## Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

City of Portage July 25, 2019



### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We would like to thank the Park and Recreation Board, Common Council, Plan Commission, and Staff for the City of Portage. We would like to acknowledge the following people and groups:

#### Park and Recreation Board

Brian Zirbes – Chairperson Todd Kreckman – Board Member Mike Charles – Board Member Doug Klapper – Board Member Tim Haak – Board Member

#### **Common Council**

Rick Dodd – Mayor
Allan Radant – Alderperson
Eric Shimpach – Alderperson
Mark Hahn – Alderperson
Mike Charles – Alderperson
Dennis Nachreiner – Alderperson
Martin Havlovic – Alderperson
Doug Klapper – Alderperson
Rita Maass – Alderperson
Jeffrey F. Monfort – Alderperson

#### **Plan Commission**

Rick Dodd – Mayor, Chairperson Mike Charles – Commissioner Frank MIller – Commissioner Brian Zirbes – Commissioner, Park and Recreation Chair Bill Barthen – Commissioner Chuck Sulik – Commissioner Pete Tofson – Commissioner

#### City Staff

Dan Kremer – Parks and Recreation Department Manager Shawn Murphy – City Administrator

We would also like to thank the people of the community who participated in the survey process and who provided their insight on the City's main outdoor recreation issues and helped craft the content included in this Plan.

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Plan adopted by the City of Portage Common Council on July 25, 2019. ©2019 Vierbicher

### **CONTENTS**

Chapter 1: Community Description	
Description of the Planning Process	CD-1
Description of the Planning Region	
Chapter 2: Needs Assessment	
Inventory Summary	NA-1
Needs Assessment	
Accessibility	NA-5
Chapter 3: Goals, Recommendations, & Ac	tion Plan
General Goals and Objectives	GA-1
Parks and Trails Goals and Objectives	
Appendix A: Survey Results	
Parks, Trails, and Facilities Usage	AA-1
Need for Park and Facility Improvements	
Park and Facility Satisfaction	AA-22
Appendix B: Parks & Recreational Facilities	Inventory
Parks Inventory	AB-1
Existing Park Amenities	
Trails Inventory	AB-12



**Chapter 1: Community Description** 

## Description of the Planning Process

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) represents an update of the Park, Recreation, and Forestry Comprehensive Plan prepared by Michael Draper and the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2013. This CORP process began with a Kickoff Meeting between the Consultant and technical review committee to establish the project schedule, the public participation plan, communication procedures, and set expectations. The meeting also reviewed questions for the public survey, plan objectives, activities, data sources, responsibilities, and deliverables. Next, the City made the public survey available online and distributed paper copies to major institutions in the community to gain feedback from citizens. After compiling feedback from the public survey and reviewing the previous CORP, the Consultant worked with the Park and Recreation Board, Common Council, and City Staff to identify specific areas, initiatives, and programs where the City can enhance and expand its parks and open space system. Maps for existing and proposed recreation areas were created, along with a draft implementation plan to achieve the recommendations included in the draft plan. After several iterations of edits and revisions, a final draft of the CORP was presented at a hearing of the Park and Recreation Board. After attaining Park and Recreation Board approval, the final draft of the CORP was presented to the Common Council for adoption.

#### **Process for Amending the Plan**

Due to unforeseen changes to economic or physical conditions in the City, updates to the CORP are periodically required to ensure it remains an effective guide. The City shall review the CORP each year, and may amend the Plan using the same process that

was undertaken to create it. Proposed amendments shall be presented at public meetings and where citizens, Town staff, and elected officials may offer input. After public input is gathered, finalized amendments shall be presented to the Common Council for adoption. It is recommended that the CORP should be updated at least every five (5) years so the City remains eligible for all available funding opportunities and to adequately reflect current recreational priorities.

The Park and Recreation Board should incorporate funding intended to meet the Capital Improvement Schedule and the Annual Operating Plan into the Park and Recreation Budget submitted each year to the Common Council.

### Past Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

The previous CORP provided the City of Portage with a tool to evaluate recreational agenda items and policies, and to address any issues which may arise with respect to parks and recreational areas in the City. Information for the CORP was gathered by attending Park and Recreation Board meetings held monthly, completing inventories of each park, studying the City of Portage's demographic information and informally talking with residents and Alders. It was found that the City lacks adequate park acreage, bicycle trails, and hiking trails based on the 2010 population. Furthermore a number of maintenance issues within existing facilities need to be addressed to promote use and safety. By addressing these concerns the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department can address specific goals, weaknesses and objectives outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan. Specific recommendations can be found in the final section of this report along with the general recommendation to develop existing park space into attractive recreational destinations.

## Description of the Planning Region

The City of Portage, herein referred to as "the City", is located within Columbia County, Wisconsin and is approximately 8.8 square miles and 794 feet above sea level. It is one of the oldest settlements in the State due to its strategic location for navigation between the north-flowing Fox River and the southern-flowing Wisconsin River. Neighboring Towns include; the Town of Fort Winnebago, the Town of Lewiston, the Town of Caledonia, and the Town of Pacific. Interstate Highway I-39, US Highway 51, and State Highways 16 and 33 are the principal highways serving the City. An Amtrak Railroad line crosses through the City northwest to southeast.

The City is within the Central Plain region of the State, characterized by smooth river deposits, lake-bottom accumulations, vegetation in swamps and glacial drift and its Cambrian sandstone. It is surrounded by prairies, grasslands and wetlands.

#### Soil Types & Capability

The majority of the City is covered with Plainfield-Okee Association of soil types. A smaller portion to the east and north is covered by the Houghton-Adrian-Palms Association.

• Plainfield-Okee Association - The soils in this association are characterized as excessively drained and well drained sandy soils that have sandy or loamy subsoil and are underlain by sandy sediment or sandy loam glacial till. These soils are poorly suited for crops and are often wooded providing wildlife habitat. Generally both the Plainfield and Okee soils in this association are suitable for onsite sewage disposal and basements in areas without excessive slope.  Houghton-Adrian-Palms Association -It generally occurs throughout the County along stream corridors. The soils in this association are characterized as very poorly drained soils that are underlain in places by sandy or loamy sediments.

#### **Floodplains**

Floodplains are land areas that have been or may be covered by floodwater during the "regional flood". The regional flood is a flood determined to be representative of large floods known to have occurred in Wisconsin or which may be expected to occur on a particular lake, river or stream. Floodplains are identified and mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Nation's annual flood recovery costs are high and the human hardship beyond this is immeasurable. It is for this reason that the federal, state, and local governments encourage hazard mitigation planning that discourages floodplain development. Counties, cities, and villages are responsible for administering floodplain zoning in accordance with regulatory standards of Chapter NR 116 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code and the standards of the National Flood Insurance Program.

The historic reason for Portage's existence is tied to connecting the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers for transportation and commerce. This location also places the City in low lying areas within floodplains. The City has 2,732 acres in floodplains, which represents 45% of the total area of the City.

#### Wetlands

Wetlands are defined in Wisconsin Statutes 23.32 as areas where water is at, near, or above the land surface long enough to be capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophytic vegetation and which has soils indicative of wet conditions. Wetlands are environmentally sensitive due to the many values and functions they provide, including:

- Filtering and replenishing groundwater.
- Flood protection wetlands act like sponges by storing and slowly releasing rainfall and runoff, which reduces flood peaks and flood recovery costs.
- Filters for certain kinds of wastes and soluble contaminants generated from runoff, which protects water quality.
- Food and habitat for many plants and animals, which benefits hunting, fishing, sightseeing, and other recreational or tourism interests.
- Shoreline protection wetlands protect shorelines from erosive wave action and enhance the quality of life by providing spacious and scenic open spaces.

Like floodplains, wetlands in Columbia County are concentrated in the northern and western portions of the County. Among cities and villages within the County, the City of Portage has the largest number of acres of wetlands, 1,416 acres, and the largest percentage of land area in wetland, 23 percent.

#### **Surface Water**

Located in Columbia County is the sub-continental divide. This divide determines the direction in which precipitation that falls on the County will flow. Precipitation falling in the Wisconsin River basin will ultimately flow to Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico while precipitation falling in the Rock-Fox

River Basin and the Wolf-Fox River Basin will ultimately flow to the Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean. In the Portage area, this divide is very narrow with the Wisconsin and Fox Rivers flowing within less than two mile of each other. The City of Portage straddles the subcontinental divide with the City being located in both the Fox and Wisconsin River Basins. Lakes within the City include Mud Lake and Silver Lake.

#### Woodlands

The City of Portage has 649 acres of woodlands. This represents 11 percent of the total area of the City. Woodlands perform important aesthetic, environmental, and ecological functions. The area's scenic wooded covered hills are one of the most attractive features of the landscape and have a major impact on residents and tourists alike. Woodlands also provide important settings, backdrops, and screens for homes, businesses, farms, roads, and shorelines, which creates an attractive landscape that benefits the economy and aesthetics of the County. In addition woodlands generate or contribute to energy, oxygen, nitrogen, and carbon cycles. They also provide essential habitats for numerous varieties of plants and animals and can mitigate the destructive effects of erosion, pollution, and severe weather.

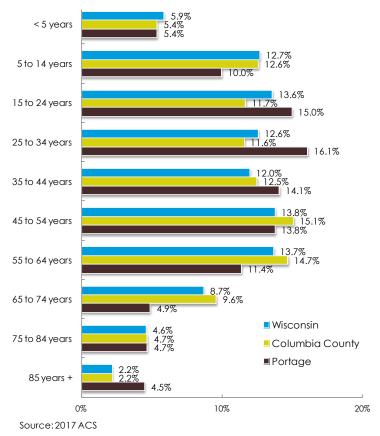


Figure CD-1 Age Distribution by Percent in 2017, 5 yr. Cohorts

		Calumahia	
	Wisconsin	Columbia	Portage
		County	
Under 5 years	5.9%	5.4%	5.4%
5 to 9 years	6.3%	6.0%	3.8%
10 to 14 years	6.4%	6.6%	6.2%
15 to 19 years	6.6%	6.4%	8.2%
20 to 24 years	7.0%	5.3%	6.8%
25 to 29 years	6.2%	5.5%	7.7%
30 to 34 years	6.4%	6.1%	8.4%
35 to 39 years	6.1%	5.8%	6.2%
40 to 44 years	5.9%	6.7%	7.9%
45 to 49 years	6.5%	7.1%	6.3%
50 to 54 years	7.3%	8.0%	7.5%
55 to 59 years	7.3%	7.5%	6.2%
60 to 64 years	6.4%	7.2%	5.2%
65 to 69 years	5.1%	5.5%	2.8%
70 to 74 years	3.6%	4.1%	2.1%
75 to 79 years	2.6%	2.6%	3.0%
80 to 84 years	2.0%	2.1%	1.7%
85 years and over	2.2%	2.2%	4.5%

Source: 2017 ACS

Figure CD-2 Age Distribution by Percent in 2017, 10 yr. Cohorts



#### **Social Characteristics**

Understanding and identifying social characteristics of the City are vital for classifying the planning audience.
According to the US Census American Community Survey (ACS), the City of Portage had a population of 10,321 in2017. This represents a very slight decrease of about .03% from the Census Population of 10,324 in 2010. However, population projections, as prepared by Wisconsin Department of Administration, show Portage reaching a population of 10,900 by 2020 and 11,680 by 2040.

The age distribution as a percent of the population for the Census ACS Year 2017 is shown on Figures CD-1 and CD-2. The City has 2.6% fewer children between the gaes of 5 to 14 than either Columbia County or the State of Wisconsin average. In the 25 to 34 age range Portage has 3.5% more people than the State average and 4.5% more than the Columbia County average. The City has a higher percentage of residents than the Columbia County and State averages in the 35 to 44 category and less than the County and State averages in the 55 to 64 and 65 to 74 age ranges. The City has a similar percentage of residents in the 75 to 84 group and a higher percentage in the 85 and older group. The median age in the City of Portage is 38.2, much lower than the surrounding towns of Caledonia, Fort Winnebago, Lewiston and Pacific.

The high percentage, 15%, of teenagers and young adults, those 15 to 24, shows a need for active recreation parks and facilities as well as entertainment venues which could host outdoor concerts and activities. The high percentage of those old enough to be starting families, 25 to 34, and 35 to 44 years of age, shows a need for playgrounds and places for families to bring their children for outdoor recreation. Youth activities already in existence include girls' fast pitch softball, Little League baseball, swim team, basketball and youth football.

The City's older generation includes a high percentage, 4.5%, of those 85 years and older, when compared to the County and State. Passive recreation and handicap accessibility within parks should be the focus for these residents. Seniors have extra time to pursue new or revisit old activities and interests and this group wants to keep an active lifestyle even when facing retirement thus providing public recreational facilities geared towards adults will be essential. However, with the lower percentage, just 4.9%, of those aged 65 to 74 years, and a slightly lower, when compared to the County and State, percentage, 11.4%, of those aged 55 to 64 years, seniors in the Baby Boomer category do not appear to have the most need for parks and recreational facilities, when compared to the other age groups.

Figure CD-3 shows the City of Portage had 9,254 White residents in 2017, which represents 89% of the population, 492 Black/African American residents, representing 4.7%, and 93, or .9% of residents who identify with other racial groups. The population in the Towns of Caledonia, Fort Winnebago, Lewiston and Pacific are more than 95% White residents.

Figure CD-4 shows the City of Portage had 480 residents in 2017 who considered themselves to be of Hispanic origin, which represents 4.6% of the population. Of those, 298 were of Black/African American descent, representing 2.8% of the population, and 82, or .79% of residents, who identify with other racial groups and are of Hispanic origin. The population in the Towns of Caledonia, Fort Winnebago, Lewiston and Pacific are less than 3.5% of Hispanic Origin.

Figure CD-3 Residents by Race

	White	Black/ African American	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Other Race	Two or More Races
City of Portage	9,254	492	136	52	0	93	294
Town of Caledonia	1,544	0	0	0	0	10	23
Town of Fort Winnebago	760	0	0	0	0	3	23
Town of Lewiston	1,237	6	0	0	0	13	25
Town of Pacific	2,661	0	0	37	0	0	23

Source: 2017 ACS

Figure CD-4 Residents by Hispanic Origin

	Hispanic or Latino Total	White	Black/ African American	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Other Race	Two or More Races
City of Portage	480	298	7	14	(	0	82	79
Town of Caledonia	50	33	0	0	(	0	7	10
Town of Fort Winnebago	7	0	0	0	(	0	3	4
Town of Lewiston	19	6	0	0	(	0	13	0
Town of Pacific	40	38	0	0	(	0	0	2

The 2017 Census American Community Survey (ACS) indicates that 61.4% of residents 16 years and over are active in the Portage labor force. This figure is similar to the towns of Pacific and Lewiston, as well as for the State, yet lower than the rate for Caledonia and the County. The unemployment rate for Portage is 5.1%, as of 2017, which is higher than the towns of Pacific and Caledonia, yet lower than for Lewiston and comparable with the rate for the State. This reflects a more urban workforce that likely has higher transition rates than more rural areas.

Figure CD-5 shows the majority of the labor force in the City derived its income from private companies (84.7%). This figure is higher than for both the County and State. Government workers accounted for 12.4% of the labor force, lower than for the County and slightly higher than for the State. This helps to explain the higher unemployment rate, as Portage has fewer government employers providing steady employment. The percentage of those who are self-employed is 2.7%, half that of the County and State.

Figure CD-6 shows the highest percentage of workers in Portage to be employed in the manufacturing industry, at 25.8% of the workforce. This is significantly higher than the percentages for the towns of Pacific and Caledonia and higher than both the State and the County. This represents a more urban workforce as well as a significant presence of manufacturing firms. The second highest percentage of workers in Portage is in the educational services, health care and social assistance industry, at 18.6%. This percentage is lower than for the towns of Pacific and Winnebago, yet higher than Caledonia and Lewiston. The percentage is slightly lower than for the County and lower than the State percentage at 23.2%.

Other important industries for employment include construction, professional, scientific, and management. Additionally, Portage has a much lower percentage of workers in retail trade, 7.1%, compared to the surrounding towns, County and State. This shows better employment opportunities can be found in Portage, likely with higher wages.

