

COMPREHENSIVE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

VILLAGE OF WAUNAKEE, WISCONSIN

ADOPTED DECEMBER 7, 2009



COMPREHENSIVE PARK AND OUTDOOR OPEN SPACE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
2. GOALS AND POLICIES	2
A. PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY GOALS.....	2
B. PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES POLICIES	2
3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS	4
A. PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS.....	4
B. COMMUNITY SURVEY.....	4
4. PARK PLANNING DEFINITIONS AND STANDARDS	6
A. DEFINITIONS.....	6
B. PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNING STANDARDS	8
5. COMMUNITY GROWTH TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS	9
A. POPULATION GROWTH AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTER	9
B. LAND USE PATTERN.....	10
6. INVENTORY OF PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES.....	11
A. VILLAGE-OWNED PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.....	11
B. NON-VILLAGE-OWNED SCHOOL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.....	13
C. REGIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES	15
D. OTHER QUASI-PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RECREATION AREAS	17
E. TRAILS.....	19

7. PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT	21
A. EXISTING PARK NEEDS.....	21
B. FUTURE PARK NEEDS.....	23
8. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXISTING PARKS AND FACILITIES.....	26
A. COMMUNITY PARKS	27
Centennial Park	27
Hanover Park.....	30
MeadowBrook Park	32
North Ridge Park	35
Ripp Park	38
Tierney Park	41
Village Park.....	44
B. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS.....	47
Augusta Park	47
Blue Ridge Park.....	49
Kilkenny Addition Park.....	50
McWatty Park	51
Prairie Park	53
Savannah Park	55
Settlers Park	57
Scenic Valley Park.....	58
Water Tower Park.....	60
C. SPECIAL PURPOSE PARKS.....	61
Reeve Park	61
Village Hall Rotary Plaza	62
Skate Park	63

Village Center Park.....	64
D. CONSERVANCY PARKS.....	65
Bolz Conservancy.....	65
Castle Creek Conservancy	67
Montondon Conservancy.....	68
Six Mile Creek Conservancy.....	69
Village Center Pond.....	70
Waukegan Business Park Hillside Conservancy	71
9. OTHER PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS	72

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.

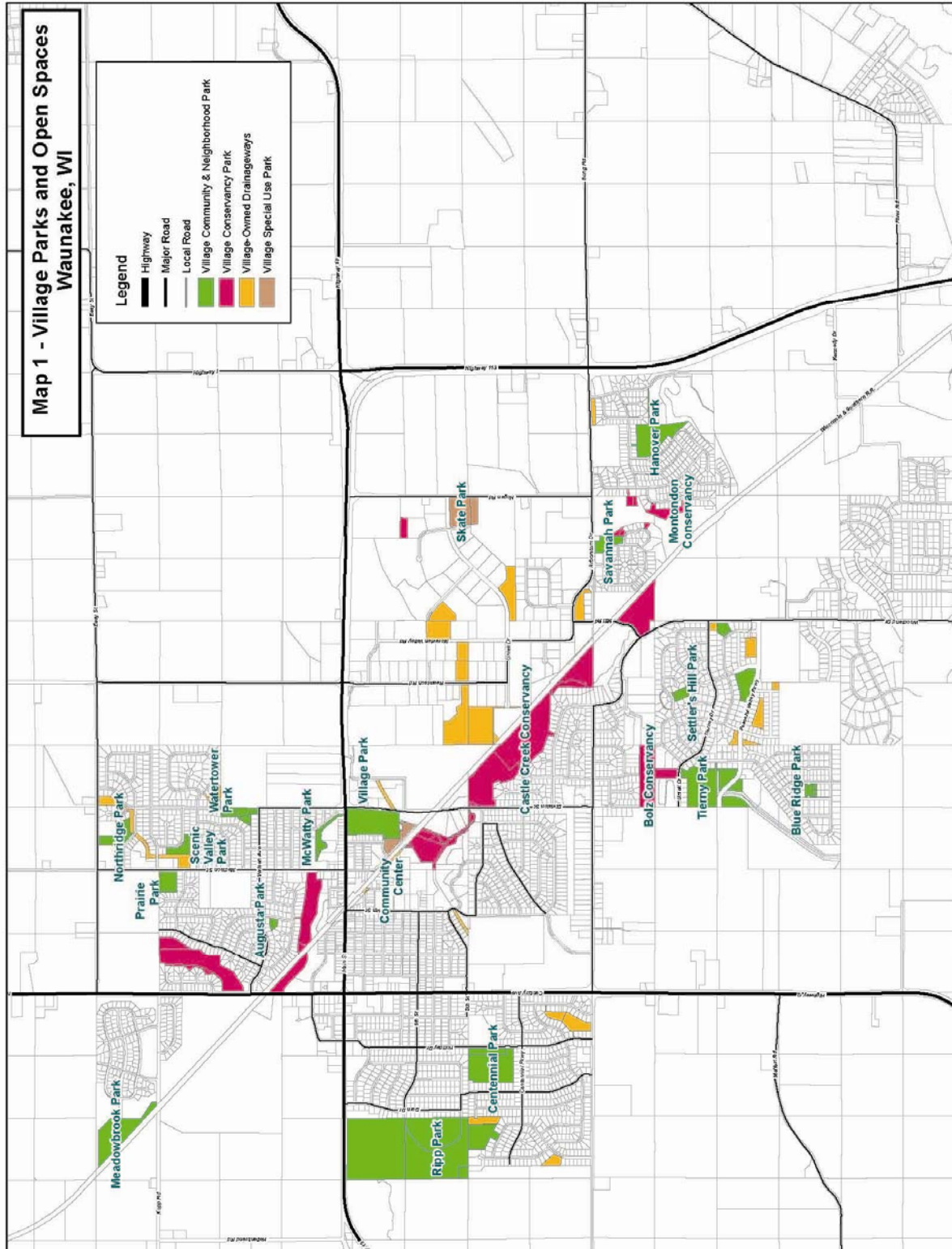
There is a total of 321.71 acres of Village-owned parkland.

