Parks and Recreation Analysis

Green Bay
Smart Growth 2022
Parks and Recreation Analysis

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Parks and Recreation Analysis of Conditions

Overview of the Parks System

The Green Bay area is located within the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem and is classified by the US Forest Service as part of the Laurentian Mixed Forest Province. The biological communities found here form a transitional zone between the boreal forest to the north and the broadleaf deciduous forest of eastern North America.

Before settlement (prior to the late 1800s), the area was covered with forests of northern hardwoods, primarily sugar maple, beech, and basswood, with oak openings along the shore. Coastal marshes occurred along the west shore of the bay and near the mouth of the Fox River. Other indigenous trees include hickory, hemlock, red and white pine, jack pine, spruce, balsam fir, and paper birch.

Virtually all of the original forest vegetation in the Green Bay area has been replaced by farms and development. Existing wooded sites are often composed of successional stands of paper birch and aspen. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has identified 130 globally rare or endangered plant and animal species or plant communities existing within the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem.

The proximity to Lake Michigan creates a local climate that tends to be more moderate than surrounding inland areas, with slightly warmer winters and cooler summers. Plant bud development is typically delayed by cooler temperatures in spring, minimizing risk of damage by late frosts, and allowing plants commonly found in warmer areas to grow near the lake.

Brief History of Green Bay Parks and Open Space

The first parks in the area were created during the late 1820s, in villages which later became part of the city of Green Bay. Most early parks were parcels set aside during platting, to be used as public commons, or lands donated to the city, such as Tank Park and Astor Park. In 1919 the Green Bay Park Board was created to manage the city’s parks, in response to a stipulation by the donors of the Joannes Park lands. Although this citizen’s park board was later dissolved, the Green Bay Park Department, established in 1920, continues to manage all park lands and facilities.

Noted city planner and landscape architect John Nolen’s 1920’s master plan for Green Bay established the form for much of the city as it is experienced today, including the development of parkland along East River and Baird Creek. In portions of the city developed according to this plan, small neighborhood parks were created as green spaces within the city’s grid. Most neighborhoods were provided a park within a short walking distance, and before the advent of the automobile age these parks were central to the public life of the neighborhood.

Many of the city’s larger neighborhood parks were created in conjunction with school construction in developing neighborhoods.
during the 1950s and ‘60s. Many of these parks include stands of mature hardwood trees, offering a type of landscape not generally seen in older urban or suburban areas.

New development on the east side of Green Bay has resulted in a few larger community parks for both active and passive recreation.

Recent park system development has been guided by The Green Bay Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan, 1997 to 2002. This document set forth a mission statement, listed goals and objectives, and established a system of standards and park classification. It described the size, location, and facilities for each park in the system, and located them on a map of the city. It made both general and specific recommendations regarding future acquisition and development, and described current methods for implementation. Much of the analysis of level of service standards, and many of the observations and recommendations made in the Park Plan are incorporated into this section. The Park Plan’s specific recommendations for individual park improvements are summarized in the Parks, Greenways and Parkways Plan, Volume II of this document.

System Relationships

The Green Bay Park Department maintains relationships with many other agencies and groups throughout the county, either as shared users and custodians of parklands, or in partnerships for acquiring and improving lands. Listed below are some of these organizations.

- Green Bay School Districts
- Brown County Park Department
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- University of Wisconsin Green Bay – Cofrin Arboretum
- Northeast Wisconsin Land Trust
- Fox-Wolf Basin 2000 – an independent non-profit organization dedicated to improving water quality in the Fox-Wolf River Basin, through education, public policy and private action
- Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District (Environmental Education Center)
- Wisconsin Conservation Corps

Population and Household Trends

The population trends experienced by Green Bay are a reflection of trends in Brown County and similar to trends happening throughout the state and the nation for growing communities.

The population of Green Bay has increased from 96,466 in 1990 to 102,313 in 2000. This is an increase of 16.5 percent for that 10-year period.

Table 6-1: Forecast of Green Bay Population and Households

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<tr>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>96,466</td>
<td>102,313</td>
<td>106,600</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>108,700</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households</td>
<td>38,383</td>
<td>41,760</td>
<td>44,979</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>46,652</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Bureau of the Census.
Brown County Planning Commission

While the population of Green Bay has grown the age characteristics of the population of Brown County has also changed, reflecting an aging population base that is occurring in Wisconsin and the United States as a whole.

While the population has increased, it has also become more diverse and more urban. Along with the tendency toward a more urban community, the characteristics of households in Brown County are also changing. The average number of persons per household is
declining. While traditional married households continue to be the dominant household type, significant increases were made by male or female household heads and by non-family households.

In summary, the population of Brown County and Green Bay is increasing, growing older, and becoming more ethnically diverse and urban. While the number of households is increasing, household size is becoming smaller, more mobile and less apt to live in the traditional nuclear family or own a standard single family home.

All these factors have ramifications on the planning of outdoor recreation facilities and open spaces, such as:

- There will be a growing need for recreational facilities targeted towards seniors.
- The need for adult recreational facilities will stay strong.
- The strong demand for youth recreational programs and facilities will continue.
- There will be a growing demand for specialty facilities and facilities which respond to the unique needs or desires of specific ethnic groups.

### Residential Land Needs

The following table presents an estimate of the amount of land needed to accommodate the growth in the number of households between 2000 and 2022 in the City of Green Bay. Additional land would also be needed for parks, wetlands, commercial and industrial space.

It is assumed that 90 percent of the additional households over the next 20 years will be located on the perimeter of the presently urbanized area and that 10 percent will be located in older neighborhoods. In addition, 70 percent of the housing in perimeter locations will occur east of I-43.

This growth has implications for the park system, of course, as new park sites and facilities will be needed to serve the growing population and new geographic service areas.

