

# Parks, Greenways and Parkways Objectives and Policies



## Green Bay Smart Growth 2022



# Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan

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## Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan

This chapter presents objectives, actions and system plans that guide the growth and maintenance of the park, greenway and parkway system along with the City's recreational programs.

### Relationship to the Issues and the Concept Plan

The Green Bay Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan is a general guide to the growth, design and maintenance of the City's open space and outdoor recreation system.

### Summary of Issues

The major issues relative to the parks, greenways and parkways system are:

**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 neighborhood 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?

**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?



### Guidance from the Concept Plan

The Concept Plan for *Smart Growth 2022* provides the following direction to the Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan:

**Existing Parks:** Green Bay should continue to improve the quality of its existing parks, particularly those in the older neighborhoods.

**New Parks:** Focus on the creation of new parks, open space and trail connections in conjunction with land dedication requirements for new subdivisions. Some sites for new parks should be acquired through direct purchase in advance of any application for land subdivision.

**Greenways:** Extend the Baird Creek Greenway east to the city border and west to the East River. Extend and expand greenways along the East River, Mahon Creek, Willow Creek and Duck Creek. Introduce a continuous system of pedestrian and bicyclist paths. Improve the wildlife habitat and creek edges.

**Parkways:** Create a city-wide system of parkways in cooperation with Brown County and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Parkways are intended to be arterial or collector roads that are highly landscaped and include sidewalks, on-road lanes or off-road paths for bicycling, and decorative lighting.

**The Role of Parks in a More Urban City:** All land should be used intensively, except current parks and environmentally-protected sites. Parks and other public open space should be used to balance the slightly greater development densities advocated by this plan.

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?

**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?

**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?

## Plan Overview

The Green Bay Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan directs the City to continue its historically strong pattern of investments in parks, both in emerging and established neighborhoods.

In new locations, park locations are indicated, means of acquiring land recommended and design guidelines offered. In older locations, new or expanded sites are planned, particularly to remedy the shortage of large tracts developed for organized athletics and community events.

Major initiatives of the plan to extend greenways (linear parks along creeks) on the western and eastern sides of the city and to create a city-wide system of parkways (landscaped roads).



The plan also includes recommendations for ecological stewardship of parklands, use of the system to improve the appearance of the community and specific ideas for facility improvements.

**Goal:** To improve the Green Bay park system by enhancing outdoor recreation, improving community appearance and practicing ecological stewardship.

## Summary of Objectives

Based on the Analysis of Conditions and Issues, the following objectives were established for the Green Bay Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan.

**Objective 1 – New Parks.** Plan, acquire and develop additional parks to help meet the outdoor recreation needs of the community's population, protect environmentally sensitive areas, provide sites for environmental educational and achieve urban design aims such as urban greening and open space linkages.

**Objective 2 – Existing Parks.** Establish and execute ongoing programs of improvements to existing parks and greenways so that they continue to meet current recreation needs, remain visually appealing, protect natural resources, and continue to be sustainable.

**Objective 3 – Greenways and Trails.** Improve and extend linear parks and paths for walking and bicycling to link neighborhoods and major parks, protect streams and other environmentally sensitive areas, and provide outdoor recreation and education.

**Objective 4 – Parkways.** Develop a long-range strategy for a city-wide system of interconnected parkways along key existing and future streets.

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**Objective 5 – The Role of Parks in Urban Design.** Locate and design parks, greenways and parkways to enhance the quality of residential neighborhoods and commercial districts, reflect Green Bay’s cultural heritage and honor civic life.

**Objective 6 – Ecology and Environment.** Plan and design parks and greenways to protect environmentally sensitive features, reduce negative environmental effects and serve as models of land stewardship.

**Objective 7 – Citywide Facilities and Recreation Programs.** Systematically refine park facilities and recreation programs to meet changing outdoor recreation needs, as well as safety and access guidelines, and to achieve other objectives of this plan.

**Objective 8 – Lands not Managed by the City of Green Bay.** Work cooperatively with other communities, units of government, landowners or recreation providers to enhance the delivery of outdoor recreation to the citizens of Green Bay and to reduce costs by the shared use of facilities.

## Objectives and Policies

### Objective 1 – New Parks

Several new parks will be needed in Green Bay during the next ten to twenty years to serve future neighborhoods and also to remedy certain deficiencies that have crept into the system. The new facilities will include Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, Sports Complexes, extended greenways and special-use venues.

Among the many concerns and opportunities addressed by this plan are:

1. The shortage of large areas in the central neighborhoods for active recreation and organized sports;
2. The timely acquisition of park sites that are properly located and sized; and
3. The use of Neighborhood Parks as an urban design feature;
4. Creation of a major citywide network of greenways (linear parks) and parkways (landscaped roads) for quality of life and increased property values.

The Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan has been coordinated with the Land Use Plan and Urban Design Plan in regard to the maps and recommended policies.

**The City of Green Bay will plan, acquire and develop additional parks to help meet the full range of outdoor recreation needs of its entire population, protect environmentally sensitive areas and provide sites for environmental education.**

#### Recommended Policies:

1. **Land Acquisition:** The City will purchase park sites prior to receiving applications for development rather than trying to obtain land through dedication at the time of land subdivision. This approach will ensure that the City acquires sites with the proper location and size for this important community function.

Such purchases will be based on the system plan illustrated by Figure 20-1 and subsequent more detailed site searches. The City will coordinate with the School District for any park that might possibly be part of a school-park combination. Direct purchase will be especially important for parks such as the planned extension of the Baird Creek Greenway or any other park where the specific location is critical. Detailed site searches based on this plan should consider topography, wetlands, floodplains, woods and the relationship of the park site to the future residential neighborhood. Park sites acquired in advance

of urban development could be leased for farming or other appropriate uses while the City awaits neighborhood development.

The City will also revise its requirements for the dedication of land and/or cash as shown in Subdivision and Platting, Green Bay Code 14.04 (8) (d) 5. Both the land and cash requirements should be increased to more accurately reflect the costs of land development.

As new sites are considered for new parks, the official city map should be amended to protect them from other potential uses.

2. **System Planning:** The City will continue to work to create a future park system consistent with the general direction presented by Figure 20-1. (Refer to Table 20-2 for the list of new or expanded parks, greenways and parkways that corresponds with the numbers on that map.) The system should include parks at each of the various classifications described in Table 6-7 of the Analysis of Conditions, greenways (linear parks) and parkways (generously landscaped roadways).
3. **The School and Park Combination:** The City will continue to coordinate Neighborhood Parks with Elementary Schools and Community Parks or Sports Complexes with Junior High or High Schools.
4. **Neighborhood Park Location and Design:** When a neighborhood park is not associated with a school, it should be located near the middle of a defined residential neighborhood rather than near its edge along an arterial road.

5. **Community Park Location and Design:** Community Parks and Sports Complexes – parks designed for a substantial amount of organized, nighttime recreation – should abut minor arterial or major collector roads along the outer edges of neighborhoods.

6. **Baird Creek Greenway:** Refer to the subsection entitled Greenways and Parkways

7. **East River Greenway Extensions:** The City will prepare a plan for parkland acquisition along the East River from the Baird Creek confluence to the existing riverfront walkway at Monroe Street (only 1.25 miles) and show those parcels on the Official Map. With such a plan in hand, the City could begin the long-term process of linking these two linear parks to the Fox River open space and trails, greatly enhancing the value of all three systems and serving as a catalyst for the revitalization of other properties on the Near East Side.

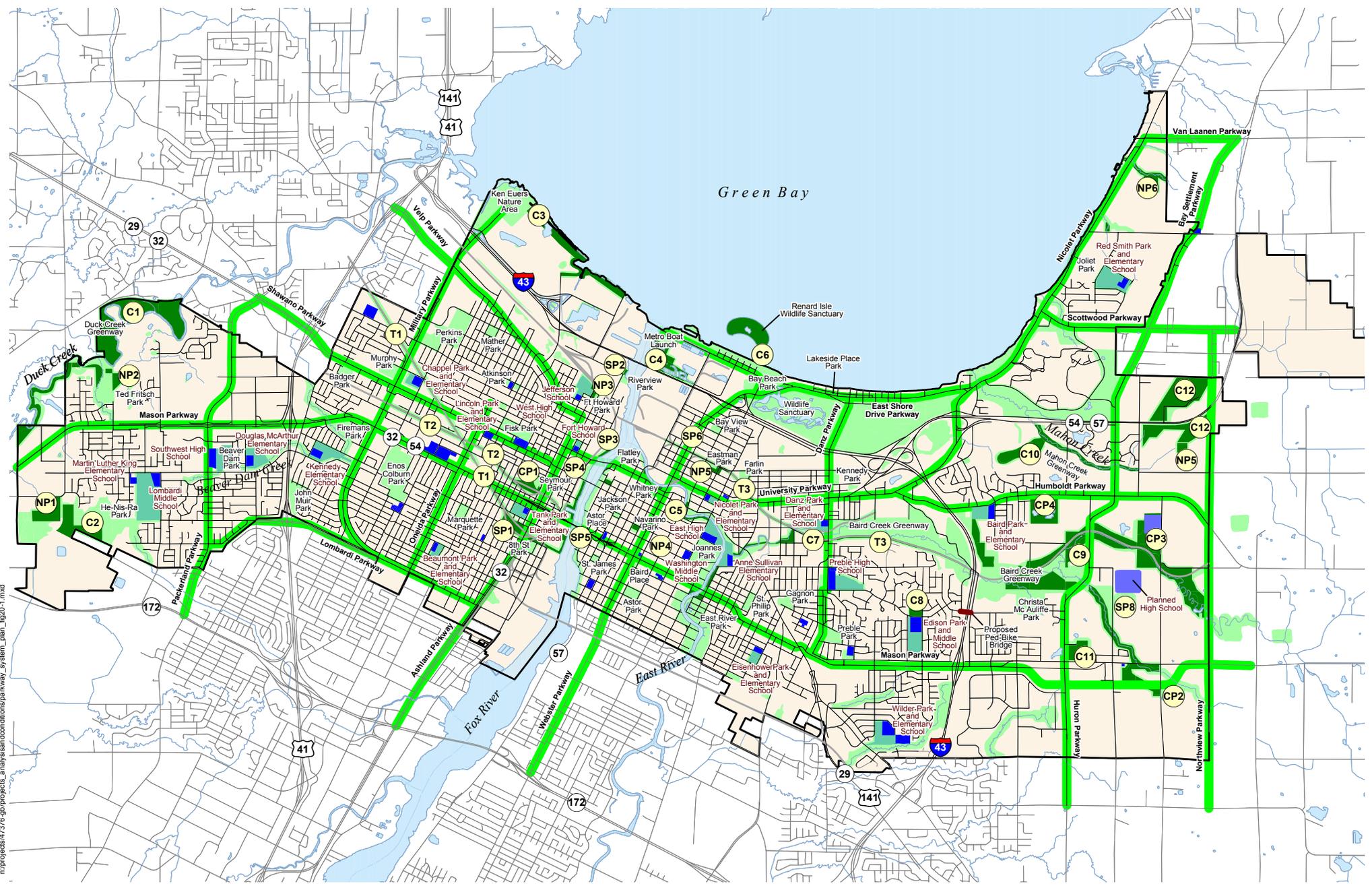
Although there are obvious short-term hurdles to overcome, the long-term merit of this idea can hardly be disputed. It is an inevitable proposition and very supportive of one of the key goals of *Smart Growth 2022* – sustaining and revitalizing established neighborhoods. Green Bay and other communities have seen the neighborhood development benefits of green infrastructure, particularly linear parks along streams, and that approach should be applied along the northern reaches of the East River

Properties should be acquired by the City as they come onto the market and maintained in their present use until a sufficient amount of contiguous land has been assembled.

