



Village of Grafton
Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
2014 – 2018
Adopted March 17, 2014



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SECTION I:

INTRODUCTION

Parks and open spaces provide a community with many benefits such as providing outdoor recreation, promoting and accommodating a healthy lifestyle for residents, enhancing the aesthetic quality of a community, increasing property values, attracting visitors and tourists, shaping development patterns, and protecting the natural environment. With the development of this Plan, the Village of Grafton has recognized the importance of providing quality outdoor recreational opportunities to its residents and visitors.

Recreational needs can only be met by sites that provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities that are convenient to potential users. These sites should possess natural characteristics appropriate to their intended functions. Providing these facilities has become an accepted responsibility of government at all levels – local, county, state, and federal. The increasing demand for outdoor recreation has produced three areas of concern for local government decision makers:

- The need to improve existing facilities and provide additional facilities to meet current and future demand for recreational activities.
- The need to provide recreational opportunities and facilities in a manner compatible with natural resources.
- The need to provide recreational opportunities and facilities in a manner compatible with limited fiscal resources.

The recommendations presented in this Plan will guide the acquisition, preservation, and development of land for parks, recreation trails, and other open spaces in the Village. Such recommendations will also serve to protect and enhance the community's natural resource base in the future. This Plan focuses specifically on park and open space needs of the community over the next 5 years. This Plan is also intended to incorporate, refine, and update the previous findings and recommendations presented in the Village's 2008 Park and Open Space Plan.

This Plan was prepared in accordance with guidelines that will make it certifiable by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WiDNR) and qualify the Village for matching grant funds through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON), the State Acquisition and Development of Local Parks Program (ADLP), and the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. The Plan must be updated every 5 years to ensure that it reflects the current needs of the community and retains its WiDNR certification. This Plan was also prepared as a component of the Village's Comprehensive Plan, under Wisconsin Statutes 62.23 and 61.35. It can also be incorporated as a detailed component of the Village of Grafton Comprehensive Plan for 2035 under Wisconsin Statutes 66.1001.

SECTION II:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

HISTORY OF GRAFTON¹

Grafton is a dynamic community of over 11,000 people in the heart of Ozaukee County. It is a community with a rich and storied historical past dating back about 130 years; beginning with the first settlement by white men in the area in the late 1830s. However, it is known that the first white men to visit the site of the Village of Grafton were Fathers Allouez and Bablon, from the Jesuit mission at Green Bay. They came about the year 1670 and found the area occupied by an Indian Village.

Timothy Wooden is generally believed to be the first settler of Grafton in 1839. Tim Wooden succeeded in acquiring considerable real estate in what is now the Village of Grafton. The Town of Grafton was created by Act of the Legislature of Wisconsin Territory Laws of 1846. In 1849, by act of the Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin, the Town of Grafton, Washington County, was divided and the Town of Cedarburg was created from part of its territory. Records show that in 1850 the Town of Grafton had a population between 400 and 500, and that it contained 27 Irish families and 53 German families.

The territory was surveyed in 1849 and the “Rapids,” at the present south limits of the Village, was given the name of “Milwaukee Falls,” and permission was granted for the construction of a dam and mill race, probably for the erection of a woolen mill. Subsequently, the buildings and additions thereto, housed the Sheboygan Knitting Company, the Milwaukee Falls Chair Company, and later a music record factory.

After the division of Washington County in 1853, Grafton served as the county seat of the newly formed Ozaukee County. In 1857, the name of the Village of Grafton, Ozaukee County, Wisconsin, was changed to “Manchester.” Five years later, in 1862, the name of the Village of Manchester, Ozaukee County, Wisconsin, was changed back to the unincorporated Village of Grafton.

The Milwaukee Falls Lime Company began operated kilns in 1890, and the remnant structures can still be seen today in Lime Kiln Park.

For nearly 60 years after settlement there was no incorporated Village of Grafton, it being an unincorporated municipality, and a part of the Town of Grafton. The petition for incorporation of the Village was filed on January 14, 1896. Elections were held on March 30, 1896, and Grafton has been an incorporated Village since.

New transportation was provided in 1906-1907 by the Milwaukee Northern Railway Company. The first cars were run in September 1908. The tracks were torn up and the last trolley ceased to operate in 1947.

Grafton prospered with the rest of the nation during the booming ‘20s and endured the depression of the ‘30s. In 1931, the Village completed a water and sewage disposal system designed to meet the needs of a community three times the present size of

¹ Ralph L. Zaun, “History of Grafton,” n.d., <http://www.village.grafton.wi.us/history.htm>, (July 15, 2007)

Grafton. In 1945, Grafton was the first municipality in the nation to install a new ornamental street lighting system with underground wiring.

GENERAL REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Village of Grafton is located in the central part of Ozaukee County, generally between the City of Cedarburg, the City of Port Washington, the City of Mequon, and the Village of Saukville. The Village is directly bordered by the City of Cedarburg, and the Towns of Grafton and Cedarburg.

The Village is linked to the region by I-43 (which extends north/south from Chicago to Milwaukee to Green Bay) along the east edge, WIS 32 (which extends north/south from Mequon, Cedarburg, and Port Washington to Sheboygan), and WIS 60 (which extends east/west to Jackson, Hartford, and Columbus) bisects the community.

Grafton continues to develop mostly through edge development and annexation, but in recent years more infill and redevelopment has occurred.

Natural Resources

A survey of Grafton's natural environment provides an important framework for guiding the park and open space planning process. There are several characteristics of the Village's natural landscape that will direct the development of future park and recreational facilities.

Climate

Southeastern Wisconsin's climate is characterized by four distinct seasons. Warm summers generally span the months of June through August. The winter months of December, January, and February are cold, with average temperatures below freezing. The region is characterized by temperate conditions in spring and autumn. As a result of its proximity to Lake Michigan, the climate in Grafton is modified by winds coming off of the lake. These lake effects are most pronounced in the spring and early summer when the prevailing winds are easterly.

Landforms & Soils

The Village of Grafton is within the glacial drift region of Wisconsin, typified by rolling hills, wooded slopes, and scattered wetlands and woodlands. The southeast portion of the community contains rolling hills that extend toward Milwaukee. The northwest part of the Village contains creeks and lowlands.

The Ozaukee County Soil Survey indicated that much of the planning area contains soils that are "generally unsuited or poorly suited soils, for development utilizing on-site sewage disposal systems." While this is not necessarily a concern for the recommendations outlined later in this Plan, it does illustrate that additional considerations may be required for general site drainage.

Watersheds and Surface Waters

While situated only miles west of Lake Michigan, the Milwaukee River is the most significant water feature in the Village. The Milwaukee River contains Class I and II rapids below the Falls Road bridge, according to the Midwest Whitewater Inventory. Other important water features include: the Cedar Creek at the western edge of the Village, the Ulao Creek at the eastern edge, the Mole Creek at the northern edge, and navigable drainageway extending from Centennial Park to the Milwaukee River.

The majority of Grafton is located within the Milwaukee River watershed. Smaller portions of the planning area lie within the Lake Michigan Direct Drainage Area and the Sauk Creek, Cedar Creek, and the Ulao Creek watersheds. Again, the 2001 Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County indicated the following:

- The Mole Creek Swamp is a natural area of local significance. This is a low, wooded area bordering the Mole Creek.
- The Mole Creek is a critical aquatic habitat for the striped shiner fish.

Vegetation or Woodlands

Most of the woodlands in the Village are associated with the steeper slopes and wetlands along the Milwaukee River and Cedar Creek corridors. These include scattered woodland sites throughout the planning area. According to the 2001 Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County, only 5-percent of the total land area in the county contains woodlands. The woodlands in the county include: hardwood upland forests, floodplain forests (elm, sugar maple, ash, and beech), and low-land areas of transitional swamp forest (white cedar, elm, soft ash, soft maple, and willows). Residential streets in the Village are typically lined with hickory, maple, hawthorn, and ash trees.

In the neighboring Town of Grafton:

- The Kurtz Woods State Natural Area is a natural area of statewide significance. The mature southern mesic hardwoods are a remnant of pre-settlement forest.
- The Grafton Woods is a natural area of local significance. This is a small mesic wood on the east side of the Milwaukee River.

Wildlife Habitat

Species of wildlife that are common to the southeastern Wisconsin region are rabbits, squirrels, woodchucks, raccoons, muskrats, and beavers. Larger mammals such as white-tailed deer, coyotes, and foxes also inhabit the region. Common bird species include: pheasants, cardinals, robins, wood thrushes, great blue herons, and killdeer. Within the Village of Grafton, the most significant concentrations of high quality wildlife habitat are located along the Milwaukee River and the area streams and creeks.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, there are occurrences of aquatic and terrestrial endangered species throughout the Village. The WIDNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) county maps are based upon data from the Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory. The maps provide a general reference to identify areas with known occurrences of endangered resources (rare, threatened, or endangered species and

high-quality natural communities) to the section level and are intended for public audiences. The NHI County Maps do not identify the specific locations of endangered resources. Detailed information regarding the types of endangered animals, plants, and natural communities can be found at the Department of Natural Resources' website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/land/er/nhi/countymaps>.

POPULATION TRENDS AND FORECASTS

Over the past 40 years the Village of Grafton has experienced moderate to high population growth. Tables 2.1a and 2.1b compare the Village's population trends over this time period with several neighboring communities and the County. **Between 2000 and 2010, the Village experienced a population increase of 9.5-percent.** The **Village of Grafton's estimated 2013 population was 11,467 residents** according to the Wisconsin Department of Administration.

Table 2.1a: Historic Population Trends

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Village of Grafton	5,998	8,381	9,340	10,464	11,459
City of Cedarburg	7,697	9,005	10,086	11,196	11,412
City of Port Washington	8,752	8,612	9,338	10,467	11,250
Village of Saukville	1,389	3,494	3,695	4,068	4,451
Town of Grafton	3,127	3,588	3,745	4,132	4,053
Town of Cedarburg	3,774	5,244	5,334	5,744	5,760
Ozaukee County	54,461	66,981	72,831	82,317	86,395

Source: State of Wisconsin Department of Administration

Table 2.1b: Historic Population Changes

	1990 – 2000	2000 - 2006	2006 - 2010
Village of Grafton	12.0%	10.6%	9.5%
City of Cedarburg	11.0%	6.4%	1.9%
City of Port Washington	12.1%	5.5%	7.5%
Village of Saukville	10.1%	5.9%	9.5%
Town of Grafton	10.3%	-3.9%	-1.9%
Town of Cedarburg	7.7%	-0.3%	.3%
Ozaukee County	13.0%	4.9%	4.9%

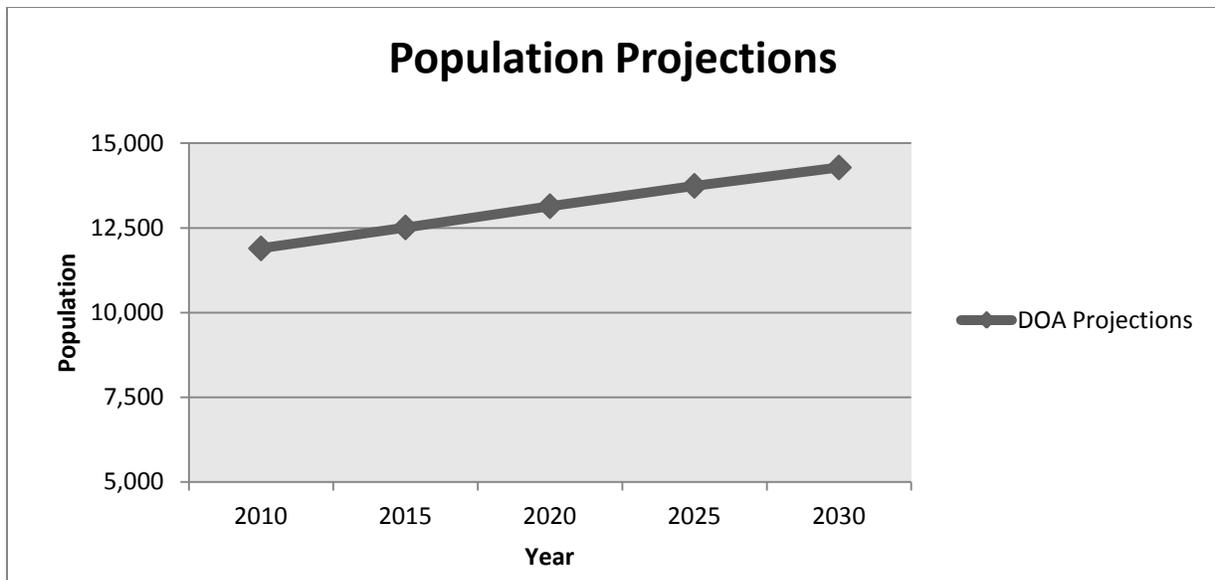
Source: State of Wisconsin Department of Administration

Table 2.2 shows the Village's projected population through the year 2030 according to the Wisconsin Department of Administration. Based upon these forecasts, Grafton's population will likely exceed 14,000 persons by the year 2030, an increase of over 2,800 persons.

Table 2.2 Village of Grafton Population Projections

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
DOA	11,896	12,515	13,141	13,742	14,284

Source: State of Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2008



An analysis of population change indicates that the Village’s growth rate has almost mirrored the Wisconsin Department of Administration projections over the last 30 years. While the Village may be experiencing a dwindling supply of vacant land in its growth areas as compared to past years, the Village still has a large quantity of land available for growth. Population growth in the Village will be dependent upon many factors, including, but not limited to, the extent and nature of redevelopment efforts, market conditions, and changes in the Village’s residential density policies.

Recent planning efforts suggest that in the coming years the Village’s policies will better accommodate denser residential development, especially as redevelopment in the community is encouraged.

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Age and Gender Distribution

The Village of Grafton’s demographic data from the year 2010 are presented in Table 2.3. This data suggests that the **Village’s population is consistent with the County**. While the Village’s median age is younger than the surrounding communities, the percentage of youth, children, and older adults is less than the neighboring communities. This demographic data suggests that the Village’s residents will likely seek active recreation facilities and opportunities, but there is a growing need to provide opportunities oriented toward older adults.

According to the 2010 Census data reported here, the proportion of residents over the age of 65 has increased from 11.7-percent in 2000 to 15.3-percent in 2010. The current proportion of young children residing in the Village is slightly lower (2.5-percent) than reported in 2000. In the end, the data indicates an aging population.

Table 2.3: Age and Gender Distribution, 2010

	Median Age	19 & under	14 & Under	65 & Over
Village of Grafton	40.7	24.9	18.4	15.3
Town of Grafton	47.1	22.8	15.9	15.7
City of Cedarburg	43.1	26.4	20.1	16.9
Town of Cedarburg	45.1	28.8	20.6	13.5
Ozaukee County	42.9	26.1	19.0	15.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Housing & Household Characteristics

Table 2.4 presents housing and household characteristics for the Village compared to surrounding communities and Ozaukee County. In 2010, Grafton’s household size was lower than its neighbors and the County. The Village’s average household size has decreased nearly one-quarter of a person (from 2.54 persons in 2000). This translates into more households in the community to accommodate the projected population increase. Finally, the percentage of owner-occupied housing units is significantly below many of the adjacent communities, which suggests that residents will be relying on the Village to provide for recreation opportunities.

Table 2.4: Housing and Household Characteristics, 2010

	Total Housing Units	Total Households	Average Household Size	Median Value	Median Rent	Owner Occupied
Village of Grafton	5,125	4,863	2.36	\$215,100	\$782	68.0%
Town of Grafton	1,608	1,162	2.51	\$281,000	\$699	93.0%
City of Cedarburg	4,916	4,691	3.10	\$249,700	\$777	72.3%
Town of Cedarburg	2,070	2,032	2.80	\$311,600	\$1,321	95.8%
Ozaukee County	36,133	34,067	2.47	\$256,800	\$793	77.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010

Labor Force and Employment

A community’s labor force is the portion of the population that is employed or available for work. The labor force includes people who are in the armed forces, employed, unemployed, or actively seeking employment. According to 2010 US Census data, three-quarters of Village residents aged 16 and older were included in the labor force. The percentage of the Village’s labor force employed by sector in 2010 is shown in Table 2.5. One-fifth of the labor force is employed in the manufacturing sector, with over one-fifth in the educational, health, and social services sector.

Table 2.5: Labor Force Characteristics, 2010

Occupational Group	Percentage of Labor Force
Manufacturing	20.8%
Educational, health, and social services	21.5%
Retail trade	15.5%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	10.1%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services	5.9%
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental, and leasing	10.0%
Wholesale trade	2.8%
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	3.5%
Construction	3.9%
Other services (except public administration)	3.1%
Information	1.5%
Public Administration	1.4%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining	0.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010

REVIEW OF EXISTING PLANS

Another critical step in the park planning process is an examination of relevant planning efforts undertaken by the Village and regional agencies. A comprehensive understanding of how the Village has evolved over time and how it has been planning for the future establishes guidelines for the recommendations presented in this Plan. Moreover, a review of existing plans helps identify ways that this Plan should be adapted so that it is consistent with the Village's ongoing goals, objectives, and policies, and is coordinated with regional planning efforts.

A Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County (2011)

In 2011, SEWRPC prepared the Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County. This Plan presented recommendations regarding the preservation, acquisition, and development of lands for parks and outdoor recreation. The Plan did not make specific recommendations for acquisition or development of parkland in the Village. The County Plan did, however, make broad recommendations that the Village should incorporate into this planning document, including:

- Primary environmental corridors need to accommodate parks or trail facilities and should be acquired for public ownership.
- Six new parks added to the County Park System. These sites include the Bee Keeper Property, Edgewater Subdivision Properties, Guenther Farmstead Properties, Ozaukee County Trail Property, Pinnacle Property, and Shady Lane Property.

- Milwaukee River-Grafton Outcrops and Lime Kiln Park Geological Areas should be preserved through acquisition.
- The continued development of more than 54 miles of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail systems.
- Development of a water trail system that would be located on Cedar Creek, the Milwaukee River and along the Lake Michigan Shoreline.

City of Cedarburg Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan (2011)

The neighboring City of Cedarburg’s Plan specifies that Cedarburg is committed to developing trails that connect Cedarburg to the rest of the region. The Plan dictates that the City should cooperate with developers and others in the development of public trails and greenways in new developments that could connect to city and county trail systems. Finally, the City should make a commitment to cooperate with other jurisdictions and work to develop the community-wide trail system adopted by SEWRPC, Ozaukee County, and the City of Cedarburg.

