

**Inver Grove Heights
Park and Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, October 10 2018
8150 Barbara Avenue
7:00pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PRESENTATIONS – Items that don't require action
 - A. Overview of Recreation Program – Tracy Petersen
4. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. You can find information regarding the City of Inver Grove Heights by visiting our web site at www.invergroveheights.org
 - B. Find us on Facebook at Inver Grove Heights Parks & Recreation
 - C. Follow us on Twitter at @IGHParks
 - D. Next Meeting; November 14, 2018 Regular Meeting 7:00pm
5. CONSENT AGENDA – All items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and have been made available to the Commission at least two days prior to the meeting; the items will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commission member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from this Agenda and considered in normal sequence.
 - A. Approval of Agenda
 - B. Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2018
6. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment provides an opportunity for the public to address the Commission on items that are not on the Agenda. Please raise your hand to be recognized. Please state your name and address for the record. This section is for the express purpose of addressing concerns of City services and operations. It shall not be used to clarify individual's views for political purposes. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person.
7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Items that are brought back to the Commission for action from a previous meeting.
8. REGULAR AGENDA - Items requiring action that are new to the Commission.
 - A. Consider Approval of Replacing Seidls Lake Park Playground
 - B. Consider Approval of Heritage Village Park – Phase II Contract with WSB
 - C. Consider Recommendation for North/South Valley Master Plan
 - D. Consider Recommendation for 2040 Comprehensive Plan - Park & Recreation Section
 - E. Consider Approval of 2019 Park and Recreation Department Fees
9. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS - Items that need to be discussed without any actions.
 - A. Department Happenings
10. COMMISSION COMMENTS – A chance for Commissioners to ask questions or make comments.
11. ADJOURN

Since we do not have time to discuss every point presented, it may seem that decisions are preconceived. However, background information is provided to the Commission on each agenda item in advance from Staff; decisions are based on this information and past experiences. In addition, some items may have been discussed preliminarily at Work Sessions. If you are aware of information that has not been discussed, please raise your hand to be recognized. Comments that are pertinent are appreciated.

This document is available upon a 3 business day request in alternate formats such as Braille, large print, audio table, etc. Please contact Eric Carlson at 651.450.2587 or TDD/TTY 651.450.2501

**City of Inver Grove Heights Minutes of the Proceedings
Of the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, September 12, 2018**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Sethre called the September 12, 2018, Park and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Chair Kevin Sethre; Vice Chair Kathryn Bauer; Commissioners: Al Eiden, Deb Tix, Mary Gerhardt, Nikki Barker, Steve Cook, and Mark Freer.

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson

Absent: Commissioner Willie Krech; Recording Clerk Sheri Yourczek

3. PRESENTATIONS:

There were no Presentations this evening.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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D. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 10, 2018. Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson added one more item to the Announcements stating that there will be an Open House for the North and South Valley Park Master Plan on Tuesday, September 18th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the South Valley Park shelter. He stated that there are signs posted at both parks, information on the Website and on Social Media sites, and that letters have been sent out to those adjacent to the park. Feedback and comments are welcome about the proposed Master Plan.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approval of Agenda

B. Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2018

Motion by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Freer to approve the Consent Agenda.

Chair Sethre mentioned that one correction should be made to the July minutes as it stated that there was supposed to be an August 8th Meeting. There was not an official meeting but the Commissioner's did go on a Park tour.

Motion by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Freer to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

8. REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Consider Tree Removal Proposal for Heritage Village Park

Parks and Recreation Director Carlson displayed a representation of Heritage Village Park, located north of 65th Street, West of Doffing, and east of Concord and the railroad tracks. He stated that they have been working on acquiring properties for the Park for last 15 years. They have acquired all of the properties except for the parcels highlighted in yellow which is privately owned, and will remain so for the foreseeable future. He stated that the City is interested in purchasing the parcel when the owners are interested in selling. They have acquired all of the properties located within the black outlined area as he depicted on the map. All are small pieces of property and many of them had a building or two on them that were raised after they were acquired. He stated that the only properties that still have buildings on them are B36, which the City does not own, and B32 and B31.

He pointed out the location of the Dog Park on the map stating that it is located on properties C3 and C2. Next year they will begin what will be referred to as Phase 2 improvements to Heritage Village Park. They will have about \$1.7 million dollars of funds available from Grants they have received from the State, money they have received from Dakota County, and the money the City needs to have to match the Grant money. He stated that money would go toward making improvements to Heritage Village Park and could include more parking, playground equipment, and trail connections. He was not sure they would have enough money to build picnic shelters and restrooms, but could see how far they can stretch the money as they go through the planning. In preparation for those improvements in 2019 they are recommending that they remove all of the trees located within the black shaded areas. In order to do that they need to issue a Change Order with the current Contractor that has been hired to do the Dog Park improvements. The Change Order would be in the amount of \$53,765.00 to remove the trees, stumps, and do some rough grading where the trees were removed. He stated that many of the trees are non-desirable species, at the end of their useful life, or located in an area where something may be placed. He stated that they will create a landscape plan as a part of the park development for 2019.

Commissioner Cook commented that they are taking out the trees and would not have any foliage left. By having a landscaping plan in place they would have trees and bushes planted in places where they are intending them to be as they develop the park further.

Director Carlson responded that was correct.

Commissioner Eiden asked who else looked at the trees and decided that they were not worth saving.

Director Carlson responded that our Parks Superintendent has a Forestry background and is also our City Forester. He stated that Brian Swoboda has worked for the City for over 20 years and has the experience and education to advise them on whether or not those trees are desirable, the tree condition, and the location.

Chair Sethre asked where the money would be allocated from.

Director Carlson responded that the Change Order to the Contract we have with the Dog Park Contractor, Pember Companies Inc., would be paid for just like the Dog Park improvements are being paid for, some would be with Grant money, some would be City money.

Chair Sethre asked if this would be a part of the package that is up for approval from the City Council.

Director Carlson responded that they awarded a Contract to Pember Companies Inc. to construct a list of items at Heritage Village Park for the Dog Park. The Contract states certain elements that the Contractor needed to complete. When the Contractor is asked to do some things outside of the scope of the Contract, it is referred to as a Change Order. He stated that they are recommending that we authorize a Change Order to have this work included as a part of that Contract and to pay them the amount of \$53,765.00 because that is for work that was not a part of their original Contract.

Chair Sethre asked if the City Council has approved the construction of the Dog Park yet.

Director Carlson responded that the City Council approved the construction of the Dog Park in early August and that the Contractor has begun. The curb for the parking lot should be poured and in place on Friday and some of the paving should be done next week. It is scheduled to be done at the end of October, or early November.

Commissioner Cook commented that the money for the tree removal is money that is already a part of the package with the City and the State. We are not having to ask for additional monies to be allocated for the trees.

Director Carlson responded that was correct.

Motion by Commissioner Tix, second by Commissioner Freer to accept to Consider the Tree Removal Proposal for Heritage Village Park as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1 (Eiden). Motion carried.

Commissioner Eiden asked the Commission to appoint him as the Chair of the Subcommittee that will be spearheading the Phase 2 development.

Chair Sethre responded that he would like to defer that decision until that Agenda item comes up for discussion.

Commissioner Eiden agreed to wait.

Director Carlson commented that they would be reviewing a proposal from WSB for professional services at the October meeting. At that time the Commission could create a Subcommittee to work on the Phase 2 improvements.

B. Consider Approval of Timeline to Replace Seidl's Lake Playground

Parks and Recreation Director Carlson stated that this is regarding the replacement of playground equipment at Seidl's Lake. This was one of the parks they visited on their August 8th parks tour. He displayed a map of the 2007/2008 Master Plan and pointed out the location of the playground equipment. The Master Plan that was created contemplates moving the playground equipment out front more than its current somewhat hidden location. He stated that the equipment needs to be replaced and proposed to move it to the general area as indicated by the Mater Plan. He stated that the outline is similar to the outline and timeline used at Arbor Pointe when that playground equipment was replaced. The timeline is as follows:

- September 12th, 2018 - Present to the Park and Recreation Commission.
- September 13th – Notify the Public of the replacement of the playground.
 - Send out letters for a neighborhood meeting.
 - Notify Homeowner Associations.
 - Post on Inver Grove Heights Website and Social Media.

- Post signs in the Park.
- September 17th - Plan to remove old playground equipment.
- September 21st - Currently seeking proposals from different playground vendors. Information is due back on the 21st.
- September 24th – Proposals would be scored and ranked by Park and Recreation Administration.
- September 25th - Neighborhood meeting.
- October 10th - Recommendation would be made to the Parks and Recreation Commission during the regularly scheduled meeting.
- October 22nd – Request City Council approval during their regularly scheduled meeting.
- October 23rd – If approved, they would order new playground equipment.
- Spring 2019 – Install the new playground.

Commissioner Cook asked if there was a reason why the playground equipment currently in place couldn't remain there until the new equipment is installed.

Director Carlson responded that the unsafe portions of the equipment have already been removed and that they would not leave it there if it was unsafe. He commented that the process they used the last time they installed a new playground worked well, so they didn't change anything with this playground. Doing it this way helps the neighborhood recognize that something is changing. He commented that this will take place in October and will be going into the winter months soon, so it will probably not get much use during that time. He stated that the Commission could give them different direction if they wanted to.

Commissioner Cook wanted to clarify that there wouldn't be anything in the area once the equipment is removed. It will just be cleared and then built in a different location.

Director Carlson responded that the playground equipment would be removed, they would fill in the hole with dirt, possibly plant some trees and then stop mowing at some point.

Commissioner Freer commented that the equipment there is deteriorating quickly and that kids are filling in the area with their own equipment to it to make it useful, which is dangerous. He felt it should be removed and is a hazard the way it is.

Chair Sethre commented that the existing playground is somewhat hidden now and that they would expect a new location proposal at the Commission meeting on October 10th. He stated that this item is for the approval of a timeline.

Director Carlson stated that on October 10th they would recommend the equipment that was purchased. They will not have a specific location, but would be following the Master Plan's suggestion of where the new equipment would be located.

Commissioner Tix asked about the letters going out to the Community and if they were also going out to the South St. Paul residents that are within range. She commented that this park borders both Inver Grove Heights and South St. Paul.

Director Carlson responded that they were only going to mail letters out to Inver Grove Heights residents. He responded that both Inver Grove Heights and South St. Paul have a Seidl's Lake Park and he thought, but was not completely sure, that both sides also had playgrounds. He commented that they are only communicating with Inver Grove Heights residents.

Motion by Commissioner Freer, second by Vice Chair Bauer to approve the Timeline to replace Seidl's Lake Playground as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0 **Motion carried.**

C. Consider Amendment to Park Rules Ordinance

Director Carlson provided some background stating that dogs and dog leashes are referenced in the City Code in three or four different places and that there is currently no consistency. Some portions of the Code tell people that they have to have their dog on a leash that is six feet or less, and some portions state that they don't have to be on a leash but on voice control. He stated that in order to make it consistent across the entire Ordinance, regardless of where you are within the City, they are suggesting that if you have a dog and you are on your own property, you have to restrain it. It doesn't have to be on a leash, but could be inside a fenced-in area, within an invisible fence, or under voice control. He commented that the minute you take your dog off of your property and onto a City sidewalk, trail, or park, the dog would have to be on a leash. This would be across the entire City so that all portions of the Code would be consistent. Currently, the Police have been having a difficult time as they see some parts of the Code stating dogs have to be on a leash, while other parts of the Code state voice control.

Director Carlson stated that there are other dog issues such as dog licensing, dog leashes, and the dog park, that will be going before the City Council at a Work Session in October. The only issue this Commission gets to weigh in on is as it relates to the Parks system.

Sections of the Park Ordinance that relates to dogs are located in the Commissions packets.

He is recommending changes so that it is consistent to what they are doing with other parts of the Cities Code relating to dogs and dog leashes. He commented that it states that if you are in a park, on a trail or sidewalk, you have to have your dog on a leash that is six feet or less, and if you do, you can be in a park. The only spot in a park that a dog can be off leash is in the designated Dog Park at Heritage Village Park. He stated that it also states that you can't allow your dog to be inside a fenced athletic field, for example, baseball, softball, football, or soccer fields at any of our other parks. If you want to walk your dog in a park or on a trail you can as long as they are on a leash. He stated that the current Code also didn't allow dogs in places like the South Valley Picnic area or the Disc Golf Course, but with this change that should be ok as long as they are on a leash. He stated that this is consistent with other Cities and that they are recommending changes so that there is consistency relating to Parks Ordinances and Dogs and Dog Leashes.

Chair Sethre questioned if this revises 7-1-5-F of the City Code.

Director Carlson responded that the City Park and Recreation Ordinance is in Chapter Five and relates to Paragraph F. Anything that you see that is crossed off is wording that is currently in there, and anything underlined has been added or is new.

Commissioner Gerhardt asked if this was a new definition consistent with State or County parks.

Director Carlson responded that there is not a County Park property within the City.

Commissioner Freer commented that the Regional Trail is County property and they enforce the leash law.

Commissioner Tix wanted to change the wording a bit in the section about the dog park, to note that it should be within the fenced area of the park. The parking lot and the land around the fence is technically considered the park. She doesn't want people to think they can have the dog off leash in the parking lot.

Director Carlson clarified where and how she wanted to change the wording in that paragraph and stated that it should read as follows: "within the fenced area". He stated that they will get that clarified before it goes before the City Council on October 1st.

Linda Dehrer Wendt, 1111 - 105th Street West, Inver Grove Heights, thanked the Commission for taking a look at the new City Ordinance. She said that she goes to Rich Valley Park Athletic Complex at least 1-3 times a day. She commented that people need to be educated about the dog leash law. She commented that some people frequent the park and use electronic shock collars. She liked the part of the Ordinance that states that you should have an actual leash on your pet because with voice command or shock collars, the dogs still run across the athletic complex.

She questioned what type of sign they would be putting into the parks so that people will be educated. She said that some places have little dog waste areas that states the dog must be leashed and picked up after. She commented that having a sign that states the actual City Ordinance could have better results. She displayed a photo of a sign that Rosemount has on their parks and trails which includes the Ordinance number, suggests having the dogs leashed, and to clean up after your pet.

She commented that with the leash law, a lot of people have their dogs on leashes, but some dogs walk with the leashes dragging behind them. She suggested wording that states actual physical contact so that people know that they should be holding onto the leash.

She commented that several users visit the Athletic Complex from out of town and bring their pets with them. Since they can't leave pets in cars on a hot day, they often bring their pets within the complex. She asked that they put information on the registration forms for ball tournaments that state that they cannot bring pets with them.

Commissioner Freer commented that there is already a very obvious sign out there.

Ms. Dehrer Wendt responded that she knows of the sign, and that it states "pets not allowed, high activity area" but it gets ignored. She commented that the Parks crew does a great job with the parks and that it's not their job to enforce the rules. She felt that educating people was a good idea.

Director Carlson stated that the Ordinance changes that are proposed would allow someone with a dog to go to Rich Valley Park and watch a game within the fenced area of the complex. They would not be allowed to take their dog on the field. The visitor's space around the ball fields is the area that you can have a dog on a leash. He commented that he wasn't aware of another City that says you can't have a dog at a baseball field while watching the game.

Commissioner Freer asked why they have the current sign out there that states, "high activity area, no dogs".

Director Carlson responded that he was unsure as it was there before he began his position with the City.

Commissioner Freer commented that he thought the rule was fine for that environment as there are a lot of little kids running around at any given time.

Commissioner Cook commented that a six-foot leash would work while walking your dog, but that it may not work while sitting in a stand.

Commissioner Tix commented that if they are going to have a dog at a park, she would prefer it be leashed while on the grass with the owner and not chained to a fence.

Ms. Dehrer Wendt commented that Rich Valley Park has four ballfields. She questioned if people could go into the grassy area between the ball fields with their dogs.

Director Carlson responded that people could go in there with what they are saying with this Ordinance change. The current sign would be taken down.

Ms. Dehrer Wendt commented that this rule would need to be strictly enforced as she has had encounters where people do not have their dogs on a leash or under voice control and have come after her dogs who have been on leashes. The encounters and comments were threatening and she questioned who would be enforcing this. She said that when there is an issue with dogs running off leash, they call the Police, but by the time the Police come the people are usually gone.

Director Carlson responded that there would not be a lot of change and that people are still encouraged to call 911 to say that there is a dog that is not on a leash. If the Police Department is not busy they will respond, but if they have something that is a higher priority they will not be able to. He agreed that by the time the Police get there, that person could be gone. He stated that there was not a lot they can do about it but hope that people act positive and follow the rules. He stated that with these rules, the dog would always have to be on a leash whenever they are in a park unless they are at the off-leash Dog Park area of Heritage Village Park. He stated that they will be doing a better job with marketing and letting people know that dogs need to be leashed.

Commissioner Cook asked if they should add the wording “and under control of the owner”. He commented that just being on a leash in close contact situations may not be enough to prevent a problem.

Director Carlson responded that he would look into that wording as well.

Commissioner Barker asked if the change overall was to always be on a leash no matter what because of the inconsistency, or if it was due to numerous calls.

Director Carlson responded that in order for our Ordinances to be effective they need to be consistent. They receive enough calls where people are walking their dogs without leashes. This allows them to make the Ordinances consistent.

Chair Sethre stated that they are looking for a Motion to consider an Amendment to the Park Rules as it relates to dogs as discussed, with wording marked up by Director Carlson. He asked Director Carlson if he could produce another draft of the paragraph he displayed with the changes that the Commission suggested.

Director Carlson listed the two changes the Commission wanted to work into the Park Rules Ordinance as follows:

1. To clarify that the area in which dogs can be off-leash at Heritage Village Park has to be within the Dog Park itself.
2. Making sure that the dog is on a 6-foot or less leash, and that the other end of the leash must include the owner.

Motion by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Freer to consider an Amendment to the Park Rules Ordinance as related to dogs as discussed.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

D. Consider Items Related to the Heritage Village Dog Park

Tracy Petersen, Recreation Superintendent, asked the Commission to recommend the following information to the City Council for items related to the Heritage Village Dog Park:

- Dog Park Pass Application
- On-Site Dog Park Rules (Signage)
- Time of Registration Dog Park Rules
- Dog Park Fees

- Marketing Plan

She continued that the Dog Park is currently under construction and would be completed with a soft opening in November of this year. Ribbon cutting would be in the Spring of 2019.

She explained the following details as they pertain to the Dog Park:

- The Application process would be used for purchasing a pass, which can be done online, in person, by mail, or by email.
- The Park Rules will be posted at the Dog Park itself.
- Time of Registration Rules are more in depth and handed out when people register in person or online. They will also be available on the Website within the Dog Park page that they hope to create.
- The Dog Park Fees that they are recommending would be \$30.00 for residents and \$40.00 for non-residents, per dog. Included in the Commission packets is a survey that listed the average fees which was \$25.00 for residents and \$27.50 for non-residents. All dogs must be licensed in Inver Grove Heights. She stated that the Parks and Recreation Department is moving forward to handle the licensing and that both passes and licenses would be marketed together.
- The Marketing Plan would do a better job of marketing the Dog Park and Licensing for the dogs. They hope to do both in tandem with events and documentation that they will get out to the Public.

She stated that The Friends of the Dog Park did a great job looking over the Park rules, for both onsite and for the ones that they will receive at the time of registration.

Commissioner Barker asked what it meant to display the dog park pass at all times.

Commissioner Cook asked where the owners were meant to display it.

Superintendent Petersen responded that they are trying to determine whether the pass is on the person, or on the dog in the form of a tag. This is something that is still under discussion. During their display at Inver Grove Heights Days, the Friends of the Dog Park asked people for their opinions as to where to locate the pass. There was mixed response so they are still trying to determine whether it be on the person or on the dog. She commented that there has also been discussion as to whether they could have something in their vehicle.

Commissioner Cook suggested a lanyard that a person could wear around their neck. He asked if the pass was good for two years.

Superintendent Petersen responded that they are recommending the pass be annual for the dog park and the licensing. Licensing is currently for two years. They would make both for one year.

Commissioner Gerhardt mentioned that they are increasing their licensing fees as well. She stated that it is proposed to be \$15.00 for one year where before it was \$12.00 for two years.

Superintendent Petersen responded that would be their recommendation to pass along to the City Council for their approval.

Director Carlson clarified that the Commission would be looking at the Dog Park fees, not the licensing. The City Council will be dealing with the licensing issue. It is only included here because that was how they did the survey.

Superintendent Petersen responded that it is marketed together because you have to have a license to be in the Dog Park.

Commissioner Gerhardt asked if the pass amount was within their purview? She commented that at \$30.00 and \$40.00, other than Dakota Wood, it seems higher than everywhere else. Especially if you have multiple dogs.

Superintendent Petersen responded that the passes would try to generate as much revenue as it could for the Dog Park. It was also requested by some of the Councilmembers that the fee covers some of the maintenance and operations of the Dog Park.

Chair Sethre stated that the Friends of the Dog Park didn't have any objections to the proposed pass amount.

Superintendent Petersen responded that they understood what they are being asked to provide in terms of revenue generation for the Dog Park and that it coincides with what the City Council was asking for.

Commissioner Gerhardt was concerned with the higher price point and felt it might encourage some people to not pay for it and go without a pass at all. She commented that a lower price point may have a higher adoption.

Commissioner Tix suggested that the actual pass be on the dog itself. She commented that if it is on the person they could bring two or three dogs, and that it would be the same price.

Commissioner Gerhardt asked if they have considered doing a multi-dog pass that looks different from a pricing perspective.

Commissioner Barker commented that if it is on a person it would be for the other people in the dog park to see that you have paid to be there. The Police would not be there every day to enforce, and that the only time something would come up would be for someone to make a phone call. She commented that they could prevent a few phone calls if it were obvious and on the person.

Superintendent Petersen responded that self-monitoring was something they have spoken to the Friends of the Dog Park about. The fees would be what they recommend to the City Council.

Commissioner Gerhardt mentioned that Dakota Woods has a higher price point at \$40.00, but they also have a drop box there if you go once. She commented that she has done that to see what the park was like.

Superintendent Petersen responded that Dakota Woods was the only one that had a daily pass. They did not find anyone that did a multiple dog pass.

Commissioner Tix commented that the sign they were shown has a typo and should include the letter "L" in the word HELP.

She also commented that it states in one of the bullet points that "all items that you bring into the park must be taken home with you" and that it lists water dishes. She commented that at most of the dog parks she has been to, people leave their dog dishes at the park and bring water to fill it and then leave it there for later use. This way not everyone brings dog dishes and then has to take them home. She commented that she would personally like that item removed so people can leave their dog dishes there.

Commissioner Cook asked if there was a fountain there for the dogs to drink out of.

Commissioner Gerhardt asked if the location of the fountain was inside the dog park, or outside in the leashed area.

Director Carlson responded that the current Dog Park Plan includes two fountains for both humans and dogs. One would be located inside the small dog area and one inside the large dog area. They would be located inside the respective fences within the concrete area itself.

Commissioner Tix asked if it would be similar to the one that is located down at Swing Bridge Park with the dog one at the bottom and the adult one at the top.

Director Carlson responded that was correct.

Commissioner Cook was concerned about the fees and commented that the combination of an alleged change in the license fee in addition to the charge for the yearly pass could be difficult for some people.

Commissioner Freer felt they would lose some people with this price point, but that it would balance out when they get more revenue. He commented that some residents may not sign up for the Dog Park. The less people that show up there would be less people to use the businesses in the area. The more people that come to the Dog Park, and the park itself, will use the businesses in the area. He commented that pricing people out of it would be more of a loss to the City then a gain.

Commissioner Gerhardt suggested fees of \$20.00 for residents and \$30.00 for non-residents as it would be more consistent with other park fees.

Commissioner Tix agreed with those suggestions. She noted that the survey that was done a couple of years ago had a price point of \$20.00 as the top of the range that people wanted to pay to be able to use it.

Commissioner Freer commented that it may have been \$16.00 and that they want people to go down there.

Commissioner Cook commented that they want people to come there and that's why they are spending this money for people to use it. He suggested they consider a price break if there is more than one dog that an owner wants to get a pass for.

Chair Sethre stated that Commissioner Gerhardt proposes \$20.00 for a resident fee and \$30.00 for a non-resident fee. He questioned what the fees would be if someone owned two dogs and if it would still be that resident dog number two would be \$20.00 and non-resident would be \$30.00.

Commissioner Freer asked if that was consistent with other areas.

Commissioner Tix stated that Dakota Woods has a maximum of two for their dog pass. She didn't think you could add a third dog to one person, they would have to have a second handler. They have one price at that location and you get to bring two dogs.

Commissioner Gerhardt commented that seemed to be more of a person pass with a maximum of two dogs.

Commissioner Freer asked what South St. Paul's Dog Park did with their pass system. He stated that a lot of people like to use multiple areas as they get tired of going to the same park all the time. He commented that it would be nice to stay consistent if they are doing the same thing that Dakota Woods is doing.

Chair Sethre responded that South St. Paul is very similar with the \$20.00 and \$30.00 amounts but he did not see a multi-dog fee.

Commissioner Cook recommended that the figures should be \$15.00 and \$25.00 for a second dog.

Commissioner Gerhardt agreed with Commissioner Cook's recommendation. She asked if the rules stated that they were limited to two dogs per handler.

Superintendent Petersen responded that it states no more than two dogs under Item #5. The thought was if there was another dog there would have to be another handler.

Chair Sethre commented that the recommendation as it stands states that the resident Dog Park pass fee for one dog should be \$20.00. The non-resident fee for one dog would be \$30.00. For two dogs the resident fee would

be \$15.00, and the non-resident fee would be \$25.00. He asked if this was the proposal that they would move forward with to the City Council.

Commissioner Freer asked that a study be done each year related to revenue versus to costs so that the City Council could see the results.

Chair Sethre asked Director Carlson if that would be a part of the yearly budget review the Commission sees.

Director Carlson responded that they will keep track of all costs.

Motion by Commissioner Gerhardt, second by Commissioner Cook to propose the following information in regards to Dog Park Fees: The resident fee for one dog would be \$20.00. The non-resident fee for one dog would be \$30.00. The resident fee for a second dog would be \$15.00. The non-resident fee for a second dog would be \$25.00.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS:

A. Department Happenings

Commissioner Cook commented that River Heights Park is still an undeveloped park but has had some amazing transformations. He thanked the Park Staff for the great job they are doing there. He stated that there is an extra path now, some benches, and a picnic bench and that there were some trees and brush removed. He will be going out tomorrow and meeting with The Friends of the Mississippi to discuss additional wildflowers and grasses for the area.

Chair Sethre stated that there is an update regarding River Heights Park and that a buckthorn and honeysuckle removal outing will take place on Tuesday, September 18th at the park. Information about this has been posted on the Parks and Recreation Website and Social Media sites. It is the same evening as the outing at North Valley Park.

Commissioner Tix mentioned that she took her dog out to River Heights Park last week and in the past her dog had no trouble walking the path within the park, but she had difficulty walking it with her bad knees. She commented that it was a really nice path now and much easier to walk through.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Barker had no comment.

Commissioner Cook had no comment.

Vice Chair Bauer commented that it was great to see the Friends of the Dog Park at the booth during Inver Grove Heights Days. She felt they were doing a great job of educating people and that people were excited that this is coming.

Chair Sethre agreed that it was refreshing to see people involved.

Commissioner Tix had no comment.

Commissioner Freer had no comment.

Commissioner Eiden had no comment.

Commissioner Gerhardt had no comment.

Chair Sethre stated that on September 13th, Town Square TV will be web-streaming, and then on demand thereafter, the Inver Grove Heights Mayor and Council Candidate Forum beginning at 8:30. Their Website is www.townsquaretv.tv. Click on the Decision 2018 Icon for more information. He mentioned that Town Square TV is also our partners in Web streaming this meeting.

11. ADJOURN:

Motion by Commissioner Freer second by Commissioner Tix to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Consider Approval of Replacing Seidls Lake Park Playground

Meeting Date: October 10, 2018
 Item Type: Consent Agenda
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Brian Swoboda-651-450-2582
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

☐	None
☒	Amount included in current budget
☐	Budget amendment requested
☐	FTE included in current complement
☐	New FTE requested – N/A
☐	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Consider approval of replacing playground equipment at Seidls Lake Park located at 2655 47th St. E. which is currently 23 years old (typical replacement is 20 years). It is proposed that the submittal by St. Croix Recreational Playground be installed. The replacement cost of the equipment and installation is \$75,000 and shall be funded by the Park Capital Replacement Fund 444. The PRAC is asked to support a total overall project budget of \$100,000 funded by the Fund 444 to cover other expenses such as new concrete curb, side walk, ADA ramps, trail connections and restoration, due to relocating the structure according to the Master Plan.

SUMMARY

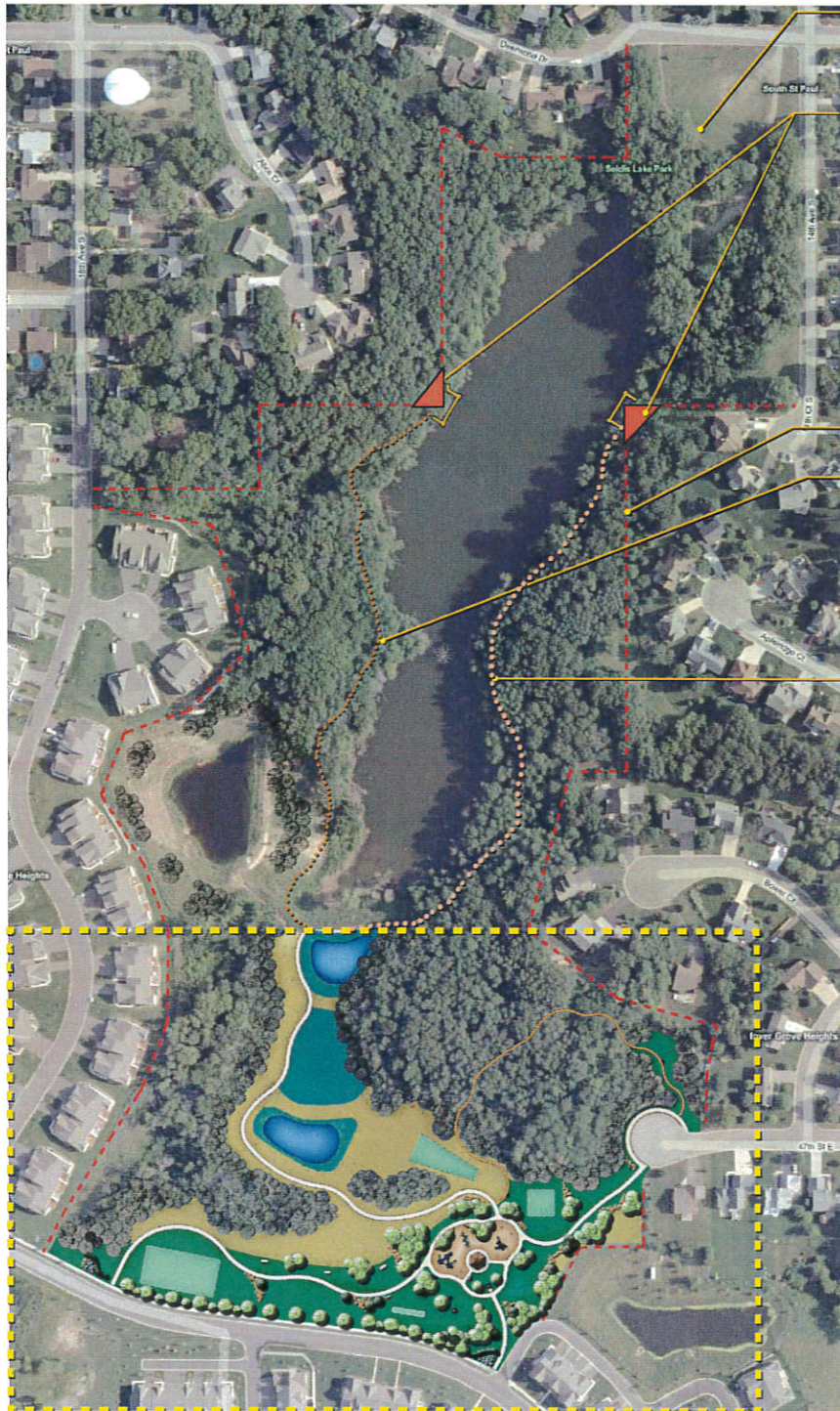
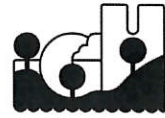
On September 12, 2018 the Inver Grove Heights Park and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) approved a replacement timeline for a new Playground at Seidls Lake Park. The timeline included sending letters to neighbors within a ½ mile of the park, posting signs at the park, hosting a neighborhood meeting, posting on IGH website and social media.