8. **Fox River Parks:** The City will continue to extend public parks, plazas, recreational marinas, walkways and overlooks along the Fox River from Mason Street to just north of Main Street.

**Table 20-1: Park and Open Space System**

Astor Park	Fox River Greenway	Tank Park
Astor Place	T. Fritsch Park	Tower Park
Badger Park	Gagnon Park	Veterans Park
Baird Creek Greenway	He-Nis-Ra Park / Lombardi Middle & King Schools	Whitney Park
H. Baird Park / School	Imperial Lane Park (Private)	Wilder Park / School
Baird Place	Jackson Square	Willow Creek Greenway
Barina Conservancy	Joannes Park / East High	
Bay Beach Amusement Park	Joliet Park	<b>Parkways</b>
Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary	Keller Park / School	Scottwood Parkway
Bay View Park	Kennedy Park / School	Bay Settlement Parkway
Beaumont Park/School	Keuler Park	Danz Parkway
Beaver Dam Greenway	Lakeside Park	East Shore Drive Parkway
Beaver Dam Park / MacArthur School	Leichts Park	LaCount Parkway
Bentwood Place	Lincoln Park / School	Huron Parkway
Brisk Park	Mahon Creek Greenway (University)	Lombardi Parkway
Chappell Park/School	Marquette Park	Mason Parkway
E. Colburn Park	Mather Heights Park	Military Parkway
Cooke Park (Private)	McAuliffe Park	Northview Parkway
Danz Park / School	Muir Park	Packerland Parkway
Duck Creek Greenway	Metro Boat Launch	University Parkway
East River Greenway	Murphy Park	Van Laanen Parkway
East River Park	Newberry Conservancy	Velp Parkway
Eastman Park	Nicolet Park / School	Webster Parkway
Edison Park / Middle School	Oakdale Park	
Eighth Street Park	Perkins Park	
Eisenhower Park / School	Preble Park	
Ellis Creek Greenway	River View Place	
K. Euers Nature Area	Seymour Park	
Farlin Park	St. James Park	
Fireman's Park / Greenway	St. John's Park	
Fisk Park / West High	St. Philip Park (Private)	
Adm. Flatley Park	Red Smith Park / School	
Fort Howard Park / Jefferson School	Sullivan Park / School	
Fort Howard School / Park		

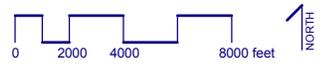


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- Planned Parks
- Existing Parks
- Planned Parkways
- Proposed Ped-Bike Bridge
- NP Neighborhood Park
- CP Community Park
- C Conservancy
- T Trail
- SP Special Area Park
- Schools
- School-Parks
- Future Schools

**Figure 20-1  
Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan**



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Industries that are not river-dependent should be moved back from the river's edge or relocated within the City. Parking is never an appropriate riverfront activity. Industries that are river-dependent should be located on appropriate riverfront sites consistent with the plan by the Port of Green Bay and the Land Use Plan.

Housing, office buildings, restaurants and similar activities that can benefit from the aesthetics of the river should be encouraged to locate on redevelopment sites consistent with this plan and the 1997 *Downtown Design Plan* and should be designed to provide spaces for linear riverfront parks, plazas and walkways.

- 9. Neighborhood Parks East of I-43:** Two sites for parks east of I-43 have been purchased jointly by the City and the Green Bay School District.

The northerly site is located west of Grandview Road and north of Baird Creek adjacent to a property owned by the school district for an elementary school. The southerly site is located south of Baird Creek on Grandview Road between Humboldt Road and Finger Roads.

The northerly site is expected to become a School-Park and developed prior to the site south of Baird Creek. The southerly site is expected to become a Community Park because it will be adjacent to a high school and this portion of the city has no other community park.

Programming for these two sites should be coordinated with other east side parks to combine similar activities for efficient provision and maintenance. Initial development should include parking, playgrounds, simple ball diamonds

and soccer fields. The next facilities to consider are usually shelters, followed by the more costly activities such as lighted softball and baseball fields and tennis courts. These areas should normally only be considered for the community park. Both of these new areas include beautiful woods that should, for the most part, be preserved.

**Other Park Sites:** Other park sites east of I-43 should be obtained through direct purchase consistent with the general plan shown in Figure 20-1.

- 10. West Side Parks:** New parks on the western perimeter of the City will be acquired through direct purchase rather than dedication at the time of land subdivision because: (1) it is imperative to secure a park site of adequate size and location there before all the land is developed and (2) land development in that area has tended to occur in smaller tracts, making acquisition at time of subdivision less useful.

A new Neighborhood Park site on the far west side of Green Bay is indicated in Figure 20-1.

Other important new park sites on the near west side are:

- The Tank Park Neighborhood railroad yard – a potential sports complex
- The Seymour Park Neighborhood railroad yard expansion – upgrade Seymour Park from a Neighborhood to a Community Park with additional athletic fields
- Conversion of one abandoned or another potentially abandoned railroad corridor to multi-use bicycle, skating and walking paths, with links to the Fox Riverfront.

**Table 20-2: Development Programs for the Planned Parks**

In all cases, the final development program for each park should be determined with the help of neighborhood or community residents and representatives of organized athletic leagues. Refer to Chapter 22, Neighborhoods and Districts Plan for the boundaries of the Planning Districts. Key numbers reference the locations of these parks on Figure 20-1

Planning District	Key Number and Location	Classification	Acreage (Approx.)	Recommended Components and Comments
1	<b>NP1</b> - South of Haven Place at Hillcrest Drive	Neighborhood Park	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play equipment</li> <li>• Picnic shelter</li> <li>• Combination softball and soccer field (not lighted or irrigated)</li> <li>• Open play space (turf grass)</li> <li>• Picnic shelter (open)</li> <li>• Landscaped open space (35 percent of the site)</li> <li>• Walking path connecting to the east</li> <li>• Off-street parking for 15 to 20 cars</li> </ul>
1	<b>C1</b> - Duck Creek	Conservancy and Greenway		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wooded areas, wetlands, open space</li> <li>• Walking paths</li> </ul>
1	<b>NP2</b> - East side of Ted Fritsch Park	Neighborhood Park	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This would be an addition to an existing park.</li> </ul>
1	<b>C2</b> - Southwest corner of the City – adjacent to He-Nis-Ra Park	Conservancy	35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural area preservation</li> <li>• Walking paths</li> </ul>
2	<b>C3</b> - Bayfront	Conservancy	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural area restoration</li> <li>• Walking path</li> </ul>
2 and 3	<b>T1</b> - Former Escanaba and Lake Superior Railroad corridor (runs through Howard)	Multi-purpose trail	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asphalt path (12 feet wide) for bicycling, skating and walking.</li> <li>• Connection to the riverfront path</li> </ul>
2 and 3	<b>T2</b> - Current Wisconsin Central Limited Railroad corridor (runs through Hobart)	Multi-purpose trail	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asphalt path (12 feet wide) for bicycling, skating and walking.</li> <li>• Connection to the riverfront path</li> <li>• Depends on whether this railroad line is ever abandoned.</li> </ul>

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Planning District	Key Number and Location	Classification	Acreage (Approx.)	Recommended Components and Comments
3	<b>CP1</b> - Rail switching yard in the Seymour Park Neighborhood	Community Park	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-function community building</li> <li>• Aquatic center</li> <li>• Informal ballfields for youth play</li> <li>• Creative play structure</li> <li>• Tennis courts</li> <li>• Basketball court</li> <li>• Volleyball courts (sand)</li> <li>• Disc golf course</li> <li>• Landscaped open space</li> <li>• Off-street parking</li> </ul>
3	<b>SP1</b> - Rail transfer yard in the Tank Park Neighborhood	Sports Complex	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soccer fields; lighted and irrigated</li> <li>• Softball fields; lighted and irrigated</li> <li>• Off-street parking</li> <li>• Landscaped open space as a neighborhood buffer</li> <li>• Paved path for bicycling, skating and walking (continuation of the rail-to-trail path linking the riverfront and the Mountain Bay Trail)</li> </ul>
3	<b>NP3</b> - East side of Fort Howard Park	Neighborhood Park	0.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscaped open space as a park amenity and a buffer from the neighborhood.</li> </ul>
3	<b>SP2</b> - North side of Riverview Park	Special Activity Park	0.25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking and landscaped open space for the small-boat launch</li> </ul>
3	<b>SP3</b> – Leichts Park - West bank of the Fox River north of Main Street bridge	Special Activity Park	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paved walking path</li> <li>• River observation sites</li> <li>• Small plazas</li> <li>• Decorative lighting</li> <li>• Small performance areas</li> </ul>
4	<b>SP4</b> - "Town Square" - North of Cherry Street between Washington and Adams Streets (tentative location)	Special Activity Park	.25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outdoor seating</li> <li>• Ice skating</li> <li>• Small performance space</li> <li>• Walkway</li> <li>• Public art</li> </ul>

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<b>Planning District</b>	<b>Key Number and Location</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Acreage (Approx.)</b>	<b>Recommended Components and Comments</b>
4	<b>SP5</b> - Between the Fox River and Porlier Street south of Mason Street.	Special Activity Park	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linear, decorative open space</li> <li>• Bicyclist and pedestrian path</li> <li>• Fishing pier</li> </ul>
4	<b>NP4</b> - Navarino Park – Stuart and Jackson Streets	Neighborhood Park	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This would be a relocation of the existing Navarino Park across Stuart Street</li> <li>• Landscaped open space</li> <li>• Walking paths in a formal pattern</li> <li>• Development program to be determined through neighborhood involvement.</li> </ul>
4	<b>C4</b> - South of Metro Boat Launch	Conservancy	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetland and river edge preservation</li> </ul>
4	<b>C5</b> - East River from Monroe Street to Joannes Park	Greenway	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linear open space</li> <li>• Walking and bicycling paths</li> <li>• Landscaped sidewalks along Main Street between Roosevelt and Monroe Streets</li> <li>• Parallel parking bays along the street for up to 10 cars</li> </ul>
4	<b>C6</b> - Renard Isle	Conservancy	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking path</li> <li>• Observation platform</li> <li>• Bird sanctuary</li> <li>• Pedestrian bridge from the mainland</li> <li>• Finalize end-use recommendations</li> </ul>
4	<b>SP6</b> - Webster Avenue	Special Activity Park	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decorative linear open space</li> <li>• Seating and walking paths</li> <li>• A special part of Webster Parkway</li> </ul>
4	<b>NP5</b> - Eastman Park	Neighborhood Park	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This would be an expansion of the existing Eastman Park to Irwin Avenue</li> </ul>
4 and 5	<b>T3</b> - Current Wisconsin Central Railroad corridor	Multi-purpose path	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asphalt path (12 feet wide) for bicycling, skating and walking</li> <li>• Depends on whether this railroad line is ever abandoned.</li> </ul>
5	<b>C7</b> - Baird Creek Greenway – extension from Danz Ave. east to the East River	Greenway	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking and bicycling paths</li> <li>• Landscaped open space</li> </ul>