### Table 6-2: Residential Land Needs, 2000 to 2022

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000 Households (est.)</td>
<td>41,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022 Households</td>
<td>46,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households Increase</td>
<td>4,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Vacancy Rate</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fringe Location Households (90 % of total)</td>
<td>4,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households per Net Acre</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Net Fringe Acres</td>
<td>1,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portion East of I-43 (70 %)</td>
<td>835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Location Households (10 % of total)</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households per Net Acre</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Net Central Acres</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Total Net Residential Acres</td>
<td>1,247</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Inventory of the Park and Open Space System

Inventory of Parks and Facilities

Figure 6-1 shows the locations of all parks and public recreational open space. Tables 6-3, 6-4 and 6-5 list the City’s acreage of parkland by various methods of classification. Table 6-6 identifies all parks and open space areas by classification and lists the facilities available at each park. Table 6-7 lists the attributes of each type of park and path/trail classification, such as community and neighborhood parks.

There are 2,107 acres of park and joint park-school sites along with 315 acres of freestanding public school facilities for a total of 2,422 acres of public recreational land in Green Bay.

The City owns 1,848 acres in 64 locations. The Green Bay School District owns 258 acres in 23 of the 64 park areas and also owns the 315 acres of public school facilities.

Of this 2,422 acres there are 69 acres of school buildings and a 24-acre railroad museum that would not be considered public recreational open space.

Table 6-3: Parks by Ownership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Park-School Sites</td>
<td>1,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park-School Sites</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freestanding Public School Sites</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minus Public School Buildings</td>
<td>-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minus the Railroad Museum</td>
<td>-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,329</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Table 6-4: Parks by General Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Park</th>
<th>Acres</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Use</td>
<td>525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passive Use</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeveloped or Non-Recreational</td>
<td>1,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,329</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6-5: Parks by Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Park</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Parks – Developed</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Parks – Undeveloped</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Parks – Developed</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Parks – Undeveloped</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play Lots</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Areas</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parkways</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free-Standing Schools</td>
<td>12</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Public Works Department also manages 11 conservancy or drainage areas totaling 206 acres. These are listed for reference purposes but generally are not available to the public.

The developed open space total is computed by taking the gross open space of 2,422 acres and subtracting the undeveloped 1,218 acres (areas not yet developed and natural areas) and the school structures (69 acres).

In addition to the 2,329 acres of park and open space, the City has developed approximately five miles of paved and crushed gravel trails. Many of the parks also contain concrete walkways and bituminous paths.
# Table 6-6
## Inventory of Green Bay Parks and Open Spaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Category</th>
<th>Ball Fields - Practice</th>
<th>Baseball - Lighted</th>
<th>Softball or Little League - Practice</th>
<th>Softball or Little League - Lighted</th>
<th>Basketball Court - Lighted</th>
<th>Soccer Field</th>
<th>Tennis Courts - Lighted</th>
<th>Swimming</th>
<th>Wading Pool</th>
<th>Ice Skating</th>
<th>Sledding</th>
<th>Special Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Acreage</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **City-Owned** | | | | | | | | | | | | | Perennial Garden; Practice Hockey
| **School or Other-Owned** | | | | | | | | | | | | | Flower Garden
| **Active Use** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Passive Use** | | | | | | | | | | | | | Nature Center and Animal Display
| **Undeveloped or Non-Recreational** | | | | | | | | | | | | | Amusement Rides
| **School Buildings** | | | | | | | | | | | | | Railroad Museum
| **Active Use** | | | | | | | | | | | | | Nature Areas
| **Passive Use** | | | | | | | | | | | | | Aquatic Center and Stadium
| **Special Features** | | | | | | | | | | | | | Bay Interpretative Area

### Special Features
- Perennial Garden
- Practice Hockey
- Flower Garden
- Nature Center and Animal Display
- Amusement Rides
- Railroad Museum
- Nature Areas
- Aquatic Center and Stadium
- Bay Interpretative Area
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Total Acreage</th>
<th>City-Owned</th>
<th>School or Other-Owned</th>
<th>Active Use</th>
<th>Passive Use</th>
<th>Undeveloped or Non-Recreational</th>
<th>School Buildings</th>
<th>Park Category</th>
<th>Ball Fields - Practice</th>
<th>Baseball</th>
<th>Softball or Little League</th>
<th>Tball or Little League - Lighted</th>
<th>Softball or Little League - Lighted</th>
<th>Baseball Court - Lighted</th>
<th>Basketball Field</th>
<th>Horsebarns</th>
<th>Swimming Pool</th>
<th>Wading Pool</th>
<th>Picnic Area</th>
<th>Nature Walking Trails</th>
<th>Shelter - Enclosed</th>
<th>Restrooms</th>
<th>Boat Launch</th>
<th>Cross-Country Skiing</th>
<th>Ice Skating</th>
<th>Ice Skating</th>
<th>Special Features</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MURPHY PARK</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>N15 PARK/SCHOOL</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>NP</td>
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<td>N16 PARK / SCHOOL</td>
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<td>PERKINS PARK</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>CP</td>
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<tr>
<td>RIVER VIEW PLACE</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>SALT LAKE PARK</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>ST. PHILIP PARK(PRIVATE OWNED)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NP</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>SULLIVAN PARK(SCHOOL)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHITNEY PARK</td>
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<tr>
<td>WILDER PARK &amp; PARKWAY</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>NP</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL PARK ACREAGE**

|                         | 2,422 | 1,669 | 259 | 525 | 560 | 1,034 | 26 |

Special Features:
- Ball Fields - Practice
- Baseball
- Softball or Little League
- Basketball Court
- Basketball Court - Lighted
- Basketball Field
- Horsebarns
- Tennis Courts
- Tennis Courts - Lighted
- Volleyball
- Swimming Pool
- Picnic Area
- Nature Walking Trails
- Shelter - Enclosed
- Restrooms
- Boat Launch
- Cross-Country Skiing
- Ice Skating
- Special Features

- Veterans Memorial and Museum
- Band Concerts
Inventory of the Recreation System

The Recreation Division of the Green Bay Parks Department is involved in a multitude of programs. Appendix A following this section provides a listing of those activities by major category. Categories include:

- Water-related programs – indoor and outdoor pools
- Basketball
- Baseball and softball
- Football
- Volleyball
- Tennis
- Miscellaneous programs
- Playground programs

Quantitative Analysis of the Park System

This section presents guidelines for measuring whether Green Bay has enough parkland and enough of various types of park facilities. The present system of parks and open space is measured against those guidelines and general conclusions drawn. The first section addresses land and the next section addresses facilities (e.g., tennis courts).

