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1. Introduction

Introduction

The Park System Plan

Parks and open space shape the physical environment of a community in a way that enhances neighborhoods by providing places to socialize, play, exercise and relax. Parks and open space serve as essential recreational and natural resources in Waite Park: they increase property values, preserve certain areas for scenic and utilitarian uses, and maintain a positive image for the City's neighborhoods. Although it is never too late to plan for parks and open space in a community, it is essential to undertake this process early on, especially in a community like Waite Park, which is continuing to grow and to add new parks and open space to its system.



Park pavilion in Community Park

It is important that the parks within the system are continually assessed, maintained and upgraded to reinforce the City's image as an attractive and vital community: a place where people want to live, work and play. Park System Planning enables the community to:

- create additional places for recreation and gathering places at a neighborhood level
- provide places that will help to enhance the health of its citizens
- protect its natural resources and maintain biodiversity
- support economic opportunities within the community



Picnic shelter in Lions/Angushire Park

The Park System Plan is an expression of the City of Waite Park's vision, goals, policies, needs, and priorities for the development of parks and recreation space and provision of services, facilities and maintenance for its citizens. It provides a picture of what the park system appears like today based on a review of current demographics and existing park conditions. The plan provides an assessment of the needs and desires of the community, in part through the recently conducted public survey for the Waite Park 2005 Comprehensive Plan update. The survey summary provided an up-to-date picture of community attitudes toward the City's parks and recreation opportunities. Finally, the plan includes goals and policies that will establish clearly defined guidelines for developing the future park system.

Although the plan makes recommendations for individual parks within the system, it is not a detailed development guide or plan for individual parks or trails. The plan should be reviewed annually and updated by the year 2015.

Park System Plan vs. Comprehensive Plan

The Park System Plan builds on the “Parks, Trails and Recreation” section of the City’s 2005 Comprehensive Plan. However, it provides a more detailed park site level evaluation of the existing park system and a more thorough plan for addressing development and management objectives. Any future update of the City of Waite Park’s Comprehensive Plan should reference this Park System Plan.

Plan Preparation

In 2007, The City of Waite Park hired SEH to work with City staff, officials and the public to prepare the Park System Plan. Planning efforts began by reviewing related planning documents including Waite Park’s 2005 Comprehensive Plan. An evaluation of the existing park system was completed during the summer of 2007. Work was done with the Park Board to create vision and mission statements, and prepare park and open space goals and policies. Recommendations and a park system plan map were developed based on community input during the comprehensive planning process, and input received from the Park Board and consultant evaluations.

Use of Park System Plan

Staff, council, commission, or board member, other governmental entities, organizations and any party who is interested in the City’s vision for the park system including goals and policies for guiding parkland acquisition, development and maintenance will find this document useful.



2. Background

Background

City History

The City of Waite Park was incorporated as a village on March 20, 1893. Waite Park was named after Henry Chester Waite of St. Cloud, who was a local landowner, attorney, statesman, and entrepreneur.

Development of the City began in 1840 as travelers crossed the Sauk River between St. Cloud and Breckenridge at a place which became known as Waite's Crossing. In 1890, James J. Hill purchased 300 acres of land which became home to the Great Northern Railway shops, built between 1890 and 1891. The first street to be platted in Waite Park was 3rd Street, also known as Rockville Avenue. Early employment in Waite Park included jobs with the Great Northern Railroad, granite quarries, and various public and commercial opportunities.

Natural Resources

The City of Waite Park has within its borders or is in close proximity to significant natural beauty and unique geologic features. It is adjacent to the beautiful Sauk River and surrounds the popular Quarry Park, a county park that had its origins as an active granite quarry. Understanding the natural resources of an area is necessary in determining the most suitable land for future recreation facility development or preservation.

Watershed

The City of Waite Park is located within two watersheds, the Sauk River to the north and the Mississippi River to the south. The watershed division runs east-west through Sections 29 and 30 in the central portion of the City. Drainage of the southern portion of the city flows through County Ditch No. 14, eventually draining into the Mississippi River. The northern portion of the city drains to the Sauk River and, eventually, into the Mississippi River.

Topography

Elevations within Waite Park range from about 1,040 feet at groundwater level in the Meridian Quarry ponds to about 1,130 feet at the watershed divide in Section 29. The highlands, which are located in Sections 29 and 30, extend north to County Road 137 and include a portion of the Stearns County Quarry Park. Topography outside of the central highlands is generally level to gently sloping with interspersed wetlands.

Land Cover

Historically, the vegetative cover of Waite Park included Upland Prairie, Oak Woodland and Brushland, and limited Floodplain Forest along the Sauk River. The USGS 7.5-minute, 10 foot topographic map shows that nearly half of the land is wooded in the central undeveloped portion of the city. To date, no Natural Resource Inventory of the city has been completed. However, wooded areas provide a natural resource and scenic value to a community. Other land in the undeveloped portion of the city is either cropland or wetland.

Park Oversight and Responsibility

While the City of Waite Park does not have a Parks Department, it does have dedicated staff from the Public Works Department and a five-member Park Board, with one ex-officio member appointed by the City Council to ensure that the City has a satisfactory park and recreation system. The Park Board is responsible for advising the City Council with City park related business such as: parkland acquisitions; personnel matters; park facility improvements; park and recreation programs; and maintenance. The Park Board is also responsible for developing, planning, and recommending educational recreation programs and activities, and promoting public interest and education related to the park system. (See Ordinance 27 in Chapter II – Administration, Operations, and Organization).

Recent Park-Related Planning Efforts

A number of recent planning efforts related to the park system plan have been undertaken and include:

- **Waite Park Comprehensive Plan (2005):** The City's comprehensive plan, approved in 2006 by the City Council, includes the elements of physical characteristics of the community, demographics, housing, land use, transportation, sanitary sewer services, water, municipal buildings and public service, parks, trails and recreation, economic development and implementation.
- **Waite Park Transportation Plan (2007):** The City's transportation plan was developed to guide the City through mobility improvements with development including a discussion about pedestrian and bike trails. Currently, the City of Waite Park does not have a Comprehensive Pedestrian and Bike Trail Plan.
- **Stearns County Comprehensive Plan Update (2007):** The County is in the process of updating its 1998 Comprehensive Plan which includes a section on recreation and natural resources. The significance of this planning effort to the City of Waite Park is the location of Quarry Park within city limits. Quarry Park currently comprises 643 acres of parkland.
- **City of St. Cloud Comprehensive Plan Update (2003):** The City of St. Cloud completed its comprehensive plan update in 2003. Lions Park is jointly maintained by both St. Cloud and Waite Park.
- **Feasibility Study for Stearns County Rails with Trails (2007):** Stearns County examined the potential for extending two significant trails - the Lake Wobegon Trail and Rocori Trail to create a connecting regional trail system within Stearns County.



3. Demographics

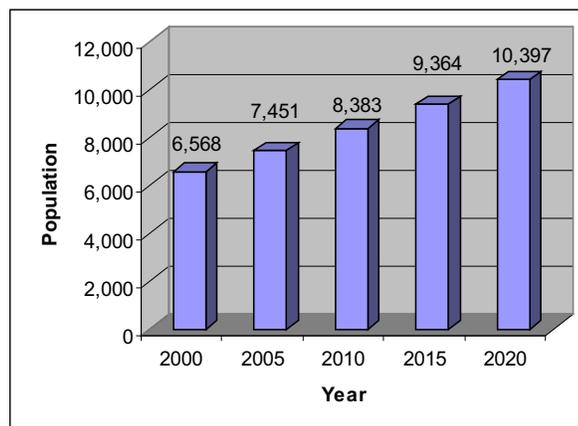
Introduction

To assess and anticipate Waite Park's current and future recreational needs, it is important to understand general demographics and population trends. Age composition, the number of multi-family residents, ethnic diversity, and the extent of housing turnover in the city's neighborhoods have the potential to impact park use.

Population

Based on the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau calculation, Waite Park's population of 6,568 is an increase of 30.8 percent from the 1990 census, part of which is the result of a 1995 merger with a portion of St. Cloud Township. In the future, the City's population is expected to steadily increase between 10 and 12 percent every five years with an increase of about 10 percent between 2015 and 2020.

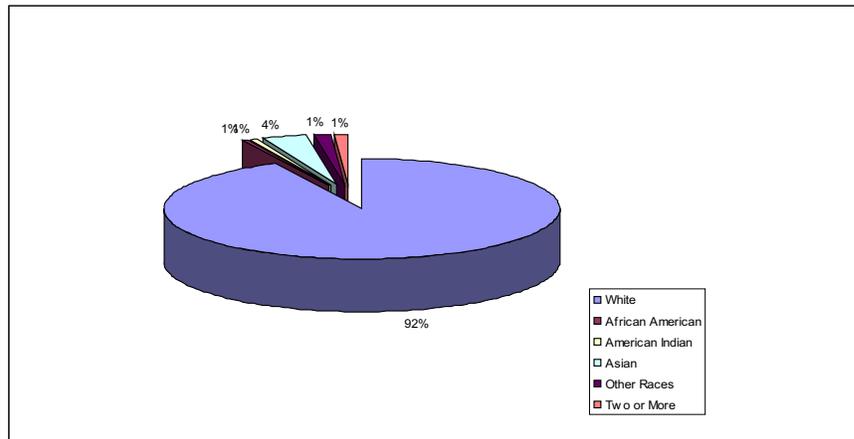
Figure 3-1: Population



Source: 2000 US Census

Waite Park's existing population tends to be relatively young with a median age of 29.2 years. The lower median age in Waite Park may be due to younger persons living in apartments and the existence of several technical schools and colleges in the greater St. Cloud Area. The largest age groups within the city are those between 20-24 and 25-34. The combination of these two age classes results in a group that comprises 36% of Waite Park's population. The fastest-growing age group tends to be those between 25-34 years of age and the next age category being those individuals between 35-44 years.