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Planning District	Key Number and Location	Classification	Acreage (Approx.)	Recommended Components and Comments
5	<b>C8</b> - North side of Newberry Ave. across from Edison Middle School	Conservancy	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Former landfill site</li> <li>Restore as natural area</li> </ul>
6	<b>C9</b> - Baird Creek Greenway: I-43 to City limits	Greenway and Conservancy	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This would be an expansion to the existing Baird Creek Greenway</li> <li>Natural area preservation</li> <li>Asphalt path (12 feet wide) for bicycling, skating and walking</li> </ul>
6	<b>C10</b> - Southeast corner of the Brown County property (Mahon Creek Greenway)	Conservancy	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preservation of woods and slopes.</li> <li>Possible link under Highway 54-57 to the university campus. Extend the path through City-owned land along the south side of Mahon Creek to Lake Largo Drive.</li> </ul>
6	<b>C11</b> – East side of Huron Parkway, north of Mason Street	Conservancy	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Former landfill site being restored as natural area</li> </ul>
6	<b>SP7</b> - East of Erie Road south of Whittier Road. Adjacent to the planned high school.	Sports Complex	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football field and running track</li> <li>Soccer fields; lighted and landscaped</li> <li>Baseball and softball fields</li> <li>Tennis courts</li> <li>Landscaped open space near the creek; picnic tables</li> <li>Walking path</li> <li>Off-street parking</li> </ul>
6	<b>CP2</b> - South of Mason Street between Grandview and Northview Roads	Community Park	35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-function community building</li> <li>Picnic shelter (open)</li> <li>Soccer fields; lighted and irrigated</li> <li>Softball fields; lighted and irrigated</li> <li>Tennis courts</li> <li>Sand volleyball courts</li> <li>Disc golf course</li> <li>Landscaped open space (natural features will require extensive plantings); 10 acres; trees, turf grass, wetlands and ponds; picnic tables.</li> <li>Dog play park</li> <li>Off-street parking</li> </ul>

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<b>Planning District</b>	<b>Key Number and Location</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Acreage (Approx.)</b>	<b>Recommended Components and Comments</b>
6	<b>CP3</b> - West of Grandview Road north of Baird Creek	Community Park (owned jointly with Green Bay School District)	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic fields oriented to youth sports – softball field, combination soccer and football field– not lighted</li> <li>• Basketball court</li> <li>• Open play area (turf grass)</li> <li>• Landscaped open space (10 percent of the site)</li> <li>• Coordinate with the proposed school’s play space. The park site may be enlarged if an elementary school is not built adjacent.</li> </ul>
6	<b>NP6</b> - West of Northview Road and north of Luxemburg Road	Neighborhood Park	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play equipment</li> <li>• Picnic shelter</li> <li>• Combination softball and soccer field (not lighted or irrigated)</li> <li>• Open play space (turf grass)</li> <li>• Picnic shelter (open)</li> <li>• Landscaped open space (25 percent of the site)</li> <li>• Walking path connecting to the Hutchinson’s Bog trail system</li> <li>• Off-street parking for 15 to 20 cars</li> </ul>
6	<b>C12</b> - North and south of US 54-57 near Northview Road	Conservancy	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is the area known as Hutchinson’s Bog</li> <li>• Wetland preservation</li> <li>• Walking paths and boardwalks</li> </ul>
6	<b>NP7</b> - East of Nicolet Drive and south of Van Laanen Road	Neighborhood Park	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play equipment</li> <li>• Picnic shelter</li> <li>• Combination softball and soccer field (not lighted or irrigated)</li> <li>• Open play space (turf grass)</li> <li>• Picnic shelter (open)</li> <li>• Landscaped open space (15 to 25 percent of the site)</li> <li>• Off-street parking for 15 to 20 cars</li> </ul>
6	<b>CP4</b> - South of Humboldt Road and east of Bachelor Lane	Community Park	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intense field recreation with</li> <li>• Off-street parking</li> <li>• Play equipment</li> <li>• Ponds</li> <li>• Picnic shelter</li> <li>• Landscaped open space</li> </ul>

### Objective 2 – Existing Parks

Green Bay has an extensive, high-quality park system offering a wide variety of possibilities for outdoor recreation. This section describes actions to improve an already strong system.

**The City will continue its process of improvements to existing parks and parkways in order that they meet current recreation needs, provide visual appeal and help sustain the natural environment.**

#### Recommended Policies:

- 1. Baird Creek Greenway:** Baird Creek Greenway, a linear open space, includes open space, woods, downhill skiing, tubing, cross country ski trails, nature trails, a shelter, soccer fields and a play area. The developed portions of Baird Creek Greenway were entirely west of I-43 as of 2001.

New facilities and development in the present park should include walking and bicycling paths and bridges, a toboggan run and prairie restoration. The natural qualities of this park should be preserved to the extent possible.

Baird Creek Greenway should be extended to the easterly City limits, as indicated under Objective 3, Greenways, Parkways and Trails.

- 2. Bay Beach Park:** Bay Beach Park is a regional attraction with amusement rides, play equipment, picnic facilities, ball diamonds, shelters, wading pool, food services and a pavilion. The Green Bay Park, Recreation and Forestry Department is expanding the Bay Beach area to the west, according to past plans. Land purchase is underway and facility development will be undertaken in future years.

Long-term facility improvements could involve additional parking, grading for improved drainage, additional picnic shelters (some rentable), better restrooms, landscaping, a swimming beach, a fishing pier, band shell, additional amusement rides and a boat mooring, launching, and docking facility.

Before any major renovations of Bay Beach Park are undertaken, a master plan for the entire park should be prepared. Short-term improvements to the existing facility may include road patching and sealcoating, a new shelter, a remodeled pavilion dance hall, and additional paved parking.

- 3. Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary:** The Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, which celebrated its 65th year in 2000, is Green Bay's largest park with more than 500 acres of land, three buildings with exhibits, waterfowl feeding program and miles of hiking and skiing trails.

The Sanctuary includes the environmental education facilities, the Nature Education Center, the Woodland Building, the Deer Habitat, a boardwalk deck, a thirty-foot observation tower, a 6.2 mile trail system that connects to the trails in the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Cofrin Arboretum, the newly constructed Observation Building (including the Resch Conservation wing) and the "Stop-N-Gander" Gift Shop.

Other recent improvements include:

- Enlargement of the coyote habitat exhibit.
- Construction of a large aviary for eagles and other native birds.
- Construction of a "live animal contact station."
- Construction of an operations and maintenance building.

Sanctuary development is being carried forward under three main goals, each with associated actions:

- Environmental Education/Interpretation
  - Expand partnerships with Green Bay School District
  - Expand public family programming
  - New exhibit development
  - Complete signage master plan for nature trails.
- Recreation
  - Expand partnership with other Department Divisions to offer programs and activities such as camping, hiking, and wildlife observation
  - Continue to support Friends gift shop program.
- Refuge Management
  - Lagoon restoration
  - Wildlife population management
  - Ditch Beautification Project on East Shore Drive
  - “Living Forest Program
  - Bird rehabilitation flight exercise and winter quarters aviary
  - Design of overlook platform and deer observation deck
  - Ongoing invasive plant management and eradication.

**4. Bay View Park:** Bay View Park now serves as a neighborhood park, but is only 3.2 acres. Study the possibility of expanding this park.

**5. Debra Lane Buffer:** This open space corridor north of the industrial area that is located south of Elkay Lane and west of Lime Kiln Road has been planned to screen the industry from the residential areas to the north. The greenbelt should be enhanced with tree plantings. It could also include a bicycle and pedestrian path between the buffer areas to the east and the East River Park on the west.

**6. East River Greenway:** East River Greenway is a 50-acre waterfront development that extends along both sides of the East River and includes several parks. Current activities include: soccer, softball, baseball, playgrounds, bike paths, basketball and football.

Proposed possible future development includes sports fields, dog park, pedestrian and bike path extension, plantings, shelters, benches and parking. The *Comprehensive Waterfronts Plan, 1995*, also recommends the additional purchase of waterfront land in order to form a more contiguous development. This work should be continued as funding becomes available.

Further description of the greenway system is presented under Objective 3, Greenways, Parkways and Trails.

**7. Ken Euers Nature Area:** This area is comprised of a small natural area converted from a former landfill as well as a linear greenway along the bayfront. Future improvements should include trail extensions to Bylsby Avenue, as well as fencing, overlook construction, planting, erosion control, environmental signage, pedestrian circulation control. Special attention should be paid to access control. Consider expanding the nature area by acquiring the landfill site to the east after its completion.

**8. Farlin Park:** Farlin is a small (8 acres) neighborhood park. Expand Farlin Park west to the junction of Eastman Avenue and the railroad tracks, if industrial property is abandoned.

**9. Fisk Park:** This 21-acre community park is intensely used. Issues include whether a swimming pool, now in poor condition, should be abandoned or renovated, and whether additional sports facilities should be built to be shared with the adjacent West High School. A master plan should be prepared for the park.

## 20. Parks, Greenways and Parkways

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**10. Ted Fritsch Park:** This is a newer 21-acre neighborhood park. Basic facilities have recently been constructed in Ted Fritsch Park but additional work is needed. Possible projects include: tennis, trails and sanitary sewer construction. This park is separated from much of its service district by a major conservancy area with a deep ravine. Access through this area should be provided by a pedestrian bridge.

**11. He-Nis-Ra Park:** He-Nis-Ra Park, King School and Lombardi Middle School comprise 89 acres. Much of the school portion of the site has been developed into active recreation or school facilities. A playground program has been established.

Wetlands on and adjacent to this park are of considerable environmental value and should be protected through regulation, donation and/or purchase.

The existing wooded upland is a valuable natural area containing numerous oak trees and other native species. This area is now being used as a natural area with hiking and ski trails that lead into the wetland area via raised woodchip pathways. This activity should continue and be extended into other adjacent southwesterly wetlands in the future. Development in the upland area other than for trails should be very limited in order to protect the natural resource.