Park Acreage Guidelines

The guidelines in Table 6-5 can be used to help determine whether there is a sufficient number of park acres across the community or within a subarea. Likewise, they can be used to determine if there are enough facilities (such as soccer fields). They are approximate requirements that should serve as general criteria to aid in the planning and decision making process, and should not be considered absolute.

These guidelines are based on Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines by the National Recreation and Park Association (1990). It is stated in that document that these standards are to be used as a guide and should in no way be applied to all locations in the same manner. Considering the differing socioeconomic, climatic, geographic and cultural diversity of various areas it would be almost impossible and undesirable to apply all of the standards to every community. Further, the guidelines are minimums rather than maximums.

Comparison of Park Acreage to Guidelines

Gross Acreage Method: One commonly used acreage standard is that 10 percent of a community’s area should be set aside as open space. The City of Green Bay consists of 28,608 acres. This standard would infer that the community should have 2,860 acres of open space. Green Bay actually has a total of 2,329 acres of public recreational open space (City and School lands, but not including drainage ways, school buildings and private facilities). This would suggest that there will be a deficit of open space of 531 acres if the City develops to its borders without purchasing additional land. However, the population method indicates a different conclusion.

Population Method: Another method for analyzing park land acreage is based on population. This standard states that a community should provide 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed open space for every 1,000 residents. With the 2000 Census population of 102,313 people, the standard would suggest that the City should have a total of 639 to 1,074 acres of developed open space.

Of the 2,329 acres of open space that are in the City, 1,134 acres can be considered to be open to the public and have some form of
developed recreational activity. This indicates that Green Bay actually slightly exceeds the standards by 60 acres. If this is projected to the year 2022, with an estimated population of 108,700, this would indicate that the City should have from 679 acres to 1,141 acres of developed open space. This would suggest that if no new areas are annexed to the city, only an additional seven acres of open space would need to be developed to stay on the upper range of the standards.

**Park Classification and Distribution Analysis**

**Classification Guidelines:** The Green Bay parks are divided into various classifications based on their size and purpose. See Table 6-5 for the classification system. This system is based on National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommendations. This system of classification also makes specific suggestions as to realistic walking distances to access the various types of parks. These guidelines would suggest that all residents should have access to a neighborhood park or park-school within one-half mile of their home or a play lot within one-fourth mile and a community park within one mile.

**Strong Neighborhood Park Bias:** The Green Bay park system was based on the neighborhood park concept and, therefore, most areas of the City have park access as described by these standards. The older neighborhoods often have a high number of parks within closer proximity but those parks are usually undersized for contemporary athletic and field sports.

Conversely, in the newer neighborhoods parks tend to be spaced too far apart. It is often difficult to walk to bicycle to them. The park themselves, however, are sized more adequately than the classic sites such as Whitney, Astor or Tank Parks.

**Deficient Locations:** Figure 6-1 identifies where standards are met, where access problems exist and where future parks should be considered. Rather than show a ½ mile radius around parks, the map has delineated the actual approximate service area based on neighborhood boundaries and major street corridors. This helps to more accurately identify under-serviced locations. Please note that the size guidelines in Table 6-1 are on the low end of absolute minimum, considering the recent increase in the size of athletic fields. For example, an adult soccer field is almost two acres, and a standard softball diamond is just under an acre.

**Desirable Park Sizes:** Past experience in Green Bay has shown that 15 acres of actual usable space has worked well for neighborhood parks, while 25 acres of usable space works well for community parks. If combined with a waterfront parkway or natural area, neighborhood parks can sometimes grow to 25 to 45 acres.