Figure 3-2: Community Racial and Ethnic Diversity



Source: 2000 US Census

According to the 2000 census, 92 percent of Waite Park residents indicated that they were Caucasian, 4 percent were Asian, 2 percent were Hispanic or Latino, 1 percent were American Indian or Alaskan Native, and 1 percent were Black or African American.

Type	Number	Percent
Non-Family	1,430	48.2%
Family	1,537	51.8%

According to the 2000 census, the household shows a slight increase of family over non-family households.

Year	2000	1990	1980
Household Size	2.19	2.42	2.77

The average household size in Waite Park has been gradually declining since 1980.

School-Age Children

As of the 2000 Census, when compared with age groups for Stearns County, Waite Park has more pre-school-aged children but significantly less children ages 5-19. As indicated in the Housing Section of the 2005 Waite Park Comprehensive Plan, this may be due to families with school-age children moving out of the community to find more suitable housing.

4. Park Needs Assessment



Introduction

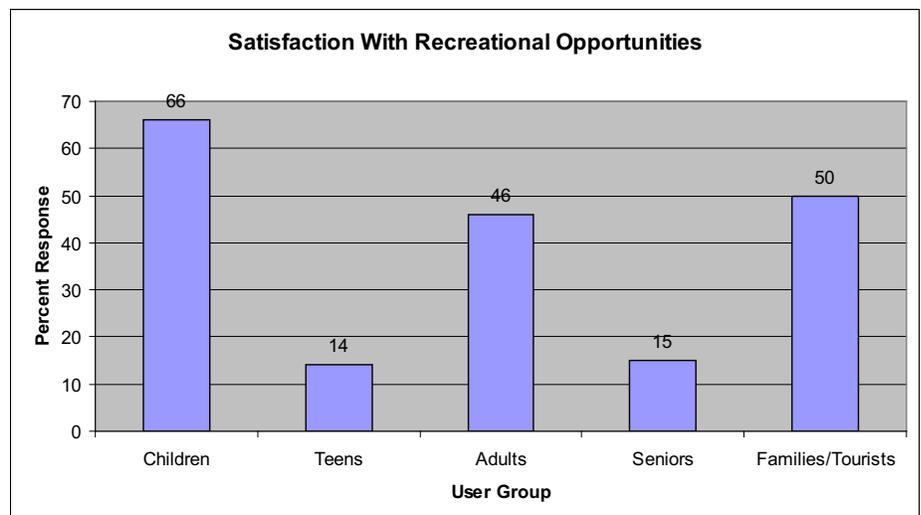
As mentioned in the 2005 Comprehensive Plan, the Waite Park resident and business communities identified parks, trails and recreational facilities as “invaluable community resources” that added to their quality of life. The community also felt that recreation was an “integral” part of their lives and provided a positive change from daily routines.

The City distributed surveys to community leaders and conducted follow-up interviews during the City’s Comprehensive Plan update in 2005. The survey and interview were made available to the public upon request. The community was also invited to a Community Meeting in January 2004 to provide additional input for the comprehensive plan. The following is a summary of input received from the Community at that time.

Survey Responses

- Approximately 57 percent of survey respondents felt that the City was not adequately served by parks. The general park deficiencies noted were a need for tot lots, additional parks in general on both the north and south side of the City and better way-finding signage.
- New facilities that people would like to see added to the park system included: picnic shelters, play equipment, soccer, ball fields, swimming and wading pools, trails, nature areas, greenways and an 18-hole golf course.
- In general, the respondents felt that children and adults were provided with sufficient recreational opportunities. However, recreational op-

Figure 4-1: Recreation Satisfaction



Source: Waite Park 2005 Comprehensive Plan

The major recreation and facility improvements that survey respondents wanted to see in Waite Park include:

- Additional parks and bicycle trails
- Walking path north side of 3rd Street
- Wobegon Trail extension from St. Joseph to Waite Park Trail
- Trail connections throughout the city
- Swimming/wading pool
- 80+ park with picnic and ball fields for all ages near Quarry Park
- Indoor community center with pool

Community Meeting Comments

People felt that the north side of the City provided a good park system; however, the southern end of the City was lacking. The lack of way-finding signage was an issue. Other comments related to the park system included a request for future parks in St. Joseph Township to provide access to the Sauk River, and the conservation of the wetlands near the intersection of highways 23 and 94. People felt the trail system should be a high priority for Waite Park and, while serving as linkages between the parks in Waite Park, should tie into St. Cloud and regional trail system.

Statewide Outdoor Recreation Survey

In 2005, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources released the results of its 2004 outdoor recreation participation survey. The survey provides a statewide assessment of outdoor recreation preferences. A mail survey of 4,400 residents was distributed throughout five survey regions of the state: Northwest, Northeast, Central, Metro (seven-county metropolitan area), and South. The survey produced a 60% response rate.

The survey found that outdoor recreation is important to Minnesotans. Of those responding, 57 percent indicated that outdoor recreation is “very important”, 25 percent indicated that it is “moderately important” and approximately 18 percent indicated that outdoor recreation is of “little importance”.

The survey found that there are a number of reasons cited by the respondents for going outdoors. The primary reason indicated was to “simply enjoy nature” and the second highest reason was to engage in exercise and to feel healthier. Other reasons noted for going outdoors included outdoor recreation as a means to: build bonds with family and friends, escape the pressure of modern life, and to learn and explore.

When asked what outdoor activities were preferred, 32 activities were identified by survey participants. A cluster analysis was performed on the data resulting in the following four distinct activity clusters:

- Hunting and motorized trail activities
- Passive recreation and learning activities
- Active recreation activities
- Boating/fishing/camping/golfing activities

The “active recreation activities” category contains 26 percent of all recreation activities experienced by Minnesota adults, and includes swimming, biking, running/jogging, outdoor field sports, tent camping, inline skating, non-motorized boating, and downhill skiing/snowboarding.

The “passive recreation and learning activities” cluster contains 40 percent of all recreation by Minnesota adults. Activities in this cluster include: walking/hiking, “nature observation”, and visiting nature centers, historic/archaeological sites and outdoor zoos.

The results of the statewide recreation participation survey support similar responses provided by the citizens of Waite Park during the 2005 Waite Park Comprehensive Plan Update process.

5. Existing Park System



Introduction

The City owns and operates a park system that contains approximately 88 acres of land or about 12 acres of parks and open space per 1,000 residents. When the county and privately owned parkland is included (Quarry Park, Miller's Landing, and Bartz Park), the total parkland area is approximately 743 acres.

Current Park Classification

The current park system is classified into six categories based primarily on size and available facilities: City-wide Park, Community Park, Neighborhood Park, Neighborhood Playground, Specialized Recreational area and Regional Park. Several parks have not been classified so are shown as unclassified in the following table. Table 5-1 describes the City's existing park system and includes each park's classification, location and size. Each facility is located on the Existing Park and Open Space map, (see page 5-3).

Park	Classification	Location	Acres
Community Park	City-wide Park	13th Ave. N	7.2
Jagiello Park	Neighborhood Playground	3rd St. N & 1st Ave	.6
Lions Park	Community Park	CSAH 137	4.6
Common Green Space	Unclassified	3rd St N	11.0
River's Edge Park	City-wide Park	3rd St N & 10th Ave N	42.1
Willow Creek Park	Specialized Recreation Area	CSAH 137	5.7
Rock Island Park	Specialized Recreation Area	3rd St & 10th St	16.1
Sunwood Park	Unclassified	Sunwood Park Drive	1.51

Current Park Classification Descriptions

The following provides a description of current park classifications as defined in the 2005 Waite Park Comprehensive Plan:

City-wide Park

- Provides a wide range of activities for all age groups or may be more activity specific
- May provide an area for nature study, hiking, riding trails, pond fishing, spectator sports and other activities
- Serves community

Neighborhood Playground

- Usually provided in conjunction with education and institutional facilities and primarily serves the recreation needs of children ages 5-12.
- Size dependent on types of activities it supports and facilities provided
- May provide play features, ball fields, basketball and tennis courts, and open play fields
- Serves a half-mile radius

Community Park

- May provide play features, ball fields, basketball and tennis courts, and open play fields
- Typically serves several neighborhoods and is under municipal administration
- Size varies
- May provide swimming pools, picnic areas, more elaborate play fields, restroom facilities and tennis courts
- Serves half-mile radius

Specialized Recreation Area

- Has limited recreation value, is not developed as multi-purpose recreation area, or is not always available for public use
- Includes (but not limited to) golf courses, historic sites, conservancy area, linear trail, and floodplains

Regional Park

- May include but is not limited to conservancy areas, trails, floodplains, hiking and riding trails, recreational fields, spectator sports, and fishing
- Serves a regional population
- Serves people of all ages

While the park classification system used in Waite Park is based on national park, recreation, open space and greenway guidelines, it is limited in its use as a management tool. This is due, in part, to the level of development at several of the parks that do not match their size-based or functional requirements. The category of City-wide Park was created to avoid confusion with Community Park, one of the City's well-known and used parks.