The Plan also specifies the desire to acquire and develop additional parklands and a City-wide multi-purpose trail system along Cedar Creek as appropriate to meet current and future recreational needs per the recommendations of the City of Cedarburg’s Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Village of Grafton Comprehensive Plan 2035 (2009)

The Village’s adopted Comprehensive Plan makes recommendations for land use, transportation, economic development, housing, utilities, community facilities, and parks from a Village-wide perspective. In general, this Plan recommends the following:

- Stands of woodlands containing oak, hickory, northern hardwoods, and pine should be preserved, managed, and enhanced through reforestation and used as woodlots, nature preserves, and educational areas.
- Street trees should be planted at 40-50 foot intervals within a minimum 5 feet wide terrace or in the case of a street lacking a terrace and sidewalk two feet within the street right-of-way. Alternatively, trees and shrubs could be clustered throughout the lawn.
- Require the construction of stormwater management facilities within or adjacent to aquifer recharge areas.
- Include all steep slopes in a Conservancy Zoning district.
- Grafton should incorporate a Greenway System to act as the framework for development and recreation areas for residents. Greenways should store and drain stormwater runoff, welcome wildlife, filter windblown and waterborne pollutants, and buffer between land uses.
- Promote the preservation of farmland conservation easements, purchase of development rights, and the transfer of development rights.

Village of Grafton Park and Open Space Plan (2008)

The Village's most recent Park and Open Space Plan adopted in 2008 identified the following strengths and weaknesses of the park and open space system:

Strengths	Opportunities
Interurban Trail	Pursue development of 3 new neighborhood parks
Lime Kiln Park/Centennial Park	Explore opportunities to develop a splash pad
Proximity of parks to residential areas	Trails and park connectivity
Playground equipment and maintenance program	The Milwaukee River has limited public access and should be a featured element
Wayfinding signage	Develop a series of canoe launches along the river

Village of Grafton Park and Open Space Plan (2002)

The Plan adopted in 2002 was an update to its first plan adopted in 1989. The 2002 Plan identified the following strengths and weaknesses of the park and open space system:

Strengths	Opportunities
Interurban Trail	Gaps in the Interurban Trail
Lime Kiln Park	Lack of landscaping/property management along the Interurban Trail
Proximity of parks to residential areas	Over-concentration of geese in local parks
Playground equipment and maintenance program	Lack of dependable ice skating facilities
Wayfinding signage	Lack of new amenities at the Village's Aquatic Center
	Lack of facilities overlooking the river

Village of Grafton Park and Open Space Plan Update and Amendment (1995)

This update and amendment of the Village of Grafton Park and Open Space plan (1989) sets forth the Village of Grafton vision for the future growth and development of its park and recreation facilities to the year 2010.

This revision and update added the following planned new park facilities:

- One neighborhood park site on the southeast side of the Village proposed to be a joint School District/Village Park. This concept was discussed by Village and school officials and ultimately tabled.
- Four new sub-neighborhood parks:
 - A three acre site planned to be located in the northwest portion of the Village south of Cedar Creek Road and west of First Avenue (Mole Creek was developed in 2001).
 - A three acre site planned to be located in the southern portion of the Village near the intersection of Falls Road and 17th Avenue (Blackhawk Valley Master Plan was completed in November of 2007. The park is partially developed as a foot bridge and was installed in 2008).
 - A three acre site (Cheyenne Park) planned to be located in the southern portion of the Village, west of North Port Washington Road between WIS 60 and Arrowhead Road. This concept gave way to the extensive commercial development interest in this area.
 - A three acre site planned to be located in the southwestern portion of the Village west of North Port Washington Road between WIS 60 and Falls Road. Hunters Crossing Master Plan was completed by Village staff with the help of Grafton School District 4th grade students. Play equipment was installed in 2002.

Also included in this plan was recommendation of seven new Vest Pocket parks located throughout the Village. Only one of these sites was developed (Canary Lane Park) in 2004.

A Park and Open Space Plan for the Village of Grafton (1989)

The Village adopted its first Park and Open Space Plan in 1989. This Plan, prepared by SEWRPC, provides recommendations for the preservation, acquisition, and development of needed park and open space lands. Based on community needs and projected population growth, this 1989 Plan recommended that the Village acquire and develop four new park sites:

- A community park in the northeastern portion of the Village just north of the Grafton Elementary and High School site. During the 1990s, the Village discussed possible acquisition of this property for park purposes. However, that acquisition never occurred because of the Village's decision to develop Centennial Park and the property owner's decision to develop this land for residential use.

- A neighborhood park site between Keup Road and Cedar Creek, south of Washington Street. This park site was acquired by the Village in 1995 and was developed from 2006 to 2012 (labeled “Grafton Lion’s Park” on Map 1)
- A neighborhood park on the Village’s southeastern portion near the intersection of River Bend Road and Lakefield Road. This property is currently being used as the Zaun Soccer Fields.
- A neighborhood park in the northwestern portion of the Village near the intersection of Rose Street and First Avenue. This site and surrounding property remain undeveloped and the Village has not acquired any property for park purposes.

This 1989 Plan also recommended a recreational trail corridor within the Village that connected to the Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO) right-of-way on the north and south sides of the community. Since that recommendation, Ozaukee County has been active in developing this right-of-way into the Ozaukee Interurban Trail. In 1994, the Village adopted revisions and amendments to certain aspects of this Park and Open Space Plan to provide recommendations for sub-neighborhood park sites and vest pocket park sites.

Needs Assessment Study – Parks and Recreational Facilities Impact Fees for the Village of Grafton (2009)

This needs assessment is an update to the 1995 study and detailed the Village’s existing park and open space resources. New facilities needed to serve new expansion are included along with a summary of costs associated with new facilities. The costs of new facilities are used to calculate impact fees. It is noted in the study that none of the improvements used in the calculation of the impact fees are required to alleviate deficiencies within the existing park system. Items that could be considered deficiencies are listed separately or were not included in the calculations.

Public Facilities Needs Assessment for Parks, Playgrounds, and Other Recreational Facilities (1995)

The Village adopted its Public Facilities Needs Assessments in 1995 to inventory existing park and recreation facilities, identify new or expanded park and recreation facilities, and provide a detailed estimate of the capital costs of providing these new or expanded facilities within geographically defined zones, or service areas. This report forwarded the community, neighborhood, and vest pocket park sites and trail segments recommended in the adopted and revised Park and Open Space Plan. This report fulfilled the Village’s requirements of a “public facilities needs assessment” per state statutes to impose fees for parks, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities on each new dwelling unit constructed in certain service areas. The Village adopted an impact fee ordinance after this Plan was prepared to implement the recommended fees.

Village of Grafton Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (1996)

The Village's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was completed in 1996. The purpose of this planning effort is to outline a viable, safe and attractive non-motorized transportation system for the Village and encourage increased levels of biking and walking. The Plan recommends on-street bicycle lanes along WIS 60 and a network of streets improved with widened, curbed shoulders that connect the Village.

- Incorporate bicycle path considerations into overall road reconstruction plans.
- Potentially expand the WEPCO trail system north towards Port Washington.
- Focus on cultural and natural resources of the Village such as Cedar Creek, the Milwaukee River, and the downtown business district to enhance bicycling opportunities.
- Provide theme lighting, site furnishings, improved street crossings and other streetscape improvements to enhance downtown's appeal to bicyclists and pedestrians.
- The Village should adopt, by ordinance, uniform bicycle parking requirements for new development.
- Reinstate bicycle education programs for 4th and 5th graders.

Village of Grafton Redevelopment Plan and Amendment to the Village Comprehensive Master Plan 2010: South Commercial District

This Plan outlines the following improvements as they relate to the park and open space system:

- Wisconsin Avenue streetscaping, including sidewalks along the east side of the roadway, plant trees from First Avenue to Seventh Avenue, ornamental lighting on both sides of the roadway, and install benches and trash receptacles.
- Wayfinding signage at the intersections of Falls Road and Wisconsin Avenue, Oak Street, and Wisconsin Avenue and the north and south gateways.

Village of Grafton Downtown Master Plan

- Create pedestrian amenities to provide safe access to the Five Points District, the Bridge Street District, and the River District.
- Unify downtown with a public plaza to create an urban shopping center with open space for public gathering and community events.
- Unify and enhance the link between downtown and the river to create a pedestrian oriented district with parking that does not inhibit pedestrian access or the character of the district.
- Create a mixed-use redevelopment at the Old Mill Property that capitalizes on the river front location. Residential development should be environmentally sensitive to the natural features and landscape of the river and surrounding area.

In addition, any private riverfront development should include a public open space component as well as public access to the river.

- Redevelopment in the River District should increase river access via a bike path and river walk, increased public events at the Veterans Memorial Park, and incorporate river-view residential development and mixed use redevelopment. The River District should be a link to the Bridge Street District.
- Enhance and promote the Veterans Memorial Park as a center for community events.
- Create a scenic river overlook and public access easements to the riverfront park areas in the Mill District. Potential walkway connection from 13th Avenue to the river by way of the Cedar Street ROW.
- New bicycle route interconnecting completed bicycle trails north and south of the downtown business district. Safe bicycle crossings at Wisconsin Avenue and Washington Street.
- Future bicycle route to connect the downtown business district and riverfront with Lime Kiln Park on the south and the existing off-street bicycle routes to the north and west.
- Establish a pedestrian and bicycle directional signage system to direct visitors and residents to points of interest and destinations in and around the Downtown. Pedestrian signage should be located at public open spaces along the river, along the streets, and at public parking lots in the Downtown. Establish pedestrian orientation points with information kiosks at the Town Square, Railroad District, Mill District, South Gateway District and Veterans Memorial Park.
- Establish visitor information centers, walking tours and information signage to educate Grafton residents and visitors about the cultural history of Grafton, the Downtown, and the Milwaukee River. Components of this system should include kiosks, literature/handouts, and information stations.
- Veterans Memorial Park: Trailhead for regional multi-use recreational trail systems. Orientation map for recreation and cultural destinations (ex. Lime Kiln Park) throughout Grafton.

Village of Grafton I-43/Port Washington Road Corridor Plan – Phase 2

- Arterial and Collector Roads: Should have sidewalks and bike lanes in most cases.
- Development should provide private sidewalk connections to the public sidewalk system and facilities for bikes (ex. bike racks).

Town of Grafton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2007)

The adjacent Town of Grafton's 2007 CORP outlines the development of an unpaved multi-use trail system in conjunction with a paved pedestrian/bicycle trail system, and

the preservation of the significant environmental features found within the Town. The Plan illustrates the future development of canoe launches along the Milwaukee River. As of March 17, 2014, the Town is in the process of updating its 2007 CORP.

A Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2010 (1994)

In 2006, SEWRPC prepared an updated Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2035, which included the Village of Grafton. Recommendations proposed bicycle ways associated with street or highway rights-of-way for WIS 60, bicycle/pedestrian connections between Grafton and Cedarburg, the possible relocation of the proposed park-ride lot in the Village of Grafton from Wisconsin Avenue and Chateau Drive to Washington Street and Tenth Avenue.

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SECTION III:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PLANNING PROCESS

July 2013

1. Parks and Recreation Director assemble existing facilities map for review by the public and the Parks and Recreation Board.
2. Meeting One (7/17/2013)
 - a. Review of the 2008 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
 - b. Review of the scope and timeline for project.
 - c. Discussion/confirmation of the public participation events.
 - d. Finalization of the details for the Public Workshop, the interview participants, and the school children survey.

August 2013

1. Held Public Workshop for the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Update (8/5/2013) to create park system vision and to gather public feedback on park and recreational facility needs. Public review of existing facilities map.
2. Meeting Two (8/21/2013)
 - a. The background chapters of the Plan were reviewed/discussed.
 - b. The Parks and Recreation Board review results of Visioning Workshop.
3. Preliminary discussion of key goals and objectives.

September 2013

1. Village staff administer school children survey.
2. Meeting Three (9/18/2013)
 - a. Village staff, and the Parks and Recreation Board review maps and re-confirm individual existing park master plans.
 - b. Tour of Village park and open space facilities with the Parks and Recreation Board and Village staff.

October 2013

1. Meeting Four (10/31/2013)
 - a. Parks and Recreation Board finalize background chapters and Plan text, maps, graphics.
 - b. Discuss preliminary park system recommendations.
 - c. Parks and Recreation Board finalize the Plan's key goals and objectives.
 - d. Review results of the school children survey.
 - e. Review results of Community Leaders interviews.

January 2014

1. Plan was provided to the WiDNR for review
2. Advertise for Public Hearing (1/14/2014 & 1/21/2014)

February 2014

1. Meeting Five (2/19/2014)
 - a. Parks and Recreation Board review and discuss Plan Recommendation section of Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
 - b. Recommendation made to Plan Commission to approve Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as submitted
2. Notice of Public Hearing was posted
3. Public Hearing was held before the Plan Commission meeting (2/25/2014)
4. Plan Commission meeting (2/25/2014)
 - a. Plan Commission adoption of Plan by Resolution 006, Series 2014

March 2014

1. Village Board meeting (3/17/2014)
 - a. Village Board adoption of Plan by Resolution 007, Series 2014

May 2014

1. Final Plan production
 - a. Adopted Plan and maps provided to Village
 - b. Adopted Plan provided to WiDNR

VISIONING WORKSHOP

As part of the planning process for this 2014 – 2018 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, a Visioning Workshop was held on August 5, 2013. The purpose of this workshop was to provide Village residents with an early opportunity to share their perspectives on the existing park system and its future, and to ask questions about the park planning process.

The results of this workshop were utilized by the Parks and Recreation Board in the development of goals, objectives, and policies described in Chapter Five. A complete record of comments received at the workshop is provided in Appendix A of this Plan.

SCHOOL CHILDREN SURVEY

The Village thought it was just as important to gauge the perception of young people toward the existing park facilities as it was to learn how adults thought about the issue. Therefore, the Village surveyed children ages 8-11 in both public and private schools. A complete record of compiled survey results and comments is included in Appendix C.

While the results of the survey provide an anecdotal understating of the parks and facilities utilized by the respondents, the results indicated that the parks in the system were visited regularly for a variety of activities. Larger parks and facilities (Lime Kiln, Family Aquatic Center, and Centennial) were visited most frequently; all of the parks were visited at least once during the past year. Kids engaged in activities ranging from baseball, basketball, and soccer to fishing, skateboarding, and disc golf to canoeing and using the playgrounds. Children also indicated that certain parks were less desirable destinations, including Veterans Memorial Park (goose droppings) and the mini parks (in need of updating).

The kids were asked which activities or special purpose facilities should be in the Village. A splash park, youth center, and skateboarding facilities were listed. Additionally, kids indicated that they would like to have a place to congregate with friends.

Again, while this polling did not result in any scientifically significant findings, it does provide an understanding of the types of parks and facilities utilized/desired by young people, and their concerns related to future decision-making.

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD QUESTIONNAIRE

The Parks and Recreation Board were provided a questionnaire to gauge the members' attitudes regarding issues and perceptions related to the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation System. The Parks and Recreation Board's responses can be found in Appendix B.

The Parks and Recreation Board felt the park system is well maintained and has a positive image. The larger parks – Paramount Plaza, Grafton Lions, Lime Kiln, Family Aquatic Center, Centennial, and Veterans Memorial – are highly valued, and the parks located along the river are a true asset. The new Robert P. Zaun Pavilion at Lime Kiln Park was also singled out.

The Board is concerned about the financial challenge facing the Village to ensure funding to grow and maintain the system. Also, the challenge to continually develop creative features to stimulate interest in the park system is a concern. Finally, the Board is concerned about the aging Family Aquatic Center.

Centennial Park is a valued community asset. There are opportunities to provide unique recreational activities – BMX racing track, skateboarding park, volleyball, rock climbing, kayaking – that the Village should explore, and the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation System should be developed to be an economic development generator.

In the future, the Board would like to see increased connectivity between parks and residents. A riverwalk should be developed that connects to other trails, the community trail system should be expanded, the dams in the river should be removed, and water features should be developed in some of the parks. Finally, the Board wants to ensure that the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation System provides recreational opportunities to residents and visitors of all ages.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing was held before the Plan Commission on January 28, 2014. The Director of Planning and Development spoke highlighting the planning process and the Plan. The Commission requested minor changes to the document.

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SECTION IV:

EXISTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The following is a summary of the existing park and recreational facilities within the Village of Grafton. These facilities are depicted on Map 1.

COMMUNITY PARKS

Centennial Park 1370 17TH Avenue

This is a community park of 27 acres. It contains playground equipment for children on a 5,000 square foot area, two softball fields (one of them larger, with a scoreboard and lights), a large open playing field area and a multi-purpose asphalt trail. The park also has a pavilion with ADA accessible bathroom facilities, a full use kitchen and two shelter areas. The lighted parking lot accommodates over 75 vehicles.

Lime Kiln Park 2020 South Green Bay Road

This is a 28-acre community park located along the Milwaukee River and contains volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, an archery range, playfields, a toboggan hill and nine disc-golf baskets located throughout the park. Near the Robert P. Zaun Pavilion, which contains bathroom facilities and a rentable indoor hall with a kitchen, is a large playground containing children's play equipment and a lighted parking lot with space for 39 vehicles. An outdoor shelter area is attached to the pavilion, and another shelter is found on site. Along the river is a paved parking lot with a boat/canoe launch. This park has notable historical significance due to the old lime kilns (hence the park's name) found on site.

Meadowbrook Park 649 North Green Bay Road

This community park of 7 acres is home to Grafton's Family Aquatic Center including an outdoor community pool. Also found on site are play areas with children's playground equipment, one within the pool fence and another over a stream near the Ozaukee Interurban Trail at the edge of the park site. An information kiosk is located at this site.

Paramount Plaza 12th Avenue

This .5 acre urban park is located in the downtown business district. It contains a raised performance stage, sitting benches, fountain, engraved historical information, flowerbeds, and a drinking fountain.

River Island Park 1650 Nancy Lynn Court

This special use park hosts a 3 hole community golf course of approximately 6 acres located on an island in the Milwaukee River near a residential area. A stone memorial marker can be found at the entrance.

Veterans Memorial Park 1000 13th Avenue

This lighted riverfront park of 3 acres is located in a residential area near downtown. It has a rentable ADA accessible shelter with electricity, a sink, preparation space, and bathroom facilities. There is a band shell near the riverfront as well. Play facilities include a playground with children's equipment and a new donated basketball court with two glass backboard hoops. Ice skating occurs on the river in the winter time when the ice is sufficiently thick. Most of the parking for this site is in a long, linear strip located along 13th Avenue.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Blackhawk Valley Park 2014 Wichita Lane

This is an undeveloped neighborhood park of 16 acres. A master plan was completed in 2007. Future amenities will include a bike/pedestrian path, small open-air shelter and play equipment for children.

Grafton Lions Park 1121 Keup Road

This is a neighborhood park of 15 acres and was completed in 2012. It lies on the edge of a residential area and abuts Cedar Creek and less developed land. An asphalt path runs around the park and to the river's edge. There is a picnic table near the river, and about five benches scattered around the park at different scenic views. It has a rentable ADA accessible shelter with electricity and bathroom facilities. Play facilities include a playground with children's equipment for ages 2-12. The park also has a 25 car paved parking lot.

Heritage Settlement Park 780 Homestead Trail

This neighborhood park of about 17 acres contains walking trails, playground equipment for children, open space, and abuts a privately owned golf course.

Shady Hollow Park 1071 Candleberry Lane

This is an undeveloped neighborhood park of 2.6 acres. A master plan was completed in 2007. Future amenities will include play equipment for children, small open-air shelter, basketball court, and open space for organized activities.