Figure CD-5 Class of Worker

	Wisconsin	Columbia	City of
	County		Portage
Private wage and salary workers	82.50%	79.20%	84.70%
Government workers	12.20%	14.90%	12.40%
Self-employed	5.10%	5.60%	2.70%
Unpaid family workers	0.20%	0.30%	0.20%

Figure CD-6 Employment by Industry

	Wisconsin	Columbia County	Town of Caledonia	Town of Fort Winnebago		Town of Pacific	City of Portage
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	70,575	947	34	25	48	17	41
	2.40%	3.20%	3.80%	5.60%	6.90%	1.20%	0.80%
Construction	160,587	2,438	106	44	60	85	399
	5.50%	8.10%	11.70%	9.90%	8.70%	6.00%	8.00%
Manufacturing	540,274	5,364	113	89	148	232	1,291
	18.40%	17.90%	12.50%	20.00%	21.40%	16.50%	25.80%
Wholesale trade	79,418	727	14	15	15	20	11
	2.70%	2.40%	1.50%	3.40%	2.20%	1.40%	0.20%
Retail trade	331,399	3,154	118	51	89	156	354
	11.30%	10.50%	13.00%	11.40%	12.90%	11.10%	7.10%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	127,961	1,533	29	21	36	86	206
	4.40%	5.10%	3.20%	4.70%	5.20%	6.10%	4.10%
Information	48,221	484	21	5	3	47	54
	1.60%	1.60%	2.30%	1.10%	0.40%	3.30%	1.10%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	177,957	1,713	34	12	32	107	184
	6.10%	5.70%	3.80%	2.70%	4.60%	7.60%	3.70%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	243,554	2,101	67	25	22	73	385
	8.30%	7.00%	7.40%	5.60%	3.20%	5.20%	7.70%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	682,285	6,007	152	97	113	336	929
	23.20%	20.00%	16.80%	21.70%	16.40%	23.80%	18.60%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	254,526	2,752	117	22	60	115	727
	8.70%	9.20%	12.90%	4.90%	8.70%	8.20%	14.50%
Other services, except public administration	121,136	1,123	35	19	26	20	202
	4.10%	3.70%	3.90%	4.30%	3.80%	1.40%	4.00%
Public administration	101,987	1,698	66	21	39	116	217
	3.50%	5.70%	7.30%	4.70%	5.60%	8.20%	4.30%

#### **Population Projections**

The last official population projections published by the Wisconsin Department of Administration Demographic Services Center were completed in 2013 and were based on the 2000 Census of Population. The 2020 and beyond projections were based on a mathematical extrapolation from the population trends that were experienced during the period from 1990 to 2010.

Figure CD-7 shows the population projection, as prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, for Portage reaching a population of 11,680 by 2040. This represents a percentage increase of 7.16% from 2020, which is a similar projected increase for the State (8.1%), yet a smaller increase than projected for the County (11.46%). In comparison, the Town of Caledonia is expected to experience the largest percentage increase, at 20.77%, followed by the Towns of Pacific and Lewiston. The Town of Fort Winnebago is projected to decrease in population by 1.18 percent, to 835 in 2040.

#### **Household Characteristics**

Figure CD-8 shows the number of households, average household size, families as well as the presence of minors and seniors in the City, surrounding towns, and the County. A "household" is an occupied housing unit consisting of families and/or unrelated persons living together. A "family" is a group of people who are related by birth or marriage. Households classified as "nonfamily" are households with persons living together who are not "family". This figure shows there to be an estimated 4,207 households in Portage in 2017, 43% of which are non-family households. Of the total households, 28.7% have minors present and 34.8% have seniors, those over 60 years old, present. Portage has a higher percentage, 43.07%, of nonfamily households than the surrounding towns and the County. Portage also has a comparatively high percentage, 28.7%, of households, when compared to surrounding towns, but a smaller percentage, 34.8%, of households with seniors present. This figure also shows Portage to have a relatively large family size, 2.9, yet a lower household size of 2.21 persons.

**Figure CD-7 Population Projections** 

	2010	2017	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	% Change
	Census	Estimate	Projection	Projection	Projection	Projection	Projection	2020 - 2040
City of Portage	10,324	10,321	10,900	11,370	11,730	11,790	11,680	7.16%
Town of Caledonia	1,378	1,577	1,565	1,685	1,795	1,855	1,890	20.77%
Town of Fort Winnebago	825	786	845	865	875	860	835	-1.18%
Town of Lewiston	1,225	1,281	1,295	1,345	1,380	1,385	1,365	5.41%
Town of Pacific	2,707	2,721	2,955	3,135	3,290	3,360	3,370	14.04%
Columbia County	56,833	56,790	61,410	64,745	67,455	68,460	68,450	11.46%
State of Wisconsin	5,686,986	5,763,217	6,005,080	6,203,850	6,375,910	6,476,270	6,491,635	8.10%

Source: US Census, 2017 ACS, Dept. of Administration

Figure CD-8 Household Characteristics

	Total households	Average household size	Nonfamily households	Total families	Average family size	Households with 1 or more people <18 yrs.	Households with 1 or more people 60 yrs.+
City of Portage	4,207	2.21	43.07%	2,395	2.9	28.70%	34.80%
Town of Caledonia	621	2.5	24.96%	466	2.89	30.90%	35.30%
Town of Fort Winnebago	355	2.21	31.55%	243	2.7	21.10%	45.60%
Town of Lewiston	546	2.35	22.53%	423	2.67	23.40%	46.00%
Town of Pacific	1,198	2.27	28.96%	851	2.63	23.20%	52.80%
Columbia County	23,317	2.37	32.29%	15,787	2.86	30.10%	38.90%
Source: 2017 ACS							

#### **Household Growth Projections**

Figure CD-9 shows projected numbers of households, as prepared by the State Department of Administration, for the City, surrounding towns, and the County. This figure shows 2020 projections for Portage to be 4,427. With the 2017 ACS households estimated to be 4,207, the 2020 projects appear to be at the higher end. Actual households for 2020 are likely to be lower, given the current estimates. Growth in the number of households is expected to increase to 2035 and then decrease by 2040. The percentage increase in households from 2020 to 2040 is projected to be 9.14% increase, higher than the 7.16% increase in population projected in the Issues and Opportunities Element for the same time period. A higher percentage of household growth is possible though given the potential for household consolidation and the addition of seniors to existing households. Therefore, the 7.16% population growth could be considered at the low end for households growth. The average of the high and low end projections is 8.15%, which could be considered a medium range projection for household growth.

**Figure CD-9 Household Projections** 

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
City of Portage	4,427	4,659	4,831	4,874	4,832
Town of Caledonia	645	702	756	790	813
Town of Fort Winnebago	364	378	386	384	377
Town of Lewiston	552	580	602	612	609
Town of Pacific	1,286	1,381	1,465	1,514	1,534
Columbia County	25,391	27,069	28,466	29,186	29,406



**Chapter 2: Needs Assessment** 

### **Inventory Summary**

The City currently has 22 listed city-wide parks, neighborhood parks, mini-parks, and natural areas within City limits. The City also has unique features such as a town canal system, connections to the Wisconsin River and Ice Age Trail State Recreation Trail and numerous historic districts and buildings. This plan seeks to make use of the City assets with improvement recommendations to best serve both residents within the City and tourists visiting the City.



The City's system of parks provides ample opportunity for citizens to enjoy a wide variety of passive and active recreational opportunities. In addition to the recreational facilities within the City, the Swan Lake State Wildlife Area (east of the City) and Pine Island State Wildlife Area (southwest of the City) are both located less than two miles away. These wildlife areas provide the residents of Portage with numerous recreational opportunities. However, since the refuge is located outside of the City limits and is owned by the state government, the wildlife area is not included in the inventory. Appendix B provides a map as well as brief descriptions of Portage's parks. Appendix B also provides maps of existing and proposed bicycle lanes and multi-use trails.

#### **Needs Assessment**

#### **Public Engagement Summary**

As part of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) planning process, a public survey was prepared and administered in conjunction with the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update. The survey was administered on-line, with paper input made available as an option. Respondents were given the option to reply to the Comprehensive Plan question, CORP questions, or both. The CORP questions focused on three (3) aspects; usage, satisfaction, and improvements. A complete listing of the responses is provided in Appendix A. The following is a summary of those results, with a focus on higher usage facilities, higher needs, and interest in volunteering;

#### Usage

- A higher usage of baseball fields is evident, with 11% of respondents being regular users and 24% being occasional users. This indicated some need for future facilities of this type.
- There is more need for tennis courts than for soccer, baseball or softball fields; with 39% of respondents being occasional users.
- There is strong usage of open playfields, with 20% of respondents being regular users and 31% as occasional users.
- There is very strong usage of picnic areas, with 15% of respondents being regular users and a majority of respondents, 67%, being occasional users. This indicates very strong need for additional picnic areas in future years.
- Respondents also indicated strong usage of shelter buildings, with 11% of respondents being regular users and a majority, 65%, being occasional users. This shows strong need for additional facilities of this type.

- There is also strong usage of benches, with 30% of respondents being regular users and 52% being occasional users. More benches will be needed in future years with such strong current usage.
- Respondents indicated strong usage of the shore fishing area. Almost half of the respondents, 42%, are occasional users and 17% are regular users. This area could be expanded or duplicated, where possible.
- Boat launches were indicated to be moderately used, with 17% of respondents being regular users and 38% being occasional users. More facilities of this type will likely be needed in future years, based on current usage.
- Natural areas are heavily used, with 42% of respondents being regular users and 46% being occasional users. More natural areas will be needed in future years to keep up with anticipated demand.
- There is strong usage of Silver Lake Beach. A majority of respondents, 53%, are occasional users and 26% are regular users.
- There is strong usage of the Fairgrounds, with 66% of respondents being regular users.
- There is similarly strong usage of the Ice Age Trail, with 50% of respondents being occasional users and 22% being regular users.
- Respondents reported moderate usage of biking trails, with 37% of respondents being occasional users and 24% as regular users. This shows need for additional bicycle trails in the future years, based on current usage.

#### <u>Satisfaction</u>

- Cooking grills are to have some need for improvements, with 35% of respondents indicating that need.
   Additionally, this need for repair may be the cause of only moderate usage indicated in the previous section.
- There is need for improvements to both shelter buildings and the shore fishing area.
- There is moderate need to improve boat launches and playground sets, respectively. As these facilities were shown to have moderate to heavy usage in the previous section, this need is considered even more important.
- There is need for improvements to Silver Lake Beach, with 50% of respondents thinking improvements need to be made. Given the high level of usage indicated in the previous section, this need is seen as considerable. There is a similar level of need for Silver Lake.
- One of the highest needs, compared to other facilities, is improvements to the Fairgrounds. Given the heavy usage of this facility, this need can be considerable.

#### **Volunteering**

- Respondents indicated a higher level of interest in volunteering, with 15% of respondents very interested, in an annual cleanup of City-owned natural areas, and 35% somewhat interested.
- There is also some interest, with 39% of respondents somewhat interested in attendance at workshops.
- Attendance at workshops could increase the percentage of those want to help in this category.

### Space, Facility and Playground Standards and Needs

The Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is updated by the Department of Natural Resources every five years to identify essential and contemporary issues affecting outdoor recreation in the State and comply with the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. Each plan builds upon the previous plan, with additions made in regards political and national initiatives. The plan is used to allocate funds among local communities while recognizing the need to protect natural heritage and landscapes. Local communities are encouraged to see the plan as a blueprint to plan for their park and recreation needs.

Within SCORP "Ch. 4: Access to Outdoor Recreation in Urban Wisconsin" a method to compare recreation supply components was established. Using population thresholds, cities and villages are divided into four peer groups. The City falls within Peer Group 3 which contains the population threshold of 10,000 to 20,000 people. Five outdoor recreation supply components included are (1) the number of non-school equipped playground facilities, (2) the number of parks, (3) park acres, (4) the length of bicycle trails, and (5) the length of hiking trails. Other components of supply could be examined using this approach but remains beyond the scope of this section.

Supply was indexed to reflect resident population and allow for comparison within peer groups. Supply is based per 1,000 residents, with the five (5) categories of facilities expressed on a per capita basis.

Figure NA-1 displays the level of supply within the City's and State's average level of urban recreation supply by Peer Group 3. As shown, the City exceeds their peer groups' average level of supply in the categories of "Non-School Equipped Playground Facilities" and "Number of Parks". However, the City falls short of the "Acres of Parks" needed per 1,000 people as well as "Trails for Bicycle Use" and "Trails for Hiking Use".

It is also important to note that there are four (4) parks not used for this supply, which are Natural Areas that are mostly undeveloped. Bluffview Park is located in wetlands and access to the area is very limited. Rolling Hills Park is without paths, Rolling Hills Country has a path but is otherwise unimproved, and Northridge is more of a yard waste facility for tree limbs and organic waste than a place for leisure. Without the contribution of these areas, the City's supply distribution concerning "Acres of Parks" per 1,000 people is a low 10.88 acres.

Figure NA-1 Parks and Facilities Supply Index

	Peer Group 3	City of Portage
Non-School Equipped Playground Facilities per 1000 people	0.69	1.18
Number of Parks per 1000 people	1.19	1.76
Acres of Parks per 1000 people	19.11	10.88
Trails - Bicycle Use (Miles) per 1000 people	0.27	0.13
Trails - Hiking Use (Miles) per 1000 people	0.33	0.13

Source: City of Portage, Vierbicher

The City needs to begin to develop the undeveloped natural parks in order to create additional park acreage for City residents. The difference between Peer Group 3's "Acres of Parks" per 1,000 people and the City's inventory will continue to diverge as the City's population grows. One effective way the City can expand park acres is to develop the natural parks into useable recreation space.

The conversion of these natural parks would add an additional 29.06 acres to the City's inventory, raising the index to 13.71 acres per 1000, which does not assume population growth. Proposed expansions to Pine Meadows Park, expansions to Veterans' Memorial Field, and other proposed acquisitions, will help to add acreage to the City system and improve the supply index.

Regarding trails, the City is coordinating with Portage Area Trails Heritage System (PATHS), as supervised by the Non-Motorized Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee (NMTAHC), to address the desired addition of trails. The City needs to support and adopt the recommendations put forth by PATHS in order to increase the amount of both bicycle and hike trails and increase the low 0.13 supply index score for both categories. The path and multi-use trails recommended for various parks as well as the multi-use trails recommendations for connecting parks throughout the City would need to be constructed in order to increase these supply indices to the Peer Group 3 level of 0.27 and 0.33, respectively.

Chapter 3, Recommendations and Action Plan, include the goals, objectives and recommendations needed to increase the supply of park acreage and trails. This chapter also lists important goals and recommendations to foster intergovernmental coordination and address overall City's outdoor recreation needs.

### **Accessibility**

Accessibility can be measured by residents that live within a ½ mile distance of a public park (SCORP 4-4). To determine the accessibility of Neighborhood Parks and City-Wide Parks within the City, a ½ mile buffer was formed around each given park and placed over land parcels with the potential to develop residential units using Geographic Information Software.

As shown by Map 1, the majority of City residents are within access to a Neighborhood Park. The areas with the least access to Neighborhood Parks appear on the north and west sides of the City. The City should continue to ensure the development of Neighborhood Parks in these areas.

The distribution of parks within the City is mostly adequate, except for the gaps noted above, considering their function and location. While Neighborhood Parks dot the community's interior, City-Wide parks lay more-or-less in three corners of the City to meet the residential populations. Given the placement of other City Parks (see Appendix B) the City-Wide Parks have the ability to pull users to them for organized activity and specific recreational use.

#### **Barriers to Access and Usage Constraints**

Disability accessibility is an issue which the City must address. At a number of parks, the only wheelchair access to the site was found at the corner of the block where there may be a ramp from street level onto the sidewalk. These parks include Cattail, Sunrise, Lincoln, Pine Meadows, and Gunderson Park. Making matters even more difficult is the fact that a number of parks do not have sidewalks alongside them. This is a major barrier to access as it forces park users to walk in the street.

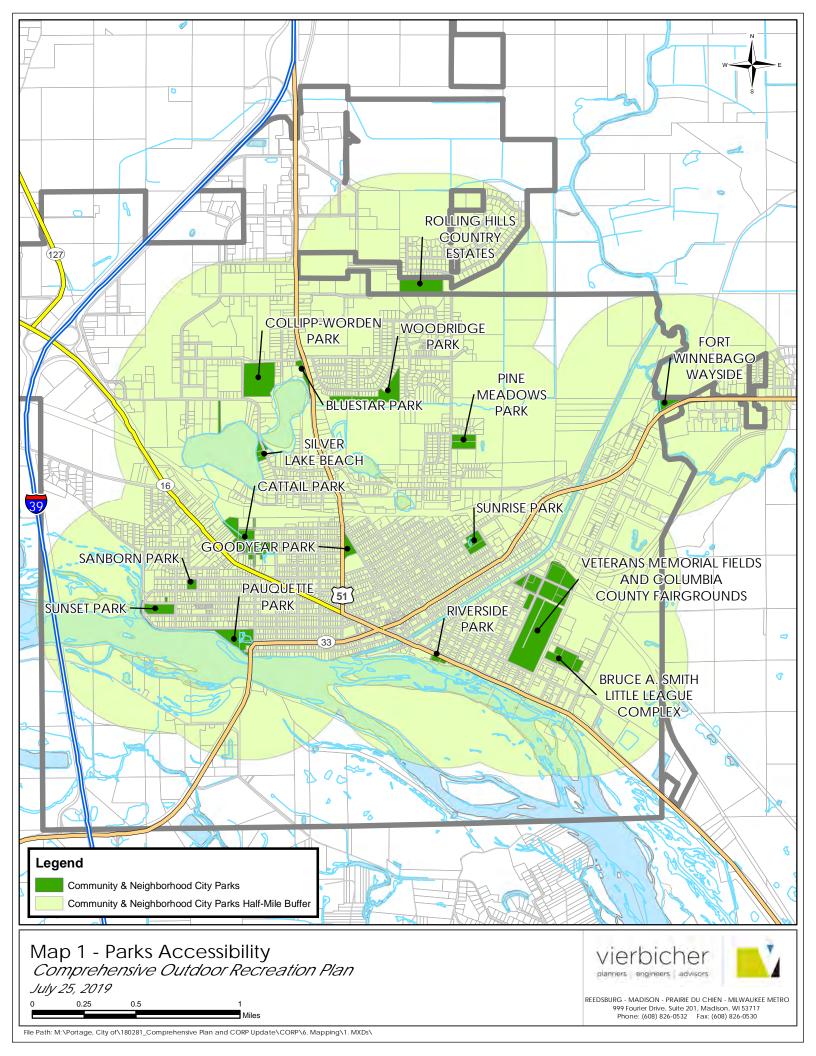
Where sidewalks were found, streets lacked crosswalks to and from park lots. Even though many of the parks are not located on busy arterial streets,

crosswalks create a safety zone where pedestrians have the right-of-way by Wisconsin State law. Crosswalks need to be placed surrounding Sunset, Sanborn, Silver Lake, Lincoln, Riverside, Pine Meadows, and Gunderson Park.