Other Parks, Recreation Facilities and Open Spaces

In addition to City-owned open space and park facilities, Waite Park residents have access to other parks within the city limits for their recreational use. Quarry Park located along County Road 137 and Seventh Street South is owned and operated by Stearns County. The 643-acre park, previously a granite quarry, provides a wide range of outdoor and educational recreational opportunities within a unique landscape setting. Miller Landing, also a county park, is currently located within the future annexation area of St. Joseph Township approximately one half mile south of the intersection of CSAH 138 and CSAH 75. The 7.9-acre park provides canoe access to the Sauk River. Bartz Park is a privately owned park of approximately 3.2 acres. It is located south of CSAH 75 adjacent to Martin Marietta Quarry and features one ball field that is used by baseball and football leagues.

Trail System

Trails not only connect spaces, parks, recreation, and public facilities they also link neighborhoods and people to their destinations. They help to eliminate barriers caused by age, physical limitations, social and economic conditions by facilitating social interactions through interconnection of neighborhoods. The trail system should also define and enhance the pedestrian experience; provide a safe, accessible alternative means of reaching community destinations; and should support efficient use of infrastructure. The City of Waite Park has identified the location of existing and proposed trails within the city (See Trails Map in *Waite Park 2005 Comprehensive Plan*).

The City is also working with Stearns County along with other area communities as part of a regional initiative to link to the Lake Wobegon Trail that currently extends through Stearns County from the City of Sauk Centre to the City of St. Joseph. The proposed Rocori Trail would extend from the City of Cold Spring to the southern edge of St. Joseph Township (See 2007 *Feasibility Study for Stearns County Rails with Trails*). The trail would provide linkage to Waite Park and the Glacial Lakes State Trail, which extends from Coldspring to Wilmar.

Figure 5-1: Existing Park and Open Space

EXISTING PARKS & OPEN SPACE - 2008

Park System Plan
City of Waite Park, Minnesota

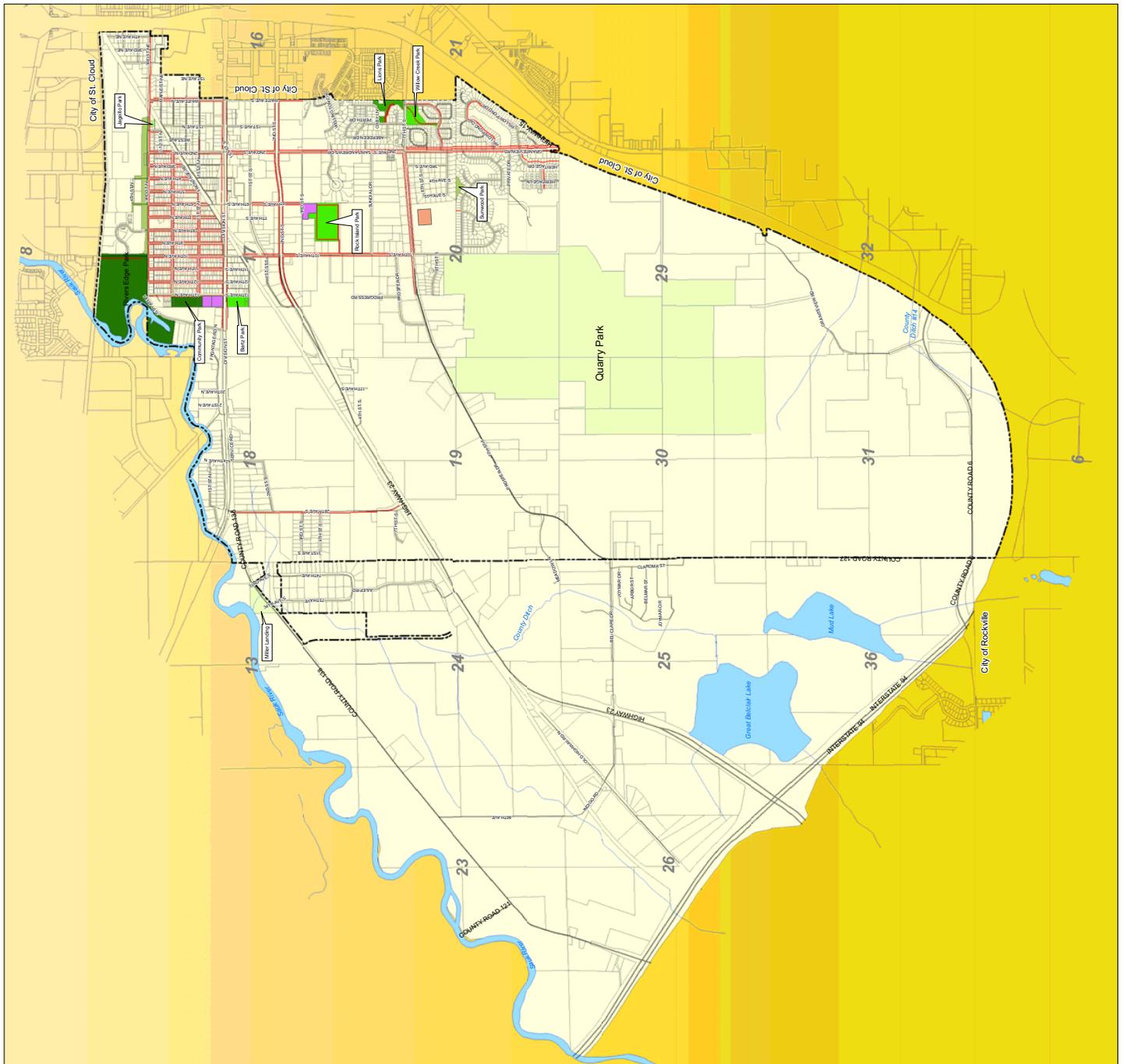
- Legend**
- Existing Trails/Sidewalks
 - Rivers and Creeks
 - County Park
 - City-wide Park
 - Community Park
 - Neighborhood Playground
 - Specialized Recreational Area
 - Unclassified
 - School
 - Public Facility
 - City Limits
 - Water



0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Date: 2008
Sources: Stearns County, Minnesota DNR, and SEH



Park Programs and Park Use

The City of Waite Park offers a range of recreational programs. The majority of the summer recreation programs are currently offered at River's Edge Park. While this location is convenient for those living near the park, it is not convenient for those families living in the southern portion of the city where the newest development has occurred. There are also a number of significant transportation corridors, (e.g., Highway 23 and Division Street) that make convenient pedestrian access to the park difficult. Additionally, while there are park programs for younger community youth, organized recreation activities for high-school age youth is lacking.

Table 5-2: Park Programs and Use

Program	Age Group	Park
Bam Bam Golf	Pre-K	River's Edge Park
T-Ball	1st-3rd Grades	River's Edge Park
Soccer	1st-3rd Grades	River's Edge Park
Kickball	1st-3rd Grades	River's Edge Park
In-Line Hockey	1st-4th Grades	River's Edge Park
Bowling	Pre-K, 2nd -7th Grades	Vilo Lanes
Arts and Crafts	Pre-K, 2nd -7th Grades	Crafts Direct
Disc Golf	1st-3rd, 4th-7th Grades	River's Edge Park
Basketball	2nd-7th Grades	Lions Park
Volleyball/Badminton	4th-7th Grades	River's Edge Park
Ultimate Disc & Flag Golf	4th-7th Grades	River's Edge Park

6. Conditions in the System



Introduction

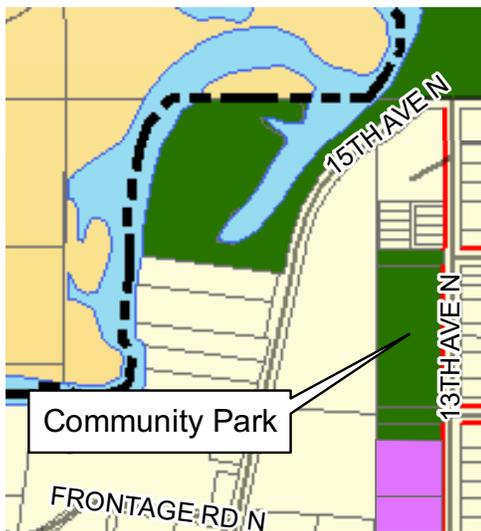
Conditions of the current park system and individual park facilities were summarized during the development of this plan as shown on pages 6-2 through 6-20.



Pedestrian Bridge in Lions Park

The parks were evaluated based on three criteria: general condition, safety, and maintenance. A points-based approach was used to calculate scores for park facilities. This evaluation tool provides an efficient and standardized means of rating each park in the system. Average scores were computed for condition, maintenance, and safety for each facility. The result of the overall average was then determined as excellent, good, fair, or poor. Each park was also assessed from an overall aesthetic standpoint. (See Appendix A for Evaluation Tool used in evaluating each park). Deficiencies were noted and issue and opportunities statements were generated for each park. Following each park summary, an aerial view shows its context in relation to trail and sidewalk connections.

In general, the results of this evaluation showed that while there are a number of parks located in the northern portion of the city that provide passive and active recreational opportunities, many have a limited range. There is a need for the same range of opportunities, if not more extensive, in the southern portion of the city because of ongoing development.



