park Photographs



Ripp Park

Ripp Park is the Village's largest community park with a total area of 84.9 acres. The park has numerous ball diamonds and playfields and is actively used for organized athletic events. Ripp Park's 28 youth soccer fields are heavily used for youth soccer leagues and the park is considered the "home field" for most tournament competitions.

The southern 6.41 acres of Ripp Park functions as the neighborhood park for Westview Meadows neighborhood. The northern 28.49 acres are wetlands and are managed as conservancy land.

Existing facilities in Ripp Park include:

- Signage
- Baseball / softball diamonds with team benches, scoreboard and metal bleachers
- Batting cage
- Tennis courts (9)
- Youth soccer fields
- Parking areas (2)
- Football field with storage shed
- Pet exercise area
- Picnic shelter with restrooms
- Paved pathways and unpaved nature trails
- Observation deck
- Playground equipment and safety surface

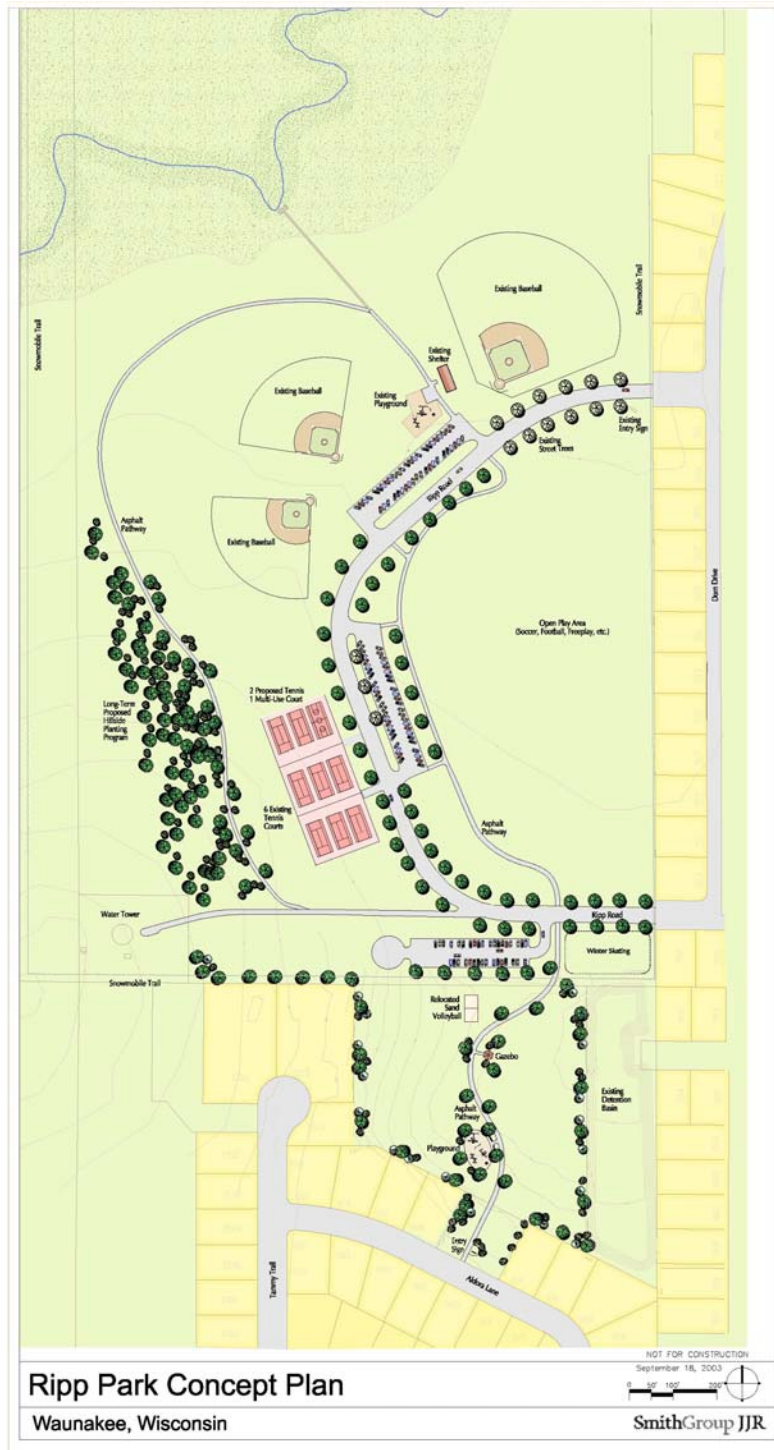
Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- Ball diamond upgrades
- New picnic shelter with restrooms (south)
- Sand volley-ball courts

Other potential improvements

- Picnic shelter upgrade or replacement (north)
- Road lighting
- Tennis court lighting
- Playground equipment upgrades

Ripp Park Site Plan



Ripp Park Photographs



Tierney Park

Tierney Park is a developed, 19.53-acre community park that serves the Southbridge Neighborhood. The park is moderately utilized at the present time, but is expected to be more heavily used and central to its service area as the surrounding area develops. Over 500 new residences are planned in the general neighborhood.

Tierney Park is connected to extensive public open space and conservancy lands to the south – extending southward to Governor Nelson State Park. To the north, Tierney Park adjoins the Bolz Conservancy Park.

At the time that the Peaceful Valley Parkway is extended westward to CTH Q, Tierney Park will have over 1,000 feet of frontage on one of the most heavily used arterial corridors in the Village. There will be additional adjoining parkland dedications to the west as the Kippley Neighborhood (Veridian) develops. Ultimately, the major park entrance and location of new facilities should be oriented towards the Peaceful Valley Parkway frontage.