The lack of basic signage is also a barrier to accessing parks and recreational sites. Recommended signage includes signs for the boat launch at Pauquette Park and educational signage along the Levee trail. This barrier should be prioritized by the Parks and Recreation Department. Proper way-finding and directional signage will aid tourists and increase park use. Signage could also direct people to historic markers, such as at Pauquette Park, or trails at Sunrise Park.

Parks without an identifiable entry point include Bluffview and Rolling Hills Country Estates Park. Consideration should be given to adding development to these sites if they are stay classified as City Parks.

Constraints to parks and recreation objective within the City also include; highway barriers between City, regional connection points; vandalism within City parks; drug use/ other criminal behavior, and low established tourism infrastructure (visitors' center, maps, way-finding signage).





Chapter 3: Goals, Recommendations, and Action Plan

The following is a list of goals and objectives generated after reviewing the current parks and outdoor recreation facilities inventory, population trends, survey results, and the City Comprehensive Plan. The goals and objective are divided into two (2) sections, General goals and objectives and Park and Trails specific Goals and Objectives. General Goals and Objectives are meant to address overall issues and opportunities for Portage, including tourism, cooperation between outdoor recreation organizations, additional planning programs, and volunteer efforts. Park and Trails specific goals and objectives are meant to address individual improvements to specific outdoor recreational facilities. Strategies supporting those goals and objectives are included in an action plan at the end of this Chapter.

## General Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Further encourage City of Portage economic development and increase the quality of life for residents and visitors through the promotion of recreation tourism

This goal is important for encouraging use, better inventory of assets, and navigation of City outdoor recreational assets. The following objectives are meant to further both a health and wellness approach to facility use as well as efficient management and identification of assets so that the outdoor recreation system can be leveraged to encourage economic development;

<u>Objective:</u> Identify park infrastructure in need of repair/ maintenance

Objective: In order to better serve the adult population the addition of workout stations within parks should be considered to create "fitness zones"

Objective: In order to have an accurate record of land owned by the City for park and recreation purposes, implement a Certified Survey Map program

Many of the parks have poor, unclear, or confusing legal descriptions. Some parks completely lack land records data altogether. By providing an initial clear legal description, minimal time will be necessary to keep the survey updated. Therefore, a Certified Survey Map program is a recommended objective

Objective: Officially record names of parks/natural areas

<u>Objective</u>: Continue to develop "hubs" as gathering places for families to enjoy organized recreation, such as soccer, baseball/softball, and swimming

<u>Objective:</u> Encourage increased use of City parks, natural areas, and the trail system to residents and visitors through signage, trail classification, mapping, and amenity promotion

There is currently limited signage within Portage trails and parks. More signage is needed, including way-finding and educational signage, for certain parks and facilities. Signage should be consistent in design to be immediately recognizable as City information.

Way-finding signage should have little text and universally understood symbols. Signage should be consistent with any park maps. Mileage signs should be created for distances between trail intersections or landmarks. Signage should be created for trails, connection points with the Ice Age Trail, boat launches, and any other regional connections.

Educational signage should be used around natural areas and historic places to add interest for both residents and visitors. Educational signage can be placed around any historic buildings or districts currently lacking information and unique natural areas such as river views at Riverside Park.

Educational signage design example for natural areas: Wisconsin River overlooks could contain information on floodplain vegetation, animal species, and historical navigation.

Communication with all user groups will create better interaction with all Portage parks and recreation opportunities as well as infrastructure for announcements, events, and public education. Public communication includes physical signage; website content and design, and both physical and web-based map availability. Communication can also include input from the public with the parks department or public/city interaction.

More water/boating access is needed in certain portions of the state. In many cases, however, public access to recreation resources does exist but the public is simply not aware of it. Improved and easily accessible maps and signage would aid the public in locating these access points (2011 – 2016 SCORP).

Mapping all parks and trails will help create a safe and enjoyable experience for residents and visitors. Maps should be visible to the public along trail heads and intersection and/or landmarks. Maps should also be made available online on the park's website as downloadable PDFs or using interactive free web-based mapping applications such as Google Maps.

<u>Objective:</u> Encourage increased use of City parks, natural areas, and the trail system to residents and visitors through signage, trail classification, mapping, and amenity promotion.

### Goal 2: Increase inter-park accessibility and connections to the City of Portage

This goal addressed the need for increased connections to the parks throughout Portage and in the County. Completion of the trails proposed by the PATHS group, as recommended by the Non-Motorized Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee (NMTAHC), is seen as a key objective to connecting all of Portage's parks. The continued need to pursue public and private funding is recognized and a sustained fund raising campaign is recommended. Recreational accessibility is also stressed as an important aspect of facility improvements, including continued focus on sidewalk completion, handicap accessibility, and continued planning for an integrated bicycle and pedestrian

Objective: Trails should be created between city parks, existing pathways, the Ice Age Trail, and historic places to increase connective and provide a means for recreational activity to and from the sites

Objective: Provide a balance of transportation facilities to serve the recreational needs of residents and visitors and to increase park and recreational accessibility

## Goal 3: Improve City of Portage connections with regional natural areas and trails

This goal stresses the importance of connecting to natural areas and trails which extend beyond the City limits. This goal also stresses the importance of coordination with neighboring towns and Columbia County. Objectives are included with address the need for transportation planning to include a full range of pedestrian and bicycle enhancements during the design of new roads and improvements to existing ones.

Objective: Work with Columbia County and adjacent village and town governments to integrate trails with natural areas, scenic highways, and Ice Age Trail

<u>Objective:</u> Continue to coordinate with the Non-Motorized Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee (NMTAHC) and the Portage Area Trail and Heritage System (PATHS)

Objective: Work with relevant transportation and public works organizations and agencies to advocate for sidewalks and crosswalks during street design, construction and repaying

<u>Objective:</u> Work with the Town of Pacific to develop Pacific Estates Park

Objective: Work with Town of Fort Winnebago to connect proposed Rolling Hills Estate subdivision multi-use trail to the Fox River Locks and Agency House Road proposed Ice Age Trail, via a multi-use trail along the Fox River

# Goal 4: Provide efficient and accessible facilities to meet the needs for activities, recreation and services for the elderly, youth and the community

This goal specifically addresses the need to include all members of the community, including seniors and children, specifically with regards to the potential for a community center.

<u>Objective:</u> Conduct a study of space needs for senior, youth and community activities, services and recreation

# Goal 5: Acquire, sell, develop, and schedule improvements to enhance existing parks, natural areas, trails and related facilities

Many of the City's parks have the ability to be expanded to include additional trails and facilities through the acquisition of additional acreage. Acquisition of land needs to be an ongoing effort as needed parcels may not always be available or on the market. The City should be prepared to acquire land quickly should needed parcels suddenly become available.

Also, the City owns a number of parcels which are not currently classified as parks. Changing the use of these parcels could represent a less expensive way of adding to the City's park acreage.

<u>Objective:</u> Acquire key properties to expand and enhance existing parks

<u>Objective:</u> Consider a change of use and/or reclassification of other Cityowned property to increase recreational opportunities

## Goal 6: Enhance coordination and capacity of City outdoor recreation entities

The City currently has a number of organizations and entities related to outdoor recreation, including; The Parks and Recreation Department, Parks and Recreation Board, the Non-Motorized Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee (NHTAHC), and the Municipal Services Committee. There is the potential to develop an organization structure, if needed, to clearly delineate the responsibilities and authority of each group to reduce any redundancy and enable quick allocation of funds to timesensitive projects and acquisitions.

Other important objectives include the need to continue Capital Improvements Programming, establishing a timeline for preparing park master plans, and pursing funding and assistance beyond grant funds.

Objective: Establish and adopt an organizational chart, lead entity, and associated bylaws for outdoor recreation entities

Objective: Maintain and update the Capital Improvements Program to maintain existing and provide new outdoor recreation parks, facilities, trails, and paths

<u>Objective</u>: Establish a program/timeline to prepare master plans for Community and Neighborhood Parks

<u>Objective</u>: Enhance the capabilities of City outdoor recreation entities by pursing additional funding from multiple sources

Objective: Encourage greater participation by volunteers in City recreation facility improvement and maintenance programs

# Goal 7: Continue to explore areas of collaboration with Columbia County and area townships to enhance regional outdoor recreation opportunities

Beyond working with regional recreational entities on specific trail and other facilities projects, the City needs to continue to work with regional recreation entities in their planning processes and look for the potential for shared services as well as facilities.

<u>Objective</u>: Continue to participate in regional recreational planning efforts and initiatives

An example strategy which could meet this objective would be to continue to work with the school district in joint recreation efforts.

An example strategy to meet this objective would be to explore a cooperative effort with the Town of Pacific to improve Parcels 812 and 1605 in Pacific Estates Subdivision.

## Parks and Trails Goals and Objectives

Goal 8: Continue to maintain existing and provide new outdoor parks, natural areas, recreational facilities and amenities

This goal includes park and facility specific improvement recommendations intended to address specific physical needs identified in the study.

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Bluffview Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and Improve Bluestar Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Cattail Park

<u>Objective</u>: Maintain and improve Collipp-Warden Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Goodyear Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Gunderson Park

<u>Objective:</u> Establish new Park/Natural Area at Fox River Locks property

Objective: Establish new Settlers Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Mud Lake conservancy

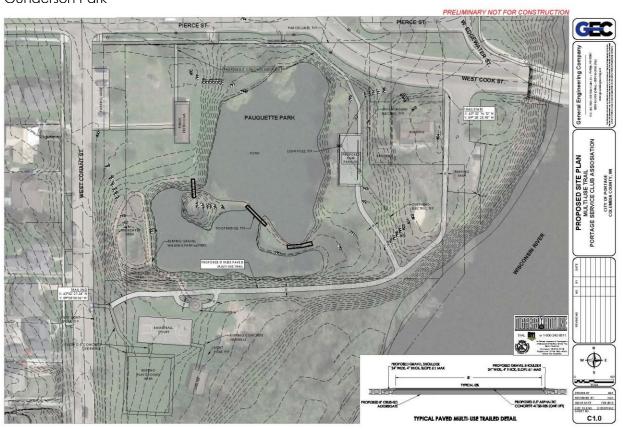
<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Northridge Park (Brush site)

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Pauquette Park

This park is heavily used and provides opportunities to enjoy a play area, connect to the Ice Age Trail, and walk along the Wisconsin River to Sunset Park. Some recommendations to improve this parks experience include;

- Create multi-use trail through park to connect proposed West Conant Street multi-use trail to existing Ice Age Trail and to proposed multi-use pavilion and add signage along trail route
- Construct a multi-use pavilion

Figure GA-1 Pauquette Park Concept Plan



A concept plan, Figure GA-1, has been developed which details the recommended improvements.

<u>Objective:</u> Improve Veterans Memorial Field and Columbia County Fairgrounds

This park is also heavily used and is continuously being improved. A Master Plan was prepared in 2014 in Construct internal multi-use trail connecting park amenities in order to guide future park development. A number of recommendations for the park are included in the park Master Plan, Figure GA-2, which are supported by this Plan. In addition, this Plan includes related recommendations which ensure this park will be connected to future trails and the surrounding neighborhood as well as continue to be a gathering place for families;

Continue to develop the park as a "hub" for families to gather and enjoy amenities suited to all ages.

Continue implementation of the 2014 Veterans Memorial Field Master Plan and continue to seek opportunities for alternate funding via relevant grant programs and participation from user groups

- Construct internal multi-use trail connecting park amenities.
- Construct multi-use trail connection along Morgan Street from park to proposed Ice Age National Scenic Trail along East Mullet Street.

Objective: Maintain and improve Pine Meadow Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Sanborn Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Silver Lake Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Sunrise Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Sunset Park

This park has excellent views overlooking the Wisconsin River and provides an opportunity for an overlook facility. In addition, the park is very close to Pauquette Park and should provide a walking path to the proposed West Conant and Summit Street multi-use trail. Figures GA-3 and GA-4 show the type of overlook which would be suitable;

Figure GA-3 Typical Overlook #1



Figure GA-4 Typical Overlook #2



<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Riverside Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Rolling Hills Country Estates

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Rolling Hills Park

<u>Objective:</u> Maintain and improve Woodridge Park

Objective: Establish new Settlers Park

WELLWASS LOOKOUT TOWER STORWWATER IMMAGENERY LOOSE TWEER TUROGET RELOCATED BUILDING 12 000000000000000 NEW HORSE BARN 000 MCPHERSONST MASHINGTON ST ---CAMPING RACE TRACK CARRYAL COTST. PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF VACANT PROPERTY MARIENTHY TYP \* LETTLE LEAGUE RELES GREEN SPACE) DVERFLDW PARKON 0 TOWNSEND ST. 80 PROYUGED TRUCK ROUTE MONUMENT AREA THOMPSON ST. THOMPSON ST 0

Figure GA-2 Veterans Memorial Field and Columbia County Fairgrounds Master Plan

## Goal 9: Continue to maintain existing and provide new outdoor multi-use trails and associated paths

This goal focuses on the addition of both City multi-use trails and portions of the Ice Age Trail.

<u>Objective:</u> Develop West Conant & Summit Street multi-use trail

<u>Objective:</u> Develop additional multi-use trails

<u>Objective:</u> Develop additional Ice Age National Scenic Trail segments

### Goal 10: Continue to maintain existing and provide new bicycle lanes

This goal addresses the need to include bicycle lanes as part of local road projects, including repaying efforts

Objective: Continue to develop additional bicycle lanes on existing roads and as part of future road improvements and repavings projects initiated by Public Works

## Goal 11: Continue to improve access to water and continue to improve water-based recreational facilities

This goal addresses the need to identify enhancements or even expanded shore fishing and boat launches, as feedback from the survey indicates some improvements were necessary. This goal also addresses the potential to improve the canoe experience along the Fox River by utilizing website posting which identify specific obstacles and issues along the route. Other websites and other forms of feedback may also be available for the South County canoe route as well.

<u>Objective</u>: Continue to gather user feedback and improve access and experience of shore fishing, boating, and canoe routes

<u>Objective</u>: Continue to make improvements, manage, and provide access to Silver Lake

<u>Objective</u>: Continue to make improvements, manage, and provide access to the Portage Canal

Example Strategy: Improve or Upgrade Wisconsin River Boat Launch on Corner of Summit and Conant Streets

### Action Plan and Implementation Schedule

The following Action Plan lists the goals and objectives from this Chapter along with specific recommendations to achieve each. The recommendations are prioritized on a scale of 1 to 3, with 1 being the highest priority. The recommendations also include a timeframe for completion, potentially responsible organizations and a potential cost. Finally, the recommendations include potential funding sources to assist with implementation.

