

NOTICE

A meeting of the City of Evansville Park and Recreation Board will be held on the date and time stated below. Notice is further given that members of the City Council and Historic Preservation Commission may be in attendance. Requests for persons with disabilities who need assistance to participate in this meeting should be made by calling City Hall at (608)-882-2266 with as much notice as possible.

City of Evansville **Park and Recreation Board**
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 31 S Madison St., Evansville, WI 53536
Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 6:00 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Motion to Approve Agenda
4. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the September 19, 2023 meeting and approve them as printed.
5. Civility Reminder
6. Citizen appearances other than agenda items listed
7. New Business
 - A. Discussion for Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan 2025-2030.
8. Park's Report
9. Aquatic Center Report
10. Old Business
 - A. Aquatic Center, Splashpad, and Park Improvement Updates
 - B. Adopt-A-Park Signs
11. Upcoming Meetings
 - A. Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:00pm
12. Motion to Adjourn

-Aldersperson Cory Neeley, Park & Recreation Board Chair

City of Evansville **Park and Recreation Board**
 Regular Meeting
 City Hall, 31 S Madison St., Evansville, WI 53536
 Tuesday, September 19, 2023, 6:00 pm

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Neeley called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. **Roll Call**

3. Members	Present/Absent	Others Present
Alderson Cory Neeley	P	Jason Sergeant, City Administrator
Sue Merrit	P	Ray Anderson, Parks Custodian
Lyman Fuson	P	
Chad Sigl	P	
Matt Poock	A	
Jim Espinosa	A	
Gene Prudhon	A	

4. **Motion to Approve Agenda by Sigl, seconded by Fuson. Motion passed 4-0.**

5. **Motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the July 18, 2023 meeting and approve them as printed by Fuson, seconded by Sigl. Motion passed 4-0.**

6. **Civility Reminder:** Neeley issued a reminder that we hold all city meetings with respect and decorum.

7. **Citizen appearances other than agenda items listed:** None

8. **New Business**

A. Ride the Parks Event – October 8th 2pm to 4pm

Sergeant shared that the Capital Campaign Committee is about \$70-\$80,000 away from the fundraising goal. The Committee wants to hold this event to help bring more awareness to the project, receive some additional donations, and to see the progress at both parks. The plan is to start at Lake Leota Park and end at West Side Park, with a visit to all of the city parks in between. For those that attend, they will receive a free day pass to the new pool next year.

B. Bench Sponsorship Program

Sergeant reported that this had previously come up about 5-6 years ago. People want to donate benches all the time. Historic Preservation had guidelines as to how the bench should look like, and came up with a standard process. With the new Park Improvement Project, there will be a large amount of benches ordered. The plan would be to use the donation money from those that want to name the benches, towards the Capital Campaign for West Side Park. The cost of the bench with all of the labor would be about \$2,500-\$3000. Sergeant feels that there are a lot of places around the community that could also have benches installed. The plan would be that the city would maintain them for 20 years.

9. **Park's Report:** Anderson reported that St. John's completed a park clean up at all of the parks on September 10th. The summer help is over, with the exception of one employee. Scott Fredrickson made Wind Prairie sign, and there was discussion about where to place the sign.

The minutes are not finalized until approved at the next regular Park Board meeting.

The old pool demolition will be starting soon. There was some additional discussion about a dead oak by the Bell Tower, and other dead trees by Anderson's office. There is a plan to remove the dead trees this year. Anderson mentioned that the soccer club used to be charged \$1000/year for field maintenance and hasn't been since Covid. There was discussion on the cost and placement for temporary restrooms at parks and the cemetery. Sergeant shared that Chapter 86 of the Municipal Code is in need of an overhaul. The plan is to look at the cost of upkeep of each item and come up with a fair and consistent fee schedule for all of the organization. The goal is to have a standard form that will allow for documentation for organizations that want to be exempt from fees. Sigl mentioned that most of the organizations would be able to adapt if they were to have a heads up.

10. Aquatic Center Report: Sergeant reported that Angie Olson had been instructed to go through everything at the pool and figure out if anything could be used at the new facility. If anything could be used again, it was stored in the Park Store. The soccer club has been warned that there may be times that the fencing gets stretched out and may hinder parking.

11. Old Business

A. Aquatic Center, Splashpad, and Park Improvement Updates

The condition of the soccer fields at West Side Park are still being worked out between the city, the architect, and the contractor. Construction on the new pool is on or maybe even ahead of schedule. There was additional discussion on the stormwater runoff with the amount of concrete that is at the West Side Park.

B. Adopt-A-Park Signs Anderson reported that he believes that there was a sample sign to pick up, but he had forgotten to pick it up.

12. Upcoming Meetings

A. Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6:00pm

13. Motion to Adjourn by Fuson, seconded by Sigl. Motion passed at 6:32pm 4-0.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Elle Natrop*

Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan 2020 – 2025



City of Evansville, WI
Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan
Updated September 2020



Acknowledgements

Evansville Park and Recreation Board

Ald. Joy Morrison, Chair

Jim Espinosa

Lyman Fuson

Darrell Hamilton

Sue Merritt

Gene Prudhon

Matt Pook

EVANSVILLE PLAN COMMISSION

Mayor Bill Hurtley, Chair

Ald. Rick Cole

Ald. Erika Stuart

Susan Becker

John Gishnock

Bill Hammann

Mike Scarmon

EVANSVILLE COMMON COUNCIL

Mayor Bill Hurtley

Ald. Bill Lathrop - 1st District

Ald. Rick Cole - 1st District

Ald. Erika Stuart - 2nd District

Ald. Jim Brooks - 2nd District

Ald. Gene Lewis - 3rd District

Ald. Ben Ladick - 3rd District

Ald. Dianne Duggan - 4th District

Ald. Joy Morrison - 4th District

EVANSVILLE STAFF

Ian Rigg, City Administrator/ Finance Director

Jason Sergeant, Community Development Director

Ray Anderson, Parks Superintendent

Brian Berquist, City Engineer

All photos by Jason Sergeant, unless otherwise noted

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Chapter 1.

Introduction

Purpose of This Plan

Park land and open space serve many important functions in a community. By providing space and facilities for active and passive outdoor recreation, parks can serve a concise neighborhood area, a portion of the City, a whole community, or an entire region. Open space can take the form of parks, greenbelts, wetlands, and floodplains, and may be either privately or publicly owned. Open space can serve many functions for a community in addition to recreation, including:

- Preserving scenic and natural resources
- Mitigating flood issues
- Protecting the area's water resources
- Preserving prime agricultural land
- Limiting development that may create hazards
- Buffering incompatible land uses
- Structuring the urban environment

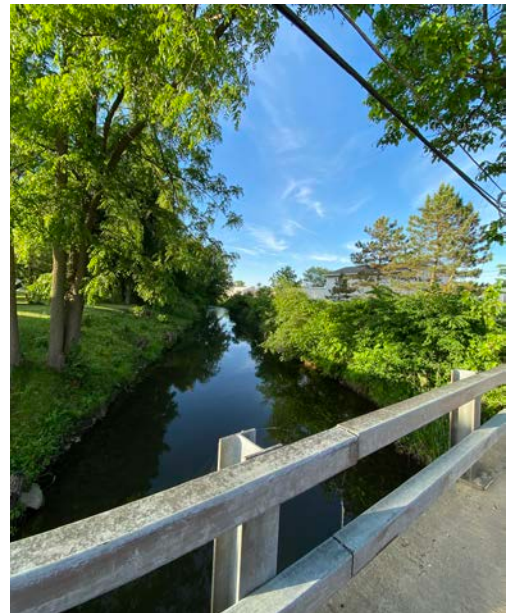


FIGURE 1.1: ALLEN CREEK AT CHURCH ST

This Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan for the City of Evansville is an expression of the community's goals, comprising current and future needs and demands for parks and recreational facilities. The intent of this document is to plan for the maintenance, improvement, and expansion of Evansville's recreational and open space resources. The Plan outlines strategies to manage existing resources wisely and to develop new resources to meet future needs and demands.

The specific purpose of this Plan is to guide the development and improvement of the City's parks and outdoor recreation facilities over the next five years (2020-2025) to meet local recreational needs and demands. The recommendations detailed in this Plan are based on the extensive public input received by city staff during this process. This Plan will be used to present the community's preferences and needs as well as City decision makers have extensive understanding of the resources available for implementing policies and programs recommended by members of the public. Public policy decisions are contingent upon funding sources, budget priorities, and changing community demographics and needs. For this reason, the Plan should be reviewed annually, and a detailed update should be completed every five years.

The update to and adoption of the Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan is also important in allowing the City to be eligible for various State and Federal park and recreation grants. Some of these grant funds include the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Knowles Nelson Stewardship Fund, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON), the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP) program, the Urban Green Space (UGS) program, and the Urban River Grants program. Chapter 6 and 7 provide additional information on funding opportunities.

The City of Evansville has the responsibility for implementing this Plan, including acquisition, improvement and development of outdoor recreation areas. Policy decisions made by the City's Park and Recreation Board (PRB), Plan Commission (PC), and Common Council for park programs and improvements shall be guided by the goals and recommendations of this adopted Plan. Actual public policy decisions or choices are contingent on funding sources, new opportunities and ideas, evolving growth patterns, budget priorities, and changing community desires and needs.

The development and continual updating of the Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan such as this becomes a valuable asset to the community and contributes to its stability and attractiveness. Updating this Plan on a regular cycle, keeping it less than five years old, is also a requirement of the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for a community to be eligible for matching government funds for park land acquisition and facility improvements. But just as importantly, throughout this plan the City of Evansville sets a course of action for continued improvement of its parks and outdoor recreation system.

Methodology

The City of Evansville Park and Recreation Board (PRB) assumes responsibility to help develop, adopt, and recommend a Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan to the Plan Commission and City Council. This Plan was updated by the Community Development Director, with assistance from PRB members and other City staff. To develop the Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan the following planning process was followed:

Step 1: Plan for Planning

City staff worked with the PRB, beginning in 2018, to create a planning timeline that would meet the community's needs. The PRB kicked-off the planning process with a public survey available around the community, on paper, and online.

Step 2: Inventory Collection and Analysis

This stage of the planning process included reviewing other existing planning documents related to parks and recreation in Evansville; analyzing current demographic data and population projections; gathering an inventory of the existing physical conditions of the City; conducting an inventory of existing park and recreational facilities; and utilizing this information and State park and recreation standards to predict needs for future park and recreational facilities. The results of this inventory collection and analysis are encompassed in Chapters 2, 3, and 4.

Step 3: Public Input

Public engagement was emphasized throughout the planning process to ensure that the entire spectrum of community needs was addressed by Plan recommendations. Public input efforts included a public opinion survey, activities at public forums, public informational meetings, “Coffee with the Parks” workshops, meetings with stakeholder groups, and in-person discussions with park users were completed to encourage community input from all ages. These activities and their findings are discussed in detail in Chapter 5.



FIGURE 1.2: COFFEE WITH THE PARKS

Step 4: Plan Development

City staff developed Plan policy, program, and project recommendations based on input from the public, PRB members, and elected officials. PRB and PC members then prioritized recommendations based on a number of criteria.

Step 5: Public Hearing and Plan Adoption

The PRB reviewed this Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan at its meeting and referred it to the Plan Commission on July 21, 2020. The Plan Commission held a public hearing for the adoption of the Plan on August 4, 2020 and recommended approval to the City Council. The City Council approved the Plan through resolution on September 8, 2020. The resolution adopting this Plan is shown in Chapter 8.

Step 6: Plan Implementation

Several methods and procedures were proposed by the PRB to assist in Plan implementation. Implementation strategies are highlighted in Chapter 7. It is critical that implementation of the Plan be monitored, and a number of Plan recommendations emphasize strategies for monitoring implementation.

The Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan is a “living” document for the future. Therefore, if situations change and decisions are made which are contrary to the adopted Plan, the Plan should be amended. Amendments to the Plan should be adopted by the City Council, based on recommendations by the PRB and the Plan Commission.

It should also be noted that this Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan is just that - a plan. This Plan is based on the best judgment of the PRB, Plan Commission, Common Council, and City staff, based on the information that was available at the time of Plan development. Significant public input was gathered during the planning process and taken into account during Plan development. The Plan does not represent, however, a commitment by the City of Evansville to complete any particular project during the five-year planning period. As with any plan, implementation of the recommendations encompassed within this Plan is dependent upon adequate financial and staff resources made available by the City Council through taxation, user fees, grant funds, private donations, and resources that may be identified in the future. This Plan is intended to serve as a guide for decision-making related to maintenance, improvement, and expansion of park and recreation facilities in the City when such resources are available.

Chapter 2.

Summary of Related Plans

This Plan builds upon past iterations of the City's Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan, while taking into account inventory and recommendations included in other plans that pertain to the City. It is important for decision makers to be familiar with other related plans and their relationship to this planning effort.

Past City of Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plans

The first Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan for the City was prepared and adopted in 1994. This plan was then updated in 1999, 2007, and 2013. This Plan updates the 2013 version with an overlook of accomplishments since its adoption, as well as a look to the future of Evansville's parks and outdoor recreation. This Plan is to supply guidance for the development and improvement of the City's parks and outdoor recreation facilities over the next five years (2020-2025).



Figure 2.1 Leonard-Leota Park Rebuilt Fireplace in 2020

Evansville is one of the fastest growing communities in Wisconsin. Residents enjoy seven City parks and an excellent geographical location between Madison and Janesville. During summers, Evansville residents participate in outdoor recreation such as swimming, myriad sports, boating, bicycling, fishing, and walking/hiking. During winter months activities include cross country skiing, ice fishing, sledding, snowmobiling, shoveling and ice skating. Public input gathered for the most recent update to this plan demonstrated an overall satisfaction with the current parks. Public input also revealed opportunities to improve myriad pedestrian connections to parks, expand recreation options, and improve general maintenance efforts. Priorities and opportunities identified in the 2013 plan update served as a "to do list" for the city and were the foundation to many improvement to City parks in the last five years.

Improvements made within Leonard-Leota Park during the 2007 to 2013 time period included repairs to the swimming pool, athletic fields, historic structures, Allen Creek, and Lake Leota. The Lower Park Area had many improvements including; building restorations, upgraded water lines,

a new batting cage was installed, stonework restoration, and upgraded bleachers at the ball diamonds. Major highlights that were done with the help of community organizations during the 2007-2013 time period were; the restoration of the Baker Office Building with the Grove Society, concession stand improvements with the Jays, installation of bat houses with the Eagle Scouts and two flagpole restorations one with the Jays and the other with the Grove Society. Additionally, The Antes Cabin was restored in the Lower Park and the Leonard-Leota Park to the National Register of Historical Places.

In November 2008, an advisory referendum posed the question “Shall the Evansville Common Council approve spending an amount not to exceed \$2 million in order to restore Lake Leota?” Evansville residents showed their overwhelming favor for the dredging project by a vote of 1742 in favor, 749 against, and 87 non-votes.



FIGURE 2.2 LAKE LEOTA IN 2020 FROM BANDSTAND

There were 180,000 cubic yards of sediment removed, shoreland restoration, fish restocking and the beginning of Allen Creek's wall restoration. The removal of the sediment restored Lake Leota to its original 8'-15' depth. Lake Leota was officially re-dedicated with a ceremonial ribbon cutting, canoe parade, and fireworks at the start of the 2009 Fourth of July celebration. Work continues to ensure the Lake's long-term success.

Save our Lake Environment (SOLE) has engaged in a fish stocking program, and the park has undergone significant shoreline beautification, including general cleanup, weed eradication, landscaping, and native planting improvements.

Countryside Park saw many improvements to the playground and outdoor recreation areas. There was a construction project to put restrooms at the park; these were not previously available, and this was the only neighborhood park. There was new playground equipment installed. There were also bleachers installed for the soccer field. The installation included both player bleachers and increased seating for spectators.

Improvements at Westside Park during the 2007-2013 time period included two soccer fields created and maintained for public and club use, playground equipment installed, a parking lot constructed and an identification sign installed at the entrance of the park. There were also restrooms constructed at the park.

Improvements since the 2013 Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan

Similar to the changes seen between 2007 and 2013, there have been a number of improvements and accomplishments since the 2013 plan update. City of Evansville residents' long-standing legacy of community involvement and strong volunteer ethic has played a major role in the implementation of past park improvements and will continue to play an integral role in the future. These improvements were detailed with the assistance of the Parks Custodian and the Park Board.

The list of accomplishments and improvements since the last Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan is below.



Figure 2.3: Restored Duck House in 2020

Leonard-Leota Park

- Allen Creek wall restoration project continued
- Installed a disc golf course
- Resurfaced tennis Courts
- Skylights installed in some bathrooms
- South (Lower) Diamond backstop replaced and relocated
- Historic Assessment and overview of park completed
- Replaced roof on Park Store
- Rewired and restored fireplace operation in Scout House
- Preliminary study completed to assess options to replace and repair Aquatic Center
- Reconstruction of one of two fireplaces
- Reconstruction of one of two duck houses

Countryside Park

- Identified a handicapped parking space on Countryside Drive in front of the park
- Planted more trees
- Installed a new play structure

West Side Park

- Installed additional picnic tables
- Planted trees
- Constructed a shelter
- Acquired an additional 10 acres of land adjacent to the park
- Created additional soccer fields
- Created master Plan with three options for future development of the park

Brzezinski Park

- Installed accessible swing sets
- Installed accessible picnic table

- Installed sidewalk on North side of park

Peace Park

- Constructed a Labryinth
- Installed hard surface walking path
- Installed little free library
- Installed flower garden and landscaping
- Installed bench

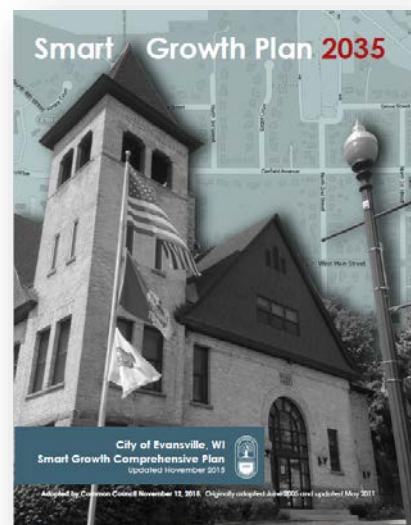
City of Evansville 2035 Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan

The City of Evansville's award-winning Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2005 and a major update to the City's Comprehensive Plan has been adopted since 2015. The City developed the Plan to have a more effective tool to address the City's rapid growth rate and desire to maintain its small town charm. The Plan addresses the required plan elements, including issues and opportunities, housing, transportation, utilities and community facilities, economic development, land use, natural and cultural resources, intergovernmental cooperation, and implementation. As part of the planning process, the City created an overall vision for the community, which emphasizes the importance of cooperation between the government, private sector, citizens, and civic organizations. This vision also calls out the importance of the City's natural resources. These themes continued to emerge throughout this park and recreation planning process.

Park and recreation issues are present throughout most elements of the City's Comprehensive Plan. A few key areas in which park and recreation activities and facilities are addressed include:

- Recommendations in the Transportation Element that a multi-use trail be developed and that Evansville continue to improve its walkability. Bicycling facilities and bicycle friendly city transportation are key ways that the City is looking to make the community a more bicycle friendly environment.
- A recommendation in the Utilities and Community Facilities Element to locate parks and open spaces throughout the community to ensure all neighborhoods have access to these resources.
- A recommendation in the Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Element to preserve the most significant aspects of the natural resource base. Recreational opportunity along the environmental corridor is also identified by implementing a trail for walking and bicycling.
- An opportunity was identified in the community for a bicycle and walking trail that would be an extension of the Ice Age Trail through Evansville. The trail would create outdoor recreation opportunities to the

FIGURE 2.4:



residents as well as encourage commercial activities along the path this would align with the Economic Development Element.

Rock County 2015-2020 Parks, Outdoor Recreation, and Open Space Plan

Rock County updated its Parks, Outdoor Recreation, and Open Space Plan in 2015. Many of the recommendations contained within that Plan are relevant to Evansville's park and outdoor recreation planning process, as City residents are served by the Rock County Parks System.

Evansville residents are fortunate to have two unique Rock County parks located in close proximity to the City. Magnolia Bluff Park, located about 6.25 miles southwest of Evansville, is a roughly 120-acre park. It is classified as a County Regional Recreation Area. It houses hiking trails, equestrian trails, parking, restrooms, water pumps, fire pits, and grills.

Gibbs Lake is located approximately 7 miles east of Evansville. Gibbs Lake is considered a County Regional Open Space Park with passive recreation opportunities. It is the largest park in the Rock County system with approximately 299 acres of land. Gibbs Lake Park houses picnic areas, rest rooms, parking, trails, lake access, water dock, park grills, water pumps, and bench shelters. Many of the Gibbs Lake trails are equestrian friendly.

The Rock County POROS Plan's focus is on creating more outdoor recreation opportunities for their residents as well as maintaining and creating green space within the community. These areas relate to the Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan and will be an area of interest within the plan that is outlined in this document. Evansville will continue to work within this scope to help complement the efforts done by Rock County.

Wisconsin 2011-2016 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

The State of Wisconsin, much like units of government within the State, updates its Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) every five years. The recommendations of the SCORP can be useful for local governments to understand while developing their respective park and outdoor recreation plans. The most recent iteration of the SCORP covers the years 2011-2016. On the DNR website there is an overview of the 2017 plan and what is to be included in that five-year update, however there is not a copy available at this time.

A key fact highlighted by the 2011-2016 SCORP is that 87% of Wisconsinites participate in some form of outdoor recreation. This means that a vast majority of Wisconsinites are using park and recreational resources. The SCORP provides a great deal of information on trends in outdoor recreation and highlights the percentages of residents participating in a variety of recreational activities. The SCORP also provides information on trends in recreation, including the activities with the highest percentage increase in participation rates over the past 15 years. The top growth Wisconsin recreation activities by percentage from 1994-2009 were handball or racquetball outdoors, soccer outdoors, kayaking, surfing, football, horseback riding, mountain/rock climbing, use of personal watercraft, golf, and snowboarding. This information can be useful to City of Evansville decision-makers when developing recommendations for the City Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Two key themes of note found throughout the 2011-2016 SCORP include public health and wellness and public-private partnerships. These concepts are consistent with and complementary to the City of Evansville's Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan. As the relationship between public health and land use planning continues to grow, planning documents will increasingly emphasize the importance of the built environment in promoting public health. The City's Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan incorporates information and recommendations relating to a variety of active recreational facilities and opportunities, which will have the possibility of positively impacting the health and wellness of City residents.

According to the DNR website, the future focus for the SCORP will include nature-based recreation and learning activities. They are working on collecting recreation participation data from approximately 6400 Wisconsin residents. This includes surveys at park properties, asking about specific activity involvements and visitor's satisfaction specifically with travel-related spending. They plan to use their public input data within the scope of pursuing more nature-based recreation activities.

With the expansion of the Ice Age Trail going through the City of Evansville, our parks and nature preserves could be highlighted by the state comprehensive parks and outdoor recreation plan. It also gives the City a scope of where the trend of outdoor recreation is going. Nature based activities have been included in our public input survey, and we will be exploring our supply and needs in this capacity in this Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan Update.

The City of Evansville has a very strong volunteer ethic, as evidenced by the myriad volunteer groups and strong civic participation in the community. As both this chapter and subsequent chapters of this Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan demonstrate, many of the desired improvements to the City's Park System are proposed to be achieved through public-private partnerships. Much like many of the recommendations encompassed in the SCORP, certain goals and improvements recommended by Evansville's Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan will only be attainable with volunteer involvement and private support.

Westside Park Master Plan

Three conceptual alternatives were generated for this study. In July 2018 the Park Board was presented each concept and through discussion, concepts were slightly refined into their final versions to include:

- Alternative A attempts to implement all the programming in the WSPC report in the fashion originally imagined by the West Side Committee, which includes a cloverleaf baseball field arrangement.
- Alternative B builds on the existing park layout by leaving the soccer fields in their current location. Softball/baseball fields are added to the west in the expanded park area while trails and other amenities are added in strategic locations.

- Alternative C takes a fresh look at the park and arranges sports amenities around the existing park infrastructure in the northeast corner.



FIGURE 2.5: DRAFT CONCEPT "C" FOR WEST SIDE PARK EXPANSION

Pool Assessment

Highlights from the 2017 Report's Findings:

- The pool is 60 years old, most Midwest outdoor pools have a 30-40 year life.
- The original structure is in fair condition but requires yearly maintenance.
- The Bathhouse/Filter building is passed its useful life and is in poor condition.
- The Filtration system is failing, there are only 5 working filters remaining.
- Play equipment is deteriorating, both the large orange slide and the diving board should be replaced.
- There isn't adequate room in the Pool Office, Filter Room or Basket Room for the activities and traffic the pool has.
- The filtration system is not able to sustain an appropriate flow rate for the size and use of the pool.
- The original pool deck is cracking and falling apart. This is a safety and ADA issue.
- Chemical Storage does not have the proper ventilation or space for the chemicals stored on-site.
- The walls of the bath house are falling apart and pose a safety issue
- The current depth of the pool is not suitable for competitive swimming (flip turns should be performed in 3ft or more.)
- The Bathhouse building is in poor condition, with multiple current code and functional deficiencies, and should be the first priority to be addressed.
- The Park Store is in overall good condition but is under utilized.

- An above-grade pool mechanical room would allow for a more efficient filtration system, and safer and better access for the delivery of chemicals.
- The current filtration system should be replaced by fewer, larger models to reach and maintain proper flow rate.

Facility Code Issues:

- Drinking fountains: There are (2) existing drinking fountains and neither are mounted at an ADA-compliant height.
- Access to Office: Door hardware is non-compliant. The door between the Manager's Office and the Check-in area is not wide enough; it should be 3'-0" wide.
- Access to Chemical Storage and Filter Room: All door hardware is non-compliant. Stairway and handrail are non-compliant. Stairway treads and risers do not meet the required dimensions, and handrail should be continuous.
- Code requires at least one lavatory to have insulated pipes or other protection, which is not present.
- In the accessible toilet stall, the toilet is too close to the side wall.
- There are no ADA-compliant signs at the entrances.
- Showers are sharing floor drains. Code requires individual drains for each shower.
- There is not a floor drain in the toilet area.
- PVC supply piping does not meet current code.

Park Store Code Issues:

- There is not an ADA-accessible entrance to the Concessions building.
- Door widths, threshold heights, and door hardware are not ADA accessible.

Parking Code Issues:

- There are (3) parking spaces marked as accessible spaces; only one is required for this size of a parking lot. However, it would need to be van-accessible. The existing spaces do not comply in several ways: the ground surface slopes are too great, there is not an accessible aisle to the sides of the spaces, and the signage is not mounted at the correct height.

Bathroom Code Issues:

- The lavatories need a single-tempered water supply or hot and cold supplies. Currently, only cold water serves the lavatories.
- The shower stalls need one floor drain per showerhead. Currently, two floor drains serve six showers.
- A hose connection is not present.
- A floor drain is not present in the locker room. The stall type urinal currently functions as a floor drain.
- Although much of the waste and vent piping is concealed, it does not appear that an adequate number of vents are present. Typically, each fixture has individual vents.

- Sections of PEX piping are exposed to sunlight, which is contrary to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Leonard-Leota Park 2018 Condition Inventory

City Staff requested the Historic Preservation Commission Chairperson (Dan Stephans, Architect) inventory the Park's condition in 2018. This inventory identified several areas that should be a high priority for repair, including completing rebuild of creek elements and general maintenance on all of the buildings. The East Lagoon Duckhouse needs repair and reinforcement. The item of most concern was the condition of the band stand and warming house. Stephans recommended a structural analysis and restoration plan for this building be prioritized. The full inventory can be found in the Appendix.



FIG. 2.6: WARMING HOUSE DETERIORATION

Leonard-Leota Park 2009 Landscape Concepts

Formecology, LLC drafted a series of concept idea for landscaping around the newly reconstructed Lake Leota. Although these plans are a decade old, they are relevant to some of the opportunities and challenges found at Leonard-Leota Park.