Wildwood Park 1400 First Avenue

This is a 4-acre neighborhood park located in a residential area. The park contains several sets of children's playground equipment as well as a basketball court with two hoops and a small gazebo. It has enough lawn area to allow for a small open play area.

MINI PARKS

Acorn Park 233 West Orchard Drive

This is a mini park of less than 1 acre located in a residential area containing playground equipment for children.

Canary Lane Park 1220 Canary Lane

This is a mini park of less than 1 acre located in a residential area containing playground equipment for children.

Cheyenne Park 2118 Shoshoni Street

This is a mini park of less than 1 acre located in a residential area containing playground equipment for children.

Dellwood Park 1646 Dellwood Court

This is a mini park of less than 1 acre located in a residential area and containing a half-court basketball court, a sand box, and playground equipment for children.

Mole Creek Park 476 Overland Trail

This is a mini park of less than 2 acres located in a residential area containing playground equipment for children.

Pine Street Park 1610 North Pine Street

This is a mini park of less than 1 acre located in a residential area containing a half-court basketball court, a sand box, and playground equipment for children.

River Front Park 1119 15th Avenue

This is a mini park of less than 1 acre and contains a grill and seating area along with a canoe/boat launch. It is found in a residential area on the edge of the Milwaukee River.

Third Avenue (Woodlawn Cemetery) Park 1023 Third Avenue

This is a mini park of less than 1 acre located in a residential area containing playground equipment for children. The park also has a basketball court with a hoop on each end. The parkland is leased from Woodlawn Cemetery by the Village. Ultimately the park will be used to accommodate future cemetery expansion.

SPECIAL OPEN SPACE AREAS

Chair Factory Historical Marker *Corner of Falls Road and South Green Bay Road*

This is a marker located on the southeast side of Grafton and makes note of an old chair factory that had historical significance to the Village.

Muttland Meadows *South Green Bay Road*

Muttland Meadows is not located in the Village of Grafton but was included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation survey because it is an amenity used by the community. It is a park specifically designed as a communal play area for dogs and their owners.

PUBLIC SCHOOL PARKLANDS

Woodview Elementary and John Long Middle Schools *700 Hickory Street*

This 18-acre facility is located on the Village's north side and contains baseball diamonds, basketball courts, softball diamonds, soccer fields, playground and playfield, restrooms and concession stand.

Grafton Elementary and High Schools *1950 Washington Street*

This 19-acre facility located along WIS 60 in the western portion of the Village contains a baseball diamond, basketball courts, tennis courts, football field, running track, soccer field, a playground, and a playfield.

Kennedy Elementary School *1629 11th Avenue*

This 4-acre facility is located in the central portion of the community and contains basketball courts, a playground, and a playfield.

Thorson Elementary School *W51 N932 Keup Road*

This public school is in the Cedarburg School District and is situated along West Falls Road. Recreational facilities at this site are often used by some residents in the southwest part of the Village.

Zaun Soccer Fields *River Bend Road*

This soccer facility is located south of River Bend Road and owned by the Grafton School District. The facilities are extensively utilized by the Grafton Soccer Club.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL PARKLANDS

St. Joseph Parish School and Athletic Field 1619 Washington Street

This private school and athletic field is located adjacent to Centennial Park in the central part of the Village.

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School 701 Washington Street

This private school is located along Washington Street in the central part of the Village.

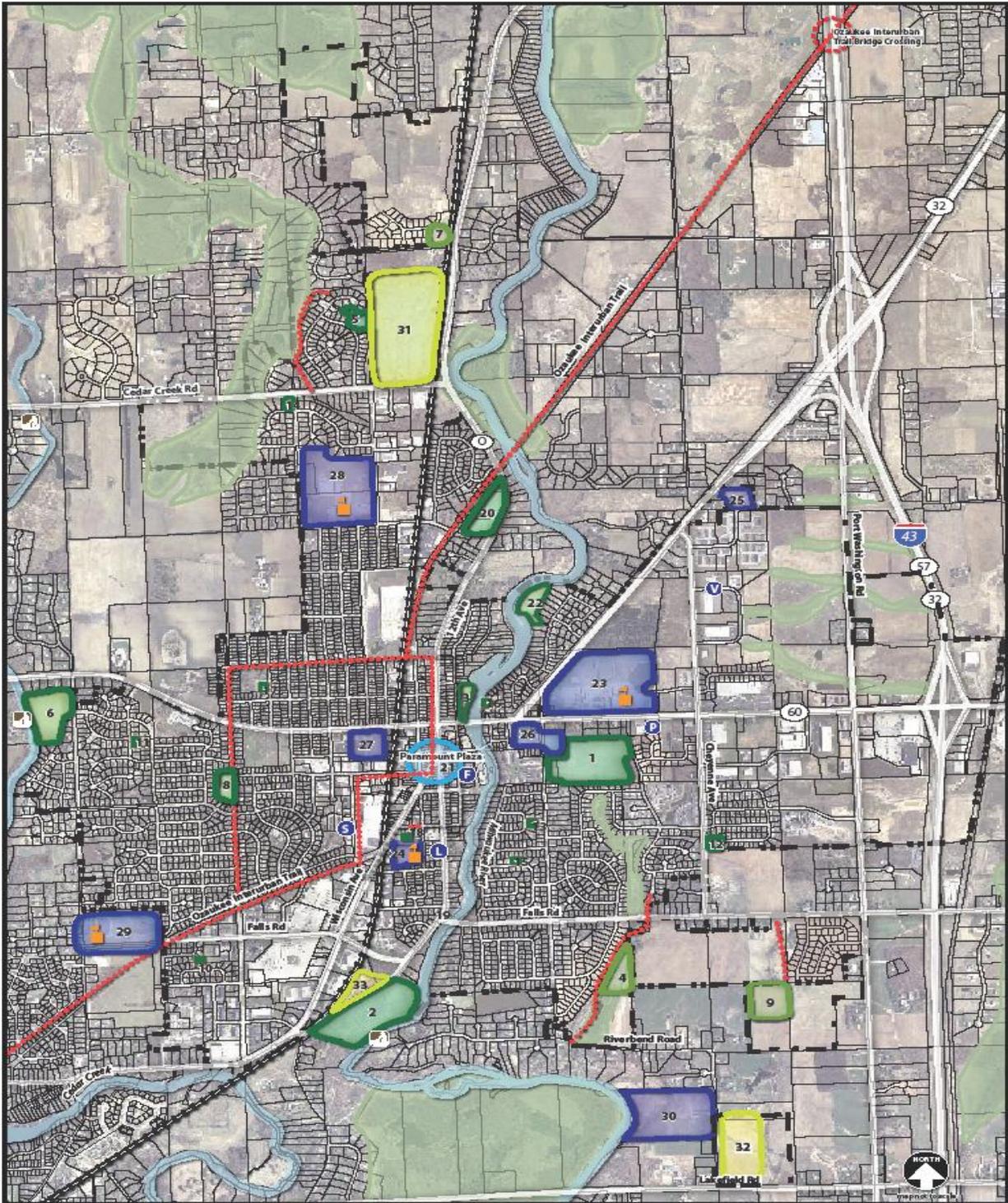
Our Savior Church and Playground 1332 Arrowhead Road

This private church and recreational facility is located on the Village's north side.

TRAILS

The Ozaukee Interurban Trail is a roughly 30-mile long bicycle trail that bisects the Village. The Trail is built on the bed of the former Milwaukee Electric Railway, an interurban passenger railway, which ran from Sheboygan to Milwaukee. The southern end of the trail is at Brown Deer Road in Brown Deer, and its northern end is at the Ozaukee/Sheboygan County line. It travels through the cities, villages and towns of Brown Deer, Mequon, Thiensville, Cedarburg, Grafton, Port Washington and Belgium.

Some sections need to be newly constructed to complete the trail through the Village. A bridge over the Milwaukee River in Grafton was completed in March of 2002. A bridge over Interstate 43 was completed in 2007.



<p>MAP 1 VILLAGE OF GRAFTON</p>  <p>Park and Open Space <i>Existing Conditions</i></p> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Parkland Institutional Parkland Other Park/ Recreation Land Undeveloped Parkland Passive Open Space/ Environmental Corridors  Canoe Launch  Existing Bicycle/ Pedestrian Trail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> V Village Hall P Police Station F Fire Station L Library S Multi-Purpose Senior Center  School 	<p>COMMUNITY PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Centennial Park 2. Little Hill Park 3. Veterans Memorial Park <p>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Backhawk Valley Park (undeveloped) 5. Heritage Settlement Park 6. Grafton Lions Park 7. Shady Hollow Park 8. Wildwood Park 9. Future South Side Park <p>MAI PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Acom Park 11. Canary Lane Park 12. Cheyenne Park 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Dellwood Park 14. Mole Creek Park 15. Pine Street Park 16. River Front Park 17. Third Avenue Park <p>SPECIAL USE PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. Broad Street Tennis Courts 19. Chair Factory Historical Marker Aquatic Center 20. Maadwobrook Park/ Family Aquatic Center 21. Paramount Plaza 22. River Island Park 	<p>SCHOOL PARK</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. Grafton Elementary and High School 24. Kennedy Elementary School 25. Our Savior Church and School 26. St. Joseph Church and School 27. St. Paul Church and School 28. Woodlawn Elementary School/ John Long Middle School 29. Thomsen School (Cedarburg) 30. Zaun Soccer Fields <p>OTHER PARK / RECREATIONAL LAND</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 31. Edgewater Golf Course 32. Grafton Little League Complex 33. Muliland Meadows Dog Park
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Draft: March 26, 2014

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SECTION V:

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

The initial task in preparing any type of planning document includes the formulation of a series of goals and objectives that outline the Village's intent throughout the planning document. These goals and objectives will serve as a guide for the Village to follow in providing a desired community-wide park and recreation system.

Mission Statement: The overall purpose of the park system and reason for the parkland and recreation program provision.

Goal: A broad statement of direction, purpose, and general public priorities. A goal should be based on the stated needs, key issues, and opportunities of the community. A goal should be long-range and timeless as well as idealistic.

Objective: Defined as a quantifiable aim within a limited time frame. Objectives should be derived from stated goals, quantifiable, specific, and within a limited time frame. Objectives are usually attainable through strategic planning and implementation activities. Implementation of an objective contributes to the fulfillment of a goal.

A goal provides the Village with its long-term destination; objectives act as mile markers along the way. All recommendations listed in the plan are specifically designed to address the goals and objectives listed here. In order to conduct a thorough and accurate planning process, it is important to establish a set of goals, objectives, and policies that will serve as the basis for the recommendations in this Plan.

The following list of goals, objectives, and policies is based on the information that has been presented in previous chapters of this Plan, including citizen input and discussions amongst Village staff and the Parks and Recreation Board.

GOAL #1: Maintain an adequate amount of active and passive recreational lands to meet current and future recreational needs.

Objectives:

- Acquire additional lands for active and passive recreational use based on current demand, demands created by increasing populations, and environmental significance of the land.
- Strive to maintain the current ratio of 12.8 acres of land suitable for active recreation for every 1,000 Grafton residents.
- Acquire lands suitable for park and recreation use by explicitly stating acceptable characteristics of land for dedication in the parkland dedication ordinance.
- The preservation of primary and secondary environmental corridors, isolated natural resource areas, steep slopes, woodlands, streams, floodplains, riparian habitats, and wetlands should receive special attention to ensure their maintenance as vegetative, wildlife and fish habitats, as areas for passive and

active outdoor recreation, and as stormwater and flood management areas, where appropriate.

- The Village should explore the need for special recreational facilities, such as additional dog parks, skateboard parks, and splash parks, through more detailed park and recreation planning initiated following the adoption of this Plan.
- The Village should continue to develop a diversity of park sizes and types based on the characteristics and needs of individual neighborhoods, and the surrounding land use and natural resource features.
- When possible, acquisition of park and open space lands should occur in advance of or in coordination with development to provide for reasonable acquisition costs and facilitate site planning. Parklands in undeveloped areas should be acquired through land developer dedications, where feasible.

GOAL #2: Ensure that open space, recreation facilities and programs are designed to meet the special needs of all residents and visitors, especially the older adults and disabled.

Objectives:

- Provide for barrier-free access in all new park facility construction and play areas.
- Strive for compliance with accessibility requirements in existing facilities.
- Continue to encourage participation of elderly and disabled citizens at park and recreational meetings and in recreational programs.
- Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act as it applies to communication between the Parks and Recreation Department and the public.

GOAL #3: Coordinate subdivision review with all departments responsible for providing or maintaining adequate park facilities.

Objectives:

- Consult and incorporate the needs identified in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan before subdivision plats are approved. All new development should meet the park and open space standards and recommendations as outlined in this Plan and implemented by the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision and Platting Ordinance.
- Evaluate land dedicated for parks to differentiate between land appropriate for active park use, land appropriate for open space only, and land requiring protection from development. Land requiring protection from development should be protected via the zoning ordinances.
- Mini Parks and Neighborhood Parks should be sited and designed to enhance neighborhood cohesion and provide a common neighborhood gathering place.

All parks should have multiple access points from surrounding neighborhoods. All new residential development should be within walking distance of a park.

- Continually evaluate and update the subdivision ordinance so that it adequately addresses the park and open space needs of new and existing Village residents.

GOAL #4: Coordinate development efforts and the use and maintenance of recreational facilities among the Village of Grafton, Grafton School District, and appropriate public recreation associations.

Objectives:

- Coordinate the public use of indoor and outdoor school recreation facilities.
- Encourage cooperative Village, school district, and organized athletic organizations development projects to help improve and expand recreation opportunities throughout the community in a cost-effective manner.
- Explore a formal policy for use/revenue/maintenance agreements among the Village, school district, and public recreation associations to help operate and maintain public recreation facilities in the Village.

GOAL #5: Stress the benefits of larger neighborhood and community parks that provide a wide range of facilities over the development of small playground and tot-lot facilities.

Objectives:

- Analyze the location, size and function of existing and proposed parks as annexations, residential development or as land use changes occur.
- Use park service area criteria to help determine the location of future park sites (¼- to ½-mile for a neighborhood park and 1-mile for a community park).
- A community park is needed in/on northwest and the southeast edges of Grafton.

GOAL #6: Provide residents with safe and reliable park facilities and equipment throughout the Village Park System.

Objectives:

- Continue funding the replacement of old and deteriorating recreation equipment at all Village parks.
- Continually monitor and maintain existing park equipment to ensure its longevity and safety.

GOAL #7: Use all available resources to further enhance the quality of the Village's park system.

Objectives:

- Continually pursue state and federal funding programs, which can aid in the purchase and/or development of desired park system improvements.
- The Village should explore opportunities to partner with neighboring communities or athletic organizations to fund and develop multi-purpose parks, athletic facilities, and multi-purpose centers.
- The Village's parkland dedication and impact fee ordinances should continue to reflect the current demand for parkland. Also, alternative means of reserving lands required for open space should be explored to ensure that lands are obtained at the lowest cost to the public (ex. non-profit organizations, conservation easements, purchase of developments rights).
- Cultivate the existing positive relationships with public and private organizations for donations and volunteer help to aid in park system development.
- Update the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every 5 years to maintain grant eligibility.
- Pursue the development of revenue generating recreational facilities and activities, which can aid in the development of new facilities and/or the maintenance of existing facilities.

GOAL #8: Recognize the importance of an adequate park budget, which can financially address existing park hazards and allow for future parkland acquisition and future park facility development.

Objectives:

- Use the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan's capital improvements program as a guide and continue to establish yearly park budgets.
- Invest funds to develop facilities that will maximize existing park and recreation areas and provide exciting recreational programs to increase park use.

GOAL #9: Continue to develop interconnected biking and walking trails that provide easy and safe access to all neighborhoods.

Objectives:

- Develop a River and Trail Task Force to spearhead in trail and bike path planning.

- The provision of safe and convenient bike connections between parks, open spaces, recreational facilities, and other destinations should be emphasized in on-going Village planning and acquisition efforts.
- Work with Board of Public Works to improve greenway landscaping and help define possible trails through the greenways.
- Work with Plan Commission and Board of Public Works to add routes or bike lanes, when needed, on newly constructed streets that will serve to connect the existing system of biking and walking facilities.

SECTION VI:

PARK AND RECREATION STANDARDS

In order to help guide the park planning process, it is important to identify a set of minimum standards for park and recreational facilities that can serve as a benchmark for evaluating the adequacy of the park system. Such standards enable a community to quantitatively measure how well its existing facilities are meeting the needs of residents as compared with other communities, and to plan for future facilities based on projected population growth. As such, park and recreation standards are commonly expressed as a ratio of the number of minimum acres recommended per 1,000 residents. For example, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommended that for every 1,000 residents, a community should provide 1 to 2 acres of neighborhood parks.

It should be noted that while such national standards provide acceptable target guidelines for the provision of parks and open spaces, a more thorough and accurate analysis of Grafton's park system must emphasize the *local* demand and historic expectation for recreational resources.

MINI PARKS

Definition Summary: A play lot or playground provides space for parental supervised recreation of toddlers and young children within a neighborhood, or as part of a larger neighborhood or community park and urban center, including retail shopping areas.

Size Objectives: 0.5 to 1.5 acres

Service Area Objectives: Generally within a neighborhood of a half mile radius or population of 2,000-3,000. Mini parks may be included in parks that serve a larger population or service area.

Location Objectives: Located in protected areas with separation from street traffic and high visibility; serving local neighborhoods and adjoining schools, libraries, or police and fire facilities.

Population Ratio to Acreage: 0.25 to 0.5 acre per 1,000 population to achieve a park unit size that serves 2,000 to 3,000 people.

Space, Design, and Service Area: The size of a play lot or playground may range from as small as 2,500 sq. ft. to 1.5 acres. Amenities offered by these facilities generally include sand play areas, play apparatus, play equipment, and other special child-oriented features. The service radius for these parks in terms of distance from population served is limited to less than a quarter mile, or within a super block space, unless the playground is incorporated into a larger park.

Orientation: Small geographic areas, sub-neighborhoods, or neighborhoods, when combined with a larger park unit. Serves youth ranging in age from toddler to 12 years, with adult supervision. Playgrounds also serve important needs in Village business

districts and inner city areas where a mix of commercial and recreation activity is desired.

Function: Provides outdoor play experiences for youth under parental supervision. Generates neighborhood communication and provides diversion from work and domestic chores. Promotes neighborhood solidarity.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Definition Summary: A neighborhood park, by size, program, and location, provides space and recreation activities for the immediate neighborhood in which it is located. It is considered an extension of neighborhood residents' "out-of-yard" and outdoor use area.

Size Objectives: 5 to 25 acres

Service Area Objectives: Generally a one mile radius, but actually defined by collector street patterns which form the limits of a neighborhood or recreation service area. Population served may range from 2,000 up to 5,000.

Location Objectives: Centrally located for equitable pedestrian access within a definable neighborhood service area. Adjoining or adjacent to an elementary, middle school or high school, fire station, or library, if possible.