Final plans for the undeveloped City portion of the He-Nis-Ra site have not yet been completed. The area should be considered as a future community park.

**12. Hutchinson's Bog:** This is a privately-owned wetland that extends north and south of Highway 54/57. It should be preserved as public open space and nature preserve through regulation and/or purchase. A pedestrian trail and/or boardwalk should be constructed for nature interpretation.

**13. Joliet Park:** Joliet Park is a small, six acre City-owned parcel of land on the shore of Green Bay bordered by Nicolet Drive. Presently Joliet Park is classified as a special area as it is too small and linear to serve as a neighborhood park. Access to Joliet for children is very difficult and dangerous due to the traffic on Nicolet Drive.

Joliet Park should be retained for bay access. Improvements should include a parking lot, trail, fishing structure, shelter, small picnic area, overlook structure and a small boat launch (if space permits). Representatives of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources have indicated that this site is one of the top fishing spots in the region and also a preferred location for boat launching.

**14. Leicht Park:** This small waterfront parcel just north of the Main Street bridge was recently donated to the City. Development plans for the park will be finalized as anticipated funding becomes available.

**15. Lincoln Park and School:** This small (2.6 acre) existing park/school site should be expanded by joint City/School District purchase of adjacent residential land to increase the size of the recently-developed open play area.

**16. Mahon Property:** This three-acre site is now owned by the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay but may be used by the Park, Recreation and Forestry Department under an agreement with the university. It was once considered for a neighborhood park but was rejected by the Mahon Court residents. There is very limited additional development potential in the Mahon Court area. The Shores apartment complex has no children and the university has play areas on campus for children of students.

This parcel is next to the Cofrin Arboretum that surrounds the University Campus and would best complement the passive use

of the arboretum by remaining undeveloped for passive use. This area should only be considered for limited active park development if the majority of the neighborhood residents request it.

**17. Christa McAuliffe Park:** Christa McAuliffe Park is a 38-acre neighborhood park currently under development adjacent to the Baird Creek Greenway. Possible additional facilities include tennis courts and a formal trail linkage to the greenway.

**18. Metro Boat Launch:** Once an informal boat launch, the Metro Boat Launch has been greatly improved since 1988 and a launching fee has been imposed.

Future work should include dock improvements, launch area improvements, landscaping, a fishing pier, a picnicking area and an overlook structure.

The land that this facility is located on is owned by the Green Bay Metro Sewage District and leased on a short-term basis to the City. If at all possible, that land should either be purchased or a long-term lease (in lieu of the existing short term lease) established in order to protect the public investment.

The Coast Guard and Yacht Club also lease portions of the site, and their operations should be integrated into a permanent park.

**19. Red Smith Park:** This joint park school site was recently purchased to serve developing east side neighborhoods. Playing fields and a playground have been constructed along with the new school. Additional facilities may include additional play areas, open shelter, splash pad and parking, as requested by the adjacent neighborhood.

**20. Oakdale Park:** Expand Oakdale Park to attain neighborhood park standards.

**21. Wilder Park and School:** Wilder Park is a 42-acre school-park complex that provides active and passive recreation. Possible additional projects for the next five years include: tennis, open play, picnic areas, shelters, and parking, roadway and trail development.

The City will work together with the neighborhood and school officials to help solve safety problems related to children's circulation and pickup around the school and park.

Because the park is adjacent to the Willow Creek Greenway, the school and the Park Department are working on layouts for a possible nature trail. This effort should continue and possibly extend northward to Van Beek Road. If this trail is developed, consideration should be given to providing access to the pedestrian bridge at Robinson Avenue.



### Objective 3 – Greenways and Trails

This section offers an ambitious and far-reaching proposal to create a city-wide network of linear parks (typically referred to as greenways) and off-road paths for bicycling, skating and walking. Large portions of the greenway system already exist, but they are termed “parkways,” as in the Baird Creek Parkway. This plan proposes to adjust the terminology, so that the term “parkway” can be applied to highly landscaped roads with pedestrian and bicycle paths. The greenway system is a project that will take decades to complete but which can be expected to deliver even longer-term benefits.

**Linear parks and paths for walking and bicycling will be improved and extended to link neighborhoods and major parks, protect streams and other environmentally sensitive areas, and provide outdoor recreation and education.**

#### Recommended Policies:

- 1. Baird Creek Greenway:** As of 2001, this linear park extended from Morrow Street to approximately one-half mile east of I-43. It is planned to be extended west to the East River and east to the Town of Humboldt along both the main and the southern branch of the stream (See Figure 20-1). The City has adopted an Official Map for public acquisition that targets land along Baird and other creeks. (Refer also to the *Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, 1995*.)

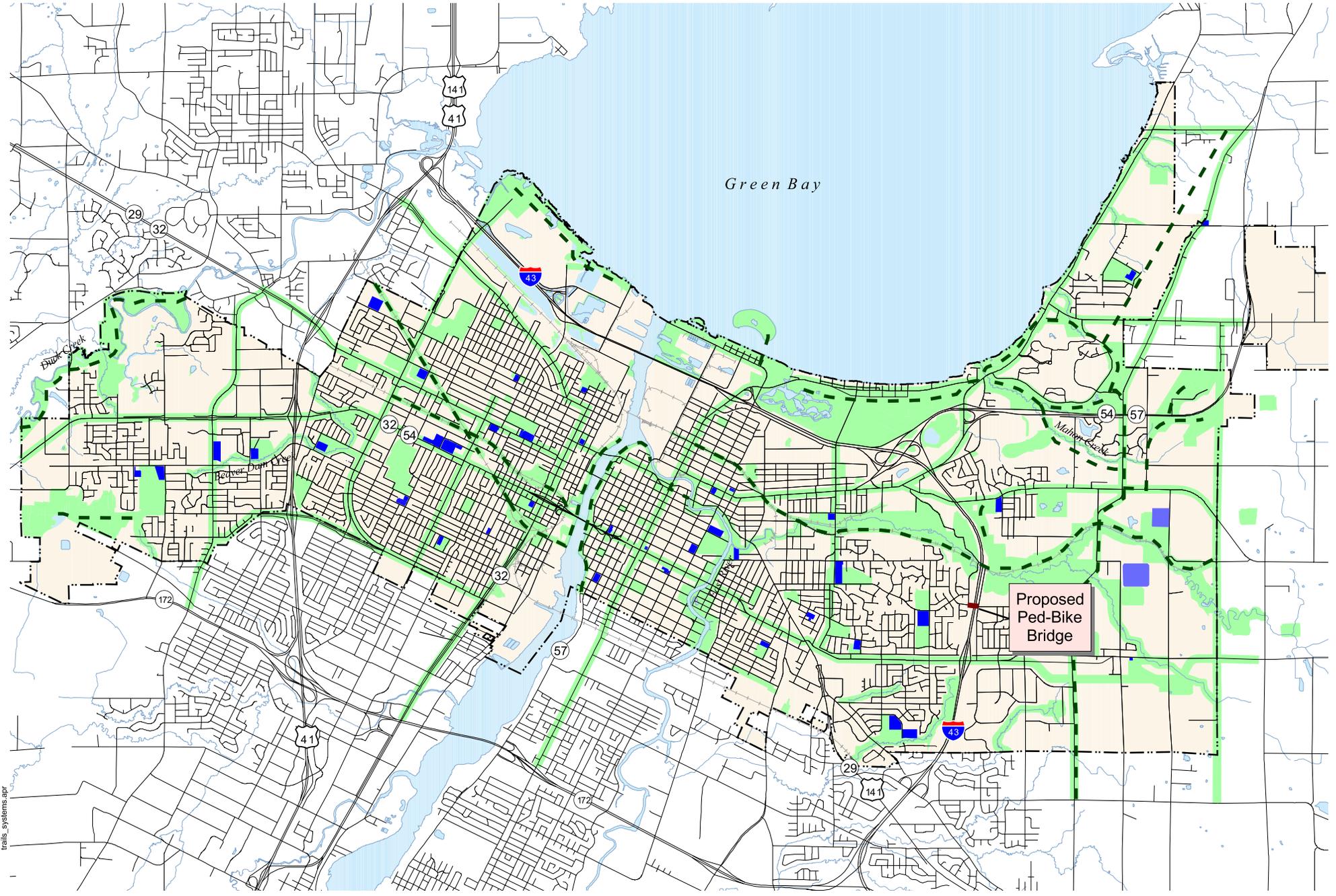
The existing Official Map designation only protects stream bottomland. The entire corridor, including the steep slopes that border the creek, and a 50-foot buffer along the ridge tops should also be considered for protection in order to minimize erosion and preserve habitat. As with existing segments of the Baird Creek Greenway, public land should be used for flood control, ecological protection and recreation. Providing adequate space for recreation would mean acquiring land further from the stream than shown on the official map. The creek edges need maintenance and

stabilization, and public ownership would provide opportunities for restoration and public education. The Baird Creek Greenway, besides being a recreational amenity for the entire city, is a major force in attracting high-quality residential investment to the east side of Green Bay.

The Baird Creek Greenway is jointly owned by the City and Brown County, but only the ski hill is jointly maintained. The City should encourage the County to take a more active role in the maintenance and expansion of the Greenway.

**Easterly Growth:** Land should be purchased along the main and southern branches of Baird Creek to complete the linear park consistent with the Official Map. East of Woodside Road, the creek valley should be managed to preserve the natural vegetation, eliminate invasive species and reduce soil erosion. A natural resources plan should be conducted to determine which locations should be protected in their natural state and which may be suitable for recreation improvements.

**Railroad Corridor:** The Wisconsin Central Railroad maintains a line along Baird Creek, in most locations on the north side of the stream. This rail line might be abandoned in the future because it carries only about one train per week to a concrete plant in western Humboldt Township. The line has been identified in the Brown County bicycle plan for possible conversion to a bicycle path from the east side of Green Bay to the Brown County line and beyond. If or when the railroad line is abandoned, the State should purchase it for use as a bicycle path through the Rails to Trails program.

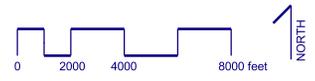


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- Bicyclist and Pedestrian Path
- Greenway, Parkway and Existing or Planned Park
- Schools
- Future Schools

**Figure 20-2**  
**Trail System Plan**



## 20. Parks, Greenways and Parkways

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The railroad bed may be the most appropriate alignment for a paved bicycle path in order to minimize adverse effects on the ecology of the greenway.

The pattern of land purchased by the City will have to be coordinated with the railroad right-of-way until the railroad service is discontinued. The recreational paths proposed along the railroad corridor should be extended by Brown and Kewaunee Counties all the way to Lake Michigan.

**Single-Loaded Streets:** Beyond the land purchased by the City for linear park and trails, it is desirable that local streets be designed to follow the edge of the public open space on one side and provide access to houses on the other. These “single-loaded” streets will allow more of the public to experience the creek valley and raise the value of the houses both adjacent to and away from the creek. Many other cities have had great success with similar arrangements. The City will initiate a study to review the benefits and costs of single-loaded streets.