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:

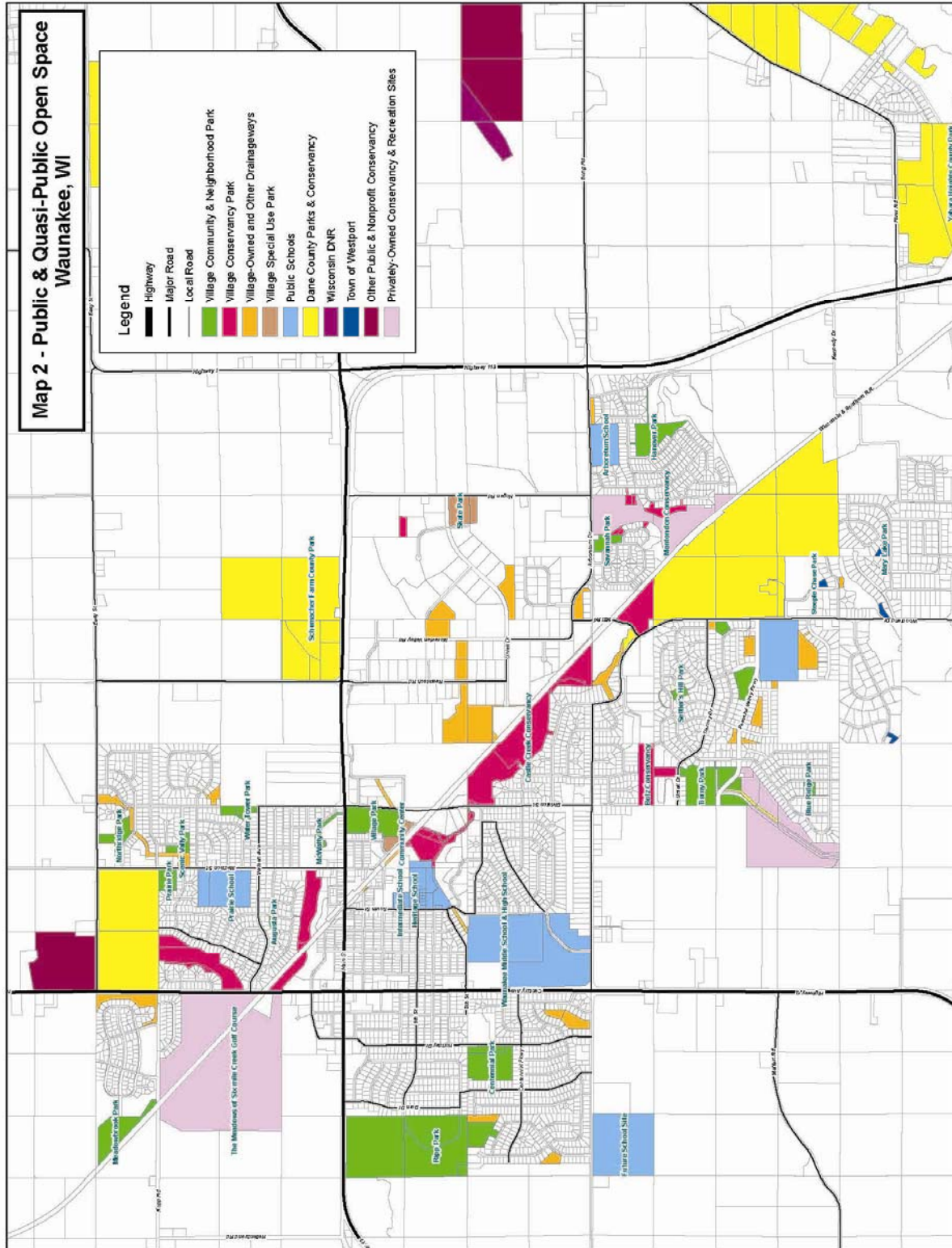
- Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation parcels