Existing facilities in Tierney Park include:

- Signage
- Combination tennis / basketball court
- Picnic shelter with restrooms
- Softball / baseball field
- Soccer field
- Open play areas
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Tot lot
- Unpaved pathways
- Parking area

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- General improvements and upgrades of existing facilities

Other potential improvements:

- Master Plan for enlarged Tierney Park (at the time Kippley land is dedicated)
- Entrance drive from Peaceful Valley Road and parking
- Expanded soccer fields
- Regional trailhead connecting to Governor Nelson State Park and Middleton parks.
- Picnic shelter with restrooms (south)
- Landscaping and tree planting

Tierney Park Site Plan



Tierney Park Photographs



Village Park

Waunakee's premier central park has had many improvements in recent years and is in good overall condition. Village Park is one of the Village's most heavily used parks. There are some low areas adjacent to the creek that are periodically wet and should be filled.

When the Waunakee parks maintenance and garage facility at the south end of the park is removed and South Madison Street is extended there will be an opportunity for park expansion and creating a new entrance approach from South Madison Street.

Existing facilities in Village Park include:

- Signage
- Baseball field with bleachers and team benches
- Batting cage
- T-Ball field with team benches
- Full-court basketball court
- Picnic shelter with restrooms
- Gazebo
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Paved pathways
- Bridges

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

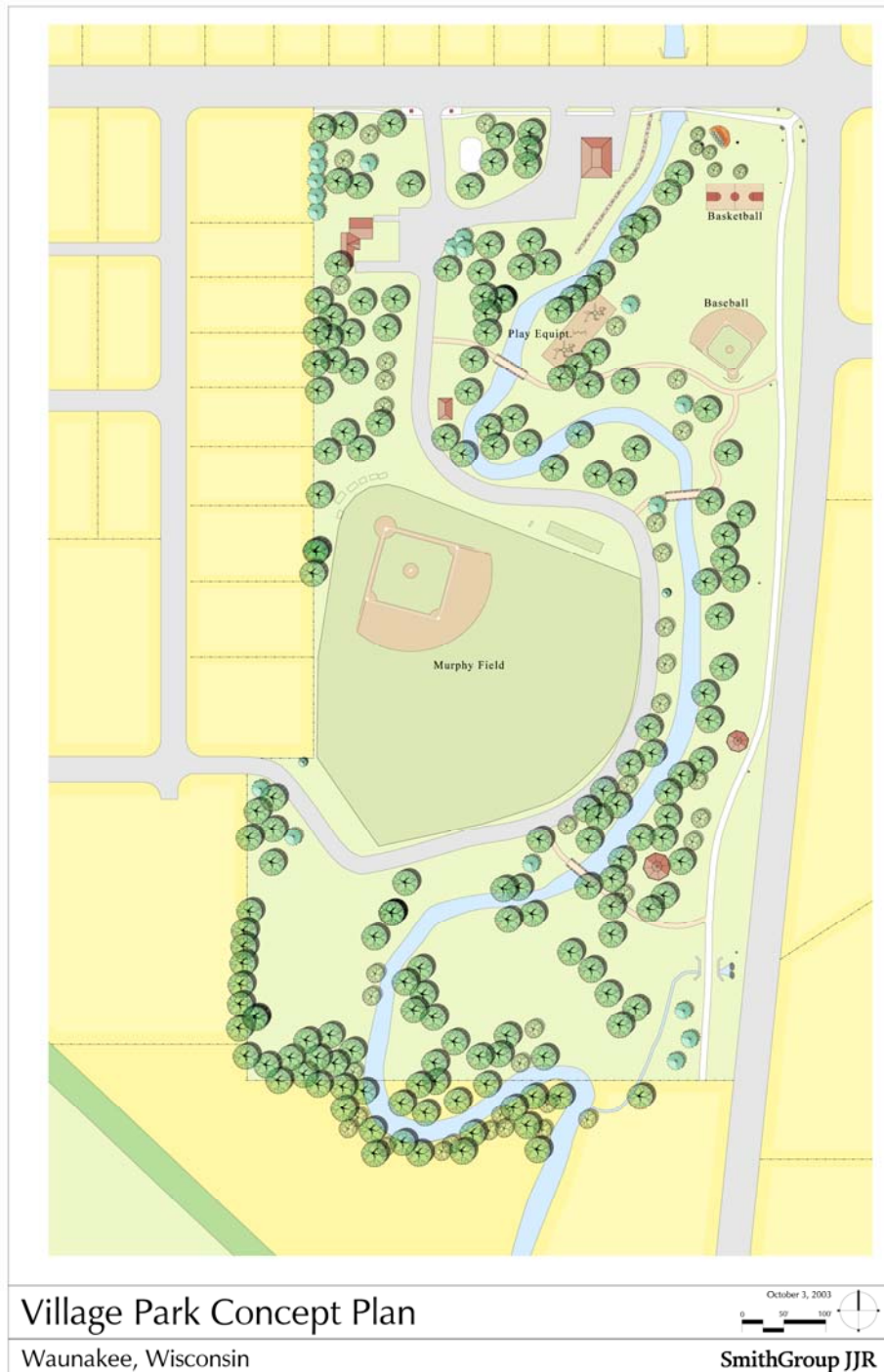
- Playground equipment upgrade and safety surfacing
- Gazebo upgrade
- Parking lot pavement and paved trail repairs

Other potential improvements:

- Fill and regrading playground area
- Landscaping and beautification of the maintenance and garage site.
- Realigning an entrance from Madison Street
- Basketball court resurfacing

When the Village garage and maintenance facility on Division Street is relocated and Madison Street is extended there will be additional acreage added to the south end of Village Park. The park and the Village Center will both have frontage on the newly extended Madison Street. The Village should revise the site plan for Village Park to indicate future facilities and access trails to the expanded park area on the south.

Village Park Site Plan



Village Park Photographs



B. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Augusta Park

Augusta Park is a fully-developed, 0.82-acre, neighborhood park / playground on Augusta Drive serving the Six Mile Creek neighborhood. The park is heavily used by young children in the Six Mile Creek Subdivision neighborhood. The current level of improvements at Augusta park is adequate for the neighborhood demand.