Goals	Objectives	Recommendations   Priority   Time to   Respon:	Priority	Time to	Responsibility	Cost	Potential
				Complete			Funding sources
Goal 1	Further encourage City of Portage economic development and increase quality in the properties of the p	Goal 1: Further encourage City of Portage economic development and increase quality of life for residents and visitors through promotion of recreation tourism Objective 11: Identify park infrastructure in need of repair/maintenance	and visit	ors through p	promotion of recreation touri	ms	
		See Parks and Trails Goals, Objectives, &	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Objective 1.2: In order to better serve the adult	Objective 1.2: In order to better serve the adult population the addition of workout stations within parks should be considered to create "fitness zones"	arks shou	ld be consid	dered to create "fitness zone		
		Identify specific Parks best suited for workout stations	2	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	City
	Objective 1.3: In order to have an accurate reco	Objective 1.3: In order to have an accurate record of land owned by the City for park and recreation purposes, implement a Certified Survey program	ion purpo	ses, implem	ent a Certified Survey progra	a B	
		Prepare park and public land Certified Surveys at the time of improvement projects construction	-	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Contractor	Added cost to project	City
	Objective 1.4: Officially record names of parks/natural areas	/natural areas					
		Implement formal program to name parks/natural areas	-	<1 yr.	City	Staff Time	n/a
	Objective 1.5: Confinue to develop "hubs" as gc	Objective 1.5: Continue to develop "hubs" as gathering places for families to enjoy organized recreation, such as soccer, baseball/softball, and swimming	reation, su	ıch as socce	r, baseball/softball, and swi	imming	
		See Parks and Trails Goals, Objectives, & Recommendations	n/a	n/a	p/u	n/a	n/a
	Objective: 1.6: Encourage increased use of City promotion	Objective: 1.6: Encourage increased use of City parks, natural areas, and the trail system to residents and visitors through signage, trail classification, mapping, and amenity promotion	ents and v	isitors throug	gh signage, trail classificatio	on, mapping, a	nd amenity
						45 000 47 500	
		Create unified signage design for bike path/trails. Create both way-finding and educational signage	2	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Recreation Partner	\$5,000-\$7,300 for design plus cost of signage	Ciły
		Encourage and develop trails for multiple purposes, including; extreme sports, recreation,	l	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Recreation	Dependant	City, Recreation Partners, DNR,
		transportation, and education			Partner	, , , , , , , ,	WisDOT
		Continue updating City park, natural area, and trails system maps. Make available through online PDF or interactive web-based mapping site	1	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Recreation Partner	Staff Time	n/a
		Promote park, natural area, and trail systems to				;	
		visitors and tourists in cooperation with relevant local, regional and State tourism promotion organizations	-	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Recreation Partners, Tourism Partners	Staff Time + Advertising Cost	City, WEDC, Wisconsin Tourism Industry
		Seek to add Portage water sports activities,					
		events, and facilities to travelwisconsin.com,			City, Parks and Recreation	Staff Time +	City, WEDC,
		stepoutside.org, wisconsinrivertrips.com,	-	Ongoing	Department, Recreation	Advertising	Wisconsin
		wisconstitution websites				, )	VIISODIII IIISODO
		Seek to add boating and fishing as recreation					
		activities on the Portage Area Chamber of Commerce and other relevant websites					
		Promote park, natural area, and trail systems to			City, Parks and Recreation		
		local employers and provide materials to assist with their employee recruitment efforts	-	Ongoing	Department, Recreation Partners, local employers	Staff Time	City, local employers

	2019 Compi	2019 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan - General - Goals, Objectives & Recommendations	oals, Objec	ctives & Reco	mmendations		
Goals	Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Time to Complete	Responsibility	Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Goal 2:	Goal 2: Increase inter-park accessibility and connections to the City	to the City of Portage					
	Objective 2.1: Trails should be created between city parks, activity to and from the sites	ily parks, existing pathways, the Ice Age Trail, and historic places to increase connective and provide a means for recreational	nd historic	: places to ir	crease connective and pro	vide a means fo	r recreational
		Continue to implement the Portage Area Trail and Heritage System (PATHS) plan, as recommended by the Non-Motorized Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee (NMTAHC)	-	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC	Staff Time	
		Apply for funding from different grant funding agencies for trail improvements	ı	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Recreation Partners	Staff Time	City, Recreation Partners, DNR, WisDOT
		See Parks and Irails Goals, Objectives, & Recommendations	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Objective 2.2: Provide a balance of transportatio	Objective 2.2: Provide a balance of transportation facilities to serve the recreational needs of residents and visitors and to increase park and recreational accessibility	ents and	visitors and	o increase park and recrec	ational accessibi	ility
		Under supervision of the Non-Motorized Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee (NMIAHC), develop a pedestrian and bicycle master plan to meet the needs of City pedestrians and bicyclists	7	^ \ \	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC, Recreation Partner	\$25,000 -	City, Recreation Partners, DNR, WisDOT
		As part of pedestrian and bicycle master plan, or separately, measure the "walkability" of Portage neighborhoods, including distances between regular destinations, and the quality of the pathways between destinations (presence, dimensions and conditions of sidewalks, curb cuts, cross lanes; width of residential streets; presence of street trees, on street parking, signage; ADA accessibility). Recruit neighborhood residents and schools to assist with walking audits	м	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMTAHC, Recreation Partner	\$25,000 - \$35,000	City, Recreation Partners, DNR, WisDOT
		Identify parks with inadequate wheelchair access and address need for ramps and other accessibility improvements, as well as crosswalks	-	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time plus cost of access improvements	City
		Continue to complete missing sidewalks per Common Council policy adopted in 2014	1	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	n/a

	2019 Compi	2019 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan - General - Goals, Objectives & Recommendations	als, Obje	ctives & Rec	ommendations		
Goals	Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Time to Complete	Responsibility	Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Goal 3:	Goal 3: Improve City of Portage connections with regional natural	natural areas and trails					
	Objective 3.1: Coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions to ensure city parks, trails, recreational facilities, and cultural destinations are connected to regional recreational and cultural amenities	ctions to ensure city parks, trails, recreational fa	ıcilities, a	nd cultural o	lestinations are connected t	o regional recre	ational and
		Work with Columbia County and adjacent village and town governments to integrate trails with natural areas, scenic highways, and Ice Age Trail	2	Ongoing	City, Columbia County, surrounding towns, NMTAHC, Ice Age Trail Alliance	Staff Time	n/a
		Consider working with Columbia County to develop a technical bike park, similar to Sylvan Hill bike park in Wausau, as part of Columbia County bike trail Loop #2, #14, or Connector #1 or as an independent facility	7	3+ yrs.	City, Columbia County, surrounding towns, NMTAHC, International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA)	Staff Time plus cost of park \$200,00 to \$400,000	City, Recreation Partners, DNR
		Continue to coordinate with the Non-Motorized Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee (NMIAHC) and the Portage Area Trail and Heritage System (PATHS)	-	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC	Staff Time	n/a
		Work with relevant transportation organizations and agencies to advocate for sidewalks, acosswalks, and bicycle lanes during street design, construction and expansions	1	Ongoing	City, Transportation Partners	Added cost to project	City, WisDOT
		Work with the Town of Pacific to develop Pacific Estates Park	1	2-3 yrs.	City, Town of Pacific	Staff Time plus cost of improvements	City, Town of Pacific
		Work with Town of Fort Winnebago to connect proposed Rolling Hills Estate subdivision multi-use trail to the Fox River Locks and Agency House Road proposed Ice Age Trail, via a multi-use trail along the Fox River	ю	2-3 yrs.	City, Columbia County, Town of Fort Winnebago, NMTAHC, Ice Age Trail Alliance	5,500 ft. @ \$48/ft = \$264,000 plus environmental costs, etc.	City, Columbia County, Town of Fort Winnebago, Recreation partners & organizations
Goal 4	Goal 4: Provide efficient and accessible facilities to meet the needs for activities, recreation and services for the elderly, youth and the community   Objective 4.1 - Conduct a study of space needs for senior, youth and community activities, services and recreation	he needs for activities, recreation and services for senior, youth and community activities, service	or the elde	erly, youth a reation	nd the community		
		Form a space needs study committee with representation from senior, youth and community organizations to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a community center	2	<1 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	n/a
Goal 5	Goal 5: Acquire, sell, develop, and schedule improvements to enhance existing parks, natural areas, trails and related facilities	is to enhance existing parks, natural areas, trails	s and rela	ted facilities			
	Objective 5.1. Acquire key properties to expand and enforce existing parks  See specific Parks and Trails.  Recommendations	and enridince existing parks See specific Parks and Trails Goals, Objectives, & Recommendations	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Objective 5.2: Consider a change of use and/or reclassification of other City-owned property to increase recreational opportunities	sclassification of other City-owned property to inc	crease re	creational o	oportunities		
		Inventory City-owned property and assess feasibility of establishing properties as City parkland, particularly mini-parks which would only require minimal investment to add acreage to the City system	2	\ \ \ \	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	n/a

	2019 Comp.	2019 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan - General - Goals, Objectives & Recommendations	als, Objec	ctives & Rec	ommendations		
Goals	Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Time to Complete	Responsibility	Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Goal 6	Goal 6: Enhance coordination and capacity of City outdoor recreati	or recreation entities			441		
	Objective 6.1: Establish and adopt an organizational chart,		outdoor r	ecreation e	ntifies		-
		Establish a lead entity to coordinate efforts of Parks and Recreation Department, Parks and			City, Parks and Recreation Department, Parks and		
		Recreation Board, Non-Motorized Transportation	-	<1 yr.	Recreation Board,	Staff Time	n/a
		Ad-Hoc Committee (NMIAHC), and Municipal Services Committee			NMTAHC, Municipal Services Committee		
		Prepare pragnizational chart and associated			City, Parks and Recreation		
		City code amendments, including any necessary	,	•	Department, Parks and	i	,
		bylaws, to delineate functions and	_	\   <u>\</u>	Recreation Board,	Staff IIme	n/a
		responsibilities of outdoor recreation entities			Services Committee		
	Objective 6.2: Maintain and update the Capital I	Objective 6.2: Maintain and update the Capital Improvements Program to maintain existing and provide new outdoor recreation parks, facilities, trails, and paths	rovide ne	w outdoor r	ecreation parks, facilities, tra	ails, and paths	
		Update the Capital Improvements Program			City, Parks and Recreation		City, Columbia
		annually to include the park and facilities			Department, Parks and		County, WDNR,
		improvements as funded items in order of	-	<1 yr.	Recreation Board,	Staff Time	Recreation
		priority, as listed, and/or in order to potential			NMTAHC, Municipal		partners &
		additional funding availability			Services Committee		organizations
		Update the Capital Improvements Program			City, Parks and Recreation		City, Columbia
		annually to include the specified multi-use trail			Department, Parks and		County, WDNR,
		improvements as funded items in order of	-	<1 yr.	Recreation Board,	Staff Time	Recreation
		priority, as listed, and/or in order to potential			NMTAHC, Municipal		partners &
		additional funding availability			Services Committee		organizations
		Update the Capital Improvements Program			City, Parks and Recreation		City, Columbia
		annually to include the specified bicycle lane			Department, Parks and		County, WisDOT,
		improvements as funded items in order of	-	<1 yr.	Recreation Board,	Staff Time	Transportation
		priority, as listed, and in coordination with street improvement projects			Services Committee		parrners & oraqnizations
	Objective 6.3: Establish a program/timeline to pre	Objective 6.3: Establish a program/timeline to prepare master plans for Community and Neighborhood Parks	hood Park	ş			)
					City, Parks and Recreation		City, Columbia
		Establish a schedule and develop master plans	C		Department, Parks and	H H H	County, WDNR,
			7	2-3 yls.	Necleation Board,		
		identified as needing a master plan in Goal 8			NMIAHC, Municipal		partners &
					Services Committee		organizations
		Establish a schedule and explore need for			City, Parks and Recreation Department: Parks and		City, Columbia County, WDNR.
		developing master plans tor Community and	က	3+ yrs.	Recreation Board,	Staff Time	Recreation
		needing a master plan in Goal 8			NMTAHC, Municipal		partners &
					Services Committee		organizations

	2019 Comprehensi	rehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan - General - Goals, Objectives & Recommendations	als, Objec	ctives & Rec	ommendations		
Goals	Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Time to Complete	Responsibility	Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Goal 6:	Goal 6: Enhance coordination and capacity of City outdoor recr Objective 6.4: Enhance the capabilities of City outdoor r	Enhance coordination and capacity of City outdoor recreation entities Objective 6.4: Enhance the capabilities of City outdoor recreation entities by pursing additional funding from multiple sources	nding fror	n multiple s	ources		
		Prepare an impact fee assessment to determine funding needs by neighborhood or facility service area and determine the per housing unit cost needs to address deficiencies in those areas	7	۸ ۲۲	City, Parks and Recreation Department	000′6\$ - 000′9\$	City, WDNR, Recreation Partner
		Explore the potential to create buy-a-brick or buy-a-bench programs to use a City fundraisers for outdoor recreation facilities and programs	2	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	City, Recreation Partners,
		Apply to the EPAs Recreation Economy for Rural Communities planning assistance program to help develop strategies and an action plan to revitalize the local economy through outdoor recreation	ı	<1 1 ×.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	City, US EPA
	Objective 6.5. Encourage greater participation t	Continue to pursue grant funds from WDNR and other Federal and State agencies and recreation 1 Ongoing City, Parl partner organizations  Objective 6.5: Encourage greater participation by volunteers in City recreation facility improvement and maintenance programs		Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependant upon improvement	City, WDNR, Recreation Partner
		Develop regular workshop programs to educate and encourage additional volunteer participation	т	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Parks and Recreation Board, NMTAHC, Municipal Services Committee	Staff Time	City, Columbia County, WDNR, Recreation partners & organizations
		Consider the creation of an "Adopt a Park" type program to aid in park maintenance and facility development	2	^ \ \Y	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Parks and Recreation Board, NMTAHC, Municipal Services Committee	Staff Time	City, Columbia County, WDNR, Recreation partners & organizations
		Develop additional volunteer programs based upon surveyresults and based upon workshop feedback	_	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Parks and Recreation Board, NMTAHC, Municipal Services Committee	Staff Time	City, Columbia County, WDNR, Recreation partners & organizations
Goal 7:	Continue to explore areas of collaboration with Columbia County and area townships to enha Objective 7.1: Continue to participate in regional recreational planning efforts and initiatives	Goal 7: Continue to explore areas of collaboration with Columbia County and area townships to enhance regional outdoor recreation opportunities Objective 7.1: Continue to participate in regional recreational planning efforts and initiatives	egional o	utdoor recre	eation opportunities		
		Work with Columbia County, area townships, and local and regional outdoor recreation organizations to implement this Plan and continue to coordinate with regional recreational planning efforts, including open space corridor preservation, regional recreational parks and projects, and joint transportation and trail improvements	7	Ongoing	City, Columbia County, surrounding towns, PATHS- NMTAHC, North Central Regional Planning Commission	Staff Time	n/a
		Continue to involve the Portage Area School District in recreational planning efforts	2	Ongoing	City, School District	Staff Time	n/a

	2019 Comprehensive Outdoor	oor Recreation Plan - Park Trails and Facilities - Goals Objectives & Recommendations	ties - Goo	ls. Objecti	ves. & Recommendations	•	
Goals	Objectives		Priority	Time to Complete	Responsibility	Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Goal 8:	Goal 8: Continue to maintain existing and provide new outdoor	tdoor parks, natural areas, recreational facilities and amenities	ilifies and	d amenitie			
	Objective 8.14: Maintain and Improve Sunrise Park	K					
		Improve access by adding stairway or path	1	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length & type of construction	City
		Construct entrance drive from east side of park to lower level of park and construct handicap accessible parking	ı	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length & type of construction	City
		Replace wood stairway with multi-use trail	1	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length & type of construction	City
		Continue maintenance of nature trail	3	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	City
	Objective 8.15: Maintain and Improve Sunset Park					•	
		Incorporate inclusion of pickelball lines on all future tennis court resurfacing projects	е	\ \ \	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Part of any tennis court resurface cost	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Construct Wisconsin River overlook	1	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length & type of construction	City
		Construct internal path to connect park/proposed Wisconsin River overlook to West Conant Street multi-use trail	1	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length & type of construction	City
	Objective 8.16: Maintain and Improve Riverside Park	ark					
		Replace playground facilities w/handicap accessible facility	2	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	\$30,000	City, WDNR, Recreation Partners
		Replace connection sidewalk from Wisconsin Street to shelter	2	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length & type of construction	City
		Promote park as possible canoe and kayak put in/take out	1	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	City
	Objective 8.17: Maintain and Improve Rolling Hills Country Estates    Explore benefit a	s Country Estates  Explore benefit and cost of merging this			:		
		park with Gunderson park and officially declare both properties to be one park called Gunderson Park	-	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	City
		Improve access to existing trail	7	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon access type	City
		Develop concept plan for future improvements	ю	\     <del>\</del>	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Partner Organization	\$5,000 - \$10,000	City, DNR