Program Objectives: Compatible with the neighborhood setting and park site constraints. Generally includes the following facilities, which are determined with public input as to use and activities:

- Parking for 10 to 20 vehicles.
 - On-street parking is acceptable if negative impact to residential units can be mitigated. On-site parking is preferable as a planning objective.
 - Bike racks with Class II trail connections where possible.
- Restrooms
 - Men's restroom with 2 water closets, 2 urinals, 2 lavatories
 - Women's restroom with 3 water closets and 2 lavatories
 - Utility and minimum park janitorial storage space
- Tot lot/children's play area
- Family event/group picnic facility
- Informal family picnic area with benches and tables
- Unstructured turf grass play area/play or practice field for children, young adults, and families
- Sport facilities – compatible with neighborhood setting and park site constraints
 - Basketball – half court, full court, or tri-court configuration
 - Volleyball area

- Softball field/soccer practice or game overlay
- Other features as needs or site conditions allow

Orientation: Serves all age groups, with an emphasis on youth and families in neighborhood settings.

Function: To provide a combination of active recreation and passive activities, both outdoor and indoor facilities, and special features as required or needed.

Space, Design, and Service Area: A minimum size of 5 to 25 acres with amenities including sports facilities, picnic areas, swim facilities, cultural activities, arts, crafts, and individual passive activities. The park should primarily serve a defined neighborhood area population of 2,000-5,000. Distance from this neighborhood will vary depending on urban development pattern, zoning, and densities in the respective neighborhoods being served. Efforts should be made to allow easy pedestrian access to the park.

COMMUNITY PARKS

Definition Summary: A community park, by size, program, and location, provides space and recreation activities for a defined service area, the entire city, or significant geographic segment of the Village's population.

Size Objectives: Usually more than 25 acres.

Service Area Objectives: Generally a 2 to 5 mile radius within the city and adjacent neighborhoods outside of Village limits.

Location Objectives: Centrally located if planned to serve a particular geographic segment of the Village. Located adjoining or immediately adjacent to a collector street providing community-wide vehicular access, thereby reducing neighborhood traffic impacts. Connected with Class II on-street and/or off-street community trail and bike lane system. Adjoining or adjacent to an elementary, middle, or high school if possible.

Program Objectives: Elements that fulfill the service area, park facilities and recreation program demands. The following facilities may be compatible with community setting and park site constraints:

- Off-street parking calculated to satisfy demand of park and recreation activities provided. Includes bike racks and a public transit station at the site as well as both on-site and street parking.
- Restrooms designed to accommodate the level of park and recreation activities provided and the number of people served. Restrooms should be located within a reasonable walking distance from children's play equipment and other high-use areas.

- Community recreation center
- Park maintenance and equipment storage building
- Tot lot/children's play area
- Group picnic shelters
- Family picnic facilities
- Sport/recreation facility fulfilling the overall Village demand

Appropriate program elements include:

- Community pool/water feature
- Soccer fields
- Softball, little league baseball, junior pony league baseball
- Football
- Roller hockey/skateboard area
- Tennis courts
- Basketball courts
- Amphitheater/performing arts center
- Volleyball (indoor and outdoor)
- Jogging trails
- Other facilities as desired and as permitted under park site plan
- Concessions (food and beverage)

Orientation: Multi-purpose service area or community-wide recreation resource serving most or all of the population.

Function: Provides opportunities for a diverse mix of indoor and outdoor recreation, including walking and bicycling, outdoor performances, various programmed and non-programmed field sports, swimming, and special events.

Space, Design, and Service Area: The minimum space for a community park is 15 acres. Facilities typically provide for some sports activities, though emphasis is on passive cultural and community centers with recreational programming and organized activities. The community park may serve populations within a 2 to 5 mile radius, a scope that would allow residents of other communities to use the park as well.

SCHOOL PARKLANDS

Definition Summary: By combining the resources of two public agencies, the school park classification allows for expanding the recreational, social, and educational opportunities available to the community in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

Depending on the circumstances, school park sites often complement other community recreation or open lands. As an example, an elementary/middle school site could also serve as a neighborhood park. Likewise, middle or high school sports facilities could do

double duty as a community park or as youth athletic fields. Depending on its size, one school park site may serve in a number of capacities, such as a neighborhood park, youth athletic fields, and a location for recreation classes. Given the inherent variability of type, size and location, determining how a school park site is integrated into a larger park system will depend on case-by-case circumstances. The important outcome in the joint-use relationship is that both the school district and park system benefit from shared use of facilities and land area.

Size Objectives: The optimum size of a school park site depends on its intended use. The size criteria established for neighborhood park and community park classifications may apply.

Service Area Objectives: Neighborhood park and community park classifications criteria should be used to determine school park functions and area served. For planning purposes, the degree to which school lands, including buildings or facilities, meet community needs depends on the specific inter-local agreements formed.

Location Objectives: The location of a school park site will be determined by the school district based on district policy. Coordinated Village and school district planning allows for siting, acquisition, and facility development to be responsive to community needs. Service areas for school park sites will depend on the type of use and facilities provided.

Program Objectives: The criteria established for neighborhood parks and community parks should be used to determine how a school park site is developed and programmed. If athletic fields are developed at a school park site, they should, where feasible, be oriented toward youth rather than adult programs. Establishing a clearly defined joint-use agreement between involved agencies is critical to making school park relationships workable. This is particularly important with respect to acquisition, development, maintenance, liability, use, and programming of facility issues.

The orientation of school park projects is typically for neighborhood and community recreation services. The function may include sports, recreation classes, passive recreation activities, and other recreation programs suitable to an elementary or secondary education school.

SPECIAL OPEN SPACE AREAS

Definition Summary: Special open space areas are often designed as a revenue-generating enterprise created to satisfy demand for a particular sport, recreational activity, or special event. A special open space area park may also be a sports park combined with enterprise activities and administered as a community recreation resource.

Size Objective: The actual size of a special use park is determined by land availability and facility/market demand for special uses or recreation programs.

Service Area Objectives: Community or area-wide and determined by the type of recreation program, special events or use activities.

Location Objectives: Determined by the property opportunity, service area and size objectives.

Program Objectives: Special use parks require facility programming that is user- or market-driven and based on community needs or economic and service principles for public and private partnerships. The magnitude and type of special use facilities may include:

- Water play park
- Amphitheater
- Festival/swap meet/farmers market
- League/individual sports complex
- Fitness/entertainment center
- Skateboard/in-line hockey park
- Recreation programs and classes

Orientation: Provides recreation programming, sports and special event attractions and activities for all age groups.

Function: Special events, fairs, festivals, expositions, symposiums, sports, community gatherings, ethnic/cultural celebrations, plays and numerous other recreational programs and activities.

Space, Design, and Service Area: The minimum size for special parks varies depending on intended use and programming.

RECREATION TRAILS

Definition Summary: Recreation Trails accommodate various outdoor activities, such as biking, hiking, walking, jogging, horseback riding, nature study, and cross-country skiing. A well-designed park system provides connections between parks and open space lands and effectively integrates urban and suburban areas with the surrounding natural environment by linking off-street trail segments with on-street bike routes. Recreation trails can be designed to serve different functions and to accommodate various, and sometimes conflicting, activities. Therefore, this section provides descriptions of the different types of recreation trails that this *Plan* will address and how recommendations will be formulated for each type of trail.

ON-STREET BICYCLE FACILITIES

Definition Summary: There are two primary types of on-street bicycle facilities: bicycle lanes and paved shoulders.

Bicycle lanes are areas of the road striped off for exclusive use by bicyclists. They are the preferred bicycle facility for urban arterial and higher volume collector streets (generally more than 2,000 vehicles per day). Striping bicycle lanes establishes designated traffic channels that promote an orderly flow by both bicyclists and motorists. Typically, bicycle lanes are established on roadways that are 32 feet or wider with no on-street parking. Shared bicycle/parking lanes generally function well where sufficient space is provided and the parking turnover rate is not too high.

Paved shoulders are not necessarily classified as a bicycle facility, but rather a roadway condition that improves bicycle travel and bicyclist safety. They function much like a bicycle lane by separating the motor vehicle travel from bikes. Paved shoulders are ideal for higher volume streets or highways (more than 1,000 cars per day) with rural cross sections (i.e. no curb and gutter).

Size Objectives: N/A

Service area objective: Community or area-wide

Location Objectives: Although this Plan presents general recommendations regarding locations for future on-street bike facilities, more formal and detailed recommendations would require an in-depth analysis of the Village's road network, including traffic patterns and street widths.

Program Objectives:

- Minimum width of 4 feet, or 5 feet along an arterial street.
- When used alongside a parking lane, at least 5 feet wide and located to the traffic side of the parking lane.
- Where bike lanes and on-street parking is provided, minimum combined width of 11 feet (13 feet where there is substantial parking or turnover of parked cars is high).
- Lanes painted with a bicycle pavement symbol or the words "bike lane" according to American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards.
- Street signs should be used to identify bicycle lanes.
- Minimum width of 4 feet, or 5 feet where traffic speeds exceed 50 miles per hour for paved shoulders
- Recommend a stripe separating shoulder from roadway.
- Generally not marked as an exclusive bike facility.

Orientation: Allows bike travel for the whole community.

Function: Community wide bike transportation

OFF-STREET RECREATION TRAILS

Definition Summary: There are two primary types of off-street recreation trails: multi-use paths and rural walking/hiking trails.

Multi-use paths are designed to accommodate bicyclists, walkers, runners, and in-line skaters. Such facilities are often located along railroad and street rights-of-way, rivers and lakeshores, and through parks and environment corridors.

Rural trails provide connections between urbanized areas, and access to parks and open space areas. Walkways may be restricted to pedestrian use because of environmental conditions. In certain locations, they may also be suitable for equestrian and/or bicycle use. Rural walkways are often sited along creeks, streams, rivers, field boundaries, and other natural linear systems.

Size Objectives: The provision of trails is best related to an analysis of supply versus demand and the size of the community, rather than a single quantitative standard.

Service Area Objective: Community and regional

Program Objectives for Multi-use Paths:

- In urban areas, a minimum of 10 feet to accommodate two-way bicycle traffic, and recommended paved surfacing to facilitate bike, walking, running, and skating.
- In rural areas, a minimum of 8 feet wide, surfaced with limestone screenings or similar material.
- Avoid placement alongside roadways where multiple cross-streets and driveways are or will be present.

Minimum 20 mph design speed.

Function: Community and regional bike and pedestrian transportation and recreation

Rural Walking/Hiking Trails: Because these trail facilities often travel through sensitive environmental areas, they are generally not paved. Rather, they are surfaced with crushed limestone, wood chips, hard packed earth, or mowed grass.

TRAILHEADS

Definition Summary: Trailheads can provide visible access points to major off-street paths in the community's system. They generally provide a parking area, location and directional maps, or other information about the trail system. Some might contain

restroom facilities, picnic tables, or benches for snacks or breaks. Such facilities should be sited with easy and direct access to the trail system.

Location Objective: This Plan will make general recommendations regarding the future location of trailheads. Suggestions will be based upon both existing and proposed park facilities and parking locations.

Function: Bike and pedestrian travel

SECTION VII:

EXISTING PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES ANALYSIS

This analysis evaluates the Village of Grafton's existing park and recreational facilities in comparison with nationally accepted park and recreation standards in satisfying the needs of the community. The adequacy of the Village's existing park and recreation system will be evaluated in the following ways:

- Application of quantitative park and recreational facility service standards to reliable population projections for the Village.
- Qualitative analysis of the Village's park system.
- Analysis of the geographic distribution and accessibility of park and open space areas.
- Consideration of public input regarding the future of the Village's park and open space system.
- Review of Wisconsin's State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

The following chart presents a comparison of the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) park and recreation standards to the Village's existing park system. The comparison is made by *normalizing* the quantity of park lands to assure an apples-to-apples comparison. In essence, the amount (number of acres) of particular types of parkland is divided by the population to result in the acres of parkland per 1,000 persons.

As indicated in Table 7.1, the Village currently has approximately **13 acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents**. It should be noted that for the purposes of this analysis all parochial and public school property was not included in the calculations. School recreation facilities typically function as neighborhood parks. Also omitted in the calculations were specialized facilities such as the Multi-Purpose Senior Center and the Chair Factory Historical Marker.

In general, NRPA standards recommend a minimum of approximately 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. The Village readily exceeds these proscribed national standards for neighborhood parkland. However, it is deficient in terms of community park acreage. Additionally, new mini parks have not been added in the past five years. As the population continues to increase, the Village is not maintaining its historic ratio for mini parkland.

Further comparison of the existing acres per 1,000 persons to the values from past Plans illustrates a clear policy decision by the Village to focus on providing additional lands and facilities for neighborhood parks. The amount of neighborhood parks has grown by over 2-acres per 1,000 persons, while the community park ratio has fallen by 0.5-acres per 1,000 persons.

It should be noted, however, that national standards do not factor in characteristics of individual communities. Therefore, it is appropriate and necessary for each community to develop their own local park standard. This will be addressed later in this chapter.

Table 7.1: Park Acreage Analysis, 2013

Park Type	2013 Total Acres	2013 Acres Per 1,000 Persons*	Local Standard Acres Per 1,000 Persons
Mini Parks	7.0	0.6	7
Neighborhood Parks	87.0	7.6	87
Community Parks	55.0	4.8	55
Total	149.0	13.0	149

*Based on 2013 population estimate of 11,467

Table 7.2 presents an inventory of the total number of existing recreational facilities in the Village. Because the demand for such amenities varies substantially between communities, national standards will not be used in this Plan to analyze the adequacy of existing facilities. However, this component of the park system will be discussed in more detail in the qualitative analysis section of this chapter. A comprehensive inventory of the facilities in each of the Village's existing park is provided as a fold-out in an earlier chapter.

Table 7.2: Existing Recreational Facilities, 2013

Facility	Number in Village
Volleyball Courts	1
Playgrounds	14
Playfields	6
Picnic Areas	19
Softball Fields (lighted)	1
Softball Fields (unlighted)	1
Youth Baseball Fields (lighted)	0
Youth Baseball Fields (unlighted)	8
Regulation Baseball Fields (lighted)	0
Regulation Baseball Fields (unlighted)	2
Football Fields	1
Tennis Courts	8
Basketball Courts	6
Soccer Fields	7
Running Tracks	1
Ice Rinks	0
Shelters/Pavilions	5
Swimming Pools (indoor)	1
Swimming Pools (outdoor)	1
Bike Trails	1
Golf Courses	2
Horse Shoe Pits	12
Archery Ranges	1
Disc Golf Courses	1

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

Although national quantitative standards provide a good basis for formulating the recommendations in this Plan, a thorough assessment of the Village's existing facilities must include a more subjective analysis that takes into consideration those characteristics that make Grafton unique from other communities.

Furthermore, the qualitative analysis will produce the following results:

- Identify those park system deficiencies and strengths that are not captured by universal standards.
- Ensure that future parks and recreational facilities are tailored to meet the needs of the Village's residents.
- Allow for the establishment of a more reasonable and specialized level-of-service standard by which the Village can plan its future park system.

Important factors to consider include the following:

The Village's population is projected to grow **by nearly 20-percent by 2030**, increasing the demand for parkland and recreational facilities. However, acquiring additional parkland should not be a challenge for Grafton, as there is ample land in the adjacent Towns to accommodate growth to the north and to the east. It will be important for Grafton to **carefully balance the need for additional parklands, open space, and ecological feature preservation with the demand for development**. Furthermore, if the Village is going to maintain its existing level of service for parklands into the future, it will have to come up with innovative and flexible solutions for providing these spaces and facilities.

Currently, almost 60-percent of parkland and open space in the Village is accounted for by neighborhood parks, and the acreage of these parks has increased significantly over the past five years. The Village has made concerted policy decisions to enhance these types of parks as they are able to service a broader geographic area as well as a wider demographic range. A focus on these types of parks will necessitate continued master planning to ensure the appropriate types of facilities within the parks and their locations are equally dispersed throughout the Village.

Special open space areas contribute significantly to the aesthetic and ecological integrity of a community, but the Village has not prioritized the preservation of these features. Obviously the Milwaukee River is the backbone to Grafton's system, but the Village has not diligently pursued the preservation or conservation of significant ecological features within the primary and secondary environmental corridors. The Ozaukee Interurban Trail functions as an important recreational trail corridor for the residents of Grafton and surrounding communities, and this facility could serve as an

opportunity to connect the much needed passive recreational opportunities within the Village. Opportunities for passive recreation within the Village’s planning area are limited and are not easily accessible to residents except by car.

The quantitative analysis presented earlier in this chapter considers **all school parks and recreational facilities** as neighborhood parks. There are no set standards or guidelines for classifying school parks; however, in the Village of Grafton, school park facilities serve any of the recreational needs of the residential neighborhoods that immediately surround them. Moreover, the school parks provide valuable recreational amenities, especially to the recreation programs and the organized athletic clubs. That said, it should be recognized that school facilities are not consistently open to the public, and school-sponsored activities are given priority when it comes to the scheduling and use of these facilities. For this reason, it is important for the Village to provide and maintain an adequate number of its own facilities and parklands to accommodate programming needs and to meet local demand.

This planning process has revealed areas in which the Village’s **recreational facilities/amenities** are deemed substandard:

- Parks and recreational facilities that serve older adults.
- Baseball/softball facilities for Grafton Little League.
- Trails and park connectivity.
- Soccer fields for the Grafton Soccer Club.
- The Milwaukee River is only moderately accessibly to the public and should be a featured element in Grafton’s future.

One of the major challenges currently facing the Village of Grafton is the need to establish a **regional park, recreation, and open space identity**. This park planning process offers several opportunities to contribute to this effort, specifically in the following areas:

- An emphasis on the Milwaukee River Corridor and an enhancement of the Cedar Creek Corridor. Together these corridors—in combination with conservation of the environmental corridors—can function as “ribbons of green” within the Village.
- The Milwaukee River should be promoted as a pivotal component of the Village and future development should be organized around preservation of wetlands, woodlands, and other natural features of the area.
- Parks and open spaces should be interconnected with off-street trails and on-street bike lanes. There are numerous We Energies rights-of-way that present an opportunity to establish multi-use trails that provides connections to the Ozaukee Interurban Trail and ultimately to Lake Michigan.

- Well maintained and strategically sited parks should serve as anchors for residential neighborhoods and contribute to the character and identity of that neighborhood.

The Village's up-and-coming redevelopment initiatives provide revived opportunities to integrate parks, open spaces, and public gathering places into the design of residential neighborhoods, office parks, and commercial centers. The Paramount Plaza area is a shining example of how a public plaza serves as a destination and organizing feature to the area. Incorporating unique and functional park spaces into even the most intensely developed areas of Grafton encourages people to spend time in those places.

Finally, trees, open spaces, and other natural landscape features not only add to the aesthetic value of the community, but also provide benefits such as flood control, improvements in the air and water quality, and energy cost savings.

GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

The location and distribution of parks and recreational facilities also provides a good indicator of how well the existing park system is meeting the needs of the Village's residents. To illustrate this distribution, Maps 2A, 2B, and 2C depict the service areas of the Village's parks. These service areas are based on the NRPA standards identified previously in this Plan.