A community park usually works well at 35 to 65 acres. Combining an environmentally valuable area with a neighborhood or community park provides an economy of scale for maintenance, provides good public access and can preserve a valuable natural heritage for Green Bay’s future generations.
### Table 6-7
Parks and Pathways Classification and Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classifications</th>
<th>General Description</th>
<th>Location Guideline</th>
<th>Size Guideline</th>
<th>Desirable Site Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Park Classifications</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini-Park</td>
<td>Used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs</td>
<td>Less than a ¼ mile distance in residential setting</td>
<td>Between 2500 sq. ft. and one acre in size</td>
<td>Within neighborhoods and close proximity to apartment complexes, town- house development or housing for the elderly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Park</td>
<td>Neighborhood park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.</td>
<td>¼ to ½ mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.</td>
<td>5 acres is considered minimum size. 5 to 10 acres is optimal</td>
<td>Suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood population- geographically centered with safe walking and bike access. May be developed as a school-park facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-Park</td>
<td>Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, and special use.</td>
<td>Determined by location of school district property.</td>
<td>Variable – Depends on function.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Park</td>
<td>Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.</td>
<td>Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3 mile distance.</td>
<td>As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually between 30 and 50 acres.</td>
<td>May include natural features, such as water bodies, and areas suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood served.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Urban Park</td>
<td>Large urban parks serve a broader purpose than community parks and are used when community and neighborhood parks are not adequate to serve the needs of the community. Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.</td>
<td>Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves the entire community.</td>
<td>As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 50 acres, with .75 or more acres being optimal.</td>
<td>Usually includes a mixture of characteristics to accommodate the planned use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Areas</td>
<td>Lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering.</td>
<td>Resource availability and opportunity.</td>
<td>Variable.</td>
<td>Large area with special natural resources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 6. Parks and Recreation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classifications</th>
<th>General Description</th>
<th>Location Guideline</th>
<th>Size Guideline</th>
<th>Desirable Site Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greenways</td>
<td>Effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.</td>
<td>Resource availability and opportunity.</td>
<td>Variable.</td>
<td>Along waterways, linear wooded areas, and former railroad beds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Complex</td>
<td>Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities to larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community.</td>
<td>Strategically located community-wide facilities.</td>
<td>Determined by projected demand. Usually a minimum of 25 acres, with 40 to 80 acres being optimal.</td>
<td>Large, flat area isolated from housing and with good roadway access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use</td>
<td>Covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use.</td>
<td>Variable – dependent on specific use.</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>Variable, depending on the use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Park / Recreation Facility</td>
<td>Parks and recreation facilities that are privately owned yet contribute to the public park and recreation system.</td>
<td>Variable – dependent on specific use.</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>Variable, depending on the activity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Trail Classifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classifications</th>
<th>General Description</th>
<th>Location Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Trail</td>
<td>Multipurpose trails located within greenways, parks and natural resource areas. Focus is on recreational value and harmony with natural environment.</td>
<td>Type I: Separate/single-purpose hared-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists / in-line skaters. Type II: Multipurpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians and bicyclists/in-line skaters. Type II: Nature trails for pedestrians. May be hard – or soft-surfaced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connector Trails</td>
<td>Multipurpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the community. Focus is as much on transportation as it is on recreation.</td>
<td>Type I: Separate/single-purpose hared-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists / in-line skaters located in independent right-of-way, (e.g. old railroad right-of-way) Type II: Separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters. Typically located within right-of-way.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Street Bikeways</td>
<td>Paved segments of roadways that serve as a means to safely separate bicyclists from vehicular traffic.</td>
<td>Bike Route: Designated portions of the roadway for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-Terrain Bike Trail</td>
<td>Off-road trail for all-terrain (mountain) bikes.</td>
<td>Single-purpose loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-Country Ski Trail</td>
<td>Trails developed for traditional and skate-style cross-country skiing.</td>
<td>Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Park Facility Guidelines

The NRPA has also established guidelines for specific recreation facilities, as shown in Table 6-6. These are meant to be used as approximate minimum guidelines and not absolute requirements. The number and size of recreation facilities tend to fluctuate greatly from one community to another depending on local demand.

Most Green Bay neighborhoods have a high level of service when judged by NRPA standards. Some of the older neighborhoods lack large recreational facilities and community parks, but have more than the required number of small neighborhood parks. Lack of available land for expansion of smaller parks poses a difficulty for meeting the increased demand for athletic facilities in these areas.

Newer neighborhoods are well served in terms of larger community parks and recreational sports facilities but lack smaller more formal, gardensque parks and play-lots within convenient (one-half mile) walking distance.