Percommendations         Priority         Complete           at parks, natural areas, recreational facilities and amenities and parts.         3         <1 yr.           relop concept plan for future         3         <1 yr.           rovements         Little League Complex         3         <1 yr.           luire parcels 78.B, 31.A1, 31.01, 31.02, and add to park when available are and an enjoy amenities         3         <1 yr.           unite parcels 78.B, 31.A1, 31.01, 31.02, admiles to gather and enjoy amenities         2         Ongoing           unitue to develop the park as a "hub" areas whem oid field Master Plan and thrue to seek opportunities for alternate and enjoy amenities         1         Ongoing           act to all ages         and 2014 Veterans Memoidal Field Master Plan and thrue to seek opportunities for alternate and enjoy and relevant grant programs and disposition from user groups         1         <1 yr.           and 2014 Veterans Memoidal Field Master Plan and Intity location and outline steps and and appropriate location         1         <1 yr.           and 2014 Veterans Memoidal Field Master Plan and Street from park to proposed to a for a grant for a grant for a proposed to a control of a grant from park to proposed to a control of a grant from park to proposed to a control of a grant from park to proposed to a street from park to proposed to a control of a grant from park to proposed to a control of particles from park to proposed from the fet from park to existing park         1         <1 yr.           to		2019 Comprehensive Outdoor	door Recreation Plan - Park Trails and Facilities - Goals Objectives & Recommendations	fies - Goo	ls. Objecti	ves. & Recommendations		
Colifiue to maintain existing and provide new outdoor parks, natural areas, recreational facilities and amenities  Objective & 1.8. Maintain and improve Ralling Hills Fats  Acquire parcels 78.8. 31 Al. 31.01. 31.02.  Common to develop the park xos "hub"  To compute the not develop the park sos "hub"  Acquire odditional field most et Plan and Countries to seve the Dog Park to a made appropriate location.  Acquire odditional field most et Plan and acquires the Dog Park to a made appropriate location.  Construct intend multi-use trait and improve Woodridge Park for a medials acquired park and accordance with Moster Flan - 2	200	o conjectivo		Driovity	Time to	Domono Hillih,	+ 70	Potential
Objective & 18. Maintain and improve Raling Hills Park  Objective & 18. Maintain and improve Raling Hills Park  Objective & 19. Maintain and improve Raling Hills Park  Acquire parces PR B. 31. A1 31.01, 31.02,  Confinue In old acquire and columbia County Feligrounds  Annead 31.03 and acd all operative when overlands  Annead 31.03 and acd acquire parces on the Parce Pron and confinue to seek capacity miss for alternate Information to the 2014 and acquire and acquire state on the Parces Pron and Confinue In Seek Capacity Programs and Confinue In Seek Capacity Programs and Confinue Internation and Acquire acquire acquire acquired point on develop acquired point on the Page Park to a more appropriate location and outline staps and the Acquire acquired point and invalve Page Page Page Page Page Page Page Pag	SIBOO	Objectives	кесоппенаанов		Complete	responsibility	Cost	Sources
pp concept plan for future  vements  Iffe League Complex  Iffe League Co			utdoor parks, natural areas, recreational fac	ilities and	d amenitie	8		
Chapter   Chap		Objective 8.18: Maintain and Improve Rolling Hi	s Park					
Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing    -2 yrs.			Develop concept plan for future improvements	ဗ	\  -  √	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Partner Organization	\$5,000 -	City, DNR
Ongoing Ongoing   -2 yrs.   -2 yrs.		Objective 8.19: Maintain and Improve Bruce A. S	mith Little League Complex					
Ongoing    -2 yrs.   -2 yr			Acquire parcels 78.B, 31.A1, 31.01, 31.02, and 31.03 and add to park when available		Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon acreage & real estate market valuation	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
nue to develop the park as a "hub"  milies to gather and enjoy amenities  I to all ages  nue implementation of the 2014  ans Memorial Field Master Plan and ans to seek opportunities for alternate ing via relevant grant programs and sipation from user groups  at 2014 Veterans Memorial Field  If a 2014 Veterans Memorial Field  If a 2014 Veterans Memorial Field  I to a 3 yr.  I to a 4 yr.  I to		Objective 8.20: Maintain and Improve Veteran's	Memorial Field and Columbia County Fairgro	spuno				
nue implementation of the 2014  ans Memorial Field Master Plan and any via relevant grant programs and sipation from user groups  at 2014 Veterans Memorial Field  at Plan or develop additional plan to fy location and outline steps and at needed to move the Dog Park to re appropriate location  ruct internal multi-use trail secting park amenities  re additional property for park sion in accordance with Master Plan - 2  ruct multi-use trail connection along an Street from park to proposed Ice tational Scenic Trail along East Mullet  accessible routes to existing park truct multi-use path through stridge Park along north side of marsh w Pinery Road as depicted on PATHS  der establish City-owned Parcel 1			Continue to develop the park as a "hub" for families to gather and enjoy amenities suited to all ages	2	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon amenities	City
ruct internal multi-use trail along East Mullet  scessible routes to existing park internal Multi-use part hough ruct multi-use path through string Park food as depicted on PATHS w Pinery Road as depicted on PATHS  large Park and monial field  capacity for park sion in accordance with Master Plan- of Parcel 174  capacity for park ruct multi-use trail connection along an Street from park to proposed Ice lational Scenic Trail along East Mullet capacity for park lities  capacity for p			Continue implementation of the 2014 Veterans Memorial Field Master Plan and continue to seek opportunities for alternate funding via relevant grant programs and participation from user groups	-	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon access type	City, DNR
ruct internal multi-use trail secting park amenities re additional property for park rich accordance with Master Plan- of Parcel 174 ruct multi-use trail connection along an Street from park to proposed Ice attional Scenic Trail along East Mullet accessible routes to existing park ruct multi-use path through stridge Park along north side of marsh w Pinery Road as depicted on PATHS  der establish City-owned Parcel 1			Amend 2014 Veterans Memorial Field Master Plan or develop additional plan to identify location and outline steps and funding needed to move the Dog Park to a more appropriate location	-	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Staff Time	City
re additional property for park sion in accordance with Master Plan - 2 <1 yr. of Parcel 174 ruct multi-use trail connection along an Street from park to proposed Ice attional Scenic Trail along East Mullet   1   1 yr. sities ruct multi-use path through dridge Park along north side of marsh w Pinery Road as depicted on PATHS   2   1 yr. der establish City-owned Parcel   3   2-3 yrs.			Construct internal multi-use trail connecting park amenities	-	1-2 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	3,980 ft @ \$48/ft = \$191,000	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
ruct multi-use trail connection along an Street from park to proposed Ice attional Scenic Trail along East Mullet cocessible routes to existing park arcessible routes to existing park arides Park along north side of marsh aridge Park along side of marsh aridge side			Acquire additional property for park expansion in accordance with Master Plan - Part of Parcel 174	5	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon Market Prices	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
ities  ruct multi-use path through Aridge Park along north side of marsh w Pinery Road as depicted on PATHS der establish City-owned Parcel  3 2-3 yrs.			Construct multi-use trail connection along Morgan Street from park to proposed Ice Age National Scenic Trail along East Mullet Street	-	^ <u>~</u> ¥.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	1,140 ft @ \$48/ft = \$54,720	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
Add accessible routes to existing park  amenities  Construct multi-use path through Woodridge Park along north side of marsh to New Pinery Road as depicted on PATHS map  Consider establish City-owned Parcel 1314.01 @ West Edgewater Street as a new 3 2-3 yrs.		Objective 8.21: Maintain and Improve Woodridg	e Park					
Construct multi-use path through Woodridge Park along north side of marsh to New Pinery Road as depicted on PATHS map  Consider establish City-owned Parcel 1314.01 @ West Edgewater Street as a new 3 2-3 yrs.			Add accessible routes to existing park amenities	-	<li>&gt;1 yr.</li>	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length &	City, DNR Grant
Consider establish City-owned Parcel 1314.01 @ West Edgewater Street as a new 3 2-3 yrs.			Construct multi-use path through Woodridge Park along north side of marsh to New Pinery Road as depicted on PATHS map	2	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length & type of construction	City
sider establish City-owned Parcel 3 2-3 yrs.		Objective 8.22: Establish new Settlers Park						
park			Consider establish City-owned Parcel 1314.01 © West Edgewater Street as a new City park	က	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon Market Prices	City, DNR, Recreation Partners

	2019 Comprehensive Outdoor	door Recreation Plan - Park, Trails and Facilities - Goals, Objectives, & Recommendations	ties - God	ls, Object	ves, & Recommendations		
Goals	Obje		Priority	Time to Complete	Responsibility	Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Goal 9:	Goal 9: Continue to maintain existing and provide new outdoor multi-use trails and associated paths	utdoor multi-use trails and associated paths					
	Objective 9.1: Develop West Conant & Summit Street multi-use trail	eet multi-use trail					
		Construct West Conant multi-use trail from Pauquette Park to Sunset Park	-	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	2,750 ft. @ \$48/ft = \$132,000	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Construct Summit Street multi-use trail from Sunset Park to proposed multi-use trail at River Street	ı	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	1,441 ff. @ \$48/ft = \$70,000	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
	Objective 9.2: Develop additional multi-use trails						
		Acquire additional property, Parcel 1302, to enhance Levee service road/path	2	\ Y.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	Dependent upon acreage & real estate market valuation	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Create a multi-use trail north from the end of School Rd./Woodridge Dr. to the cul-desac at the end of E. Collins St. and then northeast to the existing trail in Rolling Meadows/Gunderson Park	2	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Dependent upon length & type of construction	City
		Construct River Street multi-use trail from Summit Street to Bluffview Park and Cemetery Rd.	2	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	3,250 ft. @\$48/ft = \$156,000	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Extend Hamilton Street multi-use trail at Evergreen Trail to Pine Meadows Park to East Albert Street	2	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	2,366 ft. @\$48/ft = \$113,500	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Extend Hamilton Street multi-use trail at Gunderson Park, north to City limits	2	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	4,430 ff. @ \$48/ff = \$213,000	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Construct multi-use trail to connect Rolling Hills Country Estates to East Collins Street	2	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	1,200 ft. @\$48/ft = \$57,600	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Construct multi-use path to connect Hamilton Street multi-use trail to Fox River along southern border of Rolling Hill Country Estate subdivision, include Rolling Hills Park connector	ъ	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	4,200 ft. @ \$48/ft. = \$201,600	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Construct Gunderson Drive multi-use path from Hamilton Street to County Highway CX	3	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	4,000 ff. @ \$48/ft. = \$192,000	City, DNR, Recreation Partners
		Construct Collip Street multi-use trail to connect proposed Silver Lake bike lane to existing West Siler Street multi-use trail	8	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, NMIAHC`	900 ft. @ \$48/ft. = \$43,200	City, DNR, Recreation Partners

	ti Contractorumo Color	2010 Commerchandine Outdoor Boneradion Blan Back Trails and Endillian Coals Objective 9 Bonesamond attant	200 2011	itooidO al	O Documental officers		
Goals	Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Time to	Responsibility	Cost	Potential Funding
				Complete			Sources
200 200 300 300 300 300 300 300 300 300	_	itacor multi-use trails and associated paths					
	Objective 9.3: Develop additional Ice Age National Scenic Trail segments	al Scenic Trail segments					
		Construct Agency House Road Ice Age Trail segment from Fox River to Veterans Memorial Fields and Columbia County Fairgrounds	ю	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Columbia County, Ice Age Trail Alliance	6,300 ft. @ \$48/ft = \$302,400	City, DNR
		Construct East Mullet Street Ice Age Trail segment from Veterans Memorial Fields and Columbia County Fairgrounds to the existing Ice Age Trail along the Portage Canal	2	2-3 yrs.	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Columbia County, Ice Age Trail Alliance	3,300 ft. @ \$48/ft = \$158,400	City, DNR
Goal 10	Goal 10: Continue to maintain existing and provide new bicycle lanes   Objective 10.1: Continue to develop additional bicycle lanes	icycle lanes cycle lanes on existina roads and as part of future road improvements and repayinas projects initiated by Public Works	f future ro	ad improve	ements and repayings proje	cts initiated by	Public Works
		Construct additional bicycle lanes as	6		City, Parks and Recreation	Depending	
		shown on Map AB-2 as part of local road improvement projects, where feasible	2	Ongoing	Department, Public Works Department	upon road segment	City
		Implement results of potential Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan	ю	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works Department	Depending Plan recommenda tions	City
Goal 11	Goal 11: Continue to improve access to water and continue to improve water-based recreational facilities	ie to improve water-based recreational facil	lifies				
	Objective 11.1: Continue to gather user feedback and improve access and experience of shore fishing, boating, and canoe routes	and improve access and experience of sho	re fishing	, boating, e	and canoe routes		
		Assess potential to improve and expand the shore fishing area and boat launches	2	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works	Depending upon road	City
		Improve or Upgrade Wisconsin River Boat Launch on Corner of Summit and Conant Streets	1	<1 yr.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	Depending upon improvements	City, DNR
		Assess potential to add new shore fishing areas and boat launches	2	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works	Depending upon road	City
		Improve the experience of canoeing on the Fox River Canoe route by addressing needs indicated on usage websites such as milespaddled.com and wisconsintivertrips.com	2	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works Department	Depending upon road segment	City
	Objective 11.2: Continue to make improvements, manage, and provide access to Silver Lake	manage, and provide access to Silver Lake					
		Continue to be engaged with the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point to analyze Silver Lake and prepare a lake management plan with recommendations for maintaining public and private access while improving water quality	2	۱۲ ۲۲.	City, Parks and Recreation Department	\$8,000 -	City
	Objective 11.3: Continue to make improvements, manage, and provide access to the Portage Canal	manage, and provide access to the Portage	Canal				
		Continue with Phase II of the Portage Canal restoration project, including design and construction, for completion by 2022.	2	Ongoing	City, Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works Department, Partners	Depending on improvements	City, WDNR



Appendix A – Community Survey Summary

#### **Response Summary**

As part of the CORP planning process, a public survey was prepared and administered in conjunction with the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update process. The survey was administered on-line, with paper input made available as an option. Respondents were given the option to reply to the Comprehensive Plan question, CORP questions, or both.

A total of 734 people viewed the survey, with 376 starting the survey and 190 persons completed the survey. Of those, 93%, or 176 persons, completed the CORP survey. The CORP survey was divided into three (3) sections; parks, trails, and facilities usage, need for improvements and satisfaction.

## Parks, Trails and Facilities Usage

Figure AA-1 shows the usage of soccer fields to be very low. Only 6% of respondents are regular users and 78% never use them. This indicates little need for future additional soccer needs, based on current usage.

Figure AA-2 shows a higher usage of baseball fields, with 11% of respondents being regular users and 24% being occasional users. This indicated some need for future facilities of this type.

Figure AA-3 has 9% of respondents being regular users of softball fields and 26% as occasional users.

Figure AA-1 Soccer Fields

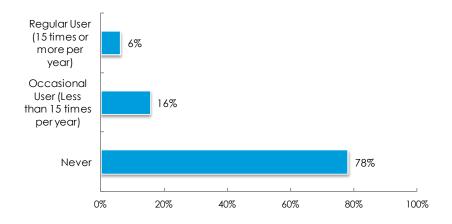


Figure AA-2 Baseball Fields

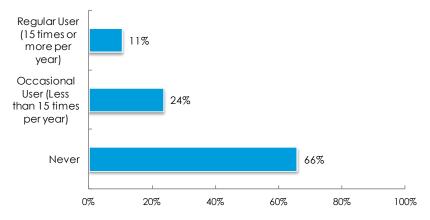
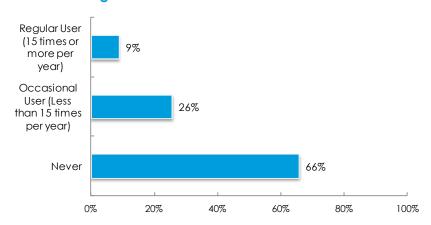


Figure AA-3 Softball Fields



**Figure AA-4 Tennis Courts** 

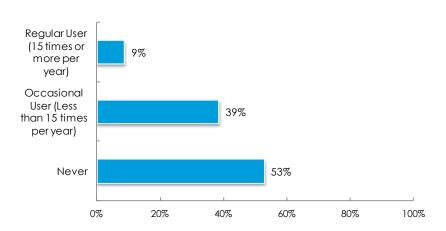


Figure AA-4 shows more need for tennis courts than for soccer, baseball or softball fields; with 39% of respondents being occasional users.

Figure AA-5 indicates similar need, as compared to tennis courts, for basketball courts, with 11% of respondents being regular users and 31% being occasional users.

Figure AA-6 had very low usage percentages, with only 4% of respondents being regular users and 76% having never used these facilities.

Figure AA-5 Basketball Courts

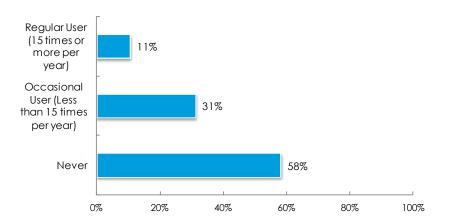


Figure AA-6 Volleyball Courts

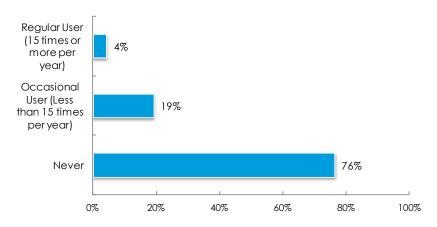


Figure AA-7 shows strong usage of open playfields, with 20% of respondents being regular users and 31% as occasional users.

Figure AA-8 has few regular users, only 8%, and many, 68%, of respondents having never used these facilities, indicating only a small need for additional disc golf course.

Figure AA-9 indicates even fewer users of horseshoe pits than disc golf courses, with only 3% of respondents being regular users and a full 83% have never used these facilities. This may be an indication of respondents having these facilities at their home yards though.

Figure AA-7 Open Playfields

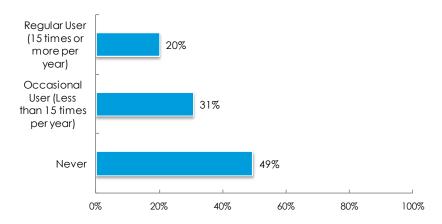


Figure AA-8 Disc Golf Courses

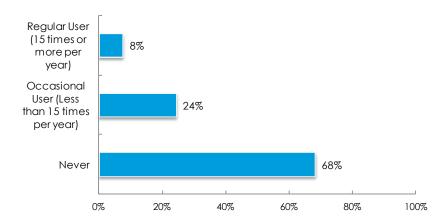


Figure AA-9 Horseshoe Pits

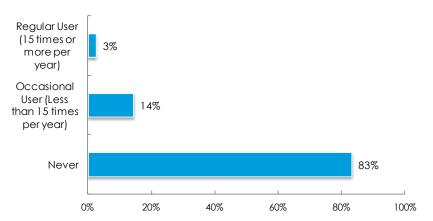


Figure AA-10 Picnic Areas

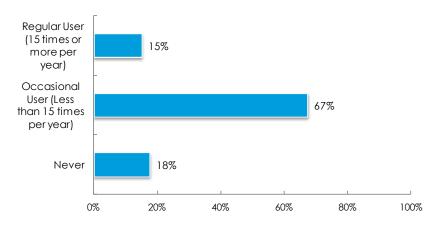
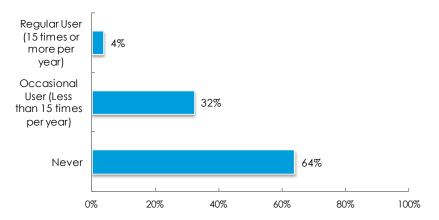


Figure AA-11 Cooking Grills



**Figure AA-12 Shelter Buildings** 

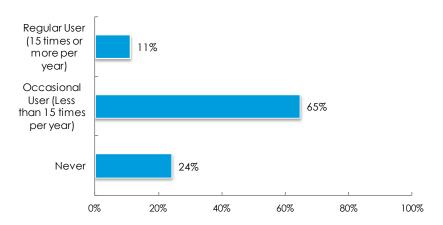


Figure AA-10 shows very strong usage of picnic areas, with 15% of respondents being regular users and a majority of respondents, 67%, being occasional users. This indicates very strong need for additional picnic areas in future years.