All proposals were to include a swing bay, a play structure for ages 2-5 and a play structure for ages 5-12. All proposals were to fit inside a maximum perimeter container of 5000 sq. ft. and meet all ADA and ASTM specifications. The City received playground proposals from four vendors that had specifications to follow with a maximum budget for all play structures and installation not to exceed \$75,000. The four proposals were scored by an internal sub-committee of city staff weighing in on play value, durability, warranty and aesthetics.

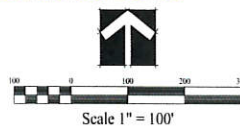
After scoring all proposals, the proposal submitted by St. Croix Recreational Playground scored the highest and is recommended by the committee. This proposal was brought to the neighborhood meeting at Seidls Lake Park on September 25, 2018. Approximately 45 residents/neighbors attended and had the opportunity to pick colors, change a few play features and comment on the Master Plan and what other amenities the neighborhood would like to see added. Comments mentioned the most, were of adding a ½ basketball court, small shelter, picnic tables, portable bathrooms, lights, park rules sign, fencing and a possible cross walk on Blaine Ave.

Seidl's Lake Park

Overall Preliminary Master Plan



REFER TO ENLARGEMENT
PLAN FOR INFORMATION
WITHIN THIS AREA



South St. Paul Site

Trails should tie into the South St. Paul's portion of Seidl's Lake Park.

Property Crossing Options

Crossing the two sections of lakeshore to join the Inver Grove Heights site to the South St. Paul site should be pursued.

One option consists of using boardwalks with overlooks across the water in order to bypass the private property.

The other option consists of the city obtaining trail easements from the private property owners to build the trail on solid ground.

Park Property Lines (typ)

Future Trail Alternate

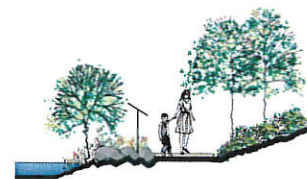
A future trail to complete a loop around the lake could be implemented, if desired, and would tie into the South St. Paul park site. The trail should be minimal in width, possibly built of a nature trail material (bare soil, wood chips, etc.) and should minimize disturbance to the site.

Lakeside Trail

Future lakeside trail should be a minimum of 6' wide, with an ideal width of 8' and should tie into the South St. Paul trail system.

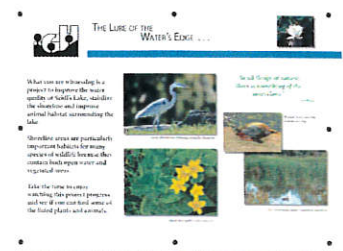
The trail should be built above the future high water level, where feasible, once this is established and control structures are in place. In areas where it is not feasible, use of suitable construction materials shall be used to reduce the propensity for water damage.

Where the trail is adjacent to steep slopes, the edge of the trail shall have retaining walls built of suitable materials that will blend with the natural character of the site, such as limestone blocks, natural boulders, etc.



Interpretive / Educational Information

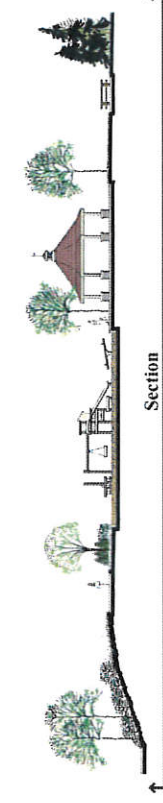
Placement of interpretive / educational signs along the various park trails would provide the users information about their surroundings and encourage stewardship for the park.



PROJECT #07-01
DATE: JUNE 13TH, 2007

Seidl's Lake Park

Preliminary Master Plan



Section

City of Inver Grove Heights



Vegetative Thinning:

Selective thinning of the existing overstory trees in this area to improve sightlines for safety.

Nature Trail:

A field located nature trail with a couple of bench seating areas winds around the hill and connects into the paved trail system.

Future Use:

An area shall be left open for possible future hardcourt (basketball 1/2 court, 4-square, horseshoes, etc.) should the demand exist.

Park Access:

The cul-de-sac provides a secondary park access that has a trail all the way around and a stone park sign to enhance the park entrance, as well as to discourage vehicular traffic from cutting through the park.

Enhanced Landscaping:
The use of various trees and shrubs are incorporated to enhance aesthetics, provide shade, separate use areas, and naturalize the site.

Park Trail:

The park trail allows access to the various recreational amenities, creates loop systems and is aligned to discourage traffic from cutting through the park.



Sledding:

An area on the hillside shall be left open (not planted with trees) and can be used for winter sledding.

Future Trail:

The future trail winds down the hill to provide H.C. access to the lower areas of the park.

Main Gathering Space:

A gathering area is created to provide space for childrens play equipment, a small shelter structure, adjacent picnic space and lawn games (bocce ball, horseshoes, etc.)

Informal Field Space:

Open lawn area for informal use, such as picnics, frisbee, winter general skating, soccer, ball play, etc. and is not intended to be for programmed activities.

Park Entrance

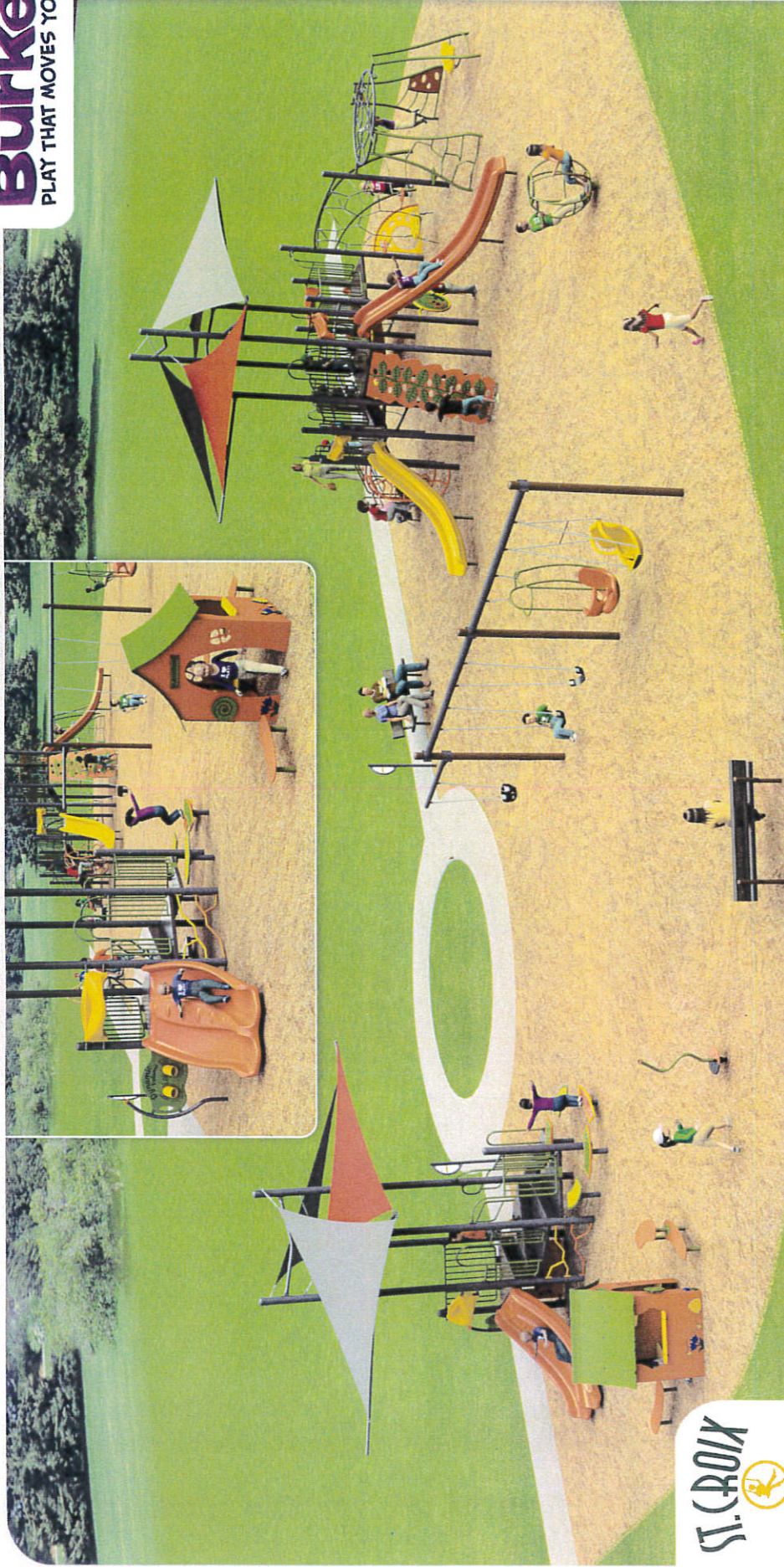
Identification:
The park entrances along each end of Blaine Ave. are enhanced by providing some sections of ornamental fence, the addition of a park sign on the west end, ornamental planting beds around the park signs, and additional street tree plantings.



BRÄUER & ASSOCIATES, LTD.
LAND USE PLANNING AND DESIGN

PROJECT #07-01
DATE: JUNE 13TH, 2007

Burke
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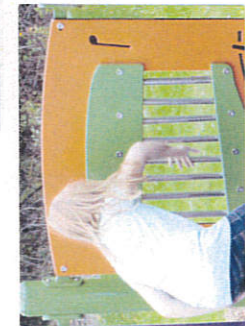
SEIDL'S LAKE PARK

PROPOSAL: 100-112252-1

ST. CROIX



RECREATION
funplaygrounds.com



Project Areas

Inver Grove Heights, MN - Seidls Park

All statistical results are aggregated for the listed project areas and their service areas. Service areas are based on 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk times from project access points defined for each project area and based upon the walkable network.

Legend

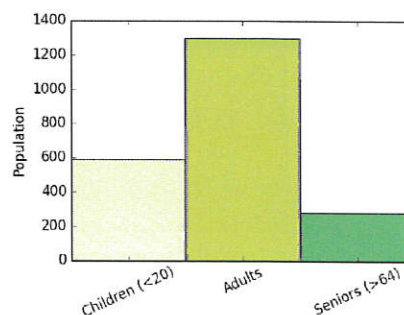
-  Project Area
-  Service Area



Population within a 10-minute walk

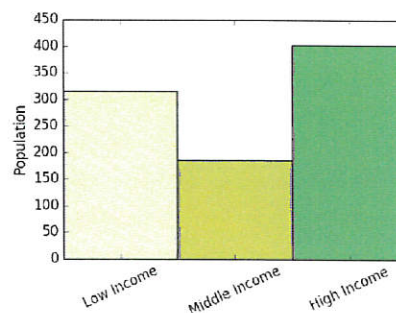
Total Population	2,173
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Age	Served
Children (less than age 20)	591
Adults (age 20 to age 64)	1,301
Seniors (age 65 and up)	282



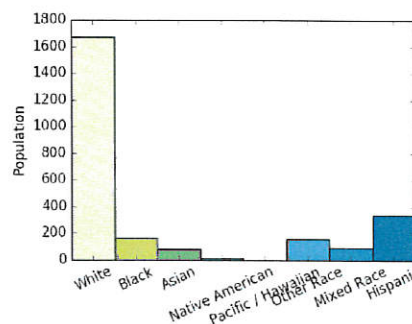
Household Income	Served
Low income	314
Middle income	185
High income	403

(Generated From Regional Median Incomes)



Race/Ethnicity	Served
White	1,673
Black	165
Asian	74
Native American	9
Pacific / Hawaiian	0
Other Race	158
Mixed Race	92
Hispanic*	333

* U.S. Census captures Hispanic Origin separate from race



Demographic information is derived from ESRI 2017 Demographic Forecast Block Groups data.

This report was created on September 24, 2018 using the ParkServe® interactive mapping site. It is for informational purposes only. The providers of this report disclaim any and all warranties, express or implied, including fitness for a particular purpose or merchantability, and make no representation that the report is complete, accurate, or error free. Use and reliance on this report is at the sole risk of the party using same.

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CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Consider Approval of Heritage Village Park – Phase II Contract with WSB

Meeting Date: October 10, 2018
 Item Type: Regular Meeting
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Eric Carlson
 Reviewed by: Brian Swoboda
 Tracy Petersen

Fiscal/FTE Impact:	
☐	None
☒	Amount included in current budget
☐	Budget amendment requested
☐	FTE included in current complement
☐	New FTE requested – N/A
☐	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

The Commission is asked to approve a contract with WSB to provide planning, final design, and bidding services for the Phase II development at Heritage Village Park. The recommendation includes:

- Phase II improvements include: grading, parking lot, inclusive playground, lighting, picnic shelters, trails, landscaping, park amenities
- Regional trail connection between Heritage Village Park and Swing Bridge Park along Doffing Ave.
- Hire WSB Inc. on an hourly not to exceed amount of \$114,900 (see attached proposal from WSB)
- Funding of the proposed improvements is recommended as follows:

State of MN Grant SG-04273 - Match Required 1:1	\$850,000
City 1:1 Match for Dog Park Work (402 Fund)	\$850,000
	<u>\$1,700,000</u>

SUMMARY

With the approval of Phase I of Heritage Village Park (Dog Park), it's time to start planning for the Phase II development at Heritage Village Park so we can utilize the proceeds of the State Grant before the end of 2019. Phase II are planned to include:

- Parking and the necessary storm water treatment areas
- Inclusive Playground Structure (themed)
- Shelter(s)
- Trails that connect the MRRT to Swing Bridge Park along Doffing Ave and trails within the park itself
- Landscaping
- Site amenities
- Shelter(s)
- Professional services

Our planned improvements may be more expensive than our funding, but we will look for additional funding and prioritize the projects by doing some “add/alts” as part of the bidding process.



October 3, 2018

Mr. Eric Carlson
Parks and Recreation Director
City of Inver Grove Heights
8055 Barbara Avenue East
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

Re: Professional Services Proposal – Heritage Village Park Phase 2 Development

Dear Mr. Carlson:

I am pleased to submit this letter proposal on behalf of WSB & Associates, Inc. (WSB) to the City of Inver Grove Heights (City) to complete professional design and engineering services for the final design of Phase 2 development at Heritage Village Park.

PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

It is our understanding that this project is to include design development, final design and bidding for the Phase 2 development at Heritage Village Park, to include parking lots, park trails, regional trail connection to the Swing Bridge trailhead along Doffing Ave., a themed community playground, prefabricated picnic shelters with some customization, utilities (water, storm, sanitary, and electrical), and landscaping. The project will also include coordinating with the local utility company to potentially bury overhead power lines where they are in conflict with proposed improvements.

The following scope of services is meant to provide the City with the steps necessary to complete a successful implementation plan.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

- A. **Programming / Design Development:** WSB shall confirm the scope of work with the City to carry forward into the final design / construction documents as approved by the City at a project start-up meeting. A brainstorming session will also take place at the initial city meeting regarding alternative layouts based on actual city parcels and future phasing opportunities and theming opportunities to tie into the site design.

Preparation of design development plans will then be prepared to confirm materials, revised layout and design themes, potential construction methods, and a preliminary estimate of probable costs for construction. A design review meeting will be held with the City to review the design development plans and estimate of probable costs prior to determine which of the improvements will be included in the final plans for bidding.

Task A Fees: \$24,000

- B. **Final Construction Documents:** Preparation of final construction documents for the site improvements as approved by the City. These documents shall include plans, details and other drawings as necessary, as well as written specifications, in sufficient detail for the City to pursue competitive bids for the construction of the improvements, along with an estimate of probable costs for construction. This task shall include parking lots, community playground area, prefabricated shelter, storm water design, electrical service, water service, and potentially sanitary service design related directly with the proposed improvements. The architectural park restroom / shelter building is not included under this scope of work at this time but can be provided separately if it chosen to be included in the construction package.

WSB will work with the city and potential playground vendors to prepare a playground layout meeting the City's desire for a community sized themed playground representing the history of Inver Grove Heights and the previous site's land uses. The selected designs will be included in the final construction documents for bidding purposes. This shall include holding up to two (2) meetings with playground designers for review and refinement.

Building a legacy – *your* legacy.

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Review meetings of the final construction document package will be held with the City at the 60% and 90% complete milestone prior to 100% completion.

Task B Fees: \$51,500

Site/Utilities: \$48,500

Electrical: \$3,000

- C. **Geotechnical Soil Report:** WSB will conduct standard penetration soil borings in the general project areas up to a depth of 15-feet. Six (6) borings up to a depth of 10 feet will be taken in proposed parking lot and stormwater basin locations. Two (2) borings up to a depth of 15 feet will be taken in building locations. Gopher State One-Call will identify any public utilities but private utilities must be located by the City.

Environmental overview of the geotechnical samples will be provided by the City of Inver Grove Heights environmental consultant (Braun Intertec) for any samples necessary during the soil boring process and oversight and testing of any suspect soils (debris, staining, vapors, odor, etc.). If unsuitable soils (existing fill, organic soils, etc.) are encountered at the proposed boring termination depth(s), it will be necessary to extend the borings into more competent materials. This will allow us to better evaluate potential construction issues. An additional charge of \$30 per lineal foot will be assessed for borings extended beyond their proposed termination depths. If the added work requires an additional mobilization to the site it will be charged at \$500 per day.

Note that in Minnesota, a boring that is deeper than 15 feet is considered an environmental well and requires Well Sealing Notification and Sealing Records be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Health, along with a Notification fee. The borings are planned to depths of less than 15 feet, but if they are extended due to the presence of unsuitable soils at planned termination, then additional fees of about \$400 will be incurred for MDH forms, MDH fees, and grouting of the onsite borings. WSB will fill out the MDH notification and sealing record forms and sign on behalf of the owner unless directed otherwise.

Information gathered for this project will be used to prepare a geotechnical report. The report will summarize our findings and provide a discussion of subsurface soil and groundwater conditions encountered in our borings and how they may affect the proposed construction of foundations, subsurface walls, slabs and pavements. The report will also provide recommendations for an allowable soil bearing pressure for footing design, along with estimates of groundwater depths/elevations and settlement under our assumed or given structural loads, site grading, and a discussion of soils for use as structural fill and site fill.

Task C Fee: \$5,000

- D. **Water Resources & Permitting:** WSB will develop a hydrologic model for the proposed park improvements and develop appropriate BMP's to meet permit requirements. It is anticipated that some of the proposed work will be within the 500-year flood plain and the 100-year flood plain and that a conditional use permit will be required as part of this project along with a Land Alteration Permit for fill within the flood plain. WSB will develop a drainage plan for the park improvements to size storm water structures and design appropriate BMP's as required to meet IGH, LMRWMO and NPDES permit requirements for an increase in impervious surfaces within the park. This will include designing to comply with special impaired water requirements of the NPDES permit. This task also includes the preparation and submittal for project permits to include an NPDES permit, SWPPP plan finalization meeting the NPDES requirements, and a watershed district permit. An additional scope will be provided if FEMA permitting is required should buildings need to be elevated out of the 100-year flood plain.

Task D Fees: \$16,500

Stormwater Modeling & Design: \$11,500

Permits: \$5,000

- E. **Bidding:** WSB will provide oversight and administration of the project bidding process to include sending out Advertisement for Bid, uploading plans and specs to Quest CDN, responding to questions that arise during the bidding process, preparation of addenda, attending bid opening, tabulation of bids, review of contractor references, and letter of recommendations for selection of contractors. Due to the grant requirements, the bidding process will also include research and contact with contractors in order to meet the DBE requirements for the project.

Task E Fee: \$3,000

F. Survey Services: The following survey services will be included:

- a. Site topographical base survey: WSB will complete a site topographical survey for specific areas of the project extents to include 1 foot contours, spot grades, existing pavements and development, utilities (in concert with as-built information from the City) and existing trees with a 6-inch caliper or greater, for use in the development of construction documents.

Task F Fee: \$10,000

G. Additional Services (if needed)

- a. **Wetland Delineation & Permitting:**

Task 1: WSB will complete a Level 2 (onsite) wetland investigation within the designated project limits in fall of 2018. Wetlands and surface water features (if encountered) will be delineated and characterized. Prior to the site visit, WSB will review Dakota County Soil Survey information, MnDNR Public Waters information, DNR National Wetland Inventory information, FEMA flood zone map, contours, and historic aerial photos for the project area. The wetland delineation will be completed in conformance with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Wetlands Delineation Manual (US Army Corps of Engineers, 1987) and the Midwest Regional Supplement. The wetland boundary will be surveyed using a sub-meter accuracy GPS unit. Fluorescent pink pin flags will be used to temporarily mark the boundary of the wetlands until approval is received.

\$850

Task 2: If wetlands are identified, the information obtained as part of Task 1 will be compiled into a wetland delineation report. This report will be submitted to the City of Inver Grove Heights, the Local Government Unit (LGU), and USACE for their review and approval. The wetland delineation report will include a figure depicting the locations of all delineated wetlands, as well as characterization & classification of wetland types. WSB will explore the possibility of a no-loss determination, as wetlands on the site may be incidental (perhaps not subject to wetland replacement). If any wetlands appear to be incidental, they would be labeled as such in the report, for further review by the City and/or Technical Evaluation Panel.

\$1,700

Task 3: Wetland boundary and type concurrence will be requested from the City of Inver Grove Heights. WSB will accompany the LGU in the field for the verification review. The USACE will also provide concurrence of any identified wetland boundaries. WSB will coordinate with the City of Inver Grove Heights to determine whether an approved or preliminary Jurisdictional Determination will be requested from the USACE. A final, approved wetland boundary CAD file will be delivered to the City following LGU and USACE approval.

\$350

Task 4: MN Wetland Conservation Act and US Army Corp of Engineers Section 404 Permits (Joint Application). The approved delineated wetland boundaries will be incorporated into project design for wetland impact avoidance and minimization considerations. If impacts are required, WSB will prepare the WCA and Section 404 permits application (Joint Application). A MnDNR public waters works permit is not anticipated, as work is not anticipated to occur within a DNR public waters. WSB will incorporate the avoidance sequencing discussion and assumes wetland replacement (if necessary) will be via an approved wetland bank. Any fees incurred for wetland replacement credits will be the responsibility of the City of Inver Grove Heights.

\$2,000

- b. **Additional Services** - Services other than those listed in the Scope of Services above and requested and authorized in writing by the City. These services shall be billed on an hourly basis according to the current Hourly Rate Schedule at the time of request.

ASSUMPTIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

The scope of services includes the following assumptions and exclusions related to the project fees.

- A. It is assumed that any environmental work that may be necessary in terms of the site environmental covenant, including a Response Action Plan and Construction Contingency Plan for submittal and approval by the MPCA, environmental oversight of geotechnical work, and environmental oversight of site construction work, including any requirements related to on-site contamination and related permits, would be provided by the City's environmental consultant (Braun Intertec).
- B. If the presence of contamination is found during any excavations or construction work, this will result in extra costs for further investigation, management and disposal, as required. If contamination is found in areas designated for a storm water BMP, infiltration at the BMP will not be allowed and further redesign may be necessary, at an additional cost.
- C. If vapor risks are present, the inclusion of vapor barriers under proposed buildings and utility trench areas may be necessary to reduce vapor risks and migration.
- D. Construction Administration, Observation, Survey, and Testing Services are not included at this time. A fee proposal can be provided once the final design for the Phase 2 development has been fully identified.
- E. Sanitary system design does not include a lift station design.

FEES FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

It is proposed that Tasks be billed on an hourly-not-to-exceed basis according to the following breakdowns:

Task A (Design Dev.):.....\$24,000
Task B (Final Design):.....\$51,500
Task C (Geotechnical):.....\$ 5,000
Task D (Water Resources): ..\$16,500
Task E (Bidding)\$ 3,000
Task F (Survey).....\$10,000
Total: \$110,000

Additional Services: TBD

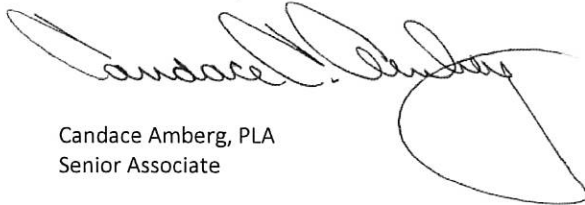
If you are in agreement with the terms as outlined above, please sign where indicated below and return one copy to our office.

Thank you for this opportunity to propose on this project. If you should have any questions regarding this proposal, please contact me at 763-231-4848.

Sincerely,

WSB & Associates, Inc.

City of Inver Grove Heights



Candace Amberg, PLA
Senior Associate

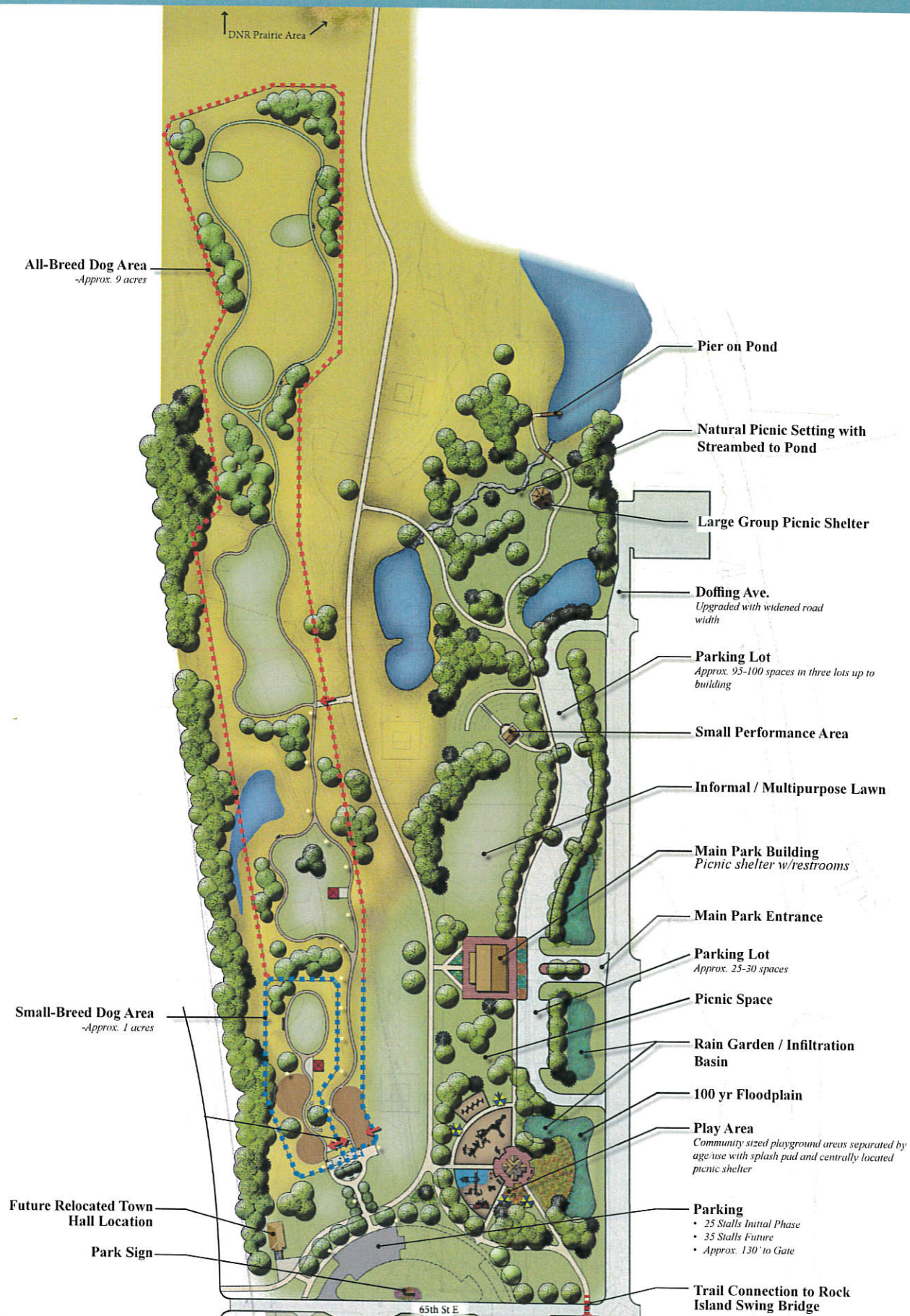
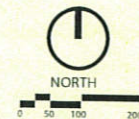
Signature:

Name/Title:

Date:



Heritage Village Park ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



Preliminary Master Plan

WSB Project 010132-000
February 14, 2018



CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Consider Recommendation for North/South Valley Master Plan

Meeting Date: October 10, 2018
 Item Type: Regular Agenda
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Eric Carlson
 Reviewed by: Brian Swoboda
 Tracy Petersen

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

☒	None
☐	Amount included in current budget
☐	Budget amendment requested
☐	FTE included in current complement
☐	New FTE requested – N/A
☐	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

The Commission is asked to recommend the attached North/South Valley Master Plan to the City Council for review and approval.

SUMMARY

Many of the amenities in North and South Valley Park are past their useful life and will be in need of replacement in the near future. The Commission has been working on updating the North/South Valley Master Plan with the help of HKGI over the last year to help gain community feedback about the future of North and South Valley Parks. In August of 2017 we hosted a “pop up park” event encouraging the community to provide input into the future of North/South Valley Parks and followed up this past September with another meeting to get feedback based on the attached plans.