Existing improvements in Augusta Park include:

- Signage
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Tot lot
- Picnic tables
- Open play area

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

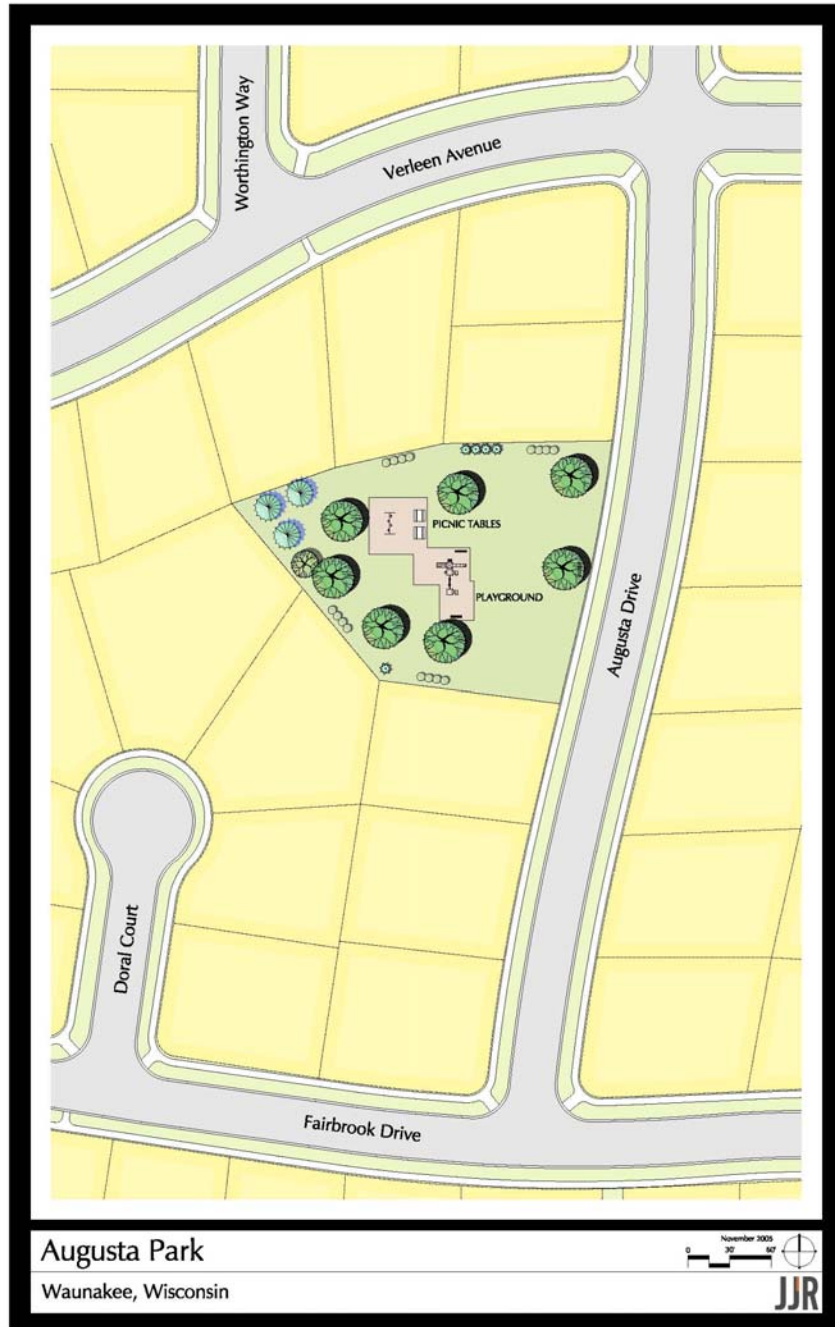
- Playground equipment upgrade and safety surface

Other potential improvements:

- No other near-term improvements are needed



Augusta Park Site Plan



Blue Ridge Park

Blue Ridge Park is a 1.58-acre, neighborhood park serving the Blue Ridge Addition to Southbridge Subdivision. The park is fully developed. The facilities have been installed within the past five years and are in good condition. Blue Ridge Park is heavily used by children in the surrounding Blue Ridge Addition neighborhood.

Existing facilities in Blue Ridge Park include:

- Signage
- Picnic shelter without restrooms
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Tot lot
- Combination tennis / basketball court
- Paved pathways
- Decorative plantings

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements:

- Tree planting



Kilkenny Addition Parks

Kilkenny Addition Parks consists of a 4.69-acre undeveloped neighborhood park site on Peaceful Valley Parkway and a 1.67-acre undeveloped park site on Foggy Mountain Road. Both park sites were dedicated as part of the platting process for the Kilkenny Addition to Southbridge Subdivision. No planning has been done for either park site.

Existing improvements include:

None

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

None

Note: \$40,000 has been budgeted in the 2010 – 2014 Capital Improvement Plan for new park planning, but the specific parks have not been identified.

Other potential improvements

- Picnic shelter and picnic tables
- Basketball court
- Tennis court
- Open playfields
- Trails
- Landscaping and tree planting

McWatty Park

McWatty Park is 3.60-acre neighborhood park adjoining the north side of Six Mile Creek at the east end of the historic downtown business district. The park is lightly-used and until recently has been in a deteriorated condition. Within the past two years there has been extensive creek shoreline renovation.

At the time that the North Madison Street Redevelopment Area, which includes the Waunakee Alloy and American Legion sites, is redeveloped, McWatty Park should be completely renovated. The park will be a key segment of the Six Mile Creek Trail corridor. The surrounding area is likely to be developed with medium to high density condominiums and apartments. There is likely to be a relatively high percentage of older adults and seniors living in the housing near McWatty Park. The emphasis on development should be on passive recreation activities.