Community Park

Location

13th Avenue North

Current Designation/Size

City-wide Park/7.2 Acres

Existing Facilities/Amenities

- Playground
- Baseball/Softball Diamonds
- Park Pavilion with Kitchen Facility
- Two Restrooms
- Picnic Shelter
- Volleyball

Existing Conditions

Community Park is located on the north side of Waite Park adjacent to City Hall in a residential neighborhood. The park building was expanded (doubling its size) in 2002 and is now handicap accessible. The many shelters and mature trees make this a great family gathering place.

Issues

- Worn ballfield and outfield
- Bituminous surfaces are cracked
- Flaking paint on playground
- No internal trail system
- Two restrooms are not ADA accessible

Opportunities

- Install irrigation throughout park
- Repair bituminous surfaces
- Repaint/replace playground
- Make restrooms ADA accessible
- Evaluate internal-external park trail connection

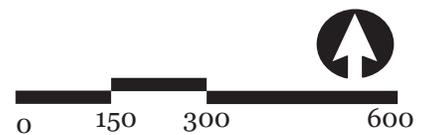


Figure 6-1: Community Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary





Common Greenspace

Location

3rd Street North

Current Designation/Size

Unclassified/11 Acres

Existing Facilities/Amenities

- Linear Open Space

Existing Conditions

The common greenspace is located in the northeastern side of Waite Park along 3rd Street North. The linear open space provides an opportunity to create a linear greenway connecting River's Edge Park, Jagiello Park and any future park developments along and near 3rd Street North.

Opportunities

- Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail
- Linear Park

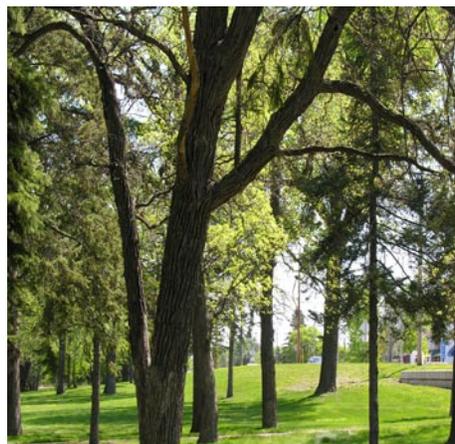
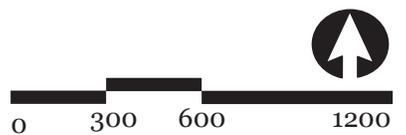


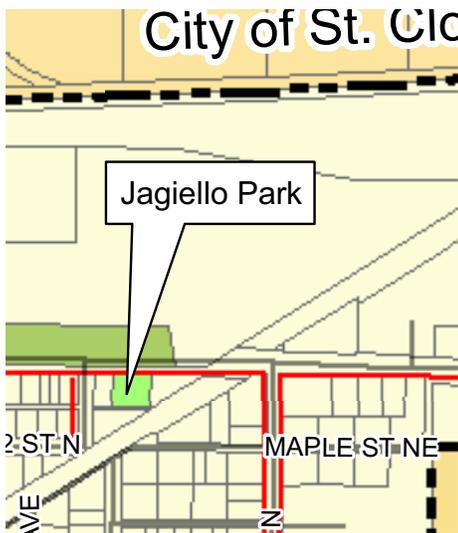
Figure 6-2: Common Greenspace



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary





Jagiello Park

Location

3rd Street North & 1st Avenue North.

Current Designation/Size

Neighborhood Playground/.6 Acres

Existing Facilities/Amenities

- Playground

Existing Conditions

Jagiello Park is located in the northeastern portion of Waite Park adjacent to busy 3rd Street North. The small park features a playground and open space with no parking.

Issues

- Seldom used
- Playground is not ADA accessible
- Playground has inadequate fill
- Ball diamond is backstop only

Opportunities

- Master plan park to serve surrounding community needs and future development
- Update playground facility
- Upgrade ball diamond

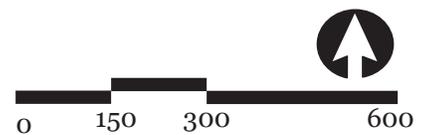


Figure 6-3: Jagiello Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary





Lions Park

Location

County Road 137/St. Andrews Drive

Current Designation/Size

Community Park/4.6 Acres

Existing Facilities/Amenities

- Enclosed Picnic Shelter (St. Cloud)
- Tennis Court
- Basketball Court
- Playground
- Trail

Existing Conditions

Lions Park is located on the east side of Waite Park within a residential neighborhood. The mature trees, planted ponds and linear path make this park a jewel in the neighborhood.

Issues

- No drinking fountain
- No restroom available in Waite Park section of park
- Bare turf areas
- Not enough trees
- Unimproved trail and parking lot
- Noxious weeds in wetland area

Opportunities

- Provide drinking fountains and restroom
- Reseed worn turf areas
- Provide more overstory trees
- Restore wetland area with native vegetation

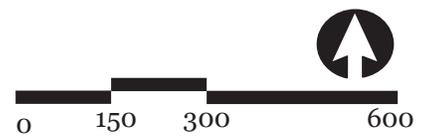


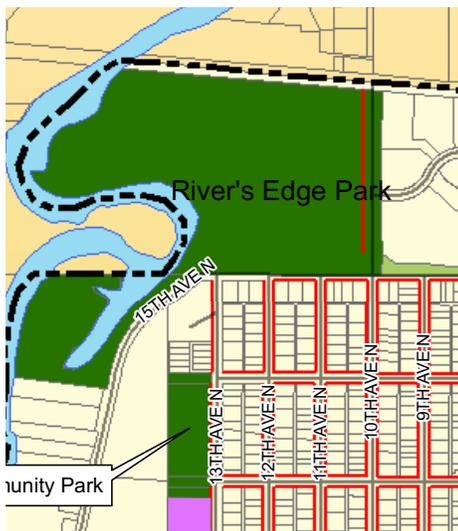
Figure 6-4: Lions Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary





River's Edge Park

Location

3rd Street & 10th Avenue North & County Road 81

Current Designation/Size

City-wide Park/42.1 Acres

Existing Facilities/Amenities

- Baseball
- Soccer
- Concession Building
- Picnic Shelter
- Skating and Hockey Rink

Existing Conditions

River's Edge Park is located on the north side of Waite Park within a commercial and residential neighborhood. The park features large open spaces and views to the nearby river.

Issues

- Buildings need replacement or maintenance
- Not adequate size and space for intended use

Opportunities

- Replace or rehabilitate buildings
- Implement Park Master Plan

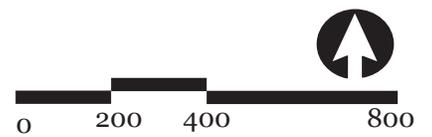


Figure 6-5: River's Edge Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary





Rock Island Park

Location

3rd Street South & 10th Ave South

Current Designation/Size

Specialized Recreation Area/16.1 Acres

Existing Facilities/Amenities

- Trails
- Seating
- Picnic Facilities

Existing Conditions

Rock Island Park is located on the east side of Waite Park surrounded by mostly commercial and residential neighborhoods. The park features a stormwater pond suitable for fishing and is home to annual fishing tournaments.

Issues

- No restrooms or drinking fountains
- No signs along walking trail
- Lack of plant material
- No shade structure- sun protection
- No parking

Opportunities

- Provide restrooms and drinking fountains
- Provide educational signage along trail
- Provide sun shelter
- Provide landscape, overstory trees
- Evaluate stormwater pond
- Master plan park

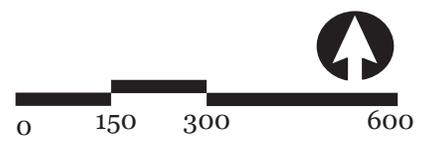


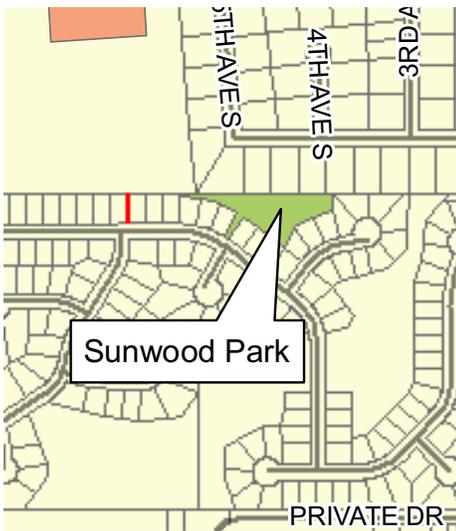
Figure 6-6: Rock Island Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary





Sunwood Park

Location

Sunwood Park Drive

Current Designation/Size

Unclassified/1.51 Acres

Existing Facilities/Amenities

No facilities/amenities

Existing Conditions

Sunwood Park is located within a residential neighborhood off of Sunwood Drive. It is a small wooded piece of land in a low wet area surrounded by residential parcels with only a small easement for City maintenance access.

Issues

- No public access
- Perimeter of park surrounded by private property.
- Suitable as a natural area but not for active recreational use.

