



2010-2015

Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan

Prepared by Fitchburg Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department



Park Commission Approved: January 7, 2010

Common Council Adopted: January 12, 2010

Vision, Mission, and Values

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department

Vision

Create an ideal system of parks, open spaces, trails, forest, and other natural areas, along with high quality recreational opportunities, that will enhance the health and quality of life for all ages and interests and promote a strong sense of community.

Mission

Provide an exceptional and diverse system of trails, parks, open spaces, and recreational facilities that are safe, accessible, affordable, and well-planned and maintained, which meet the needs of the community.

Enhance the quality of life for Fitchburg residents of all ages by offering a variety of affordable and lifelong recreational opportunities and special events.

Understand the environment of the urban forest and use best management practices to assure that the urban forest is maintained in good health, that risk of injury and property damage is minimized, and to maximize the benefits that the urban forest provides to the community and its citizens through diversity and function.

Conserve, protect, and enhance Fitchburg's most valued natural, cultural, and historical resources for generations to come.

Values

Maintain and promote stewardship of the natural environment to promote appreciation among members of the community.

Provide recreational programs enjoyable to the community at large so citizens can learn new skills while meeting neighbors.

Provide outstanding public services and relations.

Commit to public and employee safety.

Promote citizen involvement in the development, improvement, and maintenance of the City's parks and open spaces.

Make fiscally responsible and professional decisions.

Use equitable standards when planning for recreation programs and future parks.

Maintain inter-agency and community partnerships.

Acknowledge contributions and accomplishments made by City staff.

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Introduction and Background



Introduction

The need for adequate recreation space has been realized as a prerequisite to good mental and physical health. Parks and open spaces are also a way to preserve, protect, and enhance environmentally significant and sensitive areas for the enjoyment and benefit of all.

The City's commitment to public recreation and open space provides Fitchburg residents with more than 720 acres of parks and open spaces and an additional 18 acres of recreational trail corridors. Park and open space includes 86 public parks, natural areas, stormwater facilities, a golf course, and a cemetery. Also located in Fitchburg, are the Dane County E-Way system, University of Wisconsin–Madison Arboretum, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' lands, and federal lands, providing additional acreage of environmentally significant land for active and passive recreation.



Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department

The City's role in providing parks, open spaces, and recreational opportunities is carried out by Fitchburg's Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department. Each division within the department has its own set of objectives and responsibilities. However, the Department's collective vision, mission, and values are described on page i-2 and are integrated throughout this plan.

Plan Purpose

The principal purpose of this plan is to serve as a guide in the development of recreational land and facilities which are necessary in providing the present and future residents of Fitchburg with adequate opportunities for a variety of recreational activities. At the same time, this plan promotes the protection of the City's natural, cultural, and historical resources, which are viable recreational assets.

This plan sets forth goals and objectives to be used as guidelines in formulating plans for acquisition of parkland and facility development. It inventories the existing parks and open spaces and assesses the needs for expansion or improvement of parks and recreational facilities. The plan also contains short and long-term recommendations. These recommendations pertain to acquisition of new park areas, general development strategies, bicycle transportation and pedestrian routes, improvements to existing parks, and recommendations for environmental and natural resource protection. The Implementation section (Page 8-1) lists strategies for executing the recommendations of the plan.

The preparation and periodic revision of a comprehensive park, recreation, and open space plan is an important tool for ensuring that Fitchburg's park system meets the recreational and environmental needs of a community. A park and open space plan is also a prerequisite for participating in county, state, and federal grant programs. To accomplish the goals and recommendations of this plan, the City must periodically revise its plan to remain eligible for the funds provided by these government programs.

Plan Development

This plan, adopted by the Fitchburg Park Commission, Plan Commission, and Common Council, serves as an official guide to the Fitchburg Common Council and other City commissions and staff. Over the course of 2009 the Fitchburg Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department worked with the Park Commission to update its park and open space plan (formerly the Plan for Open Space and Recreation), which was last approved in 2000. Refer to Appendix A for a timeline of meetings held regarding the development of this plan.

Portions of this plan were developed in conjunction with Fitchburg's Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan sets forth goals, objectives, and policies for elements such as land use, natural and cultural resources, and community facilities. These elements pertain to Fitchburg's park and open space system and the planning process.

The Fitchburg community also had a role in developing this plan. The public had the opportunity to learn more about the Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan and provide feedback on the draft at two open houses and a public hearing held in 2009. The Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department created a survey for each open house to gather the community's feedback regarding park and open space issues and recommendations for improving the park system. These results can be viewed at the following website: http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/ComprehensiveParkOpenSpaceandRecreationPlan.php.

Park Classification and Standards

The City is dedicated to providing a neighborhood system of parks and open space. Since 1974, the City's Land Division Ordinance (Appendix B) has required the dedication of parkland by developers. This requirement assures the City can acquire additional park areas necessary so that new development is appropriately served by parks and open space. In 2006, an ordinance was passed to relate park fees as a condition for any rezoning, conditional use permit, or design review to any residential unit receiving such approval within the City.

A hierarchy of parks has evolved based upon the area and number of people served by the park. Each type of park has a standard for ideal size, service area, and desirable facilities. Three levels of parks for which there are standards are neighborhood, area, and community parks.

Fitchburg's park and open space system also includes other types of public lands and special purpose recreational facilities. Standards have been set for such recreational facilities as golf courses and tennis courts. Conservation areas and greenways can provide both active and passive recreation. They do not have set park standards, but often suggest lower levels of use and development.



Recreational Programs

Fitchburg currently organizes and administers recreational programs which the public continues to demand and actively support. These programs use the Fitchburg Community Center, Fitchburg parks, and school facilities. The City continues to encourage active partnerships for the administration of some programs by volunteer nonprofit organizations using City facilities.

Additional recreational programs are administered by local schools. The City of Fitchburg is divided into three school districts (Madison, Verona, and Oregon). The City currently only uses Verona's facilities for recreation programs. Two Verona public schools are located in Fitchburg: Stoner Prairie Elementary and Savanna Oaks (K-6 Verona School District). They are located adjacent to each other and provide facilities such as gymnasiums, game fields, and playgrounds. Eagle School, a private school for gifted and talented students, is also located in Fitchburg. At the present time, the City does not have any middle or high schools where facilities such as swimming pools and athletic fields are typically provided.

Community Profile

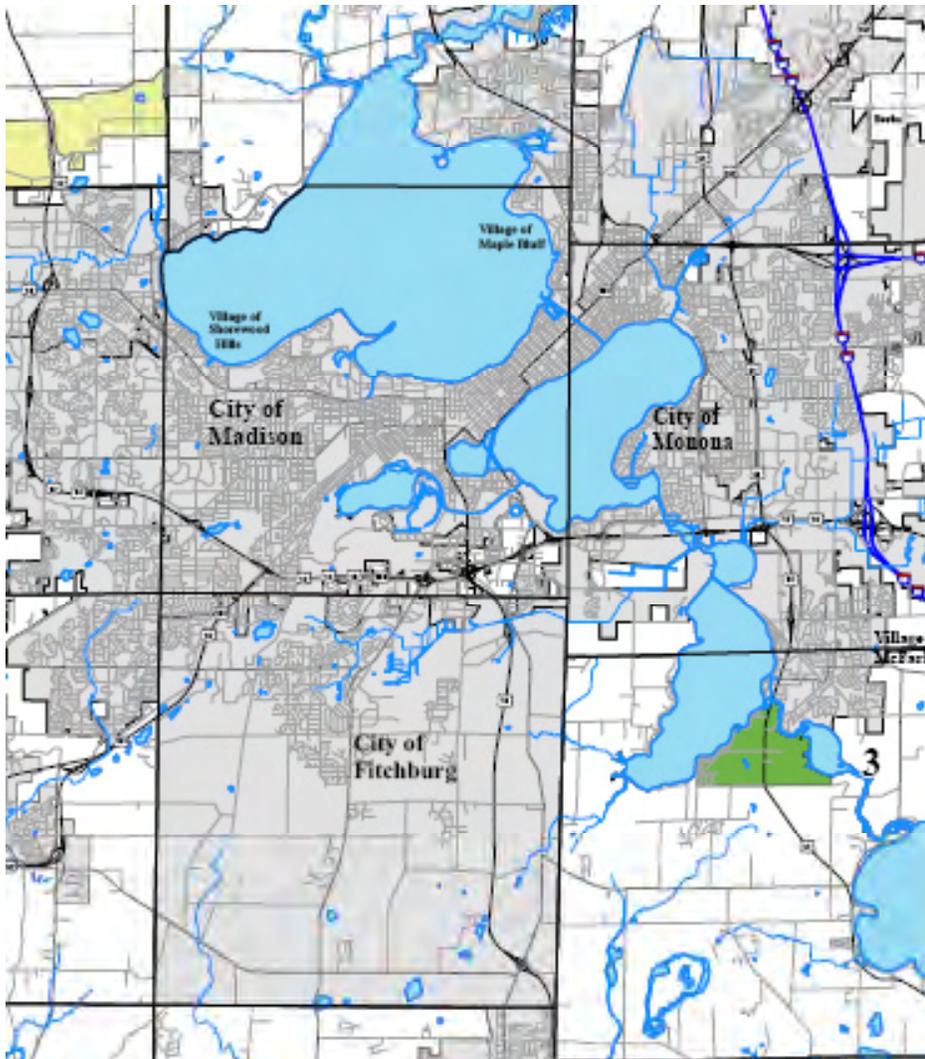
The City of Fitchburg is located in southern Dane County, Wisconsin, and is accessed by U.S. Highways 14 and 18/151, and County Highways D, PD, MM and M (Figure 1-1). The City is south of Madison, 76 miles west of Milwaukee, 135 miles northwest of Chicago, Illinois, 95 miles east of Dubuque, Iowa, and 273 miles southeast of the Twin Cities in Minnesota.

Fitchburg is located in the Yahara River Basin on a small moraine created during the last ice age. Here glacial deposits dammed up large pre-glacial valleys forming a chain of large lakes and wetlands, including Lake Barney. As the glacier retreated, the Yahara River and its tributaries, including Nine Springs, Swan, and Murphy's Creeks, were formed. The fertile soils deposited in the river valley contributed to the establishment of agricultural activities in the Fitchburg area during the mid-1800s.

Fitchburg was first settled in 1837 and became the Town of Greenfield in 1847. The town was renamed Fitchburg in 1853 after a City in Massachusetts. Early growth in Fitchburg took place at several locations, including the stagecoach and railroad stops formally named Oak Hall and Lake View.

Agriculture played the major role in the town's development. Because of its proximity to Madison, the town grew rapidly after 1960. In the last 25 years the City's population has climbed as residential and industrial development has prospered. In 1983, the Town of Fitchburg incorporated as a City with a population of more than 12,000.

Figure 1 - 1: Madison Metropolitan Area



Source: Community Analysis and Planning Division, 2005.

By 1992, the City had grown to a population of more than 17,000 and provided more than 2,200 jobs. Employment in Fitchburg is balanced between manufacturing jobs and retail service jobs in the City's commercial-industrial districts along Highway 18/151 and Fish Hatchery Road, including Fitchburg Center.

Fitchburg's growth is part of regional growth trends. During the last 20 years, the City of Fitchburg's population has doubled in size, while Dane County's population has increased by 26 percent. The City, with an estimated population of 23,420 as of January 2008, is expected to have a population of 30,431 in 2020 and reach 35,386 by 2030. City development plans concentrate growth within the urban service area and the future urban growth boundaries.

For more information on demographics and land use, refer to the Fitchburg Comprehensive Plan, which can be found on the Planning/Zoning Department's web page (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/planning_zoning/comprehensive.php).

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Goals, Objectives, and Policies



Goals, Objectives, and Policies

The following goals, objectives, and policies provide a framework for park and open space planning and policy decisions, and they also reflect the current needs and concerns of the Fitchburg community. They were developed using the goals, objectives, and policies presented in the 2000 *City of Fitchburg Plan for Open Space and Recreation*, 2009 *City of Fitchburg Comprehensive Plan*, *Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2005-2010*, and the *Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan 2006-2011*. They also recognize the key findings of the 2006 *City of Fitchburg Comprehensive Planning Survey Report* and public participation through the development of this plan. The Resource Conservation Commission and a number of Fitchburg residents provided comments on the draft Goals, Objectives, and Policies that were presented at the June 17, 2009 public open house (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/documents/AllCommentsonDraftGoalsObjectivesPolicies8-7-09_000.pdf).

Goals are intended to be broad statements that describe desired future conditions and provide direction for the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department. *Objectives* describe specific future conditions to be attained. A *policy* is a course of action or rule of conduct to direct future park planning, development, management, and land acquisition. It provides guidance to achieve the goals and objectives of the plan. These goals, objectives, and policies will aid the City in improving its park system and ensure that parks are developed for activities that are needed and desired by Fitchburg residents.

Objectives and policies are based on the following general goals:

- *To improve Fitchburg's park and open space system and recreational programming by providing adequate facilities and recreational opportunities and the highest degree of enjoyment, health and safety for all residents, while practicing ecological stewardship.*
- *To conserve, protect, and enhance the community's natural, cultural, and historical resources and preserve their diversity for posterity.*

Park and Recreation Facilities

Objective 1: Plan, acquire, and develop accessible park and recreation facilities to help meet the recreational needs of the community's population and protect environmentally sensitive areas.



Policy 1.1: Distribute facilities within convenient distance from all neighborhoods.

Policy 1.2: Provide facilities to serve residents of all ages and abilities.

Policy 1.3: Segregate incompatible recreational activities (i.e. off road biking and dog walking).

Policy 1.4: Identify park classification needs during the neighborhood planning or redevelopment process. This approach will ensure that the City plans and acquires sites with proper location and size.

Policy 1.5: Continue to meet citizen needs based on the hierarchy of parks, outlined in this plan.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Policy 1.6: Continue the standard requirement of dedication of parkland or park fees.

Policy 1.7: Consider an adjustment to the City's parkland dedication requirement to provide appropriate park and recreation facilities in certain higher density developments.

Policy 1.8: Consider an update to the parkland dedication requirement that recognizes the contribution of larger environmental corridors to the total open space provided, and create a management plan that lists potential recreational uses within the larger environmental corridors (i.e. 300-foot wetland buffers), provided it is not contrary to resource protection measures or other relevant recommendations of a neighborhood plan, area, or special study.

Policy 1.9: Provide year-round recreational facilities and programs.

Policy 1.10: Study and recognize future needs and trends for recreation and education.

Policy 1.11: As the need arises, consider development of additional open spaces and specialized recreation facilities, such as (but not limited to) a dog exercise area, Frisbee golf course, skateboard/BMX park, nature preserve, and large, centralized, multi-use public open space.

Objective 2: Retain community gardens in Fitchburg and establish additional areas for new community gardens.

Policy 2.1: Explore the option to provide publicly owned community gardens.

Policy 2.2: Expand community gardens in the City as demand increases.

Policy 2.3: Attempt to create an "area" community garden in residential neighborhoods, similar to the hierarchy of parks, intended to serve persons within bicycle distance (1/2 mile).

Objective 3: Balance the amount of parkland and proposed facilities with the projected revenues and parkland likely to be available for development and maintenance.

Policy 3.1: Make maximum use of non-local funds to acquire and develop facilities.

Policy 3.2: Cooperate with other units of government and agencies to provide joint facilities when appropriate.

Policy 3.3: Consider joint public and private support efforts, endowments, and user fees for acquisition and maintenance of facilities or programs whose high costs or limited potential usage make full public support unfeasible.



Park and Open Space System

Objective 4: Integrate the park and open space system with the recreational trail system and stormwater management system, to connect environmental corridors, provide for wildlife movement and stormwater management, and expand recreation and nature study opportunities.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Policy 4.1: Maximize the use of a greenway system to provide open space, recreation areas, and stormwater management.

Policy 4.2: Use resource-based park and open space planning (utilizing natural, cultural, and historical resources) to allow for human interaction and connectivity with the environment and environmental protection and enhancement.

Policy 4.3: Work in accordance with the City's 2008 *Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan* in planning for linear parks and paths. In environmentally sensitive areas, consider providing an alternate hiking trail system where paving is not encouraged.

Objective 5: Create a unified central and regional park and open space system.

Policy 5.1: Encourage the development and implementation of the long-term *Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal* within this plan (Page 7-1).

Policy 5.2: Encourage the creation of a central park and open space, known as Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North, as proposed in this plan and accepted as the priority area for parkland acquisition in Resolution R-84-08 (Appendix C).

Policy 5.3: Integrate environmentally sensitive areas, resource protection, and passive and active recreation into a park and open space network.

Objective 6: Preserve open space to create visual separation between Fitchburg and neighboring communities.

Policy 6.1: Explore and support innovative methods of maintaining open space at the City's edge.

Natural, Cultural and Historical Resources



Objective 7: Protect and take advantage of the City's natural, cultural, and historical resources, recognizing that they are finite and irreplaceable.

Policy 7.1: Maintain an inventory of specific resources within the City.

Policy 7.2: Preserve from development historic and natural areas, including but not limited to wildlife habitats, waterways, wetlands, woodlands, prairie and savanna remnants, heritage and specimen trees, agricultural land, steep slopes, and groundwater recharge areas, by including them in the park and open space system whenever possible.

Policy 7.3: Utilize hydrologic feature buffers to improve water and wetland quality and quantity.

Objective 8: Ensure the health of the City's urban forest.

Policy 8.1: The City will develop and enforce a Tree Preservation Ordinance.

Policy 8.2: Maintain an inventory of trees in public right of ways, parks, woodlots, and natural areas.

Policy 8.3: Continue the planting and maintenance of trees on public lands.

Policy 8.4: Increase City-owned acreage of forests and woodlots.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Policy 8.5: Consider low-impact recreational use of City forests.

Policy 8.6: Utilize staff expertise and available resources to create and implement forest management plans for City woodlots.

Policy 8.7: Encourage the protection and management of private forest habitat and the responsible planting and maintenance of trees on private property.

Policy 8.8: Educate the public about sustainable forest management practices.



Objective 9: Plan and design parks, open spaces, and recreational facilities to sustain environmentally sensitive features and reduce negative environmental effects.

Policy 9.1: Ensure that the environmental and aesthetic qualities of the community are preserved and enhanced.

Policy 9.2: Preserve and maintain selected wooded areas, vegetative cover, streams, ponds, natural drainage ways, and other natural resources in and around the City.

Policy 9.3: Maintain or improve the quality of the water resources in the City.

Policy 9.4: Adopt a long-term *Parks and Open Space Proposal* for future parks and recreation facilities and protected open space (Page 7-1).

Objective 10: Implement educational exhibits and outreach programs.

Policy 10.1: Develop interpretive and educational signage to increase public interest and appreciation for the community's resources.

Operations and Maintenance

Objective 11: Manage and maintain parks, open space, and recreational facilities to optimize use and protect public investment.

Policy 11.1: Review and revise maintenance standards to provide services that can be maintained with anticipated resources.

Policy 11.2: Encourage non-profit groups, businesses, organizations, and individuals to become involved in the care and maintenance of the City's parks and facilities.

Objective 12: Provide for safe enjoyment of Fitchburg parklands through public relations, informational programs, and maintenance of facilities.

Policy 12.1: Provide courteous and responsive public information and contact.

Policy 12.2: Maintain cleanliness, function, and integrity of public lands, structures, and equipment, responsibly and reasonably.



Objective 13: Continue the process of improvements to existing parks in order to meet current recreational needs and park renovations.

Policy 13.1: The Parks Department will maintain an inventory of existing parks and document a routine maintenance schedule of facilities.

Policy 13.2: Recognize that as demographics and social characteristics of

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

current park use change that the type and level of necessary park facilities may also need to change.

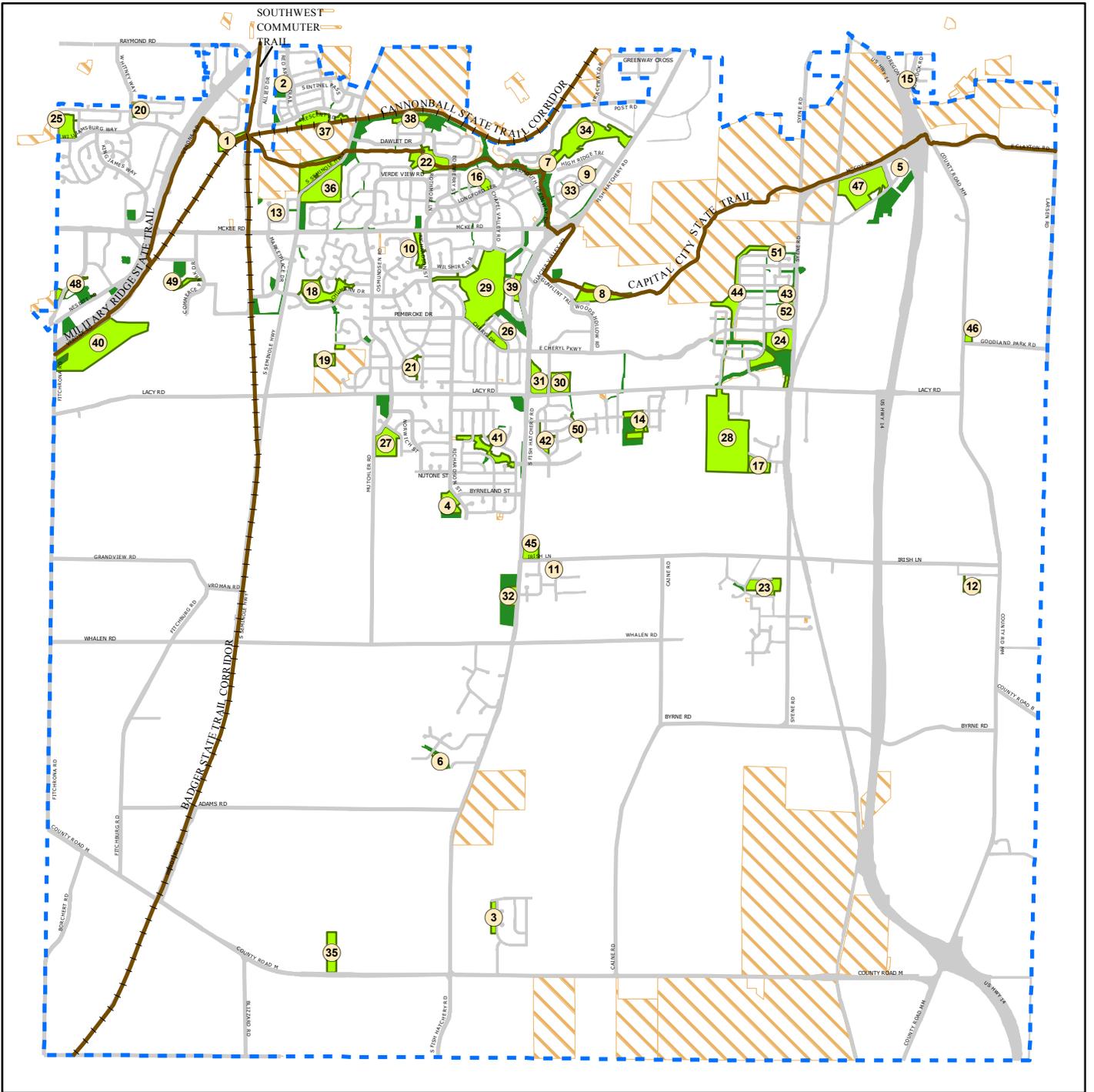


Inventory



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Figure 3 - 1: Fitchburg Parks & Open Spaces



FITCHBURG PARK & OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1 ARROWHEAD | 13 PINE RIDGE | 25 HUEGEL-JAMESTOWN | 37 DUNN'S MARSH NATURAL AREAS | 50 QUARRY HILL WALKWAY |
| 2 BELMAR HILLS | 14 QUARRY HILL | 26 TOWER HILL | 38 HARLAN HILLS | 51 BLACK WALNUT PRESERVE |
| 3 BRIARWOOD | 15 RIMROCK | 27 WILDWOOD SOUTH PRAIRIE | 39 MICKELSON WOODS | 52 NANNYBERRY WETLAND |
| 4 BYRNE | 16 ROSECOMMONS | 28 MCGAW PARK | 40 QUARRY RIDGE RECREATION AREA | MAJOR RECREATION TRAILS |
| 5 CLAYTON | 17 S. JOHNSON | 29 MCKEE FARMS | 41 OAK MEADOW | APPROVED RECREATION TRAILS |
| 6 COUNTRY VINEYARD | 18 SEMINOLE GLEN | 30 CITY HALL / COMMUNITY CENTER | 42 NOBEL WOODLOT | FITCHBURG CITY LIMITS |
| 7 FITCHBURG SPRINGS | 19 STONER PRAIRIE | 31 FITCHBURG CENTER PARK | 43 NANNYBERRY | PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY |
| 8 GUNFLINT TRAIL | 20 WESTERN HILLS | 32 GORMAN WAYSIDE | 44 BLUESTEM | OTHER PUBLIC LAND (SCHOOL DIST., LOCAL, STATE, FEDERAL) |
| 9 HATCHERY HILLS | 21 WILDWOOD | 33 NEVIN VILLAGE GREEN | 45 IRISH LANE OPEN SPACE | |
| 10 HAWK RIDGE | 22 CHICORY MEADOWS | 34 NINE SPRINGS GOLF COURSE | 46 GOODLAND PARK ROAD LANDS | |
| 11 HILLSIDE HEIGHTS | 23 GREENFIELD | 35 OAK HILL CEMETERY | 47 MCCOY/W. CLAYTON OPEN SPACE | |
| 12 PERRY J. SCHAPPE | 24 SWAN CREEK | 36 DAWLEY CONSERVANCY | 48 ORCHARD POINTE NATURAL AREAS | |
| | | | 49 COMMERCE PARK HILLSIDE | |



Prepared by: Parks, Recreation, & Forestry Dept. and Planning/Zoning Dept.
 Source: Planning/Zoning & Dane County LIO
 Revised: December 17, 2009

Inventory

Fitchburg's park and open space system consists of approximately 740 acres of public parks, open spaces, and recreational trail corridors, located in over 100 areas (Figure 3-1). Specific areas are designated as neighborhood, area, or community parks (depending on standards for size, location and intended usage); other parks; other areas; stormwater facilities; or recreational trails (exclusive use). See Appendix C for the complete inventory and amenities. The inventory is further described in this chapter. More information on natural areas and stormwater facilities can be found in the *Specific Management Plan for Public Properties within the City of Fitchburg*, available at the Public Works Department's "Stormwater" web page: http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/public_works/Studies.php.