Existing improvements at McWatty Park include:

- Signage
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Half-court basketball court
- Open play areas

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

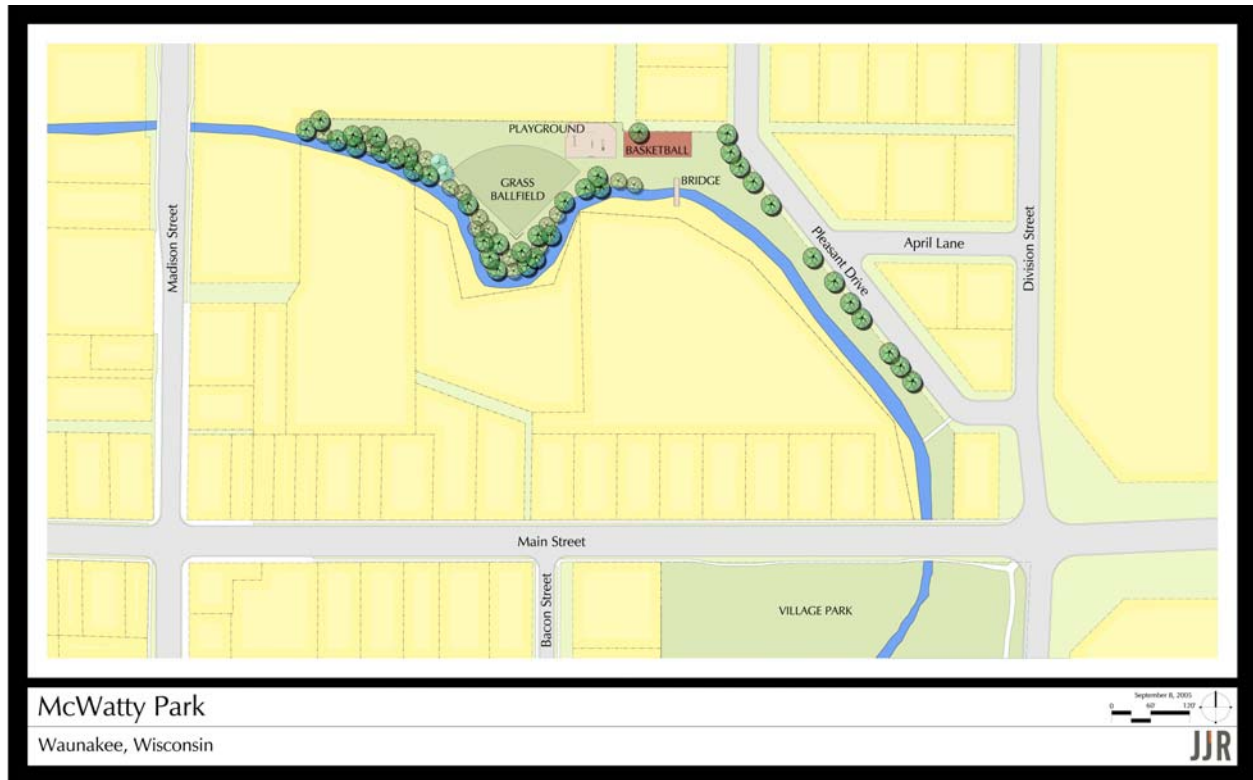
- Play equipment upgrade

Other potential improvements

- Regional trailhead
- New trail bridge crossings
- Continued creek shoreline improvements
- New playground equipment
- Tree planting and turf restoration
- Remove basketball court



McWatty Park Site Plan



Prairie Park

Prairie Park is a 3.84-acre, neighborhood park on North Madison Street serving the north and north central neighborhoods east of Century Avenue. The facilities have been installed within the past five years and are in good condition. Prairie Park is heavily used by the immediate neighborhood. The current level of improvements is adequate for the neighborhood demand.

There is the potential for expansion of Prairie Park northward in conjunction with the adjoining Dane County conservancy land.

Existing improvements in Prairie Park include:

- Signage
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Combination tennis / basketball court
- Paved pathways
- Picnic tables
- Open play area