Thus, this plan should address the imbalance between the older and the newer neighborhoods in terms of park sizes, locational distribution and facility distribution.
### Table 6-8
Facility Development Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity of Facility</th>
<th>Recommended Space Requirements</th>
<th>Recommended Size and Dimensions</th>
<th>Recommended Orientation</th>
<th>Number of Units Per Population</th>
<th>Service Radius</th>
<th>Location Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Same as badminton. Outdoor courts in neighborhood and community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Youth</td>
<td>2400 3036 sq. ft.</td>
<td>46-50’ x 84’</td>
<td>Long axis north-south</td>
<td>1 per 5000</td>
<td>½-1/2 mile</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. High School</td>
<td>5040 7280 sq. ft.</td>
<td>50’ x 84’</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Collegiate</td>
<td>5600 7980 sq. ft.</td>
<td>50’ x 94’ and 5’ unobstructed space on all sides</td>
<td>Long axis north-south</td>
<td>Indoor-1 per 100,000</td>
<td>½-1 hour travel time</td>
<td>Climate important consideration affecting no. of units. Best as part of multipurpose facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>22,000 sq. ft. including support area.</td>
<td>Rink 85’ x 200’ (minimum 85’ x 185’). Additional 5000 sq ft support area</td>
<td>Long axis north-south if outdoor</td>
<td>1 court per 2000</td>
<td>½-1/2 mile</td>
<td>Best in batteries of 2-4. Located neighborhood/community park or adjacent to school site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Minimum of 7,200 sq. ft. single court (2 acres for complex)</td>
<td>36’ x 78’ 12’ clearance on both sides, 21’ clearance on both ends</td>
<td>Long axis north-south</td>
<td>1 court per 5000</td>
<td>½-1/2 mile</td>
<td>Same as other court activities (e.g. badminton, basketball, etc.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Minimum of 4,000 sq. ft.</td>
<td>30’ x 60’ Minimum 6’ clearance on all sides.</td>
<td>Long axis north-south</td>
<td>1 court per 5000</td>
<td>½-1/2 mile</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>1. Official 3.0 - 3.85 A minimum</td>
<td>Baselines-90’ Pitching distance-60 ½’</td>
<td>Locate home plate so pitcher throwing across sun and batter not facing it. Line from home plate through pitcher’s mound run east-north-east.</td>
<td>1 per 5000</td>
<td>½-1/2 mile</td>
<td>Part of neighborhood complex. Lighted fields part of community complex.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Little League</td>
<td>1.2 - 1.5 A minimum</td>
<td>Foul lines-min. 320’ Center field-400’ + Baselines-60’ Pitching distance-46’ Foul lines-200’ Center field-200-250’</td>
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<td>Lighted-1 per 30,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Hockey</td>
<td>Minimum 1.5 A</td>
<td>180’ x 300’ with a minimum of 10’ clearance on all sides.</td>
<td>Fall season-long axis northwest of 10’ clearance on all sides.</td>
<td>1 per 20,000</td>
<td>15-30 minutes travel time</td>
<td>Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Minimum 1.5 A</td>
<td>160’ x 360’ with a minimum of 6’ clearance on all sides.</td>
<td>Same as field hockey.</td>
<td>1 per 20,000</td>
<td>15-30 minutes travel time</td>
<td>Same as field hockey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>1.7 to 2.1 A</td>
<td>195’ to 225’ x 330’ to 360’ with a 10’ minimum clearance on all sides.</td>
<td>Same as field hockey.</td>
<td>1 per 10,000</td>
<td>1-2 miles</td>
<td>Number of units depends on popularity-Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to schools or neighborhood parks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¼-Mile Running Track</td>
<td>4.3 A</td>
<td>Overall width-276’ length-600.02’ Track width for 8 to 4 lanes is 32’.</td>
<td>Long axis in sector from northwest-south-east with finish line at northerly end.</td>
<td>1 per 20,000</td>
<td>15-30 minutes travel time</td>
<td>Usually part of high school, or in community park complex in combination with football, soccer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 6. Parks and Recreation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity of Facility</th>
<th>Recommended Space Requirements</th>
<th>Recommended Size and Dimensions</th>
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<th>Number of Units Per Population</th>
<th>Service Radius</th>
<th>Location Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>1.5 to 2.0A</td>
<td>Baselines-60' Pitching distance-46' min. 40'-women Fast pitch field radius From plate-225' Between foul lines. Slow pitch-275' (men) 250' (women)</td>
<td>Same as baseball</td>
<td>1 per 5,000 (if also used for youth baseball)</td>
<td>½ to 1/2 mile</td>
<td>Slight difference in dimensions for 16” slow pitch. May also be used for youth baseball.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery Range</td>
<td>Minimum 0.65A</td>
<td>300’ length x minimum 10’ wide between targets. Roped clear space on sides of range minimum of 30’, clear space behind targets minimum of 90’ x 45’ with bunker</td>
<td>Archer facing north + or -45°</td>
<td>1 per 50,000</td>
<td>30 minutes travel time</td>
<td>Part of regional/metro park complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
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<td>• 50-60A Average length-600-2700 yards</td>
<td>Majority of holes on north-south axis.</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>½ to 1 hour travel time</td>
<td>• 9 hole course can accommodate 350 people/day. • 18 hole course can accommodate 500-550 people a day. • Course may be located in community or district park, but should not be over 20 miles from population center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiming Pools</td>
<td>Varies on size of pool and amenities. Usually ½ to 2A site.</td>
<td>Teaching-minimum of 25 yards x 45’ even depth of 3 to 4 feet. Competitive-minimum of 25m x 16m. Minimum of 27 sq ft of water surface per swimmer. Ratios of 2.1 deck vs. Water.</td>
<td>None-although care must be taken in siting of lifeguard stations in relation to afternoon sun.</td>
<td>1 per 20,000 (Pools should accommodate 3 to 5% of total population at a time.)</td>
<td>15 to 30 minutes travel time</td>
<td>Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching competitive, and recreational purposes with enough depth (3.4m) to accommodate 1m and 3m diving boards. Located in community park or school site.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Analysis of Park and Open Space Conditions

Park Design

The Green Bay parks show a variety of design approaches and conditions, often reflecting the era in which they were built. There are many fine design cues from both older and contemporary parks that designers of new sites may follow.

Classic Designs: Some of the most enduring and admirable park design features may be seen in the older, smaller parks such as Whitney, Jackson Square, Tank, Astor Place and Baird Place, among others. These sites, developed in the late 1800s or early 1900s, have classic, formal layouts featuring symmetric rows or allees of trees, often with a strong focal point and attractive features that terminate vistas. Much care was paid to the arrangement of plantings and buildings in these parks. Reasons for this attention to design may include the influence of the 1890s City Beautiful Movement, the fact that they are highly visible from the surrounding neighborhood, and because they were used frequently for social events.

The older parks were, thus, more a part of the daily experience of the community than some newer parks. Their easy access and open views made those classic parks the centerpiece of their neighborhoods, and their beauty boosted the quality and value of their neighborhoods to a degree that today’s parks sometimes do not.

Works Progress Administration Era Parks: Parks built in the 1920 to 1940 period often exhibit a high degree of design craftsmanship in their buildings, steps, walls and signs.

Contemporary Parks: More contemporary parks typically have less formal arrangements than the early sites but are more functional for field sports, as they were designed for youth recreation rather than strolling and relaxation. Plantings, if there are any, are designed to frame open areas or soften views to or from the park. The park entrance is typically undefined or marked only by a parking lot and wooden sign.

These parks often function very well for active play but do not serve as a visual and psychological focal point for the residential neighborhood. A soccer field does not serve as a visual focal point as well as a gazebo.

A major change in design philosophy is seen in the placement of newer parks within the neighborhood. Two or three sides were often bordered by the rear lots of adjacent houses rather than being completely open to the surrounding neighborhood. Fortunately in Green Bay, one or two long edges have usually been reserved for street edge so that the park does not feel like a private enclave. Examples of contemporary parks include Ted Fritsch or Christa McAuliffe.

School-Parks: A significant positive element of the Green Park parks system is the practice of co-locating parks and schools. The combined open space and athletic facilities serve both the park and school systems, resulting in a large facility and a strong civic presence in the neighborhood.
6. Parks and Recreation

**Woods and Wild Areas:** The Green Bay park system has several good examples of preservation that help give residents some connection with the natural environment on a regular basis. Examples of such locations include the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, parts of Nis-Ra Park, portions of Baird Creek Parkway and LaCount Parkway. However, in these locations non-native species have invaded and degraded the original ecosystem, or they have been tended so carefully that they have become nearly a monoculture. In these and other parks, dense wooded areas are usually not allowed to grow for fear of personal security, especially for children.
Older neighborhood parks such as Tank Park are bounded by city streets, making them easily accessible and safer for users, as well as providing a central neighborhood focal point.