Opportunities

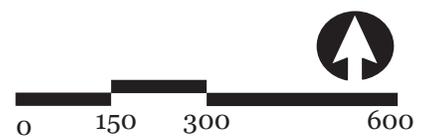
- Consider selling or maintain as a naturalized area.
- Re-classify to mini-park

Figure 6-7: Sunwood Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary





Willow Creek Park

Location

Willow Creek Drive & 7th Street South
(CSAH 137)

Current Designation/Size

Specialized Recreation Area/5.7 Acres

Existing Facilities/Amenities

- Trails

Existing Conditions

Willow Creek Park is located in the east side of Waite Park across from Lions Park. The park features a stormwater retention/detention area and a trail connection into the neighborhood.

Issues

- No restrooms or drinking fountains
- Turf needs maintenance - weed competition and compaction

Opportunities

- Assess maintenance regime
- Vegetation restoration plan
- Reclassify to greenway



Figure 6-9: Bartz Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary

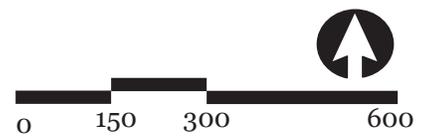
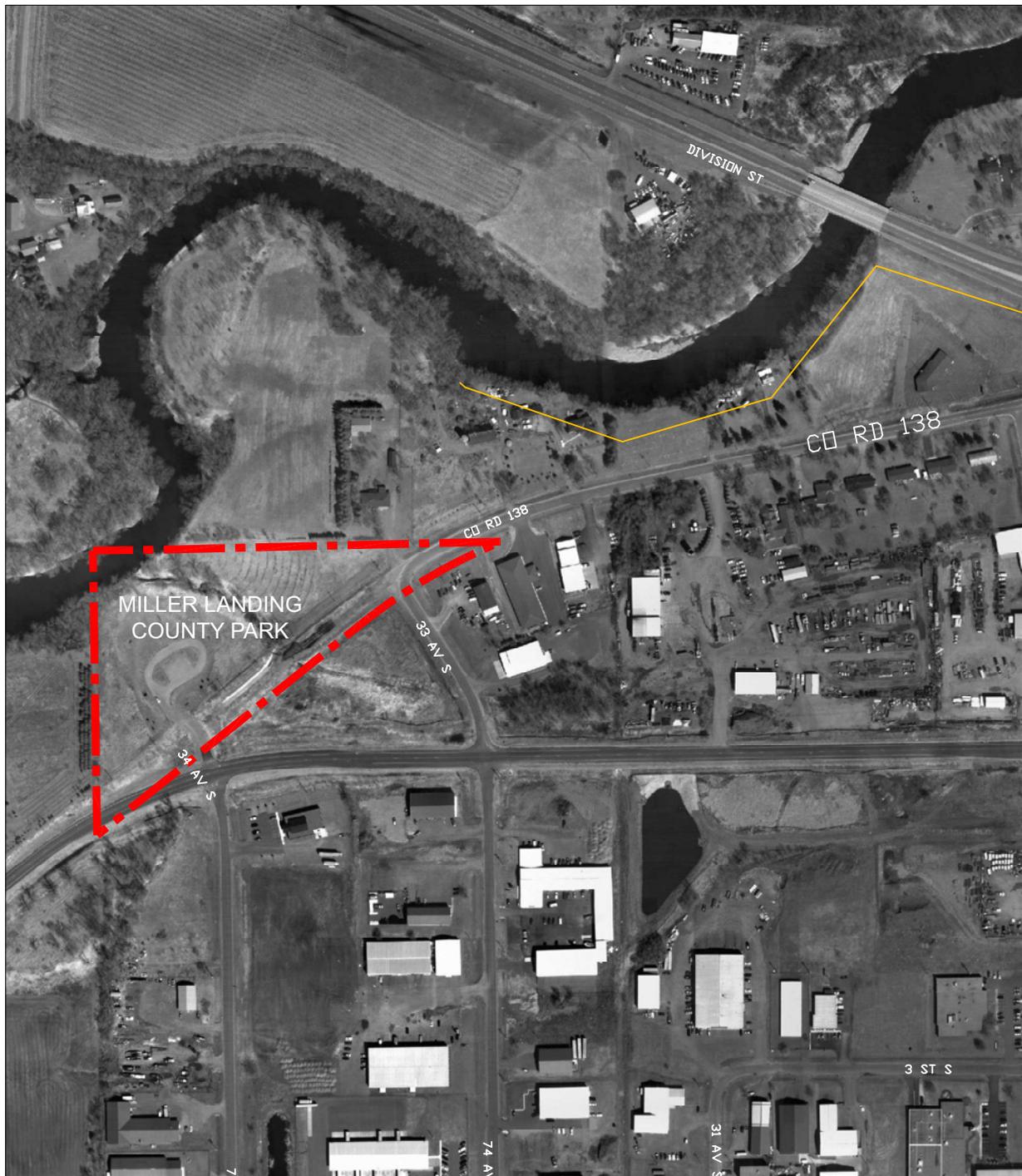


Figure 6-10: Miller Landing County Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary

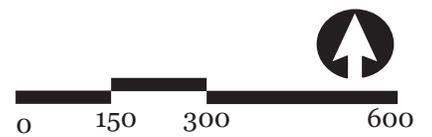
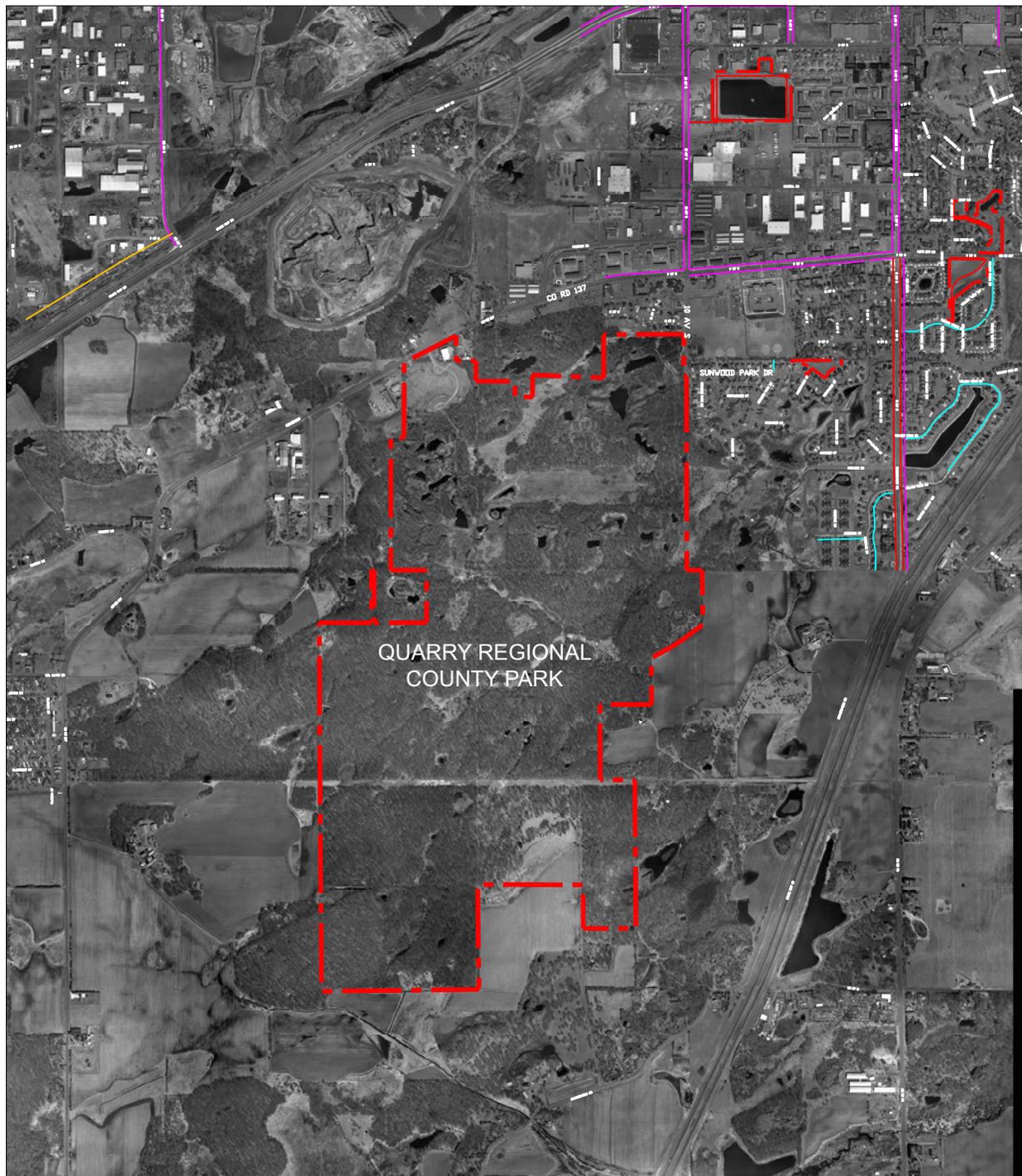
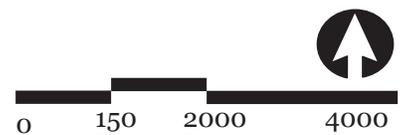


Figure 6-11: Quarry Regional County Park



Legend

-  Existing Bituminous Trail
-  Planned Regional Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk/Trail System
-  Existing Minor Sidewalk System
-  Park Boundary



7. Visions, Goals and Policies



Vision, Goals, and Policies

Introduction

The City of Waite Park recognizes the importance of parks, open spaces, nature areas, trails, and recreational facilities to the overall health and well-being of the city. Vision and mission statement, goals and policies have been developed for Waite Park to address and plan for its future park system.