Figure AA-11 shows moderate usage of cooking grills, with only 4% of respondents being regular users, yet 32% being occasional users.

Figure AA-12 indicates strong usage of shelter buildings, with 11% of respondents being regular users and a majority, 65%, being occasional users. This shows strong need for additional facilities of this type.

Figure AA-13 shows strong usage of benches, with 30% of respondents being regular users and 52% being occasional users. More benches will be needed in future years with such strong current usage.

Figure AA-14 also shows strong usage of the shore fishing area. Almost half of the respondents, 42%, are occasional users and 17% are regular users. This area could be expanded or duplicated, where possible.

Figure AA-15, indicates moderate usage of gazebos, with 45% being occasional users, yet 48% never having use these facilities at all.

Figure AA-13 Benches

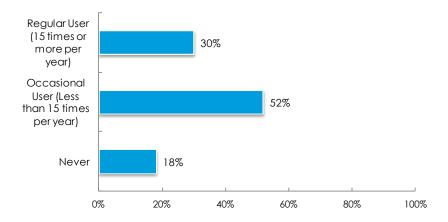


Figure AA-14 Shore Fishing Area

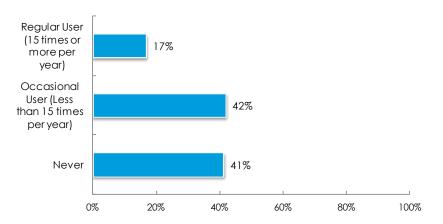


Figure AA-15 Gazebo

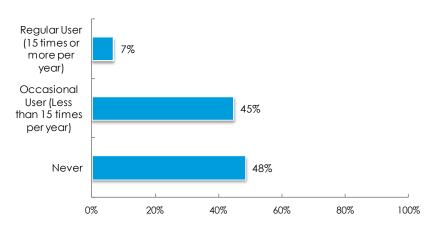


Figure AA-16 Community Gardens

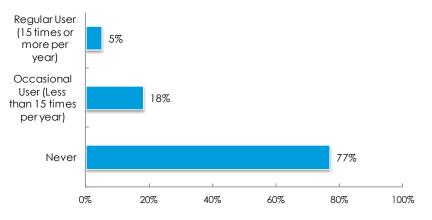


Figure AA-17 Concession Stands

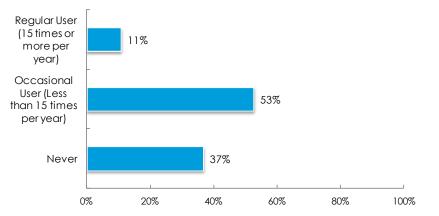
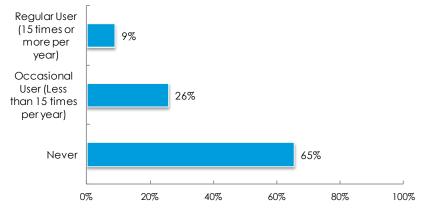


Figure AA-18 Bicycle Racks



Community Gardens are not heavily used, with Figure AA-16 indicting that 77% of respondents have never used them and on 18% occasionally use them. Additional community gardens will be less needed in future years, based upon current usage.

Figure AA-17, has more than half of all respondents, 53%, being occasional users and 11% being regular users of concessional stands, indicating future need for these facilities.

Figure AA-18 shows little usage of bicycle racks, with only 9% of respondents as regular users and 65% never using them.

Figure AA-19 also shows little usage of skate parks, with 75% of respondents having never used the facility and only 9% being regular users. However, this facility is only attractive to a younger demographic and skating can be performed in a variety of areas. These factors likely contribute to the weak usage numbers and should be taken into consideration when planning for future needs.

Usage of dog parks is moderate, with Figure AA-20 indicating 10% of respondents being regular users and 25% being occasional users.

Natural areas are heavily used, with 42% of respondents being regular users and 46% being occasional users. More natural areas will be needed in future years to keep up with anticipated demand.

Figure AA-19 Skate Park

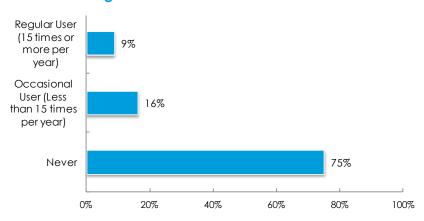


Figure AA-20 Dog Parks

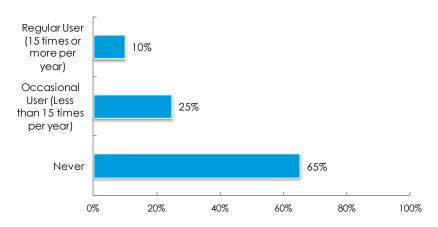


Figure AA-21 Natural Areas

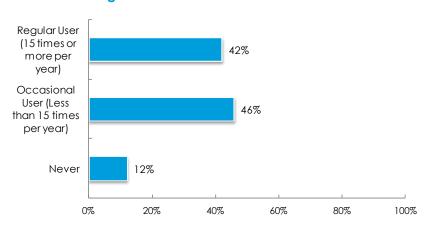


Figure AA-21 Boat Launches

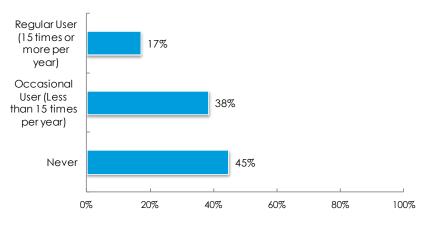


Figure AA-22 Splash Pad

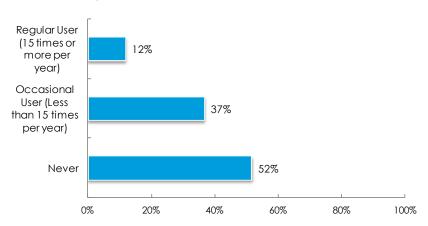


Figure AA-21 shows boat launches to be moderately used, with 17% of respondents being regular users and 38% being occasional users. More facilities of this type will likely be needed in future years, based on current usage.

Figure AA-22 indicates moderate usage of splash pads, with 12% of respondents being regular users and 37% being occasional users. As this facility is generally only used by families and children, this usage should be considered strong, after discounting those to whom this type of facility does not appeal.

Figure AA-23 shows very strong usage for another facility which appeals to families and children, playground sets. Almost half of respondents, 42%, are occasional users and 23% are regular users. This indicates strong need for additional facilities in future years.

Figure AA-23 Playground Sets

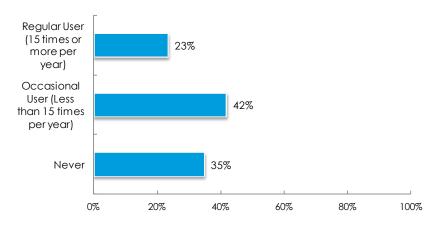


Figure AA-24 shows strong usage of Silver Lake Beach. A majority of respondents, 53%, are occasional users and 26% are regular users. There will be a continued need for improvements and potential expansion in future years.

Figure AA-25 indicates similar strong usage of Silver Lake, with 48% of respondents being occasional users and 27% being regular users.

Figure AA-26 indicates less usage of ice skating ponds & hockey rinks than for the Beach. While 34% of respondents are occasional users, 65% have never used these facilities. However, these facilities are likely only attractive to selected portion of the respondents, indicating need is probably stronger than indicated, when this likelihood is taken into account.

Figure AA-24 Silver Lake Beach

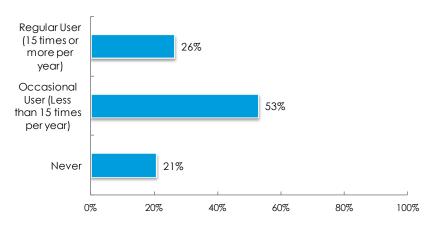


Figure AA-25 Silver Lake

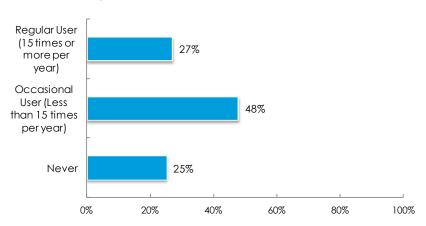


Figure AA-26 Ice Skating Ponds/Hockey Rinks

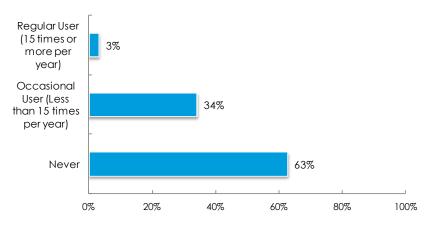


Figure AA-27 Fairgrounds

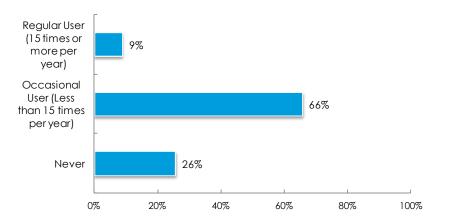


Figure AA-28 Ice Age Trail

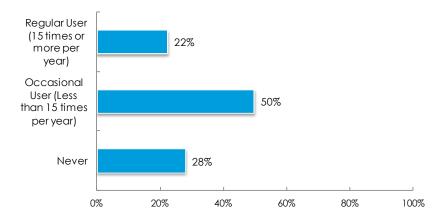
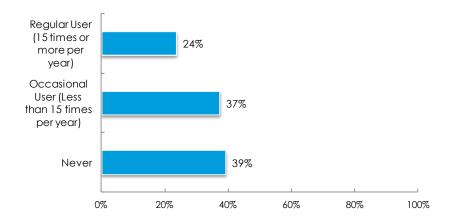


Figure AA-27 shows strong usage of the Fairgrounds, with 66% of respondents being regular users. Continued improvements and expansion of the facility will be needed in coming years.

Figure AA-28 indicates similarly strong usage of the Ice Age Trail, with 50% of respondents being occasional users and 22% being regular users. This indicates the need to support current Ice Age Trail expansion plans.

Figure AA-29 shows moderate usage of biking trails, with 37% of respondents being occasional users and 24% as regular users. This shows need for additional bicycle trails in the future years, based on current usage.

Figure AA-29 Biking Trails



# Need for Park and Facility Improvement

Figure AA-30 does not show strong need to improve soccer fields, with only 14% of respondents indicating need.

Figure AA-31 shows some need for improvements to baseball fields, with 32% of respondents indicating need.

Figure AA-32 also indicates need for improvements to softball fields.

Figure AA-30 Soccer Fields

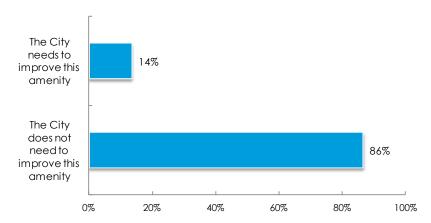


Figure AA-31 Baseball Fields

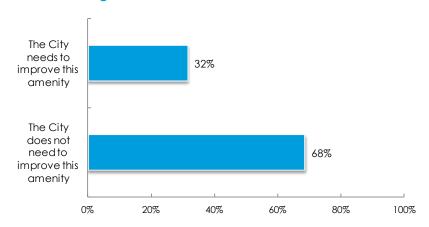
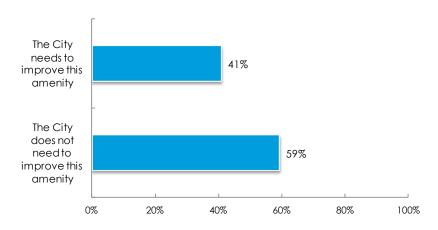


Figure AA-32 Softball Fields



**Figure AA-33 Tennis Courts** 

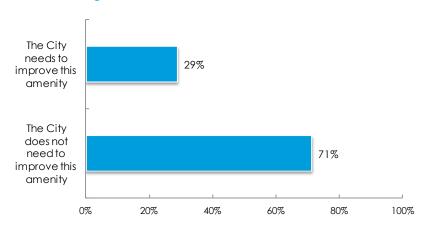


Figure AA-33 indicates only moderate need to improve tennis courts in the City, with 29% indicating need.

Figure AA-34 shows less need for improvements to basketball courts, with fewer respondents seeing the need.

Figure AA-35 also shows weak need for improvements to volleyball courts.

Figure AA-34 Basketball Courts

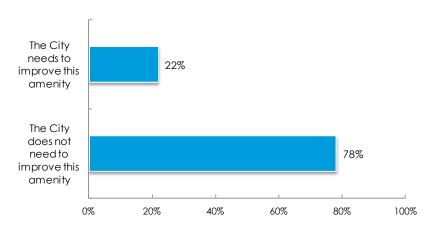


Figure AA-35 Volleyball Courts

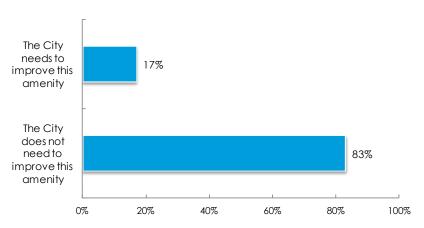


Figure AA-36 indicates little need, according to respondents, for improvements to these facilities. However, disc golf courses are generally used by a select segment of the population, which should be factored into the assessment of need to improve these facilities.

Figure AA-37 shows even less need for improvements to horseshoe pits. However, this may be due to the potential for some users to have this facility at home.

Figure AA-38 indicates a strong need to improvement picnic tables, with 46% of respondents indicating need.

Figure AA-36 Disc Golf Course

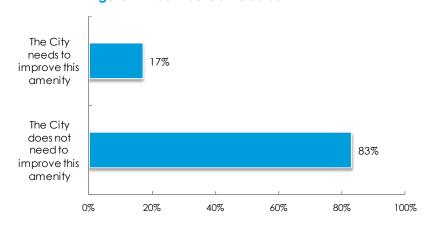


Figure AA-37 Horseshoe Pits

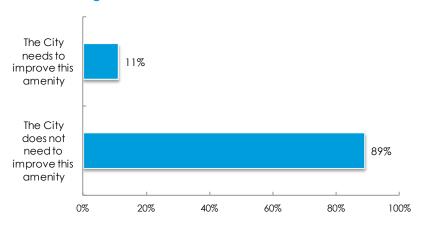


Figure AA-38 Picnic Tables

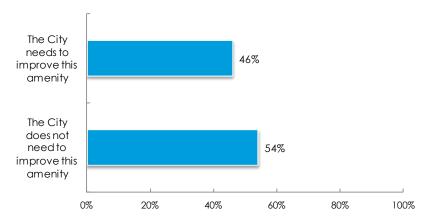
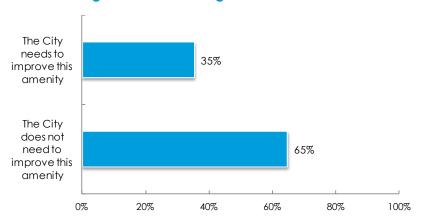


Figure AA-39 Cooking Grills



Cooking grills are also shown in figure AA-39 to have some need for improvements, with 35% of respondents indicating that need. Additionally, this need for repair may be the cause of only moderate usage indicated in the previous section.

Figures AA-40 and AA-41 both show need for improvements to shelter buildings and the shore fishing area, respectively.

**Figure AA-40 Shelter Buildings** 

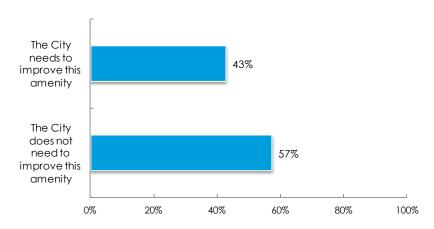


Figure AA-41 Shore Fishing Area

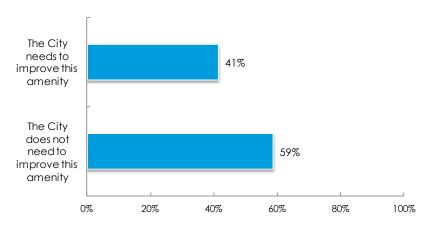
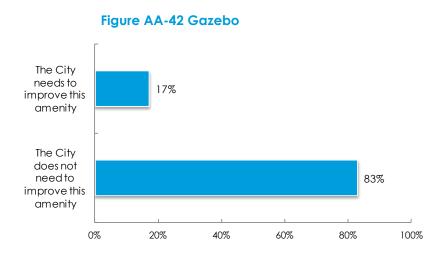


Figure AA-42 shows little need to improve the gazebo, with 83% of respondents indicating no need.