Community Parks



McGaw Park (65.00 acres)

5236 Lacy Rd

McGaw Park is the largest park in Fitchburg. The park is used for community events such as softball tournaments. The shelter can be reserved for picnics and gatherings for up to 100 people. This park is well suited for organized league activities such as youth ball, adult softball, and soccer.

The park contains four lighted softball diamonds, one youth ball field, one lacrosse field, a shelter with restrooms, picnic tables, two tennis courts, four sand volleyball courts, half-court basketball, play equipment, a bike/pedestrian path, three parking areas, two park identification signs, and landscaping. A 1.5-mile trail cuts through a 30-acre woodland. The trail head is located at the east parking lot. The park also has a 2-acre prairie area located near the northern entrance and tall grass areas in various park areas. See http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/mcgaw_park.php for a park site plan.



McKee Farms Park (59.00 acres)

2930 Chapel Valley Rd, 2876 Richardson St, 2881 Mickelson Pkwy

This park includes a multi-use shelter with restrooms, picnic tables, a bicycle/pedestrian path system (over a mile long), large parking areas (152 car capacity), two softball diamonds, seven soccer fields, one full-court basketball, three play equipment areas (including Kids Crossing), six lighted tennis courts, two sand volleyball courts, an area for seasonal ice skating, benches/memorial benches and landscaping. The park also has 5 acres of tall turf grass in various areas throughout the park. See http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/mckee_farm_park.php for the park master plan.

Portions of the park facilitate stormwater drainage, including four detention ponds (5.83 acres), two waterways, and a greenway. The waterways are typically dry. Two ponds exist on the northern side of the park. The McKee Farms wet pond acts as stormwater detention for McKee Park Greenway and the Chapel Valley neighborhood. Constructed in 2004, the pond has an area of approximately 0.5 acres. The pond has an average normal water depth of 5 ft., and a maximum depth of 10 ft.. The McKee Farms dry pond acts as a holding pond for the McKee Farms wet pond. The dry pond, constructed in 2004, has an area of approximately

0.3 acres. Two ponds also exist on the eastern side of the park. These ponds, constructed in 2000, act as stormwater detention for the Mickelson Woods neighborhood. One pond contains an aerator. The northern pond has an average normal water depth of 5 ft., and a maximum depth of 8 ft.. The pond has an area of approximately 1.3 acres. The southern pond has an average normal water depth of 7 ft., and a maximum depth of 10 ft.. The pond has an area of approximately 2.9 acres. There exists a depression used as a skating rink that was not designed as a pond. However, the depression acts as a dry pond in times of heavy rainfall.

The park is well suited for larger community events, youth ball, and soccer leagues. The park hosts Fitchburg Days, Festa Italia, and Concerts in the Park, as well as other community events throughout the year. The indoor shelter can accommodate 30 people and could potentially be used as a warming shelter during the winter season. The outdoor shelter can accommodate 150 people.

Area Parks

Chicory Meadows Park (15.06 acres)

5772 Auburn Dr, 3061 Edenberry St., 5755 Dawley Dr

This park, located along the Capital City Bike Trail, contains a soccer field, ball field, two tennis courts, full court basketball (east), half court basketball (west), two sets of playground equipment, shelter, picnic tables, sledding hill, paved path system (including Capital City State Trail), and landscaping. A 4-acre grassland area is located in the eastern portion of the park. The central portion of the park has a 1.5-acre wooded area extending north and south

Greenfield Park (10.79 acres)

5187 Greenfield Park Rd

This is one of Fitchburg's oldest parks and it contains a 2-acre woodland that has large oak trees, reminiscent of the oak savannas that once dominated the landscape. An intermittent drainageway and a 2-acre tall grass area extend through the southern portion of the park. The park also contains a shelter, restrooms, drinking fountain, picnic tables, grills, play equipment, half basketball court, volleyball area, five horseshoe pits, two softball diamonds, park identification sign, and landscaping. The shelter can be reserved for picnics of up to 175 people. This park served as a community park in the past and because of its size, parking and access, can continue to accommodate moderate levels of league play for softball and youth ball and picnic gatherings.



Huegel-Jamestown Park (9.10 acres)

5810 Williamsburg Way

This park is jointly developed and maintained by the City of Madison (7.8 acres) and the City of Fitchburg (9.1 acres). The park contains a large shelter, drinking fountain, play equipment, two tennis courts, full basketball court, softball diamond, soccer field, volleyball area, sledding hill, paved path, and landscaping. The park has adequate street access to permit league softball, youth ball and youth soccer. In the northeast area of the park there is a 1.5-acre tall grass area.

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Swan Creek Park (19.16 acres)

5175 E. Cheryl Dr

Located in the Swan Creek neighborhood along the north branch of Swan Creek, this park contains playground equipment, a shelter with water fountain and restrooms, picnic tables, full-court basketball, two tennis courts, paved paths with bridges, tall grass areas, landscaping, and park identification signs (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/park_info.php). Two rain gardens are located on either side of the playground. The neighborhood association maintains the rain gardens.



Tower Hill Park (4.51 acres)

5610 Cheryl Dr

This park contains a shelter, restrooms, drinking fountain, play equipment, half-court basketball, softball and soccer fields, volleyball area, picnic tables, and landscaping. The shelter can be reserved for picnics up to 100 people. The park has excellent access because of substantial street frontage which permits moderate use for youth league soccer and youth ball. The ball field is too small for adult league play. Because of the close proximity of homes to the shelter, picnic gatherings must be limited in size to minimize neighborhood impact.

Wildwood South Prairie Park (12.72 acres)

2629 Stanbrook St

This park contains a youth softball field, two soccer fields, play equipment, half court basketball, two tennis courts, small shelter, drinking fountain, portable toilet, benches, park identification sign, paths, and landscaping. The park has substantial street frontage which permits youth ball and youth soccer leagues. A paved trail connects facilities within the park and lies adjacent to a 3-acre tall grass area. A pond and natural waterway on the northern end of the park provide stormwater drainage and detention for the Wildwood South area.

Neighborhood Parks

Arrowhead Park (6.00 acres)

2431 Chalet Gardens Ct

This park is located along the Capital City State Trail in the Nine Springs E-way. It contains play equipment, a half basketball court, and landscaping. There are also two detention ponds (installed in 1994) that reduce peak flow and reduce sediments within stormwater entering Dunn's Marsh. Both act as stormwater detention for the Nakoma Heights, Chalet Gardens, and Western Hills neighborhoods.

Belmar Hills Park (4.20 acres)

4600 Jeneweien Rd

This park is located adjacent to the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County. The park contains play equipment, a half basketball court, ball field, path, interior path lighting, a picnic table, and landscaping. A master plan for this park can be found at

http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/BelmarHills.php

Briarwood Park (3.78 acres)

1870 Derby Dr

This park contains play equipment, a half basketball court, benches, picnic tables, ball field, small soccer field, volleyball area, and a 1.3-acre prairie. The prairie is located in the center of the park and was planted in 1998. League play is not recommended on the ball field and soccer field due to their small size.

Byrne Park (7.86 acres)

2535 Richardson St

Located at the edge of Byrnewood Neighborhood, this park has an expansive view of Fitchburg farmland. The park contains play equipment, benches, a half basketball court, picnic tables, shelter, ball field, and a drinking fountain. The ball field will accommodate limited youth league play. A 3-acre tall grass area is located in the western portion of the park and has a mowed trail. To the south of the park is a 2-acre stormwater detention area that contains tall grasses and is normally dry.

Clayton Park (0.50 acres)

4992 West Clayton Rd

This small park is one of the City's older parks and contains play equipment, a half basketball court, bench, and a small area of open turf grass.

Country Vineyard Park (2.58 acres)

2136 Vintage Dr

Located in a wooded area in the Country Vineyard Neighborhood, this park has play equipment, a half basketball court, picnic tables, and landscaping. The southern portion of the park contains a tall grass area and a 2-acre area adjacent to the park serves as a drainageway. The park has limited street access.



Fitchburg Springs Park (1.83 acres)

3333 Leopold Way

This small woodland park is considered a part of the Nine Springs E-Way and is adjacent to the Nine Springs Golf Course. It contains play equipment, a park bench, a 1.5-acre wooded area, and Nine Springs Creek.

Gunflint Trail Park (13.07 acres)

5420 Gunflint Trail

This park is a part of the Nine Springs E-Way and is located next to Eagle School, a regional school for gifted and talented students kindergarten through eighth grade. The Capital City State Trail passes through the northern part of the park. The eastern parcel (1.96 acres) was dedicated for conservancy purposes. While the park has some landscaping, no other recreation facilities have been developed yet. Parking is available along the street.

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Hatchery Hill Park (2.67 acres)

3035 Cahill Main

This park contains a ball field, play equipment, benches, a small shelter, picnic tables, paved access path, and landscaping. See http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/hatchery_hill.php for a park master plan. There are also two dry ponds, located to the north of the playground, that provide stormwater detention for the Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin.



Hawk Ridge Park (1.50 acres)

5740 Wilshire Dr

This park is part of the public open space that is situated directly behind homes in the Seminole Ridge Neighborhood. The park contains play equipment, picnic tables, benches, a small gazebo, drinking fountain, landscaping, and a path that extends into a greenway that is both open and wooded.

Hillside Heights Park (3.40 acres)

2419 Kathleen St

This park contains play equipment, a half basketball court, volleyball area, and landscaping. A 1.5 acre detention pond exists which includes a small island. The pond acts as stormwater detention for the Hillside Heights Neighborhood. Areas surrounding the pond are left to grow in a natural state. Fluctuating winter water levels and the lack of municipal water service makes this water body difficult to maintain for ice skating.

Nannyberry Park (5.16 acres)

5165 Nannyberry Dr

Located in Swan Creek Neighborhood, this park contains play equipment, a small shelter, picnic tables, paved trails, open turf grass area, and a half basketball court. A rain garden is located near the park sign and is maintained by the neighborhood association.

Oak Meadow Park (13.50 acres)

2610 Targhee St, 5636/5637 Old Oak Dr, 2625 Placid St

This park consists of multiple areas that include a large open turf grass area, play area, and wooded upland area. In the play area of the park there is a shelter, picnic tables, a half basketball court, and playground equipment (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/park_info.php). There is a paved trail that runs throughout all park areas. One special feature of the park is a large red oak tree which has been identified as a heritage tree (+200 years old).

Perry J. Schappe Park (4.38 acres)

4879 Maple Ave

This park was donated by Perry J. Schappe in 1984. The area contains a ball field, picnic table, play equipment, half basketball court, and landscaping. Organized

activities such as youth ball and soccer leagues could create parking and traffic problems along Maple Avenue and are not recommended due to limited access.

Pine Ridge Park (2.73 acres)

2980 Pineway Trl

This park contains play equipment, ball field, half basketball court, benches, small shelter, picnic tables, and landscaping.



Quarry Hill Park (9.15 acres)

5425 Quarry Hill Dr.

This park contains a ball field, shelter, picnic tables, play equipment, half court basketball, paved path, and landscaping. Located near the park is a tall grass area that serves as a detention basin. The southern 2.4-acre portion of the park, which was dedicated with the Fitchburg Technology Campus development, remains undeveloped.

Rimrock Park (0.40 acres)

2992 Rimrock Rd

This small park contains playground equipment, half basketball court, picnic table, and landscaping.

Rosecommons Park (2.97 acres)

5640 Longford Terrace

This park is centrally located within the Highlands of Seminole Neighborhood. Situated on top of a hill, the park contains play equipment, benches, small shelter, paved path, and landscaping. The hill itself can serve as a sledding hill. Because of the slope of the hill, other park facilities are not recommended here.



S. Johnson Park (6.90 acres)

5201 Wildheather Dr

This park is adjacent to McGaw Park and includes both open and densely wooded areas. The park contains play equipment, swings, and a nature/deer trail that runs east to west through the woods. The western entrance is by the tennis courts in McGaw Park and the other entrance is to the west of the S. Johnson play area. The forest also has a drainageway and large shagbark hickory trees that can be viewed along the trail. Other neighborhood park facilities have been determined to be unnecessary as the park is adjacent to McGaw Park.

Seminole Glen Park (15.81 acres)

5872 Schumann Dr

This park contains play equipment, a shelter, picnic tables, drinking fountain, a half basketball court, ball field, volleyball area, and landscaping. This park contains about five acres each of lowland surrounded by tall grass/prairie areas, woodland, and turf grass. A paved trail network connects three entry points, providing access to the

Inventory

interior of the park. The trails also provide routes to the adjacent Seminole Pool and Tennis Club and Stoner Prairie School. A footpath through the woods provides additional access to the park and an opportunity for passive recreation (i.e. wildlife observation). Two wet detention ponds also exist within the park, totaling two acres. League activities are not recommended because of the limited street access to the park, potential parking problems, and close proximity to adjacent homes.

Stoner Prairie Park (6.65 acres)

5855 Scarlet Dr

This park consists of two areas that are adjacent to the Stoner Prairie Elementary and Savanna Oaks Schools. The northern park area contains play equipment, a bench, picnic table, and landscaping. The southern park area has a ball field that can be used for league play. A paved path connects the two park areas. Additional play equipment, basketball courts, and play fields are available on school grounds.



Western Hills Park (2.77 acres)

2499 S. Whitney Way

This area has playground equipment, ball field, half basketball court, volleyball area, picnic tables, drinking fountain, landscaping, and a paved path that extends east to west. It has excellent street access on three sides, but the ball field is located very close to adjacent homes and league play is not recommended.

Wildwood Park (5.21 acres)

5768 Barbara Dr.

This park contains playground equipment, ball field, half court basketball, volleyball area, shelter, drinking fountain, picnic tables, a small hill for potential sledding use, and landscaping. The ball field, however, is located close to adjacent homes and league ball play is not recommended.

Other Parks

Fitchburg Center Park (10.00 acres)

5540 Lacy Rd

This site is currently undeveloped. A 5-acre wooded and grassland area, located in the northern portion of the park, supports tall grass and hickory and oak trees. There is a 75-ft wide open space/greenway easement running north to south which has a waterway that provides stormwater drainage for the surrounding area.



Gorman Wayside Veterans Memorial Park

Parks and Public Works Maintenance Facilities

Recycling Drop-off Site (18.09 acres)

2373/2377 S. Fish Hatchery Rd

The 18-acre public site includes Gorman Wayside, the public works maintenance facility, the parks maintenance facility (former Fitchburg Town Hall), and a recycling drop-off center. Gorman Wayside is in the northeastern portion of the property.

This half-acre property contains a veteran's memorial, a picnic table, monument, and landscaping. The park provides a nice view of rural Fitchburg. To the north is a 2-acre oak savanna that is one of Fitchburg's last remaining remnants and open fields that are used for public works purposes. City maintenance facilities are located to the south of Gorman Wayside and the grounds around these buildings are also landscaped. The Recycling Drop-off Site is located south of the public works maintenance facility. The Drop-off Site accepts yard waste, scrap metal, single-stream recyclables, motor oil, and filters during daylight hours.

Nevin Village Green (1.19 acres)

3001 Cahill Main

This site in the Hatchery Hill Neighborhood includes a gazebo, drinking fountain, picnic tables, paved paths, landscaping, and benches. See http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/NevinVillageGreen.php for a master plan.

Natural Areas

Black Walnut Preserve (0.32 acres)

5176 Buttonbush Dr

This is a small undeveloped area in the Swan Creek Neighborhood that contains a large black walnut tree, estimated to be 230 years old. The parcel was dedicated to the public in the Buttonbush Addition to Swan Creek of Nine Springs plat.

Bluestem Park (14.43 acres)

2801 Big Bluestem Pkwy

Located in the Swan Creek Neighborhood, this park is mostly tall grass and is adjacent to natural land owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). This park contains a paved trail that extends throughout the length of the park and connects to Nannyberry and Swan Creek Parks.



Commerce Park Hillside (1.91 acres)

2891 Commerce Dr

This is a wooded area on a steep hillside in the Fitchburg Commerce Park development. This wooded area contains many mature hickory and oak trees.

Dawley Conservancy (41.74 acres)

3040/3041 S. Seminole Hwy

Dawley Conservancy is a Fitchburg conservation area that is part of a larger system of public conservation land. This City natural area consists of woodland on both sides of Seminole Highway and grassland and prairie adjacent to Dunn's Marsh on the west side of the highway. The Capital City Trail runs through the grassland and prairie areas from Seminole Highway to Dane County parkland on the south side. The trail extends west to Arrowhead Park. An intermittent stream draining from County Highway PD and Seminole Highway, runs through the wooded area west of Seminole Highway, and proceeds under the Capital City Trail. A one-mile walking/

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hiking trail loops through the wooded area east of Seminole Highway, with the trail head next to the conservancy sign that is across the street from the parking area.

Dunn's Marsh (North) Natural Area (7.79 acres)

4523 Crescent Rd.

This site, connecting to a larger parcel of land owned by the City of Madison, was dedicated to the public for park, water retention, and other public purposes. It consists of a 2-acre marsh area, serving as a nesting area for many species of wildlife and also as a stormwater detention basin. There is also a 5-acre wooded area located along the northern borders of the marsh.

Dunn's Marsh – The Preserve (1.37 acres)

4431 Crescent Rd.

This underutilized natural area has a beautiful view of Dunn's Marsh. It was dedicated with the condition that it may not be built upon or changed except to restore pre-settlement conditions for improved environmental, conservation, and water quality purposes.



Harlan Hills Prairie and Natural Area (6.38 acres)

5760 Ballina Pkwy., 5837 Dawley Dr.

Harlan Hills Prairie serves as a 5.12-acre park for the Harlan Hills Neighborhood and overlooks the UW-Arboretum. This park has mowed trails and a prairie with ongoing restoration (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/park_info.php). In the southwest corner of the subdivision, along Seminole Highway, there is a 1.25-acre wooded area that was also dedicated for park purposes.

Mickelson Woods (4.08 acres)

2850 Mickelson Parkway

This is a small oak-hickory wooded area located east of McKee Farms Park between Fish Hatchery Road and Mickelson Parkway. The northern portion of the property consists of a mowed area with a paved path that connects the Fish Hatchery Road recreational trail to McKee Farms Park. A trail system is planned for the wooded area.

Nannyberry Wetland (2.38 acres)

Across from 2830 S Syene Rd.

This natural area was dedicated as open space and an environmental corridor since it contains a wooded wetland. It also contains paved paths which are apart of the Swan Creek recreational trail system.

Nobel Woodlot (3.99 acres)

2620 Research Park Dr.

This is a managed woodlot in the Fitchburg Technology Campus Neighborhood that was dedicated for park purposes. As of 2009, its trail system is partially complete.

Orchard Pointe Natural Areas (2.82 acres)

Fitchrona Rd., West of 6248 Nesbitt Rd.

Three areas in the Orchard Pointe development were dedicated to the City for park purposes. One is a wooded area along the City limits. Another is a rock outcrop area along Fitchrona Road. The third is a small area located adjacent to Nesbitt Heights Pond on Nesbitt Road. The wooded parcel contains a paved path that runs along Fitchrona Road and connects to the development to the west.

Quarry Ridge Recreation Area (53.05 acres)

2740 Fitchrona Rd.

This recreation area provides direct access to the Military Ridge and Capital City State Trails. It provides off-road biking and walking trails within (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/park_info.php). This area also contains a shelter that can accommodate up to 75 people, restrooms, picnic tables, information kiosk, and a parking lot. The site consists of a wooded area, an abandoned gravel pit with very steep inclines, and an 11-acre wet detention/infiltration pond that collects stormwater from the Jamestown Neighborhood.

Other Areas

City Hall/Community Center (9.42 acres)

5510/5520 Lacy Rd.

The City Hall and Community Center complex is a multi-use facility. The Community Center portion is designed to accommodate City meetings, senior citizen activities, civic groups, private and business gatherings, community events, and recreational activities. Areas around City Hall include native plantings and prairie restoration areas. A public library is planned to be built near City Hall and opened in 2010.



Fitchburg Safety Building #1 (2.55 acres)

5791 W. Lacy Rd.

This site contains facilities for the Fitchburg Fire Department.

Fitchburg Safety Building #2 (2.00 acres)

5415 King James Way

This site contains the facilities for the Fitchburg Fire Department and the Fitch-Rona Emergency Medical Service (EMS).

Goodland Park Road Lands (1.70 acres)

4878 Goodland Park Rd.

This public open space currently has no planned use. Future use of this site may change as the Northeast Neighborhood is developed.

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Irish Lane Open Space (5.36 acres)

5554/5564 Irish Lane

This City property was recently acquired in 2008 as a result of a property trade with American Transmission Company. This open space was swapped for 5.64 acres of what was the northern portion of Gorman Wayside. The property currently has a home and planting areas. Future use has yet to be determined.

McCoy/West Clayton Open Space (30.00 acres)

East of 5062 W. Clayton Rd.

This wooded lowland area is currently undeveloped.

Nine Springs Golf Course (35.49 acres)

2201 Traceway Dr.

This is a nine-hole executive course with the operation and maintenance leased to a private party. The course serves seniors and beginning golfers. These lands have been identified as part of the Ridgewood redevelopment plan and are subject to change. Nine Springs Creek, an intermittent waterway, travels along the southern portion of the property from west to east. The southern perimeter of the property contains a 1-acre tall grass area and the northwestern part of the course has a 3.5-acre stormwater detention area.



Oak Hall Cemetery (8.87 acres)

5868 County Highway M

The Oak Hall Cemetery had its beginnings in 1853 near the site of one of the original settlements in Fitchburg (Oak Hall). Buried here are early settlers, soldiers dating back to the Civil War, and a few recent burials. The cemetery was maintained by the Fitchburg Cemetery Association, but the Association transferred ownership of the cemetery to the City of Fitchburg in 1987. Directly north of the main cemetery area is a 5-acre grassland area.

Seminole Hills Open Space (0.97 acres)

2968 Osmundsen Rd.

Open space includes three small parcels along McKee Road that were dedicated to the City through the Seminole Hills Estates development. The easternmost parcel at 2968 Osmundsen Road has a booster station. Some of the open space is forested. Sidewalk extends along the southern boundary.

Recreational Trails/Paved Paths

The City of Fitchburg recognizes the importance of providing and maintaining a transportation system for pedestrians and bicyclists. Fitchburg maintains a large network of bike and recreational trail facilities throughout the City, including shared-use paths, bike lanes, and designated bike routes. Shared-use paths can serve both recreational users and biking commuters. For a trail map or more information on bicycle facilities, visit http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/transportation/bicycle_facilities.php.



Appendix D includes an inventory of recreational trails or paved paths in the City that have been dedicated to the public as either City-owned land or easements and are specifically meant for recreational trail or public access/walkway purposes. They serve the community at varying scales (i.e. neighborhood, city, region). Note that public lands listed in other sections of this inventory, such as stormwater facilities and natural areas, may also have recreational trails. Also note that recreational trails that lie in public right of ways were not included for the purposes of this Plan's inventory.

There are five major commuter trails, three existing and two approved, that fall within the City's boundaries but are mostly owned by other government agencies. The existing ones include the Capital City State Trail, Military Ridge State Trail, and the Southwest Commuter Path. The Capital City State Trail was developed by a partnership between the Department of Natural Resources, Dane County, the City of Madison, and the City of Fitchburg. Fitchburg owns a 2.66-acre portion of the Capital City State Trail corridor (dedicated with the Seminole Hills Estates Neighborhood) and some parks and natural areas that contain a few portions of the trail. A fourth major commuter route, an unfinished portion of the Badger State Trail, has been approved for construction in Fitchburg. The trail will extend north-south through western Fitchburg, along an abandoned railroad corridor. When finished, the Badger State Trail will be a 40-mile trail from Madison to the Illinois State border. The Cannonball State Trail Corridor has also been approved for the railroad corridor that extends east-west through the northern part of Fitchburg. All five routes would intersect at Arrowhead Park.

Stormwater Facilities

Stormwater facilities, which are primarily detention ponds and drainageways, are also included in the City's inventory of opens spaces. These open spaces sometimes contain recreation facilities like trails. Below is a description of each stormwater facility. Note that for ponds, the acreage listed is for the area of the parcel and not the pond itself. Stormwater facilities that are contained within parks or natural areas have been excluded from this section and information about them can be found within the particular park or natural area description.



Bosshard Drive Pond (1.57 acres)

3020 Bosshard Dr

The wet pond, constructed in 2002, serves as stormwater detention for the Seminole

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Hills Estates area. The pond has an average normal water depth of 6 ft., and a maximum depth of 12 ft. The pond itself has an area of 0.71 acres.

Byrne Park Pond (2.14 acres)

2535 Richardson St

This detention area, located to the south of Byrne Park, contains tall grasses and is normally dry. It acts as stormwater detention for the Byrnewood Neighborhood. The pond has a maximum depth of 3 ft.

Commerce Park Pond (4.23 acres)

6137 Cottonwood Dr

A stormwater detention basin for Fitchburg Commerce Park.

Country Vineyard Greenway (2.44 acres)

2136 Vintage Dr

The greenway consists mainly of a drainageway that is adjacent to Country Vineyard Park and extends to the other side of Vintage Drive. There is also a 1.5-acre tall grass area within the park and the greenway parcels.

Fitchburg Business Park Pond A (2.43 acres)

2902 Market Place Dr

This pond serves as stormwater detention for Fitchburg Business Park.

Fitchburg Business Park Pond B (1.33 acres)

2915 Market Place Dr

This pond serves as stormwater detention for Fitchburg Business Park. Pond B was constructed in 1995, and has an area of 0.42 acres, an average normal water depth of 6 ft., and a maximum depth of 10.4 ft. A bench was installed in 2009 at the south end of Pond B.



Fitchburg E-Way (25.81 acres)

3022 Yarmouth Greenway, 3056 Edenberry St

Fitchburg E-Way lands are a number of parcels that contain or are adjacent to the Capital City State Trail and are meant for greenway and stormwater management purposes. They include wooded areas, drainage corridors, and land with steep slopes. These areas, along with other Fitchburg parks, are considered a part of the larger Nine Springs E-Way. There are about 213 acres total of Fitchburg park and open space land included in the Nine Springs E-Way. The Capital City State Trail passes through the Fitchburg E-way corridor which follows Nine Springs Creek (east to west) and Yarmouth Creek (north to south). Several detention ponds (e.g. Ashbourne Lane Pond and Longford Terrace Pond) exist along the path to serve stormwater needs in the Highlands of Seminole area.

Fitchburg Technology Campus Pond (3.37 acres)

South of 5425 Quarry Hill Dr

The temporary wet pond is located south of Quarry Hill Park and covers 0.15 acres.

Greenfield Greenway (0.69 acres)

5231 Oakhaven Rd

The greenway area is located west of Greenfield Park and extends through the southern portion of the park. The greenway has an intermittent drainageway with very steep sides.