Generally, the Master Plan lays out the following concepts:

North Valley Park

- Remove the tennis courts and construct pickleball courts
- Add some parking near the new pickleball courts
- Relocate four (4) disc golf holes from South Valley Park to North Valley Park
- No other significant changes to North Valley Park

South Valley Park

- Relocate four (4) disc golf holes from South Valley Park to North Valley Park
- Add community gardens on top of hill off Borman Ave.
- Add a lookout tower near community gardens
- Add parking at the end of the existing parking lot towards the well house
- Remove the baseball field and create an open green area for recreation/fitness programming
- Replace the playground equipment with a nature-based playground facility
- Replace the building and shelter with a new larger shelter that would include a restroom core
- Add a natural surface trail around the pond
- Add a small archery range
- Identify the natural trails in the park that will be maintained by the City

North/South Valley Master Plan (Text)



INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

**NORTH AND SOUTH
VALLEY PARKS
ACTIVE LIVING
MASTER PLAN**

DRAFT JANUARY 2018

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PROJECT TEAM

Eric Carlson, Director of Parks and Recreation
Brian Swoboda, Park Superintendent
Tracy Petersen, Recreation Superintendent
Hoisington Koegler Group, Inc. (HKGi), Project Consultants



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION (PRAC)

Kevin Sethre, Chair
Kathryn Bauer, Vice Chair
Joseph Boehmer
Albert Eiden
Wilfred Krech
Patrick Farley
Deb Tix
Mark Freer
Mary Gerhardt

This project was supported by the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP), Minnesota Department of Health, and Dakota County Public Health Department, in partnership with the City of Inver Grove Heights.



THIS PLAN WAS ADOPTED ON _____ BY THE INVER GROVE HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL

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Chapter 1

PLAN + PROCESS

Centrally located within the City of Inver Grove Heights, North and South Valley Parks are known for scenic views, winding trails, abundant wildlife, and a world-class disc golf course. Along with ball fields, picnic facilities, and tennis courts, these two parks are connected via a pedestrian tunnel for a combined area of 151 acres.

These parks have been essential to providing recreation and access to natural areas for Inver Grove Heights residents for many years. As development has grown in adjacent areas, North and South Valley Parks remain a beautiful and well-loved asset for the community.

This plan and planning process acknowledges that while these parks are successful today, there are future upgrades, improvements, or modifications that can help the parks to meet some of the changing needs and desires of the community.

PURPOSE OF PLAN

This Master Plan is intended to guide future decisions and investments for North and South Valley Parks, with the expressed interest in expanding the role of the parks to include an Active Living component. The City of Inver Grove Heights Parks and Recreation Department, in partnership with Dakota County, State Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), has developed this master plan through a pilot design process intended to inform future master plans for other parks within Inver Grove Heights.

Near-term actions have been identified and prioritized, in combination with long-term considerations. Together, these recommendations provide a road-map for the City and partners to continue to work together to meet the changing needs of the community.

The following are specific project outcomes that were identified by the supporting agencies and the City of Inver Grove Heights:

- » Address park design and program to improve active living opportunities and healthy food access
- » Address walking and bicycling connectivity between North and South Valley Parks and nearby community destinations such as:
 - Inver Grove Heights Middle School
 - Simley Senior High School
 - Inver Glen Library,
 - Inver Hills Community College,
 - Highway 52 Trail and the Mississippi Regional Trail
 - Grocery stores along Cahill Avenue
 - CDA housing
 - Nearby residential neighborhoods
- » Address walking and bicycling connectivity along and across county roads such as 70th Street and 80th Street.
- » Create goals and/or policies that support Active Living and healthy food access in parks, to be included in the Inver Grove Heights 2040 Comprehensive Plan

ACTIVE LIVING

Today, there is little debate about the benefits to increasing physical activity and promoting healthy eating for people of all ages in our communities. Parks play a significant role in providing opportunities for people to enjoyably engage in healthier lifestyles.

Active Living is a way of life that integrates physical activity and healthy eating into daily routines. Depending on one's age or abilities, there are a variety of amounts of daily exercise recommended in order to lead a healthy lifestyle. There are many ways to engage in daily exercise, such as biking, walking or gardening. Daily physical exercise can be achieved without expensive gym memberships or rigorous workout routines designed for athletes. Active Living can be achieved through small changes in our lifestyles, and can contribute to increasing social interactions and our connections to nature.

Our ability to integrate Active Living into our daily lives and into our communities is heavily influenced by the following environmental factors:

- » A varied mix of land uses
 - Locating places where we live, work, study, shop, eat, and play near each other make walking and biking more convenient
- » Functional, inviting, and attractive parks
 - Providing places that are engaging and inviting encourages us to get outdoors and enjoy physical activity
- » Safe and comfortable access to parks and the outdoors
 - Providing places where people of all ages, abilities can safely and comfortably access parks is one of the most influential factors to Active Living in the community. This includes providing visible signage and safe road crossings for pedestrians.
- » Access to healthy foods
 - Providing places where people can access healthy, fresh, and affordable food is a serious consideration for Active Living. There are a number of ways that parks can provide access to healthy foods, such as serving as a drop-off point for CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture), and providing community garden plots.



Bike riding, community markets and festivals, dog walking and walking to school are all examples of Active Living principles in action.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The master plan process was developed to engage residents in how parks can be better designed to encourage Active Living. Community engagement was approached to reach a broad demographic within the community, particularly seeking input from SHIP priority populations:

- » Residents who are aged 60 or older
- » Children
- » People with low incomes
- » People experiencing health disparities

In order to reach as many people as possible, community engagement was performed over the course of a three month process, integrating information gathered from a variety of events and interactions. Ideas and comments were gathered, documented, and analyzed (see Chapter 2: Existing Conditions), and used to directly inform the goals, actions and considerations for the master plan (see Chapter 3: Master Plan).

The following community engagement activities were performed during the planning process:



Project team site visit

PROJECT TEAM SITE VISIT

The project team, consisting of Parks and Recreation Staff and the consultant team, gathered and toured South and North Valley Parks together early on in the planning process. This tour provided the consultant team with a foundational understanding of the existing inventory and condition of facilities and amenities, as well as an understanding of current maintenance and programming.

POP-UP MEETING

The purpose of a pop-up meeting is to gather input from park users while they are actively engaged in park activities. The project team hosted a pop-up meeting in South Valley Park early on in the planning process, and gathered input from nearby residents, parents and children at the playground, disc golfers, dog walkers, trail walkers, and people interested in contributing to the future of the parks.



Pop-Up Meeting in South Valley Park

WALK-AUDIT / SURVEY

A Walk-Audit is a way to host a focused conversation with a small group of stakeholders, on-site, to gather detailed information about accessibility, comfort, and safety within and around the parks. The project team hosted a Walk-Audit early on in the planning process. A number of Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission members attended, as well as the City Administrator and Parks and Recreation Staff. The audit consisted of a 1-mile walk through North and South Valley Parks, including the intersection of Cahill Avenue and 70th Street.

Participants were asked to complete a written walk-audit survey at the completion of the walk. These written surveys were also distributed at the Pop-Up meeting for residents to complete.



Walk Audit

EMAIL COMMENTS

Over the course of the planning process, residents were encouraged to send any thoughts, ideas, or feedback regarding the future of North and South Valley Parks to the Director of Parks and Recreation. These email comments were gathered, processed, and taken into account for future recommendations.

SOCIAL PINPOINT

Social Pinpoint is an interactive online mapping tool that is used to broadly gather input from the community. Residents were encouraged to visit the North and South Valley Parks Social Pinpoint site. Here, participants were invited to share their thoughts on ideas for improvements, as well as places where there are barriers to accessing the parks, and places where the parks are successful. Social Pinpoint participants can also view comments posted by other users and mark if they agree or disagree.

This tool was advertised by the Parks and Recreation Department through social media, as well as advertised at all other community engagement events. Over 100 people visited and provided comments on the social pinpoint site.

North and South Valley Parks Active Living Master Plan Walk Audit Page 1

Over the next few months, the City of River Grove, Inc. is creating a master plan for North and South Valley Parks. **Active Living** is the main focus of the master plan, and the City is seeking your input on how to best integrate play for all ages and abilities, along with other ideas for the future of North and South Valley Parks. Your evaluation today is very important—thank you for your input!

ABOUT YOU

- How familiar are you with North and South Valley Parks? 1 2 3 4 5
- How would you rate your Active Living lifestyle? 1 2 3 4 5
- What physical activities do you engage in regularly? _____
- How far do you live from North or South Valley Parks? _____
- What is the furthest that you are able or willing to walk in order to reach a destination? _____

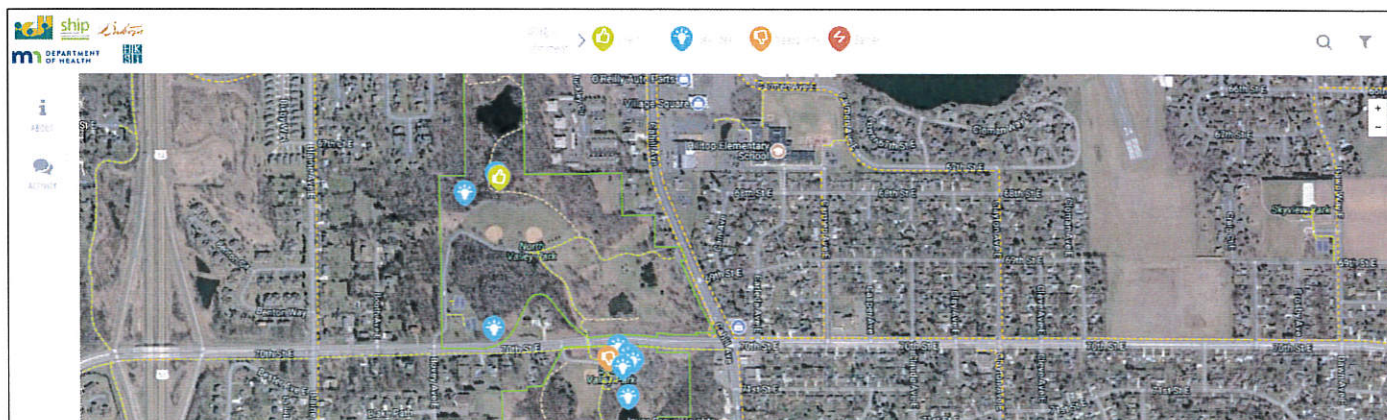
PARK ACCESS

- Rate the ease of access TO North and South Valley Parks for the following users:
 Walkers/strollers: 1 2 3 4 5
 Bicyclists: 1 2 3 4 5
 Public transportation: 1 2 3 4 5
 Drivers: 1 2 3 4 5
 People with disabilities: 1 2 3 4 5
- Rate the quality/legibility of the surrounding signage for North and South Valley Parks:
 Directional: 1 2 3 4 5
 Informational: 1 2 3 4 5
- Describe places where entry to the park is problematic: _____
- Describe places where there is a reason to enter the park: _____
- What would improve access and safety for North and South Valley Parks? _____

PROGRAMS & FOOD

- List the programs or activities that you are familiar with at North and South Valley Parks: _____
- What types of programs would contribute to the future of Active Living for River Grove residents at North and South Valley Parks? _____
- Where are the closest places to get healthy food from here? _____
- Do you see an opportunity to have a farmers market, farmers' garden, or community meals at North and South Valley Parks? Please describe: _____
- What other ideas do you have for providing healthy food options with the future of these parks? _____

Survey Form



Social Pinpoint Web Tool

WORKSHOP WITH PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

After collecting a broad range of comments from the community, the Project Team hosted an evening workshop with the Parks and Recreation Committee along with Parks and Recreation Staff to review ideas and develop goals and future actions.

STAKEHOLDER CONVERSATIONS

While participation and engagement was robust at events and through online and survey for this project, an extra effort was put forth to ensure that the priority populations identified by SHIP were reached for community engagement. The Project Team contacted individuals at the following organizations and agencies and conducted in-person or phone interviews. These conversations contributed greatly to understanding the barriers and programmatic needs of older residents, people with disabilities, children, and residents with low incomes.

- » Physical Education instructors at Inver Grove Middle School and Simley High School
- » Program directors and coordinators at TriDistrict Community Education, specifically for Adults with Disabilities programming
- » Seniors involved at Veterans Memorial Community Center
- » Directors of Community Outreach and Programming at Neighbors, Inc., the primary food shelf serving Inver Grove Heights

LESSONS LEARNED

Evaluating the planning process is an important step in any project, especially when the intent is to re-create the process for future park planning in Inver Grove Heights. The following list details aspects of the planning process that worked well and proved successful, as well as what could be modified or improved for future park master plans in Inver Grove Heights.

WHAT WORKED WELL:

- » One-on-one stakeholder conversations served to provide qualitative insight for the barriers and challenges that vulnerable populations in Inver Grove Heights face regarding park usage, accessibility, food security, and overall programming
- » Social Pinpoint was successful in gathering and locating ideas from community members. This effort can be easily repeated or combined with a more in-depth web-based survey for future plans
- » On-site meetings, such as the Walk-Audit, Pop-Up meeting and initial site visit were essential to providing contextual information to the project team. Future planning efforts can build upon this by hosting more community meetings and events on-site during the planning process.

IDEAS FOR FUTURE PLANNING:

- » The timeline for completing community engagement was compressed to just a few months for information gathering. Future planning processes will benefit from having a longer information gathering period to allow for more events, as well as allowing the Project Team time to adapt to input received. An increased project timeline will also allow for hosting events and web-based efforts to get plan and recommendation feedback on a broader scale.
- » North and South Valley Parks are just two of 28 parks within the City Inver Grove Heights Parks and Recreation system. Goals, priorities, and actions within North and South Valley Parks effect investments for other parks and vice-versa. The process for creating future park-specific master plans would benefit from creating a system-wide master plan that examines existing and future facilities, programs, and structures for all parks within the city.
- » At the time of the planning process for North and South Valley Parks master plan, the community was experiencing slight survey-fatigue, as a result of other concurrent planning efforts, such as the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The project team was encouraged to find other methods of information gathering to avoid a city-wide survey. However, future park planning efforts could benefit from creating a concise and specific web-based park survey to gather ideas and information.





Chapter 2

EXISTING CONDITIONS

ACTIVE LIVING IN INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

To begin addressing Active Living for North and South Valley Parks in Inver Grove Heights, it was necessary to look at existing contributing assets and influential factors for Active Living. Figure 2-1 shows the following features in Inver Grove Heights today:

- » Trails and sidewalk locations
- » Bikeways and regional trails
- » Parks
- » Recreation and community centers
- » Schools
- » Grocery stores
- » Other community destinations

Most of the community destinations that contribute to a community's level of Active Living in Inver Grove Heights exist within a half mile, (generally a 10-minute walk) of North and South Valley Parks, with the parks serving as a potential pedestrian and bicycle connection between a number of important destinations.

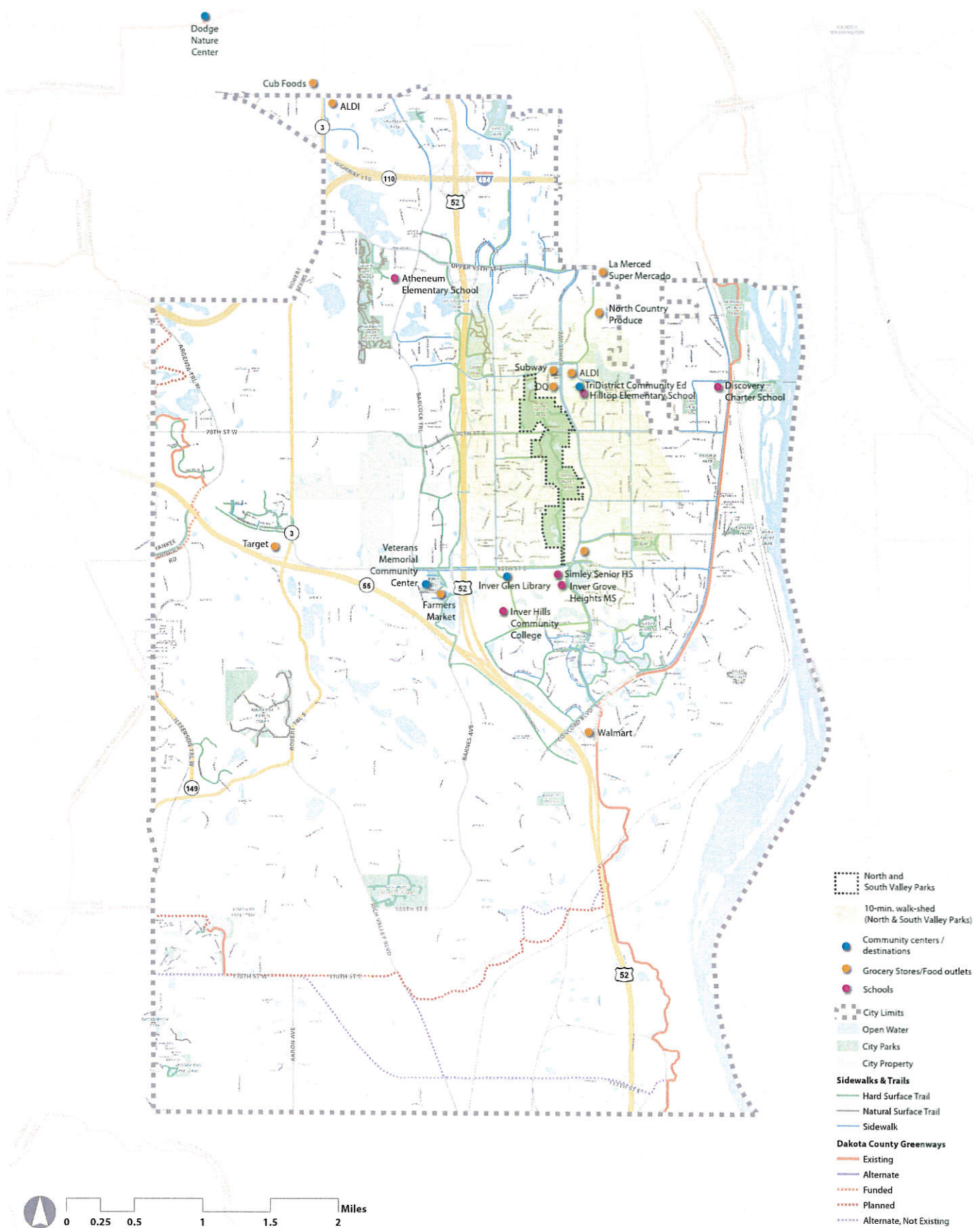


Figure 2-1 Active Living in Inver Grove Heights

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY

This master plan was created in coordination with the Inver Grove Heights Comprehensive Plan 2040 Update. Early in the comprehensive plan process, a community-wide survey was distributed through a web-based platform as well as through a paper survey. Over 600 people participated in this survey, which laid the groundwork for understanding how people use and view the parks in Inver Grove Heights today, as well as some insight into how residents would like to see parks function in the future.



Figure 2-2. This word cloud was created from comments taken from the Comprehensive Plan Survey. Words that are found most often in comments appear largest in this diagram. Parks are one of the most often discussed issues in Inver Grove Heights today.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The following pages outline the issues and opportunities identified through site analysis and community input of North and South Valley Parks. During the initial site analysis and information gathering phase of the project, community input and ideas were categorized into five areas of focus:

- » Accessibility and Wayfinding to the Parks
- » Comfort and Safety within the Parks
- » Maintenance and Enforcement
- » Structures and Facilities
- » Programming

Within each area of focus, the following sections were created to help us understand where we are today:

- » Issues + Opportunities Analysis Map
 - A map that locates ideas and comments that were gathered during community engagement, as well as relevant site analysis
- » Overview of Existing Conditions
- » What We've Heard (and where we heard it from)
 - A log of comments, ideas, and observations related to issues and opportunities for North and South Valley Parks. This table helps us to understand what common ideas have been expressed during the planning process.
- » Photos
 - Images that help us to understand the existing conditions related to the area of focus

WHAT WE HEARD

Below there are results from the Comprehensive Plan survey that either relate to the master plan effort for North and South Valley Parks, or relate to Active Living in Inver Grove Heights:

- » 35% of participants think that improving recreation, parks, and trails will have the greatest impact for improving the quality of life in Inver Grove Heights
- » 61.7% of participants feel that the existing parks and recreational facilities offered by the City meet their needs; 67.6% feel that park and recreation programming meets their needs
- » The top three park amenities that participants would like to see more of are: trails, water facilities (pools or splash pads), and social gathering spaces (concert or picnic amenities)
- » 41.1% of participants regularly leave the city to visit parks and trails elsewhere; 19.3% of participants leave the city to use health clubs
- » 43.7% of participants do not believe that there are enough places to gather and socialize in the city; 46.6% of participants prefer to gather and socialize in parks
- » 46.7% of participants believe that the sidewalk and trail system should be expanded and improved

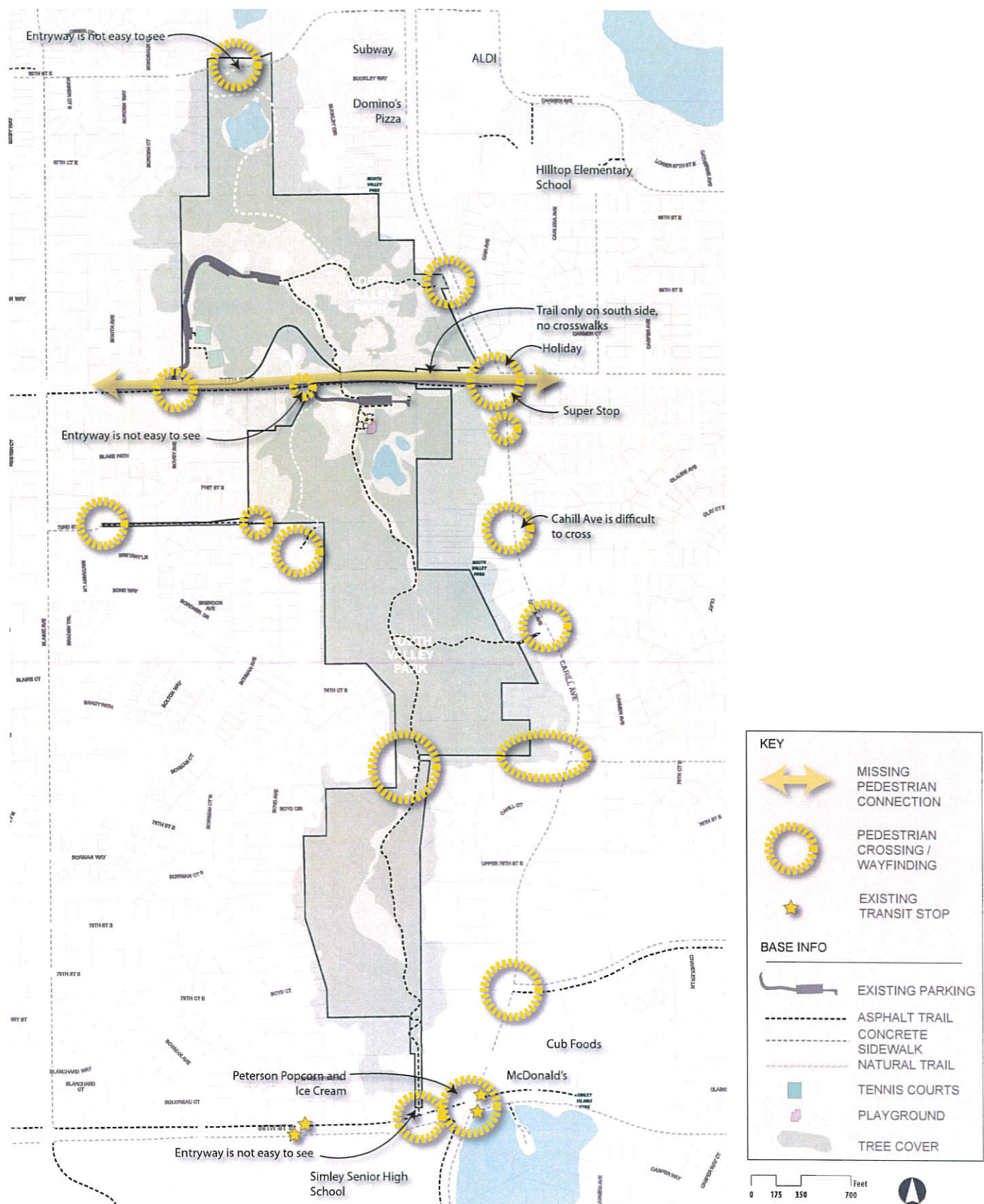


Figure 2-3. Issues and Opportunities for Access and Wayfinding

ACCESSIBILITY + WAYFINDING TO THE PARKS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Accessibility and Wayfinding addresses the challenges and barriers that exist today that make it difficult for residents of Inver Grove Heights to reach North and South Valley Parks. For many people, the biggest barrier is not understanding where the park is located, and how one can enter the park. The steep topography of North and South Valley Parks is reflected in the namesake. People who pass by the parks on a regular basis may not be totally aware of the existence of the parks, as the grade drops significantly from the bordering streets and the heavily wooded areas along the edge of the park block views down into the valley.

For pedestrians and bicyclists, there are a number of existing trail entrances, most located along the east from Cahill Ave. There are few opportunities for pedestrians to cross Cahill Ave from the eastern neighborhoods. From the west side of North and South Valley Parks, there are a few more entrances for pedestrians and bicyclists. However, many of these entrances are inconspicuous and nearly hidden from sight.



Existing conditions at the intersections of 70th Street and Cahill Ave (Top), and 70th Street at North and South Valley Parks

EXISTING CONDITIONS

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Comment		Where did we hear this?							
What is Present?	What is missing? What could be improved?	Survey Forms	Social Pinpoint	Email Comments	Walk-audit	Pop-Up Park Meeting	Project Team Observations/ Staff Site Visit	Targeted Stakeholder Conversation	
1. Access to the Park / Wayfinding	Trail along 70th Street is only on one side of the road (no access along north side of road) and could use upgrade/maintenance	x		x	x		x		
	Cahill Ave is difficult to cross; there are no pedestrian crossings between 70th and 80th Streets	x	x		x				
	Intersection at 70th Street and Cahill feels dangerous for pedestrians	x			x		x		
	It is difficult to see park entrances from 70th Street	x			x				x
	There are no crosswalks to North Valley Park (along 70th St.)	x			x				
	Public transit connections could be improved (currently the closest public transit stops are at Cahill Ave and 80th Street, and 80th Street and Boyd Ave at the south entrance to South Valley Park	x							x
	More wayfinding signage is needed to direct people to the park; difficult to tell there is a park because of topography	x			x				x
	Access to the park for walkers/joggers could be improved	x							
	Access to the park for people with disabilities could be improved	x		x					x
	Access to the park for bicyclists could be improved	x							
	The entryways are not visible or welcoming for people looking for the park	x							

Table 2-1 Community Comments on Access and Wayfinding

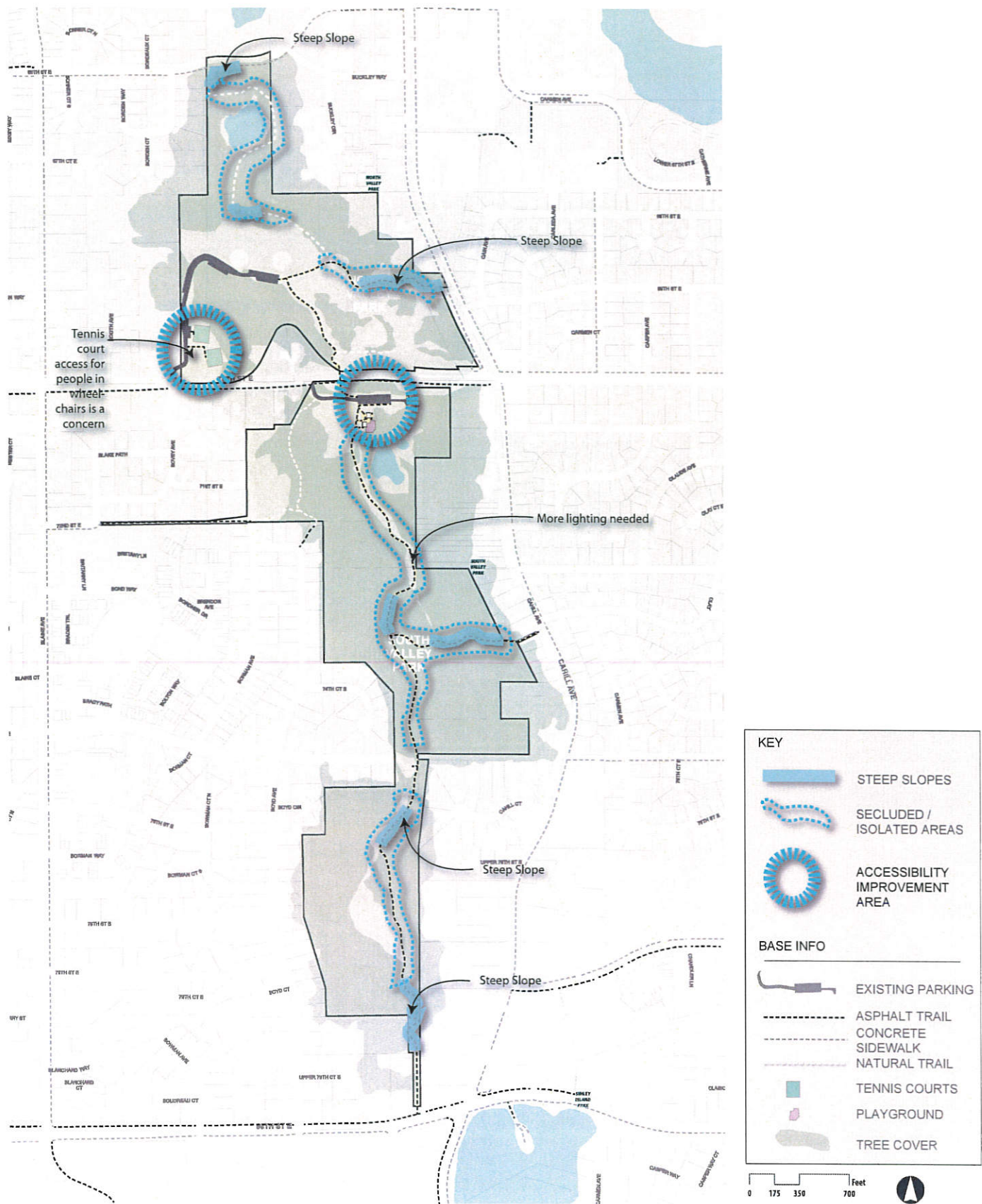


Figure 2-4 Issues and Opportunities for Accessibility, Comfort and Safety Within the Parks

COMFORT & SAFETY WITHIN THE PARKS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Accessibility, Comfort, & Safety Within the Parks addresses the challenges and barriers that park users may experience within the bounds of North and South Valley Parks. Accessibility looks at the availability of parking, steepness of slopes of trails and walkways, and the ability for people of all ages and abilities to engage with the park facilities and enjoyment. Comfort is important for users of North and South Valley Parks, and is directly related to safety or the perception of safety within the parks. In North and South Valley Parks, there are a number of areas with steep slopes, due to the topography of the park areas. In general, most park users appreciate the natural beauty of the park and the serene, scenic views. However, these same characteristics can also contribute to a feeling of isolation for park users. Currently, there are only a few lights throughout the parks, and most people do not go to the parks after dark.