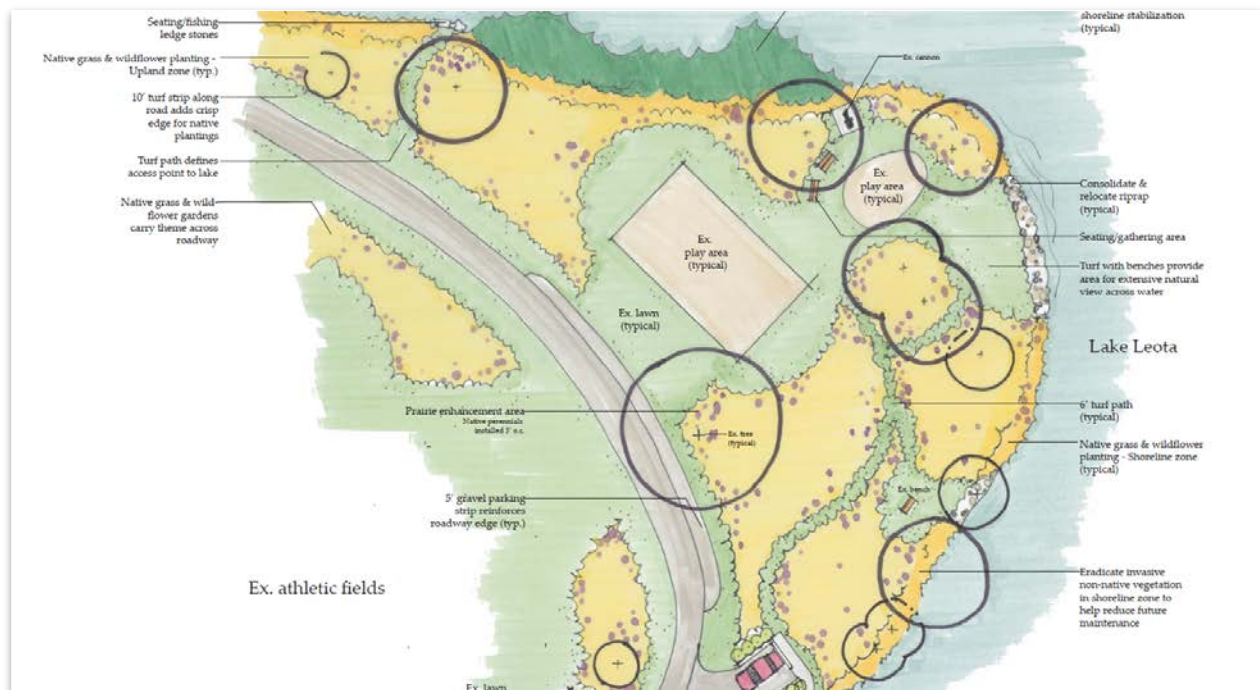


FIG. 2.7: EXCERPT OF 2009 LEONARD LEOTA LANDSCAPE PLAN

Chapter 3.

Description of the Planning Area

In developing a Parks and Outdoor Recreation Plan, it is critical to evaluate the existing natural, physical, and social environment of the community. Physical features, land use patterns, transportation systems, and natural resources of an area can represent opportunities. Other social factors such as population demographics and growth projections also influence the type, location, and intensity of land uses. This Parks and Outdoor Recreation Plan will take into consideration the following inventory of the natural, physical, and social environment of Evansville when developing the Plan's goals, policies, and infrastructure recommendations for park and recreation facilities.

Location

The City of Evansville is located in the southern portion of the Town of Union in northwestern Rock County, four miles south of the Rock and Dane County line. Evansville is located midway between three urban centers: Madison (23 miles to the north), Janesville (20 miles to the southeast), and Beloit (26 miles to the south). Distances to other metropolitan areas include 50 miles to Rockford, IL, 90 miles to Milwaukee, and 130 miles to Chicago, IL. Consequently, Evansville's geographic location provides convenient access to the markets, suppliers, services, and opportunities of larger urban areas.



FIGURE 3.1: PADDLE BOAT ON LEOTA (CITY FILE)

Four major vehicular transportation routes serve the City of Evansville: US Highway 14 connects Madison and Janesville, State Highway 59 connects Monroe and Edgerton, State Highway 213 connects Beloit, and County Trunk Highway C goes west and connects Monticello. Additionally, the Union Pacific Railroad provides freight rail service and connects Janesville and Chicago to the City.

Climate

The climate of Rock County and the Evansville planning area is continental, characterized by warm, humid summers and relatively long winters. The variable weather is a result of the alternating high and low-pressure systems accompanied by prevailing westerly winds. The frequent

interaction of cold, dry northern air masses and warm, moist southern air masses contributes to the changing weather conditions resulting in four distinct seasons. Spring and fall are characterized by cool temperatures with short, scattered showers. The summer months are characterized by warm, humid conditions with periodic thunderstorms. The winter months are characterized by cold temperatures with numerous snowfall events. Warm weather recreational activities in the area include swimming, boating, fishing, and hiking. Cold weather activities include cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, ice fishing, and ice skating. The four seasons afford residents of and visitors to the planning area a diversity of outdoor recreation options.

Topography

Past glacial activity in the Evansville planning area formed three distinct glacial features. The terminal moraine, the outwash plain, and the morainal drift area are responsible for the varying topography and drainage patterns in the area.

The Johnstown Moraine, a NW-SE belt of hummocky topography, lies north of the City of Evansville. This kettle hole topography is represented by two relief forms: depressions and hills with local relief of 920 to 1,000 feet. Many depressions occur throughout the Moraine, some of which may be filled with water to form small kettles.

South of the Johnstown Moraine is an apron of flat outwash plains, which extends southeasterly across the City. Relief in this extensive outwash plain is minute, varying from 870 to 920 feet. The topography in the remainder of the Evansville planning area, approximately the west and southwest borders of the area, is a result of differential erosion of the bedrock. The terrain in this area is characterized by deep valleys cut into sandstone and ridges underlain by dolomite.

Soils

Soil is the most influential physical feature for agricultural and urban development. The soils' physical properties such as texture, structure, and moisture content determine suitability for various land use activities.

Four general soil associations exist in the Evansville planning area. The soils upon which much of the City is built are deep and moderately deep, well drained and moderately well drained, nearly level to sloping soils that have a silty clay loam to sandy clay loam subsoil. These soils have been formed over glacial outwash deposits, consisting of stratified sand and gravel at a depth of three to six feet. Agriculturally, the soils for this association are very productive for a wide variety of farm products. The substratum is a good source of sand and gravel extraction. However, because of the porous substratum, a danger exists of groundwater pollution by effluent from sewerage systems and of nitrate pollution from fertilizer applications.

The soils found in the central and southern parts of the City limits are moderately deep, poorly drained and somewhat poorly drained, nearly level and gently sloping soils that have a mainly clay loam to loam subsoil. These soils have been formed over glacial outwash deposits, consisting of stratified sand and gravel. A high groundwater table, zero to three feet from the soil surface, necessitates proper drainage in agricultural production, building construction, and sewage disposal. Wet soils that have not been drained are in pasture or wildlife habitat.

To the north of the City the soils are deep, well drained and moderately well drained, nearly level to steep soils that have a sandy clay loam to silty clay loam subsoil over sandy loam glacial till. These soils are prevalent on the fill plains of the hill and kettle topography with gravely, sandy loam glacial till 30 to 65 inches below the surface. Soils on level slopes are very productive for agriculture, whereas steeper slopes are usually wooded. There are few limitations for sewerage systems on level soils; however, lateral seepage of effluent to the surface occurs on steeper slopes. Additionally, steeper slopes are subject to erosion.

The soils in the western and northwestern sections of the planning area are shallow and moderately deep, well drained, nearly level to very steep soils that have a mainly clay and clay loam subsoil over dolomite bedrock. These soils have been formed on ridgetops and side slopes of natural drainage ways with dolomite rock 20 to 40 inches below the surface. Soils on level slopes are productive for agriculture, whereas steeper slopes are usually wooded. Major soils in this association are not suitable for sewage systems because of the underlying bedrock. Natural fissures and crevasses in the dolomite increase the danger of groundwater contamination by unfiltered effluent moving through the bedrock.

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) rates soils according to their potential agricultural productivity based on a wide variety of soil characteristics. There are eight categories in this classification system with Unit I soils being the most productive and Unit VIII soils the least productive. Units I, II, and III soils are typically considered prime agricultural soils, as they have exceptional capabilities for agricultural production and require minimal special management practices. Over 95 percent of the soils in the planning area are considered prime agricultural lands.

Water Resources

Water resources in the Evansville planning area include both groundwater and surface water. The groundwater provides public and private water supplies, while the surface waters provide wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and storage for drainage water.

All significant amounts of water that are used in the Evansville planning area for residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial consumption originate from groundwater sources. Groundwater is tapped from glacial deposits and bedrock formations underlying the area. The groundwater moves from areas of recharge, such as topographic high areas or uplands, to areas of discharge, usually located in lowlands such as streams, lakes, and drainage ditches. Recharge areas are located east and west of the City. From these areas, groundwater moves toward its point of discharge at Allen Creek and surrounding wetlands. Other discharges occur from spring flow, seepage, evaporation, and water supply wells.

The Evansville planning area is located in the Sugar-Pecatonica Basin and the Allen Creek and Middle Sugar River Watershed. The Allen Creek and Middle Sugar River Watershed straddles the northeast corner of Green County, northwest Rock County, and south central Dane County. Lake Leota, located in the City of Evansville, is one of two impoundments within the Sugar-Pecatonica Basin.

Surface waters in the Evansville planning area include Allen Creek and an impoundment of the creek, Lake Leota. Allen Creek enters the northwest corner of the planning area and flows southeasterly into Lake Leota. The creek drains over 120 square miles and collects runoff waters from the surrounding agricultural and urban areas. It transports the collected water, sediment, and dissolved material to the Sugar River in Green County and eventually flows into the Rock and Mississippi Rivers. The section of Allen Creek within the City of Evansville is considered a Class II Trout Stream.

Lake Leota is used primarily for recreation by local residents and regional visitors. In the past, the Lake had suffered from a variety of use-limiting problems including weeds, rough fish, and sediment filling, so much so that the depth of the Lake had diminished to an average of about 18 inches. Approximately 80 years ago, the Lake's depth was about 10 feet. In September 2005, Lake Leota was drained by opening the sluice gate at the dam. Most of the fish remaining in the Lake were carp, and these were removed. In November 2006, a V-notch was cut into the coffer-dam above the sluice gate to increase the draining rate of the lakebed.

In late 2008 and early 2009, sediment was removed from the lakebed and deposited in farm fields west of the Lake. Roughly 180,000 cubic yards of sediment were removed, which resulted in the creation of an 8-foot deep recreation area and a 15-foot deep fishing area. During the sediment removal process, rock rip-rap was added along the easterly shoreline along the dam's earthen embankment to help control erosion.



FIGURE 3.2 LAKE LEOTA 2009 DREDGING

Environmental Corridors

The topography, soils, and water resources of the Evansville area form a unique set of physical features. A number of areas in and around Evansville have limitations for development and/or agriculture because of wet soils, steep slopes, or wooded areas. According to the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), environmental corridors are defined as linear areas in the landscape containing concentrations of lakes, streams, and associated shorelands and floodlands; wetlands; woodlands; wildlife habitat areas; areas of rugged terrain and high-relief topography; wet, poorly drained, and organic soils; and remnant prairies. Environmental corridors provide open space, wildlife habitat, groundwater recharge, and recreational opportunities. These corridors warrant special consideration when planning for the community and should be targeted for preservation.

Map 7.1, from the 2015 Comprehensive Plan, on the following page shows the environmental corridors of the Evansville planning area. Most of the corridor areas are associated with floodplains and drainageways. One major area is the Allen Creek floodplain and surrounding wetlands. Another major area is a drainageway west of the City. Other corridors include a drainageway to the northeast and steep slopes to the northeast and northwest of the City. A large portion of the environmental corridor south of the City is included in the Evansville Wildlife Area. The Evansville Wildlife Area is a 5,500-acre property, which contains 704 acres of State-owned marsh immediately south of the City of Evansville, 240 acres of State-owned stream bank protection land, and 4,600 acres of private land leased for public hunting in Union, Porter, Magnolia, and Center townships.

Land Use

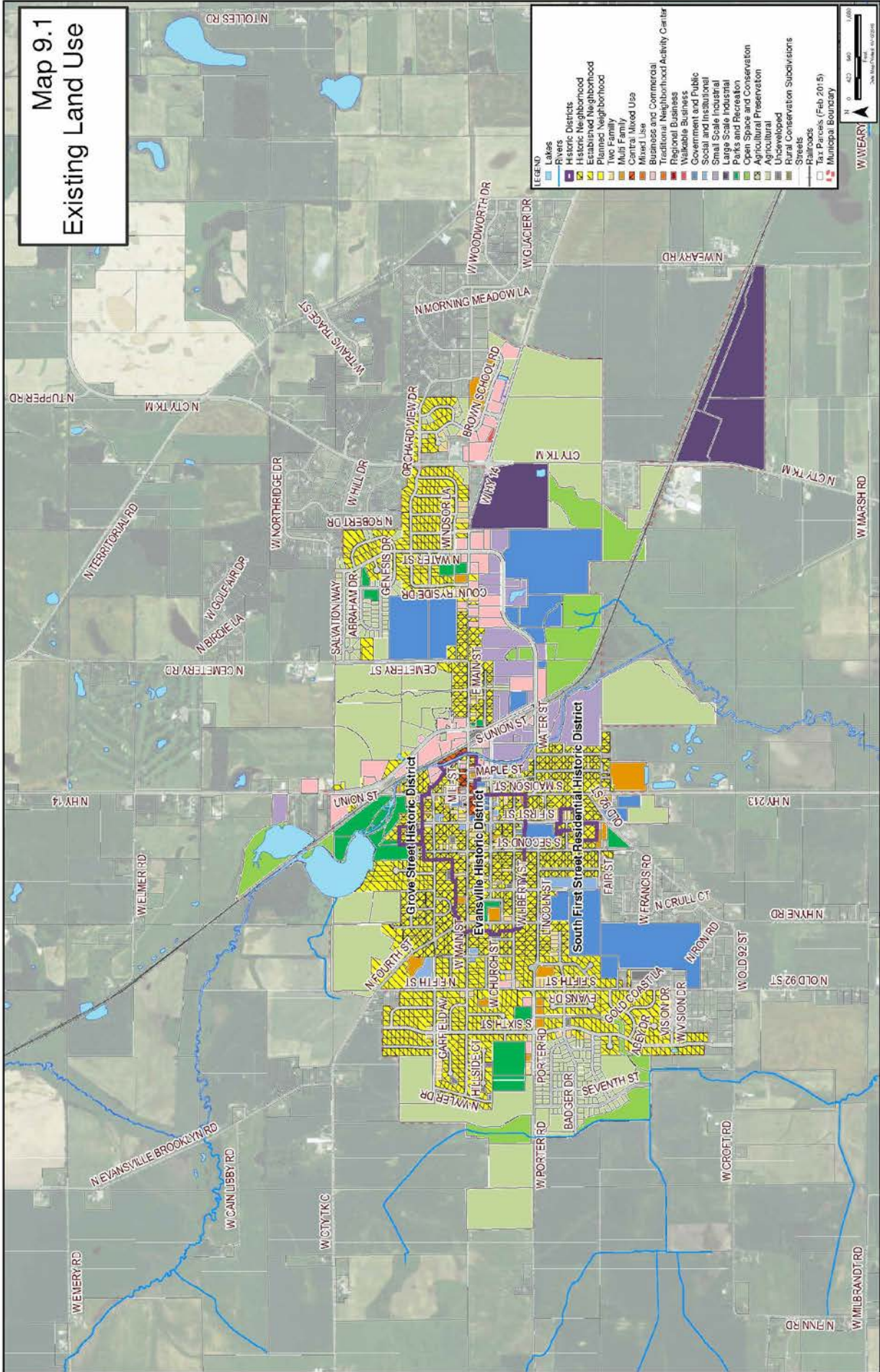
In 2015, the City conducted an inventory of existing land uses as part of the process of preparing and adopting its Comprehensive SMART Growth Plan. The total land areas within the incorporated limits of Evansville at that time was 2,118 acres. This land can be classified as either developed or undeveloped. Approximately 75 percent of the total land area in 2015 was considered developed. Residential land uses made up the greatest portion of the developed land, making up 36 percent of the developed land area. Table 3.1 shows the existing land uses in the City of Evansville in 2015.

TABLE 3.1: EXISTING LAND USE		
Land Use	Area (acres)	% of City Land Area
Residential (Single Family, Two Family and Multi Family)	571.72	27.0%
Central Mixed Use	5.56	0.3%
Business & Commercial	83.87	4.0%
Government & Public	197.49	9.3%
Social Institutional	17.33	0.8%
Small Scale Industrial	86.23	4.1%
Large Scale Industrial	135.39	6.4%
Park & Recreation	56.69	2.8%
Open Space/ Conservation	153.16	7.2%
Agriculture/ Undeveloped	539.49	25.4%
Right of Way	267.94	12.7%
Total	2,118	100%

Source: City of Evansville GIS

Map 9.1, from the 2015 Comprehensive Plan, on the following page shows the existing land uses within the city. Map 10.1, also from the 2015 Comprehensive Plan shows the anticipated future land uses.

Map 9.1 Existing Land Use



Population Trends and Projections

The City has experienced dramatic population gains over the last two decades, as shown by Table 3.2. A comparison of growth rates in adjacent communities demonstrates that Evansville has been the fastest growing community in Rock County for the past 30 years. As shown by Table 3.2, the City's share of the total Rock County population is steadily increasing.

Table 3.2 Historic Population Trends							
Location	1980	1990	2000	2010	2015*	Actual Chg. 1990-2015	% Change 1980-2012
City of Evansville	2,835	3,174	4,039	5,012	5,135	1,961	61.8%
Town of Center	908	861	1,005	1,066	1,055	194	22.5%
Town of Magnolia	746	717	854	767	755	38	5.3%
Town of Porter	940	953	925	945	955	2	0.2%
Town of Union	1,329	1,537	1,860	2,099	2,109	572	37.2%
Evansville Share of Rock Cty. Pop.	2.0%	2.3%	2.7%	3.1%	3.2%	N/A	N/A
Rock County	139,420	139,510	152,307	160,331	160,059	20,549	14.7%
Dane County	323,545	367,085	426,526	488,073	508,379	129,936	38.5%

Source: WI Department of Administration - Demographic Service Center, January 2015; US Census 1980 - 2010

* Estimated 2015 population

The City's population gradually increased from 1900 to 1970. The largest population growth occurred during the 1950s, commonly referred to as the "baby boom" years. Population growth continued to increase in the 1960s; however, the rate of growth was substantially lower than previous years. The 1970s marked the first time in Evansville's history that the City's population decreased (1979: 3,229 to 1983: 2,760). A portion of the significant population decrease in the 1970s can be attributed to the high unemployment in Evansville during that period.

The population growth in the City in the 1980s can be attributed to more favorable economic conditions and a shift in population from large cities in the area to smaller cities such as Evansville. Economic fluctuations, by attracting or not attracting people to a community, ultimately will influence the population growth of the community. The 78 percent increase in population the City experienced from 1980 to 2010 was greater than any other municipality in Rock County during that period of time.

Table 3.3 demonstrates that the City of Evansville's population is projected to continue to grow at a more rapid pace than surrounding communities and will increasingly make up a larger share of Rock County's overall population.

Year	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	% Change 2015-2035
City of Evansville	5,255	5,700	6,115	6,520	6,855	30.4%
Town of Center	1,075	1,120	1,160	1,195	1,215	13.0%
Town of Magnolia	755	745	730	705	730	-3.3%
Town of Porter	970	1,010	1,040	1,065	1,080	11.3%
Town of Union	2,150	2,280	2,400	2,510	2,595	20.7%
Evansville Share of Rock County Pop.	3.2%	3.4%	3.5%	3.6%	3.8%	N/A
Rock County	162,550	169,130	174,500	179,360	182,170	12.1%
Dane County	505,410	530,620	555,100	577,300	593,440	17.4%

Source: WI Department of Administration - Demographic Service Center, March 2014

Population Characteristics

In developing a community plan, it is essential to understand the characteristics of the population. These characteristics include, but are not limited to, age and sex. Age and sex distribution can indicate trends and conditions of fertility, labor force potential, and migration patterns. Population figures do not provide any insight about the characteristics of the people. To learn more about residents, information about the age and sex of the population must be examined.

In 2016, the population of the City of Evansville was 5,176 people, with 2,502 male residents and 2,674 female residents. As shown by Table 3.4, the median age of an Evansville resident in 2016 was 36.3, which was notably lower than the median age in nearby Rock (39.1) and Green (42.6) Counties and only slightly higher than Dane County (34.7). Recommendations in the Transportation Element that a multi-use trail be developed and that Evansville continue to improve its walkability. Bicycling facilities and bicycle friendly city transportation are key ways that the City is looking to make the community a more bicycle friendly environment.

Age	City of Evansville	Rock County	Dane County	Green County
Under 5	8.1%	6.1%	6.0%	5.6%
5 to 14	16.6%	13.6%	11.8%	13.5%
15 to 19	5.4%	6.6%	6.7%	5.9%
20 to 34	18.0%	18.7%	26.1%	15.8%
35 to 54	29.2%	26.7%	25.6%	27.5%
55 to 64	8.1%	13.3%	11.9%	14.9%
65 and Over	14.6%	15%	12%	16.8%
Median Age	36.3	39.1	34.7	42.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Table 3.5 tracks the population of City residents, by age group, over a 20-year period. As demonstrated by the table, the percentage of the City's population made up by children 14 years of age and younger grew from 1990 to 2010. Conversely, the share of the City's population made up of residents aged 65 and over shrunk during the same period.

	1990		2000		2010		2016	
Age	Number	% of Total Population	Number	% of Total Population	Number	% of Total Population	Number	% of Total Population
Under 5	227	7.2%	327	8.1%	430	8.6%	420	8.1%
5 to 14	497	15.7%	667	16.5%	816	16.3%	860	16.6%
15 to 19	197	6.2%	269	6.7%	331	6.6%	278	5.4%
20 to 64	1,703	53.7%	2,229	55.1%	2,870	57.1%	2,861	55.3%
65 and Over	550	17.3%	547	13.5%	565	11.3%	757	14.6%
All Ages	3,174	100%	4,039	100%	5,012	100%	5,176	100%

Source: 1990, 2000, 2010 Census, and 2016 ACS

Several interesting in Table 3.5 may have an impact on the future of Evansville. Because the population as a whole grew from 1990 to 2016, the number of people in each age group grew during the same time period. However, certain age groups grew more rapidly than others. The data reveals:

- The number of children has been steadily increasing. To accommodate growth, the school district built a new high school facility in 2002. The increasing number of school-aged children will influence the types of recreational programs and parks facilities the City provides.
- Inversely, the percentage of Evansville residents aged 65 and over decreased significantly from 1990 to 2010. This bucks the national trend of the "graying" or aging of the population. Although the population in Evansville is not aging as rapidly as the surrounding area and nation as a whole, the City will still want to consider the potential impacts the aging of the largest generation, the baby boomers, will have on the City over the next few decades.

The greatest percentage increase of residents was between the ages of 20 and 64. It is necessary to look more closely at the breakdown within this large age group that comprises the majority of the labor force in the City:

- Census data reveals that the largest portion of this age group is between the ages of 35 to 54 (29.2% of the population in 2016). Most individuals in this category are nearing the

end of their childbearing years. By far, most individuals in this age group are living in families, as opposed to alone or in group homes.

- The population between the ages of 20 and 34 is the next largest segment, with 18.8% of residents falling in this age group in 2016. People in this age group are of childbearing age and include many young families looking for affordable housing choices, good schools, and quality of life amenities such as parks and recreation opportunities.

Chapter 4.

Outdoor Recreation

Supply Inventory and Needs Analysis

OUTDOOR RECREATION SUPPLY INVENTORY

Parks in the City range from small, neighborhood parks to larger parks that draw regional interest with their natural beauty and variety of recreational opportunities. Table 4.1 below highlights each City park and its amenities, as well as the Evansville Community School District's park and recreational facilities. A golf course and state wildlife area are adjacent to the city as well. All the facilities mentioned below are typically available for use by the general public. Map 4 shows the location of parks within the City of Evansville. A few particularly unique park and recreational facilities in the City of Evansville warrant additional mention in this chapter and are also summarized below.

Table 4.1: Existing Parks and School District Recreation Facilities Available for Public Use

City Park Facilities	Type	Acres	Activities	Facilities
Brzezinski Park	Sub-Neighborhood	0.3	Picnicking, playground, general open-space play, and grilling	Accessible picnic table, trash receptacle, playground apparatus, 2 wheelchair accessible swings, and grill
Countryside Park	Neighborhood	3.3	General open-space play, picnicking, playground, soccer, and baseball	Shelter, restrooms, picnic table, trash receptacle, playground apparatus, baseball backstop, bleachers, and soccer fields
Franklin Park	Sub-Neighborhood	0.6	Baseball, playground, basketball, picnicking, and general open-space play	Ball field, picnic tables, sandbox, basketball hoop on a paved playing surface, playground apparatus, trash receptacle, and grill

Leonard-Leota Park	Community	40	Nature study, historic interests, disc golf, softball, baseball, football, picnicking, passive recreation, tennis, horseshoes, shuffleboard, playground, basketball, biking, soccer, boating, kayaking/canoeing, skate-boarding, walking, running, swimming, ice skating, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, general open-space play, and grilling	Lake Leota, swimming pool with zero-depth accessibility, changing rooms, historic relics, historic structures, disc golf course, covered bridge, picnic tables, picnic shelters, lighted ball fields, various playground apparatus, skate park, shuffleboard courts, tennis courts, basketball courts, grills, bleachers, piers, boat launch, trash receptacle, and electric score board
West Side Park	Community	~25*	Soccer, picnicking, playground, gardening, and general open-space play	Soccer fields, accessible restrooms, picnic tables, playground apparatus, community garden plots and trash receptacle
Seminary Park/ Peace Park	Sub-Neighborhood	2	General open-space play and picnicking	Labyrinth, hard surface walking path, little free library, flower garden, miscellaneous seating.
Wind Prairie Park	Specialized	5.4	Passive recreation, nature study, and walking	Mowed walking path, picnic table, benches, public art installation, and trash receptacle
	City Total	66.6	*signifies both undeveloped and developed land area	
School District Facilities	Type	Acres	Activities	Facilities
Levi Leonard Elementary School	Community	~3	Walking, volleyball, basketball, playground, and general open-space play	Playground apparatus, paved and unpaved open play space, indoor multi-use gymnasium facility
Theodore Robinson Intermediate School	Community	~3	Baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, tennis, and track and field activities	2 tennis courts, 2 basketball standards, 2 ball fields, playground equipment, trash receptacle, and a track and field area
J.C. McKenna Middle School	Sub-Neighborhood	2.8	Basketball, general open-space play, baseball, roller-blading, four square, and kickball	Basketball court, paved and unpaved open play space, and baseball backstop

Evansville High School	Community	~15	Soccer, softball, baseball, basketball, running, walking, nature study and working out	Running track, football field, 2 soccer fields, 3 baseball fields, a softball field, weight/exercise room, basketball court, school forest and walking area
	School Total	~24	** The tilde (~) signifies an estimate rather than a measurement.	
	Grand Total	~90		

Description and Accessibility Assessment

The City recognizes that each recreation facility offers amenities as well as unique constraints. Below is a summary of each facility with need to assess and upgrade existing public facilities to ensure accessibility to all segments of the population. The City has exceeded Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements in many parks and continues to provide universal access to all parks.