Tank Park features an allee of trees with a view to the gazebo. This more formal layout is typical of older city parks and is not often seen in newer park designs.

Some parking lots and park entries have well-developed landscape treatments but there is no consistent system-wide approach.

Signs are easily identified as belonging to the Park system. They present a consistent image while allowing for a variety of configurations and messages.
6. Parks and Recreation

Park Function and Facilities

Shelters and Restrooms

Park shelters and restroom facilities are provided at almost half of the parks (30 out of 66). Some of these facilities do not adequately meet current access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and consequently require renovation. The style and type of construction varies considerable from structure to structure with no predominant “look” or style. The buildings are all painted in an earth tone palette of beige, dark tan and brown colors and look fairly plain and somber.

Aquatic Facilities

Two of the three outdoor pool facilities are showing their age (33 and 50 years old respectively). As replacement plans are established, consideration for additional facilities in the under serviced (east side) area of the City will need to be examined. In addition to the aquatic centers some of the parks also include wading pools. The wading pools are costly to operate, staff and difficult to maintain. Consequently the Parks Department is in the process of replacing them with “wet deck” play systems.

Swimming Beach

There is currently no public swimming beach facility operated by the City. This is due to the long-standing public perception that the Bay’s water quality is not up to swimming standards. The City’s sewage treatment effluent out-falls near the shoreline, and does not undergo tertiary treatment. The high turbidity of the outflow results in water that is dark in color and low in visibility. Although this water is technically “clean” it appears murky and unappealing.

Parking Lots

The majority of park system parking areas are adequately sized and in good condition. Landscaping and buffering from adjacent uses is inconsistent.

Play Equipment

Play structures have been routinely maintained in very good condition and updated / replaced prior to equipment wearing out. The variety and color of play systems provides a high degree of individuality and identity to the parks and play lots.

Bleachers

Many sports facilities are supported by bleacher systems that are old, rusted and out-of-date with current safety codes.

Site Furnishings

Style, age and condition of site furnishings such as benches, picnic tables, litter receptacles, bike racks etc., varies by park.

Trails

Currently, demand outweighs availability. City wide trail design and construction standards are lacking.
Many park elements such as picnic tables and benches do not have a consistent system-wide style.

The gazebo structure at Tank Park has been updated, but changes were made to materials and proportions that are not historically accurate or contextually appropriate.

Some park facilities need to be upgraded to comply with new safety standards.

Replacing aging aquatic facilities is a funding and priority issue.
Many neighborhoods have a discontinuous sidewalk system, making access to neighborhood parks difficult for pedestrians.

Accessibility (connecting trails and walks) within parks is inconsistent.

A continuous trail system linking parks and other destinations is a long-term goal of the Brown County and Green Bay City park departments.
Park System Connections and Access

As many Green Bay neighborhoods don’t have continuous sidewalks, reaching a park facility requires walking or biking in the street. This limits accessibility for younger children and poses a safety risk for park patrons and motorists alike. Connections to parks and other neighborhoods via sidewalks and or separated trails would greatly enhance accessibility and civic life. Developing an interconnecting trail system for biking and jogging is a high priority for Brown County, and existing proposed trails are outlined in *Brown County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update*. Coordination with the County’s plan will result in greater connectivity throughout the City and provide alternatives to automobile travel.

Accessibility within parks, that is the circulation between various activities and facilities within the individual parks, needs improvement. Although there are no state or federal standards for handicapped accessibility in parks, no one should be prevented from using park facilities due to the lack of appropriately paved connections or accessibility ramps.
Park Appearance and Aesthetics

Maintenance

Green Bay’s parks are well maintained and have an overall high level of appearance, with mature stands of trees as a significant feature in many parks. Many parks are located adjacent to primary and secondary schools, making them highly visible in the community and ensuring high maintenance standards. Often the school buildings provide a focal point for the park grounds, while the park contributes a spacious green setting for the school.

Identity

Identity signs for the parks are simple dark brown wood with yellow lettering, presenting an image easily identifiable as Green Bay city parks. Many signs are also under-planted with spring bulbs and annual flowers creating an attractive addition to the neighborhoods.

Architecture

As stated earlier structures are generally in good condition but for the most part are utilitarian and neutral in style. Although most park buildings and shelters are constructed of wood and stone, there appears to be no consistent style for the construction of park buildings and recreation structures, with each era contributing its own look or aesthetic. There is an opportunity to enhance both the identity and the park experience by establishing a more refined and identifiable architectural style for these structures.

Landscape

The landscape treatments in the parks vary considerably. Many either contain or are adjacent to stands of mature trees. Most parks consist of recreation fields, play facilities, and some ‘natural’ wooded areas, with only a few of the older urban parks containing formal planting arrangements or garden structures such as gazebos or pergolas. Tank Park’s allee of trees terminating in a gazebo is a fine example of this type of gardensque treatment. Large expanses of mowed turf dominate the majority of neighborhood and community parks.
Picnic shelters at Bay Beach park feature beautiful stacked stone fireplaces. Structures with this level of design and craftsmanship make the park experience memorable.

‘Modern’ concrete basketball supports and a park structure in a functional but indistinct style are typical of the wide range of styles found in park buildings and facilities.

The park building at Enos Colburn Park presents a good model for a system-wide style for park structures.