Trail in North Valley Park with a steep slope



Secluded area on the main paved trail in South Valley Park

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Comment		Where did we hear this?						
What is Present?	What is missing? What could be improved?	Survey Forms	Social Pinpoint	Email Comments	Walk-audit	Pop-Up Park Meeting	Project Team Observations/ Staff Site Visit	Targeted Stakeholder Conversation
2. Accessibility/Comfort/Safety within the Park	Paved trails in North Valley Park, and South Valley Park have steep grades (SVP towards 80th Street, NVP connection to east/Cahill Ave)	x		x	x	x	x	x
	Walking paths for people with disabilities could be improved	x		x		x	x	x
	Portions of South Valley Park feel very secluded or isolated	x						
	More lighting along the trails is needed	x	x			x		
	More drinking fountains throughout the park would be preferable, especially on south end trails and at the playground/parking lot in SVP	x	x	x				
	Need more benches throughout the park, more places to sit in the shade	x						
	Request to keep N/S Valley Parks as natural as possible			x				
	New ADA accessible path near hole 16 is well-received				x			
	Soft or natural trails are popular	x						
	Tennis courts are popular			x				

Table 2-2. Community Comments on Accessibility, Comfort, and Safety within the Parks

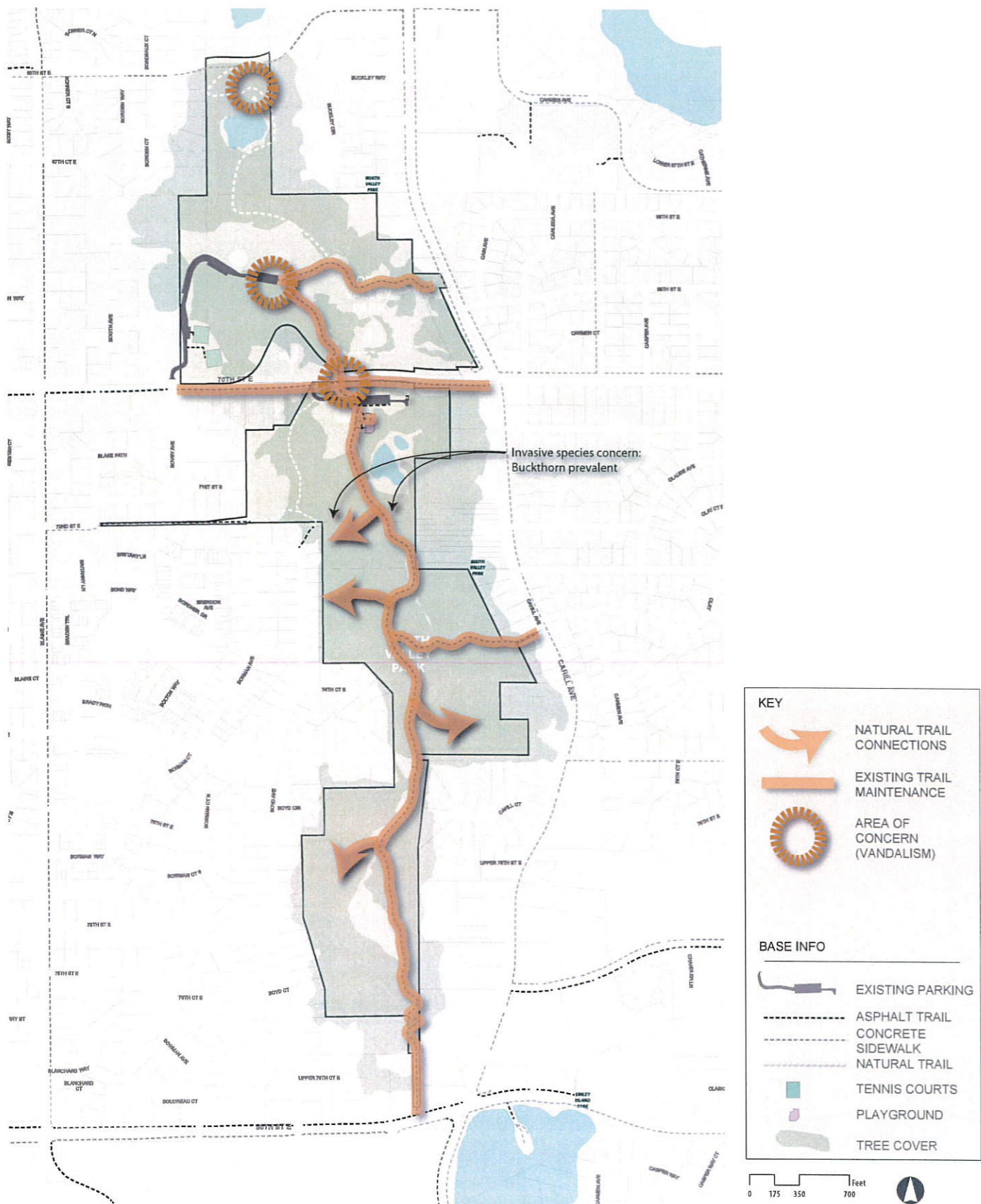


Figure 2-5 Issues and Opportunities for Maintenance and Enforcement

MAINTENANCE & ENFORCEMENT

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Regular maintenance is performed by the Parks and Recreation Department and includes dragging of ball field surfaces (1x/week in the summer), mowing turf lawn sections throughout, including along trails (1x/week), trash removal (3x/week). Additionally, an Adopt-A-Park program connects volunteers with North and South Valley Parks to assist with trash removal and light park maintenance. Additional maintenance throughout the park, such as repainting of the tunnel and tree or storm debris removal occurs on an as-needed basis. 'Natural' trails (unpaved) throughout South Valley Park have been created by neighbors and have been kept up informally.

Police presence in North and South Valley Parks is intermittent and is more frequent during events. Some areas within the parks, such as the pedestrian tunnel between North and South Valley Parks at 70th Street, are occasionally vandalized with graffiti.



The pedestrian tunnel under 70th Street between North and South Valley Parks after a fresh coat of paint

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Comment		Where did we hear this?						
What is Present?	What is missing? What could be improved?	Survey Forms	Social Pinpoint	Email Comments	Walk-audit	Pop-Up Park Meeting	Project Team Observations/ Staff Site Visit	Targeted Stakeholder Conversation
3. Park Maintenance / Enforcement	Trails are not currently plowed in the wintertime; this would be great	x		x	x			
	More police presence is needed throughout the park	x				x		
	Graffiti/vandalism is a problem	x				x		
	Natural trails are created and maintained by individuals rather than Parks and Rec Dept.; natural trails should be maintained more frequently	x	x	x			x	
	Deer / animal management could be better					x		
	More open "natural" space is desired	x						
	Separate trash and recycling bins needed	x						
	Request for more invasive species removal, such as removing buckthorn			x				
	Native seeding / native planting areas / direct hardwood seeding is supported					x	x	
	Some ash trees have been removed, no signs of Emerald Ash Borer yet						x	
	More trash cans needed throughout the park, along trails	x	x					
	Some clarity needed regarding dog policy within NVP/SVP; too many off-leash dogs			x			x	
In general, the parks are really well-maintained "IGH does a great job!"		x		x	x	x		
All of the sports fields, courses, and courts are in great condition		x		x	x			

Table 2-3. Community Comments on Maintenance and Enforcement

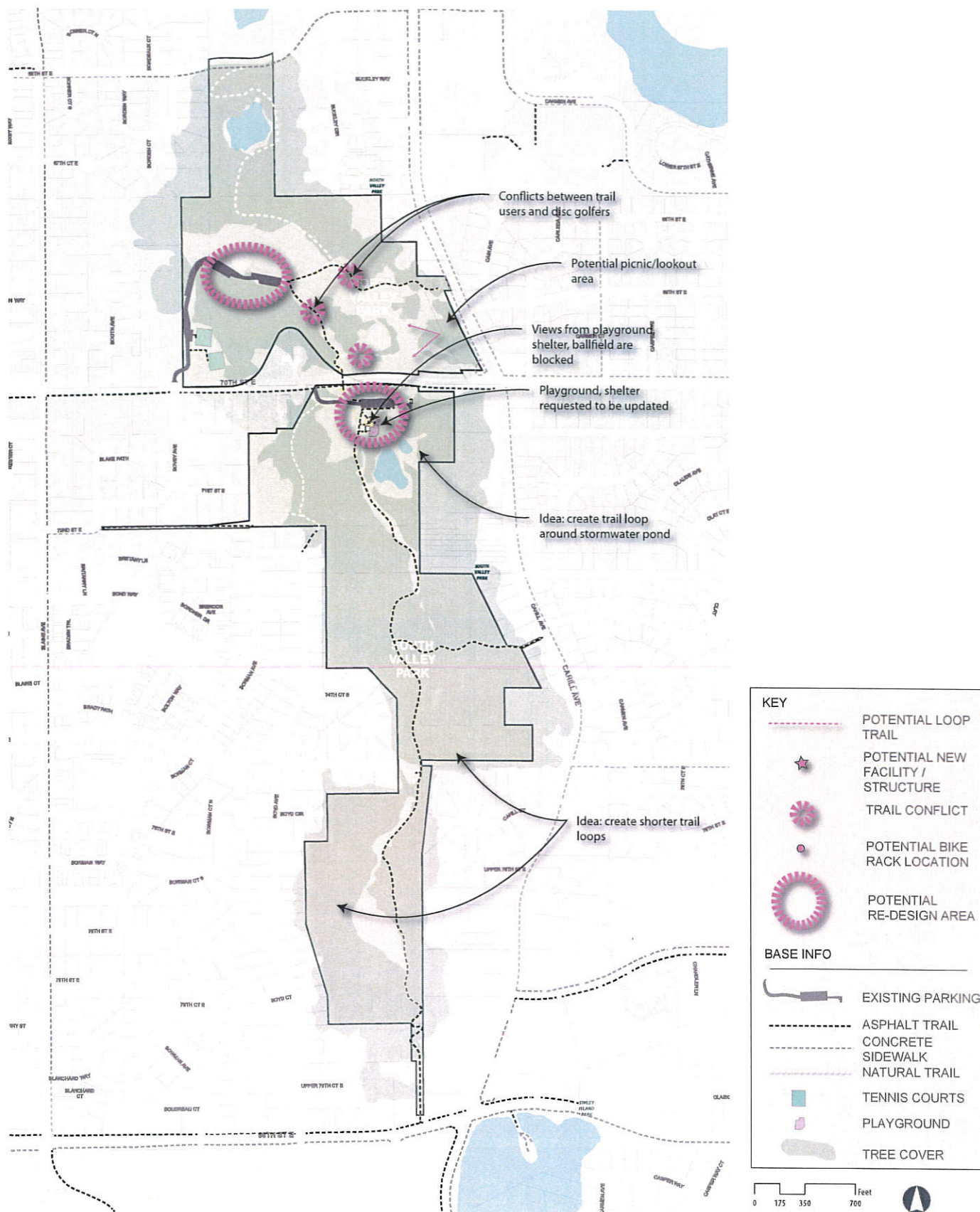


Figure 2-6. Issues and Opportunities for Facilities and Structures

FACILITIES + STRUCTURES

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Existing structures and facilities at South Valley Park include:

- » Playground
 - Playground is 20 years old; the current Playground Replacement Plan calls for replacement every 20 years
 - Playground placement makes it difficult for parents to watch children who may be in multiple places throughout the park
 - The current playground has mulch surfacing and has a retaining wall with a chain link fence separating the play area from a nearby stormwater pond
- » Picnic shelter / pavilion and storage building
 - Buildings are over 40 years old and are dated
 - Shelter is rented out for events such as family picnics nearly every weekend in the year
 - Restroom facilities are included in the storage building and are opened only during shelter rentals
- » Parking lot
 - South Valley Park has a parking lot, accessed from 70th Street
 - (2) Portable toilets are placed in the parking area to service the park
- » Ball field
 - Not currently programmed for sports events
- » Sledding hill
 - Located to the southwest of the ball field
 - Very popular
- » Trails
 - Nearly 1.5 miles of paved trail connecting the parking area to 80th Street, with a connection to Cahill Ave at the midpoint
 - Unpaved, cleared trails (natural trails) connecting the northwest area of South Valley Park to the ballfield area
 - More unpaved, cleared trails exist through the park and are maintained informally by neighbors

Existing structures and facilities in North Valley Park include:

- » 18-hole disc golf course
 - A third-party vendor rents discs from the central parking area in North Valley Park
- » Ball fields (2)
 - These fields are used as soccer fields as well and are steadily programmed through recreation and club leagues
- » Tennis courts (4)
- » Trails
 - Approximately .75 miles of paved trails connecting to South Valley Park through a tunnel under 70th Street and a trail to Cahill Ave
 - Unpaved, cleared (natural) trails connect to 65th Street in the north



Existing playground



Existing picnic shelter



Parking lot and beginning of trail



Ball field at South Valley Park



(Clockwise from top right) Wetland area in North Valley Park, Well house at Cahill Ave in North Valley Park, Disc golf rental trailer, portable toilet in South Valley Park, natural trail and a paved trail in South Valley Park

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Comment		Where did we hear this?						
What is Present?	What is missing? What could be improved?	Survey Forms	Social Pinpoint	Email Comments	Walk-audit	Pop-Up Park Meeting	Project Team Observations/ Staff Site Visit	Targeted Stakeholder Conversation
4. Park Facilities / Structures	Views from picnic shelter, playground, ball field are blocked	x				x	x	
	Picnic shelter is in need of replacing or updating	x	x			x	x	
	Picnic shelter with accessible kitchen facilities would be welcomed							x
	Tables and chairs to accommodate people with disabilities is needed							x
	Need for larger picnic facilities, more space for larger families, bigger events/gatherings	x				x	x	
	Multi-purpose accessible areas for yoga/dance/zumba would be welcomed							x
	Playground is inaccessible; adaptive playground equipment would be great for those with disabilities							x
	Playground is in need of update	x	x			x	x	
	Playground is in a poor location	x				x	x	
	Another picnic area at NVP along Cahill Ave / overlook could be a possibility				x			
	Need for bike racks	x				x		
	Need for more parking during large events	x	x				x	
	Sledding hill is very popular	x				x	x	
	Snowshoeing is popular					x		
	Idea for a warming hut to increase winter use	x				x		
	Support for archery range	x	x					
	Great tennis courts					x		
	Support for amphitheater					x	x	
	Disc Golf Course is really popular	x		x	x		x	
	Public garden or community garden space	x						x
	Ball fields are under-used in South Valley Park	x					x	
	Request for dedicated pickle-ball courts (separate from tennis) and supply of pickleballs	x		x		x		x
	Trails are linear and require users to head in one direction, turn around and return	x			x	x	x	
	Trails could have better connection to stormwater pond						x	
	Paved trails are popular, well-loved, good wildlife viewing	x		x			x	
	More trails wanted in North Valley Park							
	Natural trails are popular, well-loved; good wildlife viewing	x	x	x		x	x	
	Natural trails need signage, wayfinding, mapping							
	Splash pad / water feature is supported					x	x	
	Concern for cost of any new or renovated structures or improvements	x				x		
	Having some trails with steep inclines is nice for exercise (even though some might not be able to use them)	x						

Table 2-4. Community Comments on Facilities and Structures

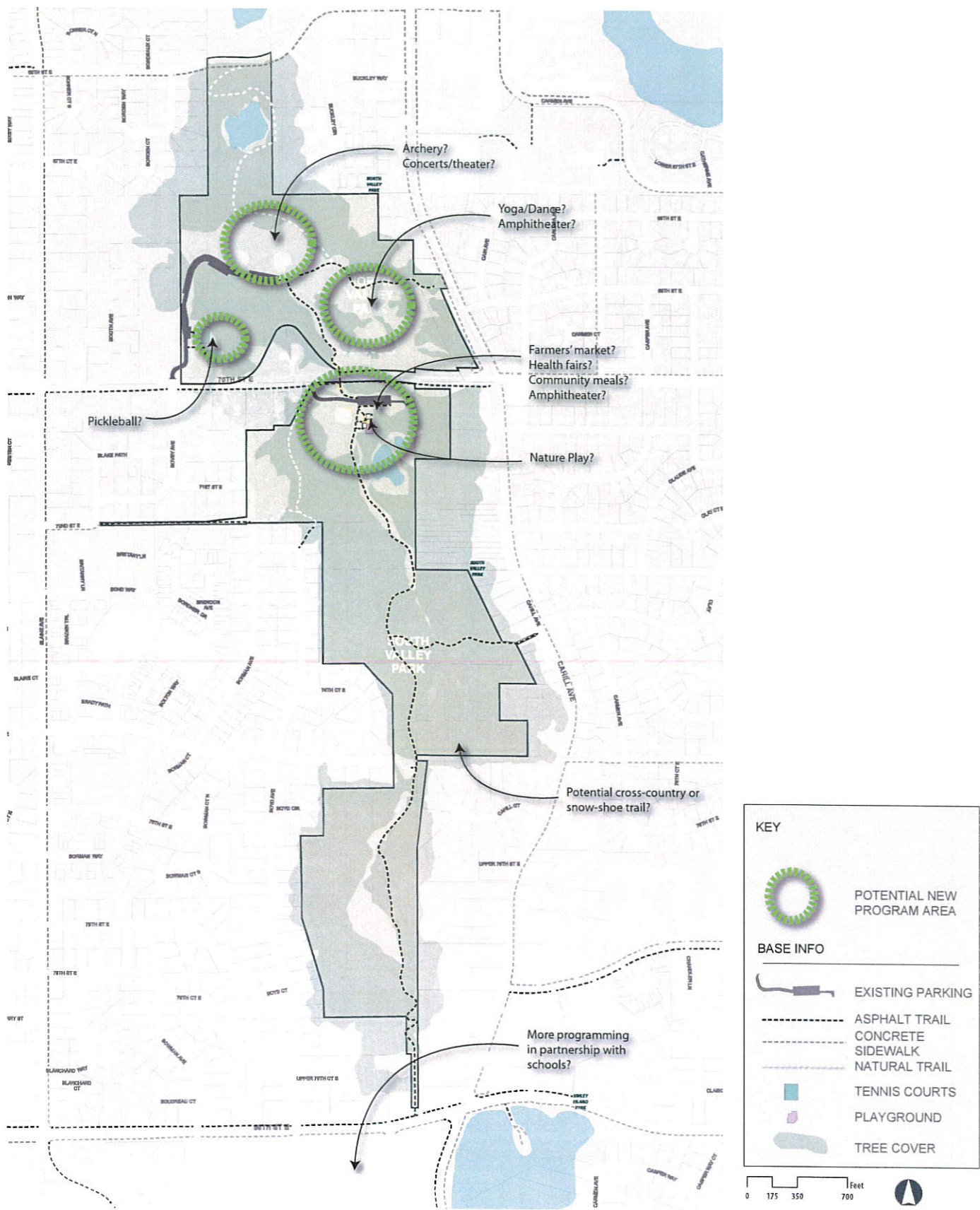


Figure 2-7. Issues and Opportunities for Programming

PROGRAMMING

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Current programming in North and South Valley Parks consists of scheduling ball field use for baseball and soccer, as well as tournaments hosted on the disc golf course. These events are organized through the Parks and Recreation Department. Informally, there is a group of walkers organized through Veteran's Memorial Community Center who take advantage of the trail system. Other informal programming that occurs in North and South Valley Parks include picnic shelter rental for family gatherings.

Programming for the parks is advertised through a seasonal brochure posted by the Parks and Recreation Department, as well as through social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram).

WHAT WE'VE HEARD



2017 Fall Parks and Recreation Brochure

Comment		Where did we hear this?							
What is Present?	What is missing? What could be improved?	Survey Forms	Social Pinpoint	Email Comments	Walk-audit	Pop-Up Park Meeting	Project Team Observations/ Staff Site Visit	Targeted Stakeholder Conversation	
5. Park Programming	Farmers market location in the future	x				x	x		
	Allow community members to assist with gardening, flowers, landscaping	x				x			x
	Health fairs could be held in the parks	x							x
	Community meals/similar events could be held in the parks	x							x
	Healthy food trucks at park events	x				x			
	Some question whether healthy food/eating/active living should be programmed into parks	x							
	Support for theater/music/concert series in the parks (Shakespeare in the Park, IGH Concert Band, for example)					x	x		
	North Valley Park focus on active recreation / South Valley Park focus on passive recreation						x		
	Ballfield in SVP is under-programmed, could be re-purposed						x		
	Geo-caching is popular at NVP and SVP						x		
	Cross-country skiing					x	x		
	Yoga and Dance					x			x
	Nature Play					x			x
	Archery					x			
	SVP is very family-friendly								
	Pickleball	x	x	x	x		x		x
	Rideshare / transportation network for those with transportation needs								x
	More programming connected to local partnerships (ISD 199, TriDistrict CE, Neighbors Inc., etc.)								x
	Snowsports with grandkids is great								

Table 2-4 Community Comments on Programming





Chapter 3

MASTER PLAN

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

To following principles guided the creation of the Master Plan Concept:

- » Build off of what assets exists today.
- » Work incrementally with near-term actions, keeping in mind long-term considerations.
- » Understand that park investments are not just about buildings and sports facilities. Programs play a large role in how the parks function.
- » Creating strong partnerships with local organizations will increase likelihood of plan implementation
- » Create ways to gather community input and evaluate progress on a regular basis

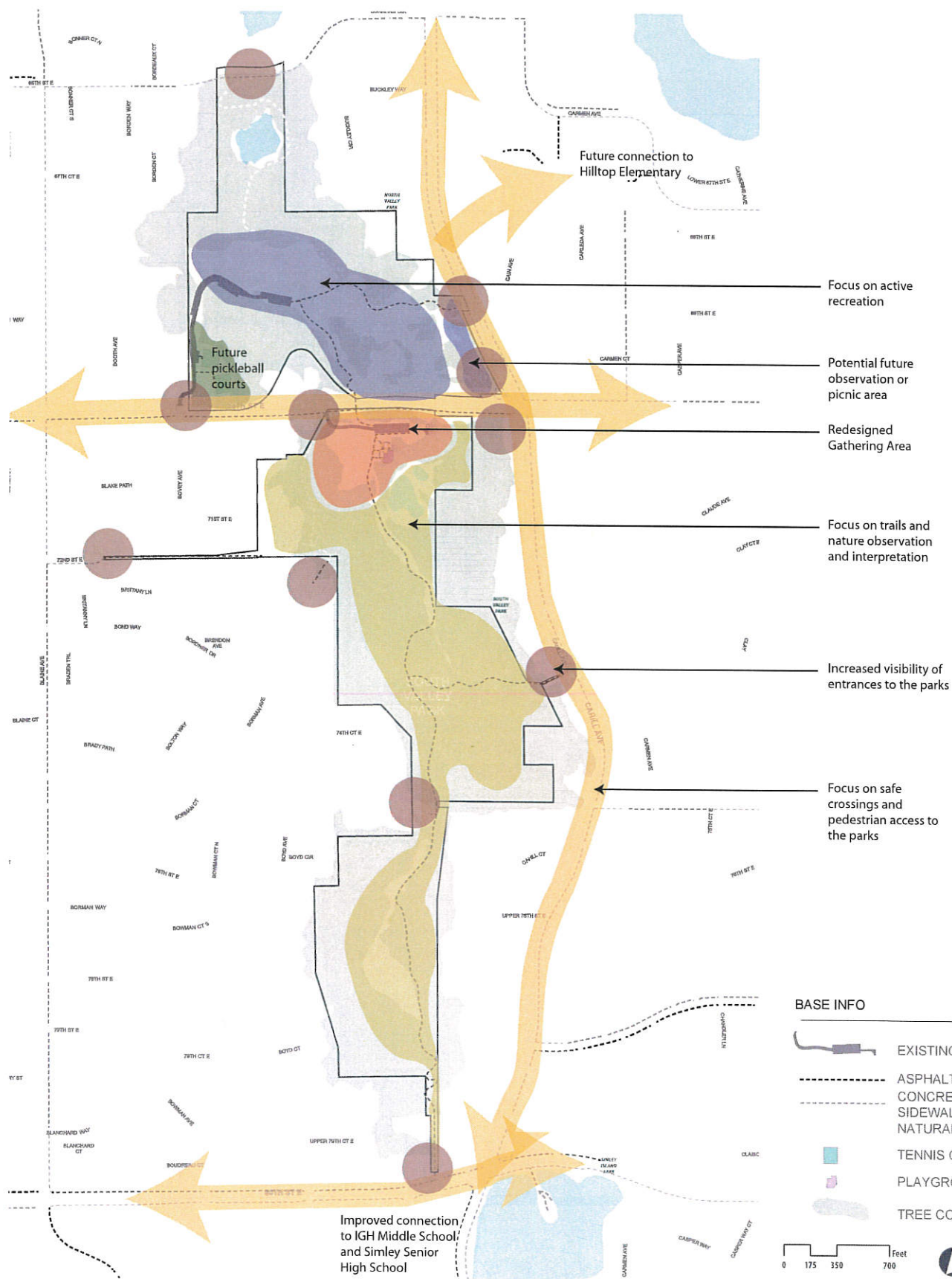


Figure 3-1. Master Plan Concept for North and South Valley Parks

MASTER PLAN CONCEPT

The Master Plan Concept for North and South Valley Parks was developed to include the following elements:

- » North Valley Park is to remain focused on active recreation, with disc golf, racquet sports (tennis and pickleball), and the ball fields to serve as the main activities, with trails serving as secondary connections between activity spaces
- » South Valley Park is more focused on passive recreation, with trails and nature observation or interpretation as the main activity
- » The open area of the north side of South Valley Park is to be dedicated to community gathering and multi-purpose spaces, such as picnicking, playground use, and events
- » Along the eastern side of the parks at Cahill Ave and nearby intersections, the focus is on creating safe and convenient ways for pedestrians to access trails and park entrances, as well as increasing visibility of the parks
- » Along the western boundaries of the park, the focus is to enhance visibility of existing park entrances
- » Overall, the future of North and South Valley Parks will include considerations for creating more accessibility for people of all ages and abilities, as well as finding ways for more people in the community to become stewards of the parks

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ELEMENTS

This Master Plan was created in coordination with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update for Inver Grove Heights. The following are development concepts that work in tandem with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan:

- » Focus on Cahill Ave streetscape improvements to improve the conditions for pedestrian connections
- » Create better connections to Hilltop Elementary School and future development sites near the intersection of 65th Street and Cahill Ave.
- » Focus on programming in the park to address a desire from the community for more food-related options and destinations

ORGANIZATION OF PLAN

Master Plan elements were formed in coordination with each area of focus identified during the analysis of issues and opportunities (see Chapter 2: Existing Conditions). The following materials were then created to help us understand where future investments and projects have been identified:

- » Future Improvements Map
 - The physical placement and location of future improvements are shown on a Future Improvements Map
- » Goals
 - Goals were developed to help drive future actions, as well as to help understand the context of future actions
- » Near-Term Considerations
 - Near-term considerations were identified that support each goal. These are actions or considerations that are prioritized and will be implemented over the next 0-5 years.
- » Long-Term Considerations
 - Long-term considerations were identified, which also support each goal. These considerations may not be a priority in the first few years of implementation of this master plan, but may play a more important role as short-term actions are completed or as conditions change in the future.
- » Precedent Imagery
 - Images that help us to understand what future improvements may look like in the future

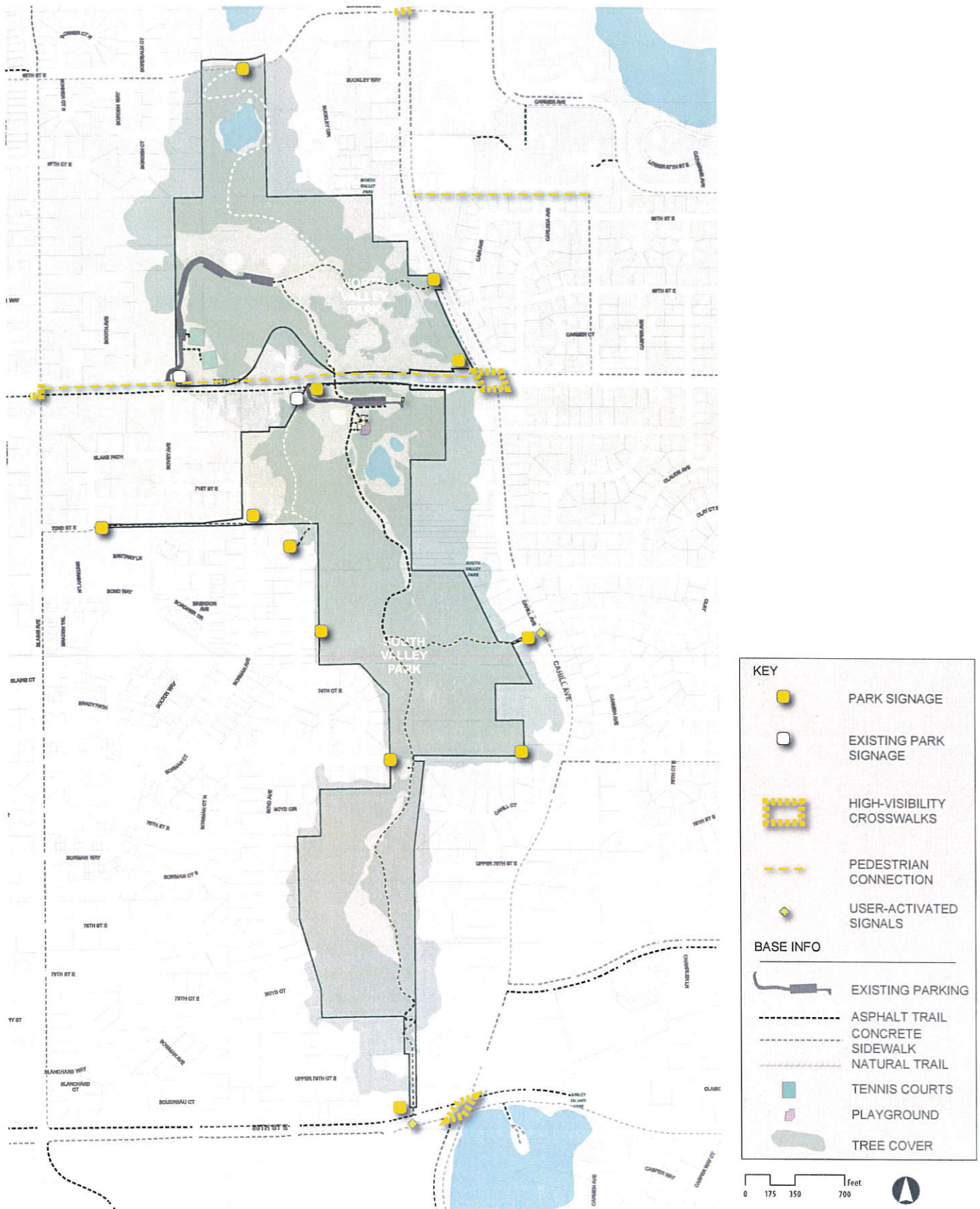


Figure 3-2 Future Improvements for Accessibility and Wayfinding

ACCESSIBILITY + WAYFINDING

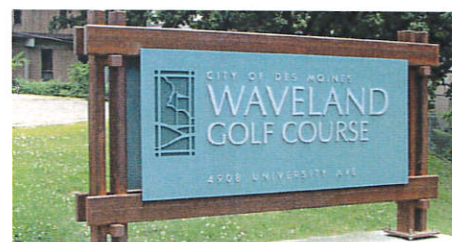
GOAL 1: IMPROVE THE VISIBILITY OF NORTH AND SOUTH VALLEY PARKS

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Currently there are boulder-style signs at the 70th Street entrances for North and South Valley Parks. A near-term action recommendation is to install consistent and visible signage at all park entrances, including trails, to be visible by vehicle. These signs could be constructed with less expensive materials or construction than the existing boulder signs used at the park entrances, and serve as intermediary signage to communicate the park boundaries and point to main entrances and trail entrances. The following are suggested locations for intermediary signs:
 - 80th Street at trail entrance
 - 75th Street east side with new trail entrance
 - 75th Street at well house on west side of South Valley Park
 - 74th Street East on west side of South Valley Park
 - 73rd Street East at trail entrance
 - 70th Street and Cahill Ave. (North Valley Park on north side)
 - 70th Street South Valley Park entrance

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Consider expanding the existing park system-wide branding and wayfinding sign plan to include a sign master plan for all parks in Inver Grove Heights
- » Add park signage at any added future park entrances



The top image shows the existing boulder-style entrance sign for South Valley Park.