Figure AA-43 also shows little need to improve community gardens, with only 22% indicating need.

Figure AA-44 indicates a slightly higher need to improve concession stands, with 26% of respondents thinking improvement are needed.



**Figure AA-43 Community Gardens** 

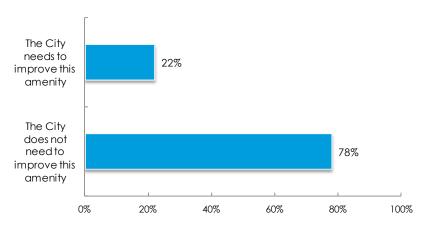
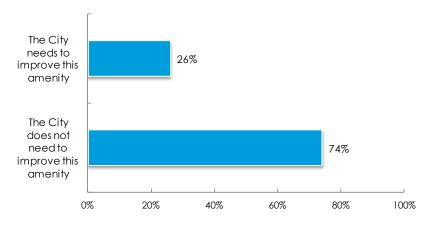


Figure AA-44 Concession Stands



# The City needs to improve this amenity The City does not need to improve this amenity 78%

40%

60%

80%

100%

Both bicycle racks and skate parks are shown in Figures AA-45 and AA-46 to have moderate to little need for improvements.

However, figure AA-47 has 59% of respondents indicating need to improve natural areas.

Figure AA-46 Skate Park

20%

0%

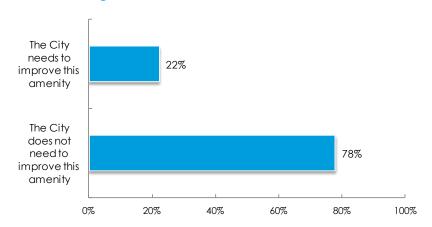
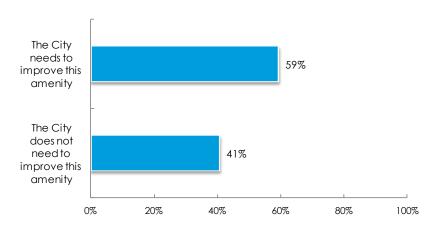


Figure AA-47 Natural Areas



Figures AA-48 and AA-49 show moderate need to improve boat launches and playground sets, respectively. As these facilities were shown to have moderate to heavy usage in the previous section, this need is considered even more important.

Figure AA-40 shows little need to improve the splash pad.

Figure AA-48 Boat Launches

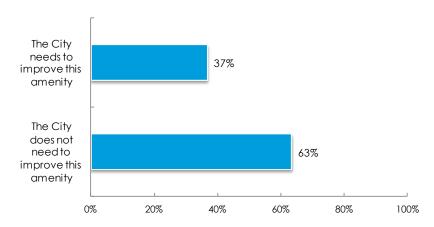


Figure AA-49 Playground Sets

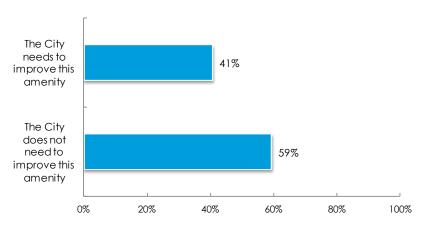


Figure AA-50 Splash Pad

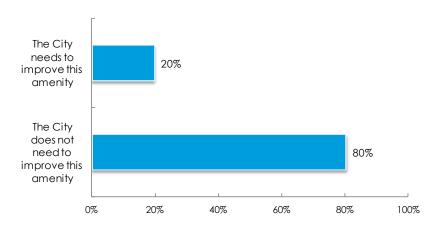


Figure AA-41 Silver Lake Beach

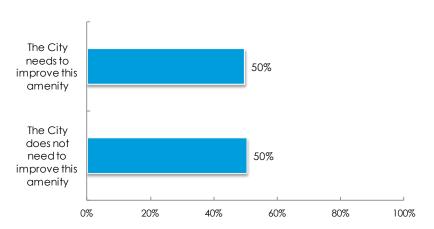


Figure AA-41 shows need for improvements to Silver Lake Beach, with 50% of respondents thinking improvements need to be made. Given the high level of usage indicated in the previous section, this need is seen as considerable. Figure AA-42 shows a similar level of need for Silver Lake.

Figure AA-43 indicates moderate need for improvements to ices skating ponds and hockey rinks. Improving these facilities might increase the low usage seen in the previous section.

Figure AA-42 Silver Lake

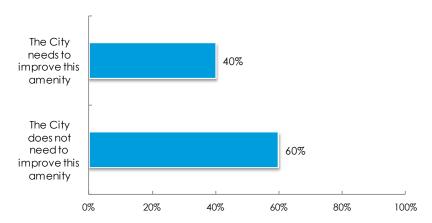


Figure AA-43 Ice Skating Ponds/Hockey Rinks

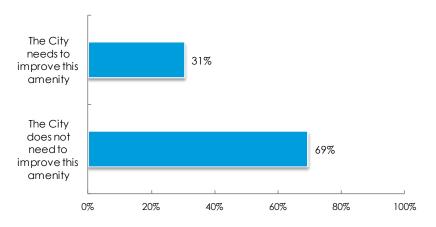


Figure AA-44 shows the highest need, compared to other facilities, for improvements to the Fairgrounds. Given the heavy usage of this facility, this need can be considerable.

Figures AA-45 and AA-46 also indicate high levels of need for improvements to the Ice Age Trail and Biking Trails in general.

Figure AA-44 Fairgrounds

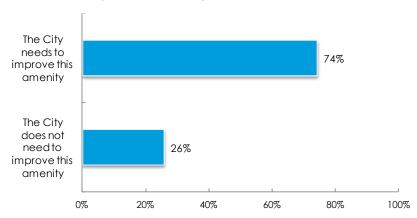


Figure AA-45 Ice Age Trail

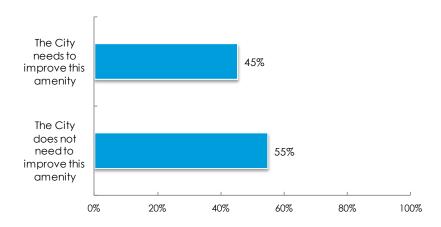


Figure AA-46 Biking Trails

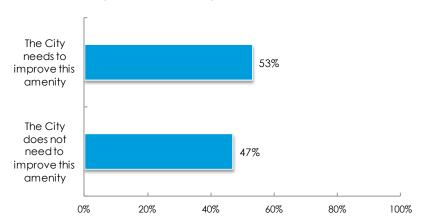


Figure AA-47 Please indicate how you think development of recreational facilities should be primarily funded:

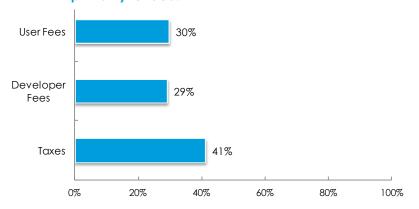


Figure AA-48 Please indicate how you think maintenance of recreational facilities should be primarily funded:

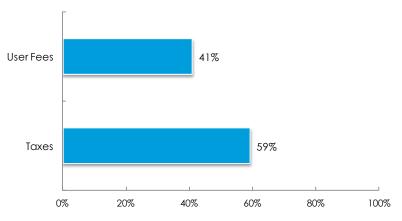


Figure AA-49 The Parks and Recreation Board is working to obtain primary easements in order to link existing recreational trails with parks, neighborhoods, and state trails. How important do you consider these efforts?

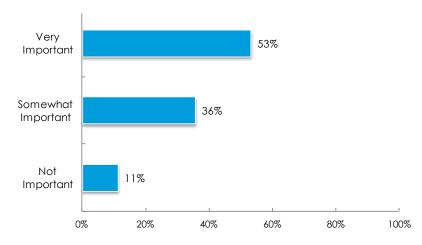


Figure AA-47 shows an even distribution of how respondents think facility improvements should be funded, with taxes, at 41% of respondents, being the highest.

Figure AA-48 also shows an even distribution of how respondents feel maintenance should be funded, although developers fees were not presented as an option as they cannot be used for maintenance.

Figure AA-49 shows that 53% of respondents feel it is very important that the Parks and Recreation Board is working to obtain property easements to link recreational facilities through trials.

Figure AA-50 also shows respondents, 67%, feel it is very important for the Parks and Recreation Board to work to maintain open space and preserve natural resources. This is reflective of the strong usage of natural areas indicated in previous sections.

Figure AA-51 shows most respondents, 61%, consider passive recreation to be the type of amenities which could be added to new parks.

Figure AA-50 The Parks and Recreation Board is working to maintain open space, restore native plan communities, protect wildlife habitat, and preserve natural resources (natural areas). How important do you consider these efforts?

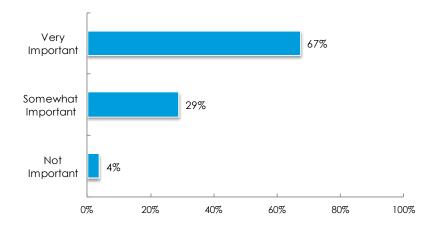


Figure AA-51 The City is considering the The City is c development of new park space. If you could space. If yo decide which kinds of amenities would be added would be ad to a new park, which kinds would you prefer?

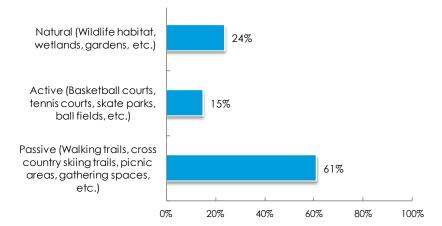
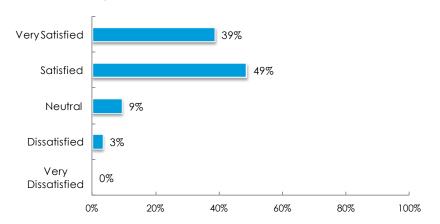


Figure AA-52 Collip-Worden Park



### Park and Facility Satisfaction

Figure AA-52 shows that almost half, 49%, of respondents are satisfied with Collipp-Worden park and Figure AA-43 shows respondents are similarly, but slightly less, satisfied with Silver Lake Beach.

Figure AA-53 shows respondents have mostly, 39%, neutral feelings regarding Veteran's Memorial Fields.

Figure AA-53 Silver Lake Beach

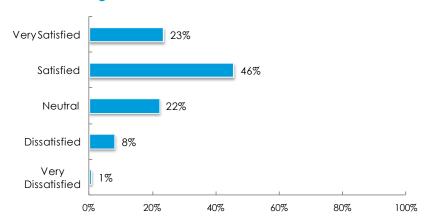


Figure AA-54 Veteran's Memorial Fields;

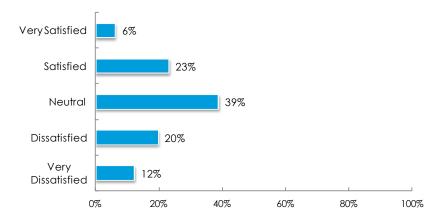


Figure AA-54 shows respondents are mostly satisfied, 37%, or neutral, 43%, regarding satisfaction of the Little League Fields.

Figure AA-55 indicates the highest percentage of respondents, 42%, are satisfied with the indoor pool at Rusch School.

Figure AA-56, shows most respondents are either very satisfied or satisfied with Pauquette Park.

Figure AA-54 Little League Fields

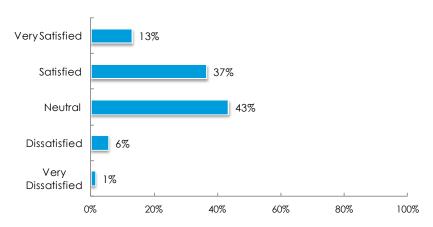


Figure AA-55 Indoor Pool at Rusch School

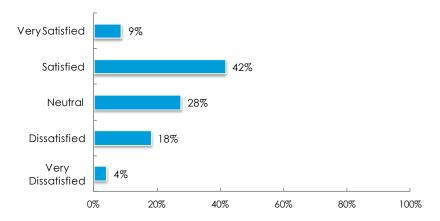


Figure AA-56 Pauquette Park

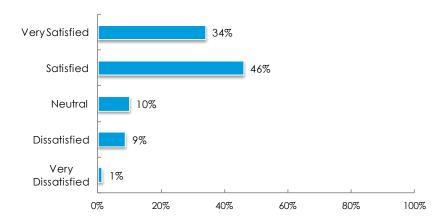


Figure AA-57 Help with maintenance of park amenities:

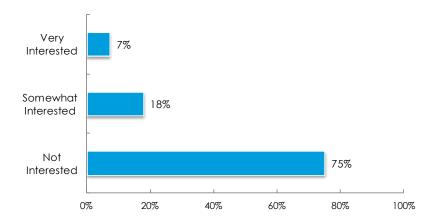


Figure AA-58 Annual cleanup of City-owned natural areas:

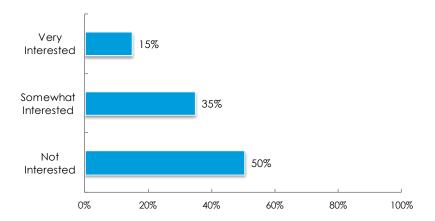
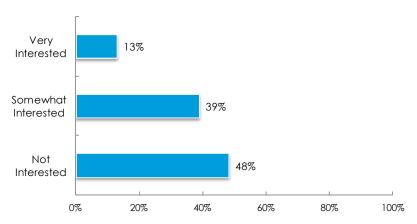


Figure AA-59 Attendance at workshops on local history, conservation, and wildlife:



Related to park and facility satisfaction, as well as need for improvements and usage, the extent to which respondents are willing to help with facility improvements in very important to know when creating volunteer teams.

Figure AA-57 indicates little interest in respondents helping with maintenance of park amenities.

Figure AA-58 indicates a higher level of interest with 15% of respondents very interested in an annual cleanup of Cityowned natural areas, and 35% somewhat interested.

Figure AA-59 also shows some interest, with 39% of respondents somewhat interested in attendance at workshops.

Figure AA-60 shows some interest in respondents participating in an annual Arbor Day tree planting event, with 33% somewhat interested.

Figure AA-61 shows only slight interest in respondents wanting to help with maintenance of trails.

Figure AA-62 shows even less interest amongst respondents to assist with an adopt-a-park program.

Finally, figure AA-63 shows little interest in respondents want to help identify and eradicate invasive plant species. However, given the high usage of natural areas, this level of interest may be low due to lack of knowledge regarding invasive species than willingness to help. Attendance at workshops could increase the percentage of those want to help in this category.

Figure AA-60 Annual Arbor Day Tree Planting:

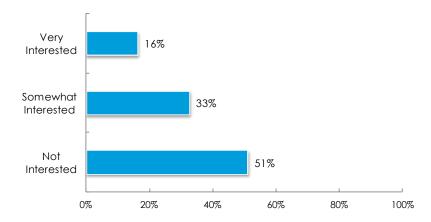


Figure AA-61 Help with maintenance of trails:

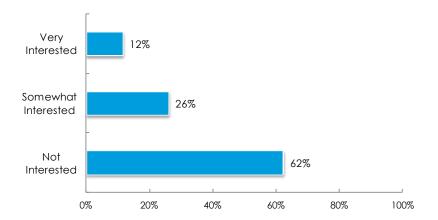


Figure AA-63 Help Identify and eradicate invasive plant species in parks and natural areas:

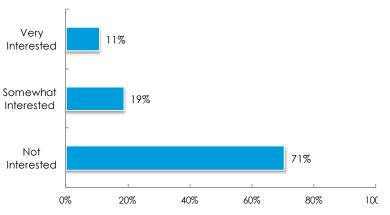
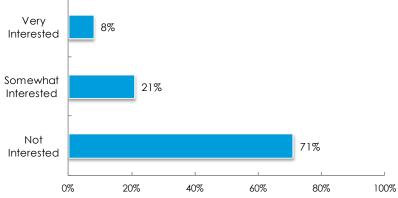


Figure AA-62 Adopt-a-park spot:





Appendix B – Parks & Recreational Facilities Inventory

### **Parks Inventory**

The City's system of parks and playgrounds is comprised of City-owned, school-owned and privately-owned properties. The park system provides ample opportunity for citizens to enjoy a wide variety of passive and active recreational opportunities. In addition to the recreational facilities within the City, the Swan Lake State Wildlife Area (east of the City) and Pine Island State Wildlife Area (southwest of the City) are both located less than two miles away. These wildlife areas provide the residents of the City with numerous recreational opportunities. However, since the refuge is located outside of the City limits and is owned by the state government, the wildlife area is not included in the inventory. The following provides brief descriptions of the City's recreation sites and shows the location of each park.