Brzezinski Park

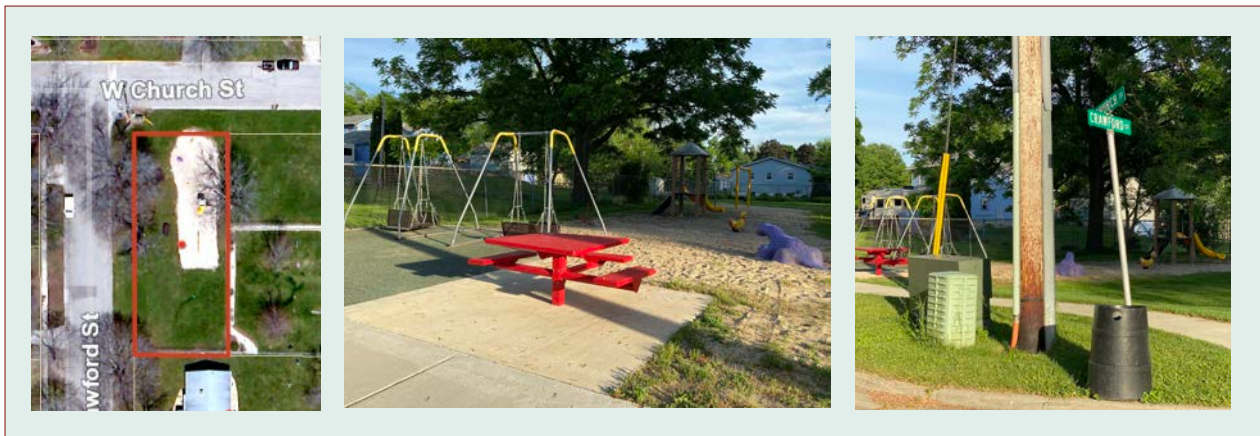


FIGURE 4.1: PARK LOCATION MAP AND PHOTOS

A sidewalk was added along the park's northern boundary in 2016. A curb cut exists to Brzezinski Park from the street. Also in 2016, two wheelchair accessible swings on a soft-surface pad, and an accessible picnic table were installed adjoining the sidewalk (a project pursued by local families).

The park lacks a designated accessible parking space and a sidewalk connection along the west boundary of the park is incomplete. Most of the play apparatus is dated. Signage and other infrastructure in the public street right of way make for a cluttered first impression of the park from the street.

Countryside Park

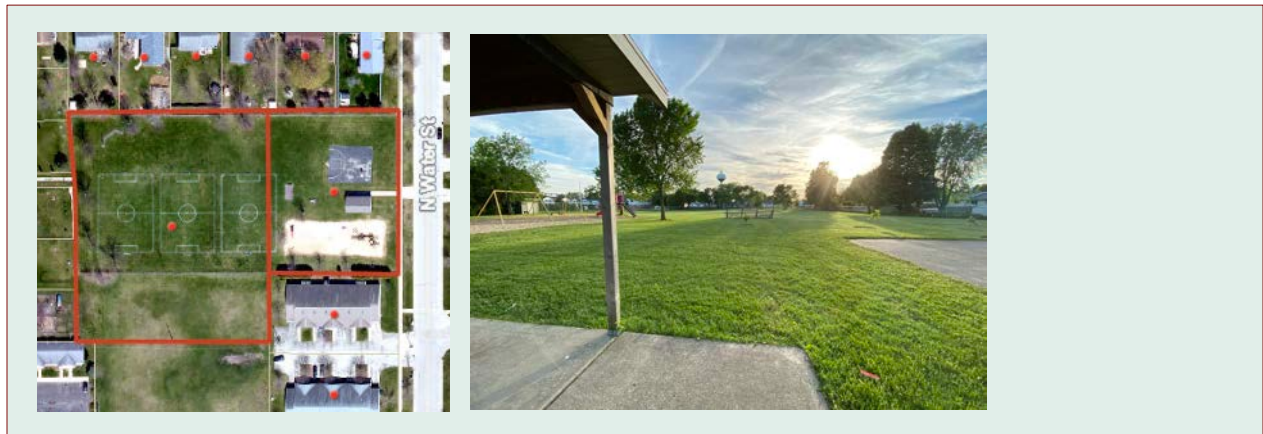


FIGURE 4.2: PARK LOCATION MAP AND PHOTOS

The Park currently has sidewalks along its western boundary. A paved ramp connects the street surface with the sidewalk on the western boundary. A paved walkway connects the sidewalk with the shelter area.

The park lacks an identifying sign and lighting as well as a designated accessible parking space and a sidewalk connection to the soccer field bleachers. A lack of sidewalks on the surrounding block create access challenges, especially when vehicles park nearby for sports events

Franklin Park

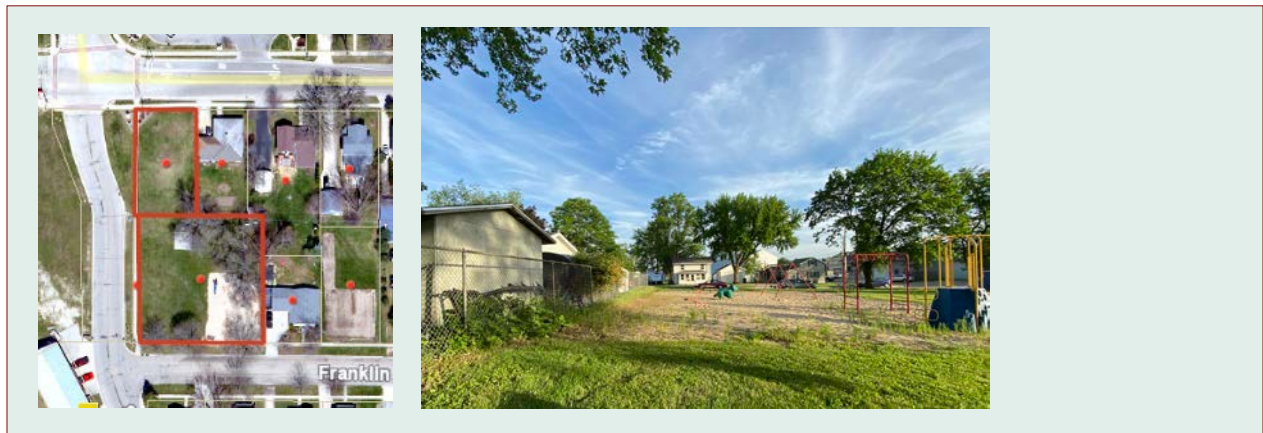


FIGURE 4.3: PARK LOCATION MAP AND PHOTOS

Sidewalks have been installed along all Park Right of Way boundaries. A curb cut to the Park from Franklin Street has been added and the play structures are adjacent to the existing sidewalk. Use of this park has increased since the addition of the Night Owl Sports Pub and Eatery across the street and better sidewalk connections to Franklin and Jackson Street neighborhoods.

The park lacks a designated accessible parking space and a sidewalk connection through the park that connects the park amenities. Park equipment is in need of repair. This park acts as a

gateway to Evansville's downtown. Upgraded landscaping, lighting and signage are all lacking. Equipment is also in need of evaluation for replacement or upgrades.

Leonard-Leota Park

Leonard-Leota Park is one of south-central Wisconsin's most complete and attractive recreation areas. Lake Leota, Allen Creek, and tree cover are principal complements to the area's natural beauty. The grounds and facilities are well-maintained despite heavy use and, in some instances, advancing age. Some mature trees have been removed in recent years; however, the City has undertaken efforts to plant new trees in the Park. The rock walls bordering Allen Creek, installed in a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project during the 1930's, have been the focus of a major restoration projects beginning in 2013.



FIGURE 4.4: HISTORIC STONEWORK



FIGURE 4.5: ACCESSIBLE PIER

Much work has been done to increase accessibility in Leonard-Leota Park. All bathrooms in the Park and the pool are ADA accessible. The two fishing piers on Lake Leota are ADA accessible. The swimming pool has a zero-depth accessibility area and an ADA accessible lift to assist with entry into and exit from the pool. An accessible water fountain is recommended to be installed in the swimming pool area. It has been noted that the lack of curbs and steps throughout the Park and the minimal elevation changes in the lower park make the Park easier to navigate and access for people with limited mobility.

A walkway through the upper park terminates at a roadway intersection creating chances for unexpected pedestrian and vehicular encounters. Pavement has been extended in some area creating unsightly and poorly utilized vehicle drop off and parking areas. The park sees additions and modifications frequently, these modifications are not guided by an overall master plan for landscaping, amenities, and preservation. A 2019 walk through of the park found many maintenance issues that need to be addressed. Historic stonework elements and buildings lack maintenance. Entrances from Madison, South First, and Garfield Streets all lack consistent signage and a welcoming "sense of entry". Madison Street poses a concern for pedestrians accessing the park due to competition with vehicles. Interpretive signage throughout the park is lacking to better explain to users the history that envelops the park.

West Side Park



FIGURE 4.6: PARK LOCATION MAP

Located north of Porter Road and west of South Sixth Street, this former farm field has undergone significant park and recreation improvements since its purchase. Approximately 15 acres of land for a new West Side Park was acquired prior to the City's 2007 Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan. An additional 10 acres has been recently acquired in the development process

of the adjacent Windmill Ridge subdivision. There is a plan to further develop the expanded area into a large community recreation space. In 2017 a committee was formed to assess the needs of the community and put together a formal recommendation for the future of the West Side Park. In 2018 a consultant was hired to complete a review the Committee's finding and develop different concepts for development of the park. Those plans and concepts have been completed with the Park and Recreation Board and the City Council highlighting a preferred option regarding the parks 25 acre development. Strategies for funding the further development of the park are being explored.

The restrooms at West Side Park are ADA accessible and a sidewalk connects the restrooms to the parking lot. Two accessible parking spaces have been dedicated in the parking lot.



FIGURE 4.7: ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES

The park has a lot of open, mowed grass. A sidewalk from Hillside Court on the north is helpful, but does not interconnect to other sidewalks in the park, leading directly into the parking lot. This creates a hazard to pedestrians entering the park. A similar sidewalk condition can be found on the east side of the park at the South Sixth Street entrance. There also is not a curb dividing the parking lot and the play structures directly next to the parking lot. Interconnected walking/bicycling paths are not installed within the park and to all park entrances.

Peace Park

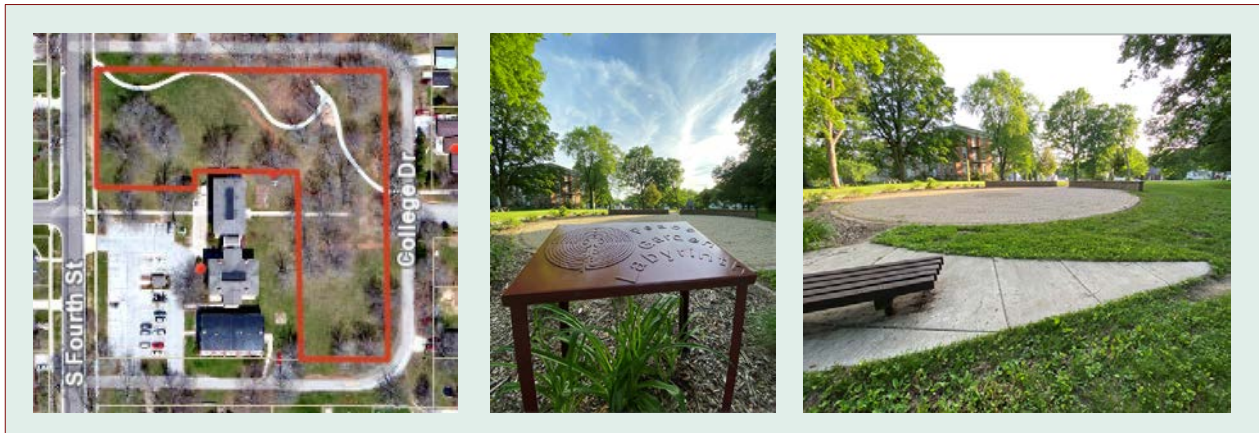


Figure 4.8: Park Location Map and Photos

This park is immediately north and east of three historic seminary buildings converted to apartments in the 1980s. Mainly consists of mowed grass and widely spaced large trees. The Evansville Peace Park has been recently developed on this site by a group of community members, donating much of the time and materials. The park includes an accessible labyrinth/walking paths are-. No additional active play facilities are planned.

A walkway is missing between the labyrinth and sidewalk. The park is also missing a sign and consistent lighting. A sidewalk connection between the nearby apartments and park walkway is also missing.

Wind Prairie Park



Figure 4.8: Park Location Map

There is no off-street parking and a lack of a "sense of entry" from public right of ways. The park lacks pedestrian connections to South First and Second Streets, as sidewalks dead-end a few dozen feet from the park. There is also minimal shared utilization by the adjacent housing authority facility and a lack of recreation play apparatus.

Wind Prairie Park is a specialized Open Space consisting of a prairie conservation area in the southern part of the City. The area contains a variety of prairie plant species and a few trees that have been planted along the property's boundaries for screening and beautification. The park was created as part of an artist-in-residence program in the 1980s and it contains a windmill manufactured by one of the City's oldest businesses, the Baker Manufacturing Company.

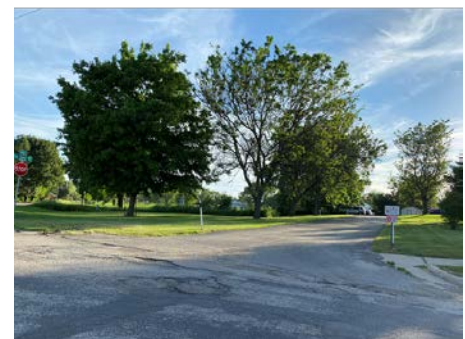


Figure 4.9: Park from Street

Grove Community School Forest

The Evansville Community School District started development of a unique open space amenity for the community in 2008, the Grove Community School Forest. This “outdoor classroom,” which is part of the Wisconsin School Forest program, includes two prairies and trails that wind throughout the School District’s campus. Volunteers in the community worked together to plant over 2,300 seedlings that were provided by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The planting effort is anticipated to continue into the future. Additionally, Eagle Scouts, the Lion’s Club, and other members of the community have donated and installed benches, teaching tables, and a footbridge. This special community asset is open to the public.

Pedestrian connections to existing sidewalks in the vicinity are lacking.

Evansville Golf Club

Evansville Golf Club is a member owned 18-hole golf course and driving range opened in 1964 and located a short distance north of the City at 8501 North Cemetery Road. The club contains a banquet center, restaurant, bar, shop, and lounge. The High School cross-country course is also located there.

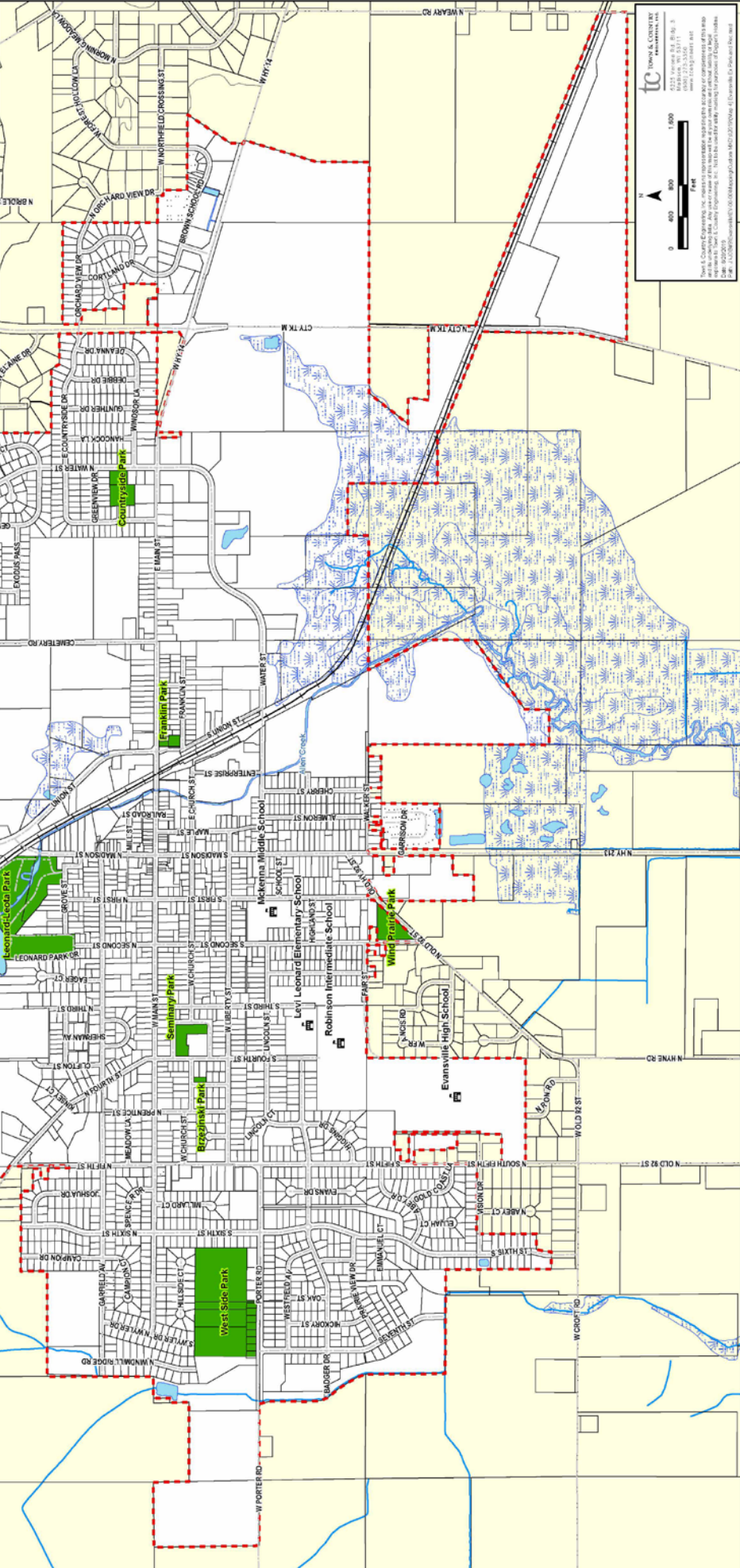
Evansville Wildlife Area and Footville Public Hunting Grounds

The Wildlife area was established in 1960 and is located south of Water Street and includes an extensive preserve owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is often referred to as very scenic by local residents. The wildlife area includes Allen Creek stream bank protection, abandoned rail bridges and beds are all features of the preserve. The Ice Age Trail alliance has closely researched possibilities of looping the trail through the preserve. 707 of the total acreage is state owned, 100 acres are held in easements, and 40 acres are leased.

The Wildlife area lacks pedestrian access from Evansville and is not often promoted to residents as a recreational opportunity.

Map 4 Existing Park and Recreation Facilities: 2019 City of Evansville Rock County, Wisconsin

- LEGEND**
- Streets
 - Railroads
 - Rivers
 - Lakes
 - City Tax Parcels
 - Municipal Boundary
 - School/District Recreation Facility
 - Pool
 - Existing Park
 - Wetlands



Scale: 0 400 800 1,600 Feet

North Arrow: N

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 2020 Evansville, WI 53122
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NEEDS ASSESSMENT

This section uses a variety of methods to assess the community's needs and demands for additional park area, facilities, and programs. Needs and demands were determined by comparing standards for park space, service area, and major facilities with the City's current park area, service area, and major facility inventory. Public input in many forms from the Evansville community was also used to identify more specific park facilities, improvements and programs needed and desired. The results of the public input efforts are detailed in Chapter 5.

NEEDS STANDARDS

There are many kinds of parks and outdoor recreation facilities. Each specific park type, from play lots to a community park, has its own unique function. These functions are related to park size and site requirements, the mix of active and passive recreational opportunities, the age groups served, and administration.

The City's parks generally fall into several different park classifications or types, which represent the basic elements of a municipal park and outdoor recreation system.

Community parks are intended to satisfy the recreational needs of an entire City or community. Facilities provided for active recreation often include: open areas for competitive team sports, tennis courts, swimming pool, ice skating rink and playground equipment. Passive recreation activities may be satisfied by the provision of open areas in natural vegetation, wooded areas, scenic look-outs, hiking trails, picnic areas, and park benches. Although a service area of one to three miles is indicated, there are often cases in which a major barrier such as highway, railroad tracks, or watercourse restricts the ability of the very young and very old to safely gain access to the facility. This barrier factor, along with site size and the provision of facilities to serve all age groups of the community are the most important criteria to consider in providing community-wide park facilities.

Neighborhood parks primarily serve the active recreational needs of children aged 5 to 15, although some provision should be made for adults and senior citizens in the form of passive recreation facilities such as picnic areas and park benches. Active recreational facilities provided can include: open space for field games, and fields or courts for football, softball, basketball, and tennis. An ice skating rink is one example of the kind of facilities that could be provided during the winter months. Shelter, restroom, and water facilities should also be provided. Generally, this park type is neatly manicured and landscaped, although the opportunity to acquire a parcel which includes small areas of land in a natural state should not be ignored. The service area of a neighborhood park should not exceed 5,000 people. Again, close attention should be given to the location of barriers which may limit the service area of the park. If the population exceeds the maximum limit or the presence of several barriers limits the ability of the intended population to safely gain access to the park, it may be necessary to serve the recreation needs of the area with a combination of two or more smaller sub-neighborhood parks.

Sub-neighborhood parks represent a scaled-down version of the neighborhood park. This park type also serves the active recreational needs of the 5 to 15 age group with some provision of passive recreation facilities for the adult and senior citizen age groups. The population served and service area required generally represent half of that which is required of a neighborhood park. Sub-neighborhood parks are most often seen in urban areas where population density dictates a nearby park or where numerous barriers necessitate the decentralization of neighborhood parks into two or more sub-neighborhood units.

In addition to the multi-use parks described above, **specialized recreational areas** may be provided depending on the activities or environment of an area. For example, a city may have a nature preserve because a local parcel having unique natural features was available. Some specialized areas are golf courses, historic sites, conservancy areas, bathing beaches, or boat marinas. Most of these have limited use or are not always available to the public. Still, it must be realized that these specialized areas are important adjuncts to a community and its parks program.

Trails and Paths are another type of recreational area. Roadways serve as the backbone of the bike path system. Most local streets are suitable for bicycling without special accommodations for bicyclists. Sidewalks along streets provide the backbone for the pedestrian system for the same reason that roadways serve the bicyclists. Most destinations that pedestrians want to reach are located along sidewalks. Multi-use trails for bicyclists and pedestrians can supplement the roadway/sidewalk system to improve connections within and between neighborhoods, as well as along environmental corridors. Connections to regional paths and trails invite longer-distance bicycle and pedestrian recreation.

Map 5, following this page, shows the service area for each of the City's parks as well as recreational facilities maintained by the Evansville Community School District. Approximately 25 acres of residential land to the east of County Highway M lie outside a park service area.

Map 5 Existing Park and Recreation Service Areas: 2019 City of Evansville Rock County, Wisconsin

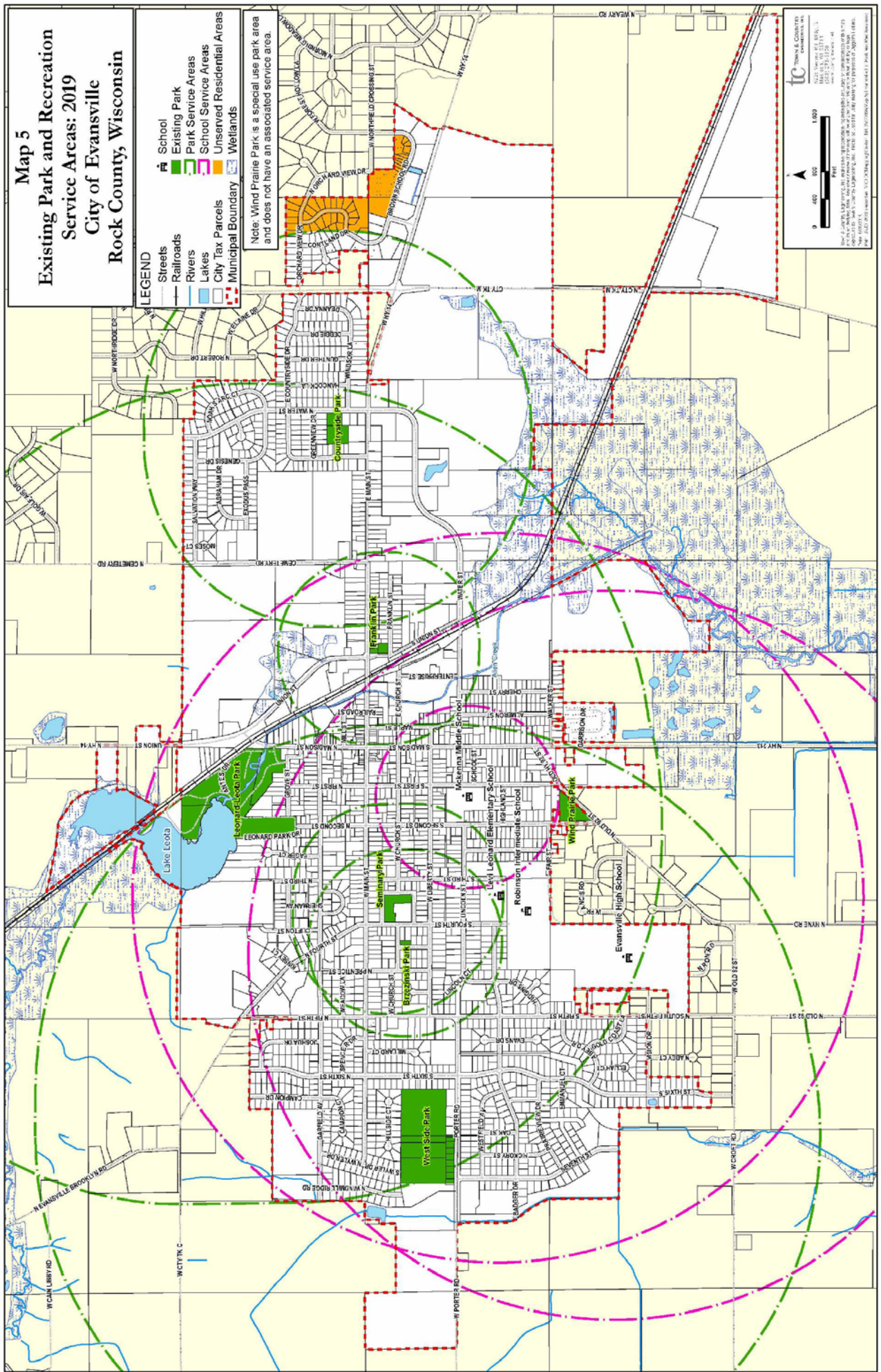
- LEGEND**
- Streets
 - Railroads
 - Rivers
 - Lakes
 - City Tax Parcels
 - Municipal Boundary
 - School
 - Existing Park
 - Park Service Areas
 - School Service Areas
 - Unserved Residential Areas
 - Wetlands

Note: Wind Prairie Park is a special use park area and does not have an associated service area.