An analysis of Map 2A suggests that the northern portion of the Village is not well served in terms of Mini Parks. The Mini Parks are particularly concentrated in the older neighborhoods. Again, this issue goes back to the Village's decisions to focus on the development of neighborhood parks rather than the smaller Mini Parks.

The Neighborhood Parks Service Area Map (Map 2B) clearly illustrates that the Village's efforts to develop additional neighborhood parks in recent years has proven successful. The Village is well served geographically by the neighborhood parks. Parklands are evenly distributed throughout the Village, and especially in new growth areas at the edges and where natural and man-made barriers have truncated the typical service areas. The Village will need to be certain that development to the east of the interstate and to the north of CTH V/WIS 32 provides the needed recreational facilities. The future development of a community park when the Village develops to the northwest will also serve as a neighborhood park in the area.

The Village has not developed additional community parks in recent years. This is not to say the Village was not concerned with providing such parkland, it means the Village has been sufficiently served by the two existing community parks, Lime Kiln and Centennial. Further, development of the appropriate facilities for these larger parks requires more time and money than the smaller parks, and the Village has devoted

much of both in their development to serve the community. Map 2C illustrates the service areas by the existing community parks in the central portion of the Village. The Village's extensive growth in the past decade has resulted in the need for an additional community park located in the northwest part of the community to serve existing and future residents.

REVIEW OF THE WISCONSIN STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN (SCORP)

The last component of this needs assessment involves a review of *The 2011 – 2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*, prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Statewide surveys conducted in 2010 were designed to collect information regarding the types of recreational activities that people engaged in most frequently, as well as residents' level of satisfaction with the state's existing facilities. Please refer to the 2011 – 2016 SCORP for a detailed discussion of survey methodology.

The Village of Grafton is located in the Lower Lake Michigan Coastal Planning Region. The Region is located in the southeast part of the state and encompasses Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha Counties. Home to Milwaukee, the largest city in the state, the Lower Lake Michigan Coastal Region is the most urban and most populous of all Wisconsin regions. The urban influence of Milwaukee and its surrounding suburbs has created demand for distinctly urban recreation facilities such as dog parks, city trails, and basketball courts. Despite this urban influence, some areas of the region such as Walworth County, the lakes area of western Waukesha County, and the Kettle Moraine State Forest offer opportunities for undeveloped outdoor recreation. Tourism, especially from the greater Chicago metropolitan area, is a major influence on Region recreation as increasing numbers of Illinois residents travel to the region to use Wisconsin lands and waters.

Based upon the results of this research, the DNR categorized recreation participation levels--and thus demand levels—into three groups. Tables 7.3a – 7.3c illustrate the projected demand of various recreational activities in the Lower Lake Michigan Coastal Planning Region.

Table 7.3a: Increasing Demand

Activity	Comment
Adventure Racing	Popular as both an individual and a group activity.
Driving for Pleasure	An easy activity for the aging baby boom population.
Developed/RV Camping	Baby boomers are a continued driving force for this growth.
Kayaking	Cheap, easy entry points have attracted more participants.
Visit a Dog Park	Urban residents continue to demand more of these areas.
Soccer Outdoors	Youth growth is still strong in urban areas.
BMX Biking	X Games popularity may be driving this growth/
Climbing	Indoor climbing walls have led to an outdoor resurgence.
Stand Up Paddling/Paddleboarding	A fast growing water sport sweeping the country.
Triathlon (on- and off-road)	Varying distance events have allowed for growth.
Off-highway Vehicle Driving	Post recession growth continues.
Gardening or Landscaping For Pleasure	The “grow local” concept is taking hold at many levels.
Source: The 2011 – 2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan	

Table 7.3b: Stable Demand

Activity	Comment
Walk for Pleasure	Market saturation does not allow for large growth.
Running or Jogging	Gen Y is replacing the baby boomers for this activity.
Water Parks	Recession may have caused this to growth to slow.
Motorboating	Still easy access in a water-based state.
Day Hiking	Popular with many generations.
Golf	Time constraints do not allow for growth.
Tent Camping	Continues to be stable, but growth is illusive.
Snowboarding	May have peaked after 20 years of growth.
Trail Running	A stable niche activity with Gen Y.
View/Photograph Wildlife	An easy activity that spans generations.
Bicycling (road and non-paved)	Popular with many generations – access is still key.
Snowshoeing	After large growth, this has stabilized.
Source: The 2011 – 2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan	

Table 7.3c: Decreasing Demand

Activity	Comment
Hunting	Continues to struggle with generational loss and private access.
Inline Skating	A large decrease in the last six years, the bottom may be near.
Skateboarding/skate parks	Gen M is free-skating with longboards.
Horseback riding on trails	Recession impacts have caused this to decrease with no rebound.
Softball	Baby boomers continue to leave this sport.
Downhill skiing	Gen Y does not have the numbers to replace aging baby boomers.
Source: The 2011 – 2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan	

The Plan also includes a set of goals, listed below, many of which correspond to Village of Grafton recreation needs and goals.

- Assess, understand, and adapt to growing recreation tourism demands and preferences.
- Improve integration of outdoor recreation interests and needs in land use and other relevant planning efforts.
- Continue to provide and enhance public access to Wisconsin recreational lands and waters.
- Conserve rural landscapes and forest through partnerships and incentives.
- Address funding challenges associated with managing Wisconsin outdoor recreation resources.
- Promote outdoor recreation as a means of improving public health among Wisconsinites.
- Establish great urban parks and community green spaces.

FUTURE PARK NEEDS

Based upon the analysis provided in this Chapter, the Village’s future local standard for park acreage is approximately 13 acres per 1,000 persons. Broken down by park type, the standards are 0.60 acres per 1,000 persons for mini parks, 7 acres per 1,000 persons for neighborhood parks, and 4 acres per 1,000 persons for community parks. Based on these standards, Tables 7.5 and 7.6 show the minimal additional park acreage that will be needed to accommodate the Village’s projected population in 2018 and in 2030.

In general, national standards recommend a minimum of approximately ten acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. It should be noted; however, that national standards do not factor in characteristics of individual communities. Therefore, it is appropriate and necessary for each community to develop their own local park standard. Local standards have been applied in the analysis in this plan.

Table 7.5: Park Acreage Needs, 2013

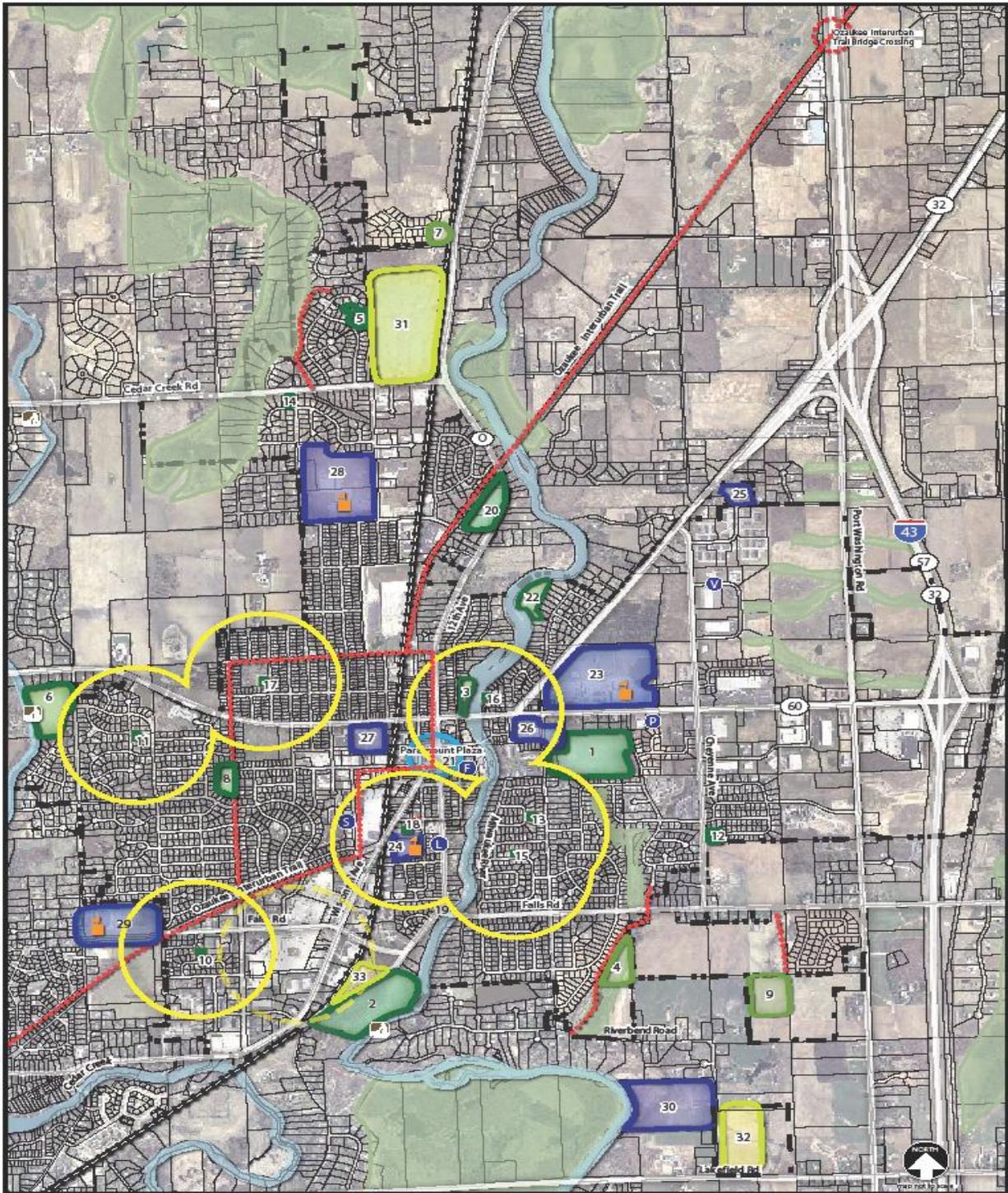
Park Type	2013 Village Standard (Acres/1,000 persons)	Recommended Acreage*	2013 Total Acres	Minimum Additional Acres Needed by 2018
Mini Parks	0.60 acre	8 acres	7 acres	1 acre
Neighborhood Parks	7.6 acres	98 acres	87 acres	11 acres
Community Parks	4.8 acres	62 acres	55 acres	7 acres
Total	13 acres	168 acres	149 acres	19 acres

*Based on 2018 projected population (12,891)

Table 7.6: Park Acreage Needs, 2030

Park Type	2013 Village Standard (Acres/1,000 persons)	Recommended Acreage*	2013 Total Acres	Minimum Additional Acres Needed by 2025
Mini Parks	0.60 acre	9 acres	7 acres	2 acres
Neighborhood Parks	7.6 acres	109 acres	87 acres	22 acres
Community Parks	4.8 acres	69 acres	55 acres	14 acres
Total	13 acres	186 acres	149 acres	37 acres

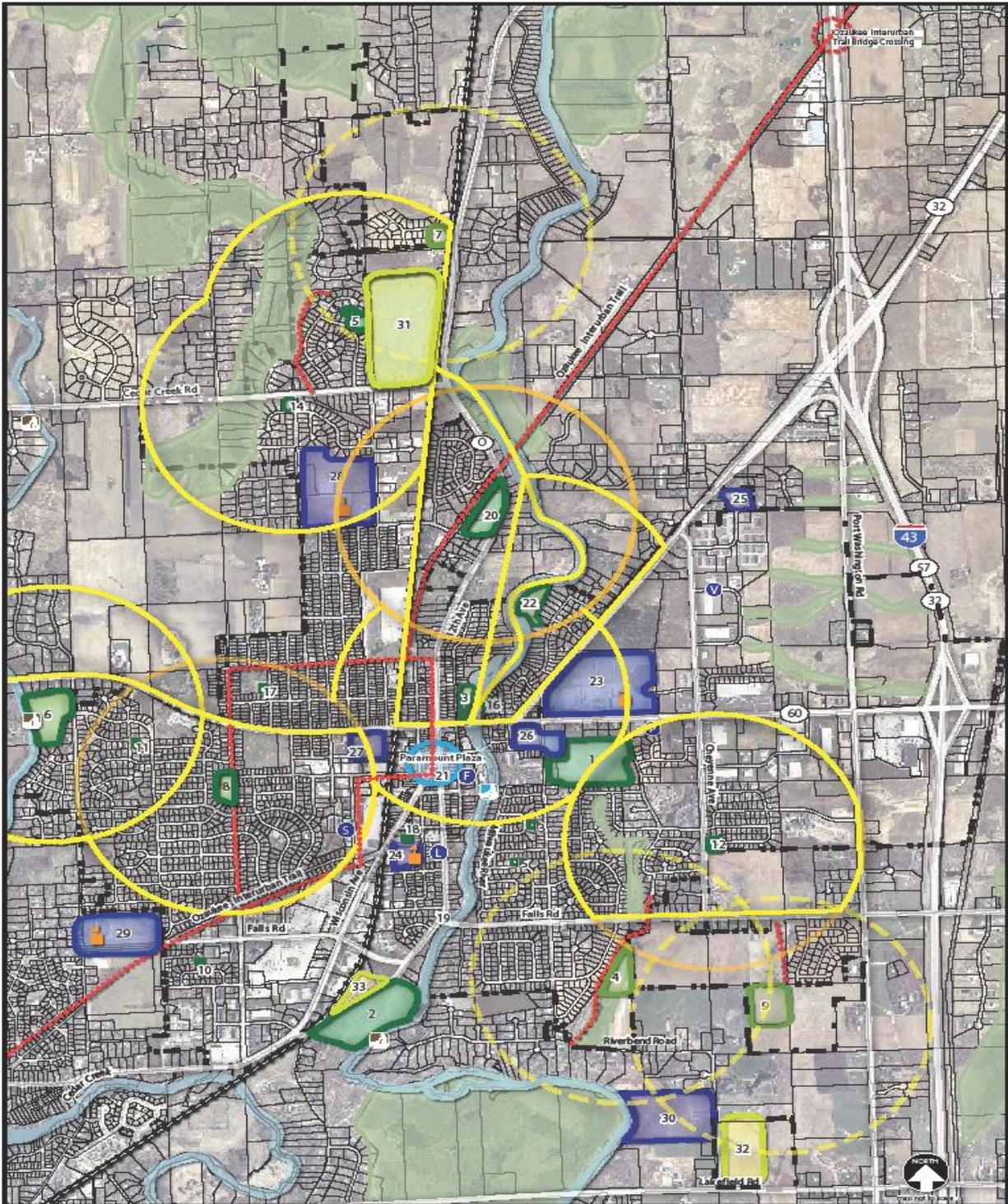
*Based on 2025 projected population (14,284)



<p>MAP 2 A VILLAGE OF GRAFTON</p>  <p>Park and Open Space Mini Park Service Areas</p> 		<p> MiniPark Service Area (1/4 mile)</p> <p> Undeveloped MiniPark Service Area (1/4 mile)</p> <p> Canoe Launch</p> <p> Existing Bicycle/ Pedestrian Trail</p>	<p> Village Hall</p> <p> Police Station</p> <p> Fire Station</p> <p> Library</p> <p> Multi-Purpose Senior Center</p> <p> School</p>	<p>COMMUNITY PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continental Park 2. Lime Hill Park 3. Veterans Memorial Park <p>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Blackhawk Valley Park (undeveloped) 5. Heritage Settlement Park 6. Grafton Lions Park 7. Shady Hollow Park 8. Wildwood Park 9. Putnam South Side Park <p>MAE PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Acom Park 11. Canary Lane Park 12. Cheyenne Park 	<p>DELWOOD PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Delwood Park 14. Mole Creek Park 15. Pine Street Park 16. River Front Park 17. Third Avenue Park <p>SPECIAL USE PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. Broad Street Tennis Courts 19. Chair Factory Historical Marker 20. Meadowbrook Park/ Family Aquatic Center 21. Paramount Plaza 22. River Island Park 	<p>SCHOOL PARKS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. Grafton Elementary and High School 24. Kennedy Elementary School 25. Our Savior Church and School 26. St. Joseph Church and School 27. St. Paul Church and School 28. Woodlawn Elementary School / John Long Middle School 29. Thomsen School (Cedarburg) 30. Zaun Soccer Fields <p>OTHER PARKS / RECREATIONAL LAND</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 31. Edgewater Golf Course 32. Grafton Little League Complex 33. Muliland Meadows Dog Park
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MAP 2 B
VILLAGE OF GRAFTON
 Park and Open Space
 Neighborhood Park
 Service Areas

Legend:

- Existing Neighborhood Park Service Area (1/2 mile)
- Undeveloped Neighborhood Park Service Area (1/2 mile)
- Canoe Launch
- Existing Bicycle/ Pedestrian Trail
- Village Hall
- Police Station
- Fire Station
- Library
- Multi-Purpose Senior Center
- School

Community Parks:

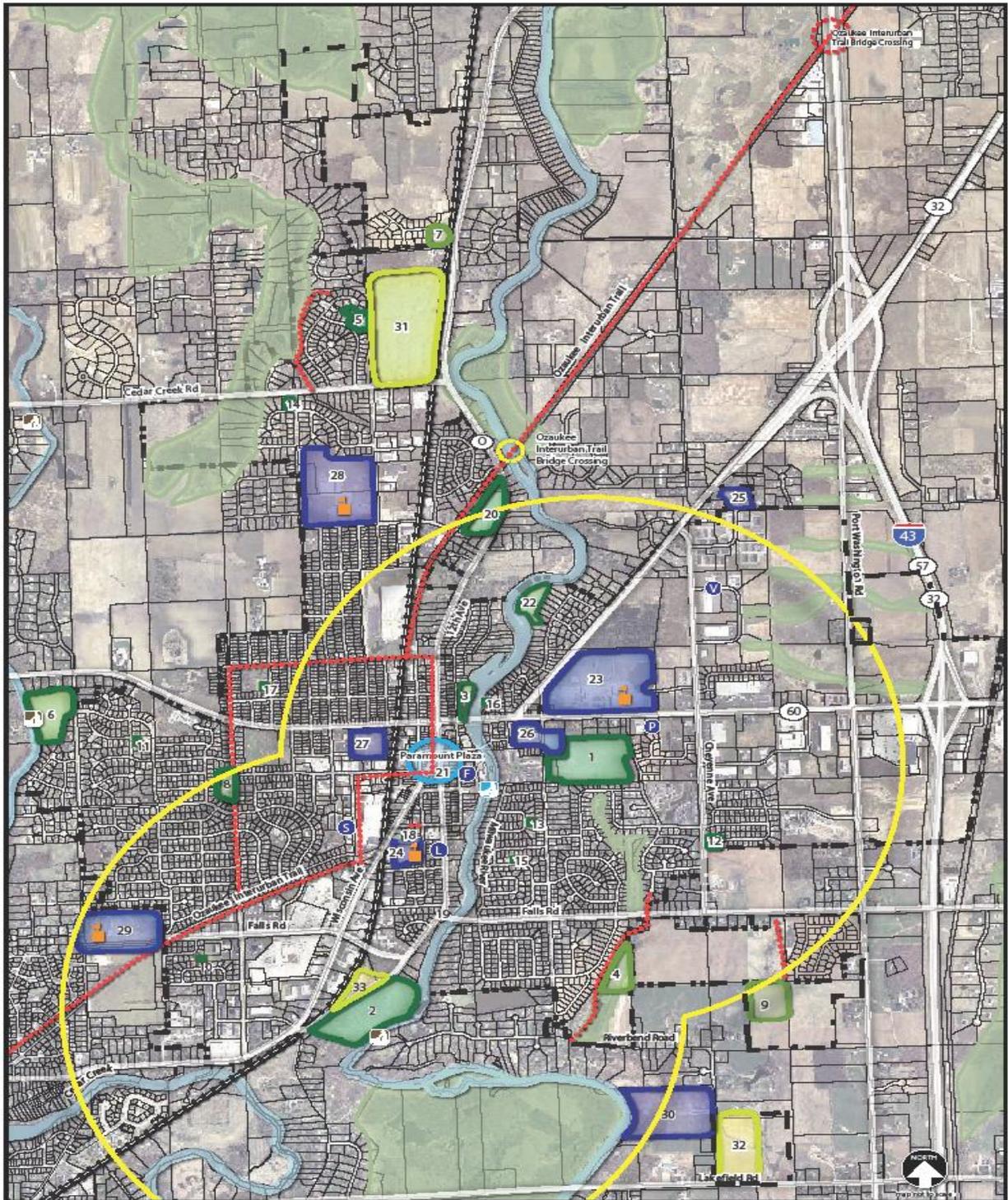
- Centennial Park
- Line Kiln Park
- Veterans Memorial Park
- Blackhawk Valley Park (undeveloped)
- Heritage Settlement Park
- Grafton Lions Park
- Shady Hollow Park
- Wildwood Park
- Future South Side Park
- Acom Park
- Canary Lane Park
- Cheyenne Park
- Delwood Park
- Mole Creek Park
- Pine Street Park
- River Front Park
- Third Avenue Park
- Broad Street Tennis Courts
- Chair Factory Historical Marker
- Meadowbrook Park/ Family Aquatic Center
- Paramount Plaza
- River Island Park