Green Tech Village Greenway (14.99 acres)

5027 W. Clayton Rd

The greenway consists of two lots that contain a wetland, pond, and a navigable waterway. It is meant to serve as open space and a stormwater facility for the future Green Tech Village development. The lots are prohibited from further development until a final plat approval providing stormwater dedications has been obtained.

Gunflint Trail Pond (2.27 acres)

5520 Gunflint Trl

The Gunflint Trail wet pond exists in the northwestern portion of Fitchburg Research Park, serving stormwater detention purposes for the area. The pond, constructed in 1997, has an area of 0.17 acres. The pond has an average normal water depth of 2 ft., and a maximum depth of 5 ft.

Harlan Hills Ponds and Greenway (16.76 acres)

5750 Ballina Pkwy, 5838 Dawley Dr

These areas were dedicated for stormwater management of the central and eastern areas of the Harlan Hills Neighborhood. Lot 1 of the Harlan Hills Plat, reserved for greenway purposes, consists of a 100-foot wide strip of land (totaling 8.06 acres) that is parallel to and abutting the Cannonball Trail. Lot 5 is a 1.94-acre parcel that is also dedicated to the public for greenway purposes. There are two ponds, one east of the prairie and one at 5838 Dawley Drive. The pond parcel areas are 4.85 acres and 1.92 acres, respectively.

Hawk Ridge Greenway (2.77 acres)

5740 Wilshire Dr.

Hawk Ridge Greenway is located directly north of the park. A 1.5-acre wooded area, located in the northern half, is comprised of a natural waterway surrounded by mature elm, hickory, and oak trees.

McKee Farms Park Greenway (3.10 acres)

5309/5310 Brendan Ave

McKee Farms Park Greenway is a 3,300 ft.-long drainage way that runs along



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McKee Farms Park and leads to Yarmouth Crossing. It was dedicated for greenway, park, stormwater, water main, and sanitary sewer purposes. The greenway provides stormwater drainage for the Sterling Meadows, Seminole Ridge, Wildwood, and Mickelson Woods Neighborhoods. It drains into the McKee Farms wet pond and continues from the McKee Farms Park dry pond to Yarmouth Crossing.

Nesbitt - Bavaria Pond (3.53 acres)

East of 6317 Nesbitt Rd

This pond was originally a wetland that was permitted by the WDNR in 2002 to be utilized for stormwater detention.

Nesbitt Heights Pond (3.82 acres)

West of 6258 Nesbitt Rd

This wet pond and three infiltration cells were constructed in 2007 to serve as wet detention and infiltration for the Orchard Pointe development. The developer is responsible for maintaining the pond and infiltration cells until 2010 when Fitchburg will arrange a final inspection prior to acceptance. The parcel also has a recreational trail along its property line. The trail on the west side is paved and extends west along the woodland to Fitchrona Road.

Nesbitt – Jung’s Pond (1.12 acres)

6192 Nesbitt Rd

This pond was originally constructed as a wet pond circa 1990 as part of the Jamestown Storm Sewer Improvements Project.

Nesbitt – Limestone Pond (1.13 acres)

6243 Nesbitt Rd

This pond was originally constructed as a dry pond circa 1990 as part of the Jamestown Storm Sewer Improvements Project. In 2008, the western corner of this property was excavated to create a wet pond to control sediment from the storm sewers.

Persimmon Drive Pond (0.69 acres)

5824 Persimmon Dr

This dry pond was constructed in 1995, and serves as stormwater detention for the Lacy Heights Neighborhood. The pond has an area of 0.30 acres, and a maximum water depth of 2 ft. The pond was replanted with prairie species in 2005. The pond contains a large oak tree at the southeastern end.

Pine Ridge Greenway (0.34 acres)

South of 3002 Arapaho Dr.

This is a drainageway in the Pine Ridge Neighborhood located between Arapaho Drive and Seminole Highway.

Pine Ridge Pond (0.33 acres)

6106 Conservancy Way

The Pine Ridge dry pond is approximately 0.3 acres and is located in the northwestern part of the Pine Ridge Neighborhood. The pond, constructed in 1999, serves as stormwater detention for the western part of the neighborhood.

Quarry Hill Pond (3.97 acres)

5425 Quarry Hill Dr...

A detention pond is located on the western border of Quarry Hill Park, adjacent to neighborhood houses. It acts as stormwater detention for the Quarry Hill Neighborhood. The pond, constructed in 2001, has an area of approximately 0.9 acres, an average normal water depth of 5 ft., and a maximum depth of 8.5 ft.

Renaissance on the Park Pond (0.98 acres)

4624 Crescent Rd

This pond serves stormwater management purposes for the Renaissance on the Park Neighborhood.

Seminole Hills Pond (2.44 acres)

3086 S. Seminole Hwy

This site serves as stormwater detention for Seminole Hills Neighborhood. It is surrounded by prairie plantings. The pond was last dredged in 2001 and retrofitted to a wet detention pond in 2003. Conifer trees were planted on the berm as a visual screening of Seminole Highway. The pond lies to the south and west of a paved Seminole Hills recreation trail that links up to the Capital City State Trail.

Seminole Village Pond (3.70 acres)

2970 S. Seminole Hwy

This site serves as stormwater detention for the Seminole Village Neighborhood. It is a restored wetland surrounded by prairie plantings.

Swan Creek Pond (10.38 acres)

2760 Crinkleroot Dr

The Swan Creek Pond and the Northern Lights Pond are wet detention ponds that exist to the southeast of the Swan Creek Park shelter. They are part of a parcel that was dedicated for open space, drainage, and environmental and sanitary sewer corridor purposes. The ponds, constructed in 2002, act as stormwater detention for the southern part of the Swan Creek neighborhood. The Swan Creek Pond has an area of approximately 1.8 acres, an average water depth of 5 ft., and a maximum depth of 10.5 ft. The Northern Lights pond, which lies south of the Swan Creek Pond, has an area of approximately 0.6 acres, an average water depth of 4 ft., and a maximum depth of 8 ft.

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Swan Creek Greenways (7.78 acres)

2759/2882 Crinkleroot Dr, 5151 Ninebark Dr, 2701/2706/2765 Sunflower Dr,
2767 Hollyhock St



Swan Creek neighborhood has a number of outlots that were dedicated to the City for drainage, trail corridor, environmental, and/or sanitary sewer purposes. There are seven parcels that have been designated as greenways. They serve as drainageways and have prairie plantings. Most contain paved trails.

Syene D Pond (0.69 acres)

Across from 5151 Ninebark Dr.

The Syene D wet pond is a privately owned pond that is managed by the City. It is just East of Syene Road and acts as stormwater detention for the northern Swan Creek Neighborhood. The pond, constructed in 2004, has an area of 0.7 acres, a normal average water depth of 4 ft., and a maximum depth of 6 ft.

Tower Hill Greenway (6.00 acres)

2820 Lyman Lane

This site was planted with evergreen trees and provides drainage for areas east of Fish Hatchery Road. It also has a paved trail which provides a linkage from Fish Hatchery Road and the Fitchburg Center/Research Park areas to McKee Farms Park. The 0.64-acre portion of the greenway at the intersection of Mickelson Parkway and Fish Hatchery Road was dedicated to the public, but doesn't serve stormwater management purposes.

WIBA Pond (3.62 acres)

SW Corner of Lacy & S. Fish Hatchery Rd

This site was originally built as a dry pond and converted to a wet pond in 2004. The pond acts as stormwater detention for the Oak Meadow Neighborhood. The pond has an area of approximately 2.2 acres, an average normal water depth of 5 ft., and a maximum depth of 10 ft.

Wildwood Kettle Pond (2.78 acres)

2661 Osmundsen Rd

This natural depression serves primarily as stormwater detention for the Wildwood South area. A 2-acre grassland area consumes most of the site's land. Unfortunately, this area is overgrown with invasive plants. Well number 9 is located in the northwest corner of the site near the fire station.



Standards



Standards

To meet existing and future recreation needs and to guide development of park facilities, the City has developed standards to address to appropriate supply of City parkland, park size, park service areas, and on-site facilities. Fitchburg's standards compare favorably to the national standards and to the standards of other local communities (Mertes & Hall, 1996; City of Madison Parks Division, 2007). The standards are intended to address equality in parkland distribution so all Fitchburg residents have equal opportunities for the enjoyment of parks and open spaces. However, it should be noted that these standards do not specifically address quality of service. The City's future success of parks and recreation will depend on this principle and its application to all City parks and open spaces.

According to Mertes & Hall (1996), standards should be viewed as “a guide that addresses minimum, not maximum goals to be achieved.” Therefore, a City standard for park size reflects the minimum desirable number of acres considered acceptable for facilities and development. Park size is also tempered by the natural resources and physical limitations of the land. For example, a steep hillside and wooded area could be an asset, yet flat land would be needed to support active recreation. The availability of land will dictate the size of parks where the City needs to address deficiencies. The availability and cost of land also become limiting factors. The service area standard allows for an equitable distribution of parkland throughout the urban service area of the City. Desirable on-site facilities for each park are determined by park classification, existing topography, physical limitations, and existing nearby facilities, such as public school lands which could function as park facilities. Development of appropriate facilities will be at the discretion of the Parks Commission.

The standards also recognize density of development since they relate desired acres of parkland to population. The standards on size and location of parks are based on typical sizes of households and areas expected to be developed over the planning period. Standards are set up to address the typical or average situation. Unusual situations dictated by land use, density of development, or environmental factors may lead to park development levels other than those dictated by the standards, with this determination being made at the discretion of the City.

The following standards and definitions are general targets for providing recreational opportunities in the community. The standards cannot be applied rigidly to all neighborhoods due to unique physical conditions, particular recreational demands, and other conditions which are specific to each neighborhood. The standards provide guidelines for meeting basic recreational and open space needs of the community. The standards are based on normal, anticipated development levels within a park service area.

Parkland

Parkland standards are detailed in Figure 4-1. They specify optimum size, service area, and desirable recreation and support facilities by park type: neighborhood, area, community, other civic space, and conservancy/greenway.

Figure 4 - 1: Fitchburg Park & Open Space Standards

FITCHBURG PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

	Neighborhood Park*	Area Park	Community Park	Other Civic Space	Conservancy/Greenway
Acres/1,000 Population	3 acres	4 acres	5 acres	n/a	n/a
Service Area	1/4 mile radius	1/2 mile radius	2 1/2 mile radius	n/a	n/a
Desirable Site	5-10 acres	10-20 acres	50-100 acres	1/2 to 8 acres	n/a
Desirable Site Facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Junior size play apparatus 2. Softball diamond 3. One 1/2 basketball court 4. Area for lawn and field games 5. Area for crafts 6. Open area for general play 7. Volleyball area 8. Soccer field 9. Tree and shrub planting 10. Picnic tables and benches 11. Drinking fountain (size permitting) 12. Shelter (size permitting) 13. Accessible path system (size permitting) 14. Natural areas 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All age play apparatus 2. Softball diamonds 3. One basketball court 4. Area for lawn and field games 5. Area for crafts 6. Open area for general play 7. Volleyball area 8. Soccer field 9. Trees and shrub plantings 10. Picnic tables and benches 11. Drinking fountain 12. Shelter (w/ restrooms if not provided within a school structure) 13. Accessible path system 14. Natural areas 15. Parking area where necessary 16. Tennis court 17. Outdoor education area 18. Sledding slope (according to insurance carrier recommendations) 19. Horseshoe pits 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All-age play apparatus 2. Softball diamonds (lighted) 3. Basketball courts 4. Area for lawn and field games 5. Area for crafts/passive recreation 6. Open area for general play 7. Volleyball courts (lighted) 8. Soccer fields 9. Tree and shrub plantings 10. Picnic areas, including grills 11. Drinking fountains 12. Year-round shelter with restrooms 13. Accessible path system 14. Natural areas 15. Parking area 16. Tennis courts (lighted) 17. Outdoor education areas 18. Sledding slope 19. Horseshoe pits 20. Outdoor amphitheater 21. Botanical sculpture garden 22. Swimming pool 23. Indoor recreation center 24. Concessions 25. Lacrosse field 26. Baseball diamond (lighted) 27. Bleachers for athletic fields 28. Lighted ice-skating rink 29. Frisbee golf course 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lawn, tree, and shrub planting 2. Paths and sidewalks 3. Pavement in plazas 4. Other facilities and forms as may be prescribed in a form-based district/code 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tree and shrub planting 2. Picnic tables and benches 3. Shelter 4. Recreational trails (use paving w/ discretion) 5. Natural areas 6. Parking areas (if not detrimental to environmentally sensitive areas) 7. Off road biking area 8. Frisbee golf course
Existing Size	0.4 - 15.8 Acres	4.5 - 19.2 Acres	58 - 65 Acres	1.19	0.3 - 42 Acres
# Existing Sites	24	6	2	1 (Nevin Village Green)	44 (natural/stormwater areas)

*Neighborhood parks include playlots

Standards

Neighborhood Parks (includes playlots)

Neighborhood parks are intended to serve persons within walking distance (quarter of a mile) and provide facilities for both young and adult users. They provide children with an away from home play area and serve as a gathering location for persons of all ages. Neighborhood parks should be adjacent to elementary schools or conservancy areas wherever possible.

Playlots provide open space for passive and limited active recreation and are part of the neighborhood park classification. In particular they are for small children and elderly. Site facilities may include a tot lot, junior size play apparatus, one basketball goal, open grass play area, and benches.

Area Parks

Area parks are intended to serve persons within bicycle distance (half a mile) and provide facilities for both young and adult users. They should be adjacent to elementary schools or conservancy areas when feasible. The area park serves a dual role, as a neighborhood park for the immediate neighbors and also as an expanded facility to serve the needs of larger groups within the community. For this reason, area parks contain a wider variety of facilities than neighborhood parks since they must provide both away from home recreational experiences for young children and also serve as a focal point for organized activities, such as little league, softball, picnics, soccer, and tennis.

Community Parks



Community parks have no size limitation but generally will range in size from 50 to 100 acres. They are intended to serve a large area (multiple neighborhoods) and provide facilities in addition to those provided in neighborhood and area parks. Community parks can serve as neighborhood and area parks if they are located within walking or bicycling distance of a residence. The community parks are intended to serve both large and small groups, such as family picnics, company picnics, and community festivals. It is the intent of the Park Commission to locate community parks in areas where they are as close to the population they are intended to serve and if possible, adjacent to elementary schools or conservancy areas. Due to the amount of land needed for community parks, it will be necessary to consider factors such as land availability and cost.

Other Civic Spaces

There are many types of civic spaces available for use in a community. Parks are often the most common form, but there other public civic spaces that are useful in providing space for public interaction. Form-based zoning districts or codes utilize varied civic space options to provide livability, congregation, and public access. These areas may vary in size, form, and function, but are generally to be sized and located to promote civic interaction by the public. Many form-based codes describe a variety of specific civic space- Green, Plaza, and Square, along with the more common Park and Playground. Plazas are designed for civic purposes

and commercial activities in more urban areas and are generally paved and spatially defined by building frontages. Squares are meant for civic purposes and defined by building frontages too, but they are also designed for unstructured recreation and their landscaping includes paths, lawns, and trees. Greens, on the other hand, are defined by landscaping rather than building frontages and are open spaces for unstructured recreation (Duany Plater-Zyberk and Company, 2009).

A form-based zoning district or zoning code may be used for some development areas in the City, and therefore, the Park Commission may be asked to consider these types of civic spaces in higher density form-based zoned areas of the community. The Commission also recognizes the need for each development area to be served by appropriate recreation facilities. Therefore, a balance between recreation facilities and other types of civic space is needed.

Conservancy Area, Greenways, and Linear Parkways

Greenways and linear parkways are made up of marshes, ponds, creeks, drainage areas, and other parcels which serve as stormwater management facilities (i.e. detention ponds). Conservation areas are natural areas that contain plant and wildlife habitat or have significant features that are worth preserving. In some cases, greenways and conservancy areas can be used for passive recreational purposes, such as hiking, biking, cross country skiing, and nature study. After acceptance of proper park areas to meet active and anticipated recreation needs, as generally outlined by the above standards, the City may use any remaining park dedication for the institution of a linear park system and/or the preservation of environmentally or aesthetically sensitive land. Environmentally or aesthetically sensitive lands should be inventoried and designated for preservation prior to the consideration of recreational parkland dedication. This is necessary in order to preserve the unique and irreplaceable nature of the environmentally or aesthetically sensitive lands.



Wetlands and Buffers

The City's Comprehensive Plan sets forth 300-foot wetland buffers to better protect, and possibly enhance biological and water quality components of wetlands and their related habitats and water bodies. Land uses allowed within the established buffers are to generally follow guidelines established by the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC). Generally, it is not the intent of the buffers to prevent or obstruct the necessary maintenance, expansion, or construction of stormwater management facilities (such as retention or detention ponds or infiltration basins), major underground utilities, or major transportation facilities which serve to provide system continuity or are necessary to serve areas outside of the buffers. Encroachment into the buffers should be limited, with high level erosion control and native vegetation restoration.



In urban areas, it is strongly suggested that the first 100 feet of a 300-foot wetland buffer be native vegetation, such as prairie grass with related oak openings. Buffers at 100 feet or less in width are encouraged to use native vegetation throughout the buffer area as long as it does not conflict with other facilities. Existing woodlots within the buffer are to remain with enhancement encouraged by removal of invasive species and other forest management or restoration methods. Agricultural

Standards

production is allowed within the buffers, but it is preferred that the activity be organic.

The City may consider whether portions of a 300-foot wetland buffer could be used to fulfill parkland dedication requirements. Park shelters, access structures, and recreation trails may be allowed in 300-foot wetland buffers. If there is a trail in a buffer, at the minimum 75 foot width, the trail should be located as far from the wetland as practicable. Park shelters should not be located in the 75 foot minimum width buffer. However, in buffers of 300 feet or more in width, such facilities are to be located to not cause damage to the wetland and, where practicable, be at least 150 feet from the wetland edge.

Special Purpose Recreational Facilities

In addition to standards for park classifications, standards for the development of special purpose recreational facilities have also been identified in Figures 4-2 and 4-3. These standards are suggested guidelines, addressing size, number of facilities per unit of population, service area, location, and desirable on-site facilities, and are not mandatory.

Figure 4-2. Fitchburg Recreation Facility Standards

	Playfield	Golf Course	Swimming Pool
Minimum facilities per unit of population	1.25 acres per 1000	1 - 9-hole course per 20,000 1 - 18-hole course per 40,000	1 pool per 20,000
Service Area	3-6 neighborhoods	30-60 minute travel time	15-30 minute travel time
Desirable Size	5-15 acres (if separate from high school)	140 acres (18-hole)	25 sqft..... per person (min. 5 sqft.....), serving 3% of population at one time
Desirable Site Facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baseball diamond w./ bleachers (lighted) 2. Softball diamonds w./ bleachers (lighted) 3. Tennis courts (lighted) 4. Area for lawn and field games 5. Ice skating area (lighted) 6. Hockey rink (lighted) 7. Soccer fields 8. Parking area 9. Restroom facilities 10. Accessible path system 11. Drinking fountain, water supply 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 9 or 18-hole golf course 2. Clubhouse 3. Practice greens 4. Driving range 5. Parking area 6. Maintenance/supply buildings 7. Cross country ski trails 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bathhouse with restrooms 2. Paved deck 3. Wading pool 4. Diving facilities 5. Concession stand 6. Tables and benches 7. General play equipment 8. Drinking fountain 9. Parking area with dropoff 10. Accessible path system
Existing Facility Size	4.5 - 65 acres	35.5 acres	-
# Existing Facilities	9 Playfields	1 - 9-hole course	0 Pools

While national standards for the number of facilities per unit of population no longer exist due to the fact that each community is different in its needs (Mertes & Hall, 1996), the City has tailored its standards using the 1990 national standards as a guideline. The Fitchburg Park Commission believes that for the purposes of this

plan, it is appropriate to continue to use the same standards from the *2000 Plan for Open Space and Recreation*.

Standards are considered for the following recreation facilities:

- Baseball Diamond
- Basketball Court
- Golf Course
- Ice Skating Rink
- Ice Hockey Rind
- Playfield
- Soccer Field
- Softball Field
- Swimming Pool
- Tennis Court
- Volleyball Court
- Youth Ball Field

A playfield is another classification for a park that has area developed for organized athletic activities. Playfields are usually community parks, area parks, and high school sites. Fitchburg currently has 9 parks that can be classified as playfields, including Stoner Prairie Park and all of the City's community and area parks.

While the list above does not account for all possible recreation activities, it does include the activities that are likely to have the most demand and be feasible to develop in Fitchburg at this time. Standards for other types of facilities (i.e. Frisbee golf course) may be created in the future as the need arises for facilities to support that recreation activity.

Standards for Groups with Special Needs

To provide its citizens with equal opportunities for the use and enjoyment of its parks and open spaces, the City should develop and improve these spaces while keeping in the mind the special needs of its various users.

Americans with Disabilities

Municipalities have a responsibility to provide a reasonable level of accessibility to parks and recreation facilities for individuals with varying levels of ability. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1992 provides for reasonable equal access to all users of public facilities, especially those with disabilities. While ADA doesn't mandate any spatial requirements relative to recreation facility size, it does mandate that park areas and facilities be accessible and usable to all populations (United States Department of Education, 2006). The ADA requires the following for local park facilities and programs:

- Newly constructed buildings and facilities must be readily accessible.
- Renovations or alteration of existing buildings and facilities must be readily accessible.
- Barriers to accessibility in existing buildings and facilities must be removed when it is "readily achievable."

In 1994, the City of Fitchburg developed a plan to update restroom and shelter facilities to current federal guidelines to accommodate the people with disabilities. All public facilities under construction and planned for the future will also have accommodations for the disabled. This includes accessible restroom facilities,

Figure 4 - 3: Recreational Facility Development Standards

ACTIVITY/ FACILITY	PER POPULATION	SIZE & DIMENSIONS	SPACE REQUIREMENTS	RECOMMENDED ORIENTATION	LOCATION NOTES
BASEBALL Official	1 per 20,000	Baselines- 90' Pitching dist.- 60.5' Foul lines - min. 320' Center field - 400' +	3.0 - 3.85 Acres minimum	Locate home plate so pitcher is not throwing across sun, and batter is not facing it. Line from home plate through pitchers mound to run east-northeast.	Lighted fields part of community complex
	1 per 7,500	Baselines- 60' Pitching dist.- 46' Foul lines - 200' Center field - 200'-250'	1.2 Acres minimum		
BASKETBALL Full Court	1 per 7,500	50' x 84'	5040 - 7280 sq. ft.	Long axis north-south	Active recreation areas in area and community parks
	1 per neighborhood park	42' x 50'	2520 - 3640 sq. ft.	Long axis east-west	Active recreation areas in neighborhood parks
GOLF 9-hole	1 per 20,000	Avg. length 2,250 yd.	50 Acres minimum	Majority of holes on north-south axis	9-hole course can accommodate 350 people/day
	1 per 40,000	Avg. length 6,500 yd.	110 Acres minimum		18-hole course can accommodate 500-550 people/day
ICE SKATING	1 per 5,000	4,000 sq. ft.			
ICE HOCKEY	1 per 10,000	85' x 185' min.	22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	Long axis north-south	Best as part of multi-purpose facility
SOCCER	1 per 1,000	195'-225' x 330'-360' w/ 10' min. clearance on all sides	1.7 - 2.1 Acres	Long axis north-south	Number of units depends on popularity. Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to schools or neighborhood parks.
	1 per 2,000	Baselines- 60' Pitching dist.- 40' (women), 45' (men) Fast pitch field radius from plate- 225' Slow pitch- 250' (women), 275' (men)	1.5 - 2.0 Acres	Same as baseball	Slight difference in dimensions for 16" slow pitch. May also be used for youth baseball.
SWIMMING	1 per 20,000	Teaching- min. 25yd x 45' even depth of 3-4' Competitive- min. 25m x 16m Min. of 25 sq. ft. water surface per swimmer. Ratio of 2:1 deck to water	Varies on size of pool and amenities, usually 1-2 Acres	None. Although care must be taken in siting lifeguard stations in relation to afternoon sun	Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching, competitive, and recreational purposes with enough depth to accommodate 1m and 3m diving boards. Located in community park or school site.
	1 per 2,000	36' x 78' w/ 12' clearance on both ends	Min. of 7,200 sq. ft. single court area (2 acres per complex)	Long axis north-south	Located in groups of 2-4 courts.
VOLLEYBALL Sand	1 per neighborhood park	30' x 60' w/ 6' min. clearance on all sides	4,000 sq. ft. minimum	Long axis north-south	All neighborhood parks should have a volleyball area (grass or sand)
	1 per 2,500				

convenient parking, and hard surfaced paths with suitable grades for easy access to facilities.

Elderly People

City of Fitchburg population projections through 2030 indicate a large increase in the number of people age 65 and older. In planning for park and recreation facilities for the City, specific needs for elderly, such as convenient parking and access to park facilities, walking paths, and community gardens will be considered. The Community Center accommodates many activities for Fitchburg seniors.

Youth

The City of Fitchburg should continue to provide facilities for youth as the community grows. More play equipment, soccer fields, ball fields, and development of winter recreational facilities (i.e. open skating, hockey, warming houses, and sledding hills) will be required. Further development of a City-wide bicycle and recreational trail system and increased recreational programming, utilizing City and school facilities, will greatly benefit this group. The City may need to consider a youth center, possibly within a multi-use facility, to provide additional recreational opportunities.

Adults

Additional adult recreational facilities will be needed due to increasing awareness of the benefits of recreation for mental and physical health, as well as the community's continuing growth. Continued development of softball fields, tennis courts, ice skating facilities, horseshoe pits, and sand volleyball courts will be needed. A network of trails for biking, walking, running, and cross country skiing will also benefit this group.

Access for All Groups

An important part of providing quality recreational opportunities to the public is providing safe and convenient access. Sidewalks and bicycle routes not only provide residential access to various parks, but provide a recreational facility themselves. Further development of bicycle and pedestrian paths should continue to be a goal of the City.

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Assessment of Needs



Assessment of Needs

Using the City’s 2008 population of 23,420 and development standards from the previous chapter, this chapter analyzes the amount of existing parkland and recreational facilities within Fitchburg to determine if there are potential deficiencies in the park and recreation system. It also estimates the amount of parkland the City will need in the future with population growth.

Parkland Acreage

The assessment of the existing park and open space system focuses on traditional active parks (neighborhood, area, and community parks). According to the current standards, the City should have a total of 12 acres of active parkland per 1000 population (Figure 5-1).