The alternative, allowing private lots to abut the open space, limits the visual benefits of the public investment to one tier of houses, and can negatively impact views from the valley. Where houses back up to the greenway, the lot line should be set back from the bluffline at least 50 feet to soften their visual effect.

**Access:** Whether the greenway is bordered by a public street or private lots, pedestrian paths should be provided from the neighborhood to the greenway path at a spacing of not more than 800 feet.

**Baird Creek Preservation Foundation:** The City will work with the Baird Creek Preservation Foundation to devise and implement a plan for restoring the natural qualities of the creek valleys, including reintroducing native species, removing invasive species, restoring or stabilizing shorelines and steep slopes, and selectively restoring

wetlands. The City will also continue to work with the Foundation on fundraising for property acquisition and further studies.

**Westerly Growth:** A means should be found to link the Baird Creek linear open space and path system to the parks along the East River and on to the Fox River. The first phase of this connection is underway with the Kress Trail, which runs between Henry Street and East High School. However, there are several major industries along Baird Creek east of Henry Street that pose difficulties for land acquisition. Pathfinder signs along streets with street trees and sidewalks can provide a temporary connection until a suitable trail alignment can be established.

**Linkage to the Cofrin Arboretum:** The City should research the possibility of a greenway linkage to the University’s Cofrin Arboretum, possibly through the Hutchinson’s Bog area or along Mahon Creek, with linkages to Baird Creek along future parkways (Grandview, Humboldt and Spartan Roads).

**Other Trail Connections:** The pedestrian and bicyclist paths along Baird Creek should be connected to the striped lanes and off-road paths proposed along (1) Huron Avenue and Bay Settlement Road and (2) Northview Avenue. Those lanes or paths would connect to the paths in the Cofrin Arboretum, then through Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary and south along an improved Danz Avenue and into Baird Creek Greenway, completing a grand loop. The lanes and paths along Huron and Northview Avenues would, ideally, continue through the Town of Bellevue.

**Other Waterfront Greenways:** The *Comprehensive Waterfront Plan* (1995) proposed design guidelines and locations appropriate for greenways. The waterfront greenway system should extend through or connect to existing parks as well as other waterfront urban areas. If the objectives of that plan are to be met, the City must continue to acquire properties along its creeks and rivers. This plan supports all the objectives of the *Comprehensive Waterfront Plan*, and the reader should refer to that plan for detailed recommendations.

The planned waterfront greenways are:

- Extension of the Baird Creek Greenway westerly to the East River Greenway and easterly to the City limits.
- Completion of the East River Greenway – from just south of Main Street to Joannes Park along the west side of the river, and from Anne Sullivan Park to Van Beaver Park on the east bank of the river.
- Extension of the pedestrian esplanade along the west side of the Fox River, ultimately connecting Mason Street to Leicht Park.
- Completion of the pedestrian esplanade along the east side of the Fox River, ultimately connecting on the north to the East River Greenway.
- Duck Creek Greenway (in conjunction with the Village of Hobart).
- The Mahon Creek Greenway should be analyzed for possible trail construction. The existing Greenway designation also should be reviewed and amended to provide protection for steep slopes and a buffer along the bluff.
- The Willow Creek Greenway should be considered for a trail system as public demand warrants. As adjacent residential development occurs, the City should continue to secure public access points.
- A greenway extending from He-Nis-Ra Park through the wetlands in the City's southwest corner.

- Where full-scale greenways are not feasible, an alternative would be to provide public access to the waterfront with street-end parks in the street right-of-way.

**2. Former Railroad Corridors as Greenways:** There are four opportunities to create greenways in current or former railroad corridors:

- Planning Districts 2 and 3: The alignment of the former Wisconsin Central line that runs through northwestern Green Bay, connecting to the Mountain Bay Trail system .
- Planning District 6: The currently active Wisconsin Central line that runs along Baird Creek (a greenway in its own right).
- Planning Districts 2 and 3: The currently active Fox Valley and Western Limited Railroad that runs east-west parallel to and just north of Western Street from near the Fox River to Military Road.
- Planning District 4: The currently active Wisconsin Central Railroad from the Baird Creek Greenway to the proposed Webster Parkway.

After a line has been abandoned, the State should immediately acquire the property through the Wisconsin Rails to Trails program and give an easement to the County. The County could then improve the corridor with asphalt paths, landscaping and, possibly, lighting.

## 20. Parks, Greenways and Parkways

**3. Pedestrian and Bicyclist Facilities:** Off-road pedestrian paths and on-road bike lanes should be built to connect parks, neighborhoods and commercial districts of the community. Priority should be given to paths in the greenways and paths or lanes along the parkways (highly landscaped arterial roads).

Pedestrian paths in the greenways and along the parkways should be complemented by sidewalks along at least one side of every residential street. Bicycling paths in the greenways should complement and connect to the city-wide system of on-road bike lanes proposed in the Transportation chapter of this plan.

Figure 20-2, Trail System Plan, illustrates the locations of existing and planned bicycling paths (off-road) and walking paths. That pattern is consistent with the planned system of greenways and parkways shown on Figure 20-1.

If a pedestrian path connecting to a greenway or other trail is to be located between houses, an area at least 30 feet wide, and preferably 50 feet wide, should be set aside for the path.



Baird Creek Greenway



Bay Beach Park

## **Objective 4 – Parkways**

While most arterial, collector and local streets are already lined with trees, this plan designates a network of major streets for systematic construction or retrofitting as parkways. While the parkway features will entail additional costs spread over several decades, the benefit to the community will be much greater.

### **Continue the long-term process of building a citywide system of interconnected parkway roads.**

#### **Recommended Policies:**

- 1. Parkways:** The City of Green Bay will continue to create a system of parkways, as illustrated by Figure 20-1, Parks, Greenway and Parkways System Plan. Parkways are intended to be arterial or collector roads that are highly landscaped and include sidewalks, on-road lanes or off-road paths for bicycling, and decorative lighting. Adjacent private landscaping should generally be improved (as recommended in the Urban Design Plan) and coordinated with the public landscaping.

The purposes and benefits of the parkway system are to:

- Improve the overall appearance, identity and quality of life of the community
- Increase and sustain property values
- Create bicyclist and pedestrian links among the neighborhoods, districts, greenways and parks
- Create visual community entry statements
- Help define the structure of the city
- Provide a ceremonial approach to important locations such as downtown or Lambeau Field
- Calm traffic speeds in residential neighborhoods

- Promote annexation of land by demonstrating the City's commitment to investing in high quality public facilities.

Parkway design will vary from one location to another as some will be built in newly developing areas where sufficient public right-of-way may be obtained while others will be constructed in more constrained locations. The traffic capacity and posted speed of the parkways may also vary with their function in the road network, which should influence the design of the landscaping, lighting and bicyclist and pedestrian facilities. Figure 20-3 illustrates the possible features of different types of parkways.

Brown County and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation will have to be involved in some of these improvements since some of the roads proposed as parkways are under one or both of their jurisdictions. However, it is anticipated that most, if not all, of the costs for the extra amenities will have to be borne by the City of Green Bay. It would not necessarily be the responsibility of the Green Bay Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry to build or maintain the parkways.

Because the parkway system suggested in Figure 20-1 is a major undertaking, the City will rank the segments in priority, budget for them over the years and coordinate the improvements with regular road or utility projects. The planned Eastern Arterial along the Huron Road alignment is expected to be the first of these parkways. Extensions of the parkway concept into adjacent townships and villages should be promoted in the interest of regional improvement.

### Objective 5 – Park Location and Design

Parks are a major and highly visible public investment that can have a significant positive effect on the appearance of a community and its quality of life. Green Bay has several fine examples of how parks and greenways can be used to improve or sustain nearby private investment (e.g., Whitney, He-Nis-Ra and East River Parks). This section of the Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan recommends ways that existing or future parks should be used to help create better neighborhoods, promote revitalization and build an attractive community.

**Locate and design parks, greenways and parkways to enhance the quality of residential neighborhoods and commercial districts, reflect Green Bay’s cultural heritage and honor civic life.**