- 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

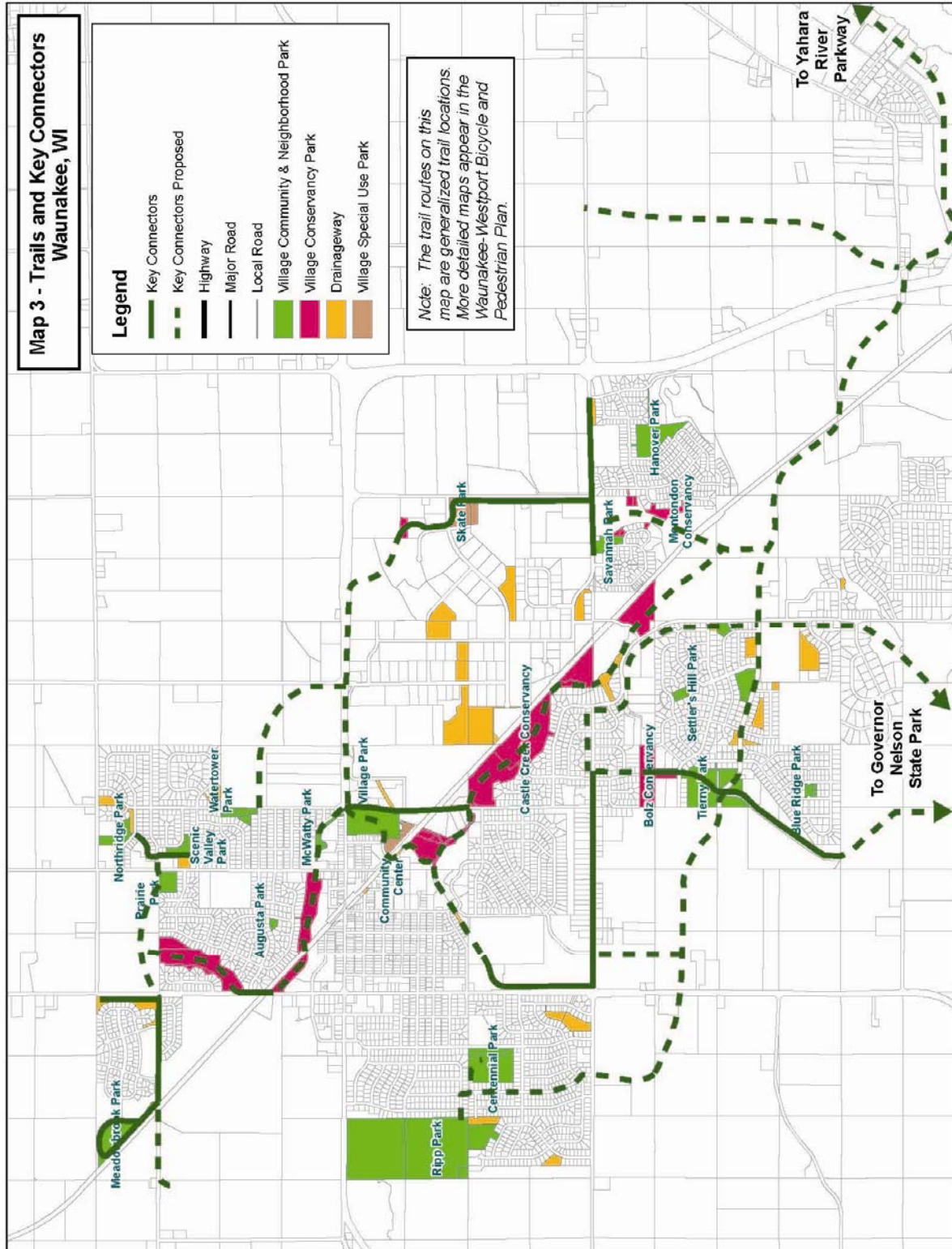
Waunakee has an extensive system of trails and pathways that are an important part of the overall park and outdoor recreation facilities system. The trails and pathways consist of a combination of trails and sidepaths constructed within the street rights-of-way on major collector and arterial streets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

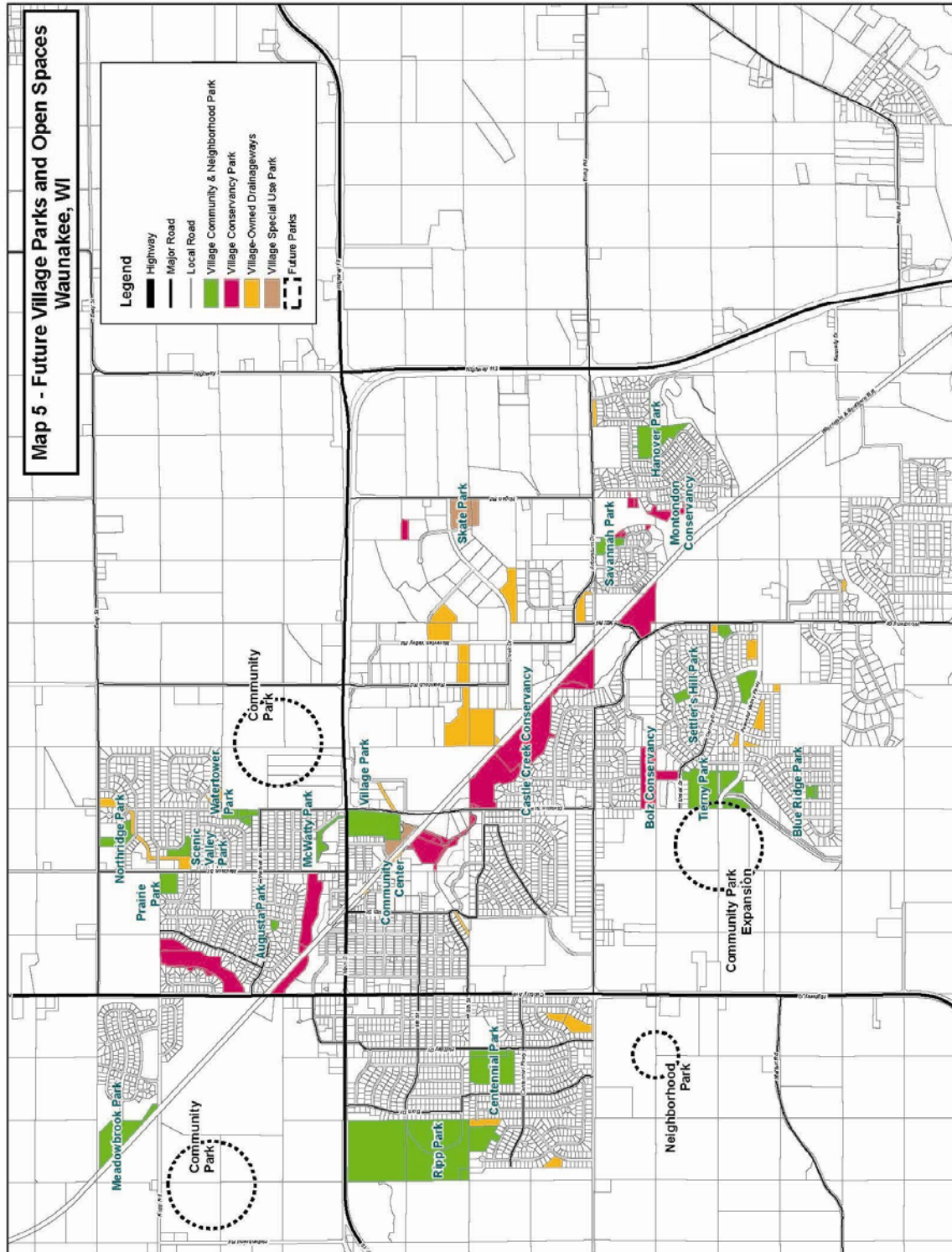
Breunig Property (North of E. Main Street and east of Divisions Street)