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

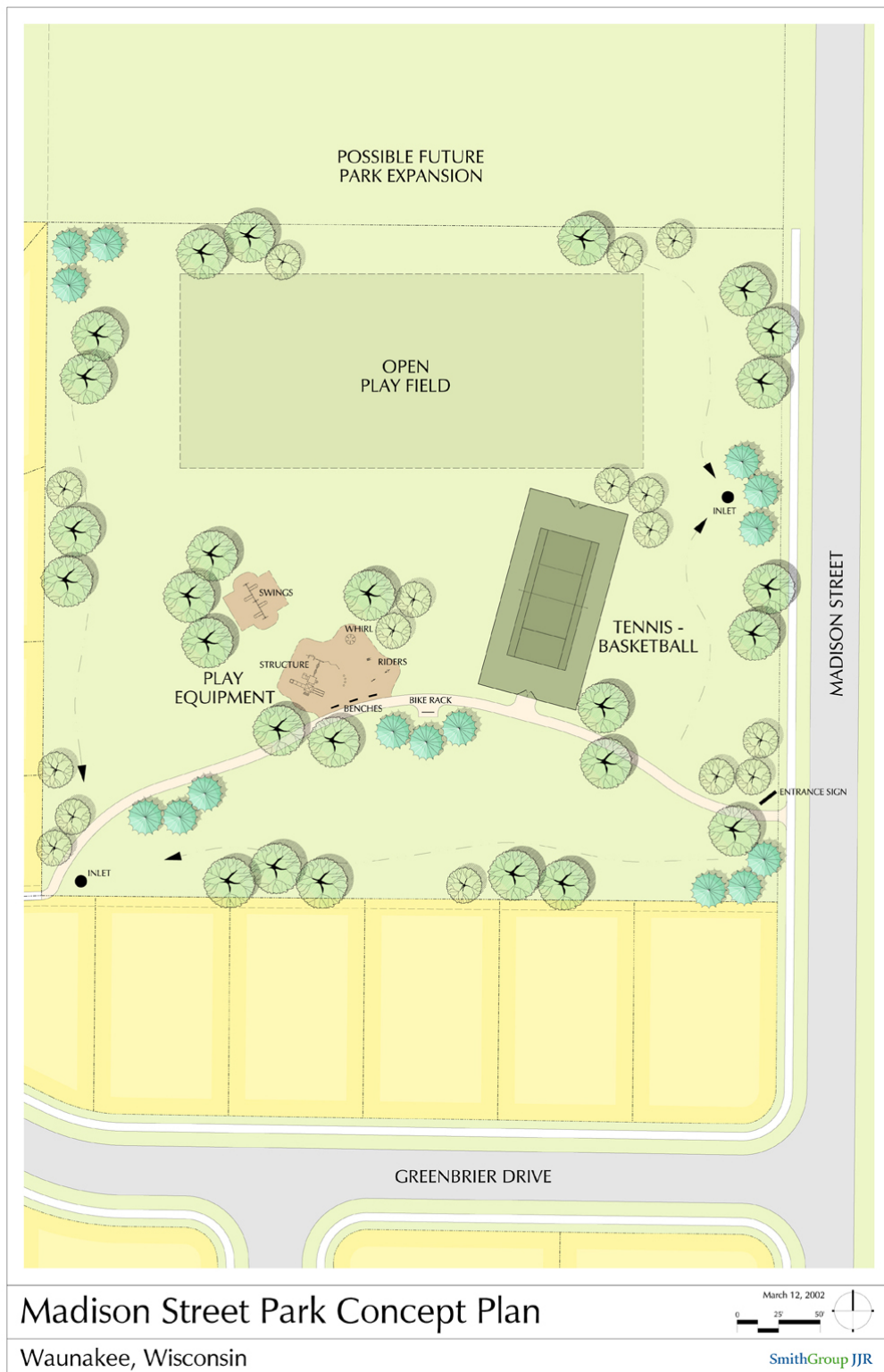
- No planned improvements

Potential improvements

- No needed improvements



Prairie Park Site Plan



Savannah Park

Savannah Park is a 3.33-acre neighborhood park on Arboretum Drive serving the Savannah Village Subdivision. Savannah Park is heavily used by residents of the adjoining Savannah Village Subdivision. The current level of improvements is adequate for the neighborhood demand. Some of the improvements in Savannah Park are nearly ten years old and are likely to require upgrades within the next five years.

Existing improvements in Savannah Park include:

- Signage
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Youth baseball softball field
- Sport court
- Outdoor skating area with warming shelter
- Combination basketball / tennis court
- Picnic shelter without restrooms
- Open play area
- Paved pathways

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

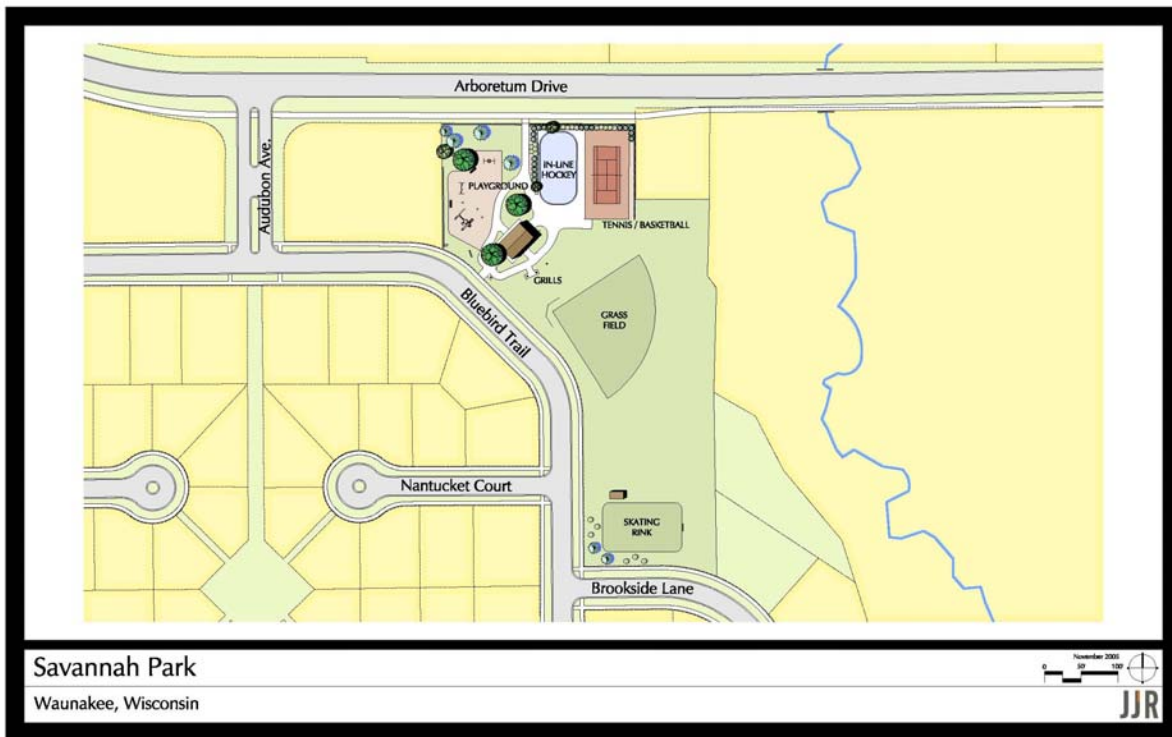
- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements

- Sports court upgrade and/or renovation
- Off-street parking



Savannah Park Site Plan



Settlers Park

Settlers Park is 1.51-acre hillside open space with good views of the State Capitol. At the request of neighbors, improvements at Settlers Park have been minimal improvements. Settlers Park is maintained as primarily passive neighborhood open space.

Existing improvements at Settlers Park include:

- Monument
- Benches
- Open play area

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements:

- Landscaping and tree planting



Scenic Valley Park

Scenic Valley Park is a fully-developed, 2.70-acre, neighborhood park on Badger Lane serving the North Ridge Estates Subdivision neighborhood. All of the park improvements have been installed within the past five years and the park is in good condition. The current level of improvements is adequate for the neighborhood demand.