Figure 5-1. Analysis of Park Acreage with Standards

	Standard (acres/population)	Existing Acreage	Minimum Requirement	Deficiency (acres)	Surplus (acres)
Neighborhood Parks	3.0/1000	137.45	70.26	-	67.19
Area Parks	4.0/1000	71.28	93.68	22.40	-
Community Parks	5.0/1000	124.00	117.10	-	6.90
Total Active Parkland	12.00/1000	318.30	281.04	-	37.26
Natural Areas, Other Areas/ Parks	N/A	265.90	-	-	-
Stormwater Facilities	N/A	137.20	-	-	-
Recreation Trail Corridors	N/A	18.08*	-	-	-
Existing Parks & Open Spaces		739.48			

Population: 23,420 (Jan., 2008)

*Includes public easements

The analysis indicates that the City currently has enough total parkland for its population. This is largely due to exceeding the minimum acreage requirement for neighborhood parks by about 67 acres. This excess has and will continue to occur when parkland dedications are made before platted housing developments are complete. One apparent deficiency of the Fitchburg park system is the amount of area parkland. The shortage can be attributed to dispersed population located outside the urban service area where larger parks are not justified. The shortage is not a significant concern at this time given the large amount of neighborhood parkland. In addition, some of the residents in the northern portion of Fitchburg are served by area parks located in the City of Madison. The one exception to this is the high density residential area located along Fish Hatchery Road, which is not adequately

served by nearby parks.

Figure 5-2. Estimates of Future Active Parkland Needed

Year	Estimated Population	Minimum Park Acreage Needed	Existing Acreage
2000	20,501	246.0	286.4
2005	22,100	265.2	318.3
2010	25,477	305.7	
2015	27,954	335.4	
2020	30,431	365.2	
2025	32,908	394.9	

Note: Acreage values only include active parkland.

Based on future estimated populations and current parkland acreage standards, it appears the existing acreage (318.3) of active parkland is adequate to serve Fitchburg’s population until it exceeds 26,500 which is expected to occur in the next five years (Figure 5-2). The City’s *Land Division Ordinance* (Appendix B), which requires developers to dedicate parkland or pay fees in lieu of, should ensure adequate park acreage into the future if the City continues to apply appropriate development patterns and requires a sufficient amount of parkland dedication.

Parkland Locations and Service Areas

An analysis of existing park service areas indicate some residential areas are adequately served while some are not served by all three park types (Appendix E). However, almost all residential areas fall within a community park service area.

The following describes potential deficiencies for each park type based on the analysis of their service areas. However, it should be realized that many of the areas that *appear* deficient in parkland may not actually be experiencing a deficiency, depending on the needs of the residents. The standards for park service areas are meant more for the purposes of guiding decisions about future park locations in new development areas rather than in determining if existing residential areas are deficient in parkland.



Neighborhood Parks

The map of Fitchburg Neighborhood Park Service Areas (Appendix E-1) illustrates quarter mile service areas for all active parks in Fitchburg and southern Madison. Area and community parks, having the same amenities as neighborhood parks (and more), can also serve as neighborhood parks to residents who are within a quarter-mile of the park.

An assessment of these quarter-mile service areas indicates that there is a

Assessment of Needs

potential deficiency of neighborhood parks in a number of residential areas. (See Appendix E-5 for the Fitchburg Subdivisions map.) The most apparent deficiencies can be found in western Seminole Hills Estates, the southern portion of Jamestown, and the western half of Quarry Hill. Country Heights and Timber Lake Knolls neighborhoods, which are outside the urban service area, also do not have neighborhood parks. Other areas which are not completely served by a neighborhood park include portions of Seminole Hills, Fitchburg Technology Campus, Gold Addition to Fitchburg, and Willow Run. A few residences in Harlan Hills, Seminole Forest, Wildwood, Tower Hill Park, Highlands of Seminole, Zwaska Estates, and Seminole Ridge fall just outside of a neighborhood park service area.

Another potential neighborhood park deficiency is in the Maple Lawn Heights development along north Fish Hatchery Road. The development consists of mostly apartment units, the majority of which are not being served by a neighborhood park. Only a few apartments in the western portion are within a quarter mile of Madison's Aldo Leopold Park.

Some residences that are not in a neighborhood park service area are near Fitchburg-owned natural areas. However, these parklands do not provide the types of active recreation facilities when compared to a neighborhood park.

The only residents to have expressed concern over a deficiency in their neighborhood are those who live in the Jamestown neighborhood. The City is in the process of addressing this deficiency through the provision of a new neighborhood park.

Area Parks



The map of Fitchburg Area Park Service Areas (Appendix E-2) illustrates half-mile service areas for all area and community parks in Fitchburg and southern Madison. Community parks, having the same amenities as area parks, can also serve as area parks to residents who are within a half-mile of the park.

An assessment of these half-mile service areas indicate that some residential areas are not being served by an area park. Major area parkland deficiencies appear to be in the south-central urban service area, in the neighborhoods of Byrnewood, Oak Meadow, and Quarry Hill. Another area that is mostly outside an area park service area is Hatchery Hill. The northeastern part of Fitchburg also has some unserved homes, where all or parts of Seminole Forest, Lacy Heights, Pine Ridge, Seminole Village, Nakoma Heights, Westchester Woods, and Western Hills do not fall within the half-mile service area. A few apartment buildings in the western part of Maple Lawn Heights (N. Fish Hatchery Rd) fall just outside Aldo Leopold Park's service area. All neighborhoods outside the urban service area, except those near McGaw and Greenfield Parks, are not served by area parks.

Community Parks

The map of Fitchburg Community Park Service Areas (Appendix E-3) illustrates 2 ½-mile service areas for community parks in Fitchburg and the southern part of Madison. Fitchburg has two community parks, McGaw Park and McKee Farms

Park. The service area for Fitchburg's community parks covers almost all residential areas. The only exception is the Briarwood and Timber Lake Knolls rural residential neighborhoods which are outside of the urban service area. This deficiency could be resolved if Dane County chooses to locate a new regional park in southern Fitchburg or north-central Oregon.

Future Parks

The exact locations of future parks will be identified through the neighborhood land use planning and platting process as new areas are developed. Neighborhood developments will be required to provide neighborhood and area parks to service residents. The most recent neighborhood plans that have been approved are for Southdale Neighborhood (2009) and McGaw Park Neighborhood (2009), which is located in the future urban growth area (Appendix F). The Northeast Neighborhood, also in the future urban growth area, is currently in draft stage. Refer to the Fitchburg Planning/Zoning webpage for ongoing and approved neighborhood land use plans (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/planning_zoning/plan_studies.php).

As the urban service area continues to develop, careful attention will ensure the necessary types of parks are in the proper locations. The City's *Land Division Ordinance* will provide the mechanism to acquire additional park areas which will be necessary as the urban service area is developed (Appendix B). In planning for parks within platted areas adjacent to the urban service area boundary, consideration should be given to placing the park on the boundary line to allow for expansion of the park if the urban service area is extended.

Recreation Facilities

The second part of the Assessment of Needs evaluates the City's existing inventory of specialized recreational facilities using the City's standards to determine if there are potential deficiencies. These potential deficiencies may suggest the types of facilities to be considered in future developed parks.

Figure 5-3 on the next page provides an analysis of Fitchburg's existing inventory of special purpose recreation facilities based on the City standards for number of units per population. According to the analysis, the City appears to be most deficient in the number of soccer and volleyball facilities. However, the supply of soccer fields and volleyball courts meets the current demand of use. While Fitchburg has a population to support the development of an official baseball field and swimming pool, community groups have not come forth expressing a need for them.



Based on the analysis of existing playfields, the City is close to meeting its standard of 1.25 acres per 1000 population. Fitchburg has an estimated playfield acreage of 27.9 acres within nine playfield areas. Compared to the standard, the City is deficient by about 1.4 acres. This means Fitchburg currently has 1.19 acres of playfield for every 1000 people. While there appears to be a small deficiency in playfields, the Park, Recreation, and Forestry Department believes that the amount of athletic fields are adequate to serve the existing level of demand for these facilities.

Figure 5-3: Assessment of Recreational Facilities

Park Facility	NRPA Standard* (1990)	City Standard (2000)	# Facilities Based on NRPA Standard	# Facilities Based on City Standard	Number of City Facilities	Potential Deficiency
Baseball field	Official	1 per 20,000	4.7	1.2	0	1 field
	Youth	1 per 7,500	N/A	3.1	12	
Basketball	Full Court	1 per 7,500	4.7	3.1	4	
	1/2 Court	1 per neighborhood park	N/A	24	21*	3 courts
Golf course	9-hole	1 per 20,000	0.9	1.2	1	
	18-hole	1 per 40,000	0.5	0.6	0	
Ice skating rink	N/A	1 per 5,000	N/A	4.7	0	4 rinks
Ice hockey rink	N/A	1 per 10,000	N/A	2.3	0	2 rinks
Soccer field	1 per 10,000	1 per 1,000	2.3	23.4	15	8 fields
Softball field	1 per 5,000 (if also used for youth baseball)	1 per 2,000	4.7	11.7	12	
Swimming pool	1 per 20,000	1 per 20,000	1.2	1.2	0	1 pool
Tennis court	1 per 2,000	1 per 2,000	11.7	11.7	16	
Volleyball court	1 per 5,000	1 per neighborhood park	4.7	24.0	5	19 courts
	N/A	1 per 2,500	N/A	9.4	6	3 courts

Fitchburg Population: 23,420 (Jan 2008)

* 17 out of 24 neighborhood parks have basketball courts.

Note: Potential deficiencies may suggest the types of facilities to be considered in future parks, as the need is expressed.



Recommendations



Recommendations

This section provides both short-term (2010-2015) and long-term recommendations that apply to the acquisition of lands for new park sites, the development and/or upgrading of facilities, and the protection and preservation of environmental, cultural, and historical areas.

First to be presented is the Action Plan, identifying potential projects for the next five years. The Action Plan is divided into six categories:



1. Acquisition of New Park Areas
2. Development, Improvement, and Maintenance Strategies for Park and Recreation Facilities
3. Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Access to Recreation
4. Community Gardens
5. Natural, Cultural, and Historical Resource Protection
6. Improvements in Existing Parks and Open Spaces

Long-term recommendations are not expected to be implemented within the next five years, but toward which efforts will be made for their eventual implementation. If the need or opportunity arises, long-term recommendations could be addressed in the next five years.

One recommendation that has both short- and long-term implications is the implementation of the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal. The proposal is officially adopted by the City through the adoption of this plan. The concept behind the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal is to protect Fitchburg's natural, cultural, and historical resources and create an open space buffer between existing and future development. The next chapter discusses the Proposal in more detail.

Five Year Action Plan

1. Acquisition of New Park Areas

Overall, the City of Fitchburg has an adequate amount of total park acreage to serve the present population. However, there are specific residential areas in Fitchburg that are deficient in parkland and these deficiencies should be addressed by the City. For example, a deficiency has been identified in the Jamestown Neighborhood and the City is currently working on plans for the development of a new park.

Neighborhood and area parks, serving quarter-mile and half-mile service radii will need to be developed as additional land in the City is platted for development. The subdivision ordinance provides for land or fees in lieu of land dedications for park purposes. The emphasis of neighborhood park planning should be to ensure that neighborhood parks are large enough to meet long-term recreational needs and that they are economical to develop and maintain. Very small, isolated parks within individual subdivisions tend to be extremely expensive to maintain and do not serve an adequate number of people. The ideal is a plan for dedication of land from contiguous developments so that park dedications can be combined to create larger parks. Where only small isolated parklands would be available if lands were dedicated, it may be preferable to choose fees in lieu of land which can be applied to

other park areas.

The City should consider environmental corridors, buffers, flood plains, and other areas unsuitable for development for parkland dedications when: 1) they are suitable for active recreation; 2) when the neighborhood is adequately served with developed active parkland; or 3) the undeveloped areas have a priority environmental protection value.

Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North

One new park area that the Parks Commission has identified within the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal as acquisition priority is Moraine Edge Park North (Page 7-4). The concept behind this park is that it will serve as an open space buffer between existing development in the urban service area and long-term future development to the south. While more detailed plans have yet to be developed, this land has potential for a diverse array of recreational and educational opportunities, including the preservation of existing farmland and the creation of passive and active recreational facilities. See the next chapter, Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal, for more details.

2. Development, Improvement, and Maintenance Strategies for Park and Recreation Facilities

The development of parks and recreation facilities is best addressed on a citywide basis. The following outlines development strategies for specific recreation facilities and park improvement and maintenance standards.

Basketball Courts

Basketball courts are a common facility in almost all of Fitchburg's active parks. All area and community parks contain facilities, some having full-courts. Half-court basketball facilities should be considered in all new neighborhood parks.

The majority of the basketball court surfaces are presently in good condition, but the need to resurface courts will need to be monitored.



Cross-Country Skiing

Skiing is currently permitted in the Nine Springs Golf course and in the UW-Arboretum (located in Fitchburg). The City may consider restoring trails in McGaw Park and developing trails along greenway areas in McKee Farms Park. The Parks Department will monitor the need for future trail development

Golf

While Fitchburg might eventually need an 18-hole regulation length golf course, the Nine Springs Golf course will continue to remain an important recreation facility. This executive nine-hole course serves younger and older people as well as people with time constraints.

Recommendations

Ice Skating

Plans call for an open skating facility at McKee Farms Park. The park has existing restrooms and a warming shelter.

Playgrounds

Play equipment is a standard facility in all active parks and should continue to be implemented in future parks. The design and material used in new play equipment has resulted in better utilized and more aesthetic play equipment with more overall play value. In cooperation with neighborhood groups, the Parks Department is updating play equipment (as funding permits), which has become obsolete and undesirable. The City places a high priority on installing and maintaining safe equipment. Where possible, play equipment which is in compliance with ADA will be used. The City will continue to monitor playground areas to assess the need for repairs and playground resurfacing.

Soccer

The City has enough soccer fields to support the current level of league play. However, outdoor soccer in Wisconsin is becoming more popular, as the sport experienced a 132.6% increase in participation from 1994-2004 (WDNR, 2006). The Parks Department will closely monitor the need for soccer fields.

Softball/Baseball



The City has an adequate supply of ball diamonds, including 13 softball diamonds of which 4 are lighted. The diamonds serve men's softball, women's softball, T-ball, coach pitch baseball, youth softball, and co-ed programs. The City should continue to upgrade softball fields with improved infield and turf grass maintenance procedures and acquire better maintenance equipment. Adding agri-lime or sawdust to infield dirt has been shown to improve surface texture and help ensure play after rain.

The City's youth ball program effectively utilizes existing softball diamonds. A 225-foot field at McGaw Park and a 310-foot field at Greenfield Park have been developed for youth ball programs. For children, fifth grade and up, consideration should be given to longer base paths and a longer distance between home plate and the pitching rubber.

The City's existing fields should be monitored for the need to repair fencing and backstops.

Tennis

The City currently has an adequate supply of tennis facilities. McKee Farms Park has a six court tennis complex with lighting and a shelter. The City also has double tennis courts in Huegel-Jamestown, Wildwood South Prairie, Chicory Meadow, Swan Creek, and McGaw Parks. Tennis courts are most appropriate in area and community parks.

Recommendations

The majority of the tennis court surfaces are presently in good condition, but the need to resurface courts will need to be monitored. Tennis court fencing should also be monitored.

Volleyball

A grass volleyball area should be considered in every new neighborhood park. New sand courts should not be developed until all existing courts are utilized and there is a need to expand volleyball facilities.

New Specialized Facilities

The field of recreation is constantly undergoing changes and as new recreational activities become popular, it may become necessary to provide facilities for them. Some examples of these facilities are Frisbee golf courses, dog exercise areas, indoor ice rinks, swimming pools, roller skating areas, skateboard parks, and BMX bicycle tracks. Within the next five years, demand may increase to the point where there may be a need to develop these or other new recreation facilities.

Shelter/Restrooms

The City has six shelters with restrooms which can be reserved for group gatherings throughout the summer. They are located at McGaw, Greenfield, McKee Farms, Quarry Ridge, Swan Creek, and Tower Hill Parks. Shelters with restrooms are being upgraded to comply with federal guidelines to accommodate the handicapped. Future shelters with restrooms, which can be reserved for gatherings by the public, will be located in larger area or community parks and located in such a way as to minimally impact residential areas. Smaller shelters with no restrooms are planned for neighborhood parks as funding permits. A large shelter is planned for McGaw Park to help serve community events and other large gatherings. Another shelter with a restroom facility is planned for the southwest portion of McKee Farms Park. A bicycle hub (shelter with restroom facility) has been proposed to be constructed in the Dawley Conservancy near the Capital City State Trail.



Tree and Shrub Planting

The need for tree and shrub planting exist when new parks are developed; it is determined that dying, diseased, or over-mature trees need to be replaced; or it is determined that an aging or failing landscape needs to be updated.

3. Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Access to Recreation

While Fitchburg has a large network of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, the City can continue to improve and expand upon its network. The 2008 City of Fitchburg Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan recommends bicycle and pedestrian facility improvements that can be made within the City. Improvements include sidewalks, on-street facilities, and shared-use paths. For maps of recommendations or more information refer to the City's Transportation webpage: <http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/transportation/index.php>.

Recommendations

4. Community Gardens

Urban agriculture and community gardening are seeing an increase in popularity. Major American cities offer community gardens as a way to encourage a local food system, build community interaction, green neighborhoods, and bring people together. Community gardening is typically organized by nonprofit organizations or local governments, who may own a piece of land that is divided into plots and gardened by a variety of citizens or groups to grow their own food.

While there is a supply of community gardens on private land within Fitchburg (see below), community gardens are currently not permitted in Fitchburg's Park and Recreation zoning district which includes City-owned parks. The option of providing gardens on City land has been proposed and has received public support. There is still the question of how the community gardens would be managed and funded and by whom. The Community Action Coalition (CAC) is the nonprofit organization that provides many services for Madison's community gardens.

The City will be beginning the process of rewriting its zoning code in October of 2009, with potential adoption in May of 2010. City staff and residents will have the opportunity to make recommendations, such as the provision of community gardens as a permitted use in parks. The City of Madison is amending its zoning code to include community gardens as a permitted use in all zoning districts and a new Urban Agriculture District that allows more intensive food production (City of Madison, 2009).

As of 2008, known locations of community gardens serving Fitchburg residents are the All Saints Lutheran Church Gardens (2951 Chapel Valley Rd.) with 15 plots, Drumlin Gardens (2849 Oregon Rd.) with 15 plots, Rimrock Gardens, also known as Green Gardens (65 Braeger Dr.) with 102 plots, and Marlborough Park Gardens, located in the City of Madison just north of Marlborough Park with 145 plots (Community Action Coalition, 2008). In addition to these community plots, the Gardens at Swan Creek Condominium (S. Gardens Way) offer garden plots to their residents.



5. Natural, Cultural, and Historical Resource Protection

The City of Fitchburg realizes the importance of managed and orderly growth and the protection of the City's natural (includes agricultural), cultural, and historical resources which are finite and irreplaceable once removed. This section discusses how these resources can be protected. The Fitchburg Comprehensive Plan sets forth additional goals, objectives, and policies.

Conceptual Park & Open Space Proposal

The Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department developed the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal, beginning in 2007, as a recommendation for the preservation of areas significant for their natural, cultural, and historical resources. The proposal also designated areas to link resource abundant areas. The next chapter discusses the proposal in more detail and more information can be found on the following Parks & Forestry webpage: http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/parks_forestry/

Recommendations

[ParkOpenSpaceProposal.php](#). At this website there is a document titled Conceptual Park & Open Space Proposal: A Guide to the Planning Process and Fitchburg's Resources, which provides information and maps on individual resources within the City.

Nine Springs E-Way

Fitchburg should continue to support the Nine Springs E-Way acquisition program with particular emphasis on completing the upland linkages, so that there can be a continuous connection from Dunn's Marsh through the Nine Springs wetland complex.

Environmental Corridors

According to the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC), "Environmental corridors are continuous systems of open space in urban and urbanizing areas, that include environmentally sensitive lands and natural resources requiring protection from disturbance and development, and lands needed for open space and recreational use. They are based mainly on drainage-ways and stream channels, floodplains, wetlands, steep slopes, and other resource features, and are part of a countywide system of continuous open space corridors" (CARPC, 2008). They are typically public or private open space areas preserved for water quality and linkage purposes. They can provide for linear park connections and passive recreational opportunities.



Environmental corridors for the current urban service area are identified in maps provided by the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC). Most lands included in the Fitchburg environmental corridor system are lowland areas excluded from sewer service areas and are undevelopable. Fitchburg should continue to pursue the acquisition of environmental corridors and upland areas that link existing corridors.

An example of an environmental corridor system is in the Swan Creek Neighborhood. The corridors provide for a system of greenways, buffer areas, and other open space land to manage stormwater, provide trail linkages, and to buffer environmentally sensitive lands.

Wetlands and Floodplains

Wetlands and floodplains outside the urban service area are protected by the Fitchburg floodplain and wetland ordinances. In addition, it is assumed that through the adoption of the Future Urban Development Boundary, and as stated in the 2009 Fitchburg Comprehensive Plan, wetlands outside the current (2007) urban service area will be protected by a 300-foot or wider buffer zone and wetlands within the current urban service area will be protected by a 75-foot or wider buffer zone. When feasible, wetlands and their buffer zones should be acquired as conservation lands, with the highest priority acquisitions being those wetlands identified in the Dane County Wetlands Inventory and those most likely to be negatively impacted by a development. However, at the discretion of the City, wetland or floodplain acquisitions should not be considered acceptable parkland dedications except where



Recommendations

such lands are suitable for active recreation use or when adequate active recreation areas already exist in the neighborhood.

Lakes and Streams

Current state standards for shoreland protection require structures to be set back at least 75 feet from the ordinary high water mark of navigable waters. The City also has applied this standard to the drafting of its Future Urban Development Boundary. However, the City should try to protect and enhance lakes and streams by preserving a buffer of 300 feet when feasible. The Environmental Law Institute (2003) indicates that buffers of at least 100 meters (~328 feet) are required to provide water quality and wildlife protection. Vegetated buffers may also slow habitat fragmentation or perhaps even allow for re-establishment of a connected natural landscape.

Natural Area Management Plans

The City should prepare restoration and management plans for its unique natural areas, especially for forested areas and prairies. However, this may also become a long-term recommendation as time and resources are limited for completing plans for the numerous public natural areas.

The main purpose of a restoration and management plan is to provide alternative management prescriptions based on an assessment of the site that takes into account an inventory of the vegetation, habitat classification, topography, hydrology, and wildlife. The plan will identify specific operations, a maintenance schedule, and resources for completion of a management prescription. It will also set forth long range goals for the management and maintenance of the site.

The development of a forest management plan should be a high priority for all City woodlots. However, Dawley Conservancy and Mickelson Woods should receive the highest priority. A forest management plan has already been developed for Nobel Woodlot.

The City has numerous prairie and grassland natural areas within public areas. These areas should be maintained according to the maintenance recommendations of the *Specific Management Plan for Public Properties within the City of Fitchburg*. In addition, the City should develop prairie restoration plans for public prairies. Restoration plans for the southwestern corner of Swan Creek Park and Harlan Hills Prairie should be the highest priority.

Heritage Circle Route

In April of 2000, Fitchburg's City Planner proposed a concept for a 19-mile path called the Heritage Circle Route. It is described as a "major linear recreation path linkage that would provide a circular recreation path around the City of Fitchburg." It would give users an opportunity to pass through the varied cultural and natural terrain of Fitchburg. In effect, the City's circular symbolic seal, with its fish, oak trees, farms, industry and homes becomes a conceptual representation of the Heritage Circle Route.

Recommendations

The proposed route consists of four segments. The proposed north segment will utilize the Capital City State Trail. The west segment is the abandoned former Illinois Central Gulf Railroad corridor which is soon to become the Badger State Trail. The east segment would be within the corridor or adjacent to the railroad tracks of the former Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. This segment provides the most challenges to implementation due to the narrow width of the corridor. The concept also recognizes the challenges that will need to be addressed, “given the desire and need to maintain rail presence” through the corridor and the adjacent land uses, including the State Correctional Institution. The south segment would require land acquisition, as it parallels County Highway M, until it meets up with the west segment.

Along the way, the route would take you through or near many natural features including Dunn’s Marsh, the Nine Springs E-Way, drumlins, a terminal moraine and other glacial features, oak openings, the UW Arboretum and trumpeter swan nesting areas. Cultural features include the first Fitchburg farm and farm settlements, Nevin Fish Hatchery, the historic hamlets of Fitchburg, Oak Hall and Syene, as well as many rural and urban neighborhoods. It also brings you near four of five locations in Fitchburg that are on the National Register of Historic Places, including the McCoy House, the Haight Farmstead, the former Wisconsin Industrial School for Girls (now Oakhill Correctional Institution) and Fox Hall.

6. Improvements in Existing Parks and Open Spaces

Below is a list of improvements for existing parks and open spaces. Many improvements are related to the addition of recreation facilities and are to be considered for implementation if there is a need expressed by the neighborhood or community. General maintenance standards call for standard improvements to existing parks, such as playground resurfacing, athletic field fencing repair, and the addition of refuse/recycling receptacles. These improvements are not listed but should be completed where needed, as resources allow.

Neighborhood Parks

Arrowhead Park

- Upgrade park sign

Belmar Park

- Shelter
- Drinking fountain
- Soccer field

Briarwood Park

- Mini shelter
- Replace park sign
- Landscaping improvements within the prairie area

Byrne Park

- Maintain mowed trails in tall grass area

Recommendations

- Update play equipment
- Volleyball area

Clayton Park

- New park sign

Country Vineyard Park

- Replace park sign
- Restoration landscaping

Fitchburg Springs Park

No improvements at this time.

Gunflint Trail Park

- Half basketball court
- Athletic fields
- Shelter/picnic area
- Play equipment
- Volleyball area
- Prairie restoration

Hatchery Hill Park

- Soccer field
- Half basketball court

Hawk Ridge Park

No improvements at this time.

Hillside Heights Park

- Resurface basketball court

Nannyberry Park

- Additional landscaping.
- Soccer/ball fields

Oak Meadow Park

- Drinking fountain
- Bench near playground
- New park sign
- Additional landscaping
- Soccer/ball fields
- Volleyball area

Perry J. Schappe Park

- Mini-shelter
- Replace park sign
- Soccer field



Pine Ridge Park

No improvements at this time.

Quarry Hill Park

- Additional landscaping
- Soccer /ball field
- Volleyball area
- Continuation of path system to the south as additional park land is developed
- Removal of old fence and clearing of old fence line

Rimrock Park

No improvements at this time.