The location makes it difficult to see the sign from the road. The middle and lower image show entrance signs as examples for potential intermediary signage for North and South Valley Parks.



The top images show examples of high-visibility crosswalks with zebra stripe markings. Crossings with stripes oriented perpendicular to the path of travel for oncoming vehicles are more visible to drivers. The top right image also shows a forward stop bar, a pavement marking located ahead of the crosswalk, oriented parallel to the path of travel for oncoming vehicles. Forward stop bars help drivers to stop ahead of the crossing and give a buffer to pedestrians crossing.

The bottom image shows a pedestrian at a mid-block crossing, using a HAWK beacon. Prior to crossing, a pedestrian activates the signal with a button at the curb. High-intensity lights flash, alerting drivers that a pedestrian is in the crosswalk.

GOAL 2: IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY, SAFETY AND COMFORT TO NORTH AND SOUTH VALLEY PARKS FOR PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, AND PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Consider installation of high visibility crosswalks (zebra stripes + forward stop bars) at the following intersections:
 - 80th Street and Cahill Ave.
 - 75th Street and Cahill Ave.
 - 70th Street and Cahill Ave (all ways)
 - 70th Street and Blaine Ave. E
 - 65th Street and Cahill Ave

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Perform a traffic study to determine the feasibility of future HAWK (High-Intensity Activated crossWalk) beacons at potential mid-block crossings, such as:
 - 80th Street and Simley High School
 - 73rd St. E and Cahill Ave (trail entrance)
 - 70th Street and the entrance to North and South Valley Parks
- » Consider creation of a pedestrian connection between Hilltop Elementary School and North Valley Park
- » Consider additional trail entrances along the west side of South Valley Park
- » Consider adding a trail connection at 75th Street on east side of South Valley Park

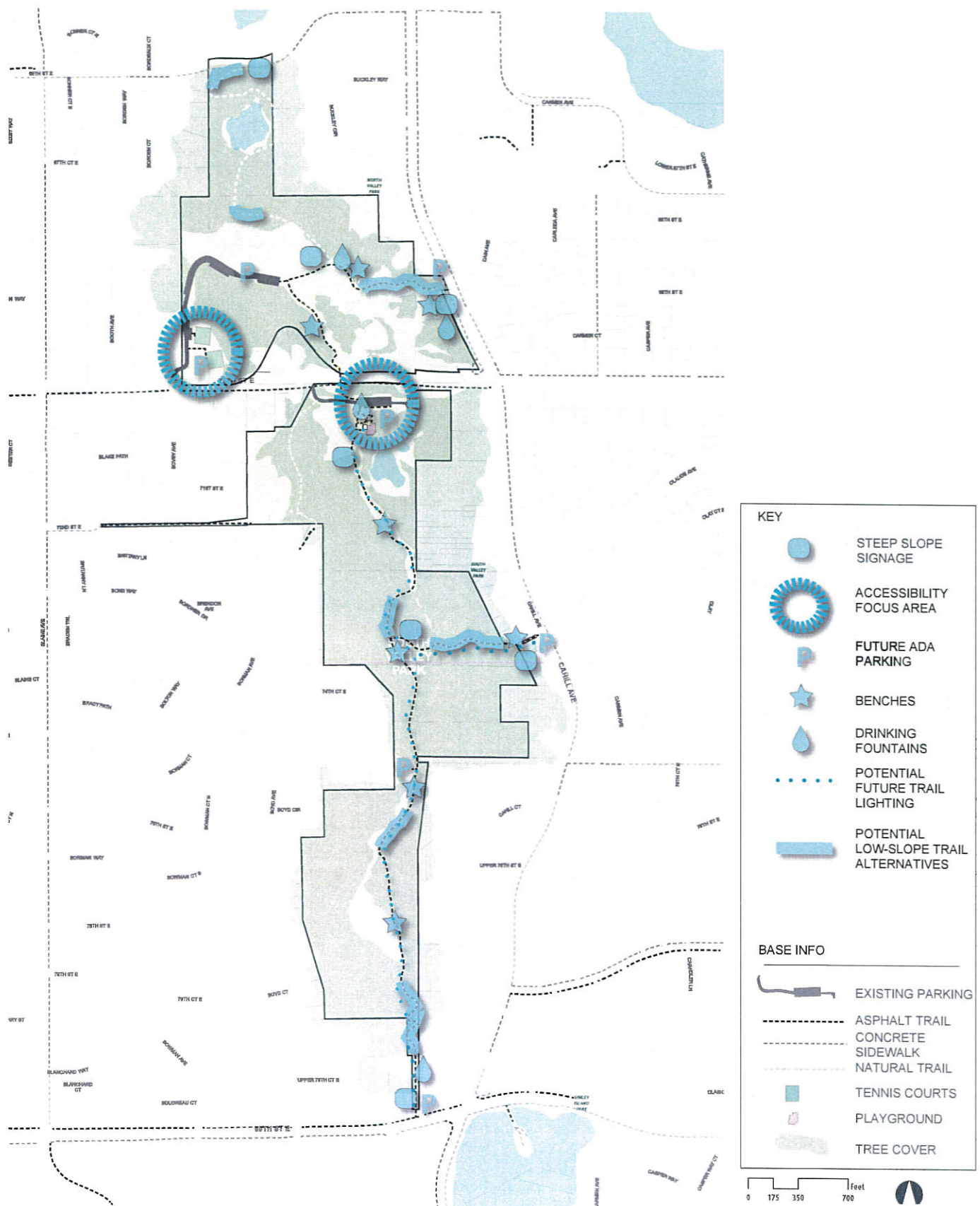


Figure 3-3 Future Improvements for Accessibility, Comfort, and Safety Within the Parks

ACCESSIBILITY, COMFORT & SAFETY WITHIN THE PARKS

GOAL 1: INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE OF A VARIETY OF AGES AND ABILITIES TO ENJOY NORTH AND SOUTH VALLEY PARKS

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Install wayfinding and signs within the parks to indicate which trails have steep slopes (greater than 5%).
- » Remove any barriers, such as gates or bollards that prohibit users with mobility aids from entering or using park facilities

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Upgrade all future trails to be ADA accessible
- » Install low-slope paved path alternatives at steep areas, such as south entrance at South Valley Park
- » Install additional ADA accessible parking at trail entrances as necessary to meet ADA guidelines

GOAL 2: ENHANCE AMENITIES WITHIN THE PARKS TO INCREASE SAFETY AND COMFORT FOR ALL USERS

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Install drinking fountains at the playground/gathering area at South Valley Park, near the south trail entrance at South Valley Park, and at the tennis courts and ball fields at North Valley Park
- » Provide modest educational signs or trail markers at existing stone benches in South Valley Park to increase their visibility and use

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Consider path lighting or intermittent lighting along the main paved trail through South Valley Park, with sensitivity to surrounding wildlife
- » Work with Inver Grove Heights Police Department to increase police presence as needed
- » Install benches in South and North Valley Parks for any new paved trails



Examples of trail markers indicating trail distance and difficulty



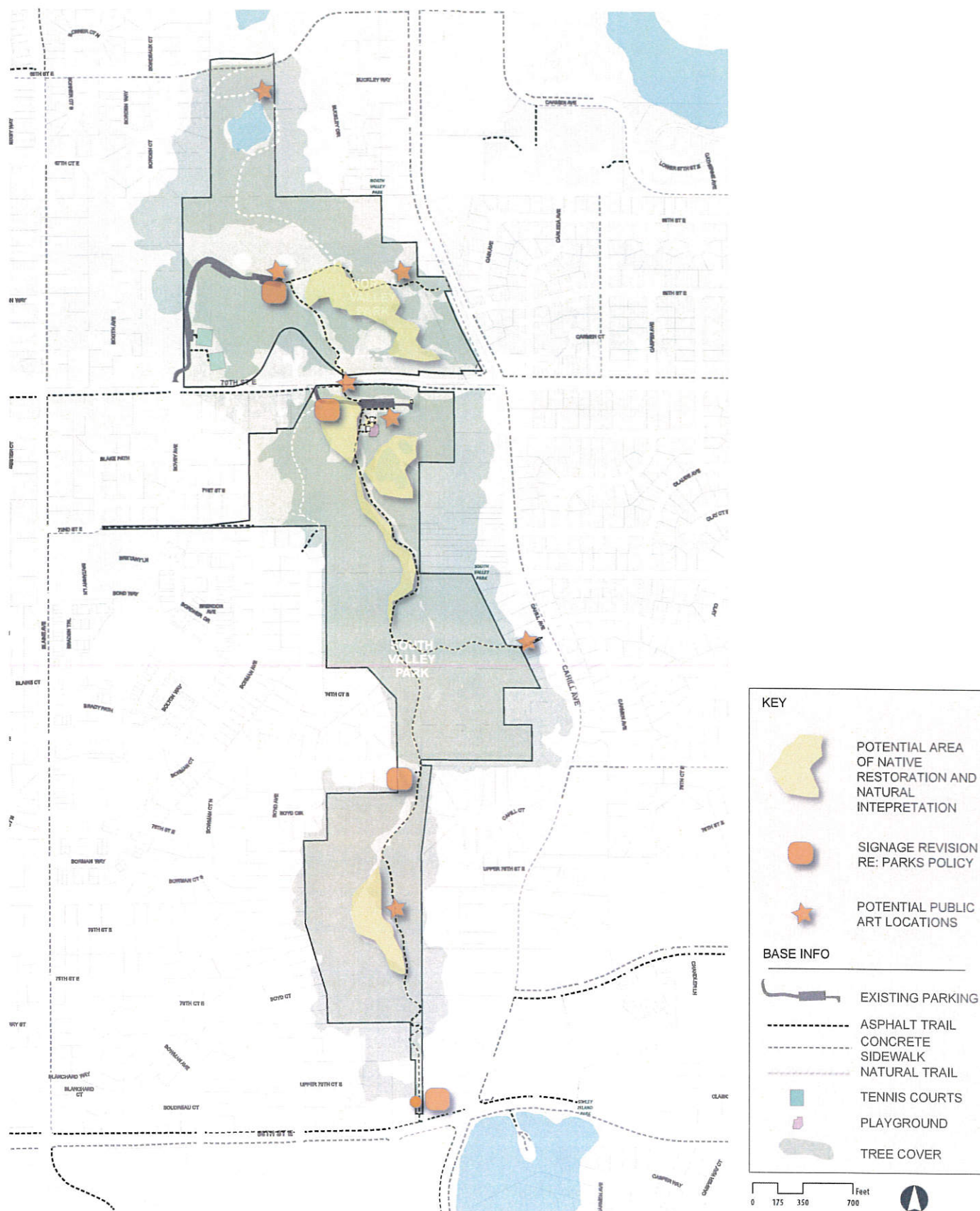
ADA accessible trails can be constructed with compacted gravel or asphalt surfaces, and maintain a low-slope



Example of trail bench



Example of pedestrian-scaled path lighting designed to illuminate the path only



MAINTENANCE + ENFORCEMENT

GOAL 1: CONTINUE TO PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY MAINTENANCE TO NORTH AND SOUTH VALLEY PARKS

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Clarify and communicate (through signs, media) the dog policy for North and South Valley Parks
 - Pets on leashes are allowed throughout North and South Valley Parks, with the exception of the disc golf course
 - Owners must pick-up after their pets
- » Continue to maintain park with regular mowing, ball field raking, trash removal, and portable toilet maintenance
- » Using GPS, conduct an accurate inventory of existing paved trails and natural trails. Use this information to determine which natural trails to actively maintain and integrate updated trail locations with future wayfinding and signage efforts throughout the parks

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Review and adjust maintenance plan with the addition of any new facilities
- » Consider converting turf/lawn sections of North and South Valley Park to restored short-grass prairie or other native species in the future

GOAL 2: INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO ASSIST WITH MAINTENANCE, SAFETY, AND STEWARDSHIP

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Expand communication of the Adopt-a-Park program and memorial tree and bench program through social media and through signs at North Valley Park disc golf entrance and South Valley Park picnic shelter
- » Work with local garden club, environmental learning center, or IGH Middle School or Simley High School to increase volunteer opportunities for managing invasive species and increasing native planting throughout North and South Valley Parks
- » Coordinate with residents who have been informally creating and maintaining natural paths to participate in the Adopt-a-Park program

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Look for ways to decrease vandalism through public art installations in the parks



Existing amenities for pet waste clean-up in South Valley Park



Existing trash cans are placed throughout North and South Valley Parks



Inventory of existing natural trails will inform future maintenance of the trail system



Modest, interpretive signage could provide an educational component to the existing trail network in the parks

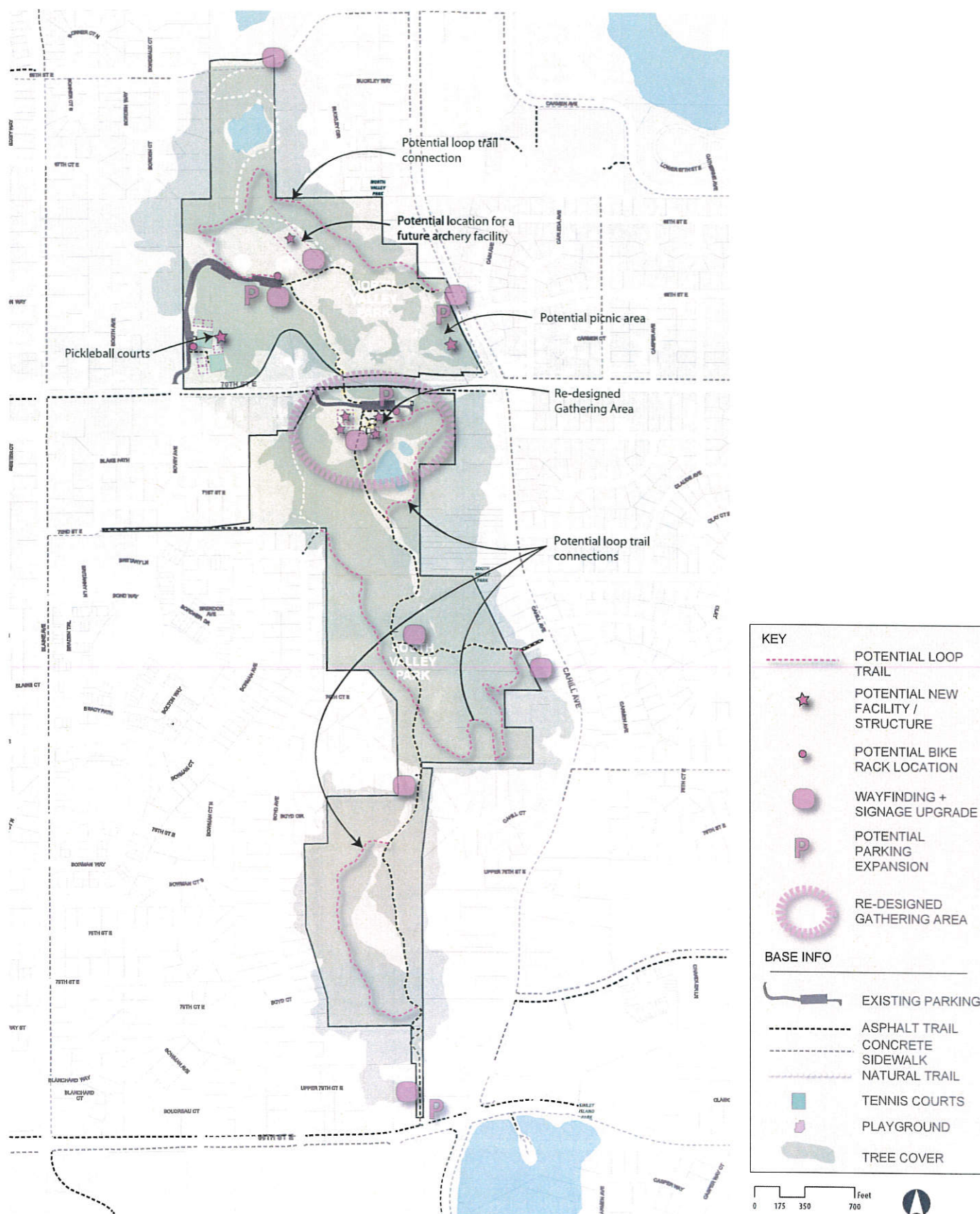


Figure 3-5 Future Improvements for Facilities and Structures

FACILITIES + STRUCTURES

GOAL 1: BUILD NEW FACILITIES THAT ARE SUPPORTED BY THE COMMUNITY AND ENHANCE ACTIVE LIVING AT NORTH AND SOUTH VALLEY PARKS

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Install bike racks at the following locations:
 - South Valley Park shelter area
 - The parking area at the disc golf course
 - The tennis/pickleball courts
- » Invest in design and construction of 4-6 regulation-sized pickleball courts converted from the existing tennis courts in North Valley Park, with the following considerations:
 - Pickleball courts should be ADA compliant
 - Size and design should have minimal impact on existing grading and drainage, and design and materials should be modest, and not detract from the surrounding beauty of the park
- » Invest in site design for the Gathering Area in South Valley Park, with the priority of re-design and construction of a new picnic shelter and playground
 - New picnic shelter should accommodate more people than the existing picnic shelter, and include electricity and wi-fi for events and gatherings
 - All new furniture and the future playground to be ADA accessible
 - Future playground could be a nature play area
 - Playground and shelter to be designed and sited to provide 360 degree views throughout the entire gathering area
 - Size and design should have minimal impact on existing grading and drainage, and design and materials should be modest and not detract from the surrounding natural beauty of the park
 - The site design should consider potential re-purpose of the ball field at South Valley Park as a future multifunctional, ADA open space to be used for dance, yoga, or informal gatherings
 - Future space for community or public gardens should be integrated into the site design as future facilities
 - The site design should consider existing and future parking needs to appropriately accommodate uses



Bike racks can encourage people to bike to North and South Valley Parks. This example shows a U-rack, which allows users to lock their bike in two places



Pickleball has grown in popularity in Inver Grove Heights, especially with seniors. A pickleball court is roughly half the size of a regulation-size tennis court



A re-designed picnic shelter should accommodate larger gatherings than the existing and open views to the surrounding playground and open areas



Nature-based playgrounds encourage children to create their own spaces



An archery range, performance space, and community gardens are all considerations for future facilities at North and South Valley Parks

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Determine the best location in Inver Grove Heights for future archery facilities, with the following considerations:
 - Archery range to be ADA compliant, as well as the path to facilities and an adequate amount of ADA compliant parking nearby
 - Archery range should be screened with vegetation or berms and should not conflict with any other uses
 - North Valley Park is preferable over South Valley Park, due to open space requirements and distances from playgrounds
 - Approximate dimensions of an archery range are 500' x 130'
- » Future construction and design of an amphitheater, community or public gardens in South Valley Park, as part of the gathering area site design will need committed stewardship and programming in coordination with community organizations
- » Consider design and installation of picnic facilities and/or an overlook on Cahill Avenue on the southeast corner of North Valley Park
- » Consider future signage and wayfinding upgrades with all future trail expansion
- » Prioritize future investments that will benefit the most users over time



The image above is taken from the southeast corner of North Valley Park, off of Cahill Avenue. This is a potential future picnic or overlook area.

GOAL 2: UPDATE AND SUPPORT EXISTING STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Perform a parking study in coordination with design efforts for the Gathering Area in South Valley Park to determine how much parking is needed to accommodate future expansion of facilities
- » Install wayfinding and signage at trail entrances and crossings to communicate trail length, difficulty of slope, and interpretive elements
- » Expand the trail network to create circuitous routes around the stormwater pond in South Valley Park, as well as connector trails (see Figure 3-5 for trail concepts)
- » Consider a trail-naming contest with community involvement for new and existing trails
- » Expand signage and messaging to disc golfers about avoiding throws while pedestrians are on nearby trails.
 - Consider further clearing of trees from lines of sight at disc golf tees to increase visibility of people walking along trails

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

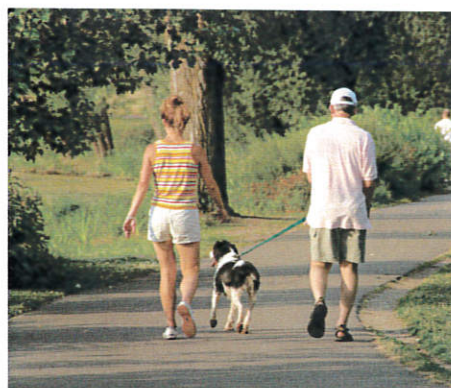
- » Evaluate use and need of existing structures and facilities regularly through community input gathered through social media and round-table discussions



During peak event times, parking is in high demand at North and South Valley Parks. A parking study will help determine how much new parking is needed to accommodate future facilities. Scheduling of events and promoting bicycle and pedestrian access at the parks will alleviate some parking needs during peak times.



An example of trail signage with an interpretive map component



Dog walking is popular at North and South Valley Parks; creating routes that are circuitous will allow users to embark on shorter, more leisurely routes

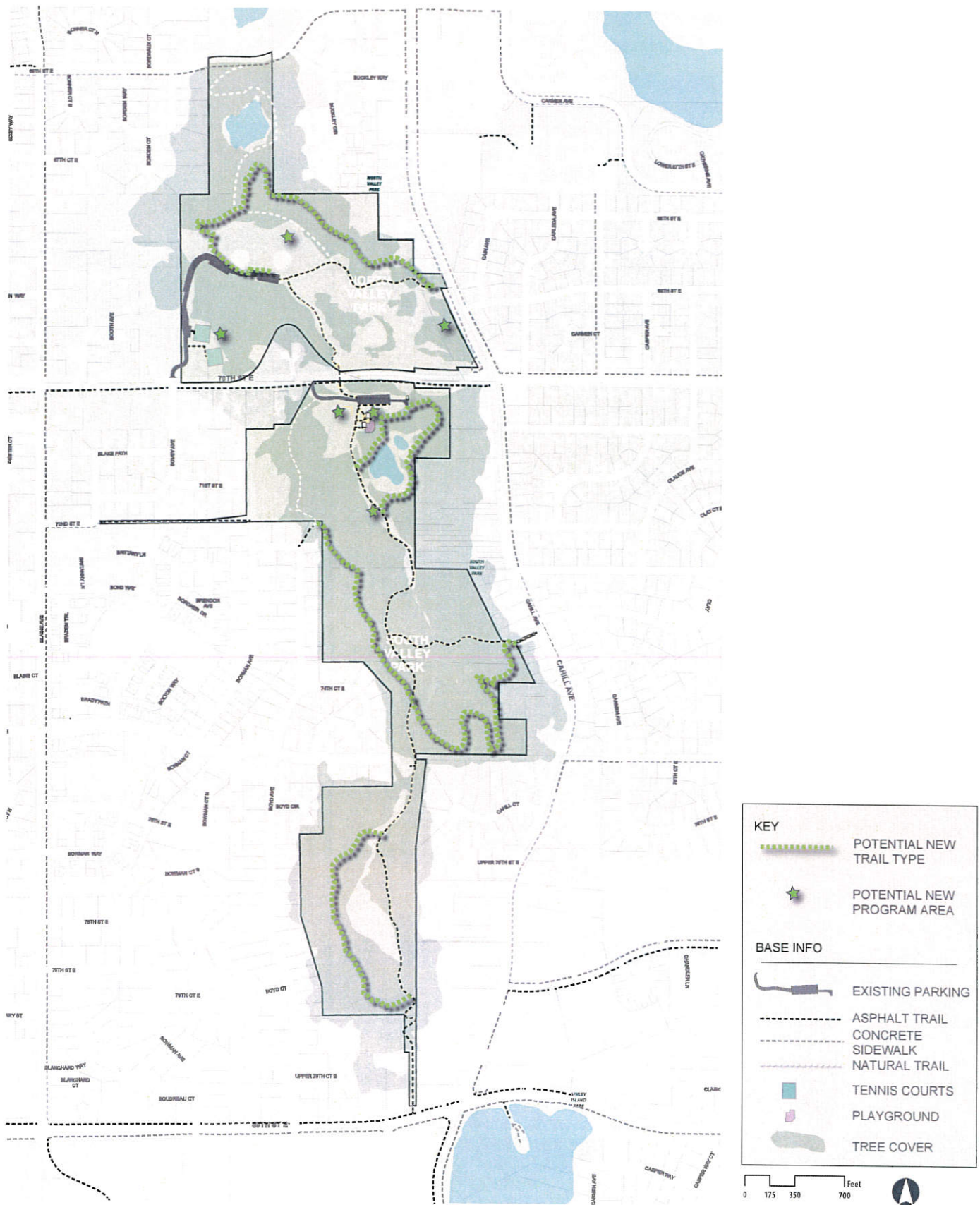


Figure 3-6. Future improvement locations for Programming

PROGRAMMING

GOAL 1: EXPAND OR MODIFY PROGRAMMING AT NORTH AND SOUTH VALLEY PARKS TO SUPPORT THE WISHES OF THE COMMUNITY

NEAR-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Partner with community organizations to include art, music, dance, fitness, healthy eating, and environmental education at North and South Valley Parks. Examples include:
 - Partnership with IGH Middle or High School to expand physical education activities within the park
 - Expand programming from Veteran's Community Center to include outdoor dance or fitness classes at South Valley Park
 - Partner with an environmental group to produce educational trail signage with plant and wildlife information
- » Involve interested community groups in the design of future facilities through community advisory committees or community engagement
- » Solicit ideas regularly from the community about the types of programs they'd like to see in North and South Valley Parks
 - Conduct informal surveys through social media or email communication
 - Host regular (annual, seasonal) community meals at the existing and future picnic shelter to gather future program ideas
- » Use existing facilities and infrastructure to pilot new ideas at North and South Valley Parks. This tactical approach will allow the Parks and Recreation Department to gauge the feasibility and community support for new programs or facilities before making a large investment
- » Promote and encourage winter uses, such as hiking, snow-shoeing, and sledding through social media

LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS:

- » Consider partnerships with local CSAs to organize drop-off locations at South Valley Park
- » Future community gardening could be focused on providing produce for local food shelves
- » Regularly evaluate existing programming at North and South Valley Parks to meet the needs and wishes of the community



Tactical approaches to new facilities can be low-cost and temporary. The example above demonstrates how a temporary crosswalk bump out is being tested for future improvements



Snowshoeing is a popular activity at North and South Valley Parks



INVER GROVE HEIGHTS
NORTH AND SOUTH VALLEY PARKS
ACTIVE LIVING
MASTER PLAN



North/South Valley Master Plan (Maps)



SOUTH VALLEY PARK: STUDY A_v3

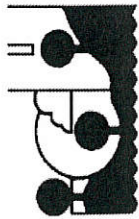
- (A) Playground (2-5 y.o.)**
Similar size as existing playground in South Valley Park
- (B) Nature-based playground (5-12 y.o.)**
Approx. 10,000 SF area
- (C) Stormwater raingarden**
- (D) Community/youth archery range**
10 lanes, 60m range with 15m buffer
- (E) Parking lot extension**
(40) Existing stalls + (17) added stalls = (57) stalls shown
- (F) 8' natural surface trail**
Loop trail around pond
- (G) Open green space**
Converted ball field
- (H) Observation deck**
12'x12' raised and covered platform
- (I) 8' bituminous trail**
Connection from community garden to observation deck
- (J) Community garden**
(18) plots - 8x20 beds with 6' path (potential to include some raised beds)
- (K) Picnic Shelter**
2100 SF as shown (twice the size of the existing shelter) with views towards age-separated play areas



- NORTH VALLEY PARK:
STUDY B v.2**
- (A) 72'x240' court:**
 - (8) pickleball courts
 - 16 aisles
 - benches located throughout
 - (B) 5'-0" concrete walk with additional landscaping**
 - (C) Additional Lighting**
 - Approximately (7) lights
 - (D) (14) Additional parking stalls**
 - (E) (4) Removed trees**
 - (G) Stormwater raingardens**

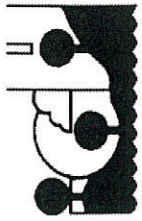


North/South Valley Open House Comments



Sign-in Sheet North/South Valley Park Meeting 9.18.18

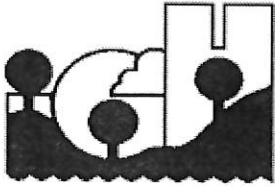
Name	Company	Phone	Email
Shanette Subar	Buckley Circle		shanette subar@comcast.net
Lori Mo	7413 Boyd	651-470-4989	lorimof88@gmail.com
Paul Johnson	7301 Cahill	651-260-8708	earl@comcast.net
Tom David	7297 Borman	651-263-9699	tdavid12@gmail.com
Kier Ludwig		651-247-9096	lindabog.kirk@gmail.com
Bert Williamson	6701 Buckley Circle	651-214-3711	bertwill1@aol.com
Grace Twedt	2693 Coccin Way	651-308-8207	LTWEDT@COMCAST.NET
Al Klyzer	8231 Dawson Way	651-455-3803	ALK2040@COMCAST.NET
Ruby Westlund	2545 Upper 64th St E	651-587-0560	westlund_ruby@hotmail.com
George Tourville	8915 Cooper	651-455-4465	gtourville@comcast.com
Linda Silrum		612-280-5156	lesilrum@gmail.com
Jeff Leif	6180 Carleton	651-303-2802	leifj@x1.net
Ray Welch	7161 Cahill	651-451-0361	raywelch241@aol.com
Nanette Lee	2740 71st E	612-803-5287	nanettelee@gmail.com



Sign-in Sheet North/South Valley Park Meeting 9.18.18

Name	Company	Phone	Email
13 Pam David	retired	651-235-7003	pam david 56@gmail.com
14 Dan Sites	' '	612-801-2546	dsites54@hotmail.com
17 Pam DeGury	Retired	651-457-7378	PAMELA MAE - OS@yaho.com
18 Mary Thompson	' '	651-450-4595	Pam 91907@yahoo.com
19 Steve Kutsen		651-755-5370	52Kutsen@usn.com
20 Lee's kari Miller		612.309.1923	kari.el.mail@yahoo.com
21 Mike Krogh	Laposa ProShop	651 428 7475	MJKALKAY@gmail.com
22 MARC ESPARZA	RETIRED	651 433 819	
23 Judy Solary	Homemaker	651-450-5561	judyth.Solary@gmail.com
24 MARK GAUTSCHI	RETIRED	(651) 587-8441	margautschi@yahoo.com
25 Colleen Copeland	Optum	(651) 241-1353	CC1101.CC@gmail.com
26 Clyde Reynolds	retired	651-451-7179	clayde-reynolds@yahoo.com
27 WAYNE OGOREK	RETIRED	651-341-6514	W. OGOREK@OUTLOOK.COM
28 Sue Sobaski	Retired	651-451-8057	

[illegible]



CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

NORTH/SOUTH VALLEY PARK 9.18.18

Name Nanette + John Lee
Address 2740 71 Street East
Zip 55076 Telephone 612 803 5287
Email auntiechassie@gmail.com

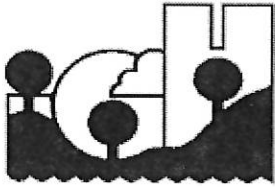
Comments:

Do we know if there's a need
for more community gardens?