Stone steps and retaining walls at Enos Colburn Park use regional materials and fit well into the landscape. This style and use of materials can be applied elsewhere to establish a system-wide aesthetic. Regular maintenance is required to keep this construction safe and attractive.
Park and Open Space Ecology and Environment

Green Bay’s relationship with nature, like most American cities, has been one of exploitation of resources for economic gain, as well as one of appreciation and enjoyment of the land’s natural beauty. Co-existing with nature in developed urban areas presents unique challenges that are not the responsibility of any one agency or group. As more and more land within the city’s boundaries comes under development, parks become the city’s most significant physical manifestation of nature, as well as the most visible symbol of nature’s role in daily life. Thus, the Green Bays Parks Department, with ‘outposts’ in every neighborhood, is in a position to provide an example of environmental stewardship for the city and the region.

As the most visible public agency involved in land stewardship, the Parks Department can act to bring preservation and restoration issues to the public through education and action programs, and can provide opportunities for other environmental groups to work in partnership with the park system. The current effort to expand the Baird Creek Parkway has brought the Park Department together with the Fox-Wolf Basin 2000 organization and the Baird Creek Parkway Preservation Foundation.
Mature stands of deciduous trees are found in many Green Bay parks, and contribute greatly to their visual appeal.

Locating parks and schools together has been beneficial to the community. School recreation areas are increased, and parks can share maintenance with the schools.

Green Bay’s parks system provides a high level of service to its neighborhoods, and is on the upper range of standards established by the National Recreation and Park Association.

Baird Creek is a significant natural feature in many Green Bay neighborhoods. Efforts are underway to make a continuous parkway along its length, connecting downtown and the east side with open space and trails. Widening the conservation easement is also important to improving water quality.
Bay Beach Park and Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary are important park resources, providing views and public access to the bay and natural areas.

Bay Beach Park has great aesthetic and historic value, and provides a unique venue for family outings. Although bathing used to be a favorite activity at the park, water quality issues have closed the beach to swimmers and waders.
6. Parks and Recreation

Park Funding and Acquisition

Methods of obtaining land for public parks in Green Bay include:

- Voluntary sale of land to the City for park use
- Donation of the property to the City
- Dedication during the process of subdivision (based on the City’s Subdivision and Platting code)
- Purchase by the City through the exercise of its eminent domain powers.

Dedication of parklands through the Subdivision and Platting Code (14.04(8)) may provide parklands in the Urban Expansion District of the City. That code requires that a land subdivider give to the City prior to final plat approval either:

- **Land:** A percentage of the total land area of the subdivided property (ranging from 0.60 percent to 29.10 percent, depending on the density of development. Typical single-family development on one-quarter acre lots would be required to dedicate only 1.8 percent of the net residential acreage while attached housing at 19 units per acre would dedicate only 5.8 percent of the net residential acreage. (Most cities require land dedication of approximately 10 percent of the gross area of the subdivision.)

- **Money:** Cash based on the average of the equalized assessed value of the undeveloped property within the developable area of the City as determined annually by the Assessor’s Office. This typically amounts to $50 to $100 per dwelling unit in the plat. (Most cities require cash in lieu of land of approximately $500 per dwelling unit.)

The choice of which method to use is up to the City.

The per-unit fee is not adequate to cover the cost of acquiring land and facilities for parks in new neighborhoods. If park dedication fees remain at current levels, funding will be grossly inadequate to bring parks to the desired level of service for 2022.

Funding the development of park facilities includes general funds, park dedication fees, user fees, rental fees and souvenirs and concession sales. Across the country, user fees are gradually becoming a more prominent part of the public recreation funding scheme. At this time in Green Bay, fees are assessed for such things as shelter and area rentals as well as skiing and amusement park use.

Major Parks and Recreation Issues

The following list of issues pertaining to parks and open space is based upon a synthesis of several sources:

- The 1997 Green Bay Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan
- Meetings and discussions with the Citizens Advisory Committee
- Planning District meetings
- Discussions with City staff
- Observations of the planning team.

These issues, together with the analysis of conditions, will form the basis of recommendations for guiding the future of Green Bay’s parks and open space system.
Parks and Facilities

- **Balance of Park Size and Type in all Areas of City:** Should newly developed areas have the same number and distribution of small neighborhood parks as older Green Bay neighborhoods? What should the City, if anything, do to ensure that residents of older neighborhoods have the same access to large athletic fields as do the residents of newer neighborhoods, and that newer neighborhoods have easy walking access to visually attractive parks.

- **Public Access to the Riverfront:** To what extent should the City strive to provide or require public access to the riverfront during property redevelopment? What should be the balance between public access and private control?

- **Expansion of Bay Beach Park:** Should the city proceed to develop a master plan for Bay Beach Park improvements? How much land would be desirable for ultimate expansion? Which improvements are most desirable? (Suggestions include a boat launch, band shell, fishing pier, additional rides, parking, shelters, and restrooms.)

- **Changing Demographics:** To what extent, if any, should the City adjust its facilities and recreation programs to respond to changes in the age and ethnicity of the community’s population?

- **New Facilities:** Which recreational facilities should receive top priority for improvement? Aquatic center, indoor basketball, hockey, or soccer fields?

- **Indoor Facilities:** How important is it to create indoor facilities for basketball, volleyball and hockey? Should these be built in partnership with the school system? What areas have the most demand for such facilities?

- **Consolidation of Baseball Diamonds:** Will consolidation of baseball diamonds improve level of service or are neighborhood diamonds more desirable?

- **Boat Launch Sites:** Does the city need more public boat launches? Where should they be located?

- **Adult Soccer Fields:** Is there a large enough demand for soccer fields for adult leagues?

- **Community Gardens:** Should the City provide land for more community gardens?

- **Swimming Beach at Bay Beach Park:** Should the City attempt to reestablish the swimming beach at Bay Beach Park? Is water quality sufficiently improved to allow swimming? Is there another location where a swimming beach would be possible?

- **Renard Island:** Should the public work to remediate or cap the polluted soils of Renard Island so it can be used for recreation?