Rosecommons

- Additional landscaping
- Drinking fountain

S. Johnson Park

- Forest restoration and management plan

Seminole Glen Park

- Seating area by prairie
- Forest restoration and management plan

Stoner Prairie Park

- Replace park sign
- Access path system
- Benches
- Drinking fountain
- Volleyball area

*This park has the potential for expansion as land is developed to the west.

Western Hills Park

- Mini shelter

Wildwood Park

- Resurface basketball court
- Paved path connecting shelter to the southeast and northeast entrances to the park
- Soccer field

Area Parks

Chicory Meadow Park

No improvements at this time.

Greenfield Park

- Re-location of playground area
- Forest restoration and management plan

Recommendations

Huegel-Jamestown Park

- New park sign

Swan Creek Park

- Bike rack
- Additional landscaping
- Soccer /ball field or an alternative use of the 5-acre turf grass area
- Volleyball area
- Prairie restoration plan (southwestern corner)

Tower Hill Park

- Restroom renovation
- Access path from shelter to playground

Wildwood South Prairie Park

- Bike rack
- Full court basketball
- Roller hockey/skateboarding area
- Prairie restoration plan



Community Parks

McGaw Park

- Expansion of present shelter or construction of 40'x 60' pavilion
- Additional landscaping,
- Maintain mowed trails in forest
- Forest restoration and management plan
- Additional ball diamonds, soccer fields, and other amenities as the park expands.

Additional park dedications to be sought to expand the park to the south and west as these areas are platted for the McGaw Park Neighborhood.

McKee Farms Park

- Additional landscaping,
- Mini shelter (south playground area)
- Ice rink
- Botanical/sculpture garden
- Irish walled garden
- Prairie restoration in tall grass area
- Additional memorial benches

Other Parks

Fitchburg Center Park

Site plan needs to be developed. Site is capable of supporting a major recreational facility or possibly a cultural facility such as a historical museum. It could be landscaped to complement facilities but also serve as a concert site or outdoor gathering space for civic and governmental ceremonies, and weddings. This site could also support veterans' memorial.

Recommendations

Gorman Wayside, Parks/Public Works Maintenance Facilities, Recycling Drop-off Center

- Access path to the oak savannah (Gorman Wayside)
- Additional landscaping (Gorman Wayside)
- Forest restoration and management plan (Gorman Wayside)

Nevin Village Green

- Pergola (master plan)
- Additional landscaping



Other Areas

City Hall/Community Center

- Redesign of front landscaping (prairie area) with the construction of the library

The Community Center has been approved for expansion in 2010. The expansion will house Recreation staff and will provide additional space needed for indoor recreational activities.

Fitchburg Safety Building #1

No improvements at this time.

Fitchburg Safety Building #2

The City is considering the relocation of this facility. Development of a new Jamestown Neighborhood park with potential recreation facilities at this location is also being considered.

Goodland Park Road Lands

No improvements at this time.

This public open space currently has no planned use. Future use of this site may change as the Northeast Neighborhood is developed. In addition, this property could potentially serve as a parking area if the proposed Moraine Edge Park and Preserve East is implemented (refer to Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal).

Irish Lane Open Space

No improvements at this time.

This property could become part of the proposed Moraine Edge Park North with the potential to serve as an information center. A portion of the property may be also used for stormwater detention and/or infiltration

McCoy/West Clayton Open Space

No improvements at this time.

This open space could potentially be improved with amenities like a trail system, picnic area, and shelter.

Nine Springs Golf Course

No improvements at this time.

Recommendations

New development around the Nine Springs Golf Course might change the future use of this site. A golf course to replace this course is recommended. The existing golf course land could also become a central park with Nine Springs creek running through it as well as a path system, shelter/pavilion, playground, benches and landscaping.



Oak Hall Cemetery

- Additional landscaping (tree planting)
- Restoration efforts for old cemetery

Seminole Hills Open Space

No improvements at this time.

Natural Areas

See the Public Works document, *Specific Management Plan for Public Properties*, for maintenance standards and additional recommendations for natural areas (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/public_works/Studies.php).

Black Walnut Preserve

No improvements at this time.

Bluestem Park

- Picnic table or benches

Commerce Park Hillside

There is an opportunity for a trail within this site as well as a trail connection to Commerce Park Pond to the north and then west to the Military Ridge State Trail.

Dawley Conservancy

- Forest restoration and management plan
- Trail restoration in forest (forest management plan implementation)
- Bike hub

With three existing and two future major bike routes within a half mile, this park is being considered for the construction of a bike hub in Fitchburg. The installation would include a shelter with restrooms, landscaping, informational kiosks, and a larger parking area. For a site design concept refer to Appendix G.

Dunn's Marsh (North) Natural Area

- Continue working with Dane County and City of Madison to manage stormwater
- Wetland enhancement

Dunn's Marsh - The Preserve

- Prairie and oak savanna restoration
- Seating/picnic area
- Educational signage
- Access to the future Cannonball State Trail.

Recommendations

This under utilized public natural area, tucked away behind The Preserve condominiums, has a great view of Dunn's Marsh. While the site is not to be built upon or changed, except to restore presettlement conditions, it could be improved to enhance public enjoyment and provide additional recreational and educational opportunities to the community.

Harlan Hills Prairie

- Maintain mowed trails in tall grass area
- Prairie restoration
- Kiosk
- Educational signs
- Rock feature
- Benches
- Access to future Cannonball Trail

Harlan Hills Natural Area

No improvements at this time.

Mickelson Woods

- Complete trail system
- Forest restoration and management plan

Nobel Woodlot

- Complete trail system
- New park sign
- Bench
- Kiosk
- Forest restoration and management plan

Orchard Pointe Natural Areas

- Complete trail system

Quarry Ridge Recreational Area

- Move kiosk to upland area
- Maintain mowed trails around pond
- Forest restoration and management plan
- Continue to develop an off road bike trail network with the Wisconsin Off-Road Bike Association (WORBA) and include kiosk and signage.

Stormwater Facilities

The following section lists improvements for specific stormwater facilities. One recommended improvement for all ponds is an identification sign. When feasible, educational signage should be installed. All ponds and greenways, including those not listed below, should be maintained to the standards identified in the Public Works document, *Specific Management Plan for Public Properties within the City of Fitchburg* (http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/public_works/Studies.php). This document may also include additional recommendations for stormwater facility improvements.



Recommendations

Fitchburg E-Way

- Trail connection linking the Capital City State Trail and Cannonball Trail
- Acquire undeveloped lands that may provide more linkages between E-Way lands

Harlan Hills Ponds and Greenway

The Cannonball Trail has been approved for construction in the abandoned Union Pacific Railroad corridor that runs from the Beltline to McKee Road. The portion that runs through the Harlan Hills Greenway is apart of Phase 2 which is anticipated to be built in 2011.

Hawk Ridge Greenway

- Forest restoration and management plan

McKee Farms Park Ponds

- Native plant restoration around wet ponds

Persimmon Drive Pond

- Prairie/oak savanna development

Wildwood Kettle Pond

- Prairie/oak savanna development and other native landscaping



Long-Term Recommendations

The Park Commission will continue to monitor the need for additional recreation facilities. Recommendations include but are not limited to the following types of facilities:

Municipal Golf Course

The Park Commission has identified the need to purchase 150-190 acres of land to develop an 18 hole golf course. Criteria should be established and several sites should be recommended for possible purchase. However, a privately owned, but publicly accessible course could also fulfill the need.

Swimming Pool

The City may now have reached a large enough population to justify the construction of an indoor or outdoor swimming pool. In accord with nationally recognized standards, a swimming pool should be located either near a school or in a community park. Additionally, any pool should be large enough to serve 3% of the City's population at one time. The pool could be operated and owned by the City or partnerships for operation/ownership could be pursued with groups such as the YMCA or another acceptable entity. An ideal location would be next to an indoor recreation center, which would provide for joint use of common areas.

Indoor Recreation Facilities

Because of the lack of school facilities for a city of this size, winter and indoor recreational programs are inadequate. The City should pursue the feasibility of making gymnasiums, associated with an elementary school, larger to better accommodate the City's recreational needs

Even if all future school gymnasiums are expanded, the City will still require additional space and the construction of an indoor recreation center should be pursued. The center should be located in a community park or near other public facilities. The City may wish to pursue partnerships with the YMCA or any other acceptable entity to help with operation and/or ownership.

City Cemetery

Additional expansion will occur as needed.

Play Fields/Athletic Complex

Fitchburg now has enough involvement in youth and adult recreation leagues where the development of a playfield/athletic complex should be studied. The City will continue to evaluate if the current park system can successfully accommodate league recreational activities and if demand will warrant such a facility in the future.

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Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal



Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal

Beginning in 2007, the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal was developed as a comprehensive study of Fitchburg's natural, historical, and cultural resources. Ed Bartell, City Forester/Naturalist, and Dana Dentice, Landscape Architect Intern, have spearheaded the project. Other City staff has also made significant contributions. The Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department and the Planning Department coordinated their efforts as this proposal and the City's Comprehensive Plan underwent drafting at the same time.

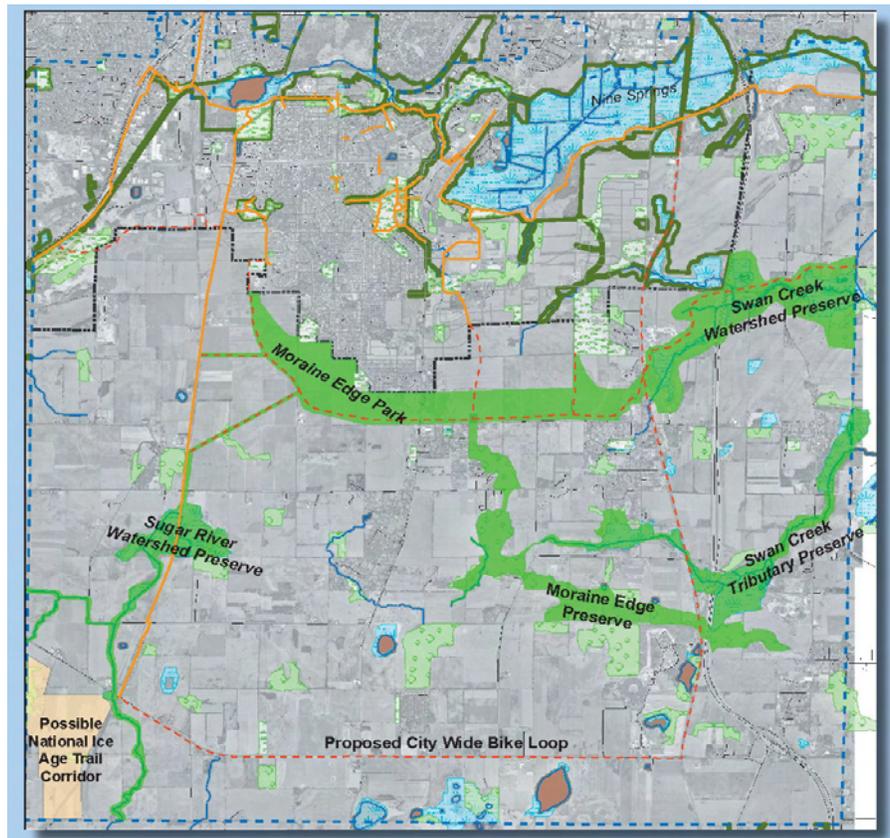
This proposal serves as a **recommendation** of areas to be considered for future parks/recreation facilities and protected open space. It is not the City's intent to acquire land from landowners not willing to sell or be involved in the project. *Land would only be acquired from those landowners who wish to sell or donate land or land rights.* Some designated areas in the proposal could be protected while remaining in private ownership, such as through a conservation easement.

Concept and Goals



The goal of the initial concept, proposed by Tom Hovel (City Planner) and Jim Christoph (former Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry), was to design a system of linked parks and open space that protect Fitchburg's natural areas and to create a buffer between current and future development. The main feature of their conceptual proposal was the creation of a greenbelt buffer (Moraine Edge Park) at the southern boundary of the current urban service area that could showcase Fitchburg's agricultural history. Hovel and Christoph also wanted to

Figure 7 - 1: First Concept for Moraine Edge Park and Preservation Areas



Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal

link this greenbelt to environmentally sensitive corridors and other significant natural features within the City's borders through park and open space.

To enhance the initial concept, the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, in 2007, proposed a resource-based planning model to identify all areas outside of the urban service area that should be set aside for protection and preservation.

The primary goals of the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal are to:

- Identify all areas outside the urban service area that have environmental, historical, and cultural significance and should be considered for preservation
- Make the public aware of these resources and their value
- Guide responsible urban growth and park/recreation planning decisions

The rich variety of environmental, historical, and cultural resources in Fitchburg account for a significant amount of land that is worth protecting or using for recreation purposes (Figure 7-2). Therefore, areas of higher priority for implementation consideration were designated in the Proposal as follows (see Figure 7-3):

- Areas most feasible for expansion of the City's recreational facilities will receive higher priority in terms of land acquisition and park planning efforts.
- Future urban growth areas, especially those of near-term development, will become a priority in terms of further study, documentation of resources within the study area, and integration of the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal with the neighborhood planning process (Appendices C-4 and C-5)

The Parks Commission has strongly endorsed the Proposal and its concept and goals. They have contributed in its development through their recommendation of the following three priorities:

1. The greenbelt, deemed Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North (bordering the southern urban service area boundary). While specific plans have not been established, this land has potential for a diverse array of recreational and educational opportunities.
2. The expansion of McGaw Park (to the west and south) for additional active recreation facilities.
3. Future urban growth areas.

Methodology

As stated previously, the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal was drafted using a resource-based model (Figure 7-2). In other words, all available data for environmental, historical, and cultural resources were collected and mapped to determine areas most sensitive to development. This includes the following resources:

Environmental Resources

- Forest resources- forest and specimen trees



Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal

- Steep slopes (12% and greater) and moraines
- Wetlands with 300-foot buffers
- Water resources with 300-foot buffers- springs, waterways, ponds, and lakes
- Hydric soils and possible hydric inclusions
- Public land- city, county, state, and federal land; recreational trails
- Dane County environmental corridors
- Groundwater recharge areas
- Prime farmland
- Endangered/rare species and significant natural features and plant communities

Cultural/Historical Resources

- Heritage trees (+200 years)
- Indian trails, camps, and mounds
- National Register of Historic Places
- Other historic buildings/sites (one-room schoolhouses)
- Historic mine and quarry sites
- Territorial roads and lead trails
- Scenic resources (designated by Fitchburg citizens)
- Railroad corridors



The boundaries of the proposed park and open space were drafted by the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department by overlaying mapped data for the above resources and applying the following criteria:

Exclusion of

- Urban service area
- Most private buildings
- Fitchburg property

Inclusion of

- Hovel and Christoph's greenbelt (formerly Moraine Edge Park)
- Most water features, wetlands, and their 300-ft buffers
- Most woodlands
- County, state, and federal property
- Dane County environmental corridors
- Areas with multiple resources
- Areas with a single resource that link and/or lie adjacent to areas that meet the above criteria
- Other areas to serve as wildlife and recreational corridors

Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North

The area designated as Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North, extending from Savannah Oaks School to Syene Road, encompasses a little less than 400 acres. It has been identified by the Parks Commission as the highest priority for implementation of the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal. In other words, this is the first area that should receive funding to be acquired as park and open space. The purpose of this proposed park is to meet the recreational needs of the

Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal

community, protect existing environmental resources, and educate the public about agriculture. The park is also meant to serve as an open space buffer from existing development, much like the Nine Springs E-Way. City staff envisions Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North to offer both active and passive recreational opportunities such as bike trails, nature trails, picnic areas, and open space for general play and social gatherings.

The park could also provide many other social benefits. For example, the viewscape of the Capitol building could be maintained for the public's enjoyment. The park can also serve as an educational tool by providing demonstrations and interpretations of agriculture (i.e. working farm, agricultural museum) as well as interpretations of environmental services (i.e. groundwater infiltration) and ecological communities (i.e. remnant oak savanna). The savanna remnant could be restored and used for research purposes.

Other potential social benefits the contiguous park could provide are alternative modes of transportation that promote activeness and allow for safer routes of travel. Provided with a trail system that extends the length of the park and links to other parks, a resident in Stoner Prairie could safely bike to Gorman Wayside or a Hillside Heights resident could have more direct access to McGaw Park. Ideally, Moraine Edge Park North could serve as a central east-west trail connection for the two north-south railroad corridors that make up the proposed Heritage Circle Route.

On January 13, 2009, the Common Council approved Resolution R-84-08, acknowledging the Park and Open Space Proposal and Moraine Edge Park North as the priority area for parkland acquisitions (Appendix C-3). The resolution says that through the 2009-2013 Capital Improvement Program, the City will allocate "\$500,000 per year for four years starting in 2010, or a total of \$2,000,000" for the acquisition of Moraine Edge Park North. However, due to recent financial circumstances, the City has delayed funding until 2014. The timeline for funding may change again since the City reviews its Capital Improvement Program on an annual basis.

While the City has a conceptual idea for the use of Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North, a plan has not yet been developed. The Common Council has asked for further study of major planning issues such as project cost. Therefore, future planning tasks should include site analysis, cost assessment, and discussions with City commission/committees, staff, and landowners, and other public participation activities.

Moraine Edge Park and Preserve South and Lake Barney Natural Area

These lands are other important environmental and historical areas identified in the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal. They are abundant in natural resources that include wooded hills, wetlands, and water features such as Lake Barney. Much of the land is state or federally-owned. Most of Moraine Edge Park South, which is now a part of the Oakhill Correctional Institution, was the Wisconsin Industrial School for Girls from 1928 until 1976 (Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee, 1976). This site is on the National Register of Historic Places. In the future, if the Oakhill



Figure 7 - 2: Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal
Recommended Boundaries and Resource Overlay

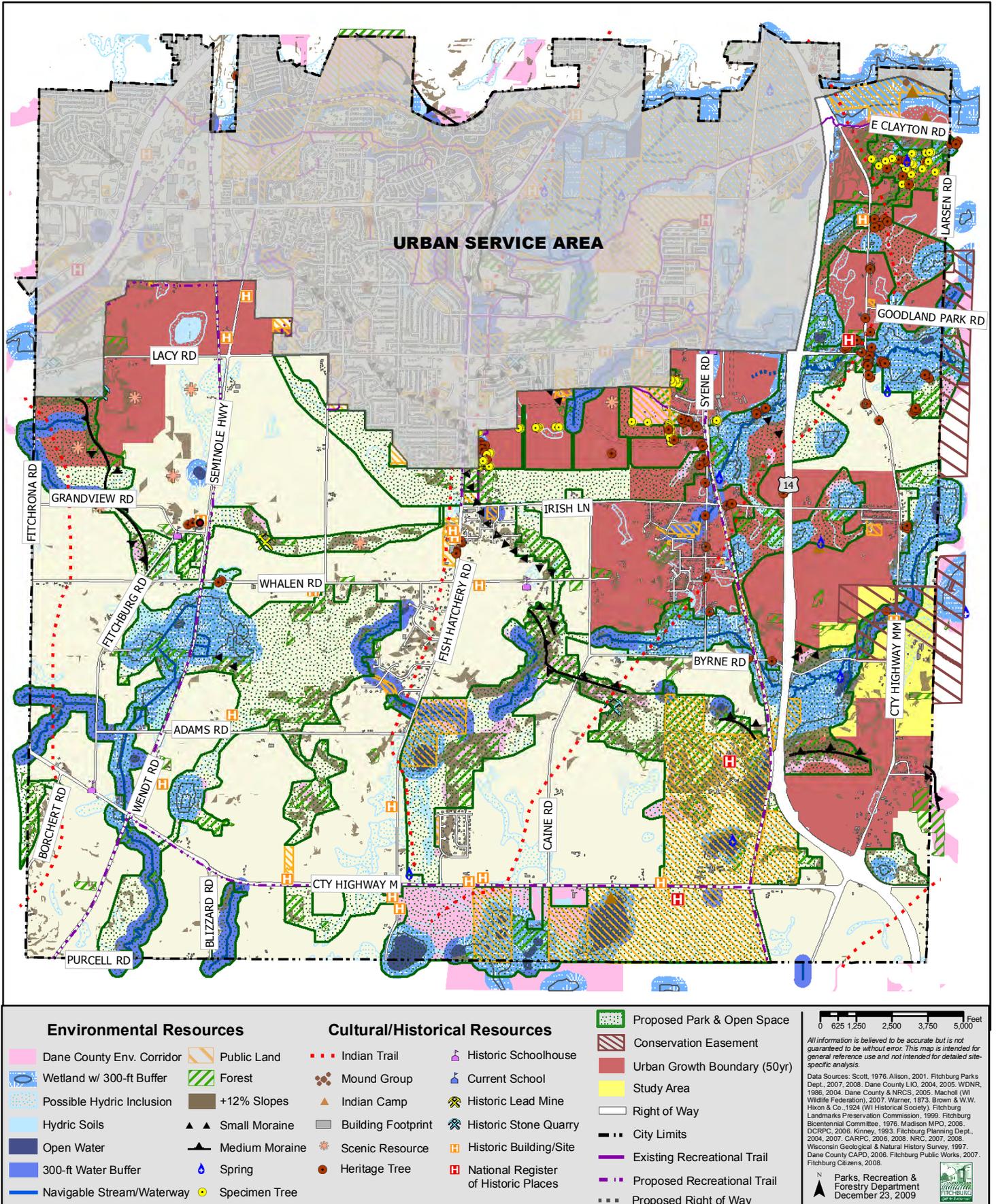
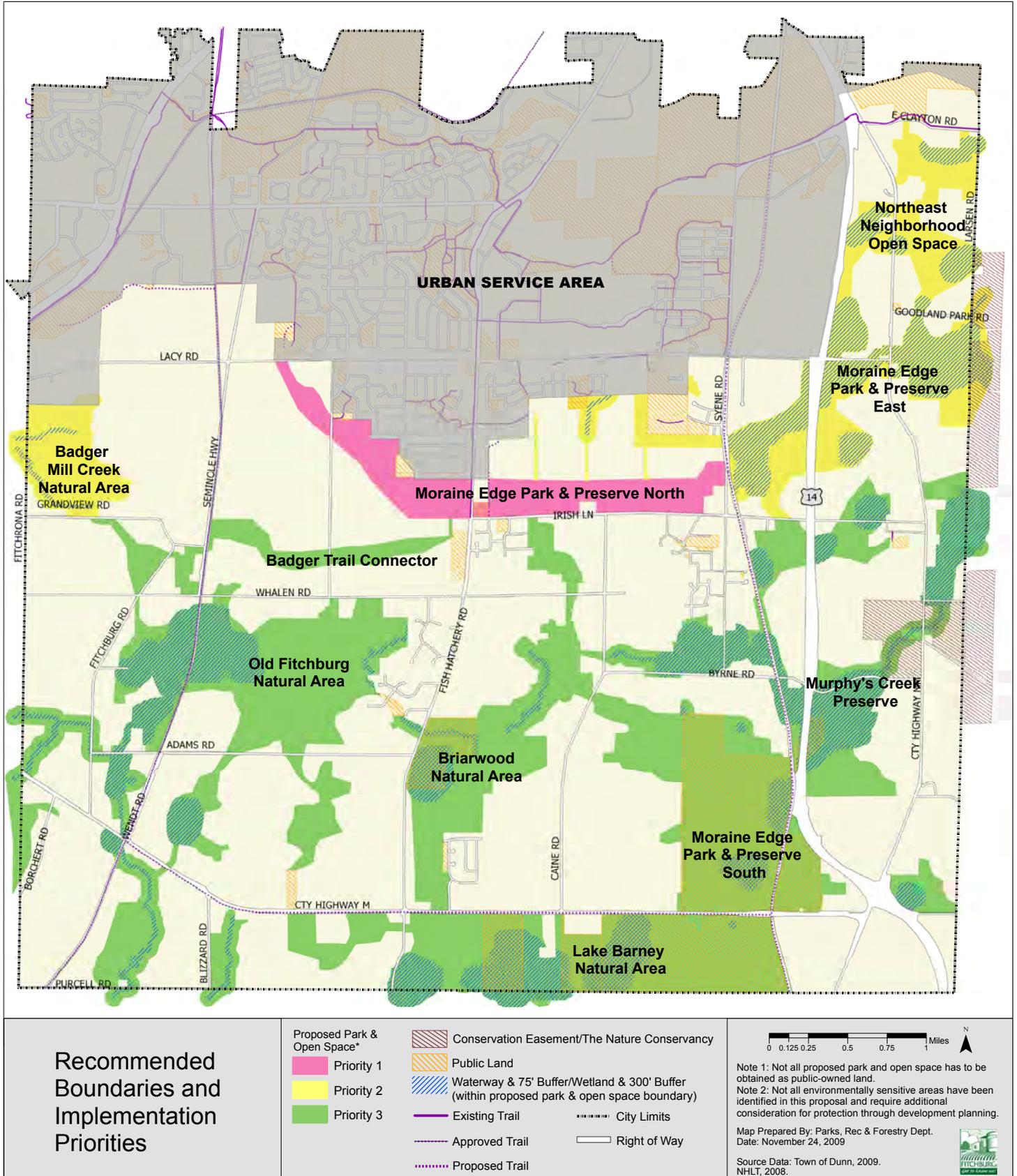


Figure 7 - 3: Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal Recommended Boundaries and Implementation Priorities



See Appendices C-4 and C-5 for additional maps that include park and open space for the North McGaw and Northeast Neighborhoods.

Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal

Correctional Institution was to ever close and the state land made available for sale, the City may want to consider acquiring this high quality land.

Other Important Areas

In the development of the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal, staff also identified other major areas of importance due to their concentration of environmental and historical resources (Figure 7-2). These areas include Badger Mill Creek Natural Area, Old Fitchburg Natural Area, Briarwood Natural Area, Murphy's Creek Preserve, Moraine Edge Park and Preserve East, and the Badger Trail Connector. In drafting the boundaries for proposed park and open space, these larger open space complexes were connected to each other to form one extensive citywide open space system that could allow for human, animal, and plant mobility.

Heritage Circle Route

A concept for a 19 mile recreational path, called the Heritage Circle Route, was proposed in 2000 by Fitchburg's City Planner. It is described as a major recreational path, providing a circular route around the City of Fitchburg. It would give users an opportunity to pass through the varied cultural and natural terrain of Fitchburg. Refer to "Heritage Circle Route" on Page 6-8 for more details.

Implementation Strategies

There are numerous mechanisms and financial resources for acquiring parkland and preserving open space. Public lands can be acquired through park dedication, donations, and purchase of title from willing landowners. Other mechanisms for protecting private open space include conservation easements, the purchase/transfer of development rights, and the regulation of waterways and wetlands and their associated buffers via Fitchburg's Comprehensive Plan and state law. In addition to City funds and parkland dedication fees, there are federal, state, and local grants available to fund this type of project.