0 400 800 1600

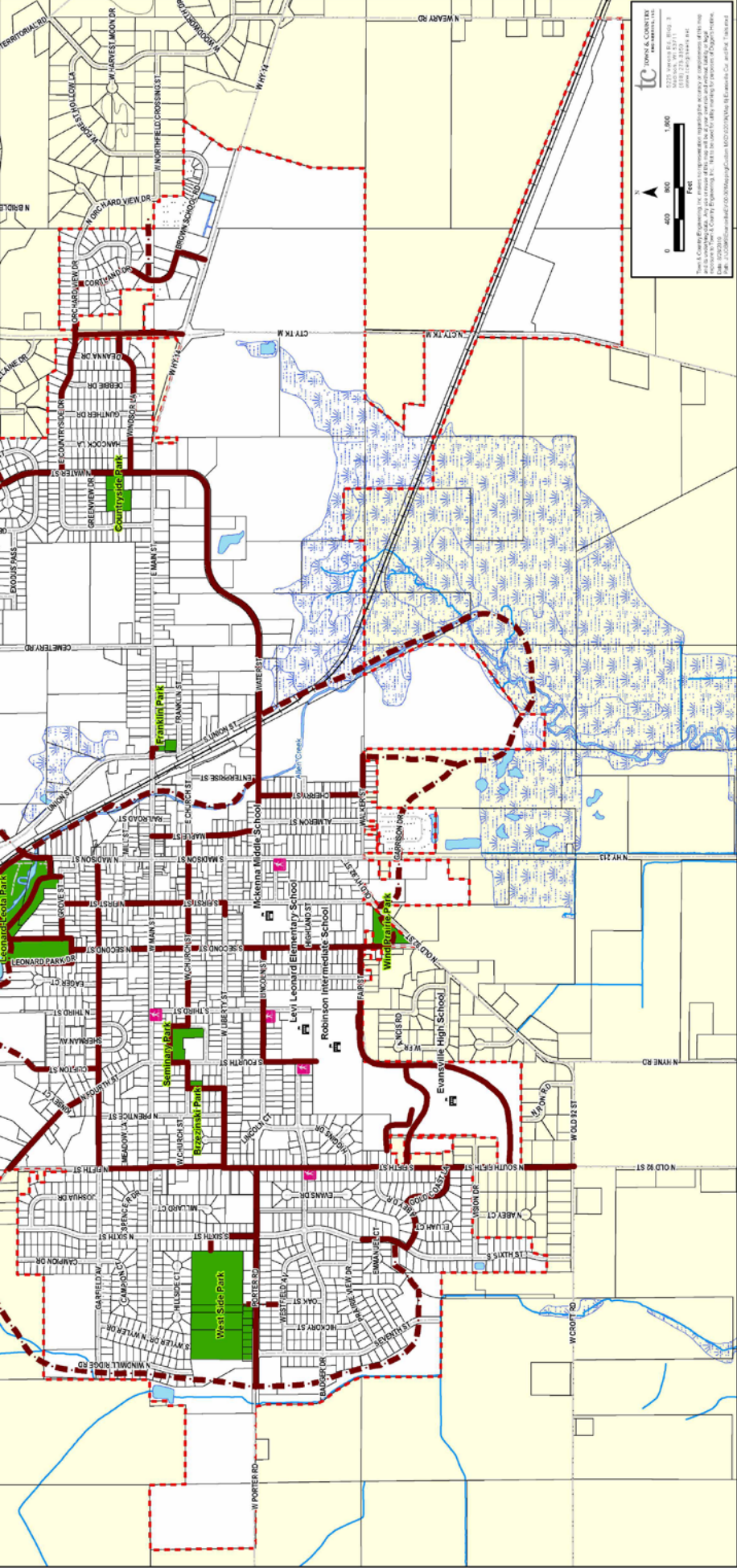
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Map 6 Current and Potential Bicycle Paths and Hiking Trails: 2019 City of Evansville Rock County, Wisconsin

- LEGEND**
- Bike/Pedestrian Routes (Off-Road/Sidewalk)
 - Future Pedestrian Trails
 - Streets
 - Railroads
 - Rivers
 - Lakes
 - School Crossing Guard
 - Existing Park
 - Wellands
 - City Tax Parcels
 - Municipal Boundary



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WWW.TERRACONCONSULTING.COM

Scale: 1" = 1,000'
0 400 800 1,600 Feet

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Improvement Standards

Detailed standards for community, neighborhood, and sub-neighborhood parks have been developed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Table 4.2 summarizes the park space needs for a community the size of Evansville and recommends standards for population served, park size, service area, and facilities.

Park Type	Population	Recommended	Service	Recommended
	Served	Size (acres)	Area (miles)	Facilities
Community	All Community Residents, including those from the surrounding area	10 to 100	1-3	Water-related activities, competitive sports fields, picnic areas, park benches, playground, tennis court, nature-related activities, ice skating, cross country skiing, shelter, toilet, drinking water
Neighborhood	2,000 to 5,000	5 to 10	0.5	Picnic areas, park benches, playground, areas for field, softball diamond, football field, basketball court, tennis court, ice skating, cross country skiing, shelter, toilet, drinking water
Sub-Neighborhood	500 to 2,500	Up to 5	0.25	Park benches, playground, areas for field, softball diamond, basketball court, drinking water

Evansville's parks meet most of the State recommended standards for parks of their size. The only notable exception is the lack of cross-country ski trails in the City. However, cross-country skiing is available at the Evansville Country Club and nearby Magnolia Bluff and Gibbs Lake County parks. Additionally, although formal cross-country skiing facilities do not exist there, cross-country skiing is viable at Leonard-Leota Park. Leonard-Leota Park, the City's premier community park, has almost all of the recommended facilities. West Side Park, sized as a community park, has many of the recreational amenities recommended for a community park, such as picnic areas, a playground, benches, and a restroom. Countryside Park, the City's only neighborhood park, currently lacks some facilities of a neighborhood park, such as a tennis court and a football field. Given its relatively small area, it is unlikely that a football field is feasible, though a tennis court might be. Brzezinski and Franklin, as sub-neighborhood parks, both lack drinking water, and Brzezinski lacks a basketball court. Seminary Park has no amenities save a few picnic benches. Wind Prairie Park, a specialized recreation area, is a conservation area in which active play activities are not planned.

ACTIVITY STANDARDS

An activity standard provides a way of relating the size of a recreational facility to the number of people who can use that facility without over or under-utilizing the facility.

The standard is thus a “quality” as well as “quantity” measure. Activity standards are more appropriately applied to large urban areas. In the case of smaller communities the question is not how many facilities to have but whether to have one at all. These standards address both intensive non-resource-oriented and resource-oriented recreation activities.

Participation in intensive non-resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities including basketball, ice-skating, playfield and playground activities, softball, pool swimming, and tennis provides an individual with both the opportunity for physical exercise and an opportunity to test and expand their physical capability. Such activities also provide an outlet for mental tension and anxiety, as well as a diversion from other activities. Competition in the various intensive non-resource-related activities also provides an opportunity to share recreational experiences, participate in team play, and gain an understanding of others.

Participation in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities including camping, golf, picnicking, cross-country skiing and stream and lake swimming provides an opportunity for individuals to experience the exhilaration of recreational activity in natural surroundings as well as an opportunity for physical exercise. In addition, the family can participate as a unit in certain intensive resource-oriented activities such as camping, picnicking, and beach swimming.

Through the use of these activity standards a reasonable determination of facility needs can be made. Table 4.1 above delineates intensive non-resource and resource oriented activity standards that may be useful guides in making decisions concerning recreational opportunities.

LAND AREA NEEDS STANDARDS

Table 4.3 summarizes the current and projected gross park and open space needs for the City of Evansville. The calculations are based on the population projections shown in Chapter 2 and the gross space standard of 12 acres per 1,000 population. The amount of developed space is subtracted from the calculated standard to identify gross space needs for 2015 to the year 2030. Table 4.3 reveals that the City of Evansville currently has and will continue to have adequate park land area to meet gross space standards for its projected population through 2030.

	2015	2020	2025	2030
Projected Population	5,255	5,700	6,115	6,520
Gross Space Standard*	63.06	68.4	73.38	78.24
Gross Space Developed	90	90	90	90
Gross Space Needed	0	0	0	0
*Gross space standard is based on 12 acres per 1,000 people				

As discussed earlier, park standards refer to acreage distribution, population served, and size and service area for community, neighborhood and sub-neighborhood parks. Table 4.4 illustrates the area needs for the specific types of parks.

Table 4.5 Space Needs by Park Type: 2015 – 2030					
	<i>Total</i>				
	<i>Acreage</i>	Acreage Required / Deficit			
Park Type	<i>(2013)</i>	2015	2020	2025	2030
Projected Population	--	5,763	6,295	6,804	7,281
Community Parks, including Leota Park, Elementary & High Schools, West Side Park (8 acres per 1,000 people)	76	46.10	50.36	54.43	58.2
Neighborhood Parks, including Countryside, and Sub-Neighborhood Parks, including Brzezinski Park, Franklin Park, McKenna School, and Seminary Park (1.5 acres per 1,000 people)	9.0	8.65	9.44 (-0.44)	10.21 (-1.21)	10.92 (-1.92)

An overview of Table 4.5 indicates a surplus of parkland dedicated to community parks at least until 2030, with a deficit in neighborhood and sub-neighborhood parks appearing sometime around 2020. In general, the parks are distributed well throughout the residential neighborhoods. Continuing to develop the West Side Park is a project of very high priority. Franklin Park is also an important sub-neighborhood park, since it is the only open space for the residents living in the area south of East Main Street and east of South Madison. Both of these busy streets act as barriers for children. Therefore, Franklin Park should be a high priority for further improvements. Acquiring more land for smaller neighborhood parks should be considered as opportunities arise, in order to meet long-term needs.

Chapter 5.

Public Involvement

Strategies for engaging the public in the planning process were intended to provide opportunities for encouraging public participation through a variety of different forums and tools. This chapter outlines each strategy and provides an overview of results. Common themes that emerged are summarized in this chapter.

Public Forums

Public input efforts included activities at public forums, public informational meetings, meetings with stakeholder groups, and in-person discussions with park users were completed to encourage community input from all ages. The City Community Development Director provided information on the Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan and collected input from citizens during public forums, including community forums and events. The primary focus of having booths at these events was to gather input from parents while engaging youth in the planning process. Children were encouraged to draw a picture of their favorite park. While children participated in this activity, staff spoke with parents and guardians about the planning process and recorded their input.

Public Input Survey

Methodology

The primary means of gathering public input for the City of Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan was a twenty question survey. The survey was created using Google Forms. Staff developed the survey with input from Park and Recreation Board (PRB) members. The survey was open during spring 2018 and extended into the summer of 2018.

Getting the word out about the survey was critical in soliciting responses. The survey was publicized and shared on the City website, newspaper, flyers, social media, with partner organizations, direct emails to park user groups (such as sports teams), and public outreach events that our staff facilitated such as 'Coffee with the Parks' held at Creekside Community Center.

While the majority of respondents completed the survey online, a number of opportunities were available for residents to complete a hard copy of the survey at City Hall, all public forums, and by request. A total of 668 responses were received. About half this number of responses were gathered in a prior community survey for the predecessor to this plan, completed in 2013. Responses summarized in the next section are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Results

IMPORTANCE AND USE OF PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

Respondents to the 2018 City of Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey overwhelmingly indicated that parks and recreation facilities are important to their quality of life. As shown in Figure 5.1, 77% of respondents noted parks and recreation facilities are of very high and high importance, while another 20.1% of respondents indicated these resources were of moderate importance to them. Less than 3% of respondents believed parks and recreation facilities were of low or very low importance to them and their families.



Survey respondents were asked to indicate which three parks they visited most often. Leonard-Leota Park is by far the most visited of Evansville's parks, at 94%. For 55.4% of respondents West Side Park was the park they visited most. Nearly half (45.6%) of respondents had utilized Veteran's Memorial Pool most often, located within Leonard-Leota Park. Countryside Park was most often visited by 23.8% of respondents. The rest of the parks had significantly fewer respondents having visited them most often 9.9% for Seminary Park/Peace Park, 7.5% for Brzezinski Park, 7.4% for Wind Prairie Park, and 2.7% for Franklin Park.

As demonstrated by Figure 5.2, survey respondents visit Evansville parks on a fairly regular basis. About 14.4% of respondents indicated that they and/or a family member visit an Evansville park 4 or more times per week. Another 36.5% of respondents visit a park in the City at least 1-3 times per week. Roughly 20.5% visit an Evansville park 1-3 times per month, while 3% of respondents make a trip to a City park at least once per year. About 1% of respondents indicated that they and/or a family member visit an Evansville park less than once per year.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU USE THE PARKS?

668 RESPONSES

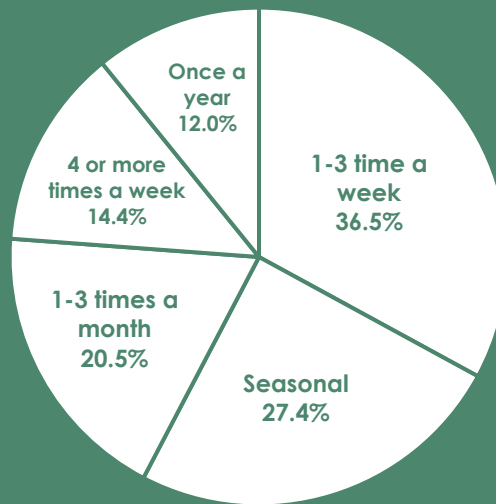


Figure 5.2

Survey respondents enjoy a variety of passive and active recreational activities in Evansville's parks, as shown by Figure 5.3. Key points from the responses to the survey question asking which activities respondents and/or their families had participated in over the past 12 months are as follows:

- The most popular activity amongst survey respondents was walking, with 77.6% indicating they and/or a family member had participated in that activity in the past 12 months.
- Swimming at the pool was the second most popular activity, with 60.2% of respondents participating in that activity over the past year.
- Hiking (18.2%), bicycling (41.8%), using playground equipment (56.8%), and picnicking (27%) were the other activities survey respondents indicated that they and/or a family member had participated in over the past year.
- Fishing (40%), dog walking (43.2%), and running/jogging (35.9%) were common activities for survey respondents.
- Baseball and soccer were nearly equally popular amongst survey respondents, with 36.4% indicating that they and/or a family member had participated in baseball/softball or tee-ball and 32.3% indicating they participated in soccer over the past year.
- Fewer than 40% of survey respondents and/or their family members participated in the remainder of the activities listed, with 12.9% participating in disc golf, skateboarding, and volleyball in the past year.
- Respondents noted a number of "other" activities they had participated in, including fireworks, kayaking, skateboarding, volleyball, attending baseball games, hunting, kite flying, play dates, holidays, meditating, sledding, walking a labyrinth, sand play, horseshoes, kickball, and family reunions.

WHICH ACTIVITIES HAVE YOUR OR YOUR FAMILY PARTICIPATED IN OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS?

668 Responses

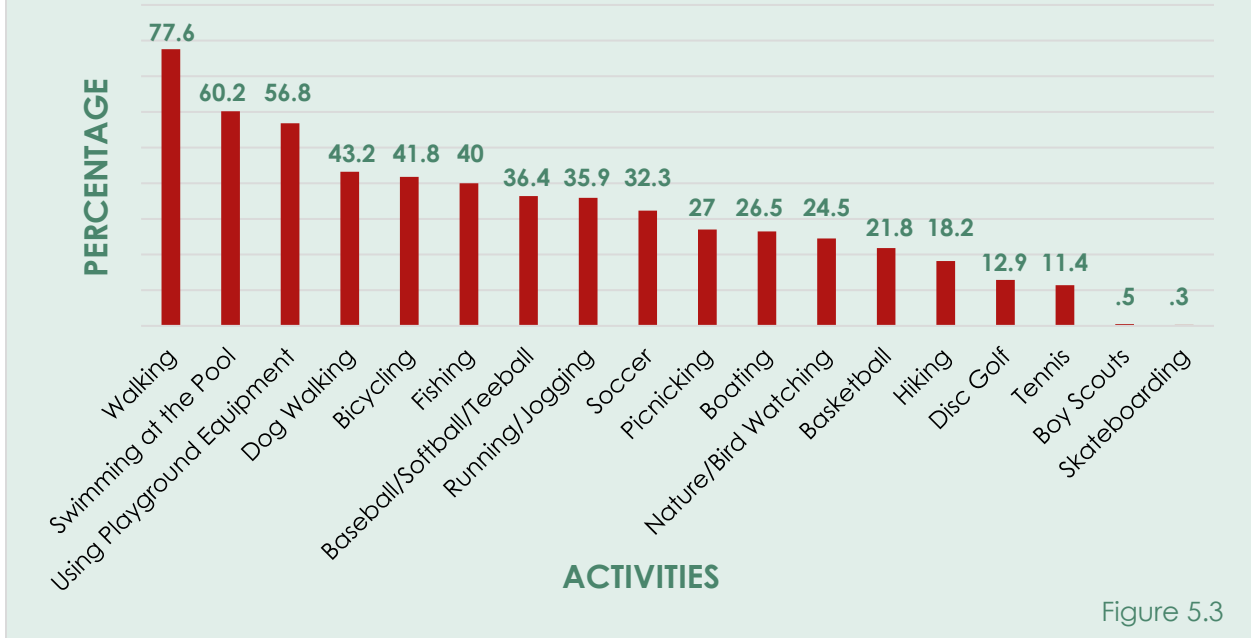


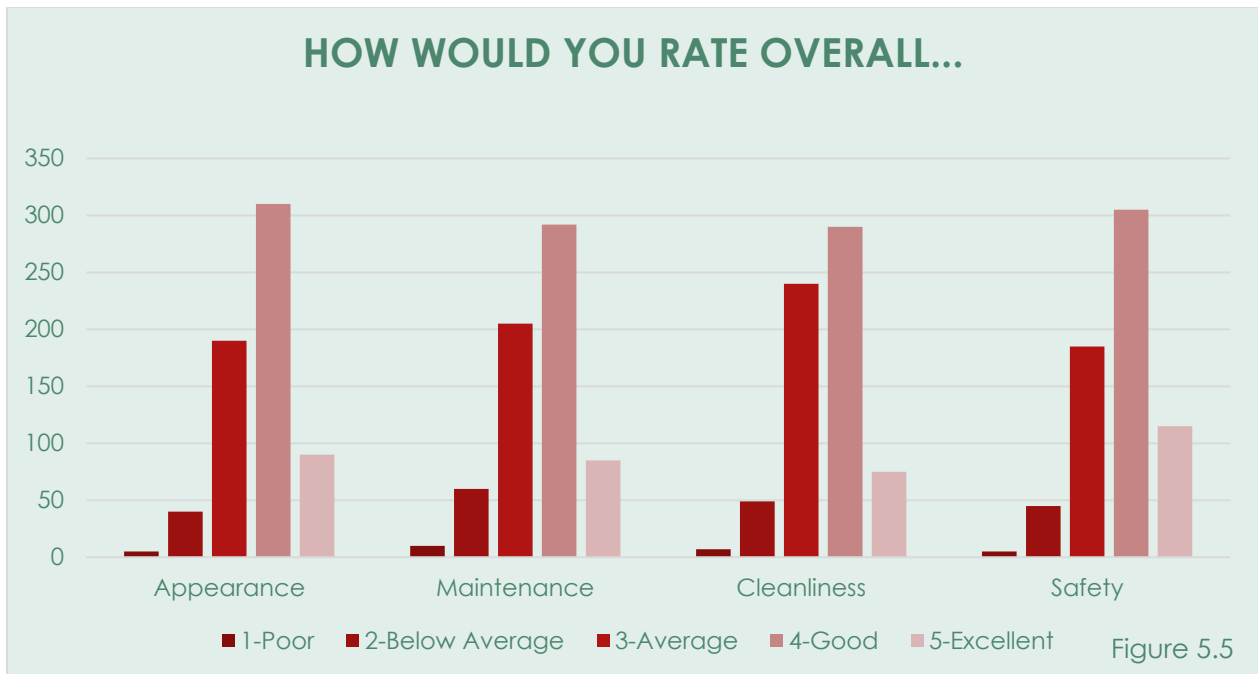
Figure 5.3

OPINIONS ON EXISTING PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

Survey respondents were asked to rate each park's recreation facilities and programs in the City of Evansville on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent. Leonard-Leota Park received the highest marks, rated at 3.77 out of 5. West Side Park was second highest rated, at 3.67 out of 5. Veterans Memorial Pool, located in Leonard-Leota Park, was rated 3.37 out of 5. Respondents rated Countryside Park 3.20, Peace Park scored an average of 3.11, while Brzezinski Park averaged 3.05. The lowest scores went to Franklin Park, which was rated 2.86, and Wind Prairie Park, which scored an average of 2.86 as well.

Overall, survey respondents indicated that they were satisfied with the appearance, maintenance, cleanliness, and safety of Evansville's parks. On average, as shown by Figure 5.4, with survey respondents rating the appearance of Evansville's parks at 3.68 out of 5. Respondents rated the maintenance of Evansville's parks at 3.59.

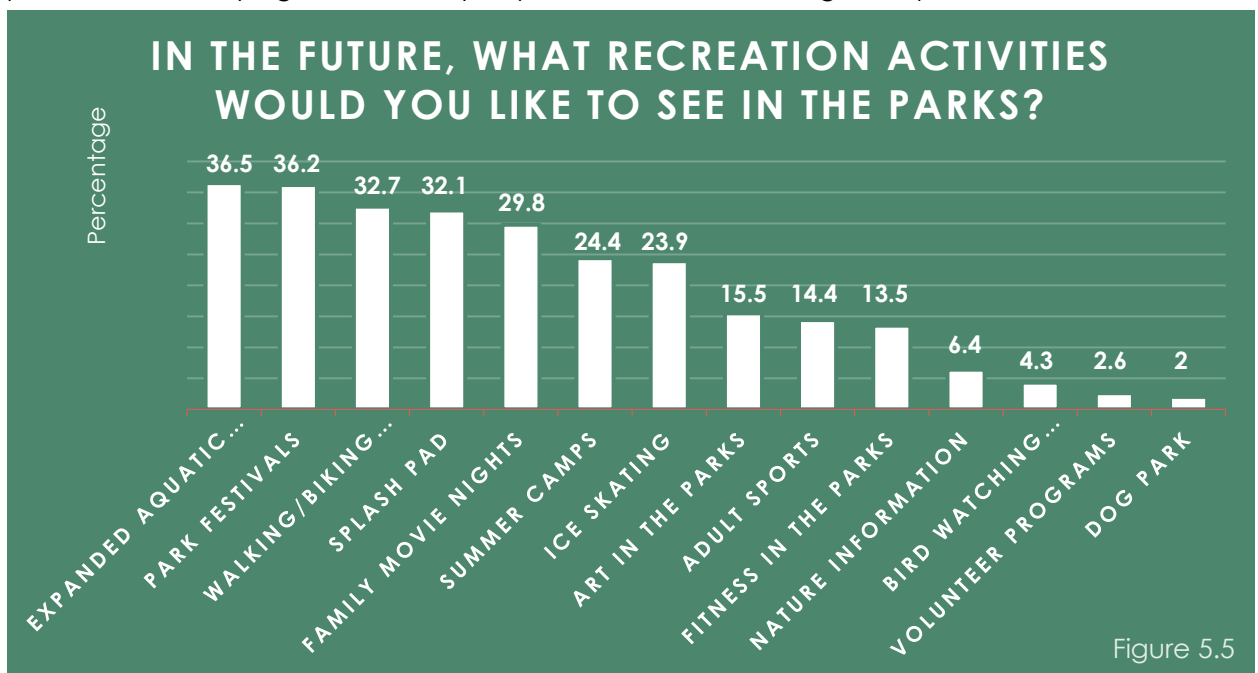
Survey respondents were generally satisfied with the cleanliness of Evansville's parks, indicating they were extremely or moderately satisfied with the parks' cleanliness with a rating of 3.57. Regarding the issue of safety in Evansville parks, respondents were extremely or moderately satisfied, rating safety as 3.74.



When asked “what do you love most about Evansville parks?” Respondents had a number of comments pertaining to the importance of Lake Leota, the historic appearance and beauty of the parks, location of parks that are “within walking distance of ... homes,” amenities such as “disc golf [and] ball games,” and safety of Evansville’s parks.

FUTURE PRIORITIES FOR PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

Survey respondents were asked what recreation activities they would like to see in Evansville’s parks. As shown by Figure 5.5, survey respondents had the strongest response in their desire for an



expanded aquatic center/pool. Another high priority for residents are community festivals held in

the parks. More walking and biking paths, a splash pad, and family movie nights in the parks were the next most preferred items, each indicated by about 30% of respondents. Summer camps and ice skating were each of importance to about a quarter of respondents. About 14% of respondents wanted to see more adult sports tournaments, fitness in the parks and art in the parks.

Maintenance of the parks also received much write-in commentary, ranging from poor equipment maintenance to specific notes about plant and animal species, and pesticide use. Concerns were expressed over the condition of historic structures, cleanliness of restrooms and other park buildings. There were safety concerns regarding children, the need for lighting in the parks, and most notably needing a Madison Street crosswalk for safer entrance to Lake Leota Park. Safety concerns were also expressed with an emphasis on vehicle traffic within Lake Leota Park.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

The survey asked a few questions related to demographics. The reasons for asking these questions were twofold. First, demographics are important in determining and predicting needs for various subsets of the population. For instance, families with children might be more likely to desire playground equipment and youth recreation programs than older families with grown children who are no longer living at home. Second, the responses to these questions would be used to compare the survey respondents' demographic characteristics to the demographic characteristics of the population of Evansville as a whole. This would help to determine if the survey sample was representative of the actual population of Evansville.

83.2% of respondents were City residents. A majority of the non-residents that responded were from Union Township. 34.9% of the residents were 38-50 years old.

Figure 5.6 shows that over 60% of the survey respondents have lived in Evansville for 15 or fewer years. 21.3% have lived in the City for 5 or fewer years, 15% have lived in the City for 6-10 years, and another 26.8% have lived in Evansville for 11-15 years. This may be indicative of new families moving to the area over the past 15 years, looking for high quality schools and recreational facilities for their children. The remaining 36.9% of survey respondents have lived in the City for more than 15 years.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EVANSVILLE? 668 RESPONSES

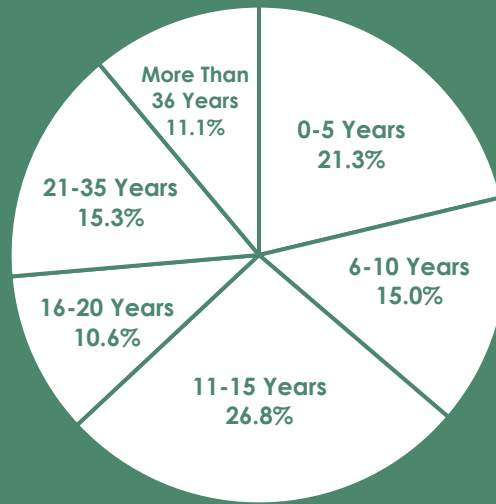


Figure 5.6

The average number of people in survey respondents' households was 3.64. This is significantly higher than the American Community Survey estimate of 2.61 people per household. Most likely, families with children responded to the survey at a higher rate than those without children, leading to the inflated household size. As shown by Figure 5.7, about 3% of respondents had one person households, while another 20.1% had two people living in their household. About 17% of respondents indicated three people lived in their household, while 36.5% of respondents had four people living in their household. About 15% of respondents had five person households, and about 8% of respondents' households were comprised of six or more people.

HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE IN YOUR HOUSE? 668 RESPONSES

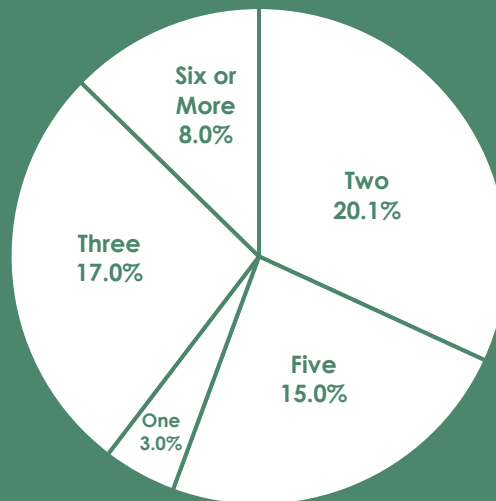
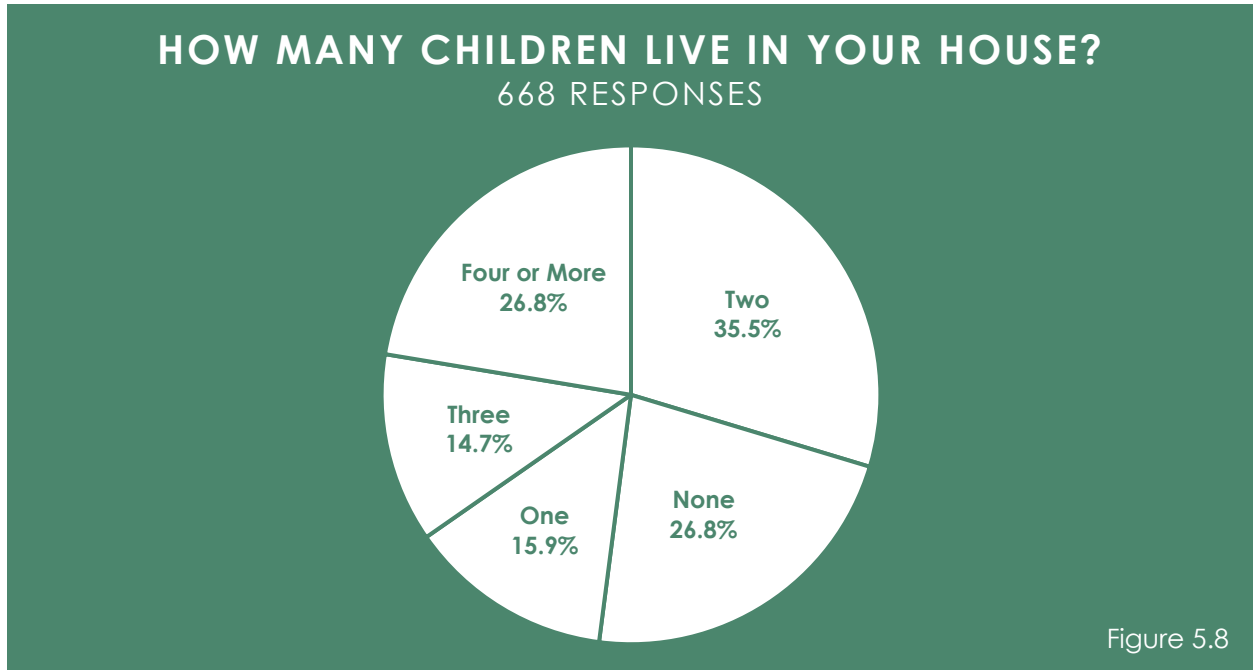


Figure 5.7

Survey respondents were also asked how many children lived in their household. As demonstrated by Figure 5.8, about 27% of households did not have any children. Roughly 16% of households had one child, while another 35% had two children. About 14.7% of respondents had three children living in the household, while 7% had four or more children.