Please don't pave anymore paths
than ~~the~~ what we have now and
around the pond. But, it will be nice
to have someone managing the ~~the~~ trees
or grass ☺

Please consider the 90° angle from 71st
and Boyd/Borman if you want community
gardens there.

Thanks



CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

NORTH/SOUTH VALLEY PARK 9.18.18

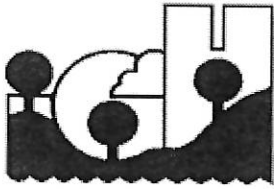
Name Lori Mo
Address 7413 Boyd
Zip 55076 Telephone 651.470.4989
Email lorimoff1@gmail

Comments:

I love valley park!

Please maintain (mow, clear downed trees, etc.)
current trails before paving more trails.
If maintenance could include making some
trails more useable in winter, that would
be wonderful (plow ~~the~~ or groom deep snowfall),

Good location for community gardens. Will there
be parking?



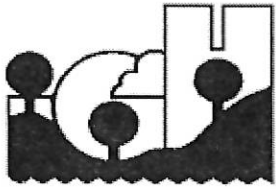
CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

NORTH/SOUTH VALLEY PARK 9.18.18

Name MARK GAUTSCHI
Address 6845 BENTON WAY, IGH 55076
Zip 55076 Telephone (651) 587-8441
Email markgautschi@yahoo.com

Comments:

DEDICATING SPECIFIC SPACE FOR PICKLEBALL COURTS WOULD
BE VERY APPRECIATED. IT IS A BOOMING SPORT AND
TENNIS SEEMS TO BE DYING A BIT. I DRIVE BY THE
PRESENT COURTS OFTEN & RARELY SEE ANYONE PLAYING
TENNIS. I'VE NEVER SEEN MORE THAN 4 PEOPLE ON THE
COURTS AT ANY ONE TIME IN THE LAST 8 YEARS.



CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

NORTH/SOUTH VALLEY PARK 9.18.18

Name

Robert Nevitt

Address

6324 Blaine Ave

Zip

55076

Telephone

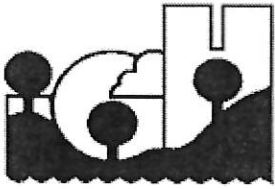
651-503-2995

Email

Nevner6324@gmail.com

Comments:

Pickball courts would be fantastic. Need to think about location of benches & tables and equipment storage. Need screens between sets of 2 courts.



CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

NORTH/SOUTH VALLEY PARK 9.18.18

Name Clyde Reynolds
Address 7912 Barbara Ave
Zip 55077 Telephone 651-451-7129
Email Clyde-Reynolds@yahoo

Comments:

Need pickleball courts ASAP
April 2019

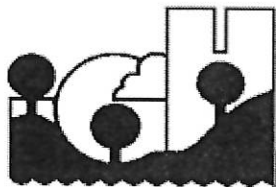
fence between courts

waiting area - table & benches

BOX for blower - squeegee

more parking

syn screen net on fence



CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

NORTH/SOUTH VALLEY PARK 9.18.18

Name WAYNE OGOREK
Address 3790 LUNEEN TRAIL
Zip 55076 Telephone 651-341-6514
Email W. OGOREK@OUTLOOK.COM

Comments:

NEED DEDICATED PICKLEBALL COURTS:

LIGHTED COURTS

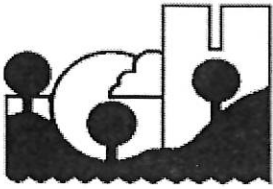
LOW DIVIDING FENCING BETWEEN COURTS

AN AREA WITH BENCHES AND TABLES

STORAGE BOX FOR SQUEEZE, BROOMS, ETC.

MASTER PLAN LOOKS PROMISING - START ASAP

WOULD BE WILLING TO BE PART OF A FOCUS GROUP
TO EXPLORE OPTIONS, VISIT OTHER COMMUNITY
OUTDOOR COURTS.



CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

NORTH/SOUTH VALLEY PARK 9.18.18

Name

Ruby Westlund

Address

2545 Upper 64th Ct. E, I.G.H. MN

Zip

55076

Telephone

651-587-0560

Email

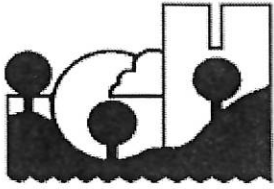
westlund-ruby@hotmail.com

Comments:

I love the idea of dedicated pickle-ball courts! I do have a couple of concerns:

- not enough parking - should be close to one spot per potential player (4 players per court.)

- scheduling of play since great ~~at~~ new courts will bring players from surrounding cities.



CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

NORTH/SOUTH VALLEY PARK 9.18.18

Name Linda Silrum
Address 96 Carmel Ave W
Zip 55118 Telephone 612-280-3136
Email lesilrum@gmail.com

Comments:

Support the concept of constructing
pickleball courts at North Valley.
Willing to help with research and building
community support.

Eric Carlson

From: Earl Johnson <earlj@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 5:50 PM
To: Eric Carlson
Subject: North and South Valley Parks improvements

Eric:

These parks are one of the reasons that many of us live in Inver Grove Heights. As owners of a property that borders the park, my wife Pat and I enjoy the park and its animals every day of the year. I am happy that the intention of the master plan is to preserve the character of the park, while making it more attractive to more users.

Paving the path around the big pond is a good thing – it gets muddy on the back side. Don't mess with the rest of the non-paved trails, except perhaps to keep the fallen trees off of them. I know and use every trail in the park, as do many other folks. It is wonderful to be able to walk more than four miles in the park and never retrace one's steps. The crosswalk at 73rd street might need two lines across Cahill, but don't even think about a signal

The parks of Inver Grove Heights are a treasure. Keep them wonderful.

Regards,

Earl Johnson
7301 Cahill Ave
earlj@comcast.net

Eric Carlson

From: Matt Krumrie <mattkrum@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 2:15 PM
To: Eric Carlson
Subject: Re: North/South Valley meeting

Hi Eric,

Thanks for this info. Some thoughts/feedback. When would this all be developed or when would construction start on these projects?

1. More pickleball courts would be great. It would be nice to still have a tennis court there, but I'm guessing there was thought that there is tennis courts at other parks in the city to use. But adding more pickleball courts could be another great way to attract people to the city and parks. Leagues would likely form as well, possibly, which would be great.

2. It's a bummer the baseball field is going to be taken away at south valley park. The number of baseball fields in the community and area continues to be eliminated. I fear that open space is going to turn into a pseudo dog park - people are going to go down there and know it's an open space and let dogs run free - even though they should be leashed, this is going to result in dogs on the loose running and chasing. Every time I am down there I see dogs running free and every owner says "don't worry he/she doesn't bite." The police can only patrol so much and dog owners feel their dogs have precedence over the rules/laws. I love dogs, but dog owners are a bit out of control these days. I just hope it's not an open space taken over by dogs and/or dog poop.

3. The community garden and lookout tower should be good additions. The archery range would be awesome.

These all look great, minus the ball field being removed. But, in reality that ball field isn't used as much anymore so I am sure that was taken into consideration. Kids don't go play pick up baseball much anymore either.

4. I have a screen shot below I was curious about. My house is the one circled on the left of this image. The big box is part of about 5 acres of land owned by the house on 70th. The owners tried to sell it years ago and wanted a lot of money. Would this land be something the city would ever purchase? Of course on our end, we on Booth never want to see houses go back here. I don't think it could happen but would that ever be something that would become part of the park? I am sure that is something that would take discussion if for sale, but just curious if it's been brought up before.



5. Thanks for the info and sharing the details. Looks like some great additions and I hope people of IGH feel the same and take advantage of these new additions when they are completed.

Good luck at the meeting.

Thanks!

Matt Krumrie

From: Eric Carlson <ecarlson@invergroveheights.org>

To: 'Matt Krumrie' <mattkrum@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 12:58 PM

Subject: RE: North/South Valley meeting

Matt

Thanks for the email. There is a meeting tonight from 5-7pm at the South Valley Picnic Shelter (rain or shine ☺).

Here is a link to the information:

<http://www.ci.inver-grove-heights.mn.us/708/Parks-and-Trail-ProjectsConstruction>

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Eric

From: Matt Krumrie <mattkrum@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 12:10 PM
To: Eric Carlson <ecarlson@invergroveheights.org>
Subject: North/South Valley meeting

Hi Eric,

I believe there is a meeting tonight at the South Valley about the future/comprehensive plan of north/south valley parks?

I live on Booth Avenue, on the the North Valley side of the park. If I went through my backyard I'd probably run into the tennis courts or the port-a-potty in the North Valley.

Is there any information you can pass along about what is going on with the parks or the comprehensive plan? Is there any documentation that can be shared or info? Just curious to what may be planned in the future.

Thank you!

Matt Krumrie
651-238-1290

Eric Carlson | Park and Recreation Director

Tel: 651-450-2587 | Fax: 651-450.2502

City of Inver Grove Heights | Parks & Recreation | 8055 Barbara Ave | Inver Grove Heights | Minnesota | 55077

ecarlson@invergroveheights.org | www.invergroveheights.org



Eric Carlson

From: Chris Sikorowski <chrissikorowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Eric Carlson
Subject: North Valley and South Valley Master Plans

Hi Eric,

I left you a voice message earlier today and I received your letter dated September 10th, 2018 and addressed to North of South Valley Park Area Property Owners. Unfortunately I have a board meeting on the 18th at the same time as your Open House.

But I did want to add my voice and input to the master plan.

My wife and I and our 3 young boys (Elias 5, Brasen 4, Jacob 8 months) live just west of North Valley Park off of Booth Avenue.

We have 12 homes on our street and there are some other young children on our street.

We would love to see a sidewalk alongside of the north side of 70th that allows us to access the parks and the intersection of 70th and Blaine without have to cross 70th and access the sidewalk on the south side of 70th street.

I have many fears/concerns of my boys growing up and crossing a very busy city street like 70th to access the sidewalk and make it to the parks and we would greatly support the addition of a sidewalk running alongside of the north side of 70th.

I believe it appears in section 2-6 in the Master Plan where it reads:

"Trail along 70th Street is only on one side of the road (no access along north side of road) and could use upgrade/maintenance"

Thanks so much and please contact me should you have any further questions.

Chris Sikorowski
(651)717-8339

North South Valley Demographics

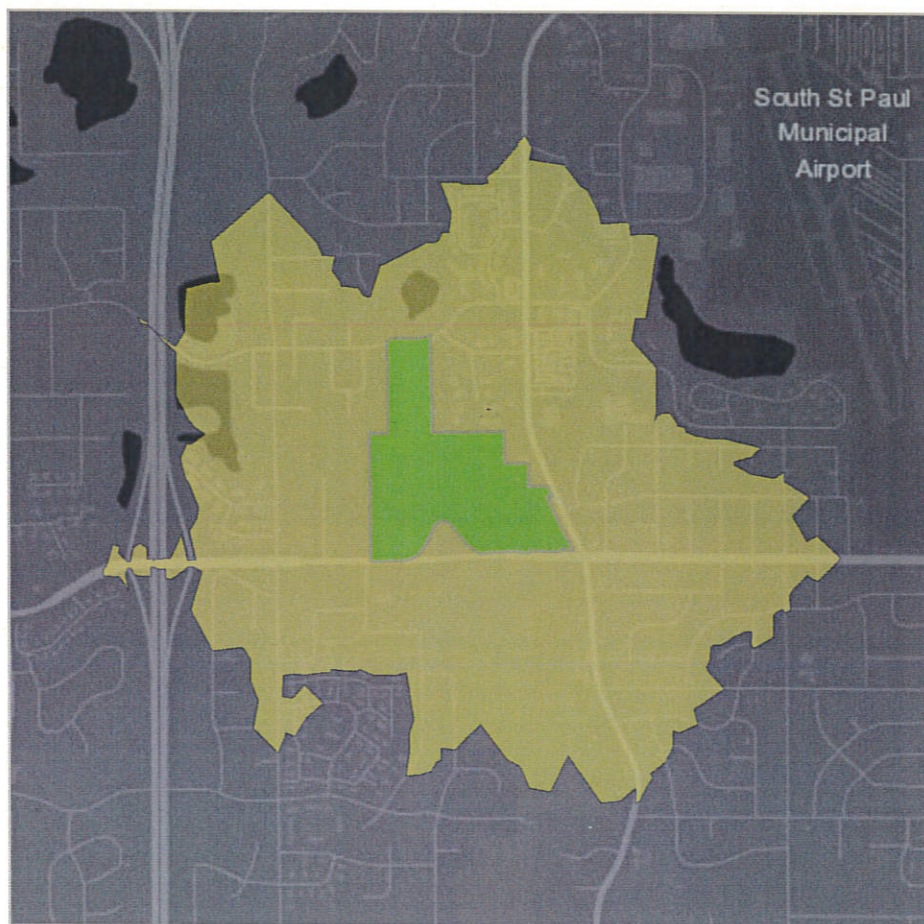
Project Areas

Inver Grove Heights, MN - North Valley Park

All statistical results are aggregated for the listed project areas and their service areas. Service areas are based on 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk times from project access points defined for each project area and based upon the walkable network.

Legend

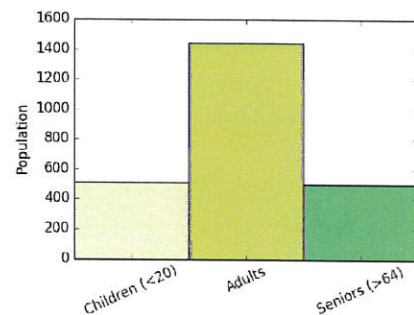
-  Project Area
-  Service Area



Population within a 10-minute walk

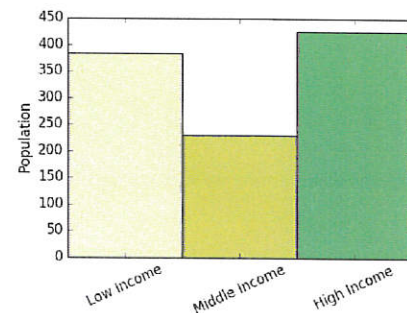
Total Population	2,451
------------------	-------

Age	Served
Children (less than age 20)	512
Adults (age 20 to age 64)	1,440
Seniors (age 65 and up)	500



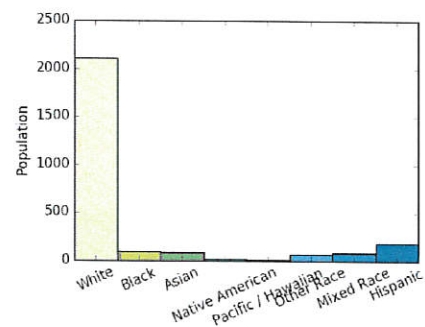
Household Income	Served
Low income	384
Middle income	230
High income	425

(Generated From Regional Median Incomes)



Race/Ethnicity	Served
White	2,107
Black	94
Asian	84
Native American	14
Pacific / Hawaiian	1
Other Race	68
Mixed Race	81
Hispanic*	185

* U.S. Census captures Hispanic Origin separate from race



Demographic information is derived from ESRI 2017 Demographic Forecast Block Groups data.

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Project Areas

Inver Grove Heights, MN - South Valley Park

All statistical results are aggregated for the listed project areas and their service areas. Service areas are based on 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk times from project access points defined for each project area and based upon the walkable network.

Legend

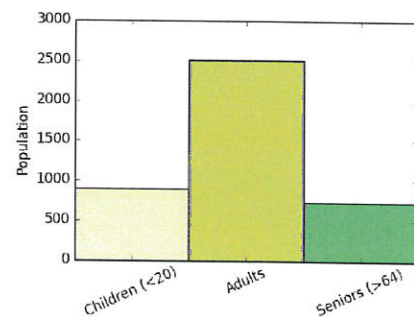
- Project Area
- Service Area



Population within a 10-minute walk

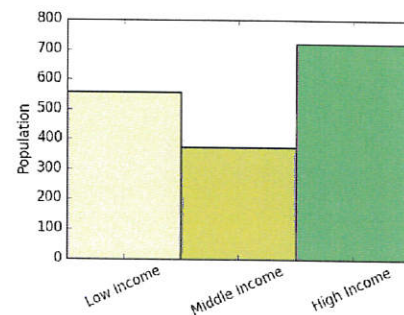
Total Population	4,128
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Age	Served
Children (less than age 20)	896
Adults (age 20 to age 64)	2,504
Seniors (age 65 and up)	731



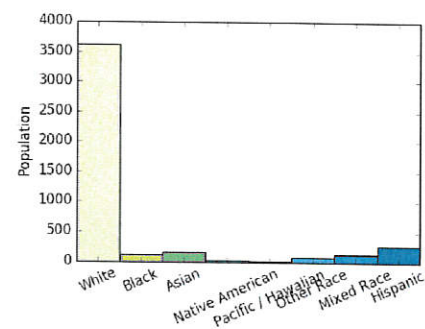
Household Income	Served
Low income	557
Middle income	372
High income	720

(Generated From Regional Median Incomes)



Race/Ethnicity	Served
White	3,615
Black	118
Asian	163
Native American	22
Pacific / Hawaiian	2
Other Race	77
Mixed Race	131
Hispanic*	271

* U.S. Census captures Hispanic Origin separate from race



Demographic information is derived from ESRI 2017 Demographic Forecast Block Groups data.

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CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Consider Recommendation for 2040 Comprehensive Plan - Park & Recreation Section

Meeting Date: October 10, 2018
 Item Type: Regular Agenda
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Eric Carlson
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

☐	None
☐	Amount included in current budget
☐	Budget amendment requested
☐	FTE included in current complement
☐	New FTE requested – N/A
☐	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

The Commission is asked to recommend approval of the Park and Recreation Section of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, additionally, the Commission is asked to recommend that the land in the SW area (sometimes referred to as “Pinkville”) be guided for residential development.

SUMMARY

Cities, townships and counties in the seven-county area prepare comprehensive plans as required by the Metropolitan Land Planning Act every 10 years. The 2040 Comprehensive plan for the City of Inver Grove Heights is mostly an “update” of the existing plan. In April, the Commission review the Park and Recreation section of the Comprehensive Plan, made a few recommendations that have been incorporated into the document for your approval this evening.

In June, the Commission held a joint meeting with Planning Commissioner and discussed a variety of topics which included our needs for parks in the SW portion of the community. The zoning map shows land that has a variety of ownership and is guided for park purposes. The reality of the situation is the City is adequately served by our existing parks in the SW area and this land should be guided for residential development. Some of topics discussed included:

- Southern Lakes 4 acres
- Broadmoor 7 acres
- Woodlawn 10 acres
- No need for additional parks in the area
- Large lot development most appropriate use
- Property ownership issues are complicated

2040 Comprehensive Plan

PARKS & RECREATION

CHAPTER 6

INTRODUCTION

Inver Grove Heights is well served by its developed parks, trails, recreation facilities and open spaces. These elements are important to residents and are a significant factor in maintaining a healthy community with a high quality of life. Parks define neighborhoods, offer recreation opportunities, and serve as open space and wildlife habitat. Parks act as neighborhood gathering points, strengthen the sense of community and set the stage for active living. The developed park system provides a solid foundation from which the City can expand to serve future residents. Inver Grove Heights is committed to meeting its resident's parks and recreation needs and will plan wisely for the future.

Since the adoption of the previous Comprehensive Plan, the City of Inver Grove Heights, along with Dakota County, has engaged in a number of development and improvement projects, as well as the development of park-specific master plans. The 2040 Comprehensive Plan focuses on the following key elements, to guide the improvement and development of the park and recreation system for the next 20 years:

- Acquisition of parks in the Northwest Area for new planned residential growth.
- Continued development of historical and cultural resources.
- Enhancing trail and bikeway connectivity.
- Preservation and management of natural resource lands.
- Leadership in sustainability.
- Improvements to promote a healthy and active community.

Accomplishments Over the Last 10 Years

Since the adoption of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan, the following improvements and developments within Inver Grove Parks and Recreation:

- Inver Wood Driving Range, Irrigation
- Playgrounds replaced at Oakwood Park, Skyview Park, Arbor Pointe, and Groveland Park
- Development of Heritage Village Park
- Development of Swing Bridge Park
- Re-purposed Skyview ballfields to soccer/football fields
- Added a community garden
- Development of Veterans Memorial Community Center (VMCC) East and West Rinks
- Aquatic play equipment added at VMCC
- Artificial turf added at VMCC
- Development of Mississippi River Regional Trail (Dakota County)
- Pine Bend Bluff Trailhead installed (Dakota County)
- Planning for dog park at Heritage Village Park
- Development of Mendota to Lebanon Hills Greenway (Dakota County) - in progress
- Development of Rich Valley Greenway (Dakota County) - in progress



INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

EXISTING PARKS SYSTEM

Inver Grove Heights's developed park system consists of 832 acres of park and natural areas and over 79 miles of combined trails and sidewalks not including those located on school sites. Schools provide an important recreational amenity for a number of neighborhoods in Inver Grove Heights and the City partners with the school district for some of its needs. This system was achieved through parkland dedication, partnerships with the school districts, donations and land acquisitions all designed to meet neighborhood and community recreation needs.

City Parks and Recreation Facilities

The Inver Grove Heights Park System is comprised of two community parks, 11 neighborhood parks, one linear park, one greenway, two special use parks, a historic site, five neighborhood playfields, one community athletic complex and five natural areas. City-owned parks and natural areas represent roughly 5% of the City's land area. There are approximately 18 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, not including school district athletic facilities or Inver Wood Golf Course. Schools provide additional space for athletic fields and facilities through joint powers agreements for use and maintenance of them; however, hours are limited to school off-hours. Natural areas provide additional open space and access to natural resources. Within the park system are key community park and recreation facilities that provide community gathering, athletic fields and facilities, passive recreation and access to natural, cultural and historic resources including Veterans Memorial Community Center, Rich Valley Athletic Complex and Inver Wood Golf Course and Heritage Village Park. A summary of the existing parks and recreation facilities can be found in Table 6-1

Natural Areas

There are five City-owned natural areas in the park system consisting of 139 acres of oak savanna, oak woodlands, wetlands, creeks, ponds and natural prairie areas that offer residents opportunities to access open space and natural resources. These sites include Harmon Park, Marianna Ranch, River Heights Park, Woodlands Preserve Park and Marcott Woods. In addition, there are other natural areas owned by regional public agencies or private institutions that offer conservation and natural resource oriented park amenities. These include Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area, a 256-acre area owned by the Minnesota DNR, the Katherine B. Ordway Natural History Study Area, and a 278-acre preserve owned and



Harmon Park

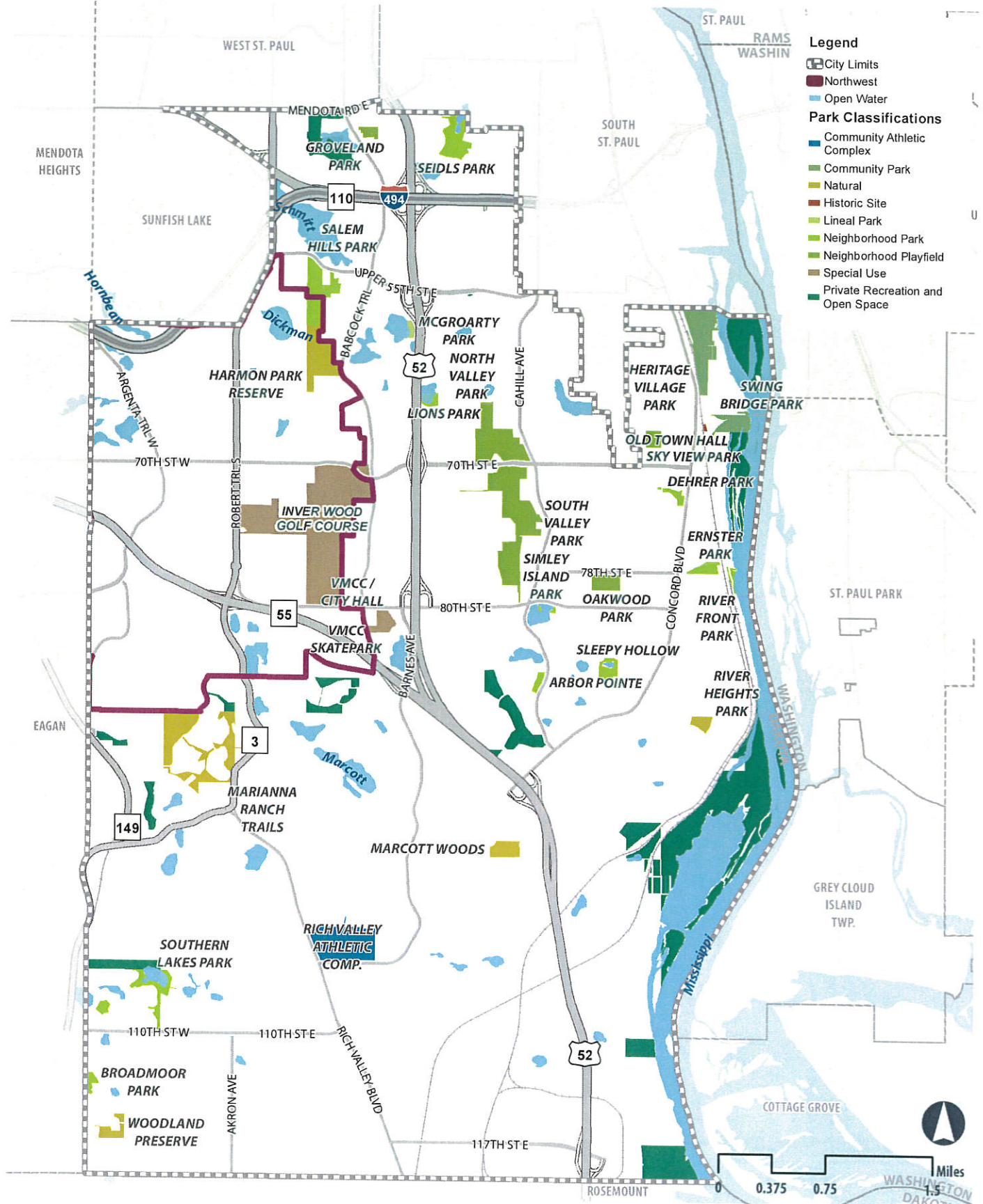
Table 6-1. Inver Grove Heights Facility Grid

City of Inver Grove Heights Park and Facility Table																															
	Land Area (Acreage)	Water Area (Acres)	Picnic Shelter	Parking Lot (spaces)	Playground	Baseball/Softball Fields	Basketball Courts	Soccer Fields	Football/LaCrosse Fields	Tennis COURTS	Pickleball COURTS	Softball COURTS	Baseball COURTS	Enclosed Shelter (lighted)	Hockey Rinks (lighted)	Pleasure Rink	Sliding Hill (lighted)	Horseshoe Pits	Fishing	Fishing Pier	Disc Golf Course	State Boarding	Benches	Picnic Table(s)	Grill(s)	Water Fountain(s)	Tree Nursery	Paved Trail (ft)	Natural Trails (ft)	Mtn Bike Trails (ft)	Community Garden
Community Park																															
Heritage Village Park 65th Street and Concord Blvd.	57																						1				4,260				
Swing Bridge Park 4465 66th St	18		1	45										1					1				5	10	2		2,600				
Community Athletic Complex																															
Rich Valley 1841 105th St. E (105th & Rich Valley)	71	2	2	603	1	9	1	4			1		2										67	27	4	5	8,604				
Neighborhood Playfield																															
Groveland 1990 46th St. (46th & Audrey Ave.)	6			19	1	1	1				1		1	1	1								3	3			756				
North Valley 2800 70th St. (70th St. & Cahill Ave.)	58	3		87		2					4										1		10	3		3	4,970				
Oakwood 3534 78th St. E. (78th St. & Clayton)	15		1	40	1	3					2			1	1	1							10	4	2		3,336				
Skyview 6765 Dawn Ave. (69th & Dawn)	8			20	1		1	2	1	2				1	1	1							10	3		1	711				
South Valley 2810 70th St. (70th St. & Cahill Ave.)	93	2	1	37	1	1								1	1	1					1		11	7	3		6,840				
Neighborhood Park																															
Arbor Pointe Park 8545 Cahill Avenue	4	1			1																		2				1,821				
Broadmoor Park 11306 Stratford Lane	7				1																		2	1			203	737			
Dahrer 4085 Dahrer Way	5																														
Ernstner Park 7750 Dickman Trail	7				1	1	1						1					1						2	1			2,540			
Lions Park 2423 65th Street E.	4	8	1		1															1	1			6	5	1					
River Front Park 7782 River Road	2			12																	1				2	1					
Salem Hills 1642 Upper 55th (Asher & Upper 55th)	41			26	1	1	1				2												6	2		1	1	2,151			1
Seidl's Lake Park 2655 47th Street E.	26				1															1				1				166			
Simley Island 3110 80th St. E. (80th & Cahill Ave.)	3	15	1	6																1	1			1	3			120			
Sleepy Hollow 3645 84th Street E.	10	2			1		1							1				1						9	2			4,095			
Southern Lakes Park 10810 Alison Way	4	0			1	1											1						2	1			102				
Natural Area																															
Harmon Park Reserve 1642 Upper 55th Street E.	43	2																											1,812	22,294	
Marianna Ranch 9125 Alvarez Avenue	64																													9,681	
River Heights Park 8780 Inver Grove Trail	8																													1,937	
Woodland Preserve 11666 Azure Ln	10																														
Marcott Woods 2830 96th Street E.	14																														
Historic Site																															
Old Town Hall 6701 River Road	1																														
Lineal Park/Greenway																															
Hwy 52 Trail McGroarty Park Co. Rd. 18 & Blaine Avenue	4	17																		1			1					15,840			
Special Use Area																															
Inver Wood Golf Course 1850 70th St. E.	235			280																											
Championship 18 and Executive 9 hole golf courses, driving range, Two weather shelters																															
Veterans Memorial Grove Community Center 8055 Barbara Ave.	13	2	1	365	1																	1									
The Veterans Memorial Community Center, Grove Fitness and Aquatics Center, Parks and Recreation Office																															
TOTAL	832	53	8	1,540	14	19	6	6	1	4	8	2	7	3	5	1	2	6	2	2	1	149	74	13	#	1	59,115	14,167	22,294		1

Independent School District 199 Facility Table						
	Land Area (Acreage)	Playground	Baseball/Soccer Fields	Stadium	Football/Soccer Field	Tennis Courts (not lighted)
Simley High School 2920 - E 80th St	60		3		1	8
Simley Middle School 8167 Cahill Ave	-		3			
Salem Hills Elementary 5899 Babcock Trail	11	1				
Hilltop Elementary 3201 - 68th St. E.	13	1	2			
Pine Bend Elementary 9875 Inver Grove Trail	26	1				
TOTAL	109	3	8		1	8

Last updated February 2018

Figure 6-1: Existing Park System



operated by Macalester College for education and research purposes. The Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area is open to the public and includes a trailhead provided by Dakota County. The Katharine B. Ordway Natural History Study Area is only open to the public on a limited basis with advanced approval.