#### Recommended Policies:

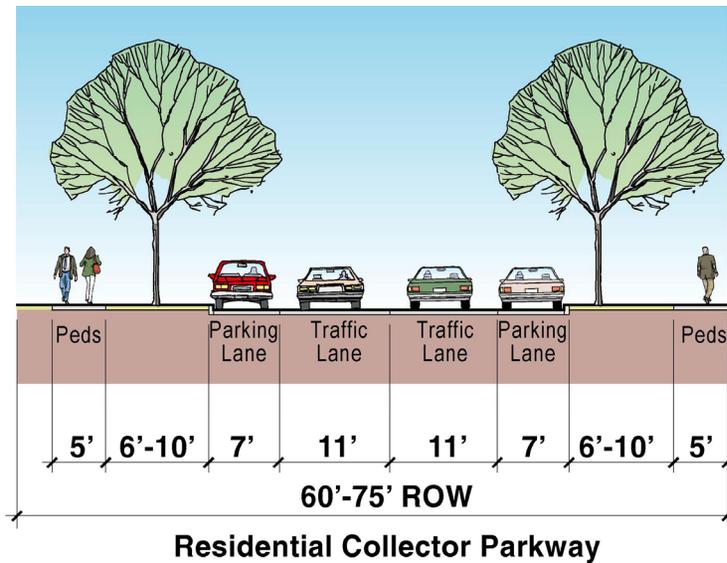
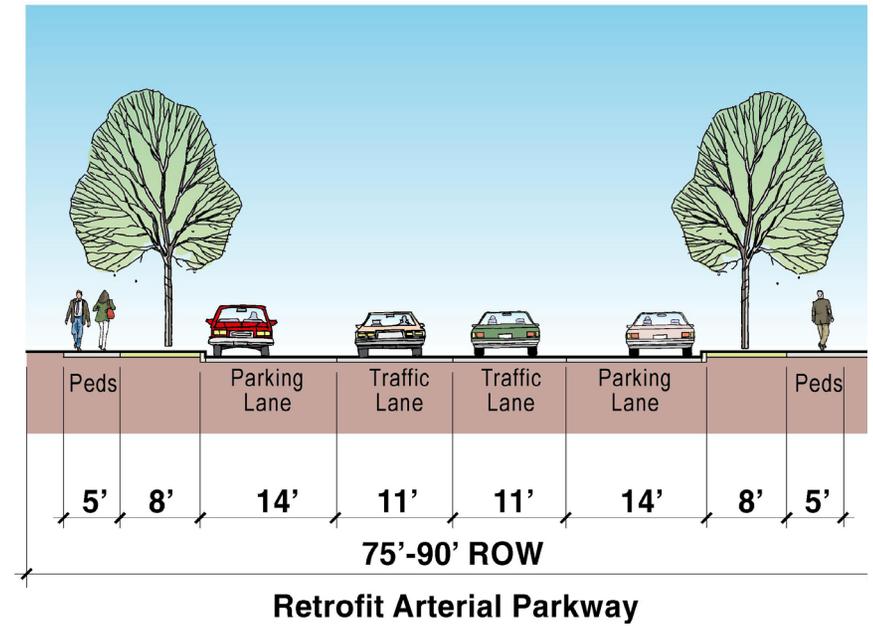
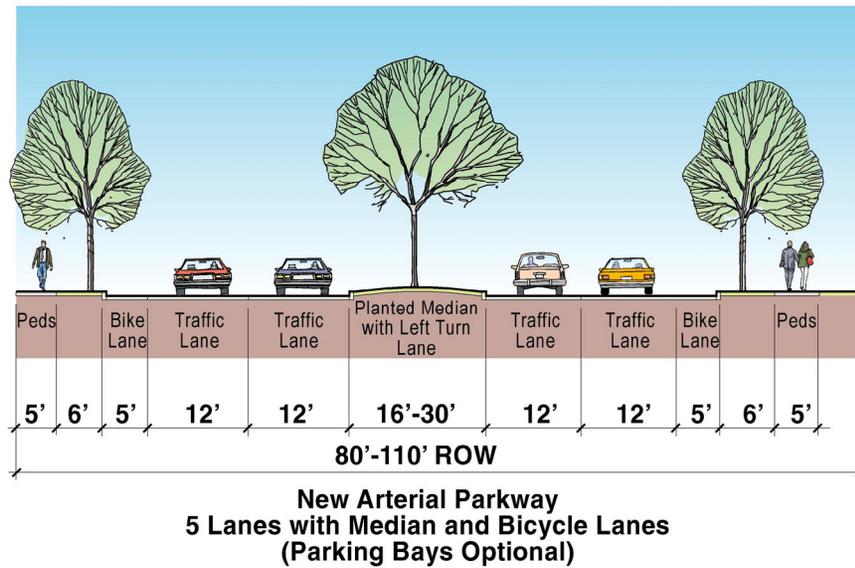
- 1. A Network of Green Spaces:** The City will continue to build a system of green open spaces for recreation, urban beauty and natural protection that are linked by linear parks (greenways), off-road paths and on-street bicycle lanes, and generously landscaped roads known as parkways.
- 2. A System of Civic Spaces:** The City will regard the park and greenway system as one element of a larger system of civic spaces. Through a high quality of design and stewardship, these civic features will sustain the quality of life, private investment and economic competitiveness of Green Bay. The system elements should be designed to complement one another visually and functionally and should be interconnected for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians. Other elements of this system include:
  - Parks of all types
  - Plazas

- Public schools
- Civic buildings such as City Hall or the KI Convention Center
- Semi-public buildings such as Lambeau Field or the Resch Arena
- Local residential streets, sidewalks and street trees
- Minor arterial or collector roads
- Bridges
- Off-street and on-street bicycle lanes
- Wetlands and ponds
- The bay
- Rivers and streams
- Wooded areas
- The Niagara Escarpment

The central city is especially lacking a good-sized civic open space and gathering area. As areas redevelop and opportunities arise, the City should continue to pursue the goal of creating a Town Square.

- 3. Neighborhood Quality:** In addition to providing amenities for residents, parks, greenway and parkways should be used to improve the level of private investment in nearby housing and create lasting value in neighborhoods. These public spaces should be regarded as visual assets and designed as such. Each neighborhood park should:
  - Be open to the neighborhood on at least half of its perimeter.
  - Include generous landscaping to soften and direct views.
  - Have perimeter and internal walkways.
  - Have a defined entry.

Figure 20-3: Parkway Design Concepts



## 20. Parks, Greenways and Parkways

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- Provide both active spaces and quiet, natural areas.
- Use civic buildings such as a gazebo or picnic shelter as a focal point.
- In a school-park situation, be designed in coordination with the facilities provided by the school.
- Include off-street parking designed in careful relation to the topography, plantings and views so as to minimize its visual effect; no more off-street parking should be provided than is reasonable in addition to on-street parking.

**4. Waterfront Public Open Space:** To the extent feasible, the City will acquire stream edges and adjacent steep slopes for public open space and parks. These parks should include walkways and bicycling paths and protect key environmental features such as wetlands or floodplains. Environmentally-sensitive bank stabilization techniques should be used instead of heavily engineered devices. Visual and functional linkages should be created between the waterfronts and nearby neighborhoods or districts. In addition, a large portion of the edge of public linear open space should abut local streets rather than private lots in order to extend the benefits of that open space into the larger neighborhood and community.

**5. Quiet Spaces:** Parks should include quiet spaces for strolling or sitting wherever the landscape allows. Some locations in the park system should be managed to retain their wooded or otherwise natural characteristics to invite exploration and discovery. Such places offer a small refuge from the bustle of the urban environment and offer opportunities to connect with nature on a daily basis.

The City recognizes the rare quality of the north-facing steep slopes of the Baird Creek Greenway east of I-43 and west of

Woodside Road, to which the community has devoted resources for protection. The City should reserve those slopes as a place for quiet, passive recreation secluded from urban pressures.

**6. Civic Pride and Local Heritage:** The City will design and maintain parks and other public spaces as the highest expression of civic pride and local heritage. Parks should be beautiful as well as functional so that current generations will enjoy their use and future generations will appreciate what they represent. Parks and greenways should be inspiring and represent the best of Green Bay.

**7. Park Buildings:** The City will adopt an architectural theme for its park buildings and related facilities after reflecting on local materials, building practices, cultural heritage and user needs. Buildings should be classic in proportions and materials, adaptable, and long-lasting. If necessary, it is preferable to delay construction than to install a structure that is not of sufficient quality.

- 8. Urban Open Space:** Urban open spaces are usually portions of street rights-of-way that serve as narrow pedestrian corridors and/or small urban rest areas. They are generally in the vicinity of the central business district and often oriented towards a water resource. They provide beauty and climate moderation for the often hot and harsh urban environment.

The City will continue to build planted medians, planting strips and landscaped islands whenever feasible. Possible future projects include the continued redevelopment of Broadway Avenue, continued landscaping of the downtown streets, and landscaping along the redeveloping University Avenue and East and West Mason Streets.

- 9. Associated Furnishings:** Care should be taken in selecting associated park furnishings such as benches, fences, signs or trash containers. They should complement the design of the major buildings and require relatively low levels of maintenance.



Admiral Flatley Park

## Objective 6 – Ecology and Environment

Parks should provide benefits in addition to outdoor recreation, such as protection of environmentally sensitive areas and access to nature on a daily basis. This section describes several ways that the City will manage its parks and greenways in an ecologically responsible and sustainable manner while meeting recreation objectives.

**Plan and design parks and greenways to sustain environmentally sensitive features, reduce negative environmental effects and serve as models of land stewardship.**

### Recommended Policies:

- 1. Protect Natural Areas:** The City will expand the greenway along Baird Creek to protect the floodplain, adjacent wetlands and significant woodlands. This greenway should be sufficiently large to minimize negative edge effects and provide a quiet, protected place for pedestrians and bicyclists. Buildings should be set back at least 50 feet from the bluffline to minimize visual effects and erosion of the greenway.

The City will establish a corridor protection overlay zone extending 50 feet to the north and south of the public property to protect the vulnerable edges of the corridor. That ordinance should address runoff, vegetative cutting, building setbacks, and road alignment.

- 2. Sustain the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary:** The City will continue its process of improving the natural environment and expanding its interpretative programs at this wildlife sanctuary.

## 20. Parks, Greenways and Parkways

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**3. Manage Drainageways Naturally:** Drainage swales and creeks are important for their ability to provide wildlife habitat and movement paths, cost-effectively manage stormwater, reduce flooding and serve as visual amenities. The following drainageways should be maintained in their natural state:

- Beaver Dam Creek
- LaCount Creek
- North Branch of Willow Creek
- South Branch of Ellis Creek
- Mahon Creek
- Van Laanen Creek
- Nicolet Creek
- Barina Creek

Most of these drainageways are also identified by the County as environmentally sensitive areas. Mowing should be discouraged, and environmentally sensitive methods of bank protection should be used rather than engineering approaches. Specifics for buying and managing these areas are included in the *Comprehensive Waterfronts Plan*.

The drainage system in the Baird Creek subwatershed should be designed and built so as to treat and discharge in a way that retards and filters runoff and protects shorelines from erosion, using natural means and materials whenever possible.

**4. Use Sustainable Plantings:** The City will work to judiciously reduce the amount of park area devoted to mowed turf and introduce in its place plant species that require less maintenance, provide habitat for birds, insects, and other wildlife, and provide filtration of water runoff. Invasive, non-native plant species should be controlled.

**5. Link Open Spaces:** Major, intact, natural areas should be linked by corridors of native woods and grasses for the sake of wildlife habitat and movement, and urban aesthetics. Landscape elements

that can be used for such links include streams and stream edges, fencerows and hedgerows, drainage swales, roadside ditches with natural vegetation, floodplains and wetlands.

**6. Keep Unmanaged Places:** Keep a few wooded or other places in the park system at a very low level of management in order to provide places for people to explore on their own and experience a rudimentary bit of wildness.

**7. Set a Good Example:** As the major public landowner of the region, the Green Bay Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry should set a good example of land stewardship for the private sector to emulate by following these and other principles of sustainable design.

**8. Provide Natural Interpretation:** Continue to educate the general public and teach park users about native flora and fauna through signs and educational programs in places such as the Ken Euers Nature Area and the Wildlife Sanctuary as well as other teaching opportunities (such as along streams).

**9. Work with other Organizations:** The City will work with allied organizations dedicated to protecting the local natural environment in order to leverage spending and volunteer help, marshal political support and evaluate resources.

## **Objective 7 – Citywide Facilities and Programming**

Green Bay supports similar programs in many locations, so these activities are best addressed on a city-wide basis. The following Objective and Actions provide recommendations that apply across the community. Conditions are summarized with each Action to provide context.

**Systematically refine park system facilities and recreation programs to meet changing outdoor recreation needs, meet safety and access guidelines and achieve other objectives of this plan.**

### **Recommended Policies:**

- 1. Band Shells:** The City Band annually plays eleven concerts and the Youth Band six, most of them at St. James Park.

The City recently built a permanent band shell for band concerts, and has purchased a mobile stage with a roof and three walls on a flatbed trailer pulled by a truck. This activity should be continued and expanded to additional sites.

- 2. Basketball Courts:** Basketball courts are located in 40 City parks and are heavily used. Two courts are lighted, and demand suggests the need for lighting of least two more. Many courts are deteriorated and should be resurfaced as funds become available. The basketball program rents numerous school facilities for indoor programs. The City should consider whether an indoor facility for this and other indoor recreation may be warranted.
- 3. Baseball:** There is a shortage of baseball fields, especially in American Legion and Babe Ruth leagues. Some demand is unserved, including a proposed high school freshman program. There are seven baseball fields in Green Bay but two have

inadequate conditions. Only two of the six high schools (one public and one parochial) have their own baseball field.