- **Botanical Garden:** Should the City play a more active role in the Botanical Garden at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College? If so, what should this role be? Should this facility become a City park?
6. Parks and Recreation

Trails and Connections

- **East River:** Should the linear public open space along the East River be extended to the Fox River?

- **Baird Creek Parkway:** Should the city purchase land to extend Baird Creek Parkway to the east, or should the rear of house lots abut the creek channel? Should that public land be on one or both sides of the creek? How wide should the public open space be? Should the Lower Branch of the creek also be lined with publicly owned land? Should there be bicycle and pedestrian paths in such a parkway, or should the public open space be devoted entirely to environmental protection? Can Humboldt Township be persuaded to extend such a trail through its jurisdiction? Should there be a auto road along the creek east of I-43 similar to Baird Creek Road?

Should Baird Creek Parkway be extended to the East River?

- **Fox River:** Should there be a public path along the west side of the Fox River to complement the one on the east side? Where might this be feasible and desirable?

- **Wisconsin Central Railroad Corridor:** Should there be a multi-use path in the corridor for the former Wisconsin Central Railroad, which runs through the northwestern neighborhoods?

- **Connections within Parks:** Should park facility access be improved with an emphasis on access by persons with physical handicaps?

- **Access to Nature:** Should the City attempt to design the recreation open space system so that every neighborhood has some ‘natural’ or undeveloped green spaces that are within close walking distance?

- **Niagara Escarpment Scenic Easement:** Should the City strive to protect the scenic qualities of the Niagara Escarpment, either through zoning regulations or by acquiring easements?

Ecology and Environment

- **Aesthetics and Standards for Park Buildings:** Should the City write and adopt guidelines for the design of new park buildings? Should there be a consistent look or style for all park system buildings?

- **Water Quality and Habitat Management:** Should the City increase its efforts to use parks and public open space to improve water quality? Should the city initiate more sustainable planting practices such as decreasing the amount of mowed turf and introducing more native species? Should the Parks Department take a proactive attitude toward improving wildlife habitat?

- **Interpretive Centers and Displays:** Should the Parks Department create signs and other interpretive information about wildlife and natural systems in its parks? Is nature education an appropriate and feasible role for the parks Department? Should the City work with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and/or private environmental education organizations to achieve that objective?
System Implementation

- **Land Acquisition Priority**: Which is considered a higher priority – preservation of natural resources in undeveloped areas or adding parks to underserviced neighborhoods?

- **Spending Priority**: Which is more important – adding new recreation facilities or acquiring land for new parks?

- **Park Land Acquisition**: Is the present system of acquiring land for future parks adequate (either dedication of land during the process subdivision or giving money instead)? Should the park dedication fees be increased? Alternatively, should the City target land for future parks and buy those sites on the private market prior to land subdivision?

- **Landfill Reclamation**: Should the city investigate converting abandoned landfills to sports fields or public open space?
Appendix A: Recreational Programs by Category

The Recreation Division of the Green Bay Parks Department is involved in a multitude of programs. The following is listing of those activities by major category.

Water-Related Programs

**Indoor Pools**
- Winter open swim - Edison and Southwest High Schools
- Lifeguard training
- Summer indoor pools - lessons, classes, tots, special populations, 3 and 4 year old, Level 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
- Dinner hour lessons, parent/child, adult competitive
- Water aerobics - fall, winter
- Private parties - indoor
- Green Bay Swim Club
- YMCA swim team
- Neptune Nimrods - underwater polo
- Rentals

**Outdoor Pools**
- 3 Pools - outdoor lessons, tots, special populations, 3 and 4 year-old, Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
- Dinner hour lessons, parent/child,
- Adult competitive
- Swim meet and competitors
- Rentals

**Recreation Programs**

**Basketball**
- Women adult basketball
- Men’s adult basketball,
- Contenders basketball tournament
- City-wide free throw tournament-- male, female, mother/daughter, father/son or adult
- 3 point-shot tournament
- 5th and 6th grade basketball
- Men’s summer basketball

**Baseball and Softball**
- Sultans baseball - semi professional
- Legion baseball (15-19 year-old)
- Babe Ruth baseball
- 14 League and senior league baseball and softball
- Girl’s high school m league softball
- Women’s softball - fast, modified and slow pitch
- Co-ed softball
- Men’s softball - fast, modified and slow pitch
- Men’s fall softball
- Contender’s tournament
- Adult disabled softball leagues
- Church leagues

**Football**
- Women’s football
- Men’s football
- Grade school football

**Volleyball**
- Women’s volleyball
- Spike ‘n splash volleyball – co-ed
- Teen volleyball

**Tennis**
- Women’s tennis leagues
- Men’s tennis leagues
- Youth tennis leagues
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**Miscellaneous**
- Gymnastics (Fall / Winter)
- Soccer - all ages
- Lighted softball reservations
- Ice rinks (11)
- Hockey rinks
- Tap dancing - 5 schools
- Jazz - 5 schools
- Pom Pom - 2 schools
- Recitals
- Karate (fall)
- Karate (winter)
- Golden Age Sr Citizen Club - 3
- City band
- Youth band
- After school programs
- Parent / child neighborhood programs
- Open gyms
- Showmobile rentals
- Wading pools (6)
- Park and picnic rentals
- Picnic kit rentals
- All school rentals for all sports
- (Varsity, JV, Freshman; Male & Female)
- Parochial school rentals
- All facilities rentals
- All sports
- Ballroom dances
- Special population summer programs
- WPRA ticket program
- Special events
- Park Pride Program
- WLS environmental programs
- Cross country skiing, snowboarding
- Neighborhood programming

**Playground Program - 35 Sites**
- Arts and crafts
- Drama and special events
- Nature
- Sports instructions
- Family nights
- Leagues - all sports, all ages
- Kiddie Karnival
- Kiddie Parade
- City-wide track and field meet
- Hershey track and field meet
- Games Day
- Magic shows
- 9 different tournaments
- City-wide talent show