Existing improvements include:

- Signage
- Picnic shelter without restrooms
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Half-court basketball court
- Paved pathways

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

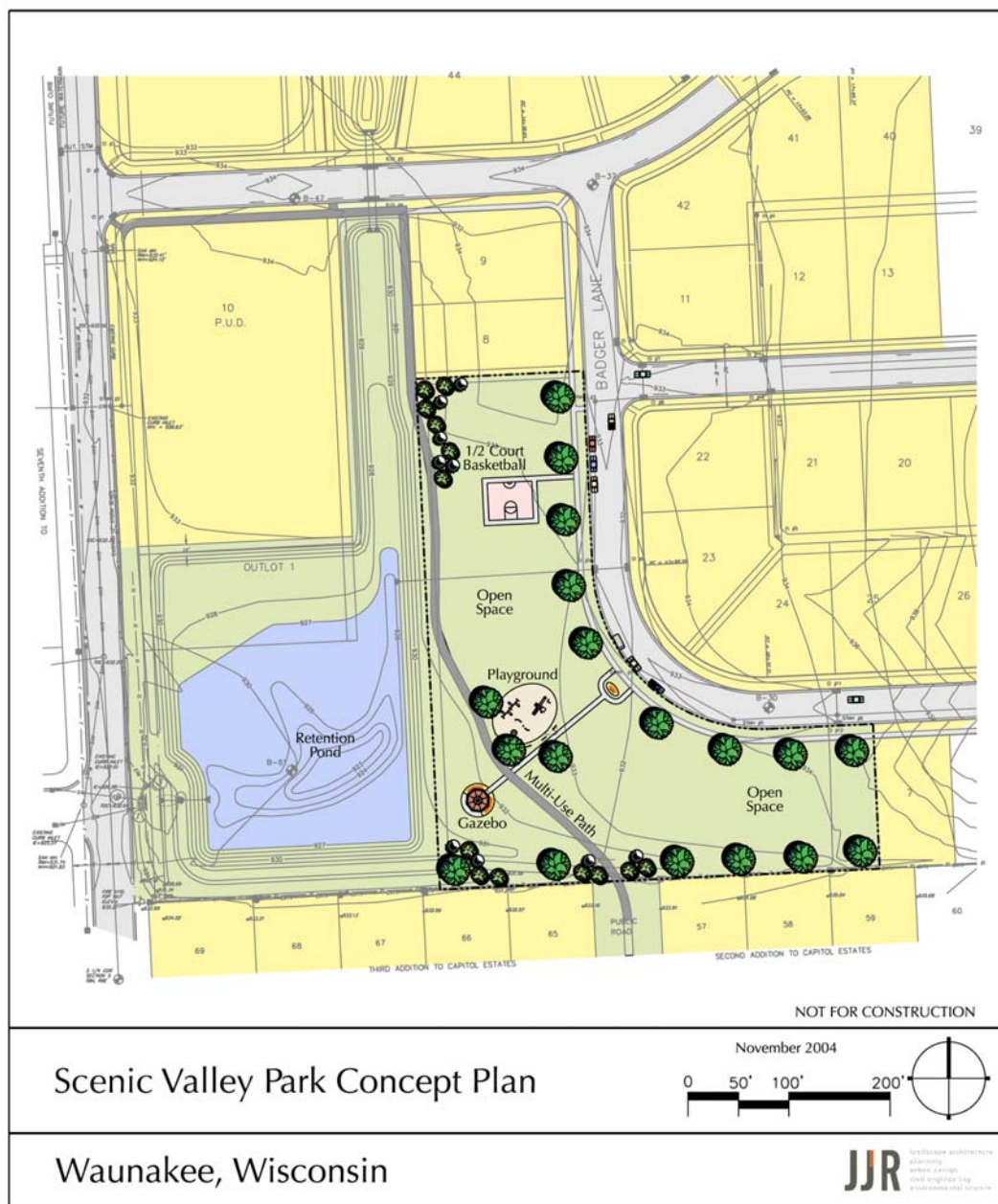
- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements:

- Landscaping and tree planting



Scenic Valley Park Site Plan



Water Tower Park

Water Tower Park is a 2.3-acre neighborhood park on Verleen Avenue serving the northwest neighborhood east of Madison Street. The park is partially developed with recently-upgraded playground equipment and signage. An important feature of the park is the sledding hill, which is heavily used in the winter. The current level of improvements is adequate for the neighborhood demand.

At the time that the Breunig property to the east is developed, Water Tower Park will likely be enlarged through park land dedication and a new park plan should be prepared that will call for expanded facilities and play areas.

Existing improvements at Water Tower Park include:

- Signage
- Playground equipment and safety surface
- Picnic tables
- Sledding hill

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements

- No near term improvements required.



C. SPECIAL PURPOSE PARKS

Reeve Park

Reeve Park is a 0.64-acre plaza on E. Main Street that includes the former railroad depot and public parking in the historic downtown. The former railroad depot building is currently leased to the Waunakee Area Chamber of Commerce.

Reeve Park will be completely renovated and integrated with the downtown streetscape project in 2013 when Main Street is reconstructed and streetscape fixtures are installed.

Existing improvements at Reeve Park include:

- Benches
- Paved plaza
- Veterans' monument
- Decorative clock
- Parking

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- Painting the exterior of the railroad depot building

Other potential improvements:

- No near term improvements required.



Village Hall Rotary Plaza

Rotary Plaza is a 0.10-acre site adjacent to Village Hall at 500 W. Main Street that has been improved by the Rotary Club. The improvements have been installed within the past five years and are in good condition. The plaza is fully improved and no other major changes are anticipated in the near future.

Existing improvements at the Rotary Plaza include:

- Signage
- Ornamental plantings
- Decorative clock
- Paved pathway

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements:

- No near term improvements required.