The vision statement outlines what the City wants to do for the future of the community's park system. Goals are used to describe a long-term end toward addressing key park-related issues while the policies reflect the City's general intentions to achieve each of the stated goals.

Vision Statement

The City of Waite Park shall be a City with a safe, convenient, attractive, well-maintained and integrated park and open space system that is accessible to all members of the community. Waite Park shall be a City that focuses on its natural and cultural resources while providing a balance of passive and active recreation for diverse and changing recreation needs.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Park Board is to provide a balanced park system of active and passive recreation facilities that will meet the needs of the community while promoting stewardship of the area's natural resources.

Goals and Policies

Parks and Open Space

Goals

1. Provide and maintain attractive parks and scenic areas for the enjoyment and leisure time activities of the community.
2. Develop appropriate park and recreation areas and facilities to serve the existing and future needs of community.
3. Pursue and acquire additional land for open space, parks and trails.
4. Require reclamation plan for quarry operations to incorporate park and open space improvements and enhancements.
5. Develop the greenway along 3rd Street North as a pedestrian walkway
6. Develop a park within the Waite Avenue Redevelopment Area that will serve as a "Destination Park" for the community and that connects to both the neighborhood and commercial redevelopment along Waite Avenue.
7. Create a Maintenance Plan that covers new park equipment, amenities, and renovation.

Policies

The City shall:

1. Evaluate the acquisition and development of neighborhood parks to ensure that each neighborhood is adequately served with appropriate recreational facilities.
2. Pursue grants from private, regional, state, and federal agencies to obtain funding assistance for park and recreation planning, administration, acquisition, physical development, and programming efforts.
3. Search for opportunities to provide special- use recreational facilities for broad community use.
4. Acquire properties that provide connections between existing open spaces and parks.
5. Seek all opportunities (within financial limits) to plan, procure, develop and maintain parks and recreation resources.
6. Establish a Park System amenity list with items identified in this plan that can be used by groups or individuals for the purpose of securing donations.
7. Work cooperatively with school districts and other governmental agencies or businesses in order to maximize the joint use of facilities.
8. Work cooperatively with agencies and private entities to ensure the re-use of mining property maintains the vision of the community.
9. Review parkland dedication requirement included in the Sub-division Ordinance.
10. Will not accept outlots as park dedication acres.

Recreation***Goals***

1. Provide recreational opportunities to meet the needs of the community, including all age groups and ability levels.
2. Deliver a variety of recreational programs that are affordable and responsive to the changing needs, and interests of the community.
3. Create and maintain a city environment supportive of active living by providing opportunities for physical activity to people who live, work and play within the city.
4. Make available information to new residents regarding the parks and recreation opportunities within the city.

Policies

The City shall:

1. Cooperate with school districts in promoting community use of facilities.
2. Collaborate with other non-profit organization and agencies to

- provide adaptive and recreational opportunities for the community.
- 3. Cooperate with and support youth sports organizations.
- 4. Cooperate with public and private entities to provide recreational opportunities that utilize recreational facilities.
- 5. Monitor user satisfaction and solicit new program ideas.
- 6. Develop program budget priorities that ensure quality recreational opportunities.
- 7. Encourage and enable programs provided by other agencies and groups.
- 8. Recruit and utilize seasonal part-time employees and volunteers to assist in implementing the City's recreational programs.
- 9. Collaborate with public and private entities, (e.g., Chamber of Commerce, EDA, etc.) to update information distributed to new residents regarding City parks and recreation activities.

Trail System

Goals

- 1. Provide a citywide interconnected trail system that meets recreation and transportation needs of the community.
- 2. Provide a trail system that is well marked and maintained, safe, user-friendly, promotes active living and connects the community.
- 3. Provide trails along the Sauk River, trail connection to Lake Wobegon Trail, extension of Glacial Ridge Regional Trail, and trail connection between St. Joseph Township to Waite Park.
- 4. Provide access to state, county and surrounding community trail systems.
- 5. Obtain Metropolitan Transit System comments regarding future bus stop locations and pedestrian connections.
- 6. Seek all opportunities (within financial limits) to plan, procure, develop and maintain parks and recreation resources.
- 7. Prepare a Trail System Plan and Development Guide that incorporates the goals and policies developed in the Park System Plan and includes an Implementation Plan with project prioritization, phasing, cost estimates and funding sources.

Policies

The City shall:

- 1. Develop a citywide trail system utilizing and encouraging alternative modes of transportation.
- 2. Develop trail links that provide safe and convenient access to and between parks, schools, neighborhoods, commercial areas, and other destinations.
- 3. Review development proposals as they relate to trail connectivity.
- 4. Incorporate Metropolitan Transit System comments in the review process for new subdivisions.
- 5. Cooperate with adjacent communities to coordinate trail system

- connections.
6. Cooperate with state, regional, and county agencies in the formulation of a comprehensive trail system.
 7. Cooperate with state, regional, and county agencies to develop a trail along the Sauk River.
 8. Work with the appropriate authorities to identify and utilize rail road and utility rights-of-way for trail purposes.
 9. Review trail design and maintenance practices to ensure consistency with accepted designs.
 10. Analyze the need for additional signals, signage, or special crossing facilities to enhance trail safety.
 11. Require developers to install identified portions of the trail/pedestrian ways as part of subdivision construction.

Natural Resources

Goals

1. Protect, preserve, enhance and develop the natural resources within the city.
2. Protect the City's natural resources and ecosystem through community education.
3. Increase passive recreational opportunities of existing natural resources.

Policies

The City shall:

1. Review development proposals for conformance with ordinances regarding tree preservation, water quality, wetland protection and mitigation, and shore land protection.
2. Work with developers to provide permanent open space areas or cash-in monetary compensation of land in development plans.
3. Educate private property owners on how to protect and maintain natural resources on their property.
4. Protect parks and open space areas from unnecessary encroachment or destruction from neighboring properties.
5. Utilize site planning, construction and maintenance techniques on public park lands to minimize negative impacts on the natural environment.
6. Utilize or specify native plant materials in projects on City property.
7. Identify and acquire significant habitat areas and areas of unique plant and animal species to ensure their preservation.
8. Enforce no-net loss of wetlands within jurisdictional limits through administration of the Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Act.
9. Increase emphasis on minimizing runoff volumes through implementation of stormwater best management practices and other environmental practices that are technically acceptable and financially feasible.
10. Take a proactive approach in efforts to identify and treat

- diseased and insect-infested trees in a timely manner through implementation of the City's shade tree disease program.
11. Work with private property owners and developers to encourage reforestation and preservation of significant vegetation and enforce the current tree preservation ordinance.
 12. Use best management practices to improve the effectiveness of natural resource management.
 13. Provide, maintain, search for and develop public access parks and areas on water bodies.
 14. Protect, and manage open space areas within the city.
 15. Maintain and develop natural corridors to foster ecosystem continuity and provide connections to parks and open space.
 16. Expand environmental education programs with schools and in the community.

General Policy

1. The City Council, Planning Commission and Park Board shall meet jointly at least once a year.

A horizontal banner with a purple border. It features three photographs of park scenes: a picnic shelter on the left, a pond in the middle, and a playground on the right. The text "8. Park System Plan" is centered over the middle photograph. The banner is decorated with vertical bars in blue, green, and yellow.

8. Park System Plan

Introduction

The following section presents the Park System Plan. The plan is based on a number of factors including standards developed by the National Recreational and Park Association Classification Standards. The plan has also been built upon recommendations for the overall park system and for park specific enhancements, and improvements. The recommendations reflect input from the community, Park Board and City staff and on the consultant's evaluation.

National Recreation and Park Association Classification Standards

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the American Academy developed Park, Open Space, and Greenway classifications for Park and Recreation Administration to serve as spatial and functional guidelines for communities to use as they are developing a park system plan. Since the NRPA has not provided guidelines for Regional Park classifications, the classification in this plan is based on Regional Park standards developed by the Association of Minnesota Counties in 2005 for the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR).

The following is a listing of the proposed park classifications most relevant to Waite Park's needs.

Mini-Park

- Classification used to address limited or unique recreational needs
- < ¼ mile distance in residential setting
- 2,500 sq. ft. to 1 acre in size

Neighborhood Park

- Basic unit of the park system and serves recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.
- < ¼ to ½ mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.
- 5-10 acres in size

Community Park

- Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscape and open spaces.
- ½ mile to 3 mile distance, usually serves two or more neighborhoods
- 30-50 acres in size

Greenways

- Tie park components together to form a continuous park environment
- Location and size requirements are variable

Special Use Park

- Covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single purpose use
- Location and size requirements are variable

Regional Park

- Serves regional users or draws tourists from local areas
- Provides outdoor recreation facilities and activities, e.g., picnicking, hiking, camping, swimming, boating, canoeing, fishing, etc.
- Park has special features, e.g., unique or unusual geologic features
- 100 acres in size (exceptions may be based on use characteristics, special features, etc.)