One additional baseball diamond should be built on each side of the city within the next five years along with improvements to fencing and lighting at two fields. Some other diamonds should be consolidated so that there are several parks with at least two diamonds each so as to allow regulation high school play, aid tournaments and allow more efficient maintenance.

On the far east side, there are possibilities for a complex of baseball fields at either the planned high school west of Erie Road or the planned community park west of Grandview Road north of Baird Creek. Opportunities also exist at two former landfill sites.

On the west side, opportunities for baseball include land currently used for a railroad siding next to Seymour Park, railroad land south of Tank Park, and the site of the former aquatic center in Fisk Park. The first two sites could accommodate several fields but they are long-term prospects. Another west side site includes the former yard waste site in He-Nis-Ra Park, although that could also be designated as a soccer field or natural area, depending on neighborhood input.

- 4. Boat Launches and Marinas:** Green Bay has one public boat launch facility, while there are four in the County, one in DePere and one in Howard. Since 1980, there have been several boat launch renovations and one additional site has been recently completed in DePere. Seven small- to medium-sized private facilities exist in the region.

In 1995 there were 16,338 boat registrations in Brown County. This represents a 4.7 percent increase since 1990. The State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) identifies Green Bay as one of four areas where residents feel additional facilities are needed. Although there are no local market studies

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that identify a need for more public boat docks or marinas, anecdotal evidence suggests strong public demand.

Two new boat launch sites should be considered in Green Bay. Three alternative sites are listed below; all would require further study. Public docks should work in conjunction with private facilities to fulfill the demand and not inhibit private investment.

- **Joliet Park:** This site is suggested because of its proximity to deep water and excellent fishing as well as the fact that the water frontage is already parkland. Site constraints would only allow for a very small facility at this location.
- **Riverview Place Park:** The Riverview Place site is suggested as a boat launch because it is located north of the major bridge, is partially parkland and because there are no other public launches on the west side of Green Bay within the City limits. Additional land would need to be purchased to create a feasible site.
- **North of Mason Street:** The 15-acre property immediately north of Mason Street on the west side of the Fox River is also a possible marina site. The Downtown Design Plan indicated this as a possible multi-purpose marina with adjacent housing, offices, shops and restaurants. A marina at this location would support broader aims for downtown, Broadway Avenue and central riverfront revitalization. Limited space for parking and downtown traffic conditions may preclude a major boat launch at this location.

- 5. Cross-Country Skiing:** Cross-country skiing has continued to be a popular activity. Basically, wherever the City has the space and the time to groom, people will ski. The Park, Recreation and Forestry Department grooms two parks and three designated ski trails.

The City will continue to provide and groom trails as time and

manpower permits and as appropriate areas are purchased, such as Baird Creek Greenway and He-Nis-Ra Park.

The City will urge the County and the State to assist in meeting this recreation demand, as large areas with hills and trees are normally desired.

- 6. Facilities for the Elderly:** As the percentage of elderly citizens in our community increases, the need for special facilities for this group also grows. As the Baby Boom generation ages, their recreational needs should continue to be monitored and action taken where appropriate.

Proposals for development involve mostly passive areas for walking and additional benches for sitting. Other potential activities are shuffleboard and bocce ball (lawn bowling). However, there has been a trend for the elderly to maintain active and physically fit lifestyles, continuing the active pursuits they enjoyed in younger years such as bicycling, swimming, jogging, cross-country skiing and so forth.

Veterans Memorial Park, the Fox River Greenway (both sides of the river) and Flatley Greenway provide passive walking and sitting areas in the downtown. Jackson Square and Baird Place are both passive areas often used by the elderly. Walkways and passive areas are also provided in Joannes, Astor and Colburn Parks. A downtown Seniors' Center and several bocce ball courts have been constructed, and more may be needed in the future.

- 7. Facilities for the Mobility-Impaired:** Many park facilities are being analyzed in relation to their access by the disabled. As inadequacies become evident, they are being appropriately modified as funds become available. A good deal of work has already been done in most shelter buildings and most play areas, but more will need to be done in the area of recreation facilities.

The City demolished its one wheelchair exercise course because of lack of use. Before other facilities should be developed, more analysis should be conducted.

Current thinking tends to lead away from specialized facilities and more toward universal access to conventional activities. The City will attempt to accommodate this by constructing paved access to tennis courts, boating facilities, ball diamond bleachers, playgrounds, fishing piers, etc.

Joannes Pool is accessible because it is a “zero-depth” pool, but our other pools are not. The need and demand for access to swimming pools should continue to be studied for possible implementation at other pools as well.

Social justice alone should demand work in this area, but the Americans with Disabilities Act also requires it. The growing elderly population, parents with small children in strollers and the mobility-impaired population all benefit from greater accessibility.

**8. Football Fields:** The demand for football fields is stable at this time and no new fields will be needed in the near future.

**9. Hockey Rinks and Skating Areas:** There are five hockey rinks in the City; four lighted and one practice facility. At this time there are plans for one more lighted hockey facility.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that there is a high demand for hockey rinks in Green Bay but there are no specific data to support that claim. Park, Recreation and Forestry Department staff should quantify the need and examine options to outdoor rinks, such as a large indoor facility. An indoor rink should be a joint public-private venture if it is verified that the demand exists to support it. At this time there are 11 free-skating areas, which is down from the 28 skating areas in 1986 and 16 in 1991, because of declining

interest. Based on recent public requests, new skating rinks would only be needed in the newer outlying parks.

This is another area where fewer larger facilities may be more practical, but the neighborhoods prefer to keep their local facilities. Demand for skating rinks should be analyzed yearly.

**10. New Specialized Facilities:** The field of recreation in general is undergoing many changes. The Park, Recreation and Forestry Department is under some pressure to develop new facilities of many different varieties. These include such activities as BMX bike courses, outdoor handball courts, a soap box derby course, mountain bike courses, tot-lots, disc golf, rugby, lacrosse, roller skating areas, cricket, bicycle trails, jogging or walking trails, roller skating trails, dog parks, more garden plots (three existing areas) and inline skating (general as well as roller hockey).

Many of these activities are being or have been studied by the Park, Recreation and Forestry Department but presently demand does not warrant development of most of them.

Three of the above-noted activities seem to be consistently coming up for discussion:

- Disc golf
- Lacrosse facilities
- Dog parks.

The City should continue to investigate the need and possibilities for developing these facilities.

**Roller Hockey:** A temporary roller hockey area was recently installed on an existing paved surface. The City should study the demand for this activity and construct one or two permanent facilities if warranted.

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**Skate Park:** A new skate park was recently completed at Joannes Park and has provided very popular. The City should study the possibility of providing another facility on the west side. Professionally designed skate parks (for skateboards and in-line skates) can offer challenges not available elsewhere, and may also reduce the traffic and abuse on paths, sidewalks, railings and walls that were never meant for such activity.

**Disc Golf:** A major professional-level disc golf course is located in the Baird Creek Greenway and is extensively used. The City should consider constructing a family-skill-level course, possibly in an existing west side park.

- 11. Playgrounds:** Playground equipment has undergone extensive changes in the last ten or twenty years. Many of these changes have resulted in better-utilized, more aesthetic play equipment with greater overall play value. The greatest number of changes though, have related to safety and accessibility. The Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines and the Federal Access Board's interpretation of the Americans with Disabilities Act have literally changed the face of American playgrounds in an effort to make play areas safer and more accessible for all citizens.

The Green Bay Park, Recreation and Forestry Department has stayed abreast of these changes, and all the playgrounds in the City have been upgraded to one extent or another since 1980. For a number of years the guidelines were in a state of flux, which created some difficulties in deciding what to renovate and what not to. With the recently developed specifications from the American Society for Testing and Materials this lack of standards has become less of a problem with safety issues but remains a concern in terms of access.



The staff has been trained in these areas, monitors the latest guidelines and makes recommendations based on a balanced approach. The objective is to provide a quality play experience that is safe and as accessible to as many people as possible. Overall the equipment must be durable and maintainable and justifiable as a long term investment of City resources.

New playgrounds should be included in the planned Neighborhood Parks on both the east and west sides of the city. Other playgrounds may be required in some of the small unserved areas of the City. In general, playgrounds should be considered for replacement every 15 to 20 years. Safety and maintainability are now the main criteria for replacement.

- 12. Shoreline Fishing Sites:** The only areas in the Green Bay park system promoted as a fishing spot and to some degree managed as such are the lagoon system at the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary and the East River fishing platforms. Unfortunately, both locations are marginal for fishing quality. Informal fishing does occur at other park facilities such as Joliet Park, Ken Euers Nature Area, Metro Boat Launch, Veterans Memorial Park and the East Bank Fox River Greenway.

There are no fishing piers in Green Bay at this time. Several small fishing platforms were constructed along the East River in Van Beaver Park recently to gauge their level of use for possible application to other greenways.

Of course, fishing piers should only be located in areas where the angling is good.

Plans are being prepared for the possible construction of a fishing pier at Metro Boat Launch on the Fox River. That project should be implemented along with four other fishing piers:

- Joliet Park
- Fox River View Place
- The Porlier Bridge on the Fox River
- Just south of the Porlier Bridge.

Another prospect is a new DNR program which provides fishing ponds at no cost to the City in partnership with private investors. Staff should continue to work with the DNR in an effort to implement this program in Green Bay.

**13. Soccer:** The popularity of soccer in Green Bay has leveled off from its meteoric rise but continues to be strong among the youth. Soccer has attracted many children who might otherwise not have played an organized summer sport, and has drawn some players from tee-ball, baseball and softball.

Green Bay provides fields for most of the high schools, the Green Bay Kickers Soccer Club (serving the west side of Green Bay and adjacent communities), the Green Bay Strikers

Soccer Club (serving the east side of the region) and the regional select team (higher-skilled players from the older age groups). Each high school has a boys and girls varsity and junior varsity

team but only East High has a field (it uses the football field).



In 2001, participation in the soccer clubs was:

Strikers:	1,850	(east)
Kickers:	1,398	(west)
Select	<u>350</u>	
Total	3,594	

The soccer clubs use fields in Green Bay and several other nearby communities for a summer program that runs from May through July and a shorter fall program in September and early October.

Green Bay and its neighbors do not have a sufficient number of soccer fields for existing demand even though there are now 40 fields in Green Bay (including 6 owned by the school district) compared to 23 in 1995. The west side of the city is especially short. Every field has two or three games per night with the rest of the time used for practices. Due to the insufficient number of fields, some games are held at dusk, making it difficult to play. No fields are lighted. Lighting could expand the use of some fields but is costly.