INFORMATION SHARING PREFERENCES

One question on the survey was intended to assist City staff and officials in determining how residents learn about City information and the best way to reach this audience in the future. In response to the question regarding where respondents found out about the survey, the majority (54.6%) heard about the survey through social media. The City did not directly share or post the survey on social media. The respondents who discovered the survey through social media likely received the link to the survey from other responders. As shown by Figure 5.9, information from public forums (16.6%), on the City website (8.5%), and articles in local newspapers (10%) were the second and third most common way respondents found out about the survey. Information at Family Fun Night (5.8%) and at City Hall (1.3%) were also ways in which a number of respondents learned about the survey.

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS SURVEY?

668 RESPONSES

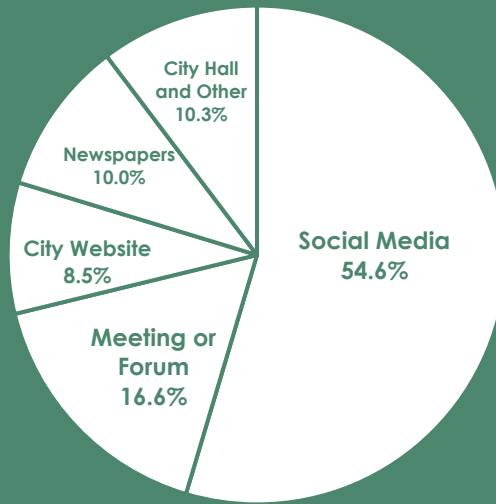


Figure 5.9

Chapter 6.

Recommendations

This chapter highlights the goals, policies, and projects developed through this planning effort.

Goals

Outdoor recreation is recognized as a fundamental component of a productive and well-balanced life, and Evansville residents have historically placed a high value on park and recreational resources. The following goals and objectives have been developed to guide the City's efforts to positively impact residents' quality of life through park and recreational opportunities.

1: To provide a variety of high-quality active and passive recreational opportunities.

- Provide recreational opportunities for different ages, interests, and needs.
- Maximize access to and preservation of relatively scarce surface water resources of the City.
- Engage citizens in the planning and improvement of City parks.
- Encourage regular updates of Fees in Lieu of Park Land ordinances for park and recreation land dedication in new subdivisions.
- Improve or establish a sense of entry and consistent signage for City recreation facilities.

2: To preserve the natural and scenic resources for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

- Preserve environmental corridors, scenic views, and areas of ecological significance.
- Encourage conservation practices that improve the quality of the land and water.
- Preserve wetlands in their natural state.
- Preserve currently known historic sites and anthropological sites that may be discovered in the future.
- Integrate recreational concepts, at the policy level, with other planning activities such as land use plans and new subdivision developments.
- Encourage uses of land and other natural resources which are in accordance with their character.
- Enhance the environmental assets of the City so that it continues to be an attractive place to live and play.

3: To locate park and recreational facilities throughout the community to ensure accessibility for all citizens.

- Provide adequate and easily accessible recreational facilities and park land throughout the City.

- Plan park and recreational expansions to meet the needs of a growing city.
- Preserve especially suitable areas for eventual park or other recreational purposes.
- Ensure facilities are accessible for people with disabilities.
- Promote a variety of non-motorized transportation facilities, including bicycle and walking/running paths within the City and connections to regional trail and path networks and recreational facilities beyond Evansville.
- Assure parks are within walkable distances for children and families.
- Provide safe pedestrian access to existing and future park lands.

4: To fully utilize City, County, State, and Federal resources in the pursuit of the above goals.

- Use this Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan to help prioritize limited resources.
- Leverage the recommendations in this plan to pursue funding to assist with this plan's implementation.
- Employ a Park and Recreation Director; explore programming expansion.

Policies and Programs

While physical improvement projects are oftentimes considered to be the more exciting components of a park and recreation plan, implementing new and maintaining existing policies and programs are critical to ensuring park and recreation opportunities are available to all residents. During this planning process, a number of policies and programs were developed based on input from the public, the Park and Recreation Board, staff, the 2013 Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the 2015 Smart Growth Plan. The following policies are recommended for implementation:



FIGURE 6.1 LAKE LEOTA FROM BANDSTAND

City-Wide Policies and Programs

- Encourage the Park and Recreation Board to reference this Plan during budget preparation each year.
- Provide opportunities for the Park and Recreation Board to monitor and evaluate this Plan's implementation progress.
- Update this Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years as required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to reflect citizen opinions and remain eligible for State matching funds.
- Maintain partnerships to share recreation facilities with School District regarding recreational facilities and programs.
- Ensure the City's parks are made available to all age groups. Areas and facilities that can support "lifetime" recreational activities should receive as much emphasis as those for team sports.

- Emphasize diversity in tree species to reduce impacts of Emerald Ash Borer, Dutch Elm Disease, and other plagues that can eradicate entire species of trees.
- Continue to fully utilize the provision for land dedication and money in lieu of park land to implement park expansion and facility improvement within the City. Encourage Plan Commission and Common Council adoption of an ordinance to update both provisions.
- Consider acquisition of land adjoining a City park when such land is available for purchase, funding to purchase this land becomes available, and a funded plan is in place for the use and development of any acquired properties.
- Start a volunteer group, such as a "Friends of Evansville's Parks" group, to assist with clean-up, landscaping, beautification, and fund-raising. Encourage local service organizations, interest groups, businesses, and individuals to contribute volunteer labor and donate materials to assist in defraying costs associated with maintaining and improving park and recreation facilities.
- Maintain and improve accessibility to City parks for people with disabilities, children, and the elderly.
- Pursue grant funds where appropriate to stretch the City's tax dollars.
- Maintain a comprehensive inventory of all recreational facilities serving Evansville residents, including city, school, town, and county facilities as part of the five year planning cycle.
- Continue to participate in natural resource-related programs, such as Bird City Wisconsin and Tree City USA.
- Partner with the Tourism Commission to create maps showing walking and bicycling routes throughout the City.
- Partner with the Tourism Commission to promote City parks through regional publications and websites.

Park Specific Policies and Programs

- Create a Master Plan for Leonard-Leota Park that includes future modifications, memorial locations, landscape, signage, roadway, parking, and lighting improvements
- Continue to address the maintenance needs of Lake Leota and Allen Creek.
- Continue fish restocking at Lake Leota.
- Develop a plan for Leonard-Leota Park to stabilize, restore and maintain historic structures.
- Promote shoreland restoration and implementation of natural landscapes along Lake Leota.
- Create a fund for Leonard-Leota Park, to which people can donate money for memorials, beautification, and other projects in the Park.
- Enforce fish catch limits for Lake Leota.
- Explore strategies for mitigating problems with geese, particularly at Leonard-Leota Park.
- Complete Development of Westside Park, using the 2018 Westside Park Development Plan as a guide.
- Engage community in a discussion about the future restoration or reconstruction, desired amenities, and desired location of the Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center as outlined in the 2017 Aquatic Center study.
- Create a memorial bench program.

Recreation Policies and Programs

- Ensure youth programs are provided as equally as possible for both boys and girls.
- Maintain water-based pool activities and programs.
- Maintain general recreational activities geared toward elementary and middle school children.
- Maintain and expand swim lessons and swim team coordination.
- Maintain low fees for Veterans Memorial Pool, keeping fees close to 50% of the rolling 3-year trailing average of expenses.
- Evaluate pool operations and user fees annually.
- Evaluate and analyze locations for an off-leash dog park in the city.

Recommendations by Park

Recommendations for park improvement projects were developed using input from the public, the Park and Recreation Board, staff, the existing Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan, the City's Smart Growth Plan, and State and National parks standards.

To determine the priority levels for each of the recommendations, Park and Recreation Board (PRB) and Plan Commission (PC) members participated in a process to guide a ranking of recommendations. Each recommendation was rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest rating and 5 being the highest. Projects preceded with "other" were added in general comments by PRB or PC after ranking was compiled.

Below, Table 6.1: Comprehensive List of Recommendations, in rank order by park lists each of these recommendations, along with the score it received and its corresponding priority level.

Table 6.1 Comprehensive List of Recommendations		
Leonard-Leota Park		
Project	Priority Score 1 (low) - 5 (high)	Priority
Complete repairs to the walls of Allen Creek	4.44	Very High
Create an ice-skating area on Lake Leota and open the warming hut for skaters to use in the winter	4.22	Very High
Continue reforestation efforts	3.90	High
Develop a walking/hiking path around Lake Leota	3.90	High
Establish and use shoreline management best practices	3.70	High
Install pedestrian-safe crossings across Madison Street	3.70	High
Maintain historic buildings and structures	3.60	High
Restore and promote Leonard-Leota Park fireplaces	3.50	High
Restore, preserve and maintain historic buildings within the park	3.50	High
Develop and Construct a better "sense of entry" from Madison Street approach	3.30	Medium
Install directional signage at the park entrances	3.10	Medium
Install skylight in the bathrooms	3.00	Medium
Repave park roads	2.90	Medium

Develop additional tennis courts	2.90	Medium
Install signage throughout the park that better fits with the historic nature of the park	2.80	Medium
Reconstruct and maintain the duck houses	2.80	Medium
Install interpretive signage throughout the park	2.30	Low
Develop additional basketball courts	2.20	Low
Move the skatepark to a different location	2.10	Low
Install new lighting at the upper ball diamond	2.00	Very Low
Install an outfield fence at the upper ball diamond	1.90	Very Low
Develop a beach and swimming area on Lake Leota	1.90	Very Low
Install a shelter over the shuffleboard court *(Need better access to equipment)	1.50	Very Low
Other: Franklin Park basketball courts		
Other: Clear brush west of warming house		

West Side Park

Project	Priority Score 1 (low) - 5 (high)	Priority
Create detailed construction plans for park improvements as outlined in the 2018 Master Plan	4.50	Very High
Create a bicycle/pedestrian trail through the park that connects to neighborhoods	4.40	Very High
Plant more trees	4.40	Very High
Increase pedestrian safety to and within the park	3.40	High
Create additional soccer fields	2.90	Medium
Re-designate community garden plots within Master Plan	2.80	Medium
Create baseball and softball fields	2.80	Medium
Other: Dog park		

Brzezinski Park

Project	Priority Score 1 (low) - 5 (high)	Priority
Complete sidewalk connections on west side of park	4.40	Very High
Designate an accessible parking space adjacent to park	4.00	Very High
Continue to update playground equipment with ADA accessible apparatus when possible	3.90	High
Other:		

Countryside Park

Project	Priority Score 1 (low) - 5 (high)	Priority
Plant more trees	3.60	High
Install a new accessible play structure	3.40	High

Landscape along south fence of the park	2.88	Medium
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Franklin Park

Project	Priority Score 1 (low) - 5 (high)	Priority
Replace recently removed trees and add landscape screening	4.20	Very High
Designate an accessible parking space adjacent to park	3.90	High
Update playground equipment with ADA accessible apparatus when possible	3.70	High
Add more toddler appropriate apparatus to attract young families and discourage loitering	3.5	High
Install a “gateway” to City sign, information kiosk, and shelter	3.00	Medium
Other: Resurface Basketball Court		

Peace Park

Project	Priority Score 1 (low) - 5 (high)	Priority
Remove and replace dead trees	4.60	Very High
Complete landscaping prescribed in Master Plan	3.80	High
Install an identification sign	3.70	High
Install park benches and lighting	3.50	High

Wind Prairie Park

Project	Priority Score 1 (low) - 5 (high)	Priority
Establish and use prairie management best practices	4.50	Very High
Create a “sense of entry”	3.70	High
Identify on-street parking locations	3.40	High
Add sidewalks to connect park to neighborhood	3.30	Medium
Install interpretive signage	3.22	Medium
Install permanent benches along the mowed path	3.00	Medium

Other New Facilities and Programs

Project	Priority Score 1 (low) - 5 (high)	Priority
Develop a network of bicycle/pedestrian paths through and around the city	4.50	Very High
Develop a trail along Allen Creek that connects Leonard-Leota Park to Main Street and Creekside Place	4.50	Very High
Explore possibilities to repair and enhance outdoor or indoor pool.	4.10	Very High

Increase routine maintenance efforts for facilities and equipment (paint, cleanliness, vandalism, etc.)	4.00	Very High
Guide development of Ice Age Trail route through city and through one or more parks	3.90	High
Install recycling receptacles in all parks	3.89	High
Identify top pieces of land for use as an off-leash dog park	3.60	High
Consider adding recreation programming (summer camps, adult recreation, movies in the park, etc.)	3.50	High
Create a splash pad	3.35	Medium
Develop additional “pocket parks” throughout city	3.20	Medium
Explore possible locations for a campground	2.60	Low
Create a sports complex	2.50	Low
Other: Community Fitness Center		
Other: Acquire land on Porter Road		

Highlighted Projects

The City’s Park and Recreation Board have received and analyzed public input, a process summarized by Chapter 2 of this Plan. Based on this information the Board has assigned priorities to the list of proposed park improvements presented in Table 6.1. This section’s discussion of some of the higher priority items helps to clarify project parameters, direction and status.

Lake Leota Walking/Hiking Path

“[Around 1979] Brian Anderson, an Evansville Boy Scout, prepared a nature trail along the shore of Lake Leota. There was a booklet available at the public library to describe the trail for those who wanted to walk along the shore. The booklet described a trail that Anderson had marked with small numbered wooden stakes that corresponded to numbers in a booklet written by Phil Kress. Flowers, birds, trees and other wildlife found in the lake area were described in the booklet. There were also plans to expand the trail for night walks, prairie and aquatic habitats.” — www.evansvillehistory.net/LakeLeota.html

Evansville residents have desired a loop path around Lake Leota for some time. Based on community feedback in 2018, the City’s Park and Recreation Board has ranked this as one of the “high” priorities. A lakeside path would increase opportunities for passive recreation within Leonard-Leota Park. Several challenges have prevented the path from being brought into existence already. A Union Pacific Railroad track comprises the northerly bank of Lake Leota, presenting a potential barrier to the route. Wetlands may cause practical problems for trail building around the lake as well. A good preliminary step to better understanding the lay of the land would be to have an engineering feasibility study drafted. Fully encircling Lake Leota may require creative solutions, and could end up consisting of different path types or even a boardwalk style connection in certain areas. Privately owned property abuts more than half of the lake’s perimeter. Construction of a trail on private property could compel owners to grant easements to the City along the valuable waterfront portion of their lots. Conservation easements are a type of easement that would allow an individual to retain ownership, yet allow the property to remain undeveloped. An alternative to formal easements could simply be verbal or

“handshake” agreements to allow the public to cross the land. Over the long term, the City should purchase the properties bordering Lake Leota whenever they eventually go on the market.

Repair of Allen Creek Walls

City residents and elected officials have identified this repair project as a high priority for a number of years, and five years ago it ranked as the highest priority infrastructure project. After a study commissioned in 2007 assessed the condition of the retaining walls, the repair project began in 2013. The City continues its dedication to this project by incrementally budgeting to repair sections of Allen Creek’s walls in a manner that honors the original building techniques. About two years remain until the project reaches completion. The original walls were installed as a Depression-era work relief project and are considered an historic feature of Leonard-Leota Park. As such, repairs will also need to encompass the two lagoons, duck houses, bridges, and stone furniture.

Ice Skating Area on Lake Leota

With designation as a National Historic Landmark, Leonard-Leota Park contains a number of historic structures needing maintenance and repair, independent of the ongoing Allen Creek



FIGURE 6.3 WARMING HOUSE ON LAKE LEOTA

perhaps be in the form of supervised sessions sponsored by local organizations. It is possible that grant money could be obtained for historic restoration through a nonprofit group such as the Wisconsin Questers (www.wiquesters.org).

project. One of the Park’s contributing assets to its landmark status is a warming house building located on the south shore of Lake Leota. Dating to the 1930’s, the original purpose of the building was to make ice skating on the lake more hospitable in wintertime, with the rooftop usable as a bandstand the other months of the year. As the building has been shuttered and trees have populated the adjacent hillside, its only use is as an overlook to the lake for occasional passers-by. Going forward, a formal building analysis will be needed for the warming house.

If it is to be used once again for skaters, it could

Access to and Within Leonard-Leota Park

Crossing Madison Street safely to enter Leonard-Leota Park is a basic practicality. For pedestrians, especially children, the demarcation of official crosswalk striping near the Antes drive intersection is needed. A new crosswalk across Madison Street should logically lead directly to the park’s entrance.

It would be desirable to see a welcoming entry point along the Madison Street edge of the park. A vehicle bridge that once overpassed the railroad tracks and creek was removed in the 1980's and replaced with at-grade crossings; with the bridge structure gone, the aesthetic of this side of Leonard-Leota Park has never been the same. No entrance has since been designed for Madison Street even though it is a major City thoroughfare. Today, a fine view of the park can still be had from Madison Street—yet from this vantage a formal sense of entry is lacking. The City should seek proposals for landscaping and signage to define the park's entry point, in coordination with a new pedestrian crossing installed for safety.



FIGURE 6.4 EXAMPLE OF ADDED PAVEMENT

Internal driveways and roadways within the park have been modified, expanded or rerouted many times. The State historic assessment of the park identifies the grounds as a designed landscape. The road network, landscaping, and view corridors within the park all contribute to the park's unique design. Pavement should be replaced in some areas, reduced in others, and possibly added in remote locations. Two intersections in the park have been paved, resulting in excessive area of pavement that does not serve a direct circulation purpose. One location, pictured above, is being used as a default parking area. If additional parking is needed, it should be added in remote locations that can be screened by landscaping and pavement should be reduced to narrow these intersections. A master plan for the park's future development would be helpful in outlining how to best solve these issues.

Dog Park

Neighboring communities have recently designated land specifically for use by dogs, as it has become quite popular for people to visit dog parks with their pets. The City of Milton opened 15-acre Tails n Trails Dog Park in 2011; annual volunteer cleanups and private donations serve to maintain it. The Village of Oregon opened 12-acre Jon Blanchard Dog Park in 2013; it is maintained by public works with annual dog license fees and dog park permit fees funding improvements. There's a solid interest in finding a place for a dog park in Evansville. Residents and officials have been discussing the idea in detail, and many people have shared opinions about where a dog park should be located. A recent effort has identified a location on Highway 213, adjacent to City Public Works operations as a possibility. A floodfringe area or other unbuildable land may make a great location for this sort of use. Strong pedestrian access is important and location near more dense development should be considered. A sub-committee will need to be formed to do the work of moving the concept forward, considering already-proposed sites as well as other potentially suitable land, and managing any associated regulations. The sub-committee may be comprised of dog advocates, dog-related business owners, and park board members. For the

enduring desirability of a dog park, a plan and funding for maintenance must also be established and enforced at its outset.

Allen Creek Trail and Other Multi Use Trails

The City's Smart Growth Plan recommends a citywide path network for Evansville's future, including a creek-side trail segment that would connect Creekside Place to Downtown Evansville. High-quality places generally provide multiple transportation options for residents, and multi-use trails are practical. A short portion of this trail will be built by 2020 on the east side of Allen Creek heading south from the Main Street bridge. A route has been sketched to extend this trail to Creekside Place. This trail is the start of a larger network that can connect many parks together. Westfield Meadows and Stonewood Grove Subdivisions are obligated to install trail. All future subdivisions should also be required to connect and provide connection to a city wide trail network.



FIGURE 6.5 ALLEN CREEK TRAIL

Public Pool

In the 1940s and 1950s rising bacteria counts in Lake Leota began to deter swimmers from the lake, and a public swimming pool (Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center) was built nearby the lake as an alternative to it. At over 50 years old, the Aquatic Center has problems. It needs extensive repairs if not total replacement. If the city replaces the pool, it would be wise to reevaluate its location. It may be time to examine the community's current needs for a public pool, and also consider the ways other nearby communities have responded to their desire for a pool.

Routine maintenance efforts

Public comments often identified deteriorated conditions at the park. Staff and Committee members also identified many areas where maintenance has been overlooked. Some examples are broken or deteriorated light fixtures, faded paint, and overgrown landscaping elements. A detailed checklist should be put in place to assure no items are missed.

West Side Park

Detailed construction plans for west side park improvements as informed by the 2018 master plan should be completed. Priority should be placed on installed extensive landscaping, screening, and pedestrian connections and loops through the park. A strong effort to plant trees in the park has created beautiful and lasting impact. This effort should be aligned with a detailed landscape plan so type and location of trees can work to outline the park's future. As noted in Chapter 4: Pedestrian access from off-site requires sharing the roadway with vehicles to reach the park facilities. Interconnecting walking/bicycling paths should be developed in the future, with consideration made to ensure the paths are ADA accessible. Sidewalks are lacking on Porter Road and Hillside Court. These streets act as crucial pedestrian connections.

Wind Prairie Park Sense of Entry and Access

Recent work with the National Park Service on routing of the Ice Age Trail have renewed attention and interest in this park. The park has poor pedestrian access and very little interpretive information. This park should be fully connected with sidewalks to the neighborhood and have a better defined entrance and on-street parking area.

Recreation Programs

Many comments in the survey centered on expansion of recreation programming. Expanded programs might include: Movies in the Park, yoga in the park, kayaking or canoeing, cycling, etc. A central staff person dedicated to marketing and organizing such programming could dramatically expand the depth and reach of recreation programs in the city.

Youth Center

The youth center serves as a vital connection to city programming and middle school youth. Recent discussions have centered on creating a new home for the center. This should continue to be explored. Coordination of Youth Center programming and recreation programming offers a unique opportunity to expand programming and share resources.



FIGURE 6.6 SIDEWALK DEAD-END AT WIND PRAIRIE PARK

Chapter 7.

Implementation

This chapter presents the Park Improvements Schedule, which highlights the top priorities for projects recommended for implementation over the five-year planning period. This plan recognizes that not all recommended improvements can be funded through tax dollars. For that reason, this chapter also explores potential local, State, and Federal sources of funding, in addition to City regulations which may assist in implementing this plan.

All recommendations made in this plan are the responsibility of the City of Evansville to implement. These implementations are to be decided upon by the Park and Recreation Board, Plan Commission, and Common Council.

Funding Sources

The following section provides a brief overview of a variety local, State, Federal, non-profit, and private funding sources that may be relevant for park and outdoor recreation projects encompassed within this City of Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan.

This funding section is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all available funding sources - it is intended to serve as a starting point for developing creative funding strategies for Evansville's park and outdoor recreation projects.

Local Sources

Local sources of funding for Evansville parks construction and improvements include the City Parks and Pool Budget, City long-term borrowing to finance capital improvements, developer paid fees in lieu of park and recreation land dedication, user fees for certain programs and activities, and donations from organizations and individuals.

The City of Evansville will be looking to public-private partnerships to fund and implement many of its parks projects moving forward. Excellent examples of cooperation between the City and local organizations already exist. A few recent examples include:

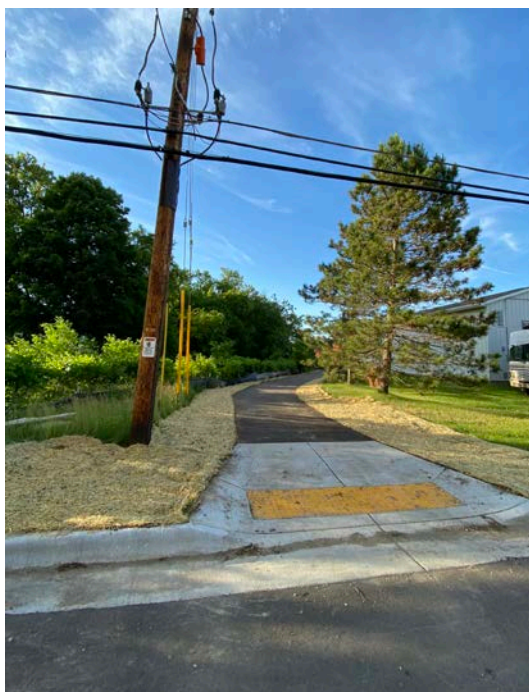


FIGURE 7.1 ALLEN CREEK TRAIL CONSTRUCTION

- The Evansville Home Talent Baseball Team (the Jays) has fundraised for new facilities at the upper ball diamond at Leonard-Leota Park. Future projects the Jays have identified as priorities include:
 - Improve field lighting and energy efficiency
 - Rebuild light switch shed to include equipment storage
 - Improve dugouts and add shelter over dugouts
 - Improve the outside appearance of the concession stand (i.e. new metal siding)
 - Install a new cement approach around the concession stand
 - Install professional looking garbage and recycling cans
- Save our Lake Environment (SOLE) previously paid for stocking fish in Lake Leota.
- A group of individuals passionate about disc golf combined fundraising efforts with Antes Fund money to create a nine-hole disc golf course at Leonard-Leota Park.
- Eagle Scouts have built and installed facilities in many Evansville parks, including a fishing pier in Lake Leota, benches, bird houses, and bat houses. The Evansville Woodchucks have contributed their expertise to many of these projects by mentoring Eagle Scouts through their construction of wooden structures.

Antes Fund

The City of Evansville also has access to a unique funding source for projects at Leonard-Leota Park. The Antes Fund, a trust fund established by Margaret Antes, is managed by the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin (CFSW) for improvement and beautification (not maintenance) of Leonard-Leota Park. Each CFSW fiscal year (June 30 to July 1), the Park and Recreation Board may apply to use the interest from the Antes Fund for an improvement/beautification project. The annual interest ranges between \$8,000 and \$16,000 annually. Interest earned must be spent within three years. Funds are distributed in the form of a grant. Recently funded projects include disc golf course facilities and shoreland restoration along Lake Leota.

State and Federal Funding Sources

1. **Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program Grants** - Local units of government that have an updated comprehensive park and outdoor recreation plan, such as this City of Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan, are eligible to apply for four Stewardship grant programs and two related Federal programs administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) under this grant program. These six funding sources are outlined below.
 - a. **Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)** - This program provides aids for the acquisition and development of local parks. Eligible projects include acquisition of land that promotes nature-based outdoor recreation, property with frontage on a water body that will promote water-based recreation, lands that can provide day-use picnic areas, and land for nature-based recreation trails.
 - b. **Urban Rivers (UR) Grants Program** - The program provides up to 50 percent of matching funds for the acquisition of land, or rights on land, adjacent to rivers that flow through urban areas. The intention of the program is to preserve or restore

urban rivers for the purposes of economic revitalization, encouraging outdoor recreation activities, and habitat restoration. Eligible projects include acquisition of lands that preserve natural values, providing new or expanded recreational opportunities, and acquiring blighted lands to restore and complement riverfront redevelopment.