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

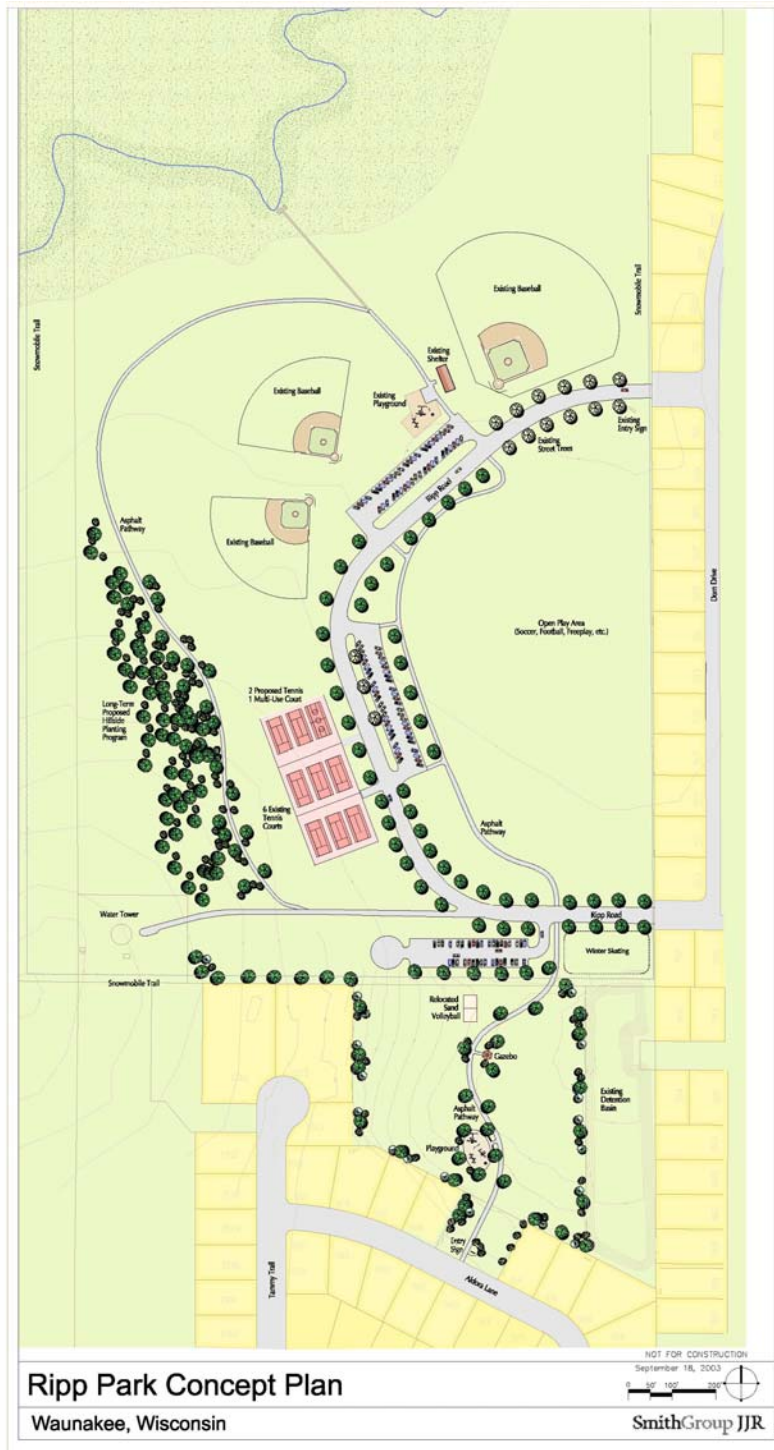
Improvements planned in 2009 or included in the 2010 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan:

- 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:

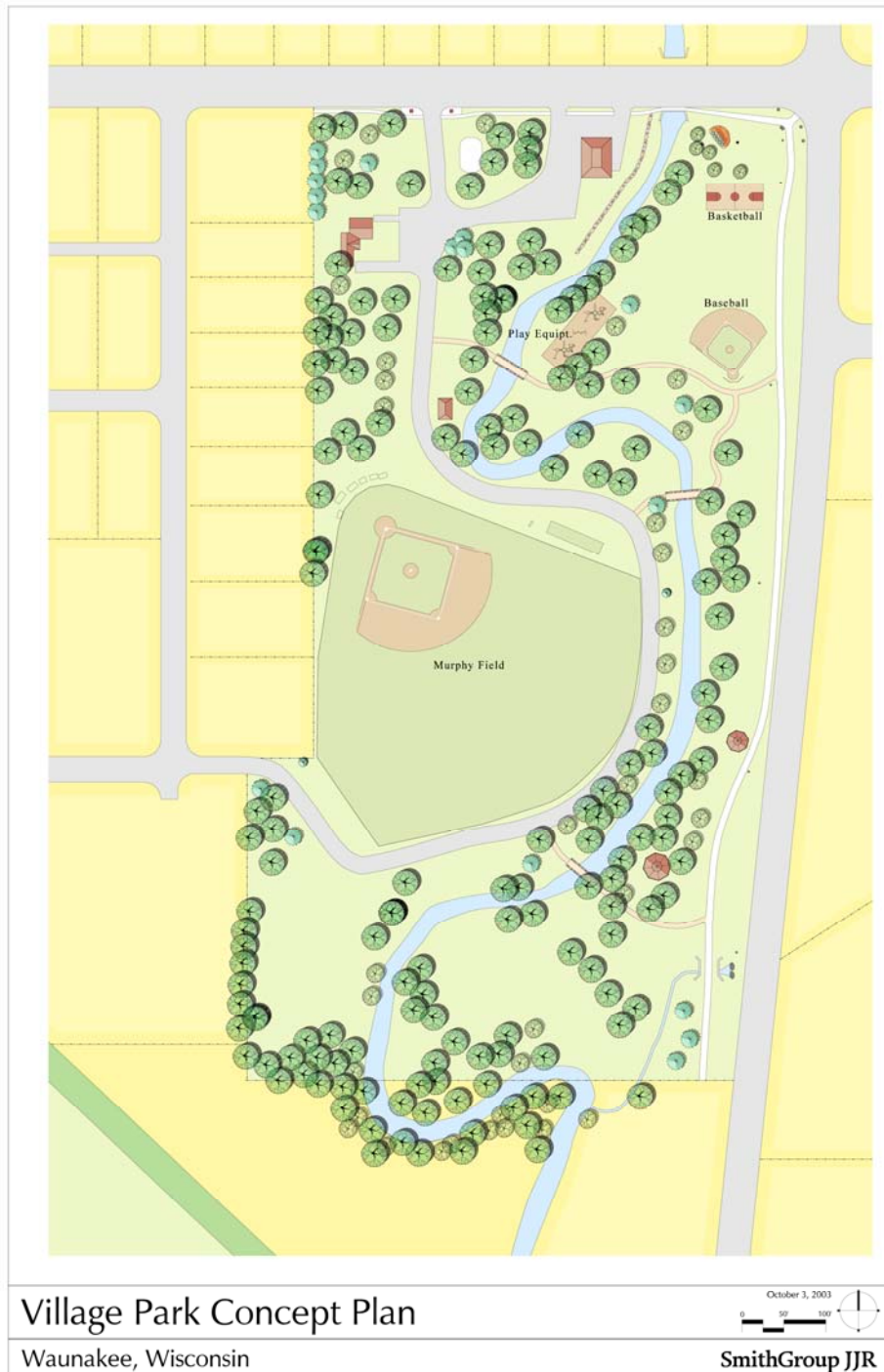
- Playground equipment upgrade and safety surfacing
- Gazebo upgrade
- Parking lot pavement and paved trail repairs

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:

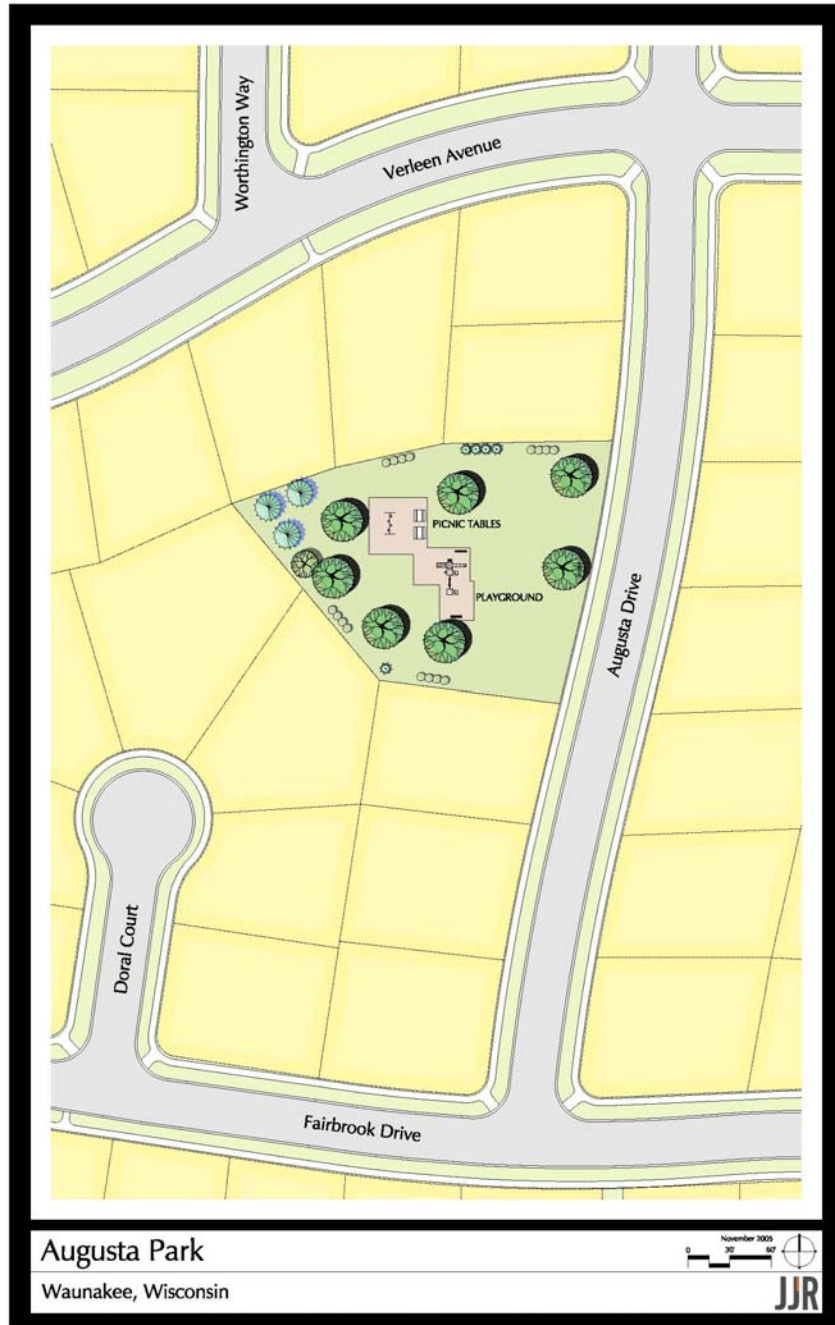
- Playground equipment upgrade and safety surface

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:

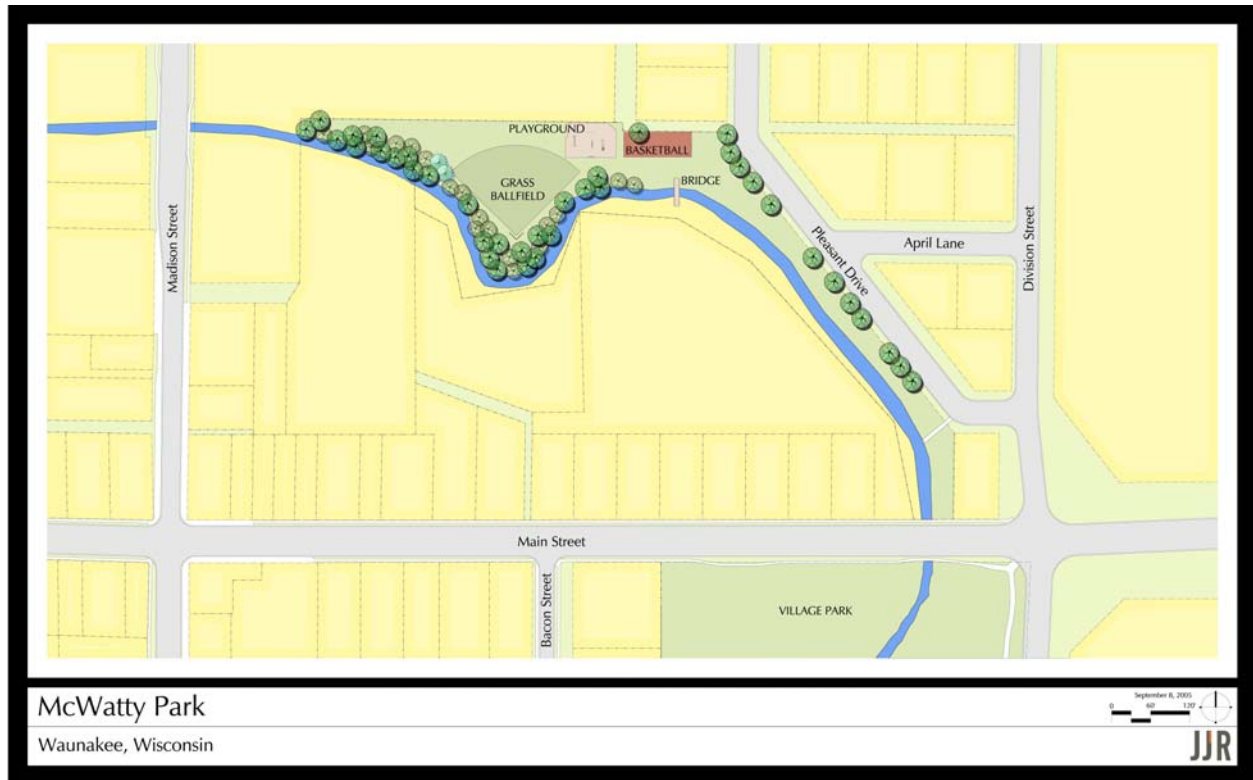
- Play equipment upgrade

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:

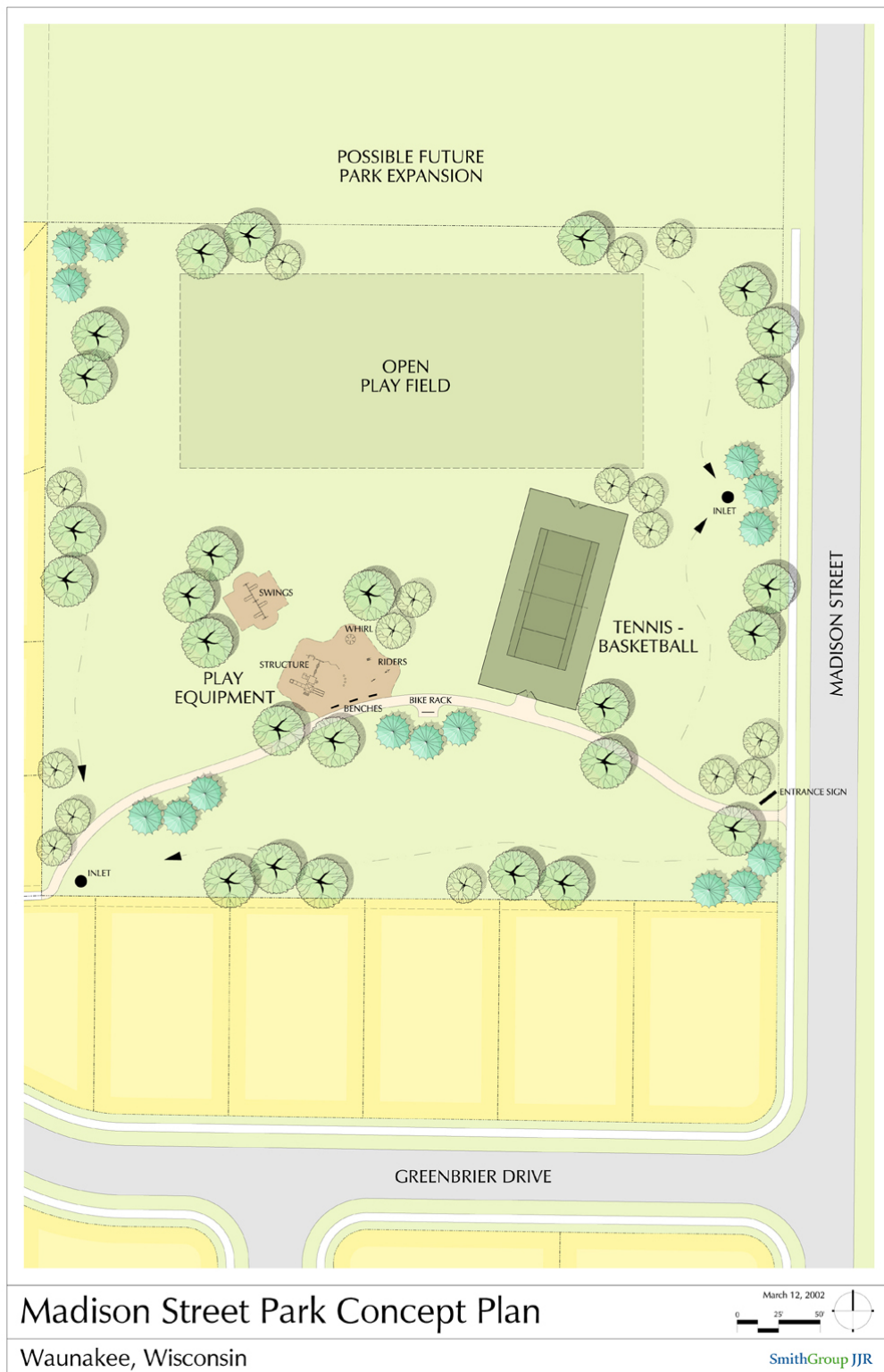
- No planned improvements

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:

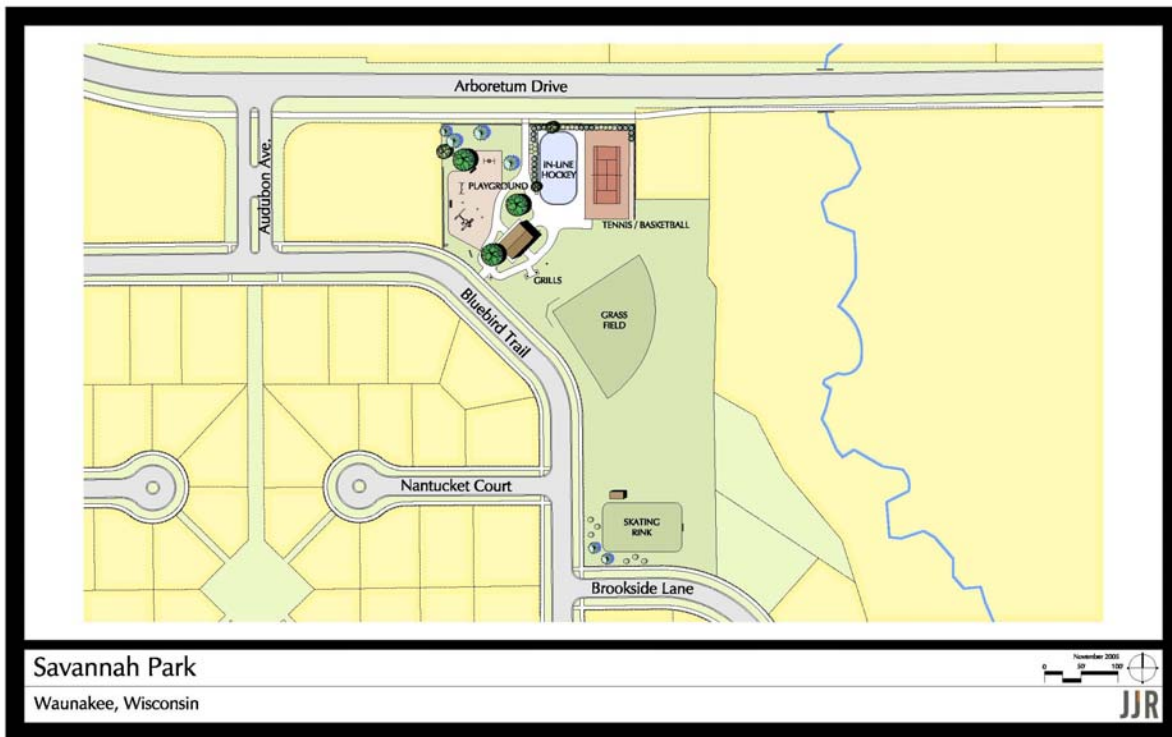
- No planned improvements

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:

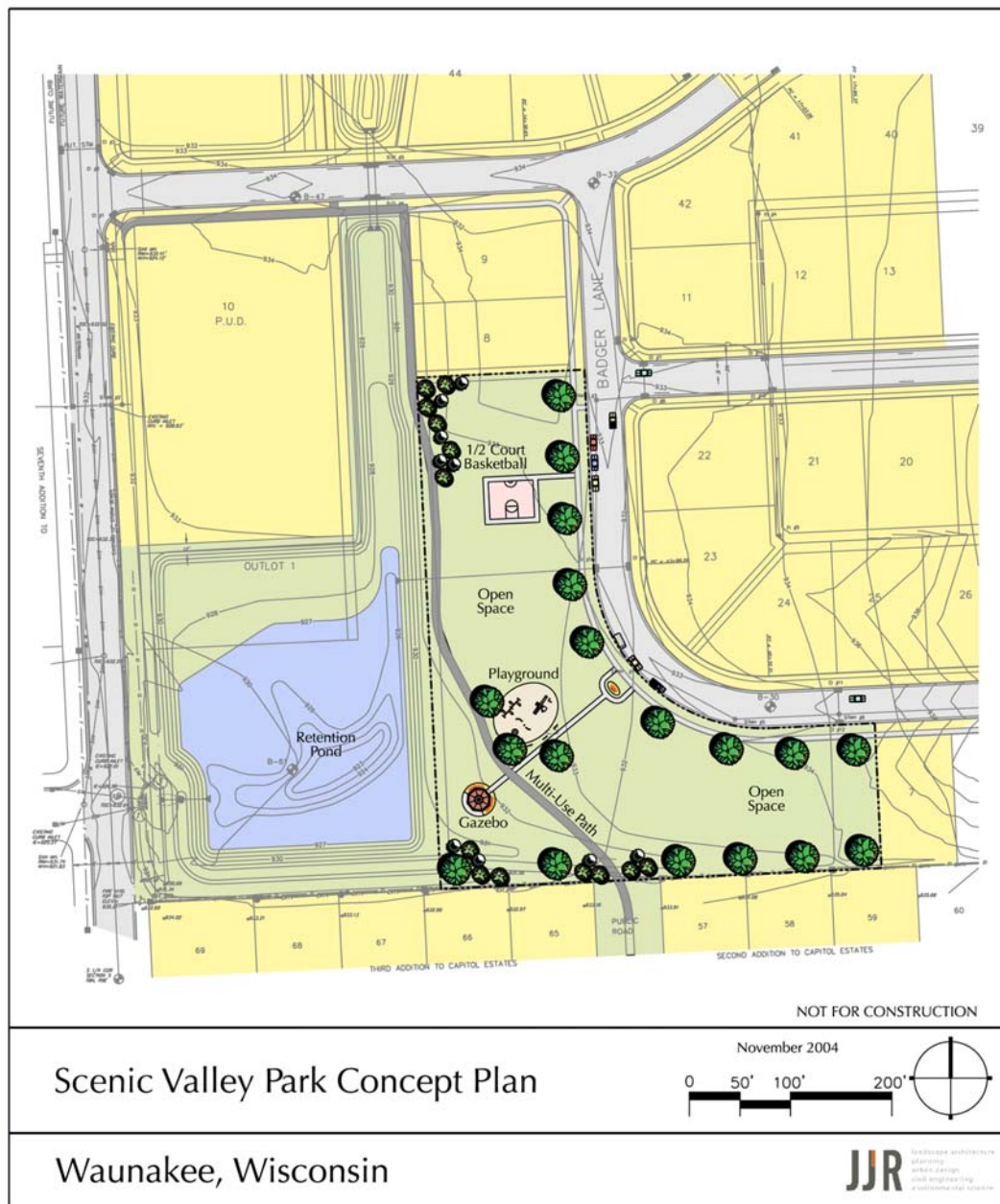
- No planned improvements

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:

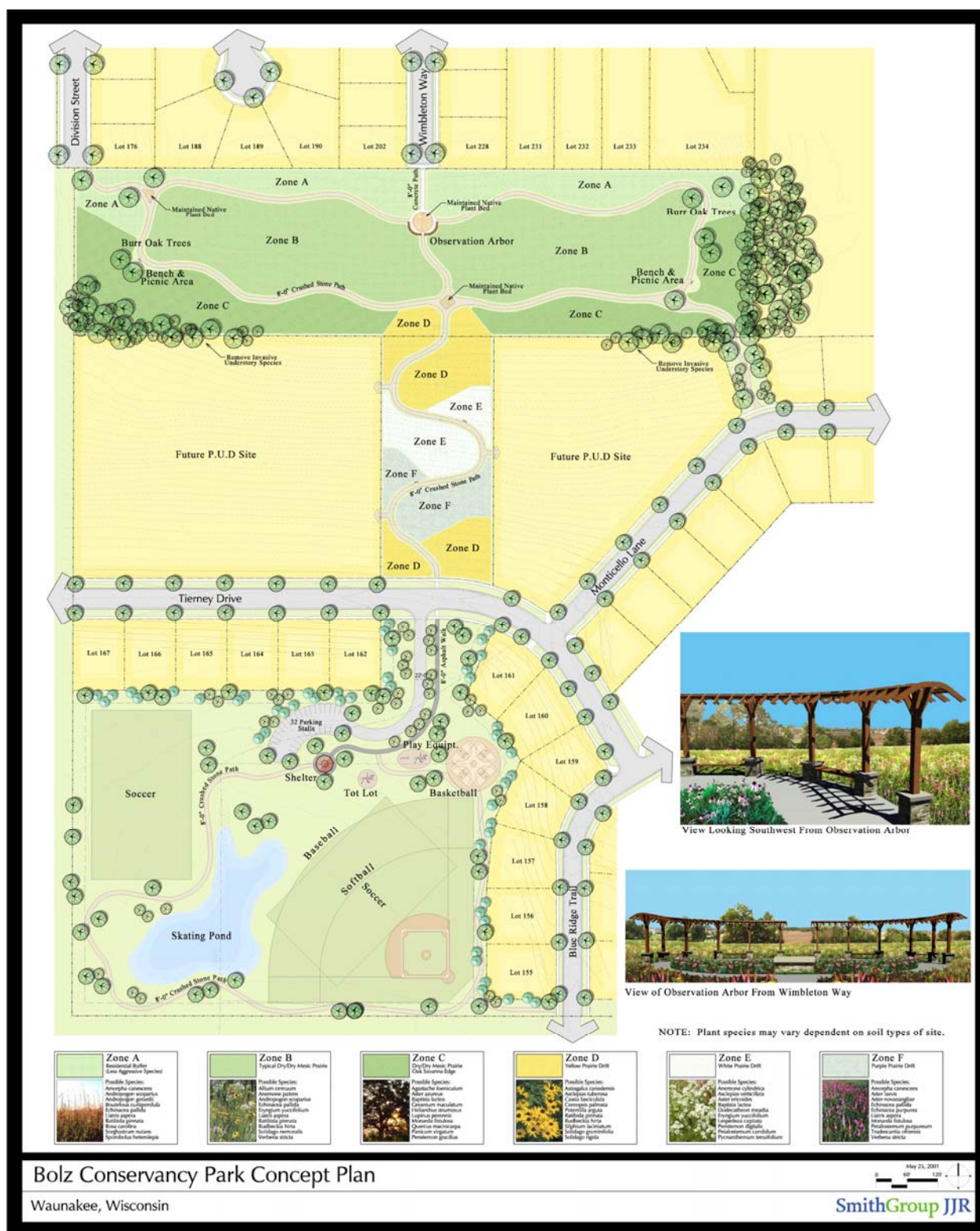
- Erosion control
- Prairie seeding
- Permanent signage

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.