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The condition of most of the fields is poor because of their heavy use. Problems include bare spots, ruts, mud and non-uniform dimensions. The turf problems are caused by the fact that none of the fields can be rested. Lighting of fields could cause even more problems with overuse.

The soccer clubs believe that if there were more fields in the region, they could provide soccer opportunities for more children. Also, the City cannot hold a soccer tournament because most parks have only one soccer field, although six sites have two and Wilder Park has four.

The greatest problem with siting new soccer fields is finding flat open areas of adequate size. The staff should continue to monitor demand and quantify the number of fields needed in the service area, then update this plan with those findings.

On the west side, the plan proposes to enlarge athletic fields on land currently used for a railroad siding next to Seymour Park and create an athletic field on railroad land south of Tank Park. Both could accommodate several fields but are long-term prospects.

Other west side opportunities exist at the former yard waste site in He-Nis-Ra Park and a planned neighborhood park in the far southwest. The City should also explore cooperative arrangements with the Oneida Nation on land they own between Mason Street and Duck Creek west of Hillcrest Drive (County Road FF).

East side multi-field soccer opportunities include a planned sport complex or community park north of Baird Creek and west of Woodside Road, a community park south of Mason Street and east of Grandview Road, and the planned high school along Erie Road.

Since the soccer clubs operate across municipal boundaries and, thus, the youth demand is regional, Green Bay will work with its neighbors to create more fields in all communities and improve the quality of those it already has. It will probably be easier to find space for new fields in the outlying municipalities, and it is believed that Green Bay is ahead of its neighbors in terms of fields per 1,000 population.

- 13. Softball:** Historically, the most popular park-related recreational activity in Green Bay has been softball. With the growth in popularity of activities such as soccer, a decline in the



popularity of softball was expected. For the most part, this has not occurred, and softball remains very popular. Overall, the supply of fields relative to the demand is adequate. The City now has 72 softball diamonds, eleven of which are lighted. That number has grown from 63 in 1992. These 72 diamonds serve 156 adult teams in 23 leagues as well as numerous youth teams in 28 youth leagues.

It should be noted that four of the fields have insufficiently deep outfield fences (230 feet to center field rather than the preferred 270-290). Each high school has a girls' varsity and junior varsity softball team but none has a softball field. Also, there is a need for more lighted fields to relieve the pressure on existing diamonds which are utilized to their

maximum potential. This heavy use leaves diamonds in a poor, hard to maintain condition. Another issue is the limited opportunities for tournament play in Green Bay. The Parks staff will be studying possible methods and locations for consolidating softball fields into a “complex” in an effort to increase maintenance efficiency and provide for tournament play.

- 14. Swimming:** The Parks Department oversees five swimming pools including two traditional outdoor pools, one family aquatic center and two indoor pools. There are also five wading pools and six splash play areas.

The two indoor facilities, both in public schools, are not adequate to serve the existing demand for indoor year-round water activities. There is a demand for more water aerobics classes and swimming lessons. Also, the Green Bay Swim Club desires to rent more pool time is searching for a year-round facility.

The newest pool is the Joannes Family Aquatic Center, which was opened in the summer of 1996. That facility was an overwhelming success, with attendance averaging 1,100 per day, up from 346 per day at the old Joannes pool in 1995.

Even with the new facility at Joannes, the Fisk Park pool maintained an average daily attendance of 270 and the Colburn Park pool 264, for a total average attendance at all three outdoor pools of 1,634. This compares to an overall average daily attendance in 1995 of only 1,115.

This suggests that the new pool at Joannes did not just draw all the community to one pool but rather brought more people out to swim than in the recent past. It is also interesting to note that the attendance at both Fisk and Colburn remained relatively strong. The Fisk pool is as old as the former Joannes pool and

also needs to be replaced or abandoned.

Studies conducted by consultants in 1996 both concluded that Green Bay could easily support two family aquatic centers. The National Recreation and Park Association standards recommend one pool for 20,000 people, each with an approximate capacity of 1,000 people. This indicates that with a population of 102,000 the City could support five family aquatic centers. However, that is overly optimistic. The staff concurs with the consultants’ recommendation to build one additional family aquatic center on the west side, similar to the facility on the east side, and to retire the Fisk Pool.

Wading pools are costly to maintain and complicated to manage because of their complex systems and extensive State requirements. Because the facilities are popular with families with young children, the City will study alternatives such as splash pools, which have fewer legal requirements and simpler systems. The Park, Recreation and Forestry Department should monitor the attendance of the six new splash play areas constructed in 2002, two of which replaced existing wading pools. If these are successful, all wading pools should be converted to splash pools during the 2002-2022 time period.

Finally, swimming should be re-established at Bay Beach Park if the state determines the water quality is acceptable.

- 15. Tennis:** The City has consistently maintained tennis on a neighborhood basis with 52 courts on municipal property and another fourteen on school lands for a total of 64 tennis courts. Besides the casual tennis player, the courts are utilized by three women’s leagues, three men’s leagues and an instructional program with 170 participants plus many high school activities.

Two new tennis facilities were recently installed – one at Preble High School and one at Joannes Park adjacent to East High, each with seven courts. Southwest High School has its own set

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of courts. There are five courts at Fisk Park adjacent to West High School, but they are in poor condition. West High is the only public high school in the City that lacks adequate tennis facilities for students. Another seven-court facility should be built there through a joint City/School District effort. Because of the high use of the courts by the school system, tennis court construction should be done jointly with the school district whenever possible.

However, the total of 64 courts is on the high side of the minimum NRPA standard of 51 courts for a community the size of Green Bay. Even by the year 2020, those standards would support only 61 courts. Therefore, City staff should carefully monitor the use of its tennis courts and consider phasing some out. The Eastman courts are already in the process of conversion to basketball.

As tennis courts need major repair, the City will consider combining and centralizing its courts into fewer but larger complexes, as was done with the Preble and Joannes facilities. This provides players a better likelihood of getting an open court without having to travel to several areas. It also allows for more efficient maintenance.

The City also needs to develop a systematic maintenance process for keeping the needed courts in good quality and safe condition. Many courts are now in need of various types of repair such as crack-filling, color-coating, net post re-alignment and fence repair.

- 16. Volleyball:** Almost every neighborhood park in the system has a volleyball court for informal play. As with basketball, indoor rented locations are used, and the existence of a separate, city-owned, indoor public facility for recreation activities would benefit this program.



## Objective 8 – Cooperative Recreation Delivery

The following recommendations pertain to recreational/open space projects which are not owned or managed by the Green Bay Park, Recreation and Forestry Department.

**Work cooperatively with other communities, units of government, landowners or recreation providers to enhance the delivery of outdoor recreation to the citizens of Green Bay and to reduce costs.**

### Recommended Policies:

- 1. Green Bay Area Public Schools:** The schools system and park system of Green Bay have a long history of cooperation, which should continue on joint school-park sites.

Whenever feasible, new schools should continue to be built in conjunction with neighborhood park facilities. This avoids unnecessary expenditures and duplication of facilities and provides larger expanses of open space.

More cooperation is needed, however, in developing recreational facilities at school sites not adjacent to parks.

Providing an equitable value-for-value exchange when sharing facilities rather than a complex monetary pay-back system is another issue that needs clarification and agreement.

- 2. Oneida Nation Reservation Lands:** The Oneida's Water Resources Management Program has proposed expansion of their open space conservancy system to include additional watercourse areas. This will involve acquiring property for conservancy or park use and developing that property for passive recreational trails and fishery management. Wherever possible, the Oneidas

and the City will each develop their adjacent projects in a way that complements the other.

- 3. Landfill and Excavation Sites:** Several landfill or excavation sites in Green Bay may soon be abandoned. When that occurs, they should be analyzed to determine if they would be suitable as parks. If so, they could be purchased, often at no cost to the City.
- 4. Northeast Wisconsin Technical College and Green Bay Botanical Garden:** In 1980, a master plan was created for the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College property. The plan includes a non-motorized trail system, an amphitheater and a botanical garden. The ski and hiking trail system is completed, including a bog walk, an observation tower, walking trails and creek bridges. The first phase of the botanical garden has been constructed. The trail system should be constructed, the amphitheater built and the botanical garden completed. The City should consider playing a more active role in the botanical garden.

The City should consider proposing to the Technical College that a small park be created on their unused land to meet the needs of the under-served neighborhoods north of the College.

- 5. Pamperin Park – Brown County:** There is no pedestrian access for Green Bay residents to Pamperin Park. The staff should research this and make recommendations, if there are any reasonable alternatives to accomplish this access.

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- 6. University of Wisconsin-Green Bay:** A primary objective for those responsible for the development of the University site is the preservation and enhancement of its use for study and enjoyment, benefiting the entire community and region.

The Cofrin Arboretum currently contains 180 acres of various functioning plant communities and wildlife habitats. An arboretum center should be developed on this site to complement the trail system and provide greater educational opportunities.

The open space owned by the University along the west side of the campus property is a popular access point to the Bay, and should be maintained as a park area by the University.

The Niagara Escarpment, a limestone outcrop, is a unique geologic and scenic resource. Part of the escarpment is found on university property (the eastern boundary of the university). The University has developed an observation tower as well as trails in the area. This is a valuable environmental site and should be continued to be preserved in a natural state through zoning regulations, purchase in fee or purchase of an easement.



## Implementation Program

This section describes the major actions involved in implementing the *Smart Growth 2022* Parks, Greenways and Parkways System Plan and indicates the relative priority of each, the responsible

agency and any required coordination. Numerous specific actions are described in the body of this plan while the items listed below are only the major short- and long-term actions.

**Table 20-3: Implementation Program for Parks, Greenways and Parkways**

Priority	Action	Lead and Coordinating Agencies
1	<b>Existing Parks:</b> Continue the annual, ongoing process of improvement, change and maintenance.	Park, Recreation and Forestry Department Public Works Department
1	<b>Parkways:</b> Include parkway elements in the design of Huron Road and East Mason Street.	Public Works Department Park, Recreation and Forestry Department, Planning Department
1	<b>Park Dedication Ordinance:</b> Study the ordinance regulating the dedication of land and/or cash (14.04(8)) to ensure that the fee bears a rational relationship to the need for parks to serve the property being developed. Amend the ordinance if appropriate.	Park, Recreation and Forestry Department City Attorney
1	<b>Baird Creek Corridor Overlay Zone:</b> Amend the zoning ordinance to include an overlay protection zone for the Baird Creek corridor.	Planning Department City Attorney
2	<b>Greenways:</b> Continue to acquire land for the extension of the Baird Creek Greenway and other greenways, both through direct acquisition and through dedication during the approval of subdivision plats.	Park, Recreation and Forestry Department Planning Department
3	<b>New Parks:</b> Confirm the location of the future parks shown in this plan through more detailed studies then acquire those sites through negotiation or eminent domain proceedings prior to reviewing subdivision plats.	Park, Recreation and Forestry Department Planning Department