The Dane County Conservation Fund Grant Program is a likely local source of funding outside of City funds. This is a cost-share program that local units of government can participate in for acquisition of lands identified in the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan. The County will be making updates to their plan in 2010 and the City of Fitchburg should make recommendations of new areas to include in the County's plan, including those identified in the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal.



Implementation



Implementation

Introduction

This chapter of the plan is intended to provide the City of Fitchburg with a guide for implementation actions related to the Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan. It lists the specific programs and actions that the City should implement to achieve the goals, objectives, and policies outlined within this plan, including plan adoption, methods for park and open space acquisition, consistency with other plans, partnerships, and provisions for updating this plan.

There are a number of methods for acquiring lands that possess open space and recreation potential. Methods available to governmental jurisdictions generally fall into three categories: regulations, acquisitions, and funding programs. Effective implementation most often involves a combination of these complementary tools. Fee simple acquisition is the most effective means of implementation because it provides complete control of recreational land and facilities. However, public agencies do not have the resources to finance the acquisition of all desired recreational lands. It is in the City's best interest to apply for federal, state, and county grants to receive aid for eligible projects. When acquisition is not feasible, there are other alternatives available for the provision of open space and recreational opportunities. Acquisition methods, as well as other alternative options, are briefly described in this chapter.

Plan Adoption



The City of Fitchburg held two public open houses, a public hearing, and twelve committee/commission meetings as part of the formation and adoption of this plan. The first open house was held June 17, 2009. City staff gave an informational presentation and then residents had the opportunity to discuss and comment on the draft Goals, Objectives, and Policies and complete a public survey. On October 27th, staff held another open house on the draft plan. The plan was then reviewed and approved by the Parks Commission, Plan Commission, Resource Conservation Commission, Community and Economic Development Authority, and the Common Council. See Appendix A for a plan development timeline of public meetings.

Regulatory Techniques

The importance of regulations in implementing park and open space objectives is underscored by the fact that most potential parklands and scenic areas are now privately owned. As regulations prescribe rules for development, there are opportunities to incorporate park and open space objectives in land use regulations. However, regulatory measures are limited in that restrictions imposed on a landowner must relate closely to the interest of public health, safety, and welfare.

The regulatory ordinances that have the most implications for park and open space in Fitchburg are the Land Division Ordinance and the Zoning Ordinance. Part of the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan will be to consider revisions to these ordinances so that they are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Land Division Ordinance

Persons subdividing lands within the City are required to dedicate sufficient land area to provide adequate park, playground, recreation, and open space to meet the needs to be created by and to be provided for the land development, land division, or subdivision. At least 2,900 square feet of land shall be dedicated for each proposed residential dwelling unit within the land development, division, subdivision, or comprehensive development.

Where, in the sole discretion of the Park Commission, there is no land suitable for parks within the proposed development area, the dedication of land is not feasible, or the Park Commission determines that a cash contribution will better serve the public interest, the Park Commission may require the subdivider/developer to pay a fee in lieu of making the required land dedication. If a fee in lieu of parkland dedication is acceptable, the monies shall be placed in a separate, non-lapsing fund to be used by the City for acquisition and or development of parklands.

The Land Division Ordinance also requires a developer/subdivider to pay a parkland improvement fee to be utilized for the construction of park facilities and it requires the dedication of street frontage for dedicated parkland.

See Appendix B for an abridged version of Fitchburg's Land Division Ordinance.

Zoning Ordinance

Zoning, as originally conceived, was primarily designed to separate incompatible land uses. Present applications, however, incorporate many more objectives, including the protection of environmentally sensitive areas. The Zoning Ordinance identifies Zoning Districts, and lands placed in one of these districts will be eligible for development according to the rules for that district.

All areas dedicated to or owned by the City for purposes of use as public park or open space fall within the Park and Recreation District. One purpose of this district is to provide protection against problems which may result from development in areas where development is inappropriate by reason of unsuitable soils, wetlands, floodplains, or steep slopes.

Greater zoning restrictions are also possible for environmentally sensitive areas. The uncontrolled development and use of the wetlands, rivers and streams, and the pollution of navigable waters of the City of Fitchburg would adversely affect the public health, safety, convenience, and general welfare and impair the tax base. The Legislature of Wisconsin has delegated responsibility to all municipalities to further the maintenance of safe and healthful conditions; prevent and control water pollution; protect spawning grounds, fish and aquatic life; control building sites, placement of structures and land uses; and preserve shore cover and natural beauty. Wetland and floodplain overlay zoning offer an opportunity to deter development and hence retain as open space much of the land immediately adjacent to lakes, rivers, and streams.

Other zoning applications are also possible within the context of recreation

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and open space. Sign control, increased setbacks, additional street frontage, and restrictions on outside storage are some of the provisions that can be used to preserve scenic areas. Cluster zoning and planned development zoning also offer an opportunity to preserve open space for recreational use. Development under these techniques is not prohibited, but rather allowed to be fashioned more appropriately to the conditions of the site and to create more usable open space for recreational purposes.

Official Map

It is the intent of the Common Council to establish an official map for the purpose of conserving and promoting the public health, safety, convenience, economy, orderliness, and general welfare of the community; to further the orderly layout in the use of land; to stabilize the location of real property boundary lines; to insure proper legal description and proper monumenting of land; to facilitate adequate provision for transportation, parks, playgrounds and stormwater drainage; and to facilitate the further subdivision of larger tracts into smaller parcels of land. The official map will show the location of any existing, proposed or planned streets, highways, parkways, historic districts, railroad rights-of-way, public transit facilities, waterways, or parks and playgrounds.

Although official mapping is commonly associated with future acquisition of road right of ways, it can also be used to identify future parklands. With this technique, a governmental unit identifies future open space and park areas on a map, duly recorded and approved by the governing body. Anyone wishing to construct a building within the limits of officially mapped parkways must apply for a building permit (Chapter 26.06 – Official Map).

Acquisition Techniques

Several avenues are open to local governments in the acquisition of land for park and open space purposes. “Land acquisition” refers to the acquisition of both fee title ownership of a property and easements (WDNR, 2007).

Fee Title Acquisition

Fee title acquisition is the complete transfer of title and property rights through outright purchase of land, donation, or bargain sale (WDNR, 2007). Fee title acquisition is the simplest tool for acquiring public lands. A land contract, an agreement between the buyer and the seller to spread the cost of the acquisition over a number of years, may also be used as a form of fee title acquisition.

Conservation Easements

Conservation easements are voluntary legal agreements between a landowner and nonprofit organization or government agency. They permanently limit a property’s use in order to protect its conservation values. While landowner’s retain ownership and many uses, a conservation easement can help protect water quality and natural resources. They can also allow for public use and enjoyment, depending

on the agreement that reached between the parties. Easements may be donated or purchased.

Purchase of Tax Delinquent Property

This technique can be applied to properties where the property owner has failed to pay property taxes for several years. Upon failure to pay, the property becomes that of the County. If the City would want to purchase the property, the County board would have to approve the sale.

Eminent Domain

Eminent domain is the power of a governmental body to condemn private land for public purposes upon payment of just compensation. This technique should be used with caution and only be used when the land is considered essential for recreational purposes and after all other acquisition techniques have been attempted.

Trust for Public Lands

Private groups or organizations, such as the Trust for Public Land or The Nature Conservancy, may purchase land and hold it for the community until adequate funding has been obtained.

Donation

This technique, without question, is the least expensive means of acquiring land for outdoor recreation and open space uses. Contributions can be in the form of a lease or easement as well as outright title to a piece of land or property. The donor of land or property can also use donations as a tax deduction.

Funding

Grant Programs

County, state, and federal funding programs are available to local governments to acquire, develop or preserve park and open space areas. Since most programs have limited funds and competition for these funds is increasing, the City should prepare grant applications carefully, viewing these funds as supplements to local funding rather than as the mainstay of an outdoor recreation program.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant Program gives priority to projects that implement priorities contained in state and local comprehensive outdoor recreation plans and meet the needs identified in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the approved local comprehensive outdoor recreation plan, or the approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plans of other units of government. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant Programs offers four types of local assistance grants: Acquisition and Development of Local Parks, Urban Green Space Grants, Urban Rivers Grants, and Acquisition of Development Rights Grants (WDNR,



Implementation

2006). All Stewardship Grant awards cover up to 50% of eligible project cost. Sources for local share may include county or federal funding. The annual application deadline for all awards is May 1.

Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)

This WDNR stewardship grant program “helps to buy land or easements and develop or renovate local park and recreation area facilities for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes (e.g., trails, fishing access, and park support facilities). Applicants compete for funds on a regional basis” (WDNR, 2006).

Urban Green Space Grants (UGS)

UGS grants help “to buy land or easements 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. Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis” (WDNR, 2006).

Urban Rivers Grants (UR)

A UR grant “helps to buy land on or adjacent to rivers flowing through urban or urbanizing areas to preserve or restore the scenic and environmental values of riverways for nature-based outdoor recreation. The Urban Rivers Program 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” (WDNR, 2006).



Acquisition of Development Rights Grants (ADR)

An ADR grant “helps to buy development rights (easements) for the protection of natural, agricultural, or forestry values that would enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis” (WDNR, 2006).

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)

The LAWCON program was established by the U.S. Congress in 1965 to provide funding for the acquisition of land for park or open space preservation purposes and the development of outdoor recreation facilities. In Wisconsin, LAWCON funds are administered by the DNR. Up to 50 percent of project costs are eligible for funding under this program. Congress allocates a certain amount of funding to the State of Wisconsin every year. A portion of this amount is available to local and county units of government to acquire or develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The “nature-based” restriction in the Stewardship Program does not apply to LAWCON funds. The application deadline is May 1 of each year (SEWRPC, 2005).

Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

This is a federal program that provides funds for maintenance, development, rehabilitation, and acquisition of land for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses. The program is administered by the WDNR. Eligible sponsors may be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the total project costs. RTP funds may

only be used on trails which have been identified in or which further a specific goal of a local, county or state trail plan or on trails that are included or referenced in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. The application deadline is May 1 of each year (WDNR, 2009).

Conservation Fund Grant Program

The Dane County Conservation Fund offers grants to non-profit organizations and local government agencies for acquisition of lands identified in the Dane County Parks & Open Space Plan or for lands in buffer areas immediately adjacent to existing parkland. Standard grants are based on 25% of the project costs. If a WDNR Stewardship grant is involved, the grant award is based on the DNR certified appraised value. Grant requests for more than the standard grant amount are considered, yet may not exceed 50% of the project costs and are reviewed on a case by case basis. Funding sources for the sponsor's match may include: state or federal grants, private donations, project partnership contributions (i.e. cities, villages, or towns), and bargain sales (Dane County Land and Water Resources Department, 2009).

Local Sources

To develop and improve its park and open space system and to be eligible for county and state grants, the City may need to provide its own funding. There are a number of options, but the most frequently used source of funding is the City's Capital Improvement Program.

Capital Improvement Program

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a five-year plan which identifies capital projects and equipment purchases, provides a planning schedule and identifies options for financing the plan. The CIP is one way the City of Fitchburg can monitor and implement park and open space acquisition projects detailed in the Comprehensive Park, Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Benefits of a CIP include the systematic evaluation of all potential projects at the same time, ability to consolidate projects to reduce borrowing costs or stabilize debt and serve as an economic development tool. The City of Fitchburg monitors, develops, and adopts a five-year Capital Improvement Program every year.

Special Tax

A special tax levy, usually included in the property tax, allows local units of government to collect revenue to support outdoor recreational projects.

General Obligation Bond

A general obligation bond is a type of bond that is secured by a state or local government's pledge to use legally available resources, including tax revenues, to repay bond holders. Funds are made available when a referendum or legislative act has authorized sale of such bonds. Often the debt is repaid by the levy of a property

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tax and secured by the local unit of government.

Revenue Bond

Revenue bonds are issued by a public agency and paid back by means of revenue derived from operation of the resulting recreational projects, such as a golf course, swimming pool, or community center.

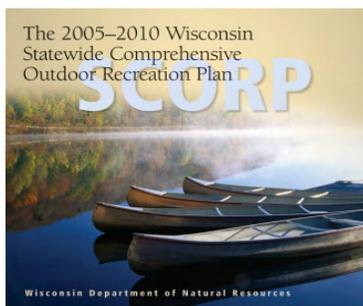
User Fee

The City can also choose the option to charge a fee for use of certain recreational facilities to help offset the cost of acquisition, development, and maintenance.

Consistency Among Plans

There are a number of plans, especially City plans, which pertain to the content and implementation of the Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan. Therefore, one objective in drafting this plan was providing consistency with all relevant plans. In addition, the state and federal grant programs listed above require a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan or give priority to projects that implement priorities that are contained in state and local comprehensive outdoor recreation plans or meet the needs identified in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2005-2010



Since 1965, Wisconsin 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 SCORP plan is prepared every 5 years by the WDNR to identify essential issues that affect the future of Wisconsin outdoor recreation and includes appropriate recommendations. The SCORP presents goals and actions to aid recreation providers in developing an adequate supply of recreational lands and facilities, and to promote the conservation of important natural resources (WDNR, 2006).

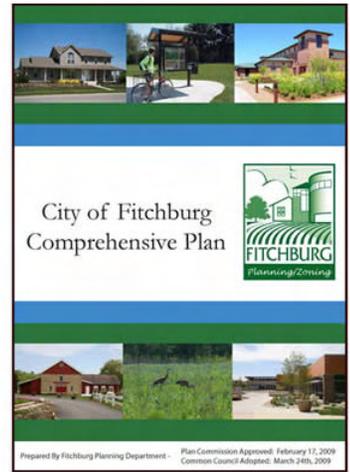
Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan 2006-2011

The Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan seeks to identify significant cultural, historical, and natural resources that should be considered for possible protection, preservation, or restoration for a five-year time period. The plan also seeks to identify countywide recreation needs and Dane County's role in providing facilities to meet anticipated demands.

Fitchburg's Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department should provide Dane County with recommendations regarding the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal when the County revises their Parks and Open Space Plan in 2010.

City of Fitchburg Comprehensive Plan (2009)

While meeting the provisions of the “Smart Growth” law, the Comprehensive Plan addresses the unique characteristics of Fitchburg and provides a vision and model for sustainable and regenerative growth. The plan contains data and background information on the numerous resources and services of the community, including land use; economic development; natural, cultural, and agricultural resources; housing; public facilities; utilities; and transportation. The plan also identifies the goals, objectives, and policies that will help determine the City’s use of resources and guide decisions for future development and preservation in the City of Fitchburg. The goals, objectives, and policies relevant to the Comprehensive Park, Open Space and Recreation Plan were utilized to provide consistency among the plans.



City of Fitchburg Bike and Pedestrian Plan (2008)

Fitchburg maintains a large network of bicycle transportation facilities throughout the City including bike paths, bike lanes, and designated bike routes. These facilities serve recreational users as well as biking commuters. The City of Fitchburg has undertaken efforts to improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities for residents and visitors over the past several years. Many of the improvements were called for in the 2000 Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan. Although it was never formally adopted, it has served as a useful planning guide. As bicycle and pedestrian facility improvements have been made, alternative transportation opportunities have become available. The Bike and Pedestrian Plan builds on previous recommendations from the 2000 plan, recognizing the improvements already accomplished and calling for more.

City of Fitchburg Maintenance Plan for Public Properties (2007)

This plan sets forth general guidelines as to the appropriate level of maintenance for the City’s public properties. Properties are placed into a particular category based on the area’s nature and use, the general public’s expectations, and necessary safety requirements. A reasonable mowing rate and method is outlined for each category. This plan is subject to change by the Parks Department and the Public Works Department and specific maintenance plans may be developed for individual properties.

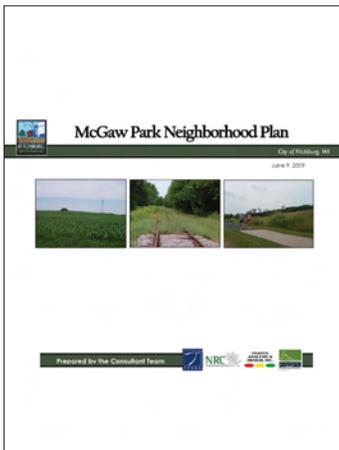
Specific Management Plan for Public Properties within the City of Fitchburg (Draft)

This draft management plan for the City’s public trails, prairies, grasslands, marshlands, woodlands, detention ponds, and waterways was created in response to the desire for an organized assessment and management plan of the City’s natural areas. It provides recommendations for the maintenance of public lands, management of undesirable plant species, and the planting of preferred species. This plan is intended to assist in realizing the goal, to conserve, protect, and enhance the community’s natural resources, from the Fitchburg Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan 2010-2015.

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Fitchburg Neighborhood Plans

The Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan has a large role in guiding land use decisions that are made when a neighborhood plan is developed. New parkland should be developed in a manner that is consistent with this plan.



The information and concepts presented in the Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal has been used by the McGaw Park Neighborhood Plan Steering Committee and the Northeast Neighborhood Land Use Committee in the drafting of plans for these future neighborhoods.

The McGaw Park Neighborhood Plan is the first neighborhood plan to be amended into the Fitchburg Comprehensive Plan. The neighborhood plan analyzes the natural environment, parks and open space, transportation and connectivity, stormwater management and utilities, land use, and integration with existing areas. The plan is intended to provide a rational basis for decision-making by the City when the private sector proposes a development/redevelopment opportunity within the proposed neighborhood and or concurrent with the expansion of the Urban Service Boundary. The plan is also a guide for public infrastructure planning and investment.

Partnerships

The City of Fitchburg has entered into a number of successful relationships and agreements with its neighbors involving city services, including schools, public transportation, utilities, and public safety services. The City should continue to work and collaborate with neighboring local governments and Dane County to meet shared park, open space, and recreation objectives that could benefit multiple parties involved and to coordinate planning efforts.

Monitoring Plan Implementation

The Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan is setting the vision for the community with its purpose to guide and evaluate city decision-making when it comes to parks and open spaces. To that end, it is expected that park and recreation facility development proposals are to be consistent with this plan. It is important, however for the City to monitor the Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan and its effectiveness to assure that it continues to provide guidance that meets the changing needs of the community. The Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department should monitor and review the progress and implementation of this plan on an annual basis, or more often when deemed necessary.

In addition to the overall monitoring of the Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan, the City should monitor the development of the following policies or plans that have been addressed in this plan as short-term recommendations and/or goals, objectives, and policies:

- Community garden policy (zoning code rewrite)
- Conceptual Park & Open Space Proposal
- Dawley Bike Hub site plan (proposed)

- Dunn's Marsh - The Preserve site plan (proposed)
- Forest/natural area restoration and management plans (site specific)
- Jamestown Neighborhood park plan (proposed)
- Moraine Edge Park & Preserve North study
- Parkland dedication policy (zoning code rewrite)
- Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance

Plan Update

This plan will be reviewed and updated no less than once every five years to assure that the plan reflects changes in the recreational needs of the community. Amendments to the plan will be reviewed and adopted by the Park Commission, the Plan Commission, and the Fitchburg Common Council.

Conclusion

As Fitchburg continues to experience development, the City will face increased pressures for adequate parkland, open space, and recreational opportunities. This plan provides priorities, guidelines, and recommendations for addressing those challenges. Increasing public outreach and fostering additional partnerships will be critical to maintaining the existing natural, cultural, and historical resources that Fitchburg residents equate with a continued high quality of life and sustainability.

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Photographic References

All photographs not explicitly mentioned below were taken by Dana Dentice, Landscape Architect Intern or other Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department staff.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies Cover

Large Photograph: Taken by Dennis Sornson, 2008. Larsen Road Wetland.

Bottom Middle: City of Fitchburg - Department of Economic Development

Bottom Right: City of Fitchburg

Page 2 - 3

Photograph: Department of Economic Development

Page 3 - 13

Photograph: Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Page 3 - 15

Bottom Photograph: Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Page 3 - 16

Photograph: Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Page 4 - 5

Top Photograph: Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Assessment of Needs Cover

Middle Photograph: Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Page 6 - 15

Photograph: Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Page 7- 3

Photograph: Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Page 7- 5

Photograph: City of Fitchburg

Implementation Cover

Large Photograph: Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Bottom Right: Kristin McConnell

Page 8 - 5

Photograph: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Page 8 - 8

Photograph: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

References Cover

All photographs provided by Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Appendix A Cover

Photograph provided by Rick Eilertson, Public Works Department.

Appendix F Cover

Photograph provided by Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

Appendix G Cover

Photograph provided by Kristin McConnell, City of Fitchburg Planning Intern

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Appendix A: Plan Development Timeline



Appendix A: Plan Development Timeline

PLAN DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE: ***Comprehensive Park, Open Space, and Recreation Plan 2010-2015***

Task	Meeting
Staff - Work on Draft Plan	Ongoing
Parks Comm./RCC - Goals, Objectives and Policies; Open House (June 17, 2009)	June 4, 2009
Staff - Future Park & Open Space Planning Open House	June 17, 2009
Parks Comm. - Discuss Public Feedback on Goals, Objectives and Policies; Discuss Facility Standards	July 2, 2009
Plan Commission - Long Term Park & Open Space Planning Update	August 4, 2009
Parks Comm. - Action on Goals, Objectives and Policies; Discuss Standards and Assessment of Needs	August 6, 2009
COW - Plan Update	August 26, 2009
Parks Comm. - Discuss Recommendations; Discuss Conceptual Park & Open Space Proposal & Moraine Edge Park; Discuss Implementation	August 27, 2009
Parks Comm. - Finalize Draft Plan for Open House	October 1, 2009
Staff - Open House on Draft Plan	October 27, 2009
Parks Comm. - Complete Draft Plan	November 5, 2009
Common Council - Refer Out to Park Commission, Plan Commission, RCC, CEDA	November 24, 2009
Parks Comm. - Public Hearing and Action on Adoption	December 3, 2009
Plan Commission - Action on Adoption	December 15, 2009
CEDA - Action on Adoption	December 17, 2009
RCC - Action on Adoption	December 21, 2009
Parks Comm. - Action on Committee Referral and Staff Recommendations	January 7, 2010
Common Council - Action on Adoption	January 12, 2010

RCC: Resource Conservation Commission
CEDA: Community & Economic Development Authority
Comm.: Commission

Revised December 29, 2009



Appendix B: Land Division Ordinance



Appendix B: Land Division Ordinance

CHAPTER 15 LAND DIVISION ORDINANCE

(The following are excerpts from Chapter 15)

15.01 INTRODUCTION

(1) Authority. These regulations are adopted under the authority granted by Sections 62.11(5), 62.23(6) and (7) and 236.45 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

(2) Purpose. The purpose of the ordinance is to regulate and control the division, and development of land within the corporate limits of the City in order to promote the public health, safety, morals, prosperity, aesthetics and general welfare of the community; to lessen congestion in the streets and highways; to further the orderly layout and appropriate use of land; to secure safety from fire, panic and other dangers; to provide adequate light and air; to prevent the overcrowding of land; to avoid undue concentration of population; to facilitate adequate provision for transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks, playgrounds, and other public requirements; to facilitate the division of larger tracts into smaller parcels of land; to ensure adequate legal description and proper survey monumentation of subdivided land; to provide for the administration and enforcement of this ordinance; and to provide penalties for its violation.

(3) Abrogation and Greater Restrictions. This ordinance is not intended to repeal, abrogate, annul, impair, or interfere with any existing easements, covenants, agreements, rules, regulations or permits previously adopted or issued pursuant to laws. However, where this ordinance imposes greater restrictions, the provisions of this ordinance shall govern.

(4) Interpretation. In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this ordinance shall be held to be minimum requirements and shall be liberally construed in favor of the City and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other power granted by the Wisconsin Statutes.

(5) Common Council. The authority to approve or object to preliminary plats, final plats and certified surveys is, to the extent necessary to implement the provisions of this ordinance, delegated to the common council upon recommendation from the Plan Commission.

(6) Severability. The provisions of this ordinance are severable. If any provision of the ordinance is invalid, or if its application to any person or circumstance is invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

(7) Title. This ordinance shall be known as, referred to, and cited as the "Land Division Ordinance."

(8) Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect on the day after its publication as provided by law.

Appendix B: Land Division Ordinance

15.02 GENERAL PROVISIONS

(4) Dedication and Reservation of Land.

(A) Dedication of Public Ways. Whenever a tract of land being divided or subdivided embraces all or any part of street, drainageway or other public way which has been designated in the Fitchburg General Land Use Plan, park plan, or the official City map, said public way shall be made a part of the plat or survey map and dedicated by the subdivider in the locations and dimensions indicated on said plan or map.

(B) Dedication of Parks, Playgrounds, Recreation and Open Spaces. (85-O-19)

1. The subdivider/developer shall dedicate sufficient land area to provide adequate park, playground, recreation and open space to meet the needs to be created by and to be provided for the land development, land division or subdivision. At least 2,900 square feet of land shall be dedicated for each proposed residential dwelling unit within the land development, division, subdivision or comprehensive development. Where a definite commitment is made to the City of the subdivider/developer with respect to the number of dwelling units to be constructed on any parcel of land which has a zoning classification that permits multi-family use, the dedication shall be based on that number. Where no such commitment exists, the dedication shall be based upon the maximum number of dwelling units which the zoning classification of the parcel will permit.

2. Where, in the sole discretion of the Park Commission, there is no land suitable for parks within the proposed development area, land division or subdivision, the dedication of land required by Section 15.02(4)(B)1 is not feasible, the dedication of land would not be compatible with the City Master Plan, or the Park Commission determines that a cash contribution will better serve the public interest, the Park Commission may require the subdivider/developer to pay a fee in lieu of making the required land dedication.

3. The amount of any fee imposed pursuant to Section 15.02(4)(B) shall be a per dwelling unit fee as set forth in the Annual Budget Appendix Fee Schedule. (02-O-21)

4. The Park Commission may, in its sole discretion, permit the subdivider/developer to satisfy the requirement of Section 15.02(4)(B)1 by combining a land dedication with a fee payment.

5. The City shall place any fee collected pursuant to the provisions of this section in a separate account to be used for land acquisition and development of adequate park, playground, recreation and open space to meet the needs created by the land development, land division or subdivision.

6. Payment of land dedication fees shall be in a lump sum prior to the recording of a final plat or certified survey map or prior to the issuance of

Appendix B: Land Division Ordinance

any building permit for a development where no plat or certified survey map is involved. Where no land division is involved the Park Commission may permit the developer to substitute land dedication for fees.