Schools:

- Grafton Elementary and High School
- Kennedy Elementary School
- Our Savior Church and School
- St. Joseph Church and School
- St. Paul Church and School
- Woodview Elementary School / John Long Middle School
- Throssen School (Cedarburg)
- Zaun Soccer Fields
- Ones Park / Rickshaw Lane
- Edgewater Golf Course
- Grafton Little League Complex
- Muttand Meadows Dog Park

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MAP 2c
VILLAGE OF GRAFTON
 Park and Open Space
 Community Park
 Service Areas

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 CONSULTANTS

- Community Park Service Area (1 mile)
- Undeveloped Community Park Service Area (1 mile)
- Undeveloped Soccer Field Service Area (1 mile)
- Canoe Launch
- Existing Bicycle/ Pedestrian Trail
- Village Hall
- Police Station
- Fire Station
- Library
- Multi-Purpose Senior Center
- School

COMMUNITY PARKS

1. Centennial Park
2. Lina Kihn Park
3. Veterans Memorial Park
4. Blackhawk Valley Park (undeveloped)
5. Heritage Settlement Park
6. Grafton Lions Park
7. Shady Hollow Park
8. Wildwood Park
9. Future South Side Park
10. Acom Park
11. Canary Lane Park
12. Cheyenne Park
13. Dellwood Park
14. Mole Creek Park
15. Pine Street Park
16. River Front Park
17. Third Avenue Park
18. Broad Street Tennis Courts
19. Chair Factory Historical Marker
20. Meadowbrook Park/ Family Aquatic Center
21. Paramount Plaza
22. River Island Park

SPECIAL USE PARKS

23. Grafton Elementary and High School
24. Kannon Elementary School
25. Our Savior Church and School
26. St. Joseph Church and School
27. St. Paul Church and School
28. Woodlawn Elementary School/ John Long Middle School
29. Thorsen School (Cedarburg)
30. Zaub Soccer Fields
31. Edgewater Golf Course
32. Grafton Little League Complex
33. Muttand Meadows Dog Park

SPECIAL USE PARKS

23. Grafton Elementary and High School
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Draft: March 26, 2014

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SECTION VIII:

PARK AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are based on projected growth rates and distributional deficiencies identified in the preceding chapters of this Plan. Over the next 5 years, it is recommended the Village acquire and/or develop an additional 25 acres of parkland and make improvements to some of its existing parks. Based upon 2018 population projections, these recommendations would satisfy the Village's local park standards, as defined in this Plan. The timing of parkland acquisitions and development should coincide with the actual demand for recreational facilities in the Village.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL PARKLANDS

Map 3 illustrates approximate locations for future parks in the Village. In some cases, more precise park boundaries will be determined during the preparation of detailed development plans or when lands are acquired or platted. Following are general descriptions of the park recommendations.

Recommended Regional Park

It has been clearly articulated throughout this planning process the need and desire for certain facilities that exceed the fiscal capabilities of the Village. These needs/desires have also been expressed by the adjacent communities. Moreover, to ensure that the facilities experience maximum use and could generate some revenues to offset operating expenses, there is a need to draw on larger population base to merge the Village of Grafton.

As initially recommended in the 2002 and 2008 Plans, this Plan continues the recommendation for the development of a regional park. However, rather than recommending the park be located along South Green Bay Road, this Plan recommends that the park be located to the west of the Village along WIS 60. The regional park should be designed to serve not only the Village, but the City and Town of Cedarburg as well.

It is intended that the regional park would/could include:

- 40 – 50 acres of park land.
- Illuminated and non-illuminated athletic fields to serve baseball, soccer, softball, tennis, basketball, volleyball, etc. with a structure for equipment storage/locker room/bathrooms/concessions.
- Medium- to large-sized community center space (50,000 – 75,000 square feet) to provide indoor facilities for meetings, recreational and fitness programming, a fitness center, leisure pool for lap swimming and programming, basketball/volleyball courts, etc.
- Indoor athletic facility to accommodate—at a minimum—soccer, but should be flexible in design to serve other activities.

This Plan does not recommend that the Village of Grafton spearhead the acquisition or development of this recreation facility. This Plan has outlined the need for such a facility in the area and suggested a possible location and physical improvements to the site based upon the input and analysis from this planning process.

The development of this park site will rely heavily on public-private partnerships. Any collaboration between public bodies, such as local government, and private companies are referred to a public-private partnership (PPP). At this time, it is much too premature to speculate or advise the extent/degree of the partnership.

This Plan recommends that the Village of Grafton, the Town of Cedarburg, and City of Cedarburg initiate discussions regarding both the need and desire for such a park and facilities to serve the area. Until such time as the entities agree on the future direction (if any) of this site park facility, it will not be necessary to develop/impose an impact fee for the facilities.

Mini Parks

The Village has made a policy decision not to continue with the acquisition and development of public mini parks within subdivisions.

However, the Village should incorporate private mini parks into the design of office, commercial and mixed-use districts. Mini parks located in these areas should be oriented more towards adults than children, providing open areas to eat lunch, read the newspaper, and take a break from working or shopping. These parks may include paved areas, but should also accommodate some green space. Trees, landscaping, and water features should be incorporated into these park spaces wherever possible.

Further, the Village will continue to pursue private recreation facilities within higher-density residential developments. It has been the Village's policy that such facilities will be constructed by developers with the residential structures and fully maintained by the development.

Recommended Neighborhood Parks

It is recommended that the Village acquire and/or develop an additional 15 acres of neighborhood parkland over the next 5 years to serve current and future residents. Once again, neighborhood parks should be integrated into the design of future development based on the following criteria:

- The park should be centrally located within the neighborhood and highly visible to the public.
- The park should be easily accessible by walking or biking, but should also provide minimal parking (7-10 spaces) to accommodate visitors coming from farther away.

- The park should be well buffered by open space or landscape plantings and separated from roadways by physical barriers, such as fences.
- The park should be marked by obvious signage and should be clearly separated from adjacent residential lots.

The park area should have enough space to accommodate a variety of both active and passive recreational facilities. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Playgrounds for both younger and older children
- Picnic areas and/or shelters/pavilions
- Open space and/or playfields
- Hard surface recreational areas such as basketball or tennis courts
- Baseball/softball diamonds
- Walking paths
- Gardens and landscaped areas and/or natural areas with trees and natural vegetation

Lands comprised of wetlands or floodplains, lands that are “left over” or unwanted for development, and lands designated for stormwater management will not satisfy the Village’s parkland dedication requirements.

Recommended locations for future neighborhood parks are identified on Map 3. However, the precise boundaries of these sites may not be decided upon until development occurs and/or land is acquired or platted.

N1: A future neighborhood park should be developed in conjunction with future residential development near Mary Glade Road and East River Road. This parkland should provide an access to the Milwaukee River and the Ozaukee Interurban Trail. Park features at the site may include picnic tables, an open-air pavilion, an open space play area, and/or a playground area. It is also recommended that a trailhead be developed in this park that includes informational signage about the Ozaukee Interurban Trail and a small parking area for people who wish to access the Trail from this park site.

N2: While the Village has previously acquired the 20 acres for the future Southside Park, the Parks and Recreation Board and the Village Board have determined that only 10 acres will be developed as parkland. A Master Plan was created for this site by Rettler Corporation in 2009. The adopted plan includes ball fields, a pavilion, bathroom facilities, parking lot, playground, stormwater management, and a walking path.

N3: What had been recommended in the 2002 Plan as a community park site in the northwest growth corridor (at the extension of First Avenue) is now recommended in this Plan to be developed as a 10 acre neighborhood park. It is likely that the development

of this park site will coincide with the development of adjacent subdivisions. The park land should be a unifying feature for all of the developments in the area, and ensure context-sensitive design. Environmental features should be preserved and a significant trail network should be included that provides non-motorized access throughout the area.

Development of this site may include active recreational facilities, but the primary focus should be to encourage less-intensive or less-organized recreational activities. The Village should consider utilizing this park to develop shelters with bathrooms, a parking lot, and play equipment to serve tots, small children, and older kids. It is also recommended that the Village develop a portion of this site to accommodate a band-shell or other outdoor performance space for concerts in the park. Acquisition of these parklands should begin during the life of this Plan, while the actual development of the park will occur after 2018.

Recommended Community Parks

This Plan does not recommend the development of a new community park. It is recommended that the Village acquire and develop additional parkland in conjunction with existing neighborhood parks to be unified and reclassified as a community park. This Plan recommends that Heritage Settlement Park be reviewed for possible reclassification. Following are some of the amenities that should be considered:

- Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and nature study areas.
- Restrooms.
- Playfields, tennis courts, and basketball courts.

In 2009, the Village purchased the property at 887 North Green Bay Road, south of the existing Family Aquatic Center. At the time, this property was intended to serve as the new location for the Family Aquatic Center should the adjacent Municipal Services Facility need to expand. Based upon a recent survey of Family Aquatic Center users, the Village Board has committed to retaining the Family Aquatic Center as long as possible at its current site. The Village Board has decided to retain ownership of the 887 North Green Bay Road property given its size and central location in case of future municipal use. The Village intends to reevaluate the use of the property as part of the next 5-year Plan update.

Special Open Space Areas

In addition to developing neighborhood parks and community parks, the Village should acquire or preserve environmentally significant lands as funds become available. The Village should also support other state, county, regional, and non-profit agencies in such efforts. Acquisitions should focus on those lands that have been designated as environmental corridor, and natural features such as woodlands and wetlands should be preserved and incorporated into development design.

DEVELOPMENT OF UNIQUE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Splash Park

Splash parks are becoming popular alternatives to community swimming pools because they are far less expensive to build and maintain, and because they are safer and do not require constant lifeguard supervision (there is no standing water at a splash pad). Splash pads also function as interesting features of community civic spaces.

It is recommended that the Village explore opportunities to develop a splash pad in Wildwood Park on First Avenue and possibly Centennial Park. A splash park would serve as a unique park feature and enhance Wildwood Park’s capacity to function as a Village destination. Development of a splash pad in Centennial Park will provide a unique feature in a park that is currently popular with families.

Skate Park

It is recommended that the Village continue to explore funding opportunities to develop a skate park at the approved site in upper Lime Kiln Park. In 2013, the Village Board accepted a donation of used equipment from the City of Cedarburg. This equipment is slated to be available for use in the summer of 2014.

As such, it is also recommended that the Village continue to work with and support the involvement of local skateboarders and the Skate Park Committee in planning for and executing the development of the skate park. Not only will this ensure local support for the project and improve the likelihood that the project will succeed, but it will also lead to the development of the type of skating facilities that are most desired and needed by those who will utilize the park most frequently.

River Access

The Milwaukee River, while an important feature in defining the character of the Village, has only recently become a celebrated or well used feature of the community. Despite having several handsome historic buildings and bridges, much of the riverfront has a raw, unkempt appearance, and debris has collected along the riverbanks. Large areas of riverfront are privately controlled and are fenced off and inaccessible to the public. There is a significant amount of underutilized land along the river. And with the exception of a few instances—Veterans Memorial Park, Bridge Street, and Lime Kiln

Park—the entrance to the riverfront lacks a sense of entry or arrival. Moreover, the lack of public space along the river downplays one of the Village’s most remarkable resources.

With this in mind, this Plan recommends the following for the Milwaukee River corridor and adjacent lands:

- Continue to expand the Village’s riverwalk system, specifically focusing on the creation of a walkway along the Milwaukee River corridor in Veterans Memorial Park (similar to the walkway developed from WIS 60 to Bridge Street).
- Create active space along the riverwalk that encourages pedestrian and bicycle use.
- Create more pedestrian entrances onto the riverwalk and enhance pedestrian access through various clearly marked paths.
- Incorporate the riverwalk with regional trails (such as the Ozaukee Interurban Trail) and the Paramount Plaza.
- Relocate larger, more industrial uses away from the river and in to the existing industrial parks to encourage development of more active space along the river.
- Develop more mixed-use opportunities along the river that include retail, office, entertainment, live/work, apartment, and condominium opportunities.
- Establish or maintain easements all along the riverwalk to ensure a continuous riverwalk rather than one that is broken up by private property.
- Maintain river viewsheds by preventing the riverfront from becoming solidly developed. Use courtyards and arcades for more porous development that preserves river views (such as the views down streets that run from north to south).
- Develop “overlooks” to take advantage of various river views for residents and visitors.
- Create a statutory redevelopment plan to outline and direct redevelopment efforts spearheaded by the Village and the Community Development Authority.

PARK CONNECTIONS

Map 3 identifies proposed locations for future bicycle and pedestrian connections. These routes are designed to connect the quadrants of the Village by providing connections between parks and open spaces, residential neighborhoods, and shopping areas. It is the intent of this Plan to further the recommendations outlined in the Village’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

The We Energies’ right-of-ways that cross the Village are underutilized opportunities to connect neighborhoods, shopping area, and recreational facilities, as well as other communities. These swaths of green space offer unique opportunities for residents to

access their community without the need for motorized transportation. Similar trail projects have been implemented in several communities in the region, including the cities of Muskego, Franklin, and Oak Creek. It is recommended that the Village coordinate with We Energies to develop recreation trails along/within these corridors.

Furthermore, the Village should work with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and Ozaukee County to ensure safe trail connections across major roadways, including, but not limited to WIS 60, Wisconsin Avenue, Port Washington Road, CTH V/WIS 32, and Green Bay Road. Where feasible, the Village should explore opportunities to signalize crossings at high-traffic roadways to ensure the greatest degree of safety for bikers and pedestrians.

TRAILHEADS

A trailhead is the point at which a path, usually intended primarily for walking or bicycling starts. Typical trailheads often contain restrooms, informational kiosks with literature about the trail and its features, picnic areas, and parking areas for vehicles. Map 3 shows proposed locations for future trailheads.

CANOE LAUNCHES

Both the Village and the adjacent Town of Grafton have identified the importance of encouraging activities on the Milwaukee River, specifically paddle sports. The Village and the Town should cooperate to develop a series of canoe launches along the river—at the intersection with the Ozaukee Interurban Trail, Veterans Memorial Park, Lime Kiln Park, and Zaun Fields—to facilitate paddling activity.

Most paddlers prefer more naturalistic, less engineered facilities. However, good information about the route, interesting features and potential safety hazards along the way, and what to expect at the destination are of great value to paddlers. Developing a launch site may be as simple as placing a sign identifying the site. Other sites may require some construction to make the site safe for the general public to access, such as a path to the water that is flat and hard enough to carry boats without difficulty. In many cases, a stable bank is all that is needed to provide an adequate launch site for paddlers. At locations with higher banks, stairs or a path of a reasonable grade may be required. Launch sites may require protection for the riverbank such as a geo-textile grid or other methods, or bank stabilization; riverbank, ramp or dock materials that do not damage the boats, and devices that protect users from injury such as railings, fences, and lighting.

SIGNAGE

Efforts have been made in the past to implement coordinated signage at all parks and this initiative has had relative success. All existing signs should be reassessed for replacement due to vandalism or wear. If the majority of existing signs need to be replaced, the Village should explore the opportunity to redesign all aspects of park signage to maintain a coordinated family of signs (entry, directional, interpretive). The Village should also explore the potential for including interpretive signage along trails and at sites to describe the types of wildlife, vegetation, water features and historic significance that exist.

PUBLIC ART

Public art encompasses works of art that have been planned with the specific intention of being installed outside and accessible to everyone. Public art is intended to attract attention and contributes to defining or revealing the unique character of an entire community's identity. It increases a community's assets and expresses a community's positive sense of identity and values. It helps green space thrive, enhances roadsides, pedestrian corridors, and community gateways; it demonstrates unquestionable civic and corporate pride in citizenship and affirms an educational environment. A community with public art is a community that thinks and feels.

Public art takes a variety of forms including monuments in plazas, murals and plaques, sculpture parks, short-lived presentation pieces and decorative art integrated into the built environment. These artworks may be funded by private institutions, government entities, community initiatives or private corporations.

This Plan encourages the Village to develop a formal public arts program entrusted to outline the types of art desired for the community, the locations for artwork and procurement of funding for art projects.

RIVEREDGE NATURE CENTER CONNECTION

The Riveredge Nature Center located on 350 acres in Newburg, is known as the leading ecological preservation, conservation, and education organization in the region. The mission of Riveredge Nature Center is to inspire, inform and enable responsible environmental decision-making, and the Center is an opportunity to enhance the Village of Grafton.

Prairie Restoration and Living Classroom. The prairies of North America were once vast grasslands that covered 200 million acres, a complex ecosystem supporting a large amount of wildlife. Today, less than one percent of that native habitat is left. Prairie restoration enhances the environment, increases the abundance of native plants,

increases ecological diversity, and creates habitats for native animals and insects. Additionally, prairies absorb tremendous amounts of rain, reducing soil erosion and runoff. Riveredge has expressed a desire to cooperate with the Village in developing a prairie restoration pilot project within a new community park. The prairie restoration project would provide a hands-on learning environment for Grafton area school children, as well as provide for passive recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING PARKS

In addition to the recommendations presented in the previous sections of this chapter, which mainly focus on the acquisition and development of new parklands in the Village, recommendations for improvements to existing parks and open spaces are as follows:

General Recommendations

The Village should continue to update their parks based on the changing needs of the community and to provide facilities that support recreational activities for all ages and abilities, rather than facilities geared only toward team sports or certain age groups.