Historical and Cultural Resources

The City of Inver Grove Heights has a rich history as a River City. There remain two historic buildings, the old town hall and school house as well as property along the Mississippi River that the City has been acquiring for Heritage Village Park. Heritage Village Park encompasses the old "Village" settlement and rail yard transportation hub along the Mississippi River. The park will provide passive recreation, historic displays, a dog park and a community gathering space.

Swing Bridge Park, near Heritage Village Park, consists of the remains of an old roundhouse foundation and the Swing Bridge. The City and the County have worked in cooperation to restore the Swing Bridge and create the park. The Swing Bridge, also known as Bridge 5600, is a double decked rail and vehicle bridge that served the railroad, stockyard, and travelers from 1894 until 1999 and connected Inver Grove Heights to Saint Paul Park.

These artifacts add to the historical and cultural significance of the Concord Avenue commercial area and riverfront area and provide abundant opportunities for interpretation and education.

Trails and Bikeways

Trails are an integral component of the City's park system. There are over 27 miles of off-road, on-road and internal park trails located throughout the developed community. Trails offer residents safe access to many city-wide destinations such as schools, shopping areas, parks and a wide variety of natural resources. Some trails are destinations in themselves, offering scenic walks such as the trails in South Valley Park. In addition to City trails, county trails, paved shoulders and sidewalks provide pedestrian and bicycle transportation to community destinations (see Figure 6.3).

The Dakota County Mississippi River Regional Trail Corridor (MRRT) follows the Mississippi River, connecting Harriet Island Regional Park in St. Paul, Spring Lake Park Reserve and the City of Hastings (see Figure 6-3).

Conservation

Natural areas are community open space that contain significant natural resources and are preserved for environmental, open space & aesthetic purposes.

Historical Sites

Historical Sites contain historical features for preservation and interpretation.



Swing Bridge Park



Old Town Hall



Bridge 5600



View from Pine Bend Bluffs

A trailhead with parking and restrooms are provided at Swing Bridge Park and Pine Bend Bluffs.

Mendota to Lebanon Hills Greenway is a proposed 8.5-mile regional trail connecting Mendota Heights, Inver Grove Heights and Eagan. As of the completion of this Comprehensive Plan, the first phase has been constructed, consisting of a 0.5-mile trail segment and pedestrian underpass of Highway 110 in Mendota Heights.

Rich Valley Greenway is a regional trail and open space corridor that will provide a link between Lebanon Hills Regional Park and the Mississippi River in central Dakota County. The 5-mile corridor stretches east and west within the cities of Eagan and Inver Grove Heights.

Figure 6-2: Dakota County Regional Trails

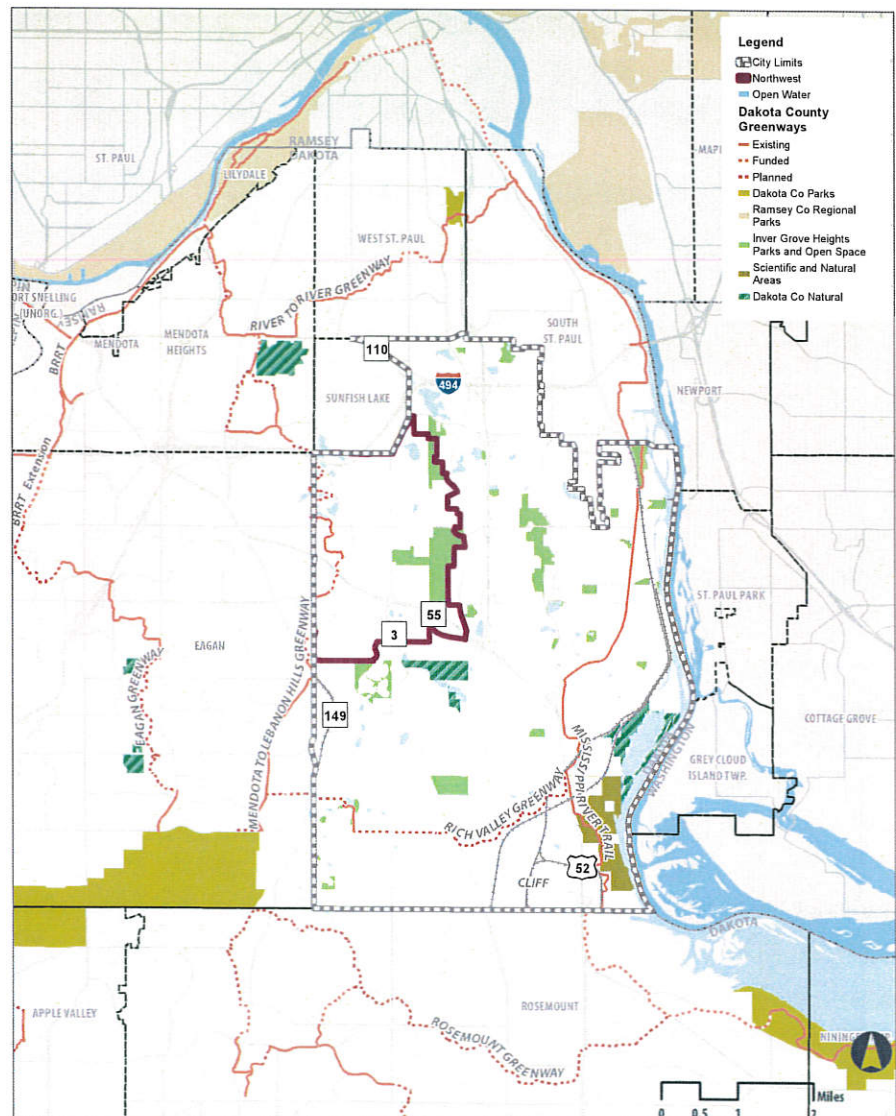
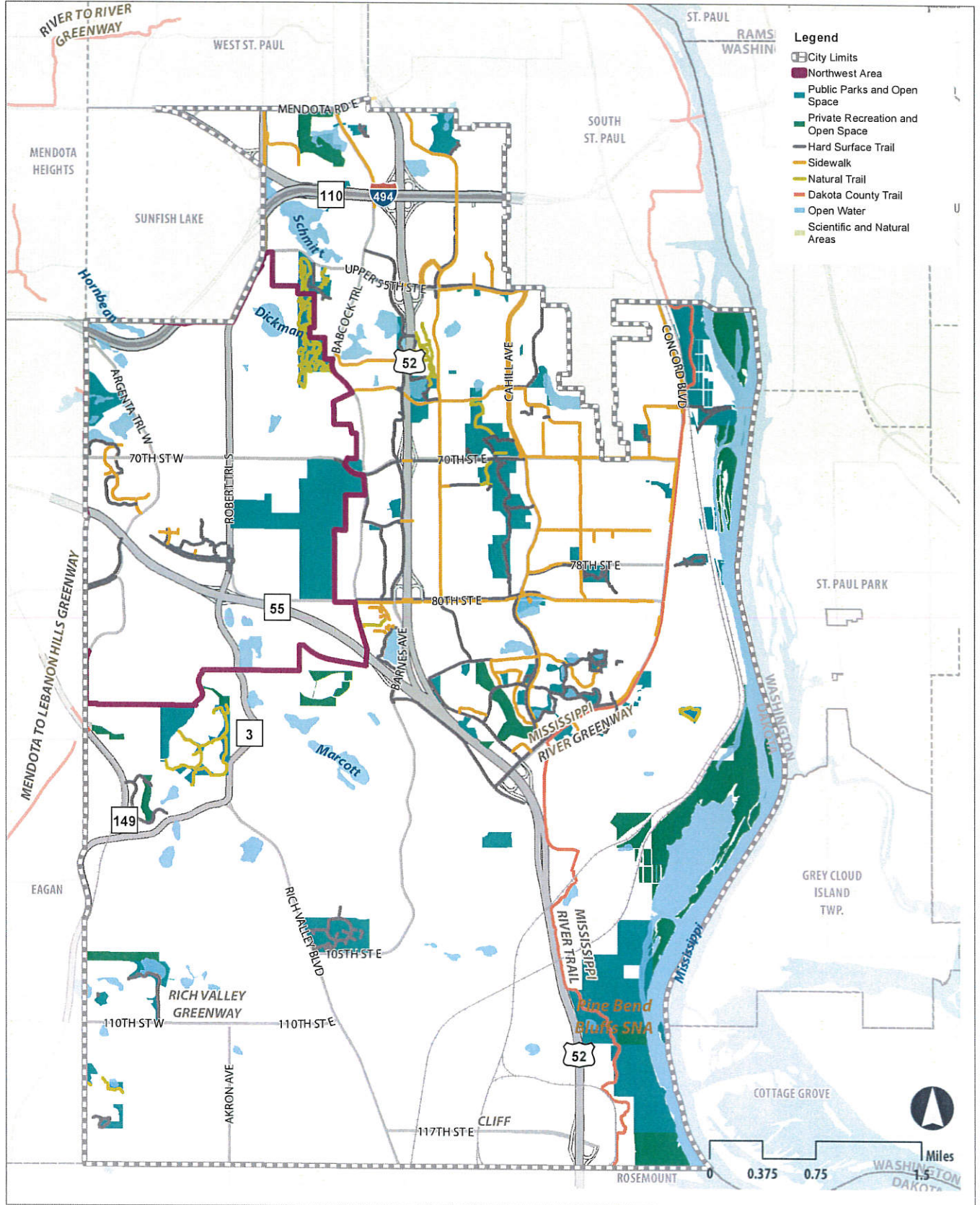


Figure 6-3: Existing Trail System



PARKS SYSTEM FRAMEWORK

Introduction

Park, recreation, open space and trail connections are essential components of a healthy community. Decisions about parks, trails and open space affect the entire community, enhance sense of community and affect the quality of life in the City. The following park system framework was prepared to guide park planning and decision making. The framework criteria are based on national park and recreation standards developed by the National Parks and Recreation Association modified based on local conditions. This framework should be used as a guide and should be adjusted over time as local conditions change with community needs and trends.

Overall Park Area Standard

One accepted measurement of a park system is the quantity of parkland per 1,000 persons. The National Recreation and Parks Association developed a minimum standard of ten acres per 1,000 residents. In the Twin Cities, the accepted minimum standard is a range from 10 - 20 or more acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Parkland acres refers to neighborhood parks, playfields and community parks and typically does not include trail corridors, special use parks, school lands, regional parks or natural areas. This park area standard should be viewed as a benchmark for comparison purposes.



Lions Park Pier

Park Classifications

Parks serve a variety of purposes, providing active and passive recreation and open space at a neighborhood and community wide scale. For planning purposes, the City has adopted a uniform park classification system that classifies parks according to their use and function. The existing park classifications include community parks, neighborhood playfields, neighborhood parks, special use areas, historic sites, natural areas, linear parks and park/school recreation. The future park classifications applicable to future urban residential areas outside the present developed urban areas exclude neighborhood playfields and linear parks. Community active recreation needs are better served by Community Athletic Complexes which are the preferred park type for community-wide active recreation.

Although park/school recreation areas are not City property, they are classified in the classification system as school lands offering active recreation opportunities for Inver Grove Heights residents even if on a limited basis. The City's park classifications for future growth areas are summarized in Table 6.2. A map of the City's parks can be found on Figure 6-1. Existing Park System.



Simley Island Park

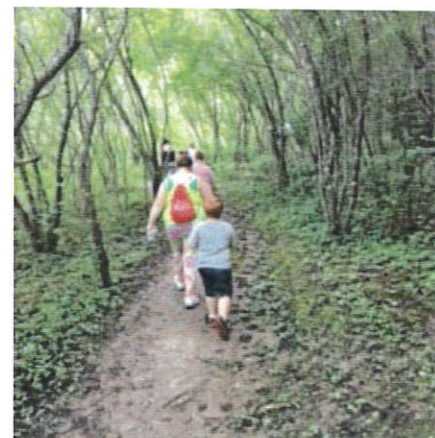
Table 6-2. Inver Grove Heights' Park Classifications

Park Classification	Use/Design Direction	Service Area	Size	Acres/1,000	Site
Neighborhood Park	Basic unit of the park system, developed for both active & passive activities. Design criteria should anticipate the changing demographic profiles of the neighborhood served, as to provide appropriate facilities. Focus on informal and unstructured activities. Typical facilities include: • Playground • Open field area • Trails • Parking evaluated as needed	1/2 mile radius	4 to 10 acres	2.5 to 3.5	Easily accessible to the neighborhood population with safe walking and biking access utilizing trail networks. Site should have well-drained soils and not include topography of excessively steep slopes.
Neighborhood Playfield	Similar to a neighborhood park, but with more emphasis on organized youth athletics. Provides active & passive activities. Design criteria should balance neighborhood and community youth athletic needs. Typical facilities include: • Playground • Athletic fields (lighting not recommended) • Trails • Parking facilities designed to accommodate scheduled athletic use.	1/2 to 1 mile radius	6.5 to 15 acres	2.5 to 3.5	Easily accessible to the neighborhood and the community with a mix of local and collector street access.
Community Park	Area possessing natural qualities conducive to passive recreational activities. Typical facilities include: • Playground • Picnicking facilities • Trails • Natural resources • Community facilities (special uses) • Parking facilities designed to accommodate uses	2 to 2.5 mile radius	20 to 80 acres	2.5 to 5	Site typically affords a variety of natural features, well-drained soils, positive drainage, varied topography and accessible to pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Park Classification	Use/Design Direction	Service Area	Size	Acres/1,000	Site
Natural Areas	Area possessing natural qualities preserved for environmental, open space or aesthetic purposes. Facilities should be compatible with the preservation of the resource.	Community Wide	Depends on resource	Varies	Significant natural areas, which merit preservation and would be adversely affected by development
Community Athletic Complex	Area for intensely programmed recreation facilities and uses. Typical features include: • Athletic fields - youth and adult (lighted) • Swimming pools and other special use facilities • Playground • Trails • Parking designed to accommodate uses.	Community Wide	25 to 80 acres	3.0 to 4.0	Site should be suited for intense development that is easily accessible to the population it is intended to serve. Located near high traffic areas such as schools and major thoroughfares, preferably in non-residential areas.
Linear Parks	Linear parks and open spaces developed for varying modes of recreational travel such as walking, biking, skiing, in-line skating, etc. or for preservation of wildlife corridors, streams, etc. Features include: • Trails	Site specific & Community Wide	Sufficient width for intended use. Minimum 30 feet wide	Variable	Built or natural trail corridors used to link parks, natural resource sites, and/or community facilities such as schools, libraries, and commercial areas. Certain uses such as wildlife corridors require sufficient width to ensure proper function.
Special Use	Highly specialized use area for community recreation facilities such as: • Community golf courses • Arenas • Gardens • Plazas • Pools • Community Center • Other specialized recreation uses	Community Wide	Variable	Variable	Site Specific
Historic Sites	Area set-aside for preserving and interpreting historical features such as landscapes and architecture. Features include: • Interpretive signs • Parking • Museum	Community Wide	Variable	Variable	Size should be adequate to provide support facilities such as picnic area, parking, etc.

Trail Classifications

Trails in Inver Grove Heights are classified based on function, design and location. Trails are designed to serve differing users depending on their location. Trails are designed to connect neighborhoods, parks, schools and commercial areas. Some trails are used primarily for recreation and others for transportation purposes. Trails in Inver Grove Heights include use-separated trails (parallel pedestrian and bicycle trails) within the same corridor, combined trails for both pedestrians and bikes, bike lanes (paved shoulder next to the street) and unpaved natural trails and special use trails (mountain bike, cross county ski, horse and snowmobile). Trail classifications and criteria are summarized in Table 6.3. The function and design of trails within parks will be determined as part of individual park master plans. A map of the City's existing trails can be found on Figure 6.3.



Harmon Park Preserve

Table 6.3: Trail Classification

Trail Classification	Location and Use	Surface	Width	Slope	Notes
Class I - Separate pedestrian and bicycle trails.	Off-street	Bituminous or bituminous and concrete	5-6 feet for pedestrians 8-10 feet for bicycles	0-5% pedestrian 0-3% bike	
Class II - combined pedestrian and bicycle trail	Off-street	Bituminous	10 feet	0-3% average	
Class III - Bikeway lane	On-street - one way per side	Striped lane next to vehicle lane	8-10 feet	Slope to match road	One way lanes
Nature trail	Within parks and conservation areas	Aggregate, wood chip or turf	4-6 feet	0-5% desirable 10% maximum	
Cross country ski trail	Within parks and conservation areas	Snow	10-14 - varies for one or two way	0-15% + depending upon difficulty	Diagonal and skate tracks
Snowmobile trail	Off-street	Snow	10-14 feet	0-10%+	
Horse trail	Off-street	Turf or wood chips	10 feet	0-10%+	12 foot overhead clearance



Preserving Natural Resources (Harmon Landscape)

General Park and Trail Criteria

Park classifications describe criteria applicable to each park type. The following park and trail criteria are applicable to all parks:

- The location of parks and trails will be determined by the City using the 2040 Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan as a guide.
- Parkland shall be suitable to its intended use. This means adequate size, parcel shape, soils, slope, access and relationship to adjacent land uses.
- Parkland shall be continuous and undivided by roadways, railroad tracks, pipelines, or other impassible or unusable barriers.
- Parkland shall be free from any contaminants or debris.
- Trail land shall be of sufficient width and slope to accommodate 10' wide trails and appropriate buffer areas. General guidelines include a minimum width of 20' – 30', a maximum slope less than 12 percent and an average slope not to exceed four percent.
- When park land is dedicated, the developer is required to grade the park land and pave access and perimeter trails (not internal park trails) and sidewalks within the park and adjoining rights of way. All construction must meet City specifications.

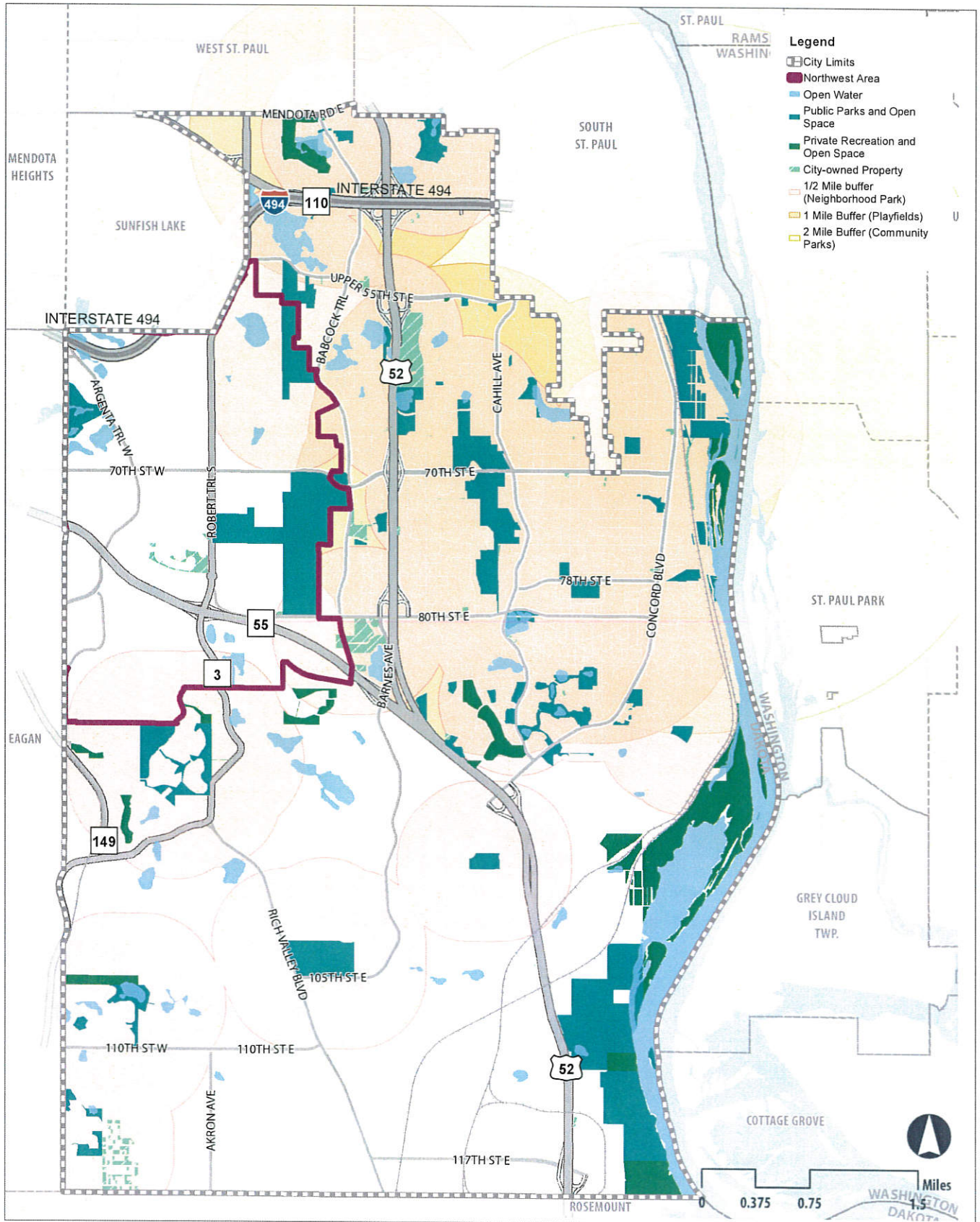
Where topographic constraints pose barriers to achieving the above criteria, the City encourages a collaborative design process to minimize the degree of deviation from these criteria.

PARK SYSTEM NEEDS

Introduction

There is no single standard or measurement to determine community parks and recreation needs. Each community is unique and has its own needs and opportunities. Inver Grove Heights' park and recreation needs were determined through a public process that included community and stakeholder input; guidance from City staff, the Parks and Recreation Commission; and an analysis of the park system considering growth forecasts and recreation trends and using the Park System Framework. With 18 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, Inver Grove Heights exceeds the standard benchmark for minimum park acreage per 1000 residents. An analysis of park service areas shows good access to parks and facilities from most neighborhoods (see Figure 6.4 – Park Service Area Analysis). Both suggest that the City has done well to provide adequate parkland to meet neighborhood and community recreation needs. To continue this

Figure 6-4: Park Service Area Analysis



level of service in future residential growth areas, additional parkland is needed in the Northwest Area of the City.

Neighborhood Park Needs



Oakwood Park Playground

Neighborhood Parks in Inver Grove Heights are the cornerstone of the park system providing passive recreation to neighborhoods within a safe half-mile walk for most residences in the urbanized portions of the City. Existing neighborhood parks are generally in good shape and serve the neighborhoods well. Based on the application of the Park System Framework to future growth areas, an additional 4-5 Neighborhood Parks may be needed to accommodate neighborhood recreation needs of future residents in the Northwest Area, (see Figure 6-6: Northwest Area Park Service Areas Analysis). Typical neighborhood park amenities will be needed, although an opportunity exists to cater the parks to the character of the neighborhood and the site and to specific local needs. Community input suggests that the following improvements are needed in existing neighborhood parks:

- Looped trails, shade and seating areas.
- Handicap accessibility improvements.
- Ongoing life-cycle replacement of playgrounds and facilities.
- Landscape improvements.

Community Park and Recreation Facility Needs

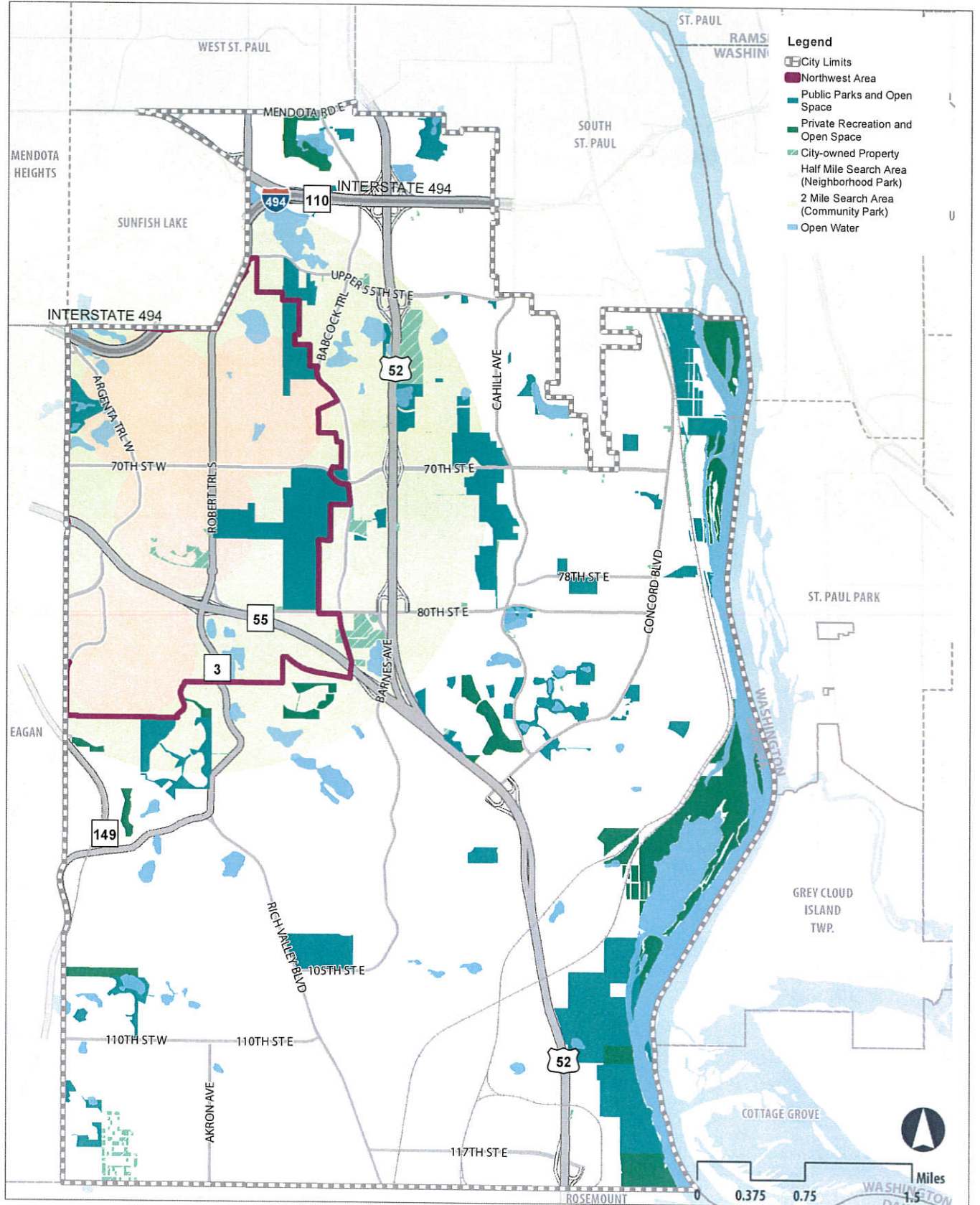


Community garden plots at Salem Hills Park

The Rich Valley Athletic Complex and existing neighborhood playfields reasonably meet existing needs for community-wide active recreation. There is also a need to maximize the use of the City's existing fields through lighting, irrigation, and scheduling improvements. While community survey results showed that a majority of residents are satisfied by the existing parks and recreational facilities offered, there are a number of facility improvements that would help to meet the more specific needs of the community:

- Youth Soccer/lacrosse/football fields
- Disc golf area improvements
- Archery range(s)
- Dog exercise area
- Expansion of community gardens
- Larger gathering areas for community events
- Large community picnic shelters with electrical service and food serving area
- Skills course for mountain bikes
- Accessibility improvements, such as a barrier free playground

Figure 6-5: Northwest Area Park Service Area Analysis





Veterans Memorial Community Center Water Park

- installed in at least one of the parks
- Looped trails, seating areas and shade
- Continued life-cycle replacement of existing recreation facilities
- Nature-based play areas
- Pickleball courts
- Adequate public parking at all public parks and facilities such as VMCC/Grove, and Inver Wood Golf Course
- Paired volleyball courts for tournament play
- Outdoor aquatic facility
- Public boat launch along the Mississippi River
- Winter recreation in the northwest and southwest areas of the city

Special Use Facilities Needs

The park system contains two special use facilities that are popular with residents and serve important community recreation needs, the Inver Wood Golf Course and the Veterans Memorial Community Center. These facilities provide for year-round opportunities to promote healthy active living lifestyles for all ages of the population. Continuation of general maintenance is needed at these facilities. Additional needs include:

- New program space
- New and alternative use of ice sheets
- Aesthetic improvements

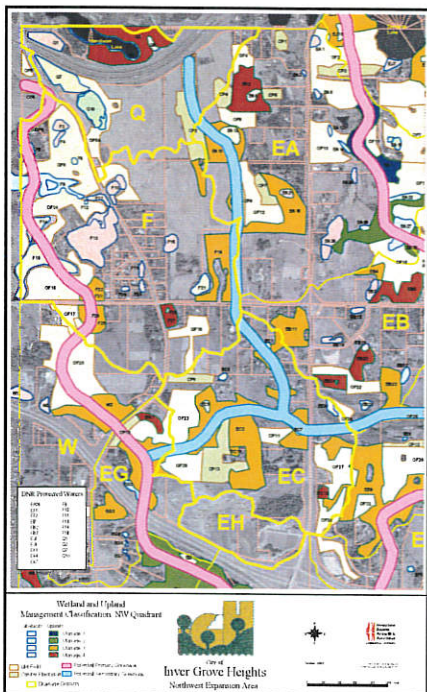


Figure 6-6: NRI of NW Area

Open Space and Natural Resources Needs

The City's natural areas provide open space and natural resource preservation for all residents. Open space and natural resources are valued by Inver Grove Heights residents and they have been identified as important to maintaining a healthy community. As the City develops into the Northwest Area, open space and natural resource preservation is needed to protect existing natural resources identified in the City's Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) and preserve areas for stormwater management (see Figure 6-5: NRI of Northwest Area).