(C) Reservation of Public Sites and Open Spaces. In designing a land division, subdivision or comprehensive development, due consideration shall be given to the reservation of suitable sites of adequate area for future schools, parks, playgrounds, drainageways, and other public purposes. In the location of such, consideration shall be given to the preservation of scenic and historic sites, stands for fine trees, marshes, lakes and ponds, water courses, watersheds, and ravines. The subdivider may be required to reserve such school, park, recreation and public use areas for a period not to exceed two (2) years for acquisition by the City, or in the case of school areas by the school district, at undeveloped land costs.

15.09 REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS

(9) Street Frontage for Dedicated Parkland.

(A) Street frontage for dedicated parklands shall be provided and paid for by the developer or subdivider in the amount of 150 lineal feet of frontage or in accord with the following, whichever is greater.

1. For development projects or land divisions of less than 80 dwelling units, the developer or subdivider shall provide frontage in accord with the following table:

Single Family Residential - 6.0 lineal feet per dwelling unit
Two-Family Residential - 3.0 lineal feet per dwelling unit
Multi-Family - .75 lineal feet per dwelling unit

2. For development projects or land divisions of 80 or more dwelling units, lineal street frontage shall be provided in accord with the following:

Single Family: Square root of the square footage required to be dedicated.
Two-Family: Square root of the square footage required to be dedicated with this factor multiplied by .50.
Multi-Family: Square root of the square footage required to be dedicated with this factor then multiplied by .13.

(B) Where the Park Commission decides that the full frontage is not required, or where total or partial fees-in-lieu of dedication are accepted, the developer or subdivider shall pay a fee-in-lieu of required frontage in accord with the provisions of s. 15.15(5) of this code.

(C) In calculating the required frontage for multi-family residential projects the maximum number of two bedroom units allowed under the zoning ordinance shall be used unless a different number is committed to by agreement with the City or by City approved deed restriction.

Appendix B: Land Division Ordinance

15.15 FEES

(4) Parkland Improvement Fees.

(A) The developer or subdivider shall pay prior to signing the final plat or survey, or in the case of a multi-family housing development, the developer shall pay, prior to issuance of a zoning permit a parkland improvement fee as set forth in the Annual Budget Appendix Fee Schedule. The collected fees shall be utilized to construct park facilities for the plat, survey or development. The Park Commission shall give priority to establishing the proper neighborhood park facilities according to the Plan for Parks and Open Spaces and the generally accepted standards prior to expenditure for facilities in area or community parks. The collected fee shall go into special segregated funds.

(02-O-21)

(B) In a neighborhood park the facilities shall be substantially constructed to the extent practicable within 1 year of acceptance of improvements of the final phase of the plat, or survey, or issuance of a Certificate of Completion of a multi-family project's last building. However, facilities adequate to serve the developments growing population shall be constructed within 3 years of the acceptance date of the first phase of improvements or the first Certificate of Completion.

(C) In the case of expenditures for area and community parks the money shall be expended within 6 years of acceptance of improvements of the final phase of the plat, or survey, or issuance of a Certificate of Completion of a multi-family project's last building on those facilities that are proper for area and community parks. The funds shall not be expended on neighborhood park facilities in an area or community park, unless such area or community park serves the developments neighborhood park needs.

(D) Facility as used in s. 15.15(4). Facilities as used in this section means recreational equipment and structures, and the related support service infrastructure; it also includes grading, seeding and landscaping.

(E) Parkland Improvement Fee Schedule.

Single Family residential - as set forth in the Annual Budget Appendix Fee Schedule (02-O-21)

Two-Family residential - as set forth in the Annual Budget Appendix Fee Schedule (02-O-21)

Multi-Family residential - as set forth in the Annual Budget Appendix Fee Schedule (02-O-21)

The fee shall be adjusted as set forth in the Annual Budget Appendix Fee Schedule. (02-O-21)

Appendix B: Land Division Ordinance

(F) This fee shall be above and beyond the land dedication or payment-in-lieu of dedication as required under s. 15.02(4)(B).

(5) Fee-In-Lieu Of Street Frontage For Parkland

(A) Where a fee-in-lieu of parkland dedication is accepted or where the Park Commission decides that the full frontage is not required, a fee in lieu of street frontage shall be paid in accord with the following:

(1) The actual amount of lineal street frontage provided (by agreement with the Park Commission) shall be subtracted from the total amount of lineal street frontage that would be required for the development or land division by s.15.09(9). The resulting figure shall be multiplied by a dollar amount as set forth in the Annual Budget Appendix Fee Schedule. This product will represent the total fee in lieu of lineal street frontage the development is required to pay. (02-O-21)

(2) The established fee value shall be as set forth in the Annual Budget Appendix Fee Schedule. (02-O-21)

(B) Money collected shall be placed in a segregated account to use for development of one of the City community parks or trails.

(C) The fee-in-lieu of frontage requirement is applicable to all land divisions and developments unless street frontage for dedicated parklands is provided in accord with s. 15.09(9). This fee is in addition to parkland improvement fees identified in s. 15.15(4) or the parkland requirements of fee-in-lieu of parkland dedication required by s. 15.02(4).

The above and foregoing ordinance was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Fitchburg at a regular meeting held on January 9, 1990.



Appendix C:
Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal



Appendix C: Conceptual Park & Open Space Proposal

Thomas Clauder, Mayor
Introduced By

Planning Department
Drafted By

Park Commission, Plan Commission
Referred to

September 16, 2008
Date

RESOLUTION R-84-08 ACKNOWLEDGING PARK and OPEN SPACE PROPOSAL And PRIORITIZING LAND ACQUISITION

WHEREAS, the Planning Department and Parks Department have been working on a long term open space proposal for the City of Fitchburg since 2005, which is currently conceptually indicated in the attached map (Exhibit A), and described in the attached May 6, 2008 report from the Parks Department (Exhibit B); and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Open Space proposal has been the subject of, and vetted through several open houses, informational meetings, and government meetings noted in Exhibit C; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council amended the 2009—2013 Capital Improvement Program on July 30, 2008 to include land acquisition for Moraine Edge Park by allocating \$500,000 per year for four years starting in 2010, or a total of \$2,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North section of the Parks and Open Space Proposal adjoins the North McGaw Park Neighborhood which is currently in the neighborhood planning process.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Fitchburg Common Council that it hereby acknowledges the work accomplished on the Parks and Open Space proposal and desires the Park Commission to further refine the concept as necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North section of the Parks and Open Space Proposal, representing phase 1 acquisition as recommended by the Parks Department, is hereby accepted as the priority area for park land acquisition. The Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North area may be modified as further planning advances for the Parks and Open Space proposal and/or the North McGaw Park Neighborhood.

Adopted this 13th day of January, 2009.

Linda Cory, City Clerk

Approved: _____

Thomas Clauder, Mayor

Note: The Common Council is delaying funding for Moraine Edge Park and Preserve North until 2014.

**FITCHBURG COMMON COUNCIL
JULY 28, 2009
7:30 P.M.
CITY HALL**

(Excerpt from Council Minutes Regarding Moraine Edge Park Acquisition)

Mayor Allen opened the meeting for discussion and public comment regarding the Amendments to the Capital Improvement Plan.

Amendments

35. #6244 – Moraine Edge Park Land Acquisition – Pfaff – Cut funding, move to 2011, Parks update in 2010, Reduce \$1,000,000

Motion by Pfaff, 2nd by Swaminathan to approve amendment.

Motion by Horns, 2nd by Poole to amend the amendment to keep the original amounts and move to 2011. Roll call vote: Aye: Arnold, Horns, Pfaff, Nay: Swaminathan, Bloomquist, Poole, Potts, Stucker. Motion failed.

Roll call vote on main motion. Aye: Horns, Pfaff, Stucker, Nay: Swaminathan, Arnold, Bloomquist, Poole, Potts. Motion failed.

36. #6244 – Moraine Edge Park Land Acquisition – Potts – Delete project, \$2,000,000

Motion by Potts, 2nd by Bloomquist to delete the project.

Motion by Horns, 2nd by Poole amend the amendment to place \$500,000 in 2014 to initiate land acquisition. Motion carried.

Main Motion to approve amended amendment. Motion carried.

37. #6244 – Moraine Edge Park Land Acquisition – Bloomquist – Delete project, \$2,000,000

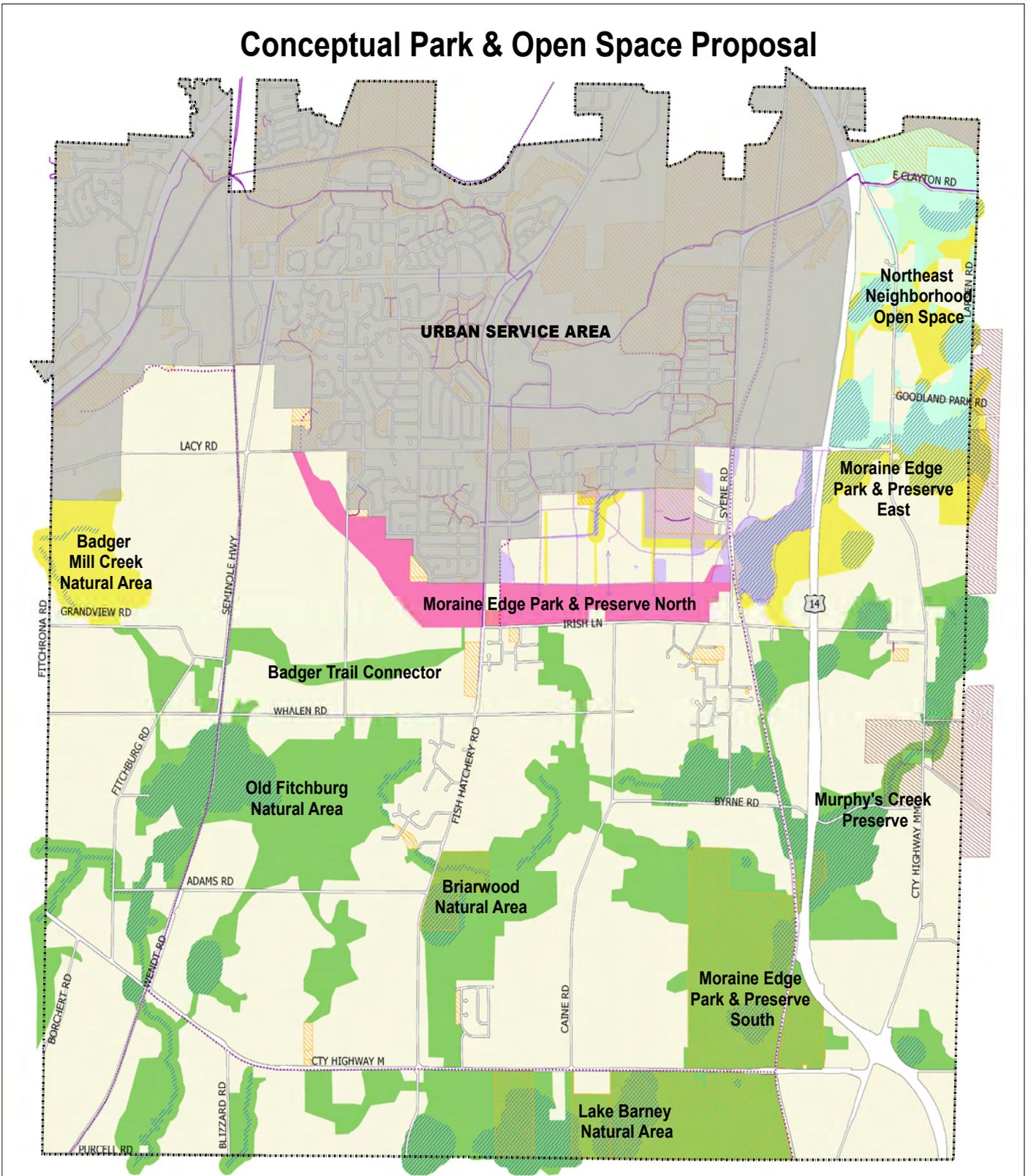
Motion by Bloomquist, 2nd by Potts to delete the project.

Motion by Pfaff, 2nd by Horns to end debate. Motion carried.

Vote on main motion failed.

38. #6244 – Moraine Edge Park Land Acquisition – Swaminathan – Delete project, \$2,000,000 - Withdrawn

Conceptual Park & Open Space Proposal



Recommended Boundaries and Implementation Priorities (With Neighborhood Plans)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Proposed Park & Open Space* | Conservation Easement/The Nature Conservancy |
| Priority 1 | Public Land |
| Priority 2 | Waterway & 75' Buffer/Wetland & 300' Buffer (within proposed park & open space boundary) |
| Priority 3 | Existing Trail |
| Approved Neighborhood Plan | City Limits |
| Proposed Trail | Right of Way |
| Proposed Neighborhood Plan | Proposed Path (Approved Plan) |



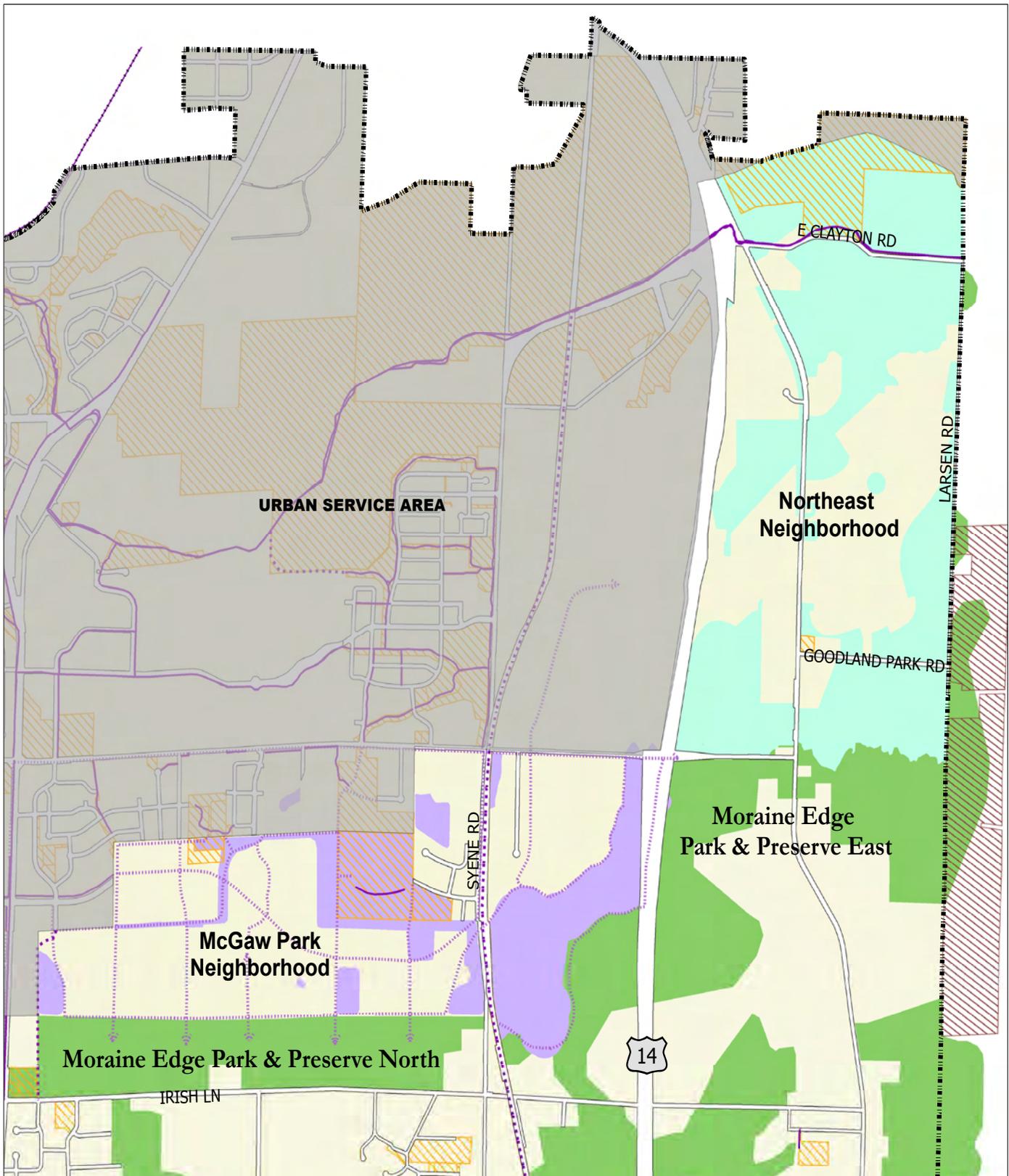
Note 1: Not all proposed park and open space is intended to be public-owned land.
 Note 2: Not all environmentally sensitive areas have been identified in this proposal and require additional consideration for protection through development planning.

Map Prepared By: Parks, Rec & Forestry Dept.
 Date: November 24, 2009

Source Data: Town of Dunn, 2009. NHLT, 2008. TAI, 2009. NRC, Ruekert-Mielke, & Schreiber Anderson Associates, 2009. City of Fitchburg, 2009.



Appendix C: Conceptual Park & Open Space Proposal

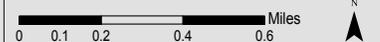


Conceptual Park and Open Space Proposal with Neighborhood Plans

Proposed Park & Open Space*

- Recommended Boundaries
- Approved McGaw Park Neighborhood Plan
- Proposed Northeast Neighborhood Plan
- Proposed Recreational Trail
- Proposed Path (Approved Plan)

- City Limits
- Right of Way
- Conservation Easement/ The Nature Conservancy
- Public Land
- Existing Trail
- Approved Trail



Note 1: Not all proposed park and open space is intended to be public-owned land.
 Note 2: Not all environmentally sensitive areas have been identified in this proposal and require additional consideration for protection through development planning.
 Map Prepared By: Parks, Rec & Forestry Dept.
 Date: November 24, 2009

Source Data: Town of Dunn, 2009. NHLT, 2008. TAI, 2009. NRC, Ruekert-Mielke, & Schreiber Anderson Associates, 2009. City of Fitchburg, 2009.

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Appendix D:
Inventory of Parks, Open Space, and
Recreational Facilities



Appendix D: Inventory

FITCHBURG PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION FACILITIES - 2009

		PARCEL ACRES	ACRES IN E-WAY	BASKETBALL	HORSESHOES	ICE SKATING	LANDSCAPING	TRAIL (paved/unpaved)	PICNIC TABLES	PLAY EQUIPMENT	SHELTER	RESTROOM	WARMING AREA	SLEDDING	TENNIS	SOCCER	VOLLEYBALL	LEAGUE SOFTBALL	BALL FIELD	FORESTED LAND	POND OR WATERWAY
COMMUNITY PARKS																					
McGaw	5236 Lacy Rd	65.00		X		#	X	X	X	X	X				X	+	X	X	X	X	
McKee Farms	2930 Chapel Valley Rd, 2876 Richardson St, 2881 Mickelson Pkwy	59.00		X	X	#	X	X	X	X	X		+		X	X	X	X	X		X
Subtotal		124.00	0.00																		

AREA PARKS																					
Chicory Meadow	5772 Auburn Dr, 3061 Edenberry St, 5755 Dawley Dr	15.06	15.06	X			X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X				X	X
Greenfield	5187 Greenfield Park Rd	10.79		X	X		X	X	X	X	X						X	X	X	X	
Huegel-Jamestown	5810 Williamsburg Way	9.04		X			X	X	+	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		
Swan Creek	5175 E. Cheryl Pkwy	19.16		X		#	X	X	X	X	X			X	+	+			+		X
Tower Hill	5610 Cheryl Dr	4.51		X			X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X	X		
Wildwood South Prairie	2629 Stanbrook St	12.72		X			X	X	X	X	X				X	X		X	X		X
Subtotal		71.28	15.06																		

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS																					
Arrowhead	2431 Chalet Garden Ct	6.00	6.00	X			X	X	+	X											X
Belmar Hills	4600 Jenewein Rd	4.20		X			X	X	X	X	+					+				X	
Briarwood	1870 Derby Dr	3.78		X			X	X	X	X	+					X	X		X		
Byrne	2535 Richardson St	7.86		X			X	X	X	X	X					+	+		X		X
Clayton	4992 West Clayton Rd	0.50		X			X		+	X											
Country Vineyard	2136 Vintage Dr	2.58		X			X		X	X											X
Fitchburg Springs	3333 Leopold Way	1.83	1.83						+	X											X
Gunflint Trail**	5420 Gunflint Trail	13.07	13.07	+			#	X	+	+	+					+	+		+		X
Hatchery Hill	3035 Cahill Main	2.67					X		X	X	X					+			X		X
Hawk Ridge	5740 Wilshire Dr	1.50					X	X	X	X	X										
Hillside Heights	2419 Kathleen St	3.40		X			X		+	X							X				X
Nannyberry	5165 Nannyberry	5.16		X			#	X	X	X	X					+			+		
Oak Meadow	2610 Targhee St, 5636/5637 Old Oak Dr, 2625 Placid St	13.50		X			#	X	X	X	X					+	+		+		X
Perry J. Schappe	4879 Maple Ave	4.38		X			X		X	X	+					+			X		
Pine Ridge	2980 Pineway Tr	2.73		X			X		X	X	X								X		
Quarry Hill	5425 Quarry Hill Dr	9.15		X			#	X	X	X	X					+	+		X		X
Rimrock	2992 Rimrock Rd	0.40		X			X		X	X											
Rosecommons	5640 Longford Terrace	2.97					#	X	X	X	X		X								
S. Johnson	5201 Wildheather Dr	6.90					X	X	+	X											X
Seminole Glen	5872 Schumann Dr	15.81		X			X	X	X	X	X					+	X		X	X	X
Stoner Prairie	5855 Scarlett Dr	6.65		X			X	X	X	X						+	X	X	X		
Western Hills	2499 S. Whitney Way	2.77		X			X		X	X	+						X		X		
Wildwood	5768 Barbara Dr	5.21		X			X		X	X	X		X			+	X		X		
Subtotal		123.02	20.90																		

OTHER PARKS																					
Fitchburg Center Park**	5540 Lacy Rd	10.00							+	+	+										X
Gorman Wayside, Parks/Public Works Maintenance Facilities, Recycling Drop-off Center	2377 S. Fish Hatchery Rd 2373 S. Fish Hatchery Rd	18.09					#		X												X
Nevin Village Green	3001 Cahill Main	1.19					#				X										
Subtotal		29.28	0.00																		

** Not completed X = Existing # = Partially Completed + = Proposed

Appendix C: Inventory

FITCHBURG PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION FACILITIES - 2009

		PARCEL ACRES	ACRES IN E-WAY	BASKETBALL	HORSESHOES	ICE SKATING	LANDSCAPING	TRAIL (paved/unpaved)	PICNIC TABLES	PLAY EQUIPMENT	SHELTER	RESTROOM	WARMING AREA	SLEDDING	TENNIS	SOCCER	VOLLEYBALL	LEAGUE SOFTBALL	BALL FIELD	FORESTED LAND	POND OR WATERWAY
NATURAL AREAS																					
Black Walnut Preserve	5176 Buttonbush Dr	0.32																			
Bluestem	2801 Big Bluestem Pkwy	14.43					X														
Commerce Park Hillside	2891 Commerce Dr	1.91					+													X	
Dawley Conservancy	3040/3041 S. Seminole Hwy	41.74	41.74				X	X	X											X	X
Dunn's Marsh (North) Natural Area	4523 Crescent Rd	7.79	7.79																	X	X
Dunn's Marsh- The Preserve	4431 Crescent Rd	1.37	1.37																	X	
Harlan Hills Prairie & Natural Area	5760 Ballina Pkwy, 5837 Dawley Dr	6.38	6.38				#	X												X	
Mickelson Woods	2850 Mickelson Parkway	4.08						#												X	
Nannyberry Wetland	Across from 2830 S Syene Rd	2.38						X												X	X
Nobel Woodlot	2620 Research Park Dr	3.99						#												X	
Orchard Pointe Natural Areas	Fitchrona Rd, West of 6248 Nesbitt Rd	2.82						X												X	
Quarry Ridge Recreation Area	2740 Fitchrona Rd	53.05					X	X	X	X	X									X	X
Subtotal		140.26	57.28																		
OTHER AREAS																					
City Hall/Community Center	5510/5520 Lacy Rd	9.42					X					X									X
Fitchburg Safety Building #1	5791 W Lacy Rd	2.55					X														
Fitchburg Safety Building #2	5415 King James Way	2.00					X														
Goodland Park Road Lands	4878 Goodland Park Rd	1.70																			
Irish Lane Open Space	5564/5554 Irish Ln	5.36																			
McCoy/West Clayton Open Space	East of 5062 W Clayton Rd	30.00	30.00				+	+	+	+										X	
Nine Springs Golf Course	2201 Traceway Dr	35.49	35.49				X	X	X	X	X									X	X
Oak Hall Cemetery	5868 County Highway M	8.87					#														
Seminole Hills Open Space	2968 Osmundsen Rd	0.97																		X	
Subtotal		96.36	65.49																		
TOTAL ACREAGE :		584.20	158.73																		

LEGEND		
X = Existing	# = Partially Completed	+ = Proposed

Continued on Next Page...

Appendix D: Inventory

FITCHBURG RECREATIONAL TRAILS - 2009

	NEIGHBORHOOD, CITY, AND REGIONAL TRAILS	PARCEL ACRES	ACRES IN E-WAY	ACRES IN EASEMENT	FORESTED LAND
Neighborhood Recreational Trails					
Belmar**	East of 4486 Crescent Rd and 2629 Cochise Trl	0.06			x
Chapel Valley**	East of 5693 Wilshire Dr**, 5771 Chapel Valley Rd*	0.18		0.12	
Fitchburg Research Park*	5395 E. Cheryl Pkwy, East of 5414 Lacy Rd			0.99	
Harlan Hills	5787 Dawley Dr	0.06	0.06		
Hatchery Hill*	West of 5475 Caddis Bend and 5454 Coachman Pl, 5510/5550 Caddis Bend**			0.11	
Highlands of Seminole	3007 Edenberry St, 3015 Stamford Pl, 3014/3015 Hartwicke Dr, 3031 Rosecommon Ter, 5681 Kinsale Dr	0.64			
Lacy Heights	West of 5858 Scarlet Dr and 5888/5889 Persimmon Dr	0.49			
Mickelson Woods	2879 Mickelson Pkwy	0.38			
Oak Meadow	2638 Saw Tooth Dr, Fish Hatchery Rd	0.18			
Orchard Pointe*	North of 6300 Nesbitt Rd, Across from 6281 Nesbitt Rd				
Quarry Hill	5487 Quarry Hill Dr, 5500 Sparkle Stone Cres, 5481/5482 Shale Rd, 2689 Mica Rd	1.74			x
Seminole Forest	West of 5873/5936 Schumann Dr and 2917 Jonathon Cir**	0.88			x
Seminole Hills Estates	West of 5825/5870 Tree Line Dr, 5834/5843 Marsh View Ct, and 3048 Oak Leaf Cir	0.59	0.31		x
Swan Creek of Nine Springs	5193 Buttonbush Dr, 2852 Big Bluestem Pkwy, 2852 Crinkle Root Dr, 5230 Snapdragon Trl, 5230 Stoneman Dr; *5252/5255 Snapdragon Trl, 45 Cornerstone Way, and 5256 Stoneman Dr	5.04		0.57	x
Subtotal		10.24	0.37	1.79	
City Recreational Trails					
Fish Hatchery Rd*	Behind 2580 Targhee St, 10 Sinatra Way*, and 2960/3010 Cahill Main*, 2935/2939 S. Fish Hatchery Rd*, E of 5400 Caddis Bnd	0.27		2.24	
Seminole Highway*	5961 Schumann Dr, 2912-2924 Marketplace Dr			0.88	
Subtotal		0.27		3.12	
Regional Recreational Trails					
Capital City State Trail	N of 3086 S. Seminole Hwy (Seminole Hills Estates), Fitchburg E- way (see Stormwater Facilities)	2.66	2.66		
Subtotal		2.66	2.66		
TOTAL TRAIL ACREAGE:		13.17	3.03	4.91	

* Public easement

** Not completed

Continued on Next Page...