Park Reclassification

Table 8-1 shows the revised park classification system as shown on the Park

Park	Classification	Location	Acres
Community Park	City-wide Park	13th Ave. N	7.2
Jagiello Park	Mini-Park	3rd St. N & 1st Ave	.6
Lions Park	Neighborhood Park	CSAH 137	4.6
Common Green Space	Greenway	3rd St N	11.0
River's Edge Park	Regional Park	3rd St N & 10th Ave N	42.1
Willow Creek Park	Greenway	CSAH 137	5.7
Rock Island Park	Special Use Park	3rd St & 10th St	16.1
Sunwood Park	Mini-Park	Sunwood Park Drive	1.51

Future Park Needs

In general, the park system within Waite Park is in good to excellent condition. However, the main recommendation based on public input and general observation is that additional parks and facilities need to be added to the system to adequately serve the recreational needs and desires of the citizens of Waite Park, especially teens and seniors.

While the current park land acreage within the system exceeds the National Standard of 10 acres per thousand people (12 acres/1000), it is important that the City evaluate the quality and recreational value of land when determining development and preservation potential. Criteria for park land acquisition should be developed that would ensure the acquisition of land appropriate to the recreational need. For example, the City would want to consider open agricultural land rather than mature woodland to develop a highly active recreational park such as a City-wide Park that included a sports complex or

athletic fields. Riverfront property may be more suitable for passive recreation activities and trail development.

Table 8-2 shows land needed to accommodate future park needs by the year 2020 applying national park standards. It shows that by the year 2020, Waite Park should add approximately 15 acres of park land to the system. In actuality, Waite Park may still need at least two more City-wide Parks over the 12 to 15 years with the reclassification of River's Edge from a City-wide to a Regional Park. The amount of land needed to provide enough space for a City-wide Park offering a range of recreational activities including athletic fields, playgrounds, picnic areas, etc., would be between 30 and 50 acres.

The table also shows that Waite Park needs additional neighborhood parks to accommodate future residential developments. Neighborhood parks are essential to the quality of life for community residents and are considered to be a "basic unit" or central spine of the park system because they serve as the recreational and social of the neighborhood - those components of the city infrastructure that are human-scale, pedestrian-oriented and barrier-free.

There is also a deficiency in the smaller mini-parks as well. These type of parks are important to have in the system because they serve unique recreational needs [e.g. pocket parks within commercial areas similar to the current park that is proposed in the Waite Avenue Redevelopment Project (See Appendix C)]. Mini-parks also provide useful recreational opportunities in isolated areas with limited park opportunities.

Component	Existing Acres	Standard	Standard Applied to Population	Net
Park System	88.8	10/1000	103.9	<15.1>
City-wide Park (>10 acres)	7.2	8/1000	83.18	<76.0>
Neighborhood Park (3-10 acres)	4.6	2/1000	20.8	<16.2>
Mini-Park (<3 acres)	2.11	.5/1000	5.2	<3.09>
Greenways	16.7	N/A		
Special Use Park	16.1	N/A		
Regional Park	42.1	N/A		

PARK SYSTEM LONG-TERM AND SHORT-TERM PLAN

The following is a list of general park system and park specific improvements that have been identified by the Park Board based on identified needs and community input provided in the 2005 Comprehensive Plan.

Table 8-3 Land Acquisition, Facility Development and Maintenance	
Short-Range Plan	Long-Range Plan
Purchase of under-developed and undeveloped land	Purchase of underdeveloped and undeveloped land
Master plan park in southern portion of city	Build community garden
Re-evaluate park usage and needs every five (5) years	Create greenway system throughout the City based on trails and park system plan
Study and implement the use of alternative energy technologies such as wind turbines to provide electrical power to park facilities while providing a source of revenue to the City	

Table 8-4 Recreation	
Short-Range Plan	Long- Range Plan
Build additional softball fields/baseball fields (4 Total)	Build additional soccer fields
Build multi-use community center	Build multi-use community center
Expand volunteer recognition program	
Study regional aquatic center plans	

Table 8-5 Trail System	
Short-Range Plan	Long-Range Plan
Build bike/pedestrian trail on north side of 3rd Street (from 10th Ave N to Waite Ave N)	Define bike/pedestrian trail from (13th Ave N to Division Street) along 15th Ave N/3rd Street N
Work with Stearns County and surrounding communities to develop regional trail system	
Study, improve and expand City-wide trail system	

Table 8-6 Natural Resources	
Short-Range Plan	Long-Range Plan
Create community awareness of parks and amenities through website and News-leader articles	
Create garden/community beautification club	
Use sustainable landscape practices in park development and maintenance	Use sustainable landscape practices in park development and maintenance
Study community compost site	
Control invasive plant species	Control invasive plant species

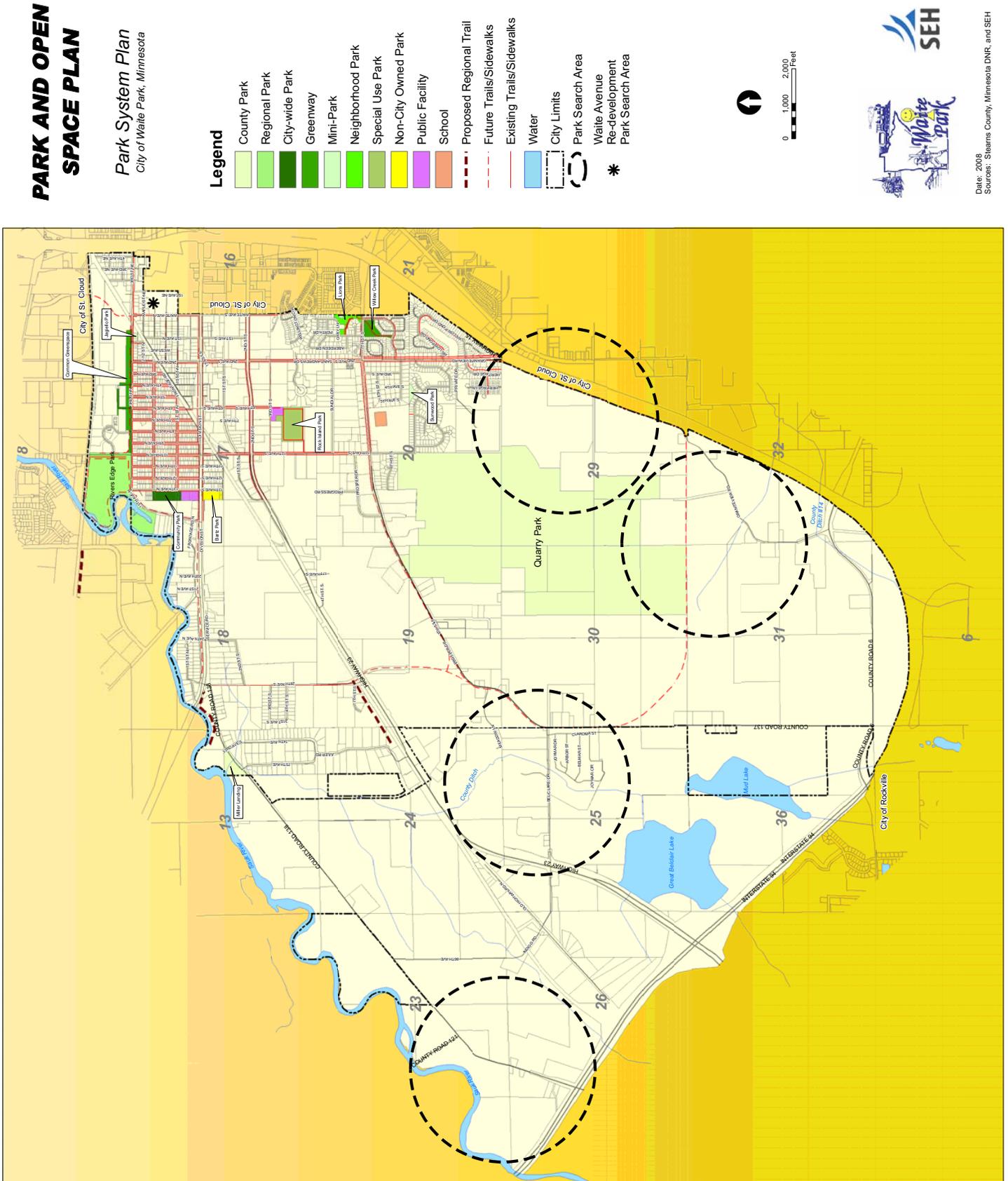
Table 8-7 Specific Park Improvements	
Short-Range Plan	Long-Range Plan
<i>Community Park</i>	Replace playground equipment
Install irrigation	
Repair bituminous surface	
Replace sand in play area	
Build ADA restrooms	
Lighted interior trail	
Build bandshell	
Provide gutters on pavilion	
Interior wall treatments for inside park building	
<i>Jagiello Park</i>	
Define future need	
<i>Lions Park</i>	
Install drinking fountains	
Re-establish turf	
Plant additional trees	
Re-plant native plants to buffer stormwater pond	
Build ADA restroom (1 m - 1 f)	
Lighted interior trail	
	Purchase 4-plex apartment building
<i>River's Edge Park</i>	
Implement master plan	
<i>Rock Island Park</i>	
Prepare master plan	
<i>Willow Creek Park</i>	
Prepare master plan	
<i>Sunwood Park</i>	
Sell land	

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a list of additional recommendations for park system or park specific improvements:

1. Continue developing master plans for individual parks based on a public input process to develop each park to full potential in a way that meets the recreational needs of the community.
2. Develop a Comprehensive Pedestrian and Trail Plan that provides safe and efficient linkages to city and county parks and to the regional trail system.
3. Assess existing soil conditions and landscaping within the parks and enhance with a secondary planting of perennials, shrubs, trees or native plantings and installation of irrigation systems where appropriate.
4. Study the use of engineered wood fiber mulch to install new and replace existing sand in play areas. Sand has a tendency to attract sand bees in some areas.
5. All parks within the system would benefit from additional park structures. The City may want to create a hierarchy of styles and sizes. For example, larger pavilion structures would be appropriate in parks classified as City-wide whereas a smaller picnic shelter would provide shaded activity and picnic areas in neighborhood parks.
6. Update playground equipment to include a range of creative play options for a wider range of age groups. May want to create a “playground tool-box” depending on the classification of park.
7. All parks would benefit from the additional of either portable or permanent ADA toilets.