Skate Park

Skate Park is an 8.14-acre special purpose park site located off of Hogan Road reserved for future use as a community recreation complex, which could potentially include an ice skating / hockey facility and aquatic center. A concept plan has been prepared for the site. The only existing improvements in the park are skate boarding facilities, which have been quite popular with teenagers.

Existing improvements at Skate Park include:

- Skateboarding ramp and paved surface

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- General improvements and upgrades to the existing skate facilities

Other potential improvements:

- Indoor ice arena
- Aquatic center
- Expanded skate park
- Shared parking area for 200+ vehicles
- Bus drop-off area



Village Center Park

The 2.88-acre site of the Village Center on South Madison Street is managed as parkland. The east side of the site adjoins Village Park and is managed and maintained as part of the Village Park. The parking on the Community Center site serves as over-flow parking for events at Village Park.

At the time that the Village-owned maintenance facility on Division Street is relocated and the existing facilities are demolished, the combined Village Park and Community Center sites will be expanded and South Madison Street will be extended to connect with Division Street. The extension of Madison Street is likely to increase the exposure and use of the Village Center site.

Existing improvements include:

- Signage
- Village Center
- Parking area
- Paved pathways

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements:

- Small playground
- Additional parking
- New entrance drive from South Madison Street
- Landscaping and tree planting



D. CONSERVANCY PARKS

Bolz Conservancy

Bolz Conservancy is a 12.39-acre, conservancy park located in the southwest portion of the Village at the south end of Division Street. The conservancy park occupies a hilltop overlooking the Southbridge Neighborhood and Tierney Park to the south. Bolz Park is connected by a trail to Tierney Park.

The park is currently maintained as a natural prairie. There are mowed walking paths and an unpaved parking area off of Division Street. The primary signage and trail entrance for Bolz Park are at the south end of Wimbleton Way.

Existing improvements at Bolz Conservancy include:

- Signage
- Unpaved nature trails
- Unpaved parking area

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

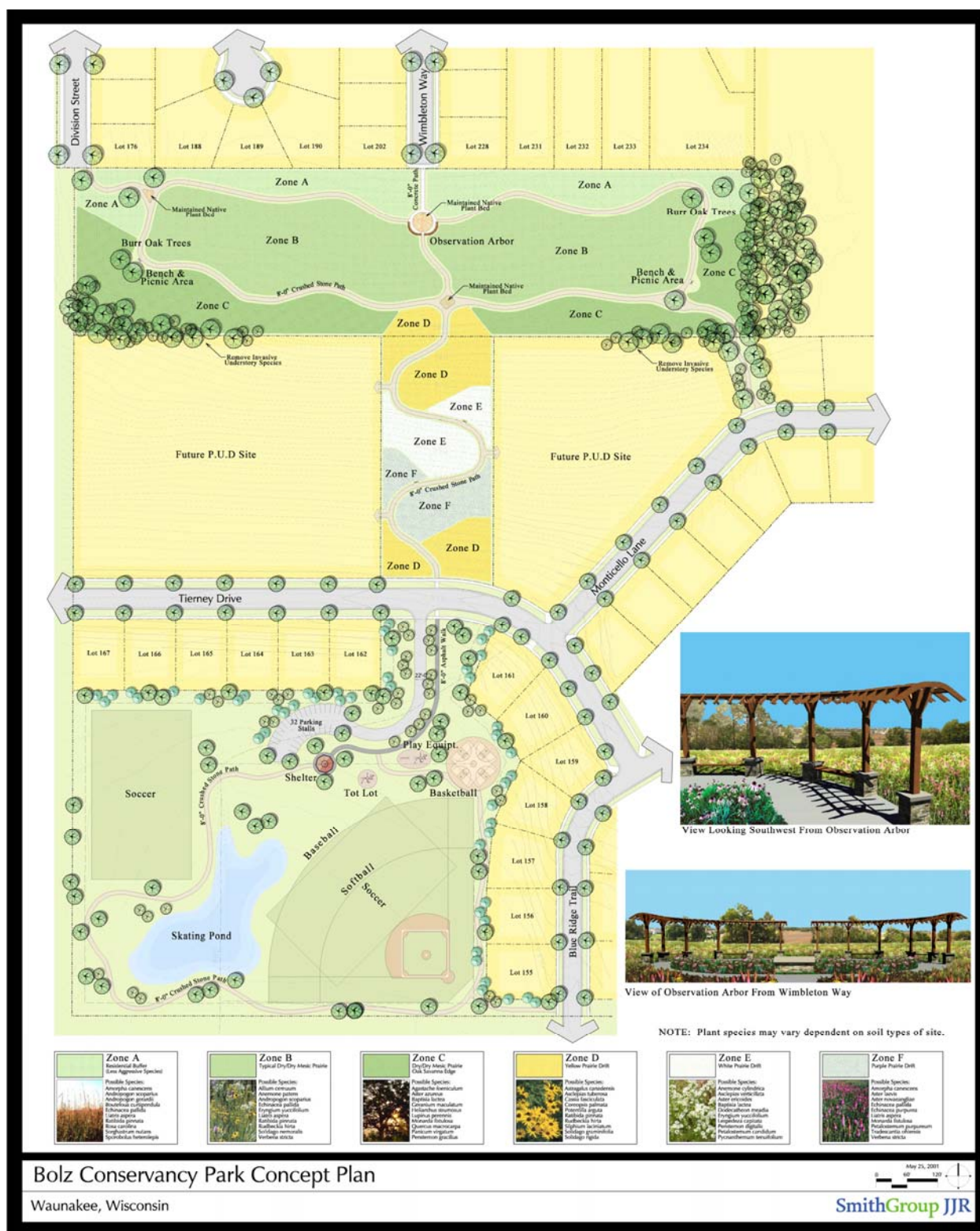
- Erosion control
- Prairie seeding
- Permanent signage

Other potential improvements:

- Paving the parking area
- Trellis and/or informational kiosk
- Interpretive signage
- Expanded prairie seeding on hillside



Bolz Conservancy Site Plan



Castle Creek Conservancy

Castle Creek Conservancy Park is a 47.67-acre, conservancy park located along Six Mile Creek between Division Street and Woodland Drive. The park is bounded on the east by the railroad corridor.