- Update the Village’s land dedication and impact fee ordinances to reflect the recommendations in this Plan. This will streamline future negotiations with developers and will ensure that dedication requirements are fair and equitable.
- Complete necessary upgrades to bring all park and recreation facilities into compliance with ADA regulations.
- Continue to update and maintain playgrounds and equipment in existing parks, as needed.
- Explore the feasibility of working with local businesses to provide site-level park amenities. For instance, park benches could be “sponsored” by local residents or businesses to offset the costs for purchase, installation, and maintenance.
- Support volunteer groups and donated materials to the greatest extent possible to enhance and maintain the Village parks. Utilization of volunteer labor is generally most successful where a single tangible project is involved, such as tree planting, construction of a facility, or a one-day clean up and beautification project.

Accessible Play Equipment Noted:

- Centennial Park has a sidewalk leading up to the play area with a compacted surface leading to a ramp on the play equipment.
- The fenced-in pool area of Meadowbrook Park has a raised sandbox, where it may be possible for a child in a wheelchair to play with the sand.
- Veterans Memorial Park has a sidewalk leading up to the play area’s sand. It might be possible for a child using a wheelchair to use the seated shovel toy,

which is operated by the hands using lever action. Based on field observations it is not certain whether this can be done without assistance.

Non-accessible Play Equipment Noted:

- Lime Kiln Park
- Meadowbrook Park
- Dellwood Park
- Pine Street Park
- Acorn Park
- Canary Lane Park
- Cheyenne Park
- Heritage Settlement Park
- Third Avenue Park
- Wildwood Park
- Mole Creek Park
- Grafton Lions Park

Accessible Picnic Tables or Benches Noted in Park at Shelters:

- Centennial Park
- Lime Kiln Park
- Meadowbrook Park (within fenced-in pool area)
- Veterans Memorial Park
- Grafton Lions Park

All restroom facilities found in the parks had some handicap accessible facilities.

Parks with Play Surface Needs

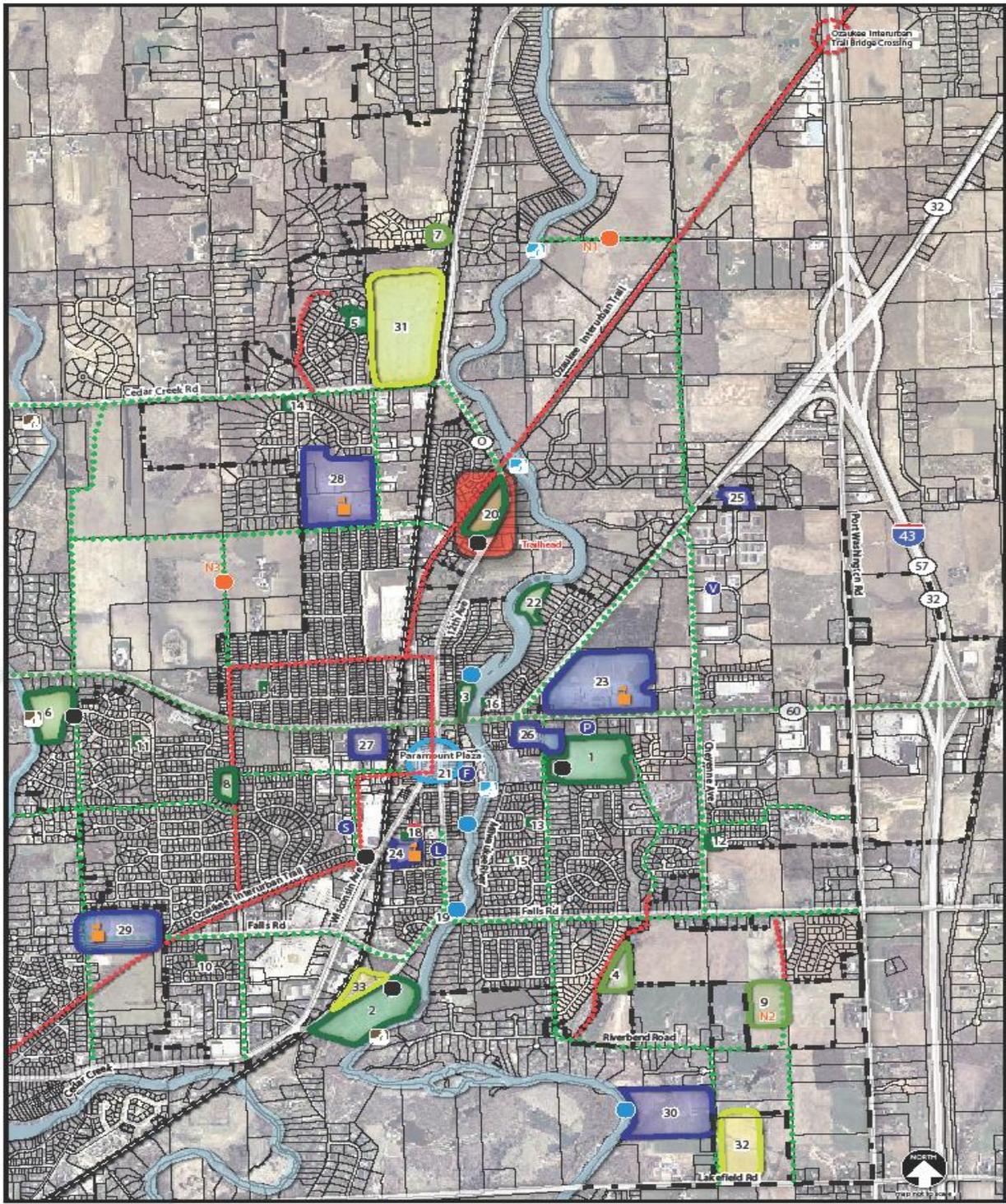
- Hunters Crossing Park
- Mole Creek Park
- Dellwood Park
- Third Avenue Park
- Meadowbrook Park
- Heritage Settlement Park

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXISTING PARKS AND OPEN SPACE AREAS

Centennial Park:

The Village has been both diligent and successful in the development of Centennial Park as a premier community park. The park currently accommodates a wide variety of active recreational opportunities and future development is limited. The desire to develop a moderate-size outdoor performance area was expressed during the 2008 planning process and is being placed in this Plan. The natural drainage swale that bisects the park could be reconfigured to facilitate both storm water management and the amphitheater. The amphitheater could be created in a bowl-like configuration that would provide an opportunity for small, intimate cultural performances "in the round" during the summer months. Seating would be provided through tiered grading of the site and electrical connections installed for amplification and lighting.

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MAP 3
VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

Park and Open Space
Future Parks & Facilities

Trailhead	Village Hall	COMMUNITY PARKS	13. Dellwood Park	SCHOOL PARKS
Future Neighborhood Park	Police Station	1. Centennial Park	14. Mole Creek Park	23. Grafton Elementary and High School
Future River Access	Fire Station	2. Lime Kiln Park	15. Pine Street Park	24. Kennedy Elementary School
Future Canoe Launch	Library	3. Veterans Memorial Park	16. River Front Park	25. Our Savior Church and School
Canoe Launch	Multi-Purpose Senior Center	NONRESIDENTIAL PARKS	17. Third Avenue Park	26. St. Joseph Church and School
Future Bicycle/ Pedestrian Facility	School	4. Blackhawk Valley Park (undeveloped)	SPECIAL USE PARKS	27. St. Paul Church and School
Existing Bicycle/ Pedestrian Trail		5. Heritage Settlement Park	18. Broad Street Tennis Courts	28. Woodview Elementary School / John Long Middle School
		6. Grafton Lions Park	19. Chair Factory Historical Marker	29. Thomsen School (Cedarburg)
		7. Shady Hollow Park	20. Meadowbrook Park/ Family Aquatic Center	30. Zoun Soccer Fields
		8. Wildwood Park	21. Paramount Plaza	OTHER PARKS / RECREATION LAND
		9. Future South Side Park	22. River Island Park	31. Edgewater Golf Course
		MANOR PARKS		32. Grafton Little League Complex
		10. Acorn Park		33. Muttand Meadows Dog Park
		11. Canary Lane Park		
		12. Cheyenne Park		

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SECTION IX:

IMPLEMENTATION

The recommendations presented in this Plan will be implemented over time. This phasing will be dictated by several factors, including private landowner decisions to develop their property for residential use and by the funding available to the Village to make necessary acquisitions or improvements.

There are a number of potential funding sources available to help finance implementation. These funding sources include parkland acquisition impact fees and state and federal grant programs. It should be noted that funds from many of these programs are subject to change due to fluctuations with current federal, state, and local budgets.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAMMING

The park and open space improvements recommended in this Plan should continue to be incorporated into the Village's regular capital improvement plans (CIP) and programs. The Village has successfully maintained and improved its existing park and open space system and facilities by outlining the general schedule within which public improvements are proposed to be undertaken. Following the "if it's not broke, don't fix it" principle, the CIP in Grafton has a proven track record in leveraging available resources through improved timing of projects, and coordinating Village projects with those of other public or private entities.

COMMUNITY COORDINATION

The Village should coordinate efforts with other units of government (ex. Ozaukee County, City and Town of Cedarburg, Town of Grafton), governmental departments and public agencies (ex. school districts, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources), and private and non-profit agencies (ex. The Nature Conservancy, Washington-Ozaukee County Land Trust, and The Riveredge Nature Center) to help fund and implement the recommendations presented in this Plan.

Generally, the Village of Grafton should continue to utilize its existing planning framework and regulations to implement the recommendations in this Plan. The Village's Subdivision Ordinance and development review process, in particular, provides opportunities for the Village to secure parklands as development occurs.

Program	Purpose	Details	Deadline	Notes	Agency	Contact
Wisconsin Stewardship Programs						
Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)	To acquire or develop public, nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities	\$3 million avail. per year 50% local match per project	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required Priority for land acquisition Projects must comply with ADA	WDNR	Jim Ritchie, Southeast Region 414-263-8610
Urban Greenspace Program (UGS)	To acquire land to provide natural space within or near urban areas, or to protect scenic or ecological features	\$1.2 million avail. per year 50% local match per project	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required Projects must comply with ADA	WDNR	Jim Ritchie, Southeast Region 414-263-8610
Acquisition of Development Rights	To acquire development rights for nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities	\$600,000 avail. per year 50% local match per project	May 1	Funds available to acquire development rights in areas where restrictions on residential, industrial, or commercial developments are in place May include enhancements of outdoor recreation	WDNR	Jim Ritchie, Southeast Region 414-263-8610
Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP)	To acquire lands, or rights in lands, adjacent to urban rivers for the purpose of preserving or restoring them economic revitalization or nature-based outdoor recreation activities	\$1.2 million avail. per year 50% local match per project	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required Projects must comply with ADA	WDNR	Jim Ritchie, Southeast Region 414-263-8610
Federal Programs						
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)	To acquire or develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities	50% local match per project	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required	WDNR	Jim Ritchie, Southeast Region 414-263-8610
Recreational Trails Act	To provide funds for maintenance, development, rehabilitation, and acquisition of land for motorized, non-motorized, and diversified trails	50% local match per project	May 1	Funds may only be used on trails which have been identified in, or which further a specific goal of a local, county, or state trail plan Funds may be used on trails that are referenced in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan	WDNR	Jim Ritchie, Southeast Region 414-263-8610

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APPENDIX A:

VISION WORKSHOP RESULTS

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

PARKS AND RECREATION PARKS VISIONING WORKSHOP MINUTES

AUGUST 5, 2013

The Parks and Recreation Visioning Workshop meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Director John Safstrom.

Members present: Jim Miller

Staff / Officials present: Village Administrator Darrell Hofland, Director of Parks and Recreation John Safstrom, Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Karin Sevener, Trustee Sue Meinecke

Others present: Dianne Abad, Russ Kempka, Jake Kempka and Julia McNally

PURPOSE

To provide Village residents with an opportunity to share their perspectives on the existing park system and its future, and to ask questions about the park planning process.

The results of this workshop will be utilized by Village staff and the Parks and Recreation Board in the development of goals, objectives, and policies as they relate to the park system.

2014 – 2018 PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Director Safstrom explained that in order to remain eligible for Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Grants, the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the Village of Grafton must be reviewed and approved every five years. The previous plan was adopted in 2008 and remains eligible through 2013.

Director Safstrom explained the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is a master plan of the existing parks and includes the planning for future growth of the Village.

BACKGROUND

Director Safstrom explained the purpose of the workshop and timeline that it is to be completed by year-end to be eligible for grant funding.

Director Safstrom recapped that at the last Visioning workshop they decided not to pursue any more mini parks due to the high maintenance costs. He explained that the cost of maintaining these parks are high and more focus should be toward larger community and neighborhood parks. The existing mini parks will continue to be maintained. The playground equipment and safety surfaces will continue to be updated.

There are a few Undeveloped Parks at this time. Blackhawk Valley has a Master Plan but no funding to grade and develop at this time. The Chair Factory Site has had a

Consultant design a plan, however, more history would be beneficial. Future South Side Park has 10 acres available and has an approved Master Plan, funding is the next step.

MAPS

Five large maps were displayed. Map 1 displayed existing parks. Map 2 showed the Service Area for Mini Parks according to the National Ratio for Park acreage / 1,000 residents. The dense areas are covered well. Map 3 shows the parks system's existing Neighborhood Parks. Map 4 shows Community Park Service areas for parks that are >20 acres. This would include Lime Kiln Park and Centennial Park. Map 5 is for future parks.

Director Safstrom explained there is \$30,000 in funding each year for projects in the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. He stated there have been many upgrades to the Family Aquatic Center this year, including new valves, a sump pump, and concrete installed in the front of the building. Next year the funds will be used to finish the safety surface project replacing wood chips in the remaining parks.

Items Discussed at the last Visioning Workshop included:

- A Destination Park, possibly shared with another community with many amenities between 50-100 acres with multiple attractions (ex. Hartford).
- Skate Park. We have equipment given to us by Cedarburg.
- Favorite Parks. What amenities make it great?
- What Parks do you avoid and why?
- Develop Bike and Pedestrian Trail. Some areas need blacktop. Possibility of extending the trail underneath the bridge along the river near Veterans Park. It would be difficult to go much further due to private property.
- Finish the Chair Factory Park, funding needed.
- Community Garden is now in its second year with a more active group which may turn into a club. Water and mulch is provided.

Items added into the Parks and Open Space Plan 5 years ago (Map 5) include:

- Centennial Park Amphitheater
- Skate Park
- Smaller Neighborhood Parks (N1, N2, N3)
- Regional Park – Joint projects and/or projects along waterways
-

DISCUSSION

The Town of Grafton is focusing on its first multi-use trail east of Port Washington Road.

Discussion was held regarding tennis courts and our good relationship with the schools. The GHS tennis courts will be resurfaced next June. Tennis lessons were moved to

Broad Street courts this year as we did not have an answer about the availability of the courts when our books went to print in March.

A participant inquired about the possibility of after school programs. Director Safstrom has explored this request in depth and the challenge is in finding available facilities. A participant inquired to see if we have something available that is comparable to Cedarburg's Community Gym.

Another participant stated that their child enjoyed the Day Camp program but would be interested in sending their child to a full-day Park program similar to Port Washington's Park program.

Ideas for Centennial Park that were discussed include a Spray Park, a natural Amphitheater, and another small ball diamond. There is a large amount of open space at Centennial Park that will remain undeveloped. A large amount of the open space has been verbally committed to keep the open space for soccer and rugby groups.

One resident requested a basketball court to be added to Centennial Park as Veteran's Park is too far for her child to walk. Jim Miller suggested Cheyenne Court.

Attendees were given color-coded post-it notes to write down their ideas and post on the appropriate maps. The suggestions are as follows:

Community Parks (blue)

- Need Community Center jointly with Cedarburg
- Need more trees near playground for shade
- Lime Kiln Park - Unpave paths for bicycling or possibly at other undeveloped locations

Neighborhood Parks (pink)

- Spraypark at Wildwood Park

Mini Parks (orange)

- See saws were removed at 3rd Avenue Park. Replace with another amenity
- Are all existing mini parks needed? High cost to maintain

ADJOURN

Visioning workshop adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

APPENDIX B:

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

1. In your opinion, what is the CURRENT IMAGE of the Grafton park system?
 - Positive image and one that is always looking to improve its already popular program (s)
 - Good park system, have received many positive comments, especially the cleanliness of our parks.
 - Well maintained and clean
 - Positive image, great upkeep of parks
 - Well maintained, could use improvements, such as more activity offerings

2. What do you VALUE most about the Village's park system?
 - Location, parks are accessible to residents in all areas of the Village.
 - Easy access and locations
 - Ease of accessibility within my neighborhood, there are three parks within walking distance

3. What do you feel are CHALLENGES facing the park system?
 - Indoor spaces, class rooms, gym time, some sidewalks that don't lead to the parks, out-dated pool and structure(s)
 - Budgeting enough money to keep our parks up to date including equipment and general maintenance
 - Time they are open and not allowing dogs in some parks for walking
 - Biggest challenge is financial, the funds available to maintain and improve the current parks and future additions

4. What do you view as OPPORTUNITIES/ASSETS for the park system?
 - Bike path, Centennial Park
 - Parks are used by many residents of the Village of all ages. We offer a variety of programs suitable for all ages.
 - Nice variety of different size parks with shelters, play equipment, etc
 - Opportunities are new suggestions from Village residents
 - There is a great opportunity with the land that is available but the lack of funds to develop the land, and I also see the swimming pool as a great asset. I do think there are certain things that could be improved with the pool, especially the concession area.