Figure 8-1: Park and Open Space Plan



9. Implementation



Introduction

Understanding the intrinsic and monetary value and benefits that park and open space provide to a community is key to securing funding to purchase land, construct, operate and maintain a quality park system. Making a commitment to providing a park system based on high standards benefits the residents and maintains property values. People like to live near improved and well-maintained parks and ecologically diverse open spaces.

Implementation Strategies

The following are specific strategies for the implementation of Waite Park's vision for the future of recreation, parks and open space. Information collected through public input, the Park Board and professional assessment was used to develop these strategies. This input will provide a process for fulfilling the goals and policies which will in turn guide the fulfillment of the Vision.

The implementation strategies are organized into a park improvement matrix. Short-term strategies are to be completed during the first five years of plan adoption. Long-term strategies are to be completed in six or more years. The information provided for each strategy includes categories for the goal each strategy fulfills an estimate of cost and status of completion.

These strategies are intended to provide guidance to the decision makers of Waite Park and those boards, organizations, and staff designated to implement portions of the plan. The successful completion of these strategies will depend upon the fiscal and political climate in any given year. It is important that the City monitor, review and prioritize the strategies on an annual basis prior to the budgeting process.

Funding

Funding for improvements and development are addressed as part of an annual budgeting process. Project requests are included in the City's Capital Improvements Program (CIP), and are evaluated on a project-by-project basis. CIPs are often used as internal planning tools to identify proposed projects and estimated costs for park development. The purpose of the CIP is to provide specific details for proposed improvements at the park level. Implementing these park projects will help the City fulfill its park system goals and policies for the next 10 years.

Funding for the park improvements come from a variety of sources including:

- St. Cloud Regional half cent Sales Tax
- Park Dedication Fees
- State and Federal Grants

WAITE PARK OPINION OF PROBABLE COSTS FOR PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS (2008-2018)

Table 9-1 Opinion of Probable Costs			
	Short Range (1-5 years)	Long Range (6-10 year)	Status
IMPROVEMENTS			
GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS			
Purchase under-developed and undeveloped land	n/a	n/a	
Master plan park in southern portion of city	\$50,000		
Build community garden		\$5,000	
Build additional softball fields (4)	\$225,000 ea.		
Build additional soccer fields		\$25,000 ea.	
Build multi-use community center		\$130 sf	
Build bike/ped trail on north side of 3rd Street (from 10th Ave N to Waite Ave N)	\$55 lf		
Build bike/ped trail from (13th Ave N to Division St) along 15th Ave N/3rd St		\$55 lf	
Create community awareness of parks and amenities through a website and Newsleader articles	n/a		
SPECIFIC PARK IMPROVEMENTS			
<i>Community Park</i>			
Install irrigation	\$1.5 sf.		
Repair bituminous surface	\$50 lf		
Replace playground equipment		\$200,000	
Replace sand in play area w/engineered wood fiber mulch		\$50 cy	
Build ADA restrooms	\$165 sf.		
Install interior trail lighting	\$6,500 ea		
Build bandshell		\$300,000	
Install gutters on pavilion	n/a		
Renovate interior wall treatments inside park building	n/a		
<i>Jagiello Park</i>			
Define future need	n/a	n/a	

Table 9-1 Opinion of Probable Costs			
	Short Range (1-5 years)	Long Range (6-10 year)	Status
<i>Lions Park</i>			
Install drinking fountains	\$5,000 ea.		
Re-establish turf	\$2,000 acre		
Plant additional trees	\$385 ea.		
Re-plant native plant buffer around stormwater pond	\$2,500		
Build ADA restroom (1 m 1 f)	\$165 sf		
Install interior trail lighting	\$6,500 ea.		
Purchase 4-plex apartment building		n/a	
<i>River's Edge Park</i>			
Implement master plan	5,000,000		
<i>Rock Island Park</i>			
Prepare master plan	\$10,000- \$25,000		
<i>Willow Creek Park</i>			
Prepare master plan	\$5,000-\$10,000		
<i>Sunwood Park</i>			
Sell land	n/a	n/a	

Note: Opinion of probable costs based on 2008 dollars.



Facility Evaluation - Community Park

Name of Facility: Community Park 7.2 Acres
 Location:

Categories	Condition Items	Maintenance Items	Safety Items	Comments
General	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	
Park	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	The turf is thin or worn throughout park.
Playground	Excellent	Good	Good	One point of accessibility to play structure. Flaking paint.
Football Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Soccer Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Baseball/Softball Diamonds	Good	Good	Good	The turf is thin or worn throughout park. The field looks like it drains well after rain.
Tennis Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Outdoor Basketball Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Aquatic Facilites	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Game Squares	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Recreation Building	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	
Picnic Shelters	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Two Picnic Shelters. One has restrooms.
Walking /Biking Trail	Fair	Fair	Fair	Trails are only links to elements, cracked but repaired w/asphalt mix. Other Bituminous in rough shape

Facility Evaluation - Jagiello Park

Name of Facility: Jagiello Park

Location:

Categories	Condition Items	Maintenance Items	Safety Items	Comments
General				0 restrooms Neighbor states no children in neighborhood, no one uses park
Park	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Nothing extra in landscaping
Playground	Excellent	Good	Good	No accessibility Only 6" of fill
Football Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Soccer Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Baseball/Softball Diamonds	Poor	Poor	Poor	Pickup diamond with backstop only
Tennis Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Outdoor Basketball Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Aquatic Facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Game Squares	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Recreation Building	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Picnic Shelters	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Walking /Biking Trail	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Facility Evaluation - Lions/Angushire Park

Name of Facility: Lions 4.6 acres
Location: Park/Angushire Park

Categories	Condition Items	Maintenance Items	Safety Items	Comments
General	Good	Good	Good	1 restroom no drinking fountains Park has great potential
Park	Good	Good	Good	Turf non-existent Needs to be reseeded
Playground	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Engineered wood fiber at Lion's Need accessibility at Angushire
Football Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Soccer Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Baseball/Softball Diamonds	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Tennis Courts	Fair	Fair	Fair	1 court, net is low, not lighted, surface is cracked
Outdoor Basketball Courts	Fair	Fair	Fair	1 court, cracked surface, not lighted
Aquatic Facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Game Squares	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Recreation Building	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Has restroom No staff
Picnic Shelters	Good	Good	Good	Table shelter No restroom or drinking fountain
Walking /Biking Trail	Good	Good	Good	.5 miles

Facility Evaluation - River's Edge Park

Name of Facility: River's Edge **42.1 Acres**
Location: 3rd & 1st Avenue &
 Cty Rd 81

Categories	Condition Items	Maintenance Items	Safety Items	Comments
General				1 restroom 1 drinking fountain Building need some maintenance
Park	Good	Good	Good	Not adequate size and space for intended use.
Playground	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Football Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Soccer Field	Fair	Fair	Fair	Multi-purpose 1 soccer field – zone lines not marked not mowed or watered not lighted
Baseball/Softball Diamonds	Good	Good	Good	1 lighted 2 no lights
Tennis Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Outdoor Basketball Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Aquatic Facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Game Squares	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Recreation Building	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Concession Stand
Picnic Shelters	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	
Walking /Biking Trail	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Facility Evaluation - Rock Island Park

Name of Facility: **Rock Island Park** 16.1 acres
 Location: **10th Ave. 3rd St.**

Categories	Condition Items	Maintenance Items	Safety Items	Comments
General				No restroom or drinking fountains Bleak/sterile Playground wrong side of park
Park	Fair	Fair	Good	
Playground	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Football Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Soccer Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Baseball/Softball Diamonds	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Tennis Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Outdoor Basketball Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Aquatic Facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Game Squares	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Recreation Building	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Picnic Shelters	Fair	Fair	Fair	Table Shelters Turf flooring No restrooms or drinking fountains
Walking /Biking Trail	Good	Good	Good	1 mile walking trail with no signs

Facility Evaluation - Community Park

Name of Facility: Willow Creek Park 5.7 acres
Location: Willow Creek
 Drive/7th St. South

Categories	Condition Items	Maintenance Items	Safety Items	Comments
General				No restrooms No drinking fountains
Park	Good	Good	Excellent	
Playground	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Football Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Soccer Field	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Baseball/Softball Diamonds	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Tennis Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Outdoor Basketball Courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Aquatic Facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Game Squares	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Recreation Building	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Picnic Shelters	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Walking /Biking Trail	Good	Good	Good	Less then a mile trail Trail around storm water into neighborhood





POTENTIAL SITE ELEMENT:
WIND TURBINE (DEPENDENT ON FEASIBILITY)

RIVER'S EDGE PARK
MASTER PLAN

Park System Master Plan
City of Waite Park, Minnesota



Waite Avenue Redevelopment
Concept Plan