- c. **Urban Green Space (UGS) Program** - The UGS program is intended to provide space in or near urban areas, protect scenic or ecological features, and provide land for noncommercial gardening.
 - d. **Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR)** - The goal of the ADR program is to protect natural, agricultural, and forest lands that encourage nature-based outdoor recreation through the purchase of conservation easements. Conservation easements involve compensating landowners for agreeing to limit future development on their land.
 - e. **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** - This program channels Federal funds to states to provide aids for local governmental units for acquisition and/or development of land and facilities for public outdoor recreation and open space. Cost sharing is a maximum of 50 percent.
 - f. **Recreational Trails Act (RTA)** - The RTA program utilizes Federal gas excise taxes to fund development and maintenance of recreational trails and trail-related facilities for motorized and non-motorized trail uses.
1. **Recreational Boating Facilities Program** - This program provides state cost sharing assistance to governmental units for feasibility studies for the development or improvement of public access to waters or harbors or access between waterways for recreational boaters. This program is administered by the State Department of Natural Resources and provides cost sharing assistance for up to 50 percent of the cost of a development project.
 2. **River Protection Planning and River Protection Management Grants** - These grants are administered by WDNR. The Planning grant provides funding to help form or strengthen a river management organization, conduct river education programs, conduct river assessments, and develop plans. The Management grant provides funding for land or conservation easement acquisition, river restoration, and local ordinance development.
 3. **Urban Forestry Grants** - WDNR administers three grants under this program - regular, startup, and catastrophic storm grants. The regular grants help fund municipalities' efforts to develop new, sustainable, innovative urban forestry programs. The startup grants are available to municipalities seeking to start or rekindle an urban forestry initiative. The catastrophic storm grants are available to municipalities for tree replacement, removal, and repair following a catastrophic storm event that resulted in a declaration of emergency by the Governor.
 4. **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)** - This program, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), allocates Federal funds for transportation improvement projects that "expand travel choice, strengthen the local economy, improve the quality of life, and protect the environment." Eligible projects include planning, design, and construction of on- and off-road bicycle and pedestrian trails, environmental

mitigation activities, construction of turnouts and overlook areas, management and prevention of invasive species in transportation rights-of-way, and Safe Routes to School programs.

5. **Local Transportation Enhancements (TE) Program and Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program (BFPF)** - The TE program funds projects that increase multi-modal transportation alternatives and enhance communities and the environment. The TE program provides up to 80% of costs for a wide variety of projects such as bicycle or pedestrian facilities, landscaping, and streetscaping. The BFPF funds bicycle and bicycle/pedestrian facilities, but not facilities strictly built for pedestrian use. As the projects eligible for both the TE and BFPF tend to overlap, the application process, administered by WisDOT, is the same for both programs.
6. **106 Transportation Funds** – These funds are allocated for transportation related projects, possibly including historic transportation uses and connections of Evansville's parks.
7. **Wisconsin Questers** have previously engaged with community members about finding projects in parks. They should be contacted as well.

Private and Non-Profit Funding Sources

1. **Wisconsin Conservation Corps (WisCorps)** - WisCorps is a non-profit organization that engages young adults in conservation projects on public lands. A municipality, such as the City of Evansville, can hire a crew to undertake a variety of conservation projects, including trail construction, stream bank restoration, reforestation, and invasive species management. WisCorps provides the labor, tools, general project management, transportation costs, and insurance for its workers. The municipality provides the project materials, general project guidance, and a funding match to cover a portion of the crew cost, ranging from \$5,000 to \$7,000 per week of work.
2. **PeopleforBikes Community Grant Program** - This competitive grant program funds community projects up to \$10,000 or 50% of the project cost, whichever is less. Eligible projects include infrastructure for bike paths, trails, lanes, and bridges, end-of-trip facilities such as bike racks and storage, and some advocacy projects that increase ridership and investment in bicycle infrastructure.
3. **Evansville Community Support** – Many local residents and businesses have donated to public causes in Evansville, most recently a 2018/2019 addition to the Eager Free Library. A coordinated campaign may be possible to put a fundraising strategy in place for future recreation needs.

Regulatory Strategies

A number of regulatory strategies and agreements can be used to accomplish the acquisition of lands, and for control of the use of lands. The following methods can be utilized by the City of Evansville to help implement this Outdoor Parks and Recreation Plan.

Natural Resources Zoning

Natural resources zoning may be used to protect shorelands, wetlands, floodplains, woodlands, agricultural lands, groundwater recharge areas, and recreation lands. These districts are usually more applicable in sparsely developed areas where the natural resources are still abundant, but

can also be used in highly developed areas to ensure that open space is accessible to populations in these areas.

The State of Wisconsin Statutes (Section 59.97) and Administrative Code (NR 117) require shoreland, wetland, and floodplain zoning by all cities and villages. Cities and villages are responsible for zoning the incorporated areas. The purpose of these regulations is to protect the shoreline, floodplain, and adjacent wetlands of navigable waters from undesirable use and development. The City of Evansville may zone additional areas beyond those minimum requirements specified in the Statutes and Administrative Code cited above.

Easements

Open space and private land for public recreation use may be acquired through an easement. With an easement, certain rights are granted to the public and the private owner is compensated for that public use. In purchasing an easement, the public body acquires a right either to use the land in a specific manner or to restrict the use of land. For example, the rights to establish public hiking and bicycling trails or fishing access to a waterway may be purchased through easement. When the preservation of woodlands, wetlands, or other natural resources is desired, a conservation easement may be purchased. Scenic easements may be used to limit development along a highway and preserve the adjacent landscape.

Leases

Leases are similar to easements. Leases may be applied as methods to use or protect land until more permanent measures for preservation can be found. By leasing parcels of land, the land remains on the county's and community's tax rolls and can be used for public recreation and open space. However, leases can be renegotiated or not renewed by the property owner if the monetary prospects for another use prove overpowering.

Another leasing method involves outright purchase of land by the city and the city leasing it to a private party or organization with use restrictions placed on the land. Under this method, the city receives some monetary return on its investment and retains control over the use of the land.

Subdivision Regulations

Some communities require the dedication of a portion of each new subdivision for public recreation use. The amount of open space to be dedicated typically falls between five and ten percent of the total area to be subdivided. Communities are able to request fees in lieu of such land dedication, if the community feels it does not need more open space for parkland or if there is not suitable land for park space within the proposed subdivision. Such fees could be used to improve existing park land.

According to Wis. Stat. 236.45(6)(b), "any land dedication, easement, or other public improvement fee for the acquisition or initial improvement of land for a public park that is required by a municipality, town, or county as a condition of approval under this chapter must bear a rational relationship to a need for the land dedication, easement, or other public improvement or parkland acquisition or initial improvement fee resulting from the subdivision or other division of land and must be proportional to the need." As of the writing of this plan, Evansville City

ordinances required a developer to dedicate land or pay a fee in lieu of park and recreation land dedication of \$1,108.78 per single family lot and \$831.55 per dwelling unit for multi-family lots.

List of Park Improvement Actions

This section of the plan highlights the top priorities for park improvements, as identified by the Park and Recreation Board (PRB). As discussed in the “Recommendations” Chapter, the PRB prioritized projects based on three criteria - apparent need/urgency, practicality/feasibility, and personal preference. The Park Improvements Action Items table highlights the top priorities (projects scoring very high, high and medium) for implementation, as determined during that prioritization process.

Table 7.1: Park Improvement Action Items highlights each project, by park, provides cost estimates for the recommended projects, and identifies potential funding sources that could be pursued to assist in implementation. The projects identified below are intended to be a guide for PRB members, elected officials, and staff in decision-making regarding implementing park projects over the 5-year planning period. Projects are contingent upon funding source availability and will not necessarily be included in the City’s annual budget or Five Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Table 7.1 Park Improvement Action Items

Legends	
<u>Project Partners</u> CC - Common Council PC - Plan Commission TC - Tourism Commission PRB – Park and Recreation Board Ad Hoc – Ad Hoc Committee for specific project DNR - Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ECSD – Evansville Community School District IATA – Ice Age Trail Alliance MSD – Municipal Services Department CDD – Community Development Department D – Developers	<u>Funding Sources</u> CF - City Funds/Levy UF – Utility Funds AF - Antes Fund DC - Developer Contributions AS – Assessments OG – Other Grants P - Private Donations

Leonard-Leota Park			
Action	Potential Project Partners	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
Complete repairs to the walls of Allen Creek	MSD	\$220,000	CF, UF, AF, PD & OG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repair or rebuild all remaining stone elements near creek (EG tables, etc.) 	MSD	\$20,000 +	CF, AF & PD
Create an ice-skating area on Lake Leota and open the warming hut for skaters to use in the winter	PRB, CC	\$10,000-50,000	AF, CF, PD & OG

Continue reforestation efforts	MSD	\$1,500-50,000 depending on project.	CF, PD & OG
Develop a walking/hiking path around Lake Leota	PRB, PC, MSD CDD	\$20/ linear foot	CF, PD, AF & OG
Establish and use shoreline management best practices	MSD	TBD	CF, UF, & OG
Install pedestrian-safe crossings across Madison Street	MSD, PC, CDD	\$20-40/ linear foot	CF, AS & OG
Maintain historic buildings & structures	MSD, CC, HPC	\$2,000-5,000 annually	CF, AF, PD, & OG
Restore and promote Leonard-Leota Park fireplaces	MSD, HPC	\$15,000	CF, AF, PD, & OG
Restore, preserve and maintain historic buildings within the park	MSD, HPC	\$5,000-20,000 each	CF, AF, PD, & OG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install historically approved windows and doors in Scout House 	MSD, HPC	\$5,000	CF, AF, PD, & OG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a preservation plan to restore and stabilize the warming house and bandstand 	MSD, HPC	\$1,000-3,000	CF, AF, PD, & OG
Develop and Construct a better “sense of entry” from Madison Street approach	MSD, HPC	\$10,000 +	CF, PD, & OG
Install directional signage at the park entrances similar to “City Hall” sign	MSD, HPC	\$3,000-6,000 each	CF, AF, PD, & OG
Install skylight in the bathrooms	MSD, HPC	\$2,500-4,000	CF, AF, PD, & OG
Repave park roads	MSD, HPC	\$150,000- 350,000	CF, AF, PD, UF & OG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce pavement and restore landscaped islands at intersections 	MSD, HPC	\$5,000-15,000	CF, AF, PD & OG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create crossing and walkway connection at upper park intersection 	MSD, HPC, PC	\$2,000 - \$5,000	CF, AF, PD & OG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use more historically and environmentally appropriate paving methods for parking and some roads (EG reinforced grass pavers, porous pavement, etc.) 	MSD, HPC, PC	\$25-\$40 sq. ft	CF, AF, PD, UF & OG
Install signage throughout that better fits with historic nature of the park	MSD, HPC	\$500-2,500	CF, AF, PD & OG
Reconstruct the 2nd duck house	MSD, HPC	\$10,000	CF, AF, PD, UF & OG
Install interpretive signage throughout the park	MSD, HPC	\$500-2,500	CF, AF, PD & OG
Develop a beach and swimming area on Lake Leota	MSD, HPC, PRB	\$100,000 +	CF, AF, PD, UF & OG
Improve access to shuffleboard court equipment	MSD, PRB	\$500-2,500	CF, AF, PD & OG
*Paint Pickleball lines on Tennis Court(s)	MSD	\$500	CF

West Side Park			
Action	Potential Project Partners	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
Create detailed construction plans for park improvements as outlined in the 2018 Master Plan	MSD, CDD, PC	\$150,000	CF, PD, UF & OG
Create a bicycle/pedestrian trail through the park that connects to neighborhoods	MSD, CDD, PC	\$150,000	CF, PD, DC & OG
Plant more trees	MSD	\$100/tree	CF, PD, & OG
Increase pedestrian safety to and within the park	MSD	\$20/ linear foot for 5' sidewalks	CF & OG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Sidewalks on Hillside, Porter, and Court 	MSD	\$20/ linear foot	AS & CF
Create additional soccer fields	MSD, PRB	\$350,000-550,000	CF, PD, DC & OG
Re-designate community garden plots within Master Plan	MSD, PRB, Ad Hoc	\$10,000-20,000	CF, PD & OG
Create baseball and softball fields	MSD, PRB	\$750,000-1M	CF, PD & OG
Brzezinski Park			
Action	Potential Project Partners	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
Complete sidewalk connections on west side of park	MSD	\$5,000-10,000	CF, PD, AS & OG
Designate an accessible parking space adjacent to park	MSD	\$500-2,000	CF
Continue to update playground equipment with ADA accessible apparatus when possible	MSD, PRB	\$15,000-30,000	CF, PD & OG
Clean up right of way to better improve "first impression" of park	MSD, CDD, PC	Unknown	CF, PD & OG
Countryside Park			
Action	Potential Project Partners	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
Plant more trees	MSD	\$100/tree	CF, PD & OG
Install a new accessible play structure	MSD	\$15,000-30,000	CF, PD & OG
Landscape along south fence of the park	MSD	\$2,500-15,000	CF, PD & OG
Add signage similar to "City Hall" sign, benches and decorative lighting	MSD, CDD	\$10,000-15,000 total	CF, PD & OG

Add sidewalk from shelter to bleachers	MSD	\$20/ linear foot	CF, PD & OG
Add sidewalks on nearby streets	MSD	\$20/ linear foot	CF, PD, AS & OG

Franklin Park

Action	Potential Project Partners	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
Replace recently removed trees and add landscape screening	MSD	\$100/tree	CF, PD, & OG
Designate an accessible parking space adjacent to park	MSD	\$500-2,000	CF
Update playground equipment with ADA apparatus when possible	MSD, PRB	\$15,000-30,000	CF, PD & OG
Add more toddler appropriate apparatus to attract young families and discourage loitering	MSD, PRB	\$5,000-10,000	CF, PD & OG
Install a “gateway” to City sign, information kiosk, and shelter	MSD, CDD, PC, CC, EDC, PRB	\$5,000-15,000 total	CF, PD & OG
Resurface Basketball Court	MSD, PRB	\$5,000-15,000	CF, PD & OG
Add walkway that connects park amenities, decorative lighting, and benches (see pg 4.6)	MSD, PC	\$20/ linear foot, \$700-3,500 each light & bench	CF, PD & OG

Peace Park

Action	Potential Project Partners	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
Remove and replace dead trees	MSD	\$1,500/tree	CF, PD & OG
Complete landscaping prescribed in Master Plan	MSD	Unknown	CF, PD & OG
Install an identification sign similar to “City Hall” sign	MSD, HPC	\$3,000-6,000 each	CF, PD & OG
Install park benches and lighting	MSD, HPC	\$700-3,500 each	CF, PD & OG
Add sidewalk to nearby multifamily building (see pg 4.7)	MSD	\$20/ linear foot	CF, PD, AS & OG
Connect labyrinth and sidewalk gap (see pg 4.9)	MSD	\$20/ linear foot	CF, PD & OG

Wind Prairie Park

Action	Potential Project Partners	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
Establish and use prairie management best practices	MSD	\$500-1,500 annually	CF, PD & OG
Create a “sense of entry”	MSD, PC, PRB	\$5,000-10,000	CF, PD & OG

Identify on-street parking locations	MSD	\$250-1,000	CF, PD & OG
Add sidewalks to connect park to neighborhood	MSD	\$20/ linear foot	CF, PD, AS & OG
Install interpretive signage	PC, ECSD	\$500-2,500	CF, PD & OG
Install permanent benches along the mowed path	MSD	\$700-2,000 each	CF, PD & OG
Consider hard surface walkway through park	MSD, PC, CDD	\$10-20/ linear foot	CF, PD & OG
Consider addition of nature based play areas (EG tree swings, log and stick enclosures)	PRB	Unknown	CF, PD & OG

Other New Facilities and Programs

Action	Potential Project Partners	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
Develop a network of bicycle/pedestrian paths through and around the city	D, PC	\$20-40/ linear foot	CF, PD, DC, AS & OG
Develop a trail along Allen Creek that connects Leonard-Leota Park to Main Street and Creekside Place	MSD, PRB, PC	\$40-50/ linear foot	CF, PD, UF, AS & OG
Explore possibilities to repair and enhance outdoor or indoor pool.	PRB, PC, HPC, CC	Unknown	CF, AF, PD & OG
Increase routine maintenance efforts for facilities and equipment (paint, cleanliness, vandalism, etc.)	MSD	Unknown	CF
Guide development of Ice Age Trail route through city and through one or more parks	IATA, DNR	Unknown	CF & OG
Install recycling receptacles in all parks	MSD	\$1,800 per receptacle	CF
Identify top pieces of land for use as an off-leash dog park	Ad Hoc, PRB,PC	None	CF
Consider adding recreation programming (summer camps, adult recreation, movies in the park, etc.)	PRB, CC	Unknown	CF, PD & OG
Create a splash pad	CC, PC, MSD, PRB	\$450,000	CF, PD & OG
Develop additional "pocket parks"	D	\$50,000- 250,000	CF, PD & OG
Community Fitness Center	CC, PRB	\$200-250/ sq. ft.	
Acquire land adjacent to existing parks	PRB, D, CDD	Unknown	CF, PD, DC & OG
Encourage better pedestrian connection to school forest	ECSD	\$20/ linear foot	CF, PD, AS & OG
Create Pedestrian connection to Evansville Wildlife Area (see pg. 4.10)	DNR	\$20/ linear foot	CF, PD, AS & OG

*added by motion of Park Board after plan adoption

Chapter 8.

Formal Plan Adoption

Adopted Common Council Resolution

**CITY OF EVANSVILLE
RESOLUTION #2020-20**

*A Resolution Adopting the
City of Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan 2020-2025*

WHEREAS, the City has maintained and periodically updated a Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan since 1994;

WHEREAS, the Plan guides the successful maintenance and improvement of the City's park and recreation system;

WHEREAS, the City values its parks system as a vital aspect of the quality of life in Evansville;

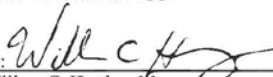
WHEREAS, development of an ongoing park and recreation plan is a prerequisite for many park related grant and loan programs; and

WHEREAS, after a public hearing held on August 4, 2020, in consideration of the City of Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan 2020-2025 drafted by the Park Board, the Plan Commission has recommended the adoption of the plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Evansville Common Council does hereby approve and adopt the Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan 2020-2025 for the City of Evansville, Wisconsin as its official parks plan.

Passed this 8th day of September, 2020.

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

By: 
William C. Hurtley, Mayor

Attest: 
Judy Walton, Clerk/Treasurer

Introduced: 09/08/20
Adopted: 09/08/20
Published: 09/16/20

Appendix

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Appendix A

State Statutes

27.08 City park board, powers.

(1) Every city may by ordinance create a board of park commissioners subject to this section, or otherwise as provided by ordinance. Such board shall be organized as the common council shall provide.

(2) The board of park commissioners is empowered and directed:

(a) To govern, manage, control, improve and care for all public parks, parkways, boulevards and pleasure drives located within, or partly within and partly without, the corporate limits of the city, and secure the quiet, orderly and suitable use and enjoyment thereof by the people; also to adopt rules and regulations to promote those purposes.

(b) To acquire in the name of the city for park, parkway, boulevard or pleasure drive purposes by gift, devise, bequest or condemnation, either absolutely or in trust, money, real or personal property, or any incorporeal right or privilege; except that no lands may be acquired by condemnation for the purpose of establishing or extending a recreational trail; a bicycle way, as defined in s. 340.01 (5s); a bicycle lane, as defined in s. 340.01 (5e); or a pedestrian way, as defined in s. 346.02 (8) (a). Gifts to any city of money or other property, real or personal, either absolutely or in trust, for park, parkway, boulevard or pleasure drive purposes shall be accepted only after they shall have been recommended by the board to the common council and approved by said council by resolution. Subject to the approval of the common council the board may execute every trust imposed upon the use of property or property rights by the deed, testament or other conveyance transferring the title of such property to the city for park, parkway, boulevard or pleasure drive purposes.

(c) Subject to the approval of the common council to buy or lease lands in the name of the city for park, parkway, boulevard or pleasure drive purposes within or without the city and, with the approval of the common council, to sell or exchange property no longer required for its purposes. Every city is authorized, upon recommendation of its officers, board or body having the control and management of its public parks, to acquire by condemnation in the name of the city such lands within or without its corporate boundaries as it may need for public parks, parkways, boulevards and pleasure drives. The power of condemnation may not be used for the purpose of establishing or extending a recreational trail; a bicycle way, as defined in s. 340.01 (5s); a bicycle lane, as defined in s. 340.01 (5e); or a pedestrian way, as defined in s. 346.02 (8) (a).

(d) To change or improve all parks, parkways, boulevards or pleasure drives within the city limits, controlled by the board, at the expense of the real estate to be benefited thereby, as provided in s. 27.10 (4).

(3) In any city having no board of park commissioners its public parks, parkways, boulevards and pleasure drives shall be under the charge of its board of public works, if it has such last named board; otherwise under the charge of its common council. When so in charge, the board of public works or the common council may exercise all the powers of a board of park commissioners.

(4) In every city having no city plan commission under s. 62.23 (1), the common council may provide that the board of park commissioners, if there be such board in the city, shall have the powers enumerated in s. 62.23 (2) and (17). The territory over which the city is given platting jurisdiction by s. 236.10 (1) (b) 2. shall for street, park, parkway, boulevard, pleasure drive and platting purposes be extended to 3 miles beyond the city limits. For the purpose of carrying out s. 62.23 (2) in said extended zone the common council may appropriate out of any available fund a sufficient sum to be used by said board for hiring engineers, surveyors and draftsmen, and other necessary help and assistants in making a comprehensive map of the said city and zone so as to put in concrete form the ideas of the said board as to how future dedications, openings and plattings of streets, highways, boulevards, pleasure ways and parks, or other public improvements or thoroughfares, shall be made; which said map, when adopted by the common council, shall serve as an advisory guide to the said board of park commissioners in making recommendations to the common council in the future as to approving plats, and shall not be departed from except in cases of necessity or discovered error therein.

(5) Whenever the common council of any city determines to improve any street, avenue or boulevard, the board of public works, or if there be no such board, the officer or officers authorized to make such improvement, may, as a part thereof set aside a portion of such street, avenue or boulevard for park purposes, and determine, subject to the approval of the board of park commissioners, if there be such a board, in what manner the portion so set aside shall be improved. The damages and benefits resulting from such entire improvement, including the cost of the improvement of the part of such street, avenue or boulevard so set aside shall be assessed to the several parcels of land affected thereby as provided by law in such city for such assessments. Any report required to be made and filed respecting such improvement shall include a detailed statement of said determination and the approval thereof by said board.

(6)

(a) The board of park commissioners of any city may conduct public concerts within its public parks and pay the expenses thereof out of the park fund. A fee for admission may be charged for the purpose of defraying such expenses in whole or in part.

(b) The board of park commissioners of any city of the 1st class where there has been hitherto established a driving club or similar organization in connection with

any park under the direction of said board of park commissioners may conduct horse races and driving exhibitions within its public parks and pay the expenses and cost of trophies therefor out of the park fund. A fee for admission may be charged for the purpose of defraying such expenses in whole or in part. Chapter 562 does not apply to any race under this paragraph.

History: 1985 a. 225 s. 100; 1987 a. 354; 2017 a. 59.

Cross-reference: See also ss. NR 47.01, 47.10, and 47.30, Wis. adm. code.

A county has full power and control over county park lands even though they are located within the limits of a city. 60 Atty. Gen. 282.

A city may not delegate its powers under ss. 27.08 and 27.09 to a county park commission created under s. 27.02, et seq. 61 Atty. Gen. 229.

Appendix B
City Ordinances

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 86-1. Penalty.

Except as otherwise provided, any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a penalty as provided in section 1-11.

(Code 1986, § 19.15)

Sec. 86-2. Personnel.

(a) Aquatic director.

(1) Appointment. The aquatic director shall be appointed annually by the city administrator in consultation with the appropriate department head and committee.

(2) Powers and duties. The aquatic director shall exercise the powers and duties as authorized by the Water Safety Institute, the American Red Cross and the city administrator in consultation with the appropriate department head and committee.

(b) Little League/softball/baseball director.

(1) Appointment. The Little League/softball/baseball director shall be appointed annually by the city administrator in consultation with the appropriate department head and committee.

(2) Powers and duties. The Little League/softball/baseball director shall exercise the powers and duties as authorized by the park and recreation board. Those duties shall include responsibility for coordinating and scheduling all baseball and softball tournaments and the maintenance and preparation of the baseball diamonds for all scheduled ball games and tournaments.

(Code 1986, § 19.08, Ord. 2008-23)

Sec. 86-3. Closing hours for parks.

(a) All parks shall be closed at 10:00 p.m. each day, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(b) No person shall enter, frequent or loiter in any park between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., except when public functions are being held in such park. For the purpose of this section, public functions shall constitute those functions for which the floodlights in the lower park have been turned on by the proper park officials for other public meetings, picnics or gatherings held pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. After all such occasions, no person shall remain in such park more than one-half hour after the termination of such functions or occasions.

(c) Persons or organizations desiring to hold public meetings, picnics or other public gatherings in any park which shall necessitate remaining in the park later than 10:00 p.m. shall apply for permission for such function to the chairperson of the park and recreation board or

such other person as the park and recreation board may designate. Such application shall state the hour at which such function shall terminate.

(d) Park hours shall be extended to 11:00 p.m. during the summer season (June through August).

(Code 1986, § 19.02; Ord. No. 1998-8, § 1, 7-14-1998)

Sec. 86-4.

(repealed by Ord. 2008-23).

Sec. 86-5. Permit for park use.

(a) Any individual, group or organization that wishes to reserve for use any public park or park facility for any non-commercial activity, except a city ball diamond or soccer field, should make a reservation with the office of the city clerk and pay all applicable fees at least 72 hours before the event. Reservations are issued on a first come, first served basis beginning January 1 of each year. All reservations fees shall be paid in full, in advance, to consider the park or park facility reserved and are non-refundable. A deposit of \$100.00 shall be paid to the city clerk at the time of paying the reservation fee. The deposit shall be held until the park areas used are cleaned up and restored to prior condition to the satisfaction of the city at the conclusion of the event. Upon satisfactory inspection by the city designee, the deposit shall be returned. Should the area require cleanup or restoration by the city, the deposit shall be forfeited and any additional expenses incurred by the city shall be the responsibility of the individual, group or organization.

(Code 1986, § 19.07, Ord. 2004-15, Ord. 2008-23, Ord. 2016-07)

Sec. 86-6. Reservation of ball diamonds and soccer fields.

(a) Any Evansville group or organization, including public school athletic programs, the city, youth and adult baseball softball leagues, and the Evansville Soccer Club, wishing to reserve on a seasonal basis any city ball diamond or soccer field for any non-commercial activity in any city park shall make a reservation with the office of the city clerk in writing at least 30 days before the first scheduled event. The various groups or organizations may coordinate schedules between themselves prior to making reservation with the office of the city clerk; however, reservations shall be made on a first come first served basis.

(b) Any Evansville resident, Evansville group or Evansville organization wishing to reserve any city ball diamond or soccer field for any non-commercial activity in any city park shall make a reservation with the office of the city clerk not more than 29 days but at least 48 hours before the event, except as provided in paragraph (a) & (c). Any other individual, group or organization wishing to reserve any city ball diamond or soccer field for any activity in any city park shall obtain approval from the park and recreation board chairperson not more than 29 days but at least 48 hours before the event, who shall promptly communicate her or his approval of the

reservation to the office of the city clerk. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis, and the reservation should be only for the hours needed.

(c) The Evansville group or organization coordinating the annual Fourth of July Celebration shall have precedence over all other individuals, groups or organizations for reservation of ball diamonds and soccer fields at Leonard Park during the days of the Fourth of July Celebration, provided the reservation is submitted to the office of the city clerk by April 15 of any given year.

(d) Any individual, group or organization that has reserved a ball diamond or soccer field shall pay a nonrefundable fee to the office of the city clerk at time of reservation. The amount of such fees shall be as established by the council from time to time by resolution and as set forth in appendix A.