5. What existing facilities or environmental features should financial resources be committed to?
 - Updating the pool or continuing to make necessary repairs as need be

- Additional resources should be committed for more basketball courts and tennis courts to replace the courts lost to Department of Public Works construction
- Geese and certain types of plants
- First and foremost, activities for children of all ages to keep them safe and constructively active
- Need to keep the maintenance of the pool and improve Veterans Memorial Park. The concession area will need to be updated and I could see this being used more and possibly adding a beer garden with sponsorship from one of the micro brews such as Sprecher

6. What type of new facilities or outdoor activities should financial resources be committed to?

- Add baseball fields, finding a facility to house recreation activities (adult volleyball, basketball, after school opportunities for youth etc)
- More basketball courts and tennis courts with funding to keep the existing pool viable, would like to see an improved summer parks program similar to Port Washington
- Recreational activities like archery to make sure there is proper equipment for safety
- Years ago there was a Teen Night. Could this somehow be brought back? Of course to be supervised – hopefully getting parents involved
- New activities – more biking trails, improvements to the exercise trail in Centennial Park, more baseball diamonds, volleyball courts, handball courts, or pickleball courts

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APPENDIX C:

SCHOOL CHILDREN SURVEY

Children's Park Survey Results

1. How old are you?

8 years old = 10

9 years old = 11

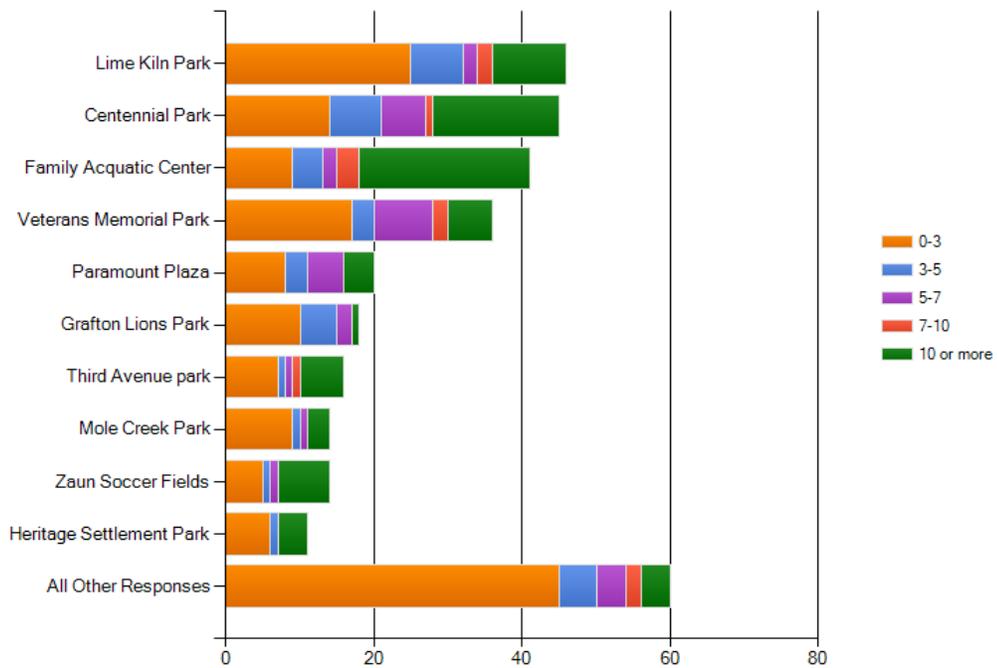
10 years old = 20

11 years old = 8

49 participants

2. In the past year, about how many times have you visited each of these parks?

In the past year, about how many times have you visited each of these parks?



Other responses include:

Little league Ball Diamond – 50

Bike path from Meadowbrook Park

Kurtz Woods 30, Bike path 30

Lions Den Gorge

3. What did you do at the parks?

What did you do at the parks? (You can mark more than one.)			
Answer Options	Yes	No	Response Count
Visited the river or creek	33	13	46
Swam in the pool	41	8	49
Fished	14	26	40
Biked/rollerbladed	27	17	44
Walked/jogged	32	13	45
Viewed nature (nature-study_	27	18	44
Picnicking	24	19	43
Canoeing or kayaking	6	32	38
Played on a playground	47	2	49
Played basketball	16	26	42
Played baseball/softball	18	24	42
Played in an open play area (Tag, dodge ball, Frisbee, etc)	32	13	45
Attended a party	28	14	42
Attended a Community Event or Festival	36	10	46
Played Soccer	16	25	41
Played Volleyball	4	33	37
Played Tennis	9	29	38
Played Football/Ruby	10	27	37
Frisbee Golf	9	28	37
Archery Lessons	5	33	38
Played Gold (River Island Park)	2	35	37
Sledding	17	23	40
Hiked	17	22	39
Other (please specify)			3
	answered question		49
	skipped question		0

Other responses include: Cheer practice, Dog Park and exploring.

4. Please list any activities that you would like to participate in but can't because there are no places to do them.

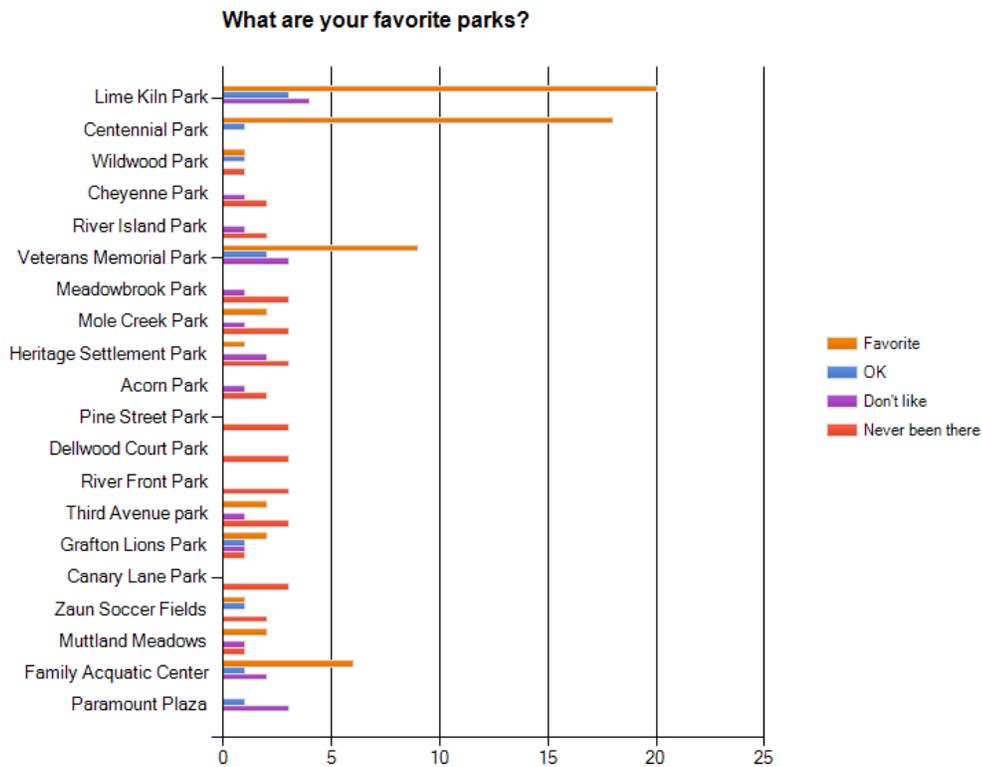
8 year old responses: archery, ice skating rink with shelter, groom snow shoeing, skate park, volleyball, tennis, ice hockey, skateboard park, outdoor batting cage, snow shoeing trails, dodgeball, put bike lane on Pleasant Valley, splash ground, indoor space in winter for gathering, rockwall climbing.

9 year old responses: mini golf, another sledding hill, archery, shuttle badminton, paintball, we think you have very good parks, BMX riding, sledding hill, archery, climb good trees (Maples), baseball, soccer, football.

10 year old responses: soccer, climbing things!

11 year old responses: At Wildwood – jungle gym, seesaw, playground equipment.

5. What are your favorite parks?



6. Why do you like or don't like the park?

Like:

- Fishing
- Centennial because it has a big playground.
- Little League ballpark, love baseball.
- Like Lime Kiln – toys and river and bridge. Like Heritage Settlement – Neighborhood Park.

- Like the facilities and natural setting at Lime Kiln and Veterans Park.
- Third Avenue is close to home. Like the river at Lime Kiln. Like swimming at the pool.
- Have a puppy, like Muttland Meadows. Like the Aquatic Center and Lime Kiln – playground and nature.
- Centennial is big and clean.
- Like the walking track at Centennial.
- Like the nicer playgrounds, nature, river, restrooms and shelter at Lime Kiln Park and Centennial.
- Like the Community events.
- Zaun Fields because I like soccer.
- Veterans Park because they have a basketball court and a playground.
- Lime Kiln has great toys, nice river walk.
- Centennial Park has good slides and swings which are fun.
- Lime Kiln Park because it has so many fields.
- Lime Kiln Park because it is beautiful, creek, water, shelter, nature, playground, woods. Like Veterans Park – benches, creek, shelter.
- Lime Kiln Park – disc golf and fishing. Like Veterans Park – music, sound company and fishing.
- Like Lime Kiln Park because of the view.
- Like (Third Ave Park) because it is close.
- Like Centennial – many things to do and open space. Grafton Lions – the river.
- Like Lime Kiln – lots of different activities to do. Mole Creek - close to house and jungle gym.
- Like Veterans because of basketball.
- Like Lime Kiln because there are so many things to do. Bike path because it goes so far and Kurtz Woods is so pretty and natural.
- Centennial and Lime Kiln because of play areas. Veterans because of the river.
- Like the playground area (Lime Kiln Park and Centennial).
- Like Centennial Park – lots of choices. Lion's Den Gorge is a fun place to hike, like them all.
- Like to swim at the Aquatic Center.
- Like Centennial because there is open space to play football, basketball and soccer.
- Newer equipment at Centennial is nice.
- Some places are safe for kids and some for adults.
- Like Lime Kiln because of space.
- Aquatic Center – swimming and the slide.

- Zaun Soccer Fields because I love to play soccer.
- My favorite is Lime Kiln Park because it is fun to play on the playground there.
- Veterans Park.
- I like all parks that I have been to.

Don't Like:

- Not a lot of swings at Lime Kiln Park
- Heritage Settlement and Mole Creek Park looks unfinished, just a playground in the middle of the field.
- Don't like the goose droppings at Veterans.
- The river at Veterans Park makes me nervous with kids running around.
- Don't like the equipment at Meadowbrook Park, park is not well maintained.
- Third Ave Park has uneven ground and not a lot of play equipment.
- Because of all of the bees at Lime Kiln.
- Bee infestation at Heritage Park.
- Nothing to do in the Paramount Plaza.
- Third Avenue – needs upgraded swings, more pet access.
- Parks without a playground.
- Don't like Lime Kiln Park because the kilns creep me out.
- Boring or old (Aquatic Center and Paramount Plaza).
- Lime Kiln Park because there is only little kids stuff to do.
- Grafton Lions Park because I do not like how it is designed.

7. Which of the following special recreation areas do you think should be in the Village and why?

<u>Special Recreation Area</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Skateboard / Rollerblade Park	50% (20)	50% (20)
Splash Park	78.4% (29)	21.6% (8)
Youth Center	82.1% (32)	17.9% (7)

Comments:

- Provide more options for kids especially in winter.
- A place to play with friends (Youth Center)
- Fun for all ages (yes to Splash and Skate Park)
- We need a skate park to keep the skaters out of the streets.
- Give kids something to do other than wandering around / vandalizing (yes to Youth Center).
- Volleyball Court.

- Bring back the Youth Center! Splash Park would be amazing.
- Kids need something else to do besides gaming (yes Splash and Youth Center).
- Youth Center – place for young people to spend some energy.
- Bike path on Pleasant Valley, we think you have good parks (yes Splash Park and Youth Center).
- I love to skateboard and a youth center could be fun after school for activities.
- Something different and something to do when weather is not good (yes skate and youth center).
- Splash Park would be awesome and a youth center to gather at in the winter would help me not get bored.
- Baseball complex
- Maybe a rollerblading / skating / ripsticking park!!!
- Did not like the fireworks at Centennial Park this year!

8. What do you like or do not like about the Family Aquatic Center? (Outdoor pool)

Like:

- Swim Lessons
- We just like the pool – zero depth, slide, diving area is clean, close to home.
- Satisfied
- Love, love, love the pool. Maybe another slide area.
- Like the hours, lifeguards, setting.
- You can chill out in the chairs without anyone bothering you.
- Its big
- Close to our house, diving boards, reasonably priced.
- Slide and diving board
- It's a great place to go with my friends
- Can meet with my friends.
- It's nice, but there should be more slides. Otherwise it's great! I love the water system they have in the sandbox.
- Water slides are fun.
- Like the slide.
- I like that there is an ice cream stand in Grafton.

Don't Like:

- Costs a lot
- Too busy

- Don't like the changing area, need a family changing area with more privacy.
- Not much for the younger kids to play. Port Washington is great for younger kids.
- Wish it was bigger.
- Not much for little kids like small slides or sprinklers.
- Not enough hours for people who work, need more night hours.
- We live in Saukville, but go to Grafton schools – costs more. Should be a way for students to be cheaper.
- Should be open weekends during the school year.
- Another waterslide, showers with curtains, bigger food court and more shade.
- Too crowded, need more things to do like slides.
- I would like it if there was an indoor heated pool, so we can use it in the winter season.
- Very outdated, we sometimes go to Cedarburg or Port.
- Not enough times available, closes too early. Should be open until mid September.
- Don't like, too crowded.
- I don't like the bathrooms, chairs or lack of shade.
- It needs to be nicer, nicer chairs and more slides.
- The water in the sand area does not work. I wish there were more activities, slides, sprinklers, etc for kids.
- I do not like the slide.
- That it is not open later and it has short hours on the weekends.
- Cracked diving board all summer.
- Crowded. Diving board out all summer.
- I don't like the deep water, so it is boring.
- Small, needs to update and add slides.
- Too small and not enough chairs.
- I do not like bees.
- Diving board is always broken. Too many bees.
- I do not like that there is not a kiddy pool.

9. If the Village built a skate park, would you use it?

Yes: 35.6% (16)
No: 64.4% (29)
Skipped (4)

10. What other items or activities would you like to see in the parks?

- More tennis courts
- Merry Go Round
- More unique playground equipment
- Walking tracks
- Better fishing
- Bathroom, water fountain, and shade
- Pool
- Volleyball courts, splash pads, sledding areas and nature areas
- Soccer, basketball for 9-10 only
- None
- Mini golf would be great (and family activity)
- Archery
- Movie in the park
- Some parks that allow dogs
- A trampoline, 2-seater swings, kickball area, bathrooms, water fountains, bigger eating area, kites area, indoor park
- Tire swing. Teeter totter
- Paintball arena, dodgeball arena, BMX Park
- More basketball courts
- More climbing stuff
- Bigger playgrounds with more to do, a climbing wall or a rope wall, a monkey bar ball (its round and you can climb all over it), ramps for my BMX bike and for my skateboard.
- More disc golf
- A rollerblading / ripsticking rink please!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- A big hill that you can look at the moon on.
- Ice skating rink. Sledding hills.
- Baseball, basketball and bouncy house.
- Bigger slide at the pool. Better seating area for snacks at pool. More healthy choices at pool snack bar (i.e. carrots with ranch, turkey dogs).

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APPENDIX D:

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMING

Facility/Improvement	Quantity	Estimated Cost
N1		
Land Acquisition	5-10 Acres	\$200,000-\$400,000
Play Equipment	1	\$70,000
Picnic Pavilion	1	\$46,000
Wood-Chip Trail	2,500 LF	\$6,000
Picnic Tables	4	\$4,000
Signage	1	\$3,000
Parking Area	10 Stalls	\$35,000
Canoe Launch	1	\$5,000
Design and Engineering		\$37,000
N2		
Land Acquisition		Site Previously Acquired
Play Equipment	1	\$75,000
Picnic Pavilion/Restrooms	1	\$144,000
Paved Trail	2,500 LF	\$58,000
Picnic Tables	8	\$7,000
Baseball Diamonds	2	\$138,000
Grading		\$86,000
Soccer Fields	2	\$46,000
Signage	1	\$3,000
Parking Area	80 Stalls	\$288,000
On-Site Utilities/Access		\$230,000
Design and Engineering		\$108,000
N3		
Land Acquisition	15-20 Acres	\$600,000-\$800,000
Play Equipment	1	\$75,000
Bandshell/Picnic Pavilion/Restrooms	1	\$288,000
Wood-Chip Trail	2,500 LF	\$6,000
Paved Trail	2,500 LF	\$58,000
Picnic Tables	8	\$7,000
Grading		\$115,000
Ice Skating Rink	1	\$12,000
Soccer Fields	2	\$46,000
Gazebo	1	\$23,000
Signage	2	\$6,000
Parking Area	80 Stalls	\$288,000
On-Site Utilities		\$69,000
Interpretive Stations		\$23,000
Design and Engineering		\$162,000
Centennial Park		
Open Air Amphitheater	10,000 SF	\$138,000
Splash Pad	1	\$115,000
Paved Trails	500	\$12,000
Exercise Equipment		\$10,000

Miscellaneous Utilities		\$35,000
Veterans Memorial Park		
Riverwalk Professional Studies		\$24,555
Concrete Riverwalk/Furnishings/Landcaping		\$464,555
Grafton Lions Park		
Trailhead Appurtenances		\$12,000

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

RESOLUTION NO. 006, SERIES 2014

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Village of Grafton Plan Commission has the authority under Wis. Stats. 61.35 and 62.23(c) to adopt a master plan for the general purpose of guiding and accomplishing coordinated, adjusted, and harmonious development of the Village; and

WHEREAS, the State requires that the Village update its Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, or community-wide Park and Open Space Plan, every five years to maintain eligibility for grant funding and to assure that park and recreational planning is kept up to date; and

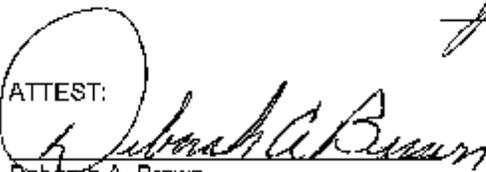
WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Board has worked closely with Village staff to update the Village's 2008 Park and Open Space Plan and has forwarded said document to the Plan Commission for review and action; and

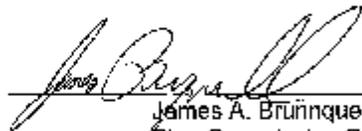
WHEREAS, the Plan Commission held a Public Hearing for review of the Park and Open Space Plan Update on January 28, 2014 and recommended adoption of the Plan on February 25, 2014.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Grafton hereby adopts the Park and Open Space Plan Update.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Park and Open Space Plan Update shall replace the 2008 Park and Open Space Plan.

Adopted this 17th day of March, 2014.

ATTEST:

Deborah A. Brown
Plan Commission Secretary


James A. Bruinquell
Plan Commission Chair

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

RESOLUTION NO. 007, SERIES 2014

RESOLUTION APPROVING OUTDOOR RECREATION AIDS
FOR VILLAGE OF GRAFTON PARKS

WHEREAS, Village of Grafton is interested in developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application; and

WHEREAS, financial aid is required to carry out the project.

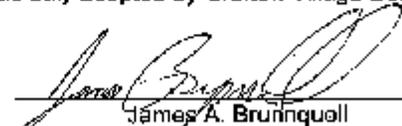
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Village of Grafton has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project; and

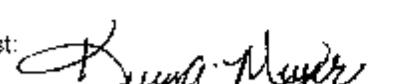
HEREBY AUTHORIZES Jessica Wolf, Planning and Development and John Safstrom, Parks and Recreation to act on behalf of Village of Grafton to:

- Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;
- Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within 6 months of project completion date;
- Submit signed documents; and
- Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Village of Grafton will comply with state or federal rules for the programs to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Service approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by Grafton Village Board at a legal meeting on 7th day of April, 2014.


James A. Brunquell
Village President

Attest: 
Kelly A. Meyer, WCMC
Village Clerk