Appendix C: Inventory

FITCHBURG PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION FACILITIES - 2009

		PARCEL ACRES	ACRES IN E-WAY	BASKETBALL	HORSESHOES	ICE SKATING	LANDSCAPING	TRAIL (paved/unpaved)	PICNIC TABLES	PLAY EQUIPMENT	SHELTER	RESTROOM	WARMING AREA	SLEDDING	TENNIS	SOCCER	VOLLEYBALL	LEAGUE SOFTBALL	BALL FIELD	FORESTED LAND	POND OR WATERWAY
STORMWATER FACILITIES																					
Bosshard Drive Pond	3020 Bosshard Dr	1.57																			X
Byrne Park Pond	2535 Richardson St	2.14																			X
Commerce Park Pond	6137 Cottonwood Dr	4.23																			X
Country Vineyard Greenway	2136 Vintage Dr	2.44				X														X	X
Fitchburg Business Park Pond A	2902 Market Place Dr	2.43					X														X
Fitchburg Business Park Pond B	2915 Market Place Dr	1.33																			X
Fitchburg E-Way	3022 Yarmouth, 3056 Edenberry St	25.81	25.81				X													X	X
Fitchburg Tech. Campus Pond	South of 5425 Quarry Hill Dr	3.37																			X
Greenfield Greenway	5231 Oakhaven Rd	0.69																			X
Green Tech Village Greenway	5027 W Clayton Rd	14.99																			X
Gunflint Trail Pond	5520 Gunflint Trl	2.27	2.27																		X
Harlan Hills Ponds & Greenway	5750 Ballina Pkwy, 5838 Dawley Dr	16.76	16.76			X	+														X
Hawk Ridge Greenway	5740 Wilshire Dr	2.77				X															X
McKee Farms Park Greenway	5309/5310 Brendan Ave	3.10																			X
Nesbitt - Bavaria Pond	East of 6317 Nesbitt Rd	3.53																			X
Nesbitt Heights Pond	West of 6258 Nesbitt Rd	3.82					X														X
Nesbitt - Jung's Pond*	6192 Nesbitt Rd	1.12																			X
Nesbitt - Limestone Pond	6243 Nesbitt Rd	1.13																			X
Persimmon Drive Pond	5824 Persimmon Dr	0.69																			X
Pine Ridge Greenway	South of 3002 Arapaho Dr	0.34																			X
Pine Ridge Pond	6106 Conservancy Way	0.33																			X
Quarry Hill Pond	5425 Quarry Hill Dr	3.97				X															X
Renaissance on the Park Pond	4624 Crescent Rd	0.98																			X
Seminole Hills Pond	3086 S. Seminole Hwy	2.44	2.44																		X
Seminole Village Pond	2970 S.Seminole Hwy	3.70	3.70																		X
Swan Creek Pond	2760 Crinkleroot Dr	10.38																			X
Swan Creek Greenways	2759/2882 Crinkle Root Dr, 5151 Ninebark Dr, 2701/2706/2765 Sunflower Dr, 2767 Hollyhock St	7.78					X														X
Syene D Pond*	Across from 5151 Ninebark Dr	0.69																			X
Tower Hill Greenway	2820 Lyman Ln	6.00					X													X	X
WIBA Pond	SW Corner of Lacy & S. Fish Hatchery	3.62																			X
Wildwood Kettle Pond	2661 Osmundsen Rd	2.78				#	+														X
Subtotal		137.20	50.98																		

* Public easement on private property

LEGEND		
X = Existing	# = Partially Completed	+ = Proposed

	ACRES	ACRES IN E-WAY	ACRES IN EASEMENT
TOTAL PARK & OPEN SPACE SYSTEM ACREAGE:	739.48	212.74	6.72

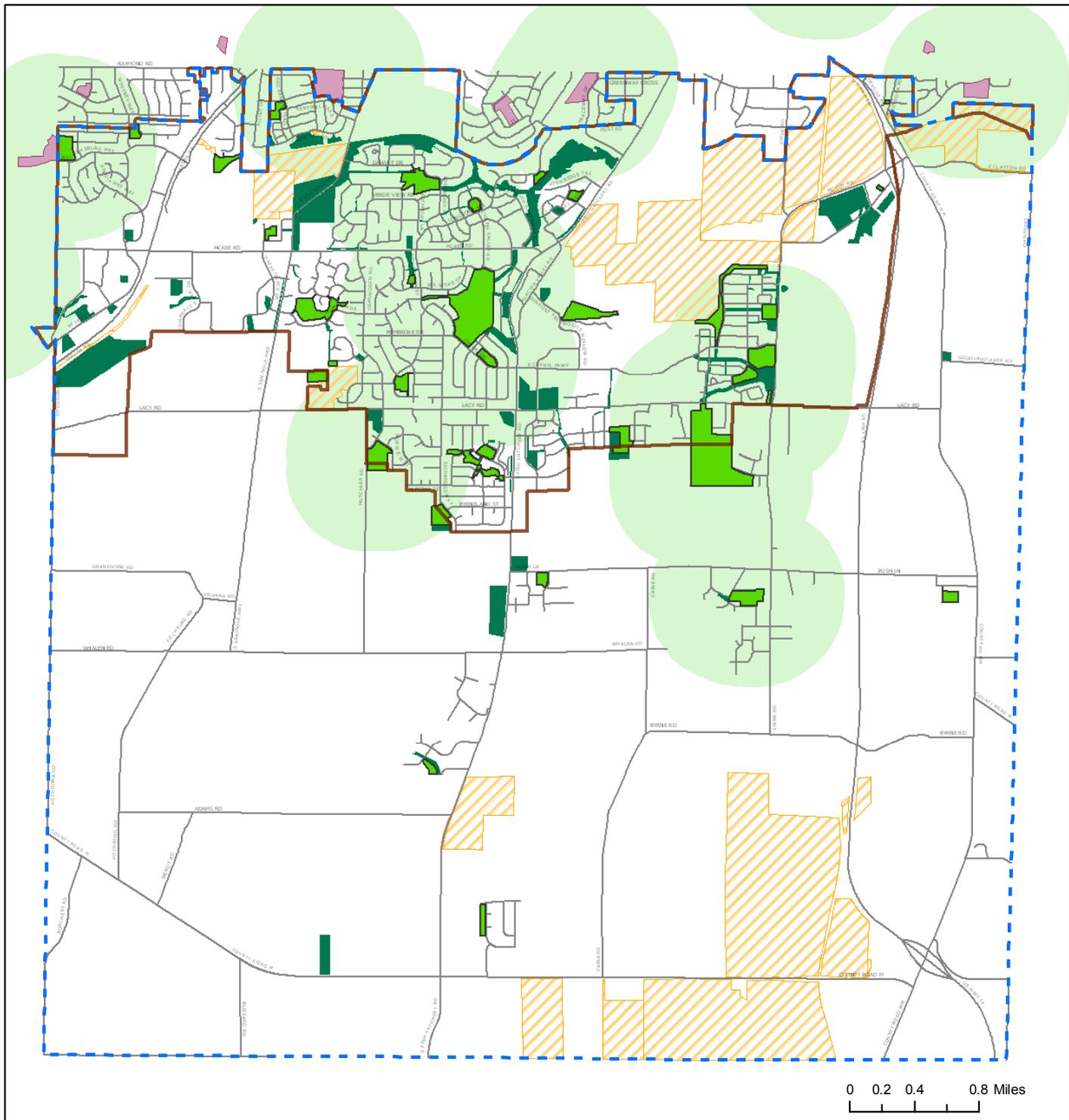
Note: 'Acres' includes 'Acres in Easement'

Revised 10-20-09

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Appendix E: Park Service Areas

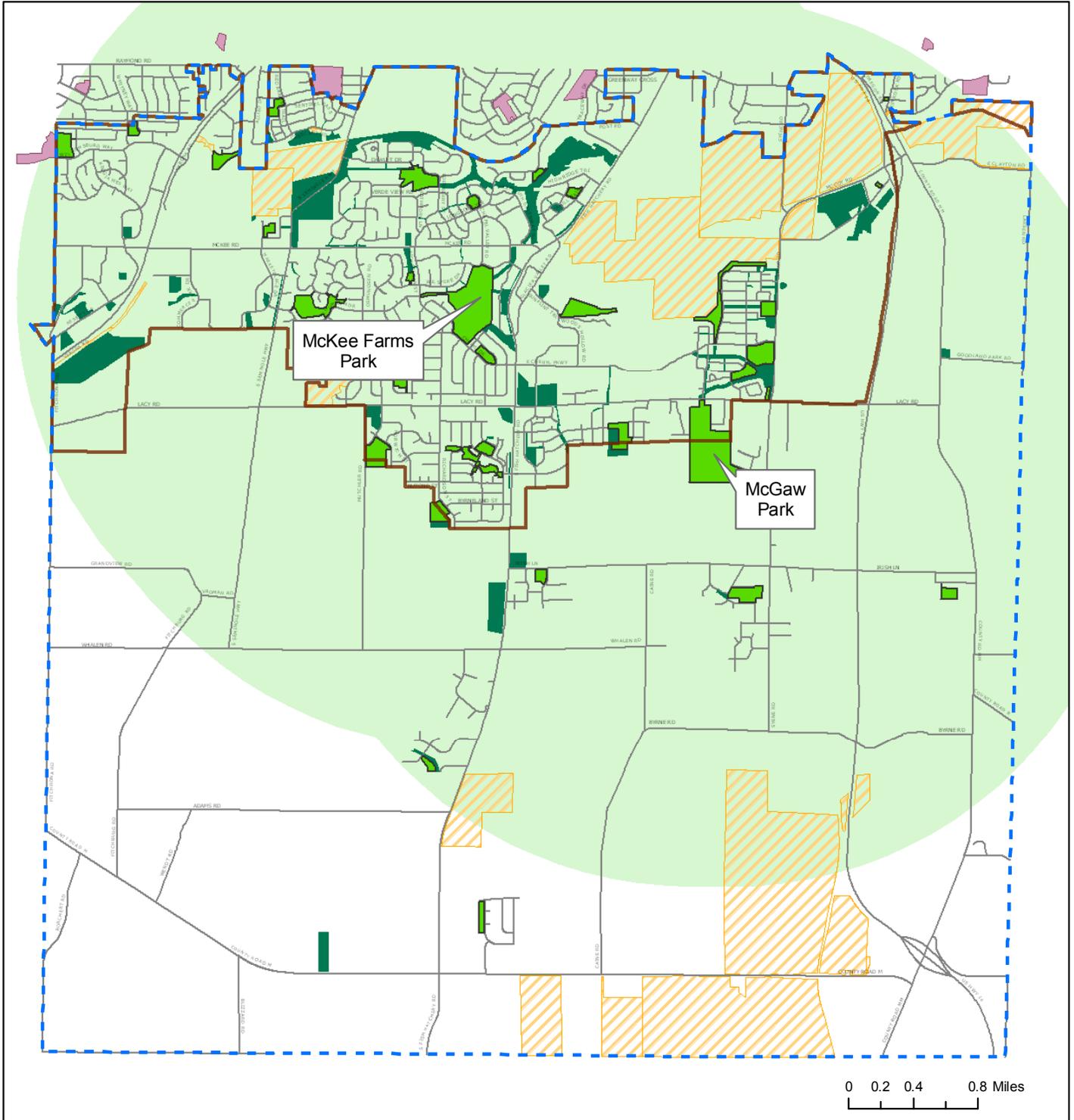


Fitchburg Area Park Service Areas- 1/2 Mile

City of Fitchburg
Parks, Recreation & Forestry Dept.
July 2009

- Fitchburg Park
- Madison Park
- 1/4-Mile Park Service Area
- Other Fitchburg Park/Open Space
- Other Public Land
- Urban Service Area
- City Limits
- Streets





0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Miles

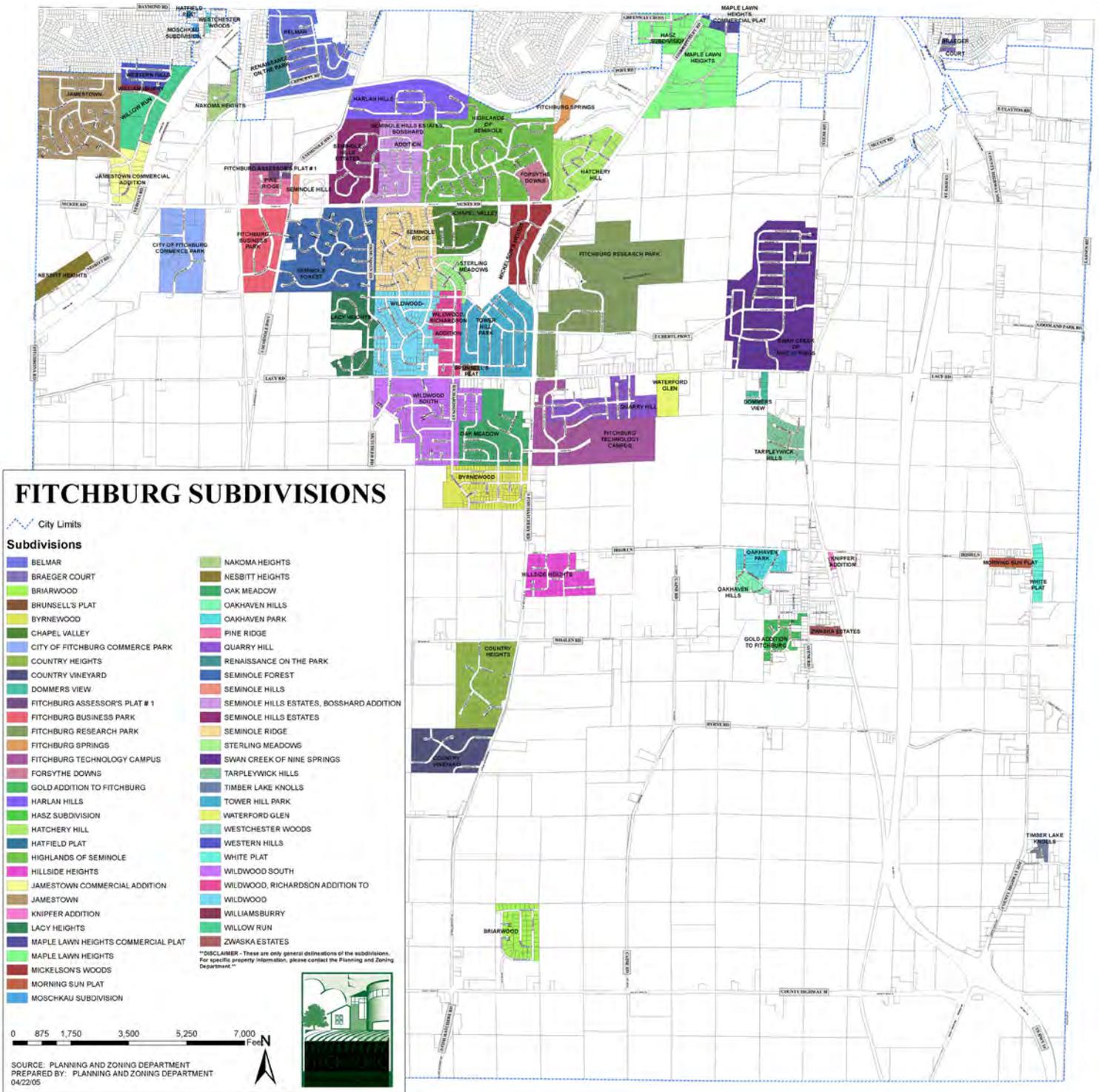
Fitchburg Community Park Service Areas- 2.5 Miles

City of Fitchburg
Parks, Recreation & Forestry Dept.
July 2009

- Fitchburg Park
- Madison Park
- 1/4-Mile Park Service Area
- Other Fitchburg Park/Open Space
- Other Public Land
- Urban Service Area
- City Limits
- Streets



Fitchburg Subdivisions



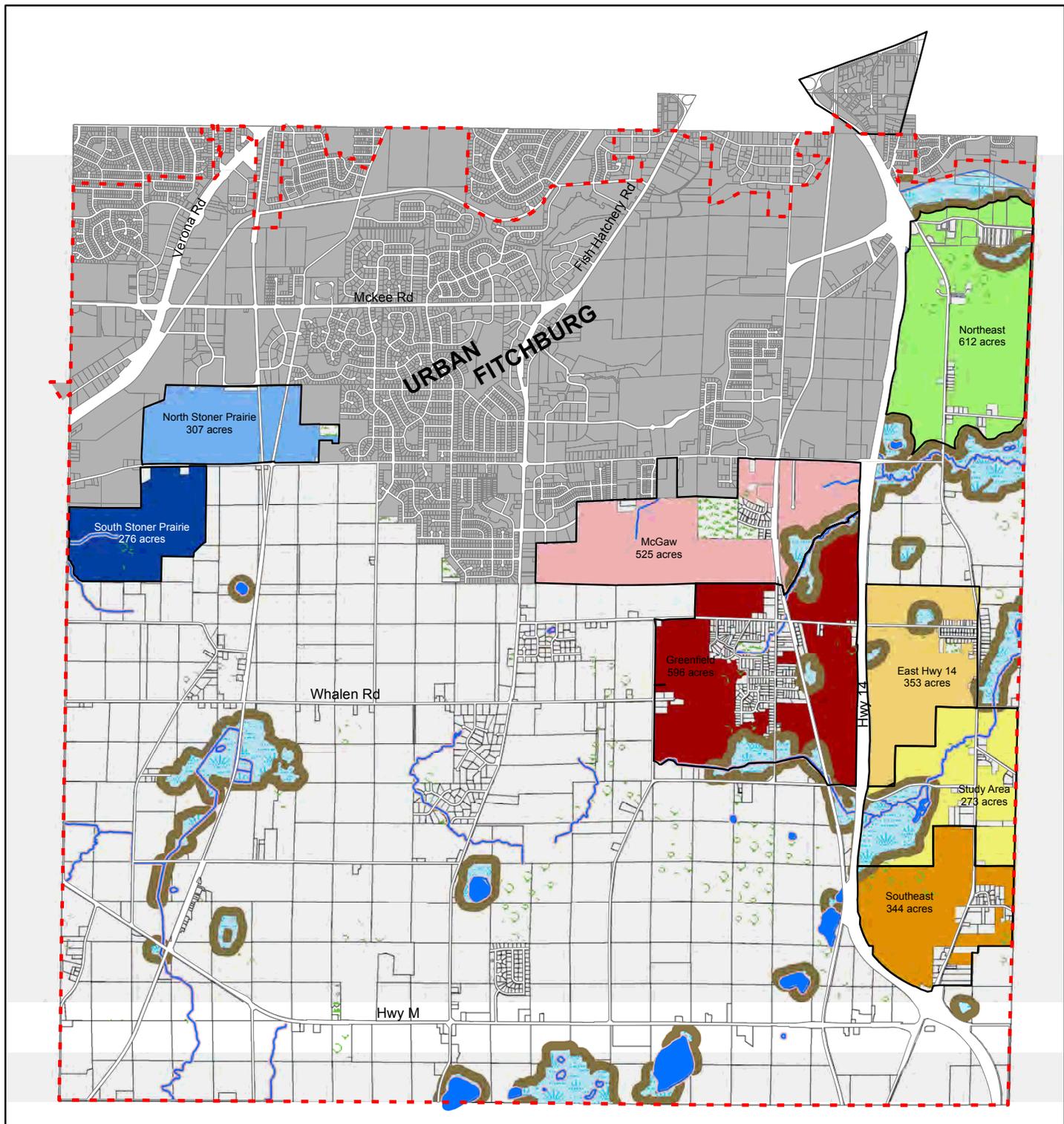
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Appendix F: Future Urban Growth Area



FUTURE URBAN GROWTH AREA NEIGHBORHOODS



-  Wetlands
-  Streams
-  Woods
-  Wetland Buffer - 300'
-  Open Water
-  City Boundary
-  Parks
-  Water Buffer - 75'

Prepared by: Planning/Zoning
 Source: Planning/Zoning &
 Dane County LIO
 Revised: 2/2008



* Acreage is exclusive of mapped natural resources, buffers and parcels less than 5 acres.



Appendix G: Dawley Conservancy Bike Hub



DAWLEY PARK BIKE HUB Site Design - Option

Plantings

- * Protect trees and prairie grasses on site
- * Perennial plantings require minimum maintenance

Kiosk area

- * Information/Maps/Self Registration
- * Brick matches color shelter's stone pillars
- * Bicycle parking under pergola

Views

- * Maintain/Frame view to Dunn's Marsh
- * Install additional benches along path

Parking Lot

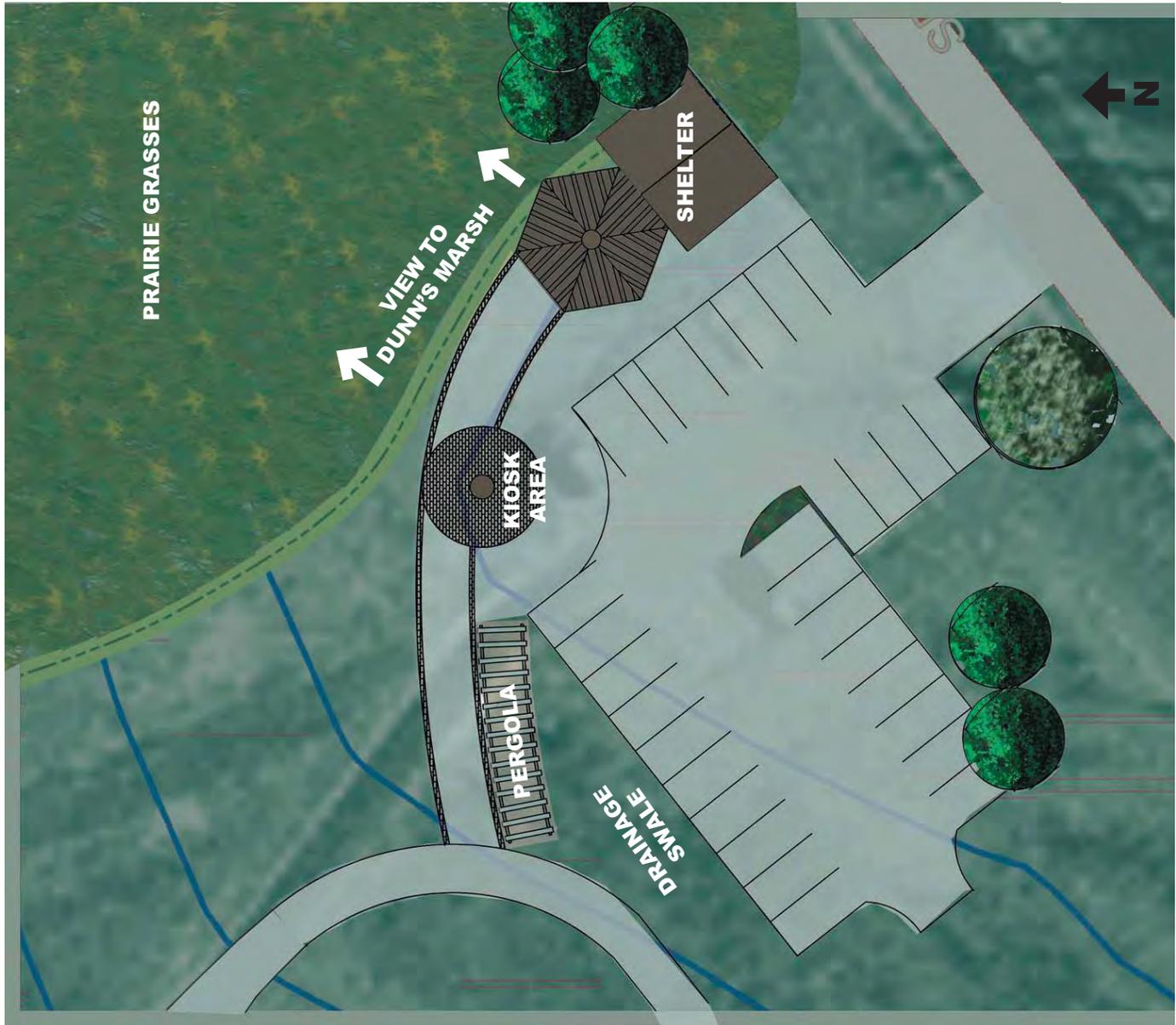
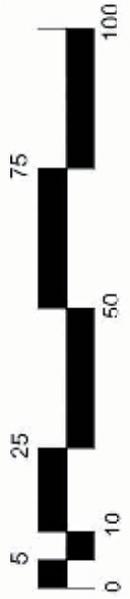
- * 20' - 24' Wide drive
- * 26 Standard stalls
- * 2 Accessible stalls

Shelter

- * Picnic Tables
- * Men's restrooms
- * Women's restrooms
- * Drinking fountains
- * Storage area

Drainage

- * Grade to capture stormwater runoff in swales





McGaw Park Neighborhood Plan

City of Fitchburg, WI

June 9, 2009



Prepared by the Consultant Team



NRC

TRAFFIC
ANALYSIS &
DESIGN, INC.



Appendix H: McGaw Park Neighborhood Plan