(e) Upon payment of the fees, the city will furnish the use of the ball diamond or soccer field, ball diamond lights and properly maintained accessories and bases. The fees are to cover the cost of field maintenance, the cost of ball diamond preparation and utility costs.

(f) The use of the press box/concession stand and scoreboard shall require a deposit fee of \$100.00 payable upon Park Board and/or Public Safety approval to the office of the city clerk, along with the rental fee. Seasonal reservations made for use of the press box/concession stand and scoreboard requires one deposit fee and will include the use of the Oscar Dietzch shelter (when reserved with the upper ball diamond only). The deposit will be returned, provided the area is restored to its prior condition to the satisfaction of the city after inspection by the city designee.

(g) All public school functions and public school athletic programs of the city school district, the city, the city's youth baseball and youth softball leagues, and the youth Evansville Soccer Club shall be exempt from the fees and deposit requirements under this section.

(Code 1986, § 19.04, Ord. 2004-15, Ord. 2008-23)

Sec. 86-7. Permit for commercial activities in parks.

(a) No person shall offer any merchandise for sale or operate any stand or place of business within any of the parks in the city unless he shall first have obtained a permit for such operation.

(b) Application for such permit, stating the dates and hours of operation and type of merchandise to be sold, shall be filed with the city clerk not less than 72 hours prior to the first effective date of the permit sought.

(c) Such permit may be issued by the park and recreation board, which may delegate its authority to issue permits to its chairperson.

(d) No permit shall be authorized contrary to the city's contractual obligations with the operator of the city-owned park store in Leota Park.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the sale of fermented malt beverages for which a license has been issued for a particular picnic or similar gathering pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 125.26(6).

(Code 1986, § 19.05, Ord. 2008-23)

Sec. 86-8. Operation of motorboats on Lake Leota.

No person shall operate a boat propelled by a motor other than an electric motor on Lake Leota.

(Code 1986, § 19.03, Ord. 2008-23)

Secs. 86-9--86-30. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Sec. 86-31. Established.

There is created a park and recreation board of the city.

(Code 1986, § 19.01(1))

Sec. 86-32. Membership.

(a) The park and recreation board shall consist of seven members, one of whom shall be an alderperson. The alderperson member shall be appointed by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the council, annually on the third Tuesday of April or as soon thereafter as may be practiced. The six citizen members shall be appointed by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the city council. Two citizen members shall be appointed annually on the third Tuesday of April for a term of three years. The terms shall expire on the third Tuesday in April of the appropriate year.

(b) When the board meets and conducts business, a quorum or majority shall be four members present and four affirmative votes.

(Code 1986, § 19.01(2), Ord. 2006-18)

Sec. 86-33. Qualifications of members.

All citizen members of the park and recreation board shall be persons with recognized experience and qualifications and shall hold office until their respective successors are selected and qualified.

(Code 1986, § 19.01(4))

Sec. 86-34. Oath of members.

Citizen members of the park and recreation board shall take the official oath required by Wis. Stats. § 19.01, which shall be filed with the city clerk-treasurer.

(Code 1986, § 19.01(5))

Sec. 86-35. Compensation of members.

The members of the park and recreation board shall be compensated as determined by the city council.

(Code 1986, § 19.01(6))

Sec. 86-36. Vacancies.

All vacancies on the park and recreation board shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as appointment for a full term.

(Code 1986, § 19.01(7))

Sec. 86-37. Removal of members.

Any member of the park and recreation board shall be removed by the mayor for cause.

(Code 1986, § 19.01(8))

Sec. 86-38. Powers and duties.

The park and recreation board shall supervise the management and operation of the parks, lakes and streams in the city as they are now or may hereafter be provided by ordinance. The park and recreation board shall also supervise the management of the city recreation department, Veteran's Memorial Pool, city Little League programs, the park store and the park maintenance department.

(Code 1986, § 19.01(3))

Appendix C

Park and Pool Maintenance Charts

Park Operation and Maintenance				
	November-March	April - May	June - August	September-October
Staffing Levels	Park Maintenance Supervisor	Park Supervisor and one Public Works employee as needed	Park Supervisor and two or three seasonal employees	Park Supervisor and one Public Works employee as needed
Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Snow-plow park roads *General maintenance *Clean up trash as necessary *Build and repair picnic tables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Rake lawn and mow *Clean and open restrooms *Prepare flowerbeds *Clean and install playground equipment *Clean and open tennis courts *Clean creek and canals *Clean and prepare maintenance equipment *General maintenance, repair, and painting *Clean and place picnic tables *Clean and repair shelters *Turn on water by 4/15 *Clean and repair water fountains *Patch and repair roads *Clean and open maintenance area *Clean and set up grills *Clean and repair baseball/softball fields *Re-seed grass and plant new trees *Assist Pool Director with pool maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Mow and trim grass *Prune bushes and trees *Trim brush near lake and railroad tracks *General cleaning, painting, and maintenance *Water trees, shrubs, flowers as needed *Remove weeds *Place mulch around trees and shrubs *Patch creek retaining walls *Replace and repair playground equipment *Clean shelters and picnic tables *Remove trash daily *Clean and repair maintenance area *Re-gravel shoulders of park roads and parking areas *Clean and repair ball diamonds, tennis courts, and basketball court *Supervise small capital improvement projects *Assist Pool Director with general maintenance and repairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Mow and trim grass as necessary *Re-seed lawn where needed *Perform normal maintenance to grounds and equipment. *Begin shut-down of park facilities *Winterize park maintenance equipment and facilities *Prepare warming house *Shut off water and clean lines *Perform patch work on creek retaining walls *Clean and store grills, picnic tables, and trash containers *Rake leaves *Winterize park store and board up windows *Store maintenance equipment *Secure maintenance shop area *Complete capital improvement projects *Assist Pool Director as necessary

Pool and Park Store Operation and Maintenance				
	Late February - March	April - May	June - August	September
Staffing Levels	Pool Director	Pool Director and two seasonal employees	Pool Director and sixteen seasonal employees	Pool Director
Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Revise pool operations manuals/forms *Revise park store operations manual/forms *Begin to advertise for staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Drain and clean pool *Touch up painting of buildings/decks etc. *Repair pool surface and filtration system *Fill pool, check system and heating unit *Install ladders, boards, guard chairs and slide *Hire and train lifeguards and other seasonal employees *Send out notices to residents in Water and Light Bill *Pre-season registrations for passes and swimming lessons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Open pool second weekend of June *Supervise pool and park store operations according to operations manuals *Shut down pool during last week of August *Prepare budget for following year *Winterize and store equipment *Paint and clean as necessary *Storage of equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Perform final repairs, maintenance and winterizing *Prepare income/expenses report on pool and park store operation *Repairs/painting in park store

Appendix D

Leonard-Leota Park Historic Inventory

Report drafted by Dan Stephans, Historic Preservation Commission

Leonard – Leota Park

Leonard – Leota Park was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 9/4/2012. At that time there were 16 buildings, 21 structures, and two objects, for a total of 40 resources. 29 were considered to be contributing to the Historic District and the remainder, noncontributing, due to the fact that they are of too recent date of construction for National Register of Historic Places eligibility. The construction of much of the Lower Park was made possible by the use of annual project funds that were provided by several federal government Depression era work relief programs between 1933 and 1940, and most of the combined park's contributing resources are examples of the Rustic Style and are the products of these programs.

On Wednesday, August 15, 2018, I did a quick walk through Leonard – Leota Park for the purpose of identifying needed repair and maintenance.

I have provided a few photographs. This narrative will attempt to stand on its own but I will go through the photographs in order and provide information appropriate to each photograph.

100 HORSESHOE LAGOON WEST

Built 1935-1936

Contributing resources included two bridges and a duck house.

(Photos 101-109) The duck house has been removed from Allen Creek and is stored outside near the Department of Public Works Storage Shed. The Evansville Preservation Commission and the Wisconsin Historical Society understood that the duck house was to be carefully removed from Allen Creek and stored inside, in a protected environment until such a time as the City of Evansville has an appropriate budget for reconstruction of the duck house in its original location. The City shall move the parts of the duck house to an inside location. It appears there are duck house parts still in Allen Creek that must be removed and stored inside with the parts that are now outside near the Park's maintenance buildings.

This item is high priority.

(Photo 110) Enlarged the island upon which the duck house was located. The island should be extended upstream and tapered to a point using large stone to direct the water around the island. Provide an appropriate elevation for the duck house. Do this in preparation for reconstruction of the duck house.

(Photos 111-114) Restore stone seat at stone table.

(Photos 111 & 115) Restore stone tabletop at stone table.

200 HORSESHOE LAGOON EAST

Built 1935-1936

Contributing resources include two bridges, a duck house, and a fireplace.

(Photos 201-202) Allen Creek rip-rap restoration, an ongoing effort, needs to be done in this area.

(Photos 203-208) At the duck house the following work needs to be done:

1. Remove vegetation.
2. Restore the foundation and enlarged the island upon which the duck house is located. The island should be extended upstream and tapered to a point using large stone to direct the water around the island. **This item is high priority.**
3. Replace the roof.

4. Tuck point where needed.

(Photos 209-211) Stabilize foundation at approach to bridge. This structural failure is a life safety issue. **This item is high priority.**

(Photos 212-216) Restore surface approach to bridge. This structural failure is a life safety issue.

(Photos 209 & 217) Restore walls of bridge.

(Photos 218-219) Stone table is not stable. Restore table or carefully remove that tabletop to a protected location until such a time as the City of Evansville has appropriate budget for reconstruction the table. This structural failure is a life safety issue. **This item is high priority.**

(Photos 220-225) Beehive fireplace:

1. Tuck point as required, do not use Portland cement to point stone. Use appropriate mortar.
2. Remove vegetation.
3. Remove pavers that back slope into the fireplace.
4. Through excavation provide positive slope away from the fireplace.

300 HENNEBERRY SHELTER HOUSE 121 Antes Drive

The Henneberry Shelter House, built in 1939, is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

At the Henneberry Shelter House the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 301-309) Remove the concrete pavement at the east and west walls. The concrete back-slopes into the building causing the lower courses of stone to have a higher than optimal moisture content. The wet stone will deteriorate at an accelerated rate. Through excavation provide a positive slope away from the building.
2. (Photo 310) Roof is in serviceable condition. Determine useful life of the roof and schedule replacement appropriately.
3. (Photos 311-315) Repair fascia and soffit where wildlife is gaining access to attic.
4. (Photos 316-319) Touchup paint and stain.
5. (Photos 320-322) Paint or stain unfinished wood.
6. (Photo 323) Restore plaster.
7. (Photo 324) Paint metal in need of paint to prevent rust.
8. (Photos 325-326) Tuck point as required, do not use Portland cement to point stone. Use appropriate mortar.
9. (Photo 327) Restore window trim.
10. (Photos 328-332) Attic appears to lack appropriate ventilation. There appears to be a partial ridge vent, but the only air intake is where wildlife have created openings to access the area. Gable-end features appear to have possibly once provided ventilation. These features have been cemented shut. Provide appropriate ventilation for the attic. Such ventilation will extend the life of roof, the roof structure, and the ceiling.

400 ANTES CABIN

Antes Cabin was built in 1922 and moved to into the Park in 1936. Antes Cabin was moved out of the Park after 2010. The Cabin remains an important historical asset and helps tell the story of the City of Evansville and Leonard – Leota Park.

(Photos 401-402) Antes Cabin has been restored to a tourist cabin and is in good repair.

500 ALLEN'S CREEK FOOTBRIDGE

Allen's Creek Footbridge, built in 2002, is a noncontributing structure of the Historic District.

(Photos 501-502) At the Allen's Creek Footbridge the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 503-504) Remove wasps' nests.
2. (Photos 505-510) Touchup paint and stain.
3. (Photos 511-515) Restore light fixtures.

600 ALLEN'S CREEK RIP-RAP

Allen's Creek Straightening & Rip-Rap was constructed 1933-1937. There was a 1986 project that addressed the Rip-Rap. Rip-Rap restoration is currently being done.

Allen's Creek Straightening & Rip-Rap is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

(Photos 601-614) An excellent job of restoration is being done. Those areas that have not been restored, need to be restored. Where the top of the wall has failed, especially where the wall has failed to the point that erosion is taking place, washing the bank into Allen's Creek, stabilize these areas until restoration can be done.

700 DISK GOLF STATIONS

(Photo 701) A nice addition to the Park, providing a frequently used feature. These are noncontributing elements of the Historic District. Maintain the Disk Golf Stations.

(Photos 702-703) Restore retaining wall.

800 BELL TOWER 120 Antes Drive

The Bell Tower, built in 1940, was the last project in the Park that was funded by the Federal Work Relief Programs.

At the Bell Tower the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 801-804) Replace roof.
2. (Photos 805-807) Through excavation provide positive slope away from the building.
3. (Photos 808-809) Tuck point as required, do not use Portland cement to point stone. Use appropriate mortar.
4. (Photos 810-811) Paint unpainted wood.
5. (Photos 812-813) Touchup paint.

900 ANTES DRIVE BRIDGE OVER ALLEN'S CREEK

Antes Drive Bridge over Allen's Creek, built in 1925, is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

At Antes Drive Bridge over Allen's Creek the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 901-902) Touchup paint.

1000 TENNIS COURTS AND SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS

(Photos 1001-1005) The tennis courts and shuffleboard courts were built in 1937-1938 and are contributing elements of the Historic District. The tennis courts are well-maintained. The shuffleboard courts could use maintenance, but are probably not used. This may be because they need maintenance.

1100 SKATEBOARD AREA

(Photo 1004) Skateboard area appears to be well-maintained.

1200 BALLFIELDS

(Photos 1201-1205) The South Baseball Diamond was built in 1925 and rebuilt in 1933. The North Baseball Diamond was built in 1927 and rebuilt in 1931. Both baseball diamond are contributing assets of the Historic District.

The ballfields are frequently used and appear to be well-maintained.

1300 SOUTH BASEBALL DIAMOND BATHROOM BUILDING

The South Baseball Diamond Bathroom Building, built in 1963, is a non-contributing asset of the Historic District.

(Photo 1301) At the South Baseball Diamond Bathroom Building the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 1302-1303) Replace deteriorated plywood.
2. (Photos 1304-1305) Touchup paint.
3. (Photo 1306) Address condition at doorjamb.

1400 STORE BUILDING

The Store Building, built in 1939, is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

(Photo 1401) At the Store Building the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 1402-1408) Clean and fill (seal) the opening at the bottom of the building to prevent water intrusion. When this is done provide a slope away from the building.
2. (Photos 1409-1410) Tuck point as required. Do not use Portland cement to point stone, use appropriate mortar.
3. (Photos 1410-1412) Touchup paint.

1500 VETERANS MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL / FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER

The Swimming Pool, built in 1958, is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

The Family Aquatic Center, built in 1974, is a noncontributing asset of the Historic District.

(Photos 1501-1504) At the Swimming Pool / Family Aquatic Center the following work needs to be done:

1. Repair plaster at walls.

1600 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS GARAGES AND STORAGE SHED

Department of Public Works Garages and Storage Shed, built in 1965 and 1984, are noncontributing assets of the Historic District.

At the Department of Public Works' buildings the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 1601-1602) Paint touchup.
2. (Photos 1603-1608) Where metal has been damaged apply paint to prevent rust.
3. (Photo 1609) Repair roof at Storage Building.

1700 STONE RETAINING WALLS

(Photos 1701-1702) Repair retaining walls.

1800 GAZEBO

At the Gazebo the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 1801-1802) Repair roof.
2. (Photos 1803-1804) Paint unfinished wood.
3. (Photo 1805) Touchup paint.

2900 FIREPLACE

At the Fireplace the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photo 1901) Tuck point as required. Do not use Portland cement to point stone, use appropriate mortar.
2. (Photos 1902-1904) Clean out firebox and chimney.
3. (Photos 1905-1906) Restore stone cap at the side of the firebox and at the top of the chimney.

2000 BATH HOUSE

The Bathhouse, built 1924 – 1925, is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

At the Bathhouse the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 2001-2010) Tuck point as required. This is a concrete block building and Portland cement mortar is appropriate to be used for pointing. Open joints should be pointed with mortar, not caulk.
2. (Photos 2011-2018) Touchup paint and paint unfinished wood.
3. (Photos 2017) Remove wasps' nests.
4. (Photos 2019-2024) Clean and fill (seal) opening at the bottom of the wall. Provide positive drainage away from the building with this detail.
5. (Photos 2001-2002 & 2009-2010) Restore windows.
6. If there is a ceiling in this building, provide appropriate attic ventilation.

2100 NORTH BASEBALL DIAMOND BUILDING

The North Baseball Diamond Building, built in 1975, is a noncontributing asset of the Historic District.

(Photos 2101-2104) Touchup paint.

2200 NORTH BASEBALL DIAMOND BATHROOM BUILDING

The North Baseball Diamond Bathroom Building, built in 1988, is a noncontributing asset of the Historic District.

(Photos 2201-2204) At the North Baseball Diamond Bathroom Building the following work needs to be done:

1. Touchup paint.
2. Remove stones from roof.

2300 375 BURR W. JONES CIRCLE

At 375 Burr W. Jones Circle the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 2301-2319) Touchup paint and paint unfinished wood.
2. (Photo 2319) Remove bird's nest.
3. (Photo 2320) Paint metal to prevent rust.

2400 HORSE BARN SHELTER HOUSE

The Horse Barn Shelter House, built in 1971, is a noncontributing asset of the Historic District.

(Photos 2401-2405) At the Horse Barn Shelter House the following work needs to be done:

1. Touchup paint.
2. Paint unfinished wood.
3. Remove birds' nests.

2500 CANON MOUNT

(Photos 2501-2505) Remove vegetation.

2600 BANDSTAND – WARMING HOUSE

The Bandstand – Warming House, built in 1937 – 1940, is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

At the Bandstand - Warming House the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 2601-2614) Due to foundation failure at the stair, the stair is pulling away from the building. It is imperative to stabilize his failing foundation condition as soon as possible. This structural failure is a life safety issue. **This item is high priority.**
2. (Photo 2615) The corner of the building at the stair is suffering from this same condition. Corner of the building is being pulled away from the building with the stair. This condition needs to be addressed immediately to avoid further damage to the building. This structural failure is a life safety issue. **This item is high priority.**
3. (Photos 2616-2624) Touchup paint.
4. (Photo 2625) Clean and fill (seal) opening at the bottom of the wall. Provide positive drainage away from the building with this detail.
5. (Photos 2617, 2619, & 2626-2627) Paint unfinished wood.
6. (Photos 2627-2629) Tuck point as required. Do not use Portland cement to point stone, use appropriate mortar.
7. (Photos 2630-2632) Repair wood deck at Lake and paint or seal.
8. (Photos 2618 & 2631) Restore windows.21,
9. (Photos 2635-2638) Replace missing stone at Southeast corner.
10. (Photos 2639-2641) Fill void above South door with appropriate mortar.

2700 LEONARD PARK SHELTER HOUSE

The Leonard Park Shelter House, built in 1959, is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

(Photos 2701-2709) At the Leonard Park Shelter House the following work needs to be done:

1. Touchup paint.
2. At steel elements, properly prepare metal prior to paint touchup.

2800 LEONARD PARK BATHROOM BUILDING

The Leonard Park Bathroom Building, built in 1912, is a contributing asset of the Historic District.

At the Leonard Park Bathroom Building the following work needs to be done:

1. (Photos 2801-2806 & 2814-2816) Tuck point as required. This is a concrete block building and the use of Portland cement mortar is appropriate. Caulk is not an appropriate pointing material.
2. (Photos 2807-2809) Touchup paint.
3. (Photos 2810-2813) Restore stone element on more side of building.

2900 LEONARD PARK FIREPLACE

(Photos 2901-2911) Restore stone fireplace.



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



House Island Horseshoe Lag



Table and Seats Horseshoe La



Table and Seats Horseshoe La



Table and Seats Horseshoe La



Table and Seats Horseshoe La



Table and Seats Horseshoe La



Creek Rip-Rap Horseshoe La



Creek Rip-Rap Horseshoe La



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



uck House Horseshoe Lagoon



otbridge at Horseshoe Lagoon



Ige Approach Horseshoe Lagc



Ige Approach Horseshoe Lagc



Ige Approach Horseshoe Lagc



Ige Approach Horseshoe Lagc



otbridge at Horseshoe Lagoon



otbridge at Horseshoe Lagoon



otbridge at Horseshoe Lagoon



otbridge at Horseshoe Lagoon



tone Table Horseshoe Lagoon



tone Table Horseshoe Lagoon



ive Fireplace at Horseshoe La



ive Fireplace at Horseshoe La



ive Fireplace at Horseshoe La



ive Fireplace at Horseshoe La



ive Fireplace at Horseshoe La



ive Fireplace at Horseshoe La



301 Henneberry Shelter House



302 Henneberry Shelter House



303 Henneberry Shelter House



304 Henneberry Shelter House



305 Henneberry Shelter House



306 Henneberry Shelter House



307 Henneberry Shelter House



308 Henneberry Shelter House



309 Henneberry Shelter House



310 Henneberry Shelter House



311 Henneberry Shelter House



312 Henneberry Shelter House



313 Henneberry Shelter House



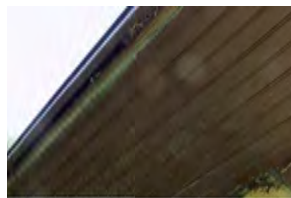
314 Henneberry Shelter House



315 Henneberry Shelter House



316 Henneberry Shelter House



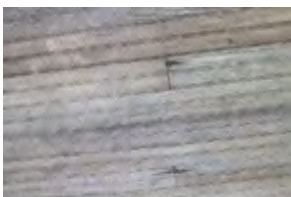
317 Henneberry Shelter House



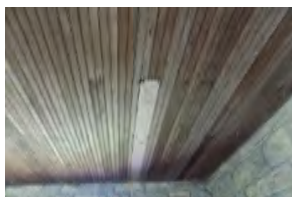
318 Henneberry Shelter House



319 Henneberry Shelter House



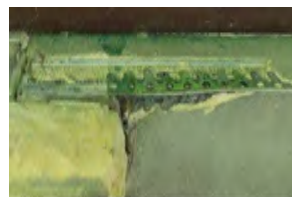
320 Henneberry Shelter House



321 Henneberry Shelter House



322 Henneberry Shelter House



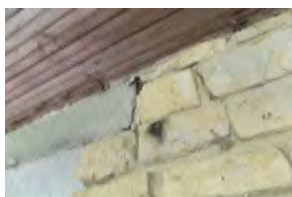
323 Henneberry Shelter House



324 Henneberry Shelter House



325 Henneberry Shelter House



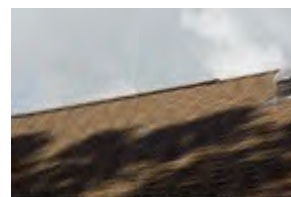
326 Henneberry Shelter House



327 Henneberry Shelter House



328 Henneberry Shelter House



329 Henneberry Shelter House



330 Henneberry Shelter House



331 Henneberry Shelter House



332 Henneberry Shelter House



401 Antes Cabin



402 Antes Cabin



501 Allen's Creek Footbridge



502 Allen's Creek Footbridge



503 Allen's Creek Footbridge



504 Allen's Creek Footbridge



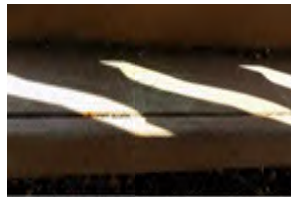
505 Allen's Creek Footbridge



506 Allen's Creek Footbridge



507 Allen's Creek Footbridge



508 Allen's Creek Footbridge



509 Allen's Creek Footbridge



510 Allen's Creek Footbridge



511 Allen's Creek Footbridge



512 Allen's Creek Footbridge



513 Allen's Creek Footbridge



514 Allen's Creek Footbridge



515 Allen's Creek Footbridge



601 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



602 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



603 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



604 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



605 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



606 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



607 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



608 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



Creek Rip-Rap at Horseshoe L



610 Allen's Creek Rip-Rap



Allen's Creek Rip-Rap at East L



Allen's Creek Rip-Rap at East L



Allen's Creek Rip-Rap at East L



Allen's Creek Rip-Rap at East L



701 Disk Golf Stations



702 Disk Golf Stations



703 Disk Golf Stations



801 Bell Tower



802 Bell Tower



803 Bell Tower



804 Bell Tower



805 Bell Tower



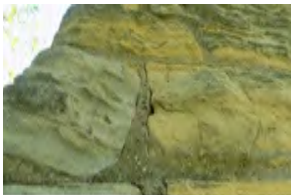
806 Bell Tower



807 Bell Tower



808 Bell Tower



809 Bell Tower



810 Bell Tower



811 Bell Tower



812 Bell Tower



813 Bell Tower



White Drive Bridge Over Allen's



White Drive Bridge Over Allen's



1001 Shuffleboard Courts



1002 Tennis Courts



1003 Tennis Courts



1004 Tennis Courts



1005 Tennis Courts



1201 South Baseball Diamond



1202 South Baseball Diamond



1203 South Baseball Diamond



1204 South Baseball Diamond



1205 North Baseball Diamond



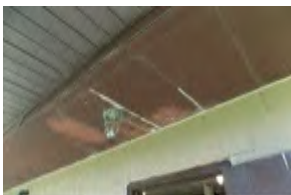
13th Baseball Diamond Bathroom



13th Baseball Diamond Bathroom



13th Baseball Diamond Bathroom



13th Baseball Diamond Bathroom



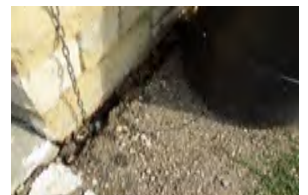
13th Baseball Diamond Bathroom



13th Baseball Diamond Bathroom



1401 Store Building



1402 Store Building



1403 Store Building



1404 Store Building



1405 Store Building



1406 Store Building



1407 Store Building



1408 Store Building



1409 Store Building



1410 Store Building



1411 Store Building



1412 Store Building



1413 Memorial Swimming Pool Family



1414 Memorial Swimming Pool Family



1415 Memorial Swimming Pool Family



1416 Memorial Swimming Pool Family



1417 Department of Public Works Building



1418 Department of Public Works Building



1419 Department of Public Works Building



1420 Department of Public Works Building



1421 Department of Public Works Building



1422 Department of Public Works Building



1423 Department of Public Works Building



1424 Department of Public Works Building



1425 Department of Public Works Building



1426 Retaining Wall near Public Works Building



1427 Retaining Wall near Public Works Building



1801 Gazebo



1802 Gazebo



1803 Gazebo



1804 Gazebo



1805 Gazebo



1901 Fireplace



1902 Fireplace



1903 Fireplace



1904 Fireplace



1905 Fireplace



1906 Fireplace



2001 Bath House



2002 Bath House



2003 Bath House



2004 Bath House



2005 Bath House



2006 Bath House



2007 Bath House



2008 Bath House



2009 Bath House



2010 Bath House



2011 Bath House



2012 Bath House



2013 Bath House



2014 Bath House



2015 Bath House



2016 Bath House



2017 Bath House



2018 Bath House



2019 Bath House



2020 Bath House



2021 Bath House



2022 Bath House



2023 Bath House



2024 Bath House



North Baseball Diamond Building



North Baseball Diamond Building



North Baseball Diamond Building



North Baseball Diamond Building



Diamond Bathroom Building & Office



North Baseball Diamond Bathroom



North Baseball Diamond Bathroom



North Baseball Diamond Bathroom



2301 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2302 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2303 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2304 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2305 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2306 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2307 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2308 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2309 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2310 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2311 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2312 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2313 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2314 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2315 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2316 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2317 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2318 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2319 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2320 375 Burr W. Jones Circle