#### **Park Classification Definitions & Terms**

Community Parks: Generally Range from 10 - 99 acres in size. They may include areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complex and large swimming pools. The City could classify five (5) parks as a Community Park; including the Veteran's Memorial Fields and Columbia County Fairgrounds, Bruce A. Smith Little League Complex, Collipp-Worden Park, Pauquette Park, and Silver Lake Park.

Neighborhood Parks: Generally less than 10 acres in size and greater than 1 acre. The service radius for these parks is 3/4 miles. These types of parks usually attract user from a small service area and are provided primarily to meet the outdoor recreation demands of residents in the area. There are 11 such parks in the City; including Bluestar Park, Cattail Park, Goodyear Park, Highway 33 Wayside Park, Pine Meadows Park, Riverside Park, Silver Lake Park and Beach, Sanborn Park, Sunrise Park, Sunset Park, and Woodridge Park.

Natural Area/Undeveloped Sites: Natural area sites include lands which are preserved in their natural setting for conservation, research, recreational purposes, or lands not yet set for development as a park. Special use sites provide for spectator and participant activities, as well as provide facilities for unique recreational pursuits. There are a total of four (4) such areas. These areas are Northridge Park, Bluffview Park, Rolling Hills Country Estates, and Rolling Hills Park. The City was granted easements to access and use this land.

Mini Parks/Play Lots: Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific groups such as Tots or Senior Citizens. They should have a service area of 1/4 mile and be one acre or less in size. The City has three (3) parks measuring approximately one (1) acre or less; including Lincoln Park, Gunderson Park, and Commerce Plaza.

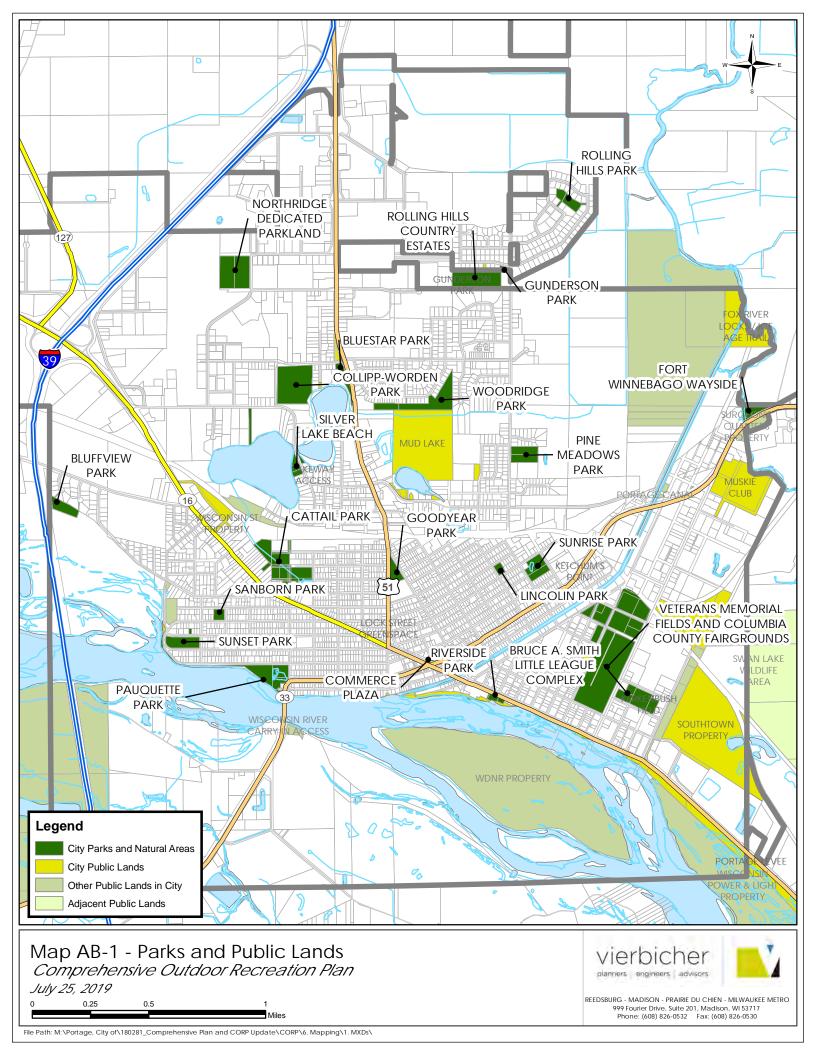
Additional terms used in the Plan include;

Accessibility: The ability of the public to physically reach, enter, or use recreational sites including parks and natural areas. This can refer to both the service area buffers around parks and natural areas, or design of public facilities with respect to persons with disabilities.

Multi-Use Path/Trail: A pathway, which may be paved or unpaved, and is physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier. Multi-use path activities may include walking, hiking, jogging, horseback riding, bicycling, and roller skating.

Active: Designed for leisure activities usually performed among groups of people, and often requiring equipment and taking place at prescribed places, sites, or fields.

Passive: Designed for recreational activities that generally do not require a developed site.



#### **Park Descriptions**

Map AB-1 shows the location of city parks and public open space. The following is a description of each public park.

#### **Bluestar Park**

This Neighborhood Park is located at 100 West Slifer Street. Blue Star Park is home to a Veterans Memorial and Killed in Action Memorial for the City of Portage and annually hosts the City of Portage Memorial Day Celebration. A gazebo, shelter, and picnic tables are located in this park.

#### Bruce A. Smith Little League Complex

Bruce A. Smith Little League Complex located at 1208 Coit Street is home to Portage Youth Baseball Inc. who operates and helps maintain the facility. This community park contains three youth baseball fields, a concession stand with restrooms and batting cages.

#### Cattail Park

This neighborhood park is located at 510 West Burns Street adjacent to St. Johns school. The park is equipped with a ball diamond backstop, play equipment and an open play area.

#### Collipp-Worden Park

This Community Park is named after Conrad Collipp who owned one of the first brickyards in Portage and the Worden Family who sold the property to the City of Portage in 1968.

Development of the park started in 1975 through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and the City. Collipp-Worden contains two rentable shelters, playground equipment, three basketball courts, two tennis courts, horse shoe pit, sand volleyball court and a 9 hole disc golf course.



Blue Star Park



Cattail Park



Collipp Worden Park



Collipp Worden Basketball Courts



Commerce Plaza



Gunderson Park



Goodyear Park Splash Pad



Lincoln Park

#### Commerce Plaza

This Mini Park is located in downtown Portage and was deemed a park by the Portage Common Council. The park is equipped with a bathroom facility with small canopy, park benches, trees, plant vegetation and flower beds. Located in the heart of downtown, this area is a beautiful natural scene in a busy downtown atmosphere.

#### **Gunderson Park**

This Mini Park is located at 574 Meadowlark Lane. This park is equipped with the 1st stretch of trail within the City of Portage park system and connects to a trail in the adjoining park parcel that winds behind Divine Savior Healthcare.

#### Goodyear Park

This Neighborhood Park was originally donated to the City in 1903 by D.A. Goodyear. Another addition to the park was deeded to the City by the Portage Community School District in 2012. Goodyear Park is home to the splash pad, skate park, playground equipment, two rent-able shelters and large green space areas along with two veteran monuments which pay tribute to the military.

The Portage Splash Pad was constructed within Goodyear Park in 2013 and is now open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend with operating hours of 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. Goodyear Park is also home to the Portage Family Skatepark constructed in 2016 with operating hours from 8:00 am to dusk.

#### Lincoln Park

This neighborhood park was donated by Chauncy J. Pettibone in 1874. A school was erected shortly afterwards and remained standing until the 1940's. This park is equipped with a small shelter, basketball court, picnic tables and play equipment.

#### Pauquette Park

This Neighborhood Park is the most picturesque park in Portage. It is located at the west entrance of the City at 900 West Conant Street. Pauquette Park bears the name of Pierre Pauquette, a famous fur trader/translator for the French and Native Americans who operated a ferry from 1828-1857; a marker is located near the Pauquette Park sign on the north side of the bridge to pay tribute.

Originally used as a brickyard, Pauquette Park was later dredged to form Bridal Pond. William Armstron, owner of "Armstron Brick Yard" obtained this land from the U.S. Government in 1869 and used it to produce bricks for the construction of homes in Portage. Attorney Charles H. Hall donated the land to the City of Portage in 1924. This park has two shelters and a gazebo that are all available for rent. Shelter #1 has an indoor restroom facility, picnic tables and electricity. Shelter #2 has two large permanent banquet style picnic tables and is adjacent a large playground structure.

#### Pine Meadow Park

This Neighborhood Park is located at 865 Hamilton Street. The park is equipped with a small shelter with electricity, picnic tables, tennis court, playground equipment and a large green space. A back stop is located at the far corner of the park for softball and baseball activities.



Pauquette Park



Pauquette Park Playground



Pine Meadow Park Playground



Riverside Park



Riverside Park Playground



Silver Lake Park Playground



Silver Lake Beach

#### Riverside Park

With the Wisconsin River just a few feet away, this Neighborhood Park has an appropriate name of Riverside.
Columbia County and some private land owners donated the land to the City of Portage in 1867. The shelter was erected in 1924 and the city slogan of "Where the North Begins" can be found on the top of the shelter. The park is located at 300 East Wisconsin Street. This is a wayside park with a large open shelter, picnic tables, and benches.

#### Sanborn Park

Home of the second brick yard in Portage, Sanborn Park is named after the Sanborn Brothers, James and Frank, who owned and operated the Sanborn Brick and Ice Company in the 1800's. This Neighborhood Park, located at 922 West Franklin Street, was used as a city dump after it was donated to the City in 1939 by Charles Smith. Today this park has a small shelter, basketball court, play equipment and green space.

#### Silver Lake Park and Beach

Silver Lake Beach is a Community Park staffed with lifeguards from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend. The beach is considered one of the finest beaches in the area by visitors and is a popular regional attraction. Silver Lake Beach was donated to the City of Portage in 1948. A boat landing, boat pier, accessible fishing pier and large parking lot are located in this park to aid the fisherman and water enthusiasts. Crappies, Large Mouth Bass, Blue Gills and Northern Pike are just a few of the fish that can be caught in Silver Lake. The park has an open air shelter, swimming area, changing house, water, electricity, picnic tables, and play equipment.

#### Sunrise Park

This Neighborhood Park is known to most Portage residents as "The Gully", Sunrise Park is our winter sledding area. The land sat vacant after the Jones Family donated the property to the City of Portage in 1933. The Portage Lions Club assisted in developing Sunrise Park in the early 70's through financial assistance from the Federal Land and Conservation Funds and the City of Portage. Today the "Gully" is equipped with picnic tables, a shelter, play equipment, and nature walking trail. It is located at 513 Hamilton Street.

#### Sunset Park

Originally owned by the Tenant Family, Sunset Park was donated to the City of Portage in 1931 by Zona Gale Breese and Eleanor Breese to be used solely for public park purposes. The stone wall and steps were landscaped by Betty Tenant through one of President Roosevelt's New Deal programs in the 1930's. This Neighborhood Park is located at 1217 West Pleasant Street and contains one picnic shelter, two flush toilet restrooms, electricity, cooking grill, picnic tables, horseshoe pit, tennis court and a large playground structure with swings. Sunset Park has a picturesque view of the Wisconsin River which can be seen by walking the gravel path to the peak of the park.

#### <u>Veterans Memorial Fields and Columbia</u> <u>County Fairgrounds</u>

This Community Park is located on the south side of the City at 300 Superior Street. This park is home to the Columbia County Fair, Portage Youth Soccer, Portage Little League Baseball, numerous ball field facilities for baseball, softball and soccer and several City events. Several buildings are available for rent for events and activities by contacting the office. Winter storage of vehicles and equipment is held annually from October through April at this location.



Sunrise Park



Sunset Park



Woodridge Park



Woodridge Park Playground

With a paid permit, overnight camping is allowed within in the complex for \$15 per night. The Fritz Port Dog Park is located within the complex adjacent to the Agriculture building at 800 Morgan Street and is open year round. A daily user fee or annual pass is required to use the dog park. Passes are available at the Park and Recreation office and daily passes may be paid at the park entrance.

#### Woodridge Park

This Neighborhood Park is located at 424 Winnebago Street on the north side of the City. The park has a small shelter, swings and playground equipment.

# Existing Park Amenities

The inventory of existing park amenities is shown below in Figure AB-1

Figure AB-1 Park Amenities

Park/Conservancy Name	Portage Park Amenities											
	Bluestar Park	Bruce A. Smith Little League Complex	Bluffview Park	Cattail Park	Collipp- Worden Park	Commerce Plaza			Highway 33 Wayside	Lincoln Park	Northridge	
Park/Conservancy Size (Acres)	1.79	7.62	3.74	14.53	15.1	0.26	2.74	0.45	2.51	1.01	11.36	
Park Classification	Neighbor- hood	Com- munity	Natural Area	Neighbor- hood	Com- munity	Mini-Park	Neighbor- hood	Mini-Park	Neighbor- hood	Mini- Park	Natural Area	
Accessible Off Street Parking					Χ							
Accessible Routes to Amenities	Х	Х			Χ	Х						
Backstop				Х	Х							
Baseball/Softball Diamond		Х										
Basketball					Х					Χ		
Batting Cage		Х										
Benches					Χ	Х	Х	Х				
Bike Rack												
Boat Launch												
Concessions		Х										
Disc Golf		<u> </u>			Х							
Dog Park					.,							
Drinking Water	Х				Х		Х					
Electricity	X	Х			X	Х	X			X		
Free Play Field	^	^		Х	X		X					
Gazebo	Х			^			^					
General Off Street Parking (Dedicated)	X	Х			Χ				Х			
	۸	٨			^	X	Х		^			
General Off Street Parking (Shared) Grills					V	^	X					
					X		X					
Horseshoe Area					Х							
Ice Skating							Х					
Informational Kiosk						Х						
Natural Area			Х	Х	Χ							
Picnic Tables	Х	Х		Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х		
Playground (Dedicated)		Х			Χ		Х	Χ		Х		
Playground (Shared)												
Restrooms		Х			Х	X	Х			Х		
Sand Box												
Shelter					Χ	Χ	Х					
Signage	Х	Х		Х	Χ	Χ	Х	Х		Χ		
Skate Park							X					
Small Open Air Shelter	Χ			Х	Χ		Х			Χ		
Soccer												
Splashpad							Х					
Tennis					Χ							
Trails								Χ				
Trash Can	Х	Х		Х	Х	X	Х	Χ	Х	Χ		
Volleyball					Х							
Water Access									Х			
Notes											City Brush Collectiion Site	

	Portage Park Amenities											
Park/Conservancy Name	Pauquette Park	Pine Meadows Park	Riverside Park	Rolling Hills Country Estates	Rolling Hills Park	Sanborn Park	Silver Lake Park and Beach	Sunrise Park (The Gully)	Sunset Park	Veterans Memorial Field and Columbia County Fairgrounds	Woodridge Park	Totals
Park/Conservancy Size (Acres)	9.2	5.13	1.58	10.59	3.27	1.38	2.06	4.56	4.46	38.52	10.68	152.54
Park Classification	Com- munity	Neighbor- hood	Neighbor- hood	Natural Area	Natural Area	Neighbor- hood	Com- munity	Neighbor hood	Neighbor- hood	Community	Neighbor- hood	
Accessible Off Street Parking	Χ		Χ				Χ		Х			5
Accessible Routes to Amenities	Χ		Х			Х	Х		Х	Х		10
Backstop	Χ	Χ						Χ				5
Baseball/Softball Diamond		Х								Х		3
Basketball	Χ					Χ				Х		5
Batting Cage												1
Benches	Χ	Х	Х			Х	Х		Х		Х	11
Bike Rack							Х					1
Boat Launch							X					1
Concessions							X			Х		3
Disc Golf										^		1
Dog Park										Х		1
Drinking Water						Х	Х			Λ		5
Electricity	X	Х	Х			Λ	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	14
Free Play Field	^	X	^			Х	^	^	^	X	^	6
Gazebo	X	^				^				^		2
			V				Х		Х	V		9
General Off Street Parking (Dedicated)	X		Х				λ		۸	Х		3
General Off Street Parking (Shared)	X								V			
Grills	X								X			4
Horseshoe Area									Х			2
Ice Skating	X											2
Informational Kiosk												1
Natural Area				Х	Х			X				6
Picnic Tables	Х	Х	Х			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	17
Playground (Dedicated)	Χ	Х				Χ	Х	Х	Х		Х	12
Playground (Shared)												0
Restrooms	Χ						Х		Х	Х		9
Sand Box												0
Shelter	Χ		Χ				Χ		Χ	Х		8
Signage	Χ	Х	Х			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	17
Skate Park												1
Small Open Air Shelter	Χ	Χ				Х		X			X	10
Soccer										Χ		1
Splashpad												1
Tennis		Х							Χ			3
Trails	Χ		Χ	X				Х	Х			6
Trash Can	Χ	Х	Х			Х	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	18
Volleyball												1
Water Access	Χ						Χ					3
Notes							Lifeguard House, public swimming beach, fishing pier, boat pier		Wisconsin River Overlook	Multi-use fields, grandstand, multiple large garage facilities		

## **Trails Inventory**

Map AB-2 shows the location of existing and proposed City multi-use trails as well as existing and proposed bike lanes. Map AB-3 is a combined map showing both City parks as well as City multi-use trails and bike lanes.