Castle Creek Park has an extensive system of natural trails, but the park is very lightly used due to the fact that there is little street front exposure and no trailhead parking areas. There is a small entrance area and bridge crossings on the portion of the park fronting on Division Street, but no parking area. The Rotary Club has recently replaced three bridges in the park. There are opportunities to improve the park entrances at Division Street, at the north end of Wimbledon Way, and at the Mill Street Bridge.

Existing improvements at Castle Creek Conservancy include:

- Unpaved nature trails
- Bridges

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- New signage

Other potential improvements

- Trailhead development with parking area
- Interpretive signage
- Trail system expansion
- Bridge crossings



Montondon Conservancy

Montondon Park consists of 16.16 acres of conservancy land adjoining the Savannah Village Subdivision and the Montondon Addition. There are four separate Village-owned parcels separated by a much larger parcel of privately-owned conservancy managed privately as open space for the Savannah neighborhoods.

There is a trailhead and decorative overlook area on the east side of the conservancy park. The trails in the conservancy are mowed grass. The park is well-used by neighborhood residents.

Existing improvements in Montondon Conservancy include:

- Decorative overlook
- Paved walkways
- Unpaved nature trails

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- No planned improvements

Other potential improvements

- Trail improvements
- Directional and interpretive signage



Six Mile Creek Conservancy

The Village owns 14.83 acres of conservancy land adjoining Six Mile Creek between Madison Street and Century Avenue (STH 113) and 18.01 acres of conservancy land adjacent to Six Mile Creek Subdivision. This land is not actively managed, but is held in reserve for future conservancy park improvements at that the time that the Six Mile Creek Trail is extended.

The conservancy area is kept in natural vegetation and is not actively managed or maintained. The area is used by neighborhood residents as an informal recreational area and bufferland.

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

No planned improvements

Other potential improvements

Trail improvements
Downtown trailhead and parking area
Directional and interpretive signage



Village Center Pond Conservancy

The Village Center Pond is a 9.79-acre conservancy area west of the Village Center. The land was formerly part of the Stokely canning plant and was historically referred to as the “Stink Pond.” Now the pond serves as the primary stormwater management basin for the historic downtown area and is an important recreation area. The pond is encircled by a multiuse trail and is proposed for future use as an outdoor skating area. The Rotary Club has been responsible for many of the existing improvements.

Existing improvements at the Village Center Pond include:

- Signage
- Unpaved nature trail
- Parking area

Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- Outdoor ice skating facility with a warming shelter
- Lighting
- Accessible fishing pier

Other potential improvements

- Trail improvements
- Downtown trailhead
- Directional and interpretive signage



Waunakee Business Park Hillside Conservancy

The Village owns a 1.73-acre parcel on the wooded hillside at the north end of the Waunakee Business Park Phase 2. The site was acquired to protect the wooded slope and provide public open space within the business park. This conservancy land has been kept in natural vegetation and is generally not maintained. A multi-use trail has been constructed through the conservancy that will connect to the planned trail along Highway 19. The land was acquired primarily to protect the wooded hillside.

Existing improvements:

Paved multi-use trail

Improvements planned in 2009 or in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

No planned improvements

Other potential improvements

No improvements are proposed



9. OTHER PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS

Maintenance Building and Garage

The parks maintenance facility is being relocated from its existing site on Division Street to the Public Works Garage in the Waunakee Industrial Park. The relocation of the maintenance facility will enable the extension of South Madison Street to Division Street. This road improvement will create new street frontage and land area for the southern portion of Village Park and the Village Center site.

Spray Park Planning and Construction

The Village's 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan includes planning fees \$9,000 to complete a site-selection study and prepare preliminary cost estimates for the construction and operation of spray park in one of the Village's parks scheduled for year 2010. Construction at a cost of approximately \$350,000 is planned for year 2012

Trail Expansion

The Village's 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan includes funding of \$215,000 for trail planning and expansion. One of the key findings from the Park System Survey conducted in Spring 2009 is that walking and bicycling on the Village trails is one of the most popular activities in the Village. Improving trail connectivity to and between parks is one of the key policies guiding the park system improvements

New Park Site Planning

The Village's 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan includes \$40,000 for new park planning for year 2010. No specific sites for the planning are identified at this time, but parks that will need planning over the next several years include the two neighborhood parks on the Kilkenny Addition to Southbridge and the proposed parkland on the Pulvermacher site in the northwest quadrant of the Village which is expected to be platted and developed as the economy recovers. The two Kilkenny Addition park sites have been platted and dedicated to the Village.

The Village and Town should also develop a site plan for jointly owned park land south of Mill Road. The plan for this land should address the connection to the recently purchased Dane County park land to the south and to Castle Creek Conservancy to the north. This would provide an opportunity for the Village, Town of Westport, and Dane County to jointly plan for the future trail along the Six Mile Creek corridor.

Greater Use of Natural and/or Low Maintenance Plant Materials

The Village will consider the installation of natural areas and/or the use of lower maintenance plant materials in some areas that are currently mowed grass. In some cases, the new plantings may include native prairie and meadow plant materials. In other situations, it may be appropriate to consider "low-mow" grasses that do not require mowing as frequently as standard grasses. Each park will be inventoried for its potential for alternative ground cover and plant material conversations.

Park Forestry Program

The Village has recently commissioned an urban forestry study that includes an inventory of existing trees and a program for installation of future street trees and trees in Village parks. The study indicated that there are 1,380 trees in the Village parks with an estimated value of \$884,000. Based on this study, the Village will establish a regular schedule for inventorying, maintaining, replacing, and expanding trees in the parks.

One of the key findings from the Park System Survey conducted in Spring 2009 is that most park users would like to see more trees in the parks.