2401 Horse Barn



2402 Horse Barn



2403 Horse Barn



2404 Horse Barn



2405 Horse Barn



2501 Canon Mount



2502 Canon Mount



2503 Canon Mount



2504 Canon Mount



2505 Canon Mount



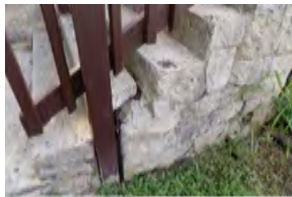
01 Bandstand - Warming Hou



02 Bandstand - Warming Hou



03 Bandstand - Warming Hou



04 Bandstand - Warming Hou



05 Bandstand - Warming Hou



06 Bandstand - Warming Hou



07 Bandstand - Warming Hou



08 Bandstand - Warming Hou



09 Bandstand - Warming Hou



10 Bandstand - Warming Hou



11 Bandstand - Warming Hou



12 Bandstand - Warming Hou



13 Bandstand - Warming Hou



14 Bandstand - Warming Hou



15 Bandstand - Warming Hou



16 Bandstand - Warming Hou



17 Bandstand - Warming Hou



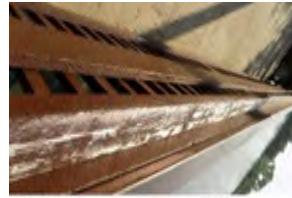
18 Bandstand - Warming Hou



19 Bandstand - Warming Hou



20 Bandstand - Warming Hou



21 Bandstand - Warming Hou



22 Bandstand - Warming Hou



23 Bandstand - Warming Hou



24 Bandstand - Warming Hou



25 Bandstand - Warming Hou



26 Bandstand - Warming Hou



27 Bandstand - Warming Hou



28 Bandstand - Warming Hou



29 Bandstand - Warming Hou



30 Bandstand - Warming Hou



31 Bandstand - Warming Hou



34 Bandstand - Warming Hou



35 Bandstand - Warming Hou



36 Bandstand - Warming Hou



37 Bandstand - Warming Hou



38 Bandstand - Warming Hou



39 Bandstand - Warming Hou



40 Bandstand - Warming Hou



41 Bandstand - Warming Hou



42 Bandstand - Warming Hou



43 Bandstand - Warming Hou



'01 Leonard Park Shelter Hou



'02 Leonard Park Shelter Hou:



'03 Leonard Park Shelter Hou:



'04 Leonard Park Shelter Hou:



'05 Leonard Park Shelter Hou:



'06 Leonard Park Shelter Hou:



'07 Leonard Park Shelter Hou:



'08 Leonard Park Shelter Hou:



'09 Leonard Park Shelter Hou:



1 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



2 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



3 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



4 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



5 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



6 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



7 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



8 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



9 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



0 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



1 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



2 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



3 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



4 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



5 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



6 Leonard Park Bathroom Buil



2901 Leonard Park Fireplace



2902 Leonard Park Fireplace



2903 Leonard Park Fireplace



2904 Leonard Park Fireplace



2905 Leonard Park Fireplace



2906 Leonard Park Fireplace



2907 Leonard Park Fireplace



2908 Leonard Park Fireplace



2909 Leonard Park Fireplace



2910 Leonard Park Fireplace



2911 Leonard Park Fireplace



Dead Trees in Leonard Park



Iron Grill - 1



Iron Grill - 2



Iron Grill - 3



Leonard Park Bat House - 1



Leonard Park Bat House - 2



Leonard Park Bat House - 3



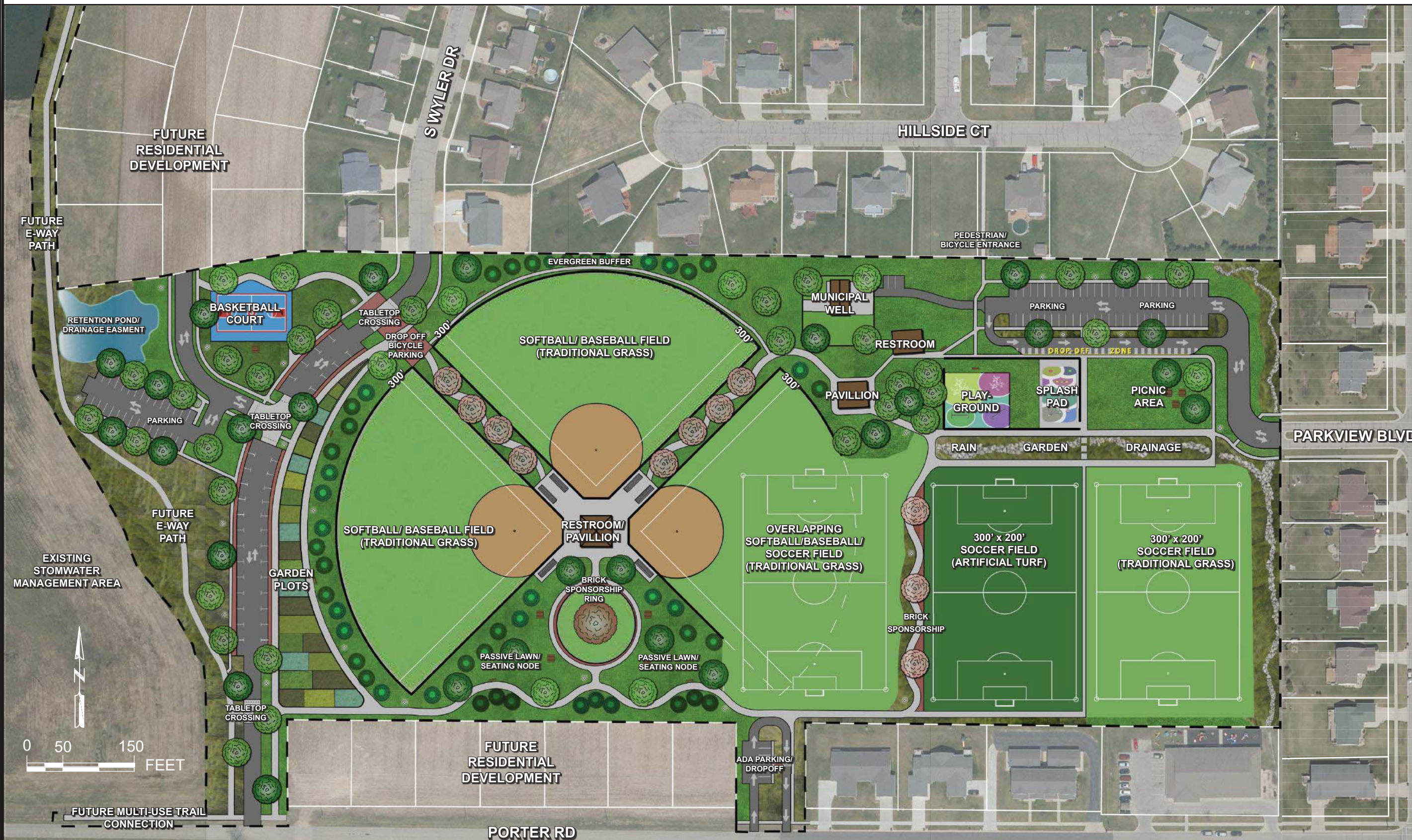
Leonard Park Sand Box



Restored Footbridge - 1

Appendix E
West Side Park Concepts

These documents shall not be used for any purpose or project for which it is not intended. Mead & Hunt shall be indemnified by the client and held harmless from all claims, damages, liabilities, losses, and expenses, including attorneys' fees and costs, arising out of such misuse or reuse of the documents. In addition, unauthorized reproduction of these documents, in part or as a whole, is prohibited.



CITY OF EVANSVILLE, WISCONSIN
WEST SIDE PARK DEVELOPMENT
S 6th Street & Porter Road

ISSUED
CONCEPT
A

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

MSH NO.: 0502100-180812.01
DATE: July 2018
DESIGNED BY: BAC
DRAWN BY: BAC
CHECKED BY: DJW, MSS

SHEET CONTENTS

SHEET NO. X of X

FUTURE E-WAY PATH

FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

S WYLER DR

HILLSIDE CT

PEDESTRIAN/
BICYCLE ENTRANCE

RETENTION POND/
DRAINAGE EASEMENT

BASKETBALL COURT

TABLETOP CROSSING

DROP OFF BICYCLE PARKING

SOFTBALL/ BASEBALL FIELD (TRADITIONAL GRASS)

MUNICIPAL WELL

RESTROOM

PARKING

PARKING

DROP OFF ZONE

PAVILLION

PLAY-GROUND

SPLASH PAD

PICNIC AREA

PARKVIEW BLVD

RAIN GARDEN DRAINAGE

FUTURE E-WAY PATH

EXISTING STOMWATER MANAGEMENT AREA

SOFTBALL/ BASEBALL FIELD (TRADITIONAL GRASS)

RESTROOM/ PAVILLION

OVERLAPPING SOFTBALL/BASEBALL/ SOCCER FIELD (TRADITIONAL GRASS)

300' x 200' SOCCER FIELD (ARTIFICIAL TURF)

300' x 200' SOCCER FIELD (TRADITIONAL GRASS)

GARDEN PLOTS

BRICK SPONSORSHIP RING

BRICK SPONSORSHIP

PASSIVE LAWN/ SEATING NODE

PASSIVE LAWN/ SEATING NODE

TABLETOP CROSSING

FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

ADA PARKING/ DROPOFF

PORTER RD

FUTURE MULTI-USE TRAIL CONNECTION

0 50 150 FEET



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CITY OF EVANSVILLE, WISCONSIN
WEST SIDE PARK DEVELOPMENT
S 6th Street & Porter Road

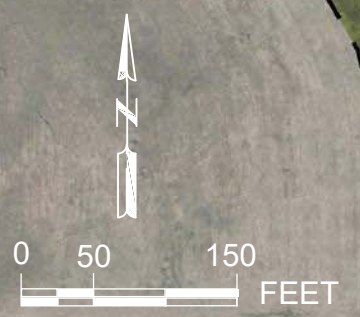
ISSUED
CONCEPT
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NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

MSH NO.: 0502100-180812.01
DATE: July 2018
DESIGNED BY: BAC
DRAWN BY: BAC
CHECKED BY: DJW, MSS

SHEET CONTENTS

SHEET NO. X of X



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CITY OF EVANSVILLE, WISCONSIN
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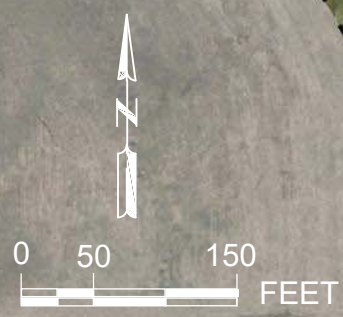
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SHEET CONTENTS

SHEET NO. X of X



Appendix F

Pool Concepts

Submitted and reviewed by Common Council



VETERAN'S MEMORIAL AQUATIC CENTER - SCHEME 1

LAKE LEOTA PARK
EVANSVILLE, WI
12 SEPTEMBER 2017





VETERAN'S MEMORIAL AQUATIC CENTER - SCHEME 2
LAKE LEOTA PARK
EVANSVILLE, WI
12 SEPTEMBER 2017





VETERAN'S MEMORIAL AQUATIC CENTER - SCHEME 3
 LAKE LEOTA PARK
 EVANSVILLE, WI
 12 SEPTEMBER 2017



Appendix G

Park Action Item Illustrations

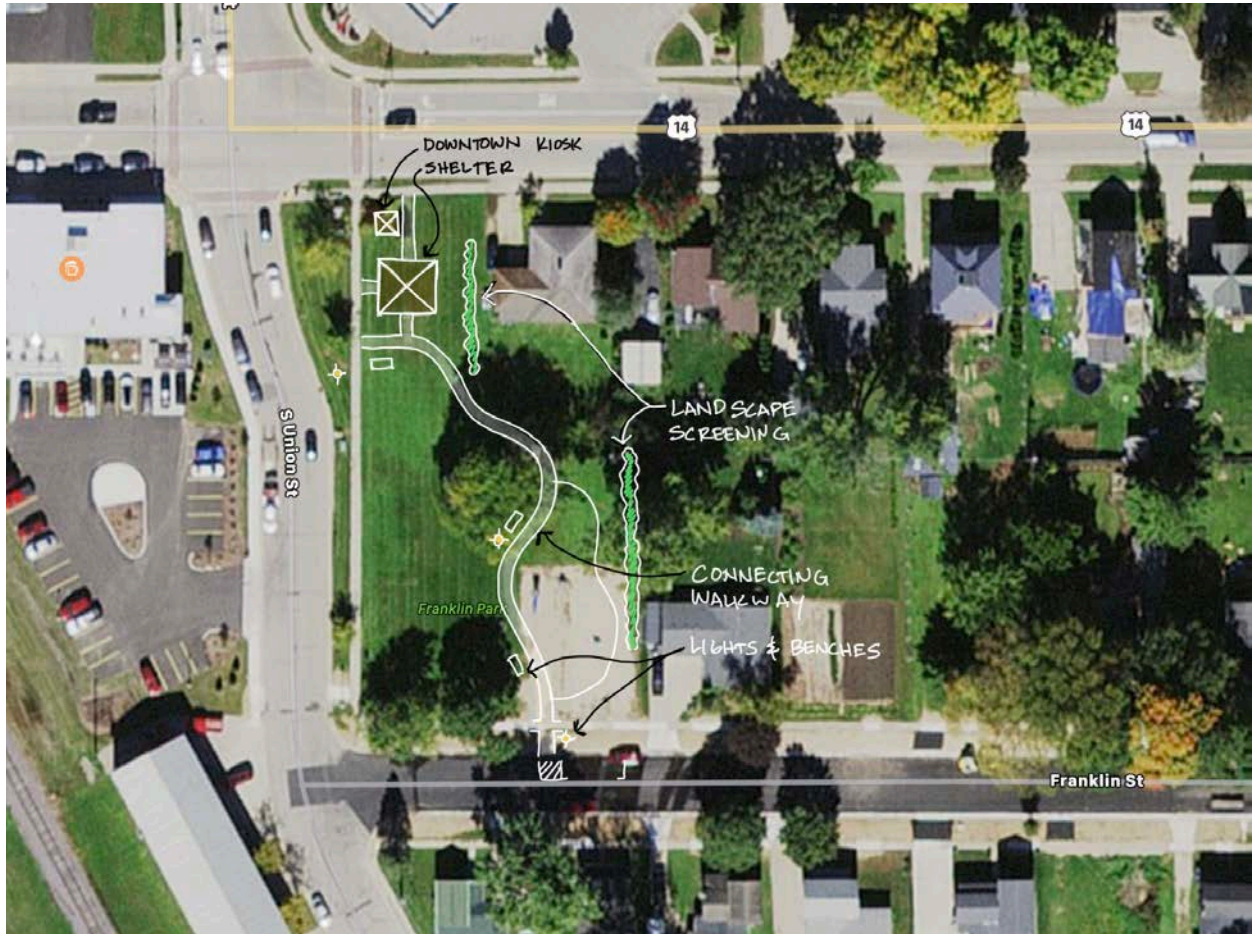
Peace Park

Lighting and Signage for "Sense of entry"



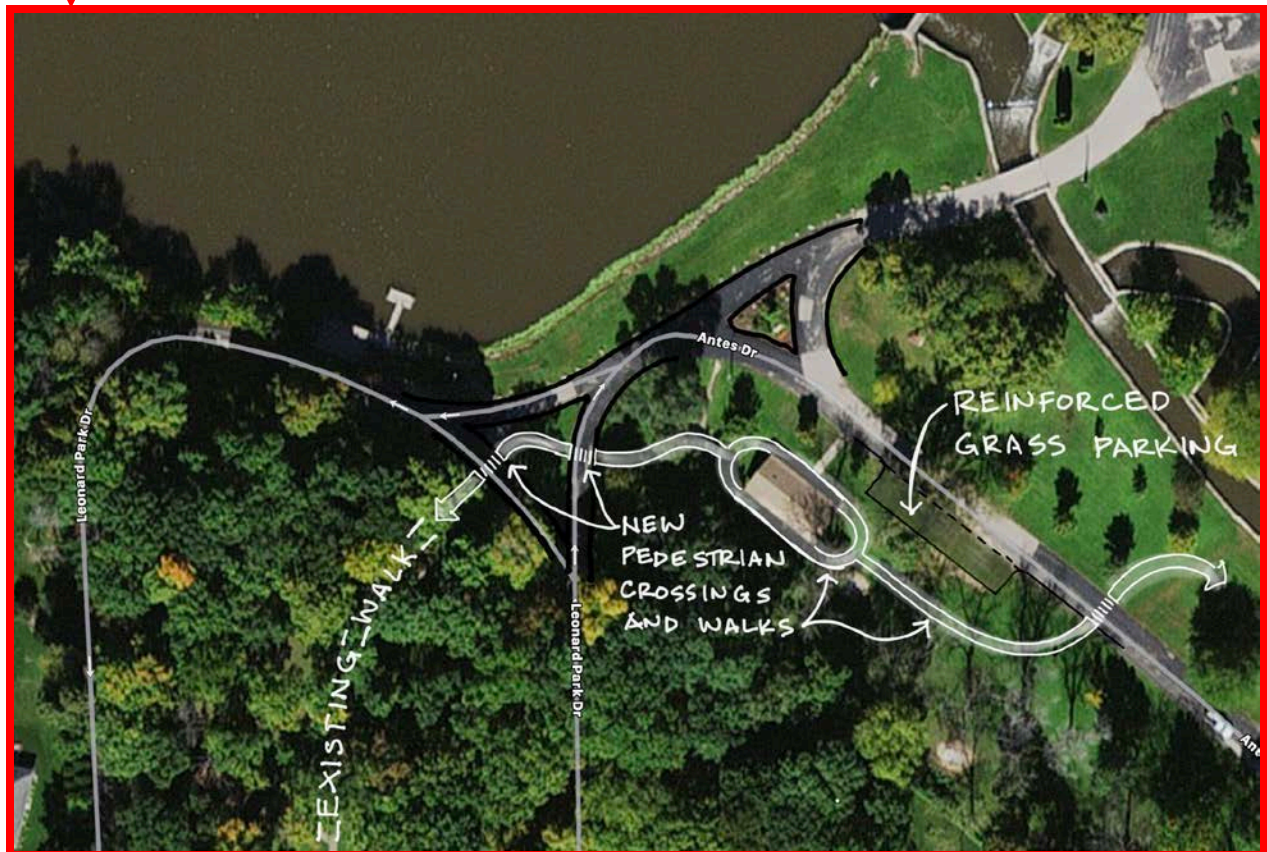
Franklin Park

Connecting walkways, lighting, benches, and landscape screening. Kiosk and shelter to integrate and welcome visitors to downtown.



Leonard-Leota Park

Improved Entry and pedestrian access. A more comprehensive pedestrian walkway system would help with park access. Creating a strong sense of entry will welcome visitors from Madison Street.







Grasspave² Porous Grass Paver

Made From 100% Recycled Plastic

For a green porous paving solution built to last, trust Grasspave2 – the industry’s leader since 1982. Designed by a Landscape Architect, Grasspave² comes in easy-to-install rolls. It’s flexible, lightweight, durable and provides design versatility to any project. Due to its incredible strength, Grasspave² offers limitless solutions to practical applications such as fire

lanes, parking lots and helicopter landing pads. With an expected lifespan of over 60 years, Grasspave² provides a long-term green paving alternative that can reduce CO2 emissions and filter out environmental toxins through bioremediation. In fact, an acre of grass makes a better “carbon sink” than an acre of trees and produces roughly four times the oxygen.

Grass is Greener

Grasspave² is a 100% recycled ring-on-grid structure that supports and protects grass roots to withstand pedestrian and heavy-weight vehicular traffic. With a compression strength of 15,940 psi, Grasspave² is over five times stronger than concrete and can support the weight of virtually any vehicle. 92% void space enables excellent root development and rapid stormwater drainage.

Install 430 square feet of product with one person in five minutes with our easy-to-install rolls. Bend, trim with pruning shears, or use our curve chart to easily create curves or customize layouts.

Made in the USA

The Grasspave² Advantages

- Design Flexibility
- High Compressive Strength (15,940psi)
- Easy, Quick Installation
- 92% Void Space
- All Weather
- Reduces CO2 and Toxin Filtration
- Long Life Span (60+) Years
- Environmental Beautification

Applications

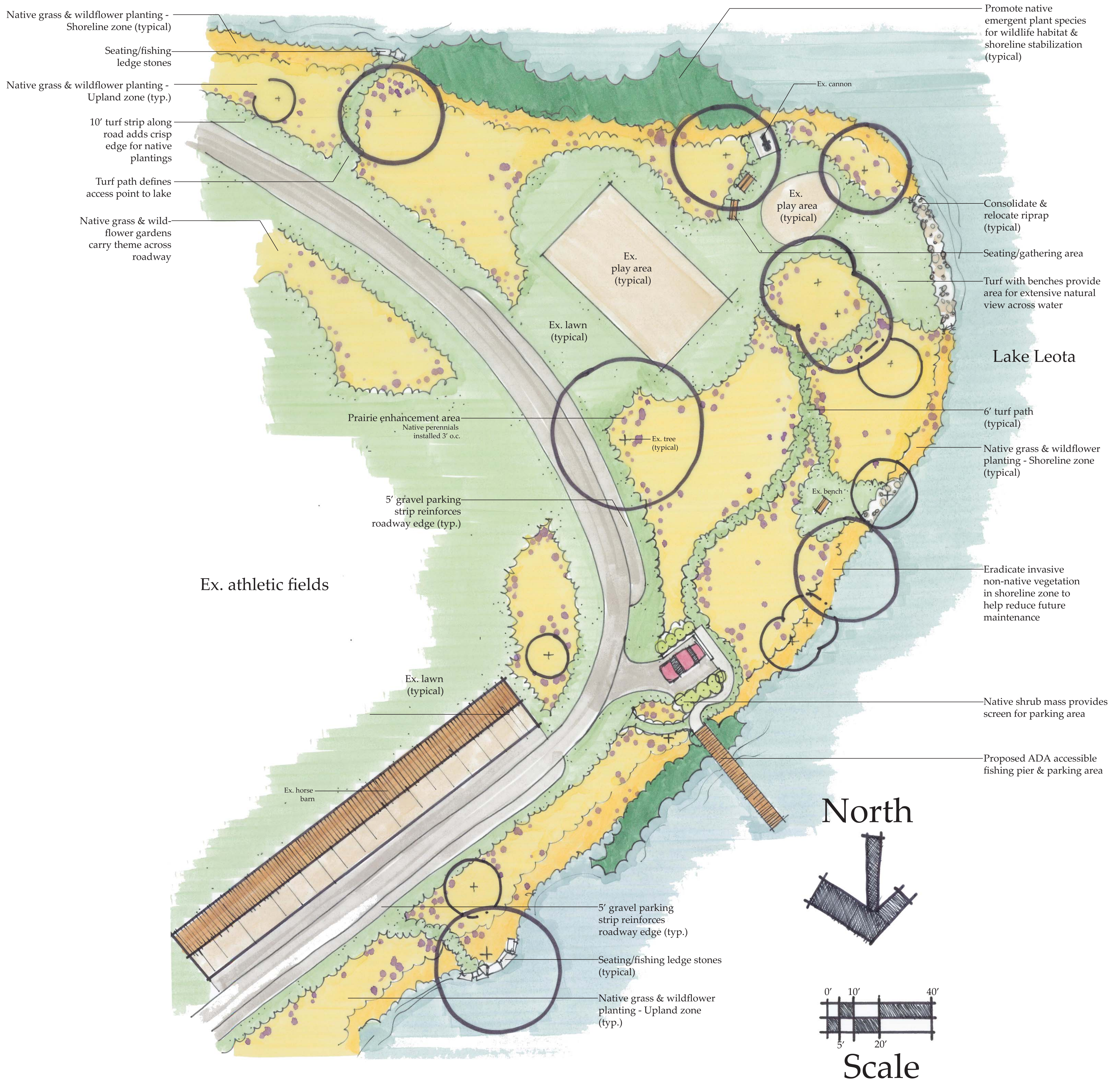
- Fire Lanes, Utility and Emergency Access Roads
- Parking Lots
- Driveways
- Outdoor Event Spaces
- Paths and Walkways (ADA Compliant)
- Ramps, Docks and Loading Areas
- Airplane Taxiing Areas
- Helicopter Landing Pads



Appendix H

Leonard-Leota Park Landscape Concepts

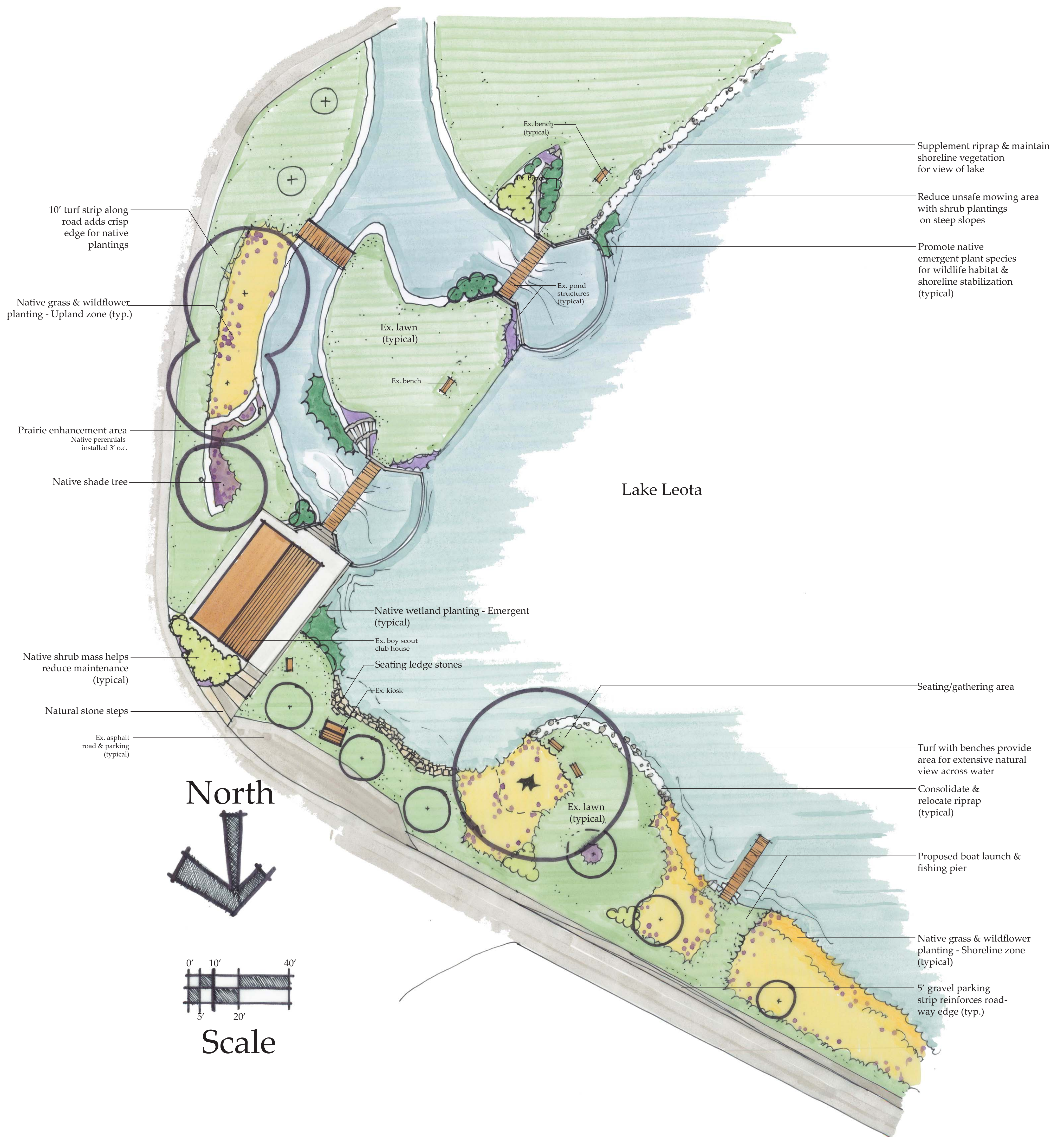
Concepts drafted by Formecology, LLC



Lake Leota Shoreline

Leonard-Leota Park, Evansville, WI 53536

Conceptual Landscape Plan Enlargement (North)



Lake Leota Shoreline

Leonard-Leota Park, Evansville, WI 53536

Conceptual Landscape Plan Enlargement (South)



City of Evansville

31 S Madison Street
Evansville, WI 53536
www.ci.evansville.wi.gov