The Mississippi River corridor is a vast natural resource that the City depended on for its very existence in the early days. Access to this resource is very limited in the City. The Mississippi National River Recreation Area is working with numerous partners to protect the natural resources of the river corridor and to provide continuous trail connections along it. The City should work cooperatively in these efforts and should work to create connections to the River at every opportunity.

Community input suggests that there is a need for natural resource interpretation and education as a way to connect youth with the environment. The City's natural areas provide such an opportunity. Another opportunity is at the Katharine B. Ordway Natural History Study Area. Past plans have suggested a cooperative agreement for public use of the Katharine B. Ordway Natural History Study Area. Today, groups and individuals must receive prior approval from Macalester University prior to visiting or utilizing the area. As the City grows it should explore all opportunities to provide natural resource education and interpretation, whether through a provision of interpretive signs in City parks and natural areas, through a cooperative agreement to access the Macalester College site, or as a unique City facility dedicated for that purpose.

It is not enough to preserve open space and natural resources. Management of these valued resources is needed to protect them from degradation caused by invasive species, disease and deer browse. The City needs to develop and implement natural resource management plans as new open space is preserved.

Trail and Bikeway Needs

Trails are popular and use has boomed regionally and in Inver Grove Heights. Trails are used for safe and convenient access to parks, open space, neighborhoods, commercial areas and destination beyond the City. A complete and connected trail system of trails and bikeways is highly valued by residents for leisure use and for transportation. Trails are important to maintain a healthy community and high quality of life. Increased access to trails and hiking was identified as the most popular park amenity that residents would like to see more of, especially within the City, according to community input.

Trail users have differing needs depending on their skill level and purpose for riding. Those riders with advanced skills most often ride for convenience and speed and want direct access to destinations with a minimum of detour or delay and are comfortable riding on roads with motor-vehicle traffic. Those riders of lesser skill level or riding for leisure will avoid high traffic areas and will more likely use routes with bike lanes, off-street trails or trails in parks and open spaces depending on the skill level. To accommodate the full range of trail users, there is a need to provide connectivity to destinations in and outside of the City. To maintain active lifestyles, the City needs a coordinated trail and bikeway network to



Lion's Trail



Rich Valley Trail

provide non-motorized and recreation options.

Community input suggests the following trail and bikeway needs:

- A coordinated trail and bikeway network to provide non-motorized and recreation options.
- Develop the trail network into future growth areas.
- Provide better signage of the community's sidewalk and trail system.
- Work with Dakota County to develop master plans for regional trails in the City.
- Increase access to the Mississippi River and to regional trails.
- Provide trails to natural resources and open space.
- Provide trail connectivity to adjacent City's trail networks.
- Continue to close gaps in the trail system

Sustainability Needs

The City of Inver Grove Heights, through its community vision, is committed to the preservation and enhancement of its natural environment and to greater sustainability. The park system represents a visible opportunity to provide leadership in achieving greater sustainability. Opportunities for sustainability in the park system include:

- Development of new facilities in the park following Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.
- Consideration of life-cycle costs in the planning and development of park and recreation facilities.
- Consideration of solar-power as an energy source for future park facilities.
- Restoration and management of the City's natural resources.
- Use of native plants to reduce landscape maintenance requirements, to serve as a source of food and shelter for wildlife, to buffer shorelines, to control runoff and to manage geese populations.
- Seek biologic controls for invasive species.
- Exploration of greater use of pervious pavers, rain gardens, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) in park projects.
- Develop natural resource and environmental interpretation/education component to City Parks and Open Spaces.



Salem Hills tennis courts

Healthy Community Needs

Part of the City's vision is for Inver Grove Heights to be a healthy active community. Such a community offers a balance of active and passive recreation options, is interconnected through a multi-modal transportation system including a component of off-street trails and bikeways, trails link community destinations such as parks, open spaces, places of work and shopping and to home, encourages walking with pedestrian environment that is attractive with looped walking routes. There is an opportunity for the park system to provide key components of this City goal through targeted improvements to parks, trails and open spaces.

PARKS SYSTEM PLAN

Introduction

A comprehensive park trail and open space system is a key element of a healthy community with a high quality of life. As The City of Inver Grove Heights grows in population and new areas of the City develop, additional recreational opportunities will be needed. This plan insures new residents will have access to quality neighborhood parks that are connected to a larger park network that includes Community parks and open spaces, and natural resources.

The 2040 Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan, Figure 6-7 shows existing parks and trails and general locations of proposed parks and trails. The proposed new park locations are designed to provide neighborhood recreation for future residential growth that are interconnected to trails. Proposed new trails are designed to link neighborhoods to parks, to community resources and to create loop trail opportunities.

The 2040 Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan is a guide to park system improvements and development of the park and recreation system to the year 2040.

Neighborhood Parks

Four new neighborhood parks are proposed to accommodate the neighborhood recreation needs of future residential growth in the Northwest Area representing 20 - 40 acres of new parkland. New Neighborhood Park Search Areas are shown on Figure 6-7: 2040 Park, Trail and Open Space map. These search areas represent an approximate location of future neighborhood parks that are intended to meet the

needs of the specific neighborhood they generally serve within ½ mile walk with no barriers such as busy roads or large water bodies to inhibit park access. Neighborhood parks are also located to be connected by a system of trails that may include varying facilities and may incorporate natural features to create unique amenities in a neighborhood.

Community Parks

One new community park is proposed to accommodate the community recreation needs of future residential growth in the Northwest Area representing 20 - 40 acres of new parkland. The Community Park Search Area shown on Figure 6-7: 2040 Park, Trail and Open Space map represents an approximate location of the future community park to meet the community park needs within a 2 mile distance – a distance that encompasses all of the Northwest Area.

The City has acquired all but one property intended for the full development of Heritage Village Park, a community park with cultural and historical significance in the City. A portion of the park will be improved as a 10-acre dog park. As the Heritage Village Park area redevelops, the City should encourage adjacent land uses and public improvements that will activate the park with people to create a vital place and destination in the community. Such improvements might include development of a retail hub with restaurants or other destination oriented gathering places around or near Heritage Park and an enhanced water front area that enables public access and improved pedestrian connections to adjacent neighborhoods and the Concord Avenue commercial area. Currently, the area does have access to a private commercial marina.



Swing Bridge Park

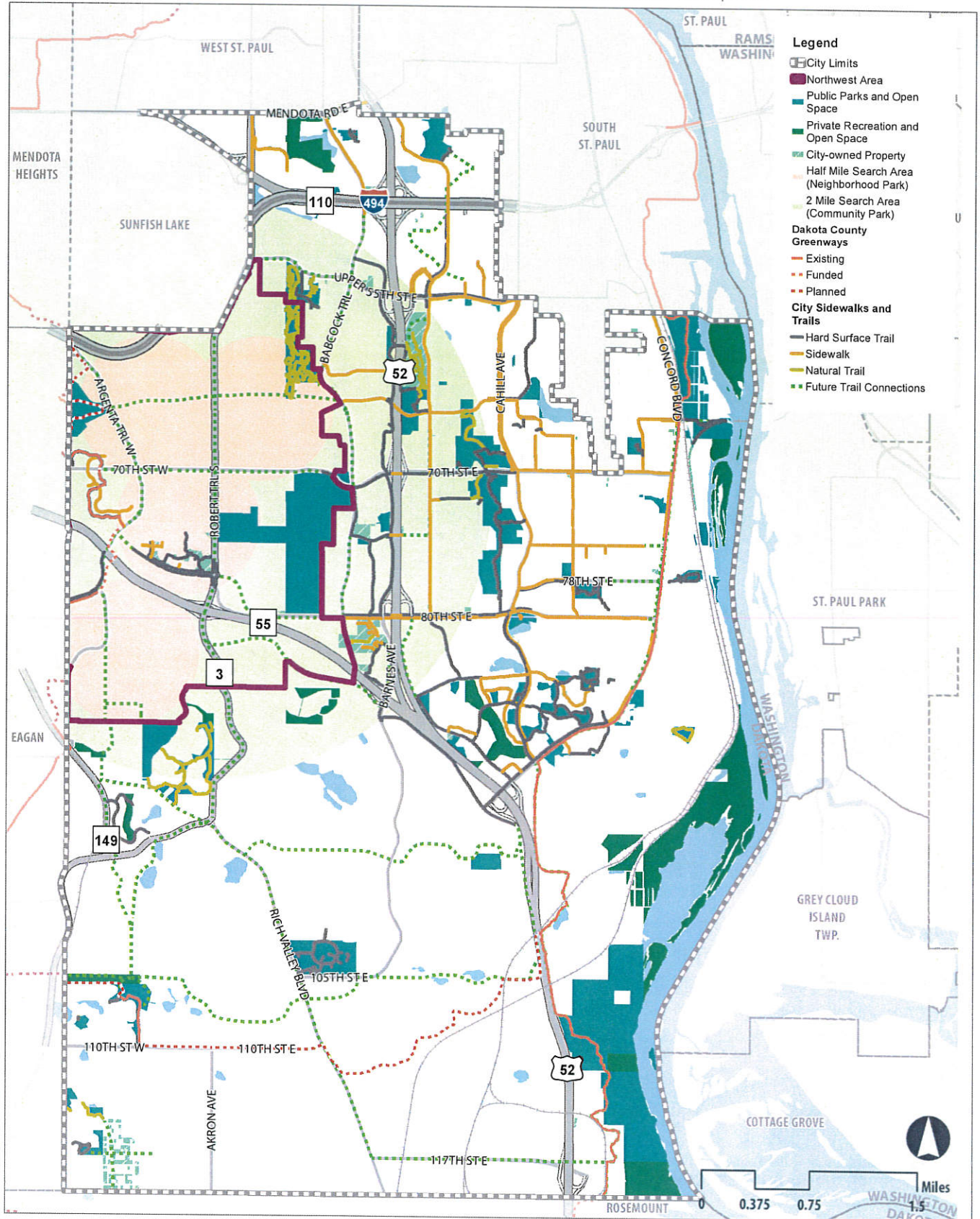
Open Space & Natural Resources

The City's 2003 Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) of the Northwest Area was conducted to plan for the management, protection and enhancement of natural resources (see Figure 6-5: Northwest Area NRI). The NRI identified and ranked existing natural resources according to ecological and local values. Opportunities for expanding open space areas should be explored to meet the community's desire for natural resource preservation.

Trails and Bikeways

The 2040 Comprehensive Trail Plan (Figure 6-8) is a 20 year plan for a trails and bikeways in the City that will connect residents to parks, open spaces, schools, commercial areas and to regional trails and trails of adjacent

Figure 6-7: 2040 Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan (The proposed trail alignments are conceptual.)



communities. The plan suggests improvements to provide access to natural resources and open spaces and trails that provide key connections to destinations in the City, to regional trails and to trail system of adjacent cities and new trails in the Northwest Area. New trails will promote a healthy active community and will accommodate a range of uses including walking, bicycling, in-line skating, etc., and a wide variety of trail user skill levels.

The 2040 Comprehensive Trail Plan identifies trail alignments that are conceptual in nature. Their locations have been identified to achieve stated objectives such as connecting residential areas to local park facilities, open spaces, natural resources and other destinations. The actual locations of such trails shall be determined through negotiations and mutual agreements between land owners/developers and the City. The plan serves as a statement of policy that trail connections are desired in certain areas. Precise alignments that achieve this desired goal need to be the product of more detailed design.

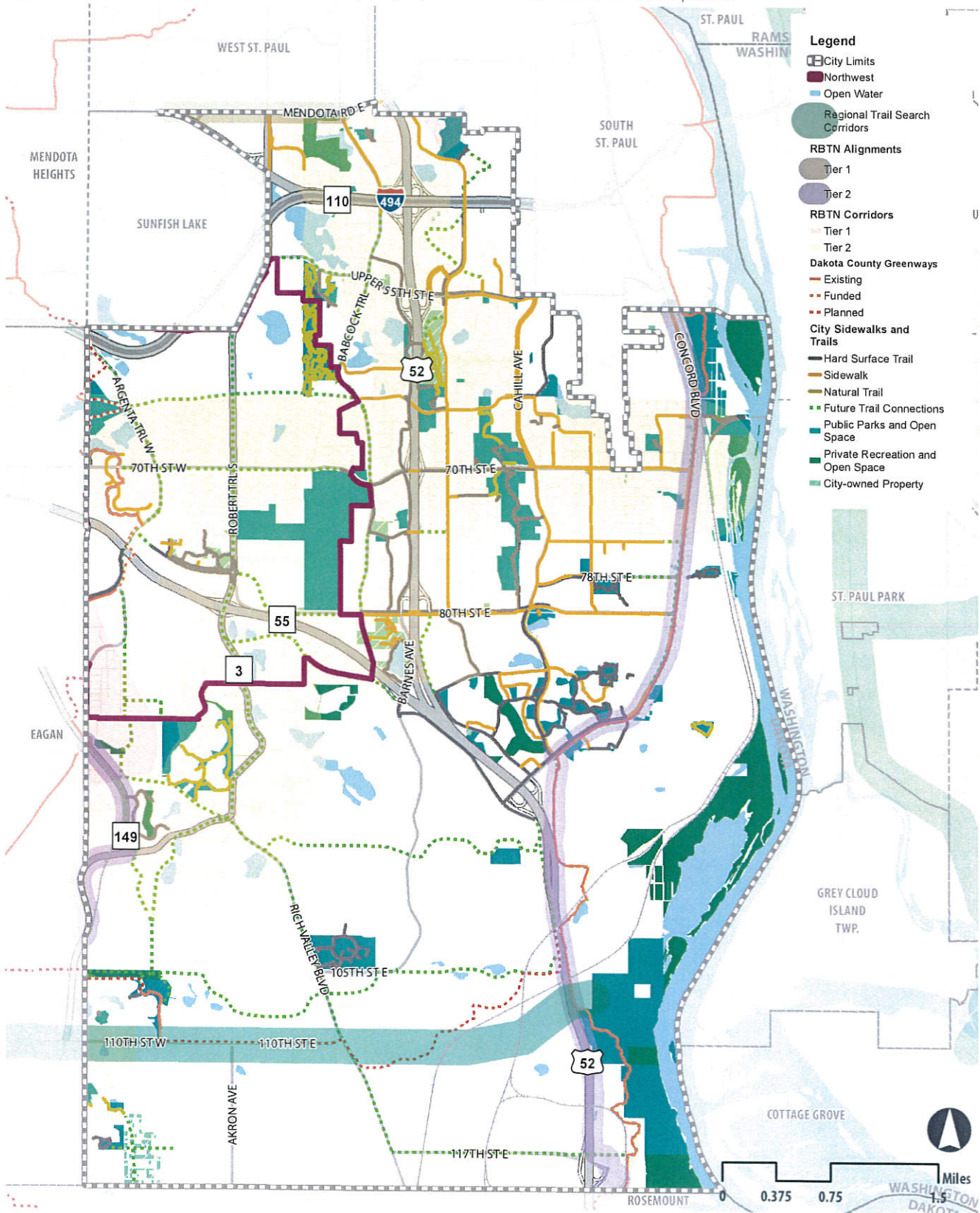
Regional Trails and the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network

The 2040 Comprehensive Trail Plan incorporates Regional Trail Corridor Search Areas. The Metropolitan Council recently created the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP), which was adopted in January 2015. The TPP establishes a vision for the metro region over the next 20 years and provides detail about how this vision will be reached. The Regional Bicycle System Study was completed in 2014 to develop a more complete understanding of how the region's on-street bikeways and off-street trails connect and how they work together to serve regional transportation trips by bicycle. As a result of the study, the TPP has established the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (RBTN) with the goal of creating an integrated seamless network of off-street bikeways and off-road trails that complement each other to most effectively improve conditions for bicycle transportation at the regional level.

The RBTN is divided into tiers for regional planning and investment prioritization, including:

- Tier 1 and Tier 2 Regional Bicycle Transportation Corridors:
 - » Tier 1 Corridors reflect those locations where improvements can most effectively enhance mode choice in favor of biking and walking.
 - » Tier 2 Corridors represent the remaining corridors in the overall Regional Bicycle Transportation Network.
- Tier 1 and Tier 2 Regional Bicycle Transportation Alignments:
 - » Tier 1 Alignments reflect improvements that would provide direct transportation connections to and between regional destinations.
 - » Tier 1 Alignments represent the remaining alignments in the overall Regional Bicycle Transportation Network.

Figure 6-8: 2040 Comprehensive Trail Plan (The proposed trail alignments are conceptual.)



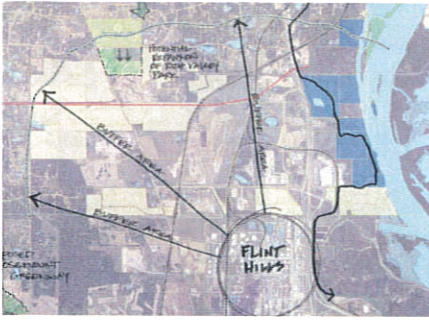


Figure 6-9: Flint Hills Buffer Area

As the City and the County develop master plans for new trails and trail segments, active participation by adjacent property owners will help determine the final alignments. As the alignments are finalized, the City should enter into joint powers agreement between the County and Inver Grove Heights for each of the trails that outline management and maintenance responsibilities.

Equestrian Trails

Horse stables are prominent in some rural residential neighborhoods and the need exists for off-street riding areas. Lebanon Hills Regional Park in Eagan provides trails for horseback riding but until the Rich Valley Regional Trail is completed, there is no trail connection into Inver Grove Heights.

Because of limited public resources for equestrian trail development, trail construction in the near future may be completed by private entities such as trail clubs or a group of users. The City of Inver Grove Heights supports private trail development. It may be possible for private groups to reach an agreement with Flint Hills Resources to utilize some of the buffer land that surrounds the refinery for equestrian trails (see Figure 6-9: Flint Hills Buffer Area).

Community Recreation Facilities

The City's community recreation facilities are important to City residents and are key to providing a healthy active community. As such, the Comprehensive Plan Update envisions continuing the use of Inver Wood Golf Course as a public golf course. Improvements to Inver Wood Golf Course were completed in 2016 and Veterans Memorial Community Center is improved annually to better keep and attract members and guests. Improvement plans should be developed to improve aesthetics, provide alternative uses or multiple uses and provide community meeting and program space.

Natural Resources

Preserving and maintaining the City's natural resources are important to Inver Grove Heights residents. Access to natural resources is important to maintaining a healthy community. Natural resources exist on both City and private property. The City should continue to encourage the preservation and management of natural resources on private property through enforcement of City regulations, forestry and educational programs and

communications. The City should develop management plans and utilize best management practices for the maintenance of natural resources on City property.

Additionally, the City should consider providing natural resource interpretation throughout City parks and natural areas. There is also an opportunity for the City to partner with Macalester College for public use of the Katharine B. Ordway Natural History Study Area. The City might also consider making natural resource and interpretive improvements to the Harmon Nature Preserve. Within the existing developed City and future growth areas, there may be other natural resource areas that are worthy of preservation and interpretation. The following are examples of other nature centers that could serve as a model:

- Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) is a Department of Natural Resources property in Inver Grove Heights. SNA's contain rare natural resources and in some cases provide parking facilities and interpretive kiosks to help visitors identify key features and processes for self guided tours.
- Roseville's Harriet Alexander Nature Center in Central Park is operated by an independent, nonpolitical, nonprofit organization created to support the mission of the Nature Center with a Board of Directors that oversees the nature center operations and fund-raising efforts. Programming is paid for in part through membership dues and donations.
- The Oakdale Discovery Center is a City owned and operated facility providing a variety of nature exhibits and educational opportunities. The facility began as a nature center that was a converted home in Oakdale Park and is now a reconstructed facility with space for meetings, programming, and nature interpretation in renamed Oakdale Nature Preserve.

The City should also encourage and support the development of private nature centers on private property as a means to preserve environmentally sensitive natural areas and further encourage residents to participate in nature-based activities and education.

An excellent example of such a private nature center is the Dodge Nature Center located in West St. Paul and Mendota Heights. Dodge has a diversified and beautiful area of prairies, hardwood forests, lakes, wetlands, miles of hiking trails, a working farm orchard and bee apiary. Dodge offers a variety of unique experiences for people of all ages. It has an expansive environmental education curriculum for children.



The Oakdale Discovery Center



Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific Nature Area



Veterans Memorial Community Center Skatepark



Disc golf at North Valley Park

Sustainability

Greater sustainability in the park system will be achieved by the incorporation of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards for new park buildings, consider life-cycle costs in the planning and development of park and recreation facilities, utilization of best management practices, such as the use of rain gardens, permeable pavers and other innovative stormwater retention techniques in new parks and park renovations and through use of native plants in landscaping. The City can provide leadership through enforcement of City regulations related to natural resources, through educational and recreation programming and by providing interpretation of natural resources in the City's parks and open spaces. Greater sustainability can be achieved by the development of a system of connected open spaces, or the preservation of natural resource areas.

Healthy Active Community

The park system is central to achieving a key goal of the City's Comprehensive plan, to maintain a healthy active community. Priority should be given to park system improvements that encourage greater use of the park system, and that provide amenities for diverse park system users.

Active living integrates physical activity and healthy eating into daily routines of residents. There are many ways to engage in daily exercise, such as biking, walking or gardening. Daily physical exercise can be achieved without expensive gym memberships or rigorous workout routines designed for athletes. Active Living can be achieved through small changes in our lifestyles, and can contribute to increasing social interactions and our connections to nature.

The City's ability to integrate active living practices into parks, trails, and open spaces is heavily influenced by the following environmental factors:

- A varied mix of land uses
 - » Locating places where we live, work, study, shop, eat, and play near each other make walking and biking more convenient
- Functional, inviting, and attractive parks
 - » Providing places that are engaging and inviting encourages us to get outdoors and enjoy physical activity
- Safe and comfortable access to parks and the outdoors
 - » Providing places where people of all ages, abilities can safely and comfortably access parks is one of the most influential factors to active living in the community. This includes providing visible signage and safe road crossings for pedestrians.
- Access to healthy foods

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

"CPTED is the proper design and effective use of the built environment which may lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and an improvement of the quality of life."

- National Crime Prevention Institute

- » Providing places where people can access healthy, fresh, and affordable food is a serious consideration for Active Living. There are a number of ways that parks can provide access to healthy foods, such as serving as a drop-off point for CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture), and providing community garden plots.

Improvements should be made that provide increased public safety, such as those that utilize Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) techniques to create safe and welcoming parks, trails and recreation facilities; improvements that include amenities for a variety of age and skill levels; improvements that include looped trails of varying lengths and trails to provide access to natural resources and other key destinations in the City. Parks improvements should focus on providing places to rest with benches and shade that are spaced to serve all users with a variety of abilities.

The Four Strategies of CPTED

1. Natural Surveillance - A design concept directed primarily at keeping intruders easily observable. Promoted by features that maximize visibility of people, parking areas and building entrances: doors and windows that look out on to streets and parking areas; pedestrian-friendly sidewalks and streets; front porches; adequate nighttime lighting.
2. Territorial Reinforcement - Physical design can create or extend a sphere of influence. Users then develop a sense of territorial control while potential offenders, perceiving this control, are discouraged. Promoted by features that define property lines and distinguish private spaces from public spaces using landscape plantings, pavement designs, gateway treatments, and "CPTED" fences.
3. Natural Access Control - A design concept directed primarily at decreasing crime opportunity by denying access to crime targets and creating in offenders a perception of risk. Gained by designing streets, sidewalks, building entrances and neighborhood gateways to clearly indicate public routes and discouraging access to private areas with structural elements.
4. Target Hardening - Accomplished by features that prohibit entry or access: window locks, dead bolts for doors, interior door hinges.

IMPLEMENTATION

Park System Goals and Policies

In order to guide the future park system, the following park system policies have been proposed by the Inver Grove Heights Parks and Recreation Commission:

Planning Goals & Policies

Planning Goals & Policies

The following planning goals and policies will guide the City of Inver Grove Heights.

Planning Goals:

- Develop and adopt a System-wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan based on the needs and demands of all segments of Inver Grove Heights's population.
- Locate parks when they are geographically, financially and physically feasible, and based on park and recreation needs.
- Coordinate the efforts of local, state and federal governments and agencies to plan and develop the Park and Recreation System.
- Increase community engagement and input during the planning process for parks, trails, and recreation.

Planning Policies:

1. The Park and Recreation Plan will seek to be compatible with adjacent local community plans and metropolitan, state and federal plans and programs.
2. Public school facilities and their recreation areas will be considered in the planning of the park and recreation system. Maximum cooperation, coordination and participation with school districts will be sought in the planning of the development and operation of the park and recreation system.
3. The description and standards established in the park classification system will be a basis for developing the park and recreation system.
4. Park and recreation services and facilities should be provided where recreational opportunity is deficient or non-existent. This will be done in conjunction with the resources of the volunteer-based organizations, Community Education and the private sector, where appropriate.
5. Continue to develop master plans for individual parks and integrate the goals, policies, and implementation strategies into a System-wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan
6. Consider creating Community Advisory Committees with diverse



South Valley Park Sliding Hill

representation for future park planning processes that will work in tandem with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission.

7. Look for ways to encourage diversity, education, and equity in future parks planning, with an extra effort to engage with seniors, youth, people with lower incomes, and minority populations.

Parks Goals & Policies

The following park goals and policies will guide the City of Inver Grove Heights.

Park Goals & Policies

Park Goals:

- Promote park development that will best encourage and/or control use.
- Provide a well balanced park and recreation system.
- Strengthen the image of the Parks as a System which provides community services and recreational facilities.

Park Policies:

1. Offer a variety of activities in the park system including cultural, conservation, passive, active and organized recreation areas.
2. Acquire parkland and develop existing parks at a rate and level commensurate with the needs of Inver Grove Heights's changing population.
3. Establish and promote high quality design standards in the development of the park system.
4. Encourage joint use of facilities by incorporating school facilities with park and recreation programs whenever possible.
5. Encourage multi-use park facilities that will maximize accessibility and use by area residents.
6. Allow the conversion of park and public open lands to other uses only when no feasible alternative exists and community needs are not compromised. When conversion is unavoidable, the taking agency should pay for the replacement of land and facilities to serve the needs of the people in that area.
7. Specific park development priorities will be discussed, reviewed, analyzed and measured for progress annually.
8. Ongoing information and education process will be conducted, making the residents aware and knowledgeable of park and recreation facilities and programs.
9. Parkland will be acquired in accordance with the Comprehensive Park Plan and Development Guide.

Trail System Goals & Policies

10. Require a park dedication from all developers pursuant to City Ordinance.
11. Wetlands and storm water ponding areas will not be accepted as fulfillment of park dedication requirements.
12. Provide public access into City park areas by a variety of transportation modes, with an emphasis on pedestrian and bicycle connectivity.
13. A consistent signing policy will be developed for all park and recreation areas buildings, etc., including directional and information signs.

Trail System Goals & Policies

The following trail system goals and policies will guide the City of Inver Grove Heights.

Trail System Goals:

- Promote safe, convenient and coordinated facilities for alternative means of transportation throughout the City of Inver Grove Heights.
- Provide Inver Grove Heights residents with sections of trail that focus on recreational value and harmony with the natural environment.

Trail System Policies:

1. Coordinate the use of a city-wide trail plan.
2. Plan bicycle and pedestrian access to parks, open space areas, schools and neighborhood shopping areas to encourage maximum use of these facilities.
3. Encourage the utilization of utility easements and transportation right-of-ways for trail development.
4. Provide ramped curbs to meet accessibility standards and to accommodate bicyclists.
5. Trails should be bituminous or concrete, except in nature areas, and be multi-use facilities when uses are compatible.
6. Trails will be integral to larger scale development and will be installed and paved at the developers' expense. These trails should connect to the existing and proposed extensions of the Inver Grove Heights trail system.
7. Inver Grove Heights trail system will be coordinated with the trail systems for Dakota County, surrounding cities and Metropolitan Council.
8. All existing and proposed trails should be mapped, reviewed and updated annually.
9. Off street trails will be coordinated with the future location of on-street bikeways (bike lanes) to create an integrated non-motorized recreation and transportation system.

Natural Resource/Open Space Goals & Policies

The following natural resource/open space goals and policies will guide the City of Inver Grove Heights.

Natural Resource/Open Space Goals:

- Preserve and protect the natural environment with emphasis on the conservation of needed and useful natural resources for the present and future benefit of the community.
- Use natural resource areas to provide an overall open space system to satisfy the physiological and psychological needs of the people, considering their needs as individuals and as a community.

Natural Resource/Open Space Policies:

1. Conserve a variety of natural resource areas including wetlands, soils, ground water recharge areas, woodlands, lakeshore, drainage ways and steep slopes.
2. Encourage the assistance of metropolitan, state, and federal agencies to, where appropriate, preserves natural resource areas.
3. Open space areas should be used as a structuring element linked to other park and open space areas within projects and from one project to another, whenever possible.
4. Natural resource open space can be used to physically separate elements, which are incompatible, by scale or function.
5. Preserve natural drainage ways and wetlands and where feasible, reconstruct former natural drainage ways and wetlands to handle storm water runoff.
6. Encourage the use of contained storm water systems that treat the water on-site as much as possible.
7. To establish, maintain or restore natural conservation areas for wildlife management and educational and scientific purposes.

Sustainability Goals & Policies

The following sustainability goals and policies will guide the City of Inver Grove Heights.

Sustainability Goals:

- To be a leader in sustainability and natural resources management.

Natural Resource/Open Space Goals & Policies

Sustainability Goals & Policies

Healthy Community Goals & Policies



Youth sports at Rich Valley Athletic Complex

Sustainability Policies:

1. Encourage new park buildings to be constructed using LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards.
2. Parks will have recycling receptacles in addition to trash receptacles.
3. New facilities and significant renovation of existing facilities include a sustainability evaluation of materials, energy use, operating cost and lifecycle replacement.
4. Innovative stormwater retention techniques should be utilized in new park development and in the renovation of existing parks, such as permeable paving and rain gardens.
5. Native plants, such as prairie plantings, should be used in parks and open space to reduce landscape maintenance requirements, to provide food and shelter for wildlife, to buffer shorelines, to control runoff and to manage geese populations.
6. A natural resource and environmental interpretation/education component will be developed for City parks and open spaces.
7. Natural resource management plans will be developed for the preservation of natural resources in City parks and open space.
8. The City should continue the "adopt-a-park or open space" program to encourage community involvement in park maintenance and safety, and look for ways to increase participation and active stewardship of residents.
9. Continue to follow the adopted Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Plan

Healthy Community Goals & Policies

The following healthy community goals and policies will guide the City of Inver Grove Heights.

Healthy Community Goals:

- To promote active healthy living for all.

Healthy Community Policies:

1. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission asks that park users refrain from smoking and tobacco use in parks.
2. Ensure convenient and equitable access to parks and recreation facilities by locating new parks within ½ mile of all residents
3. Special attention should be given to park and open space improvements that provide for handicap accessibility consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines for Building and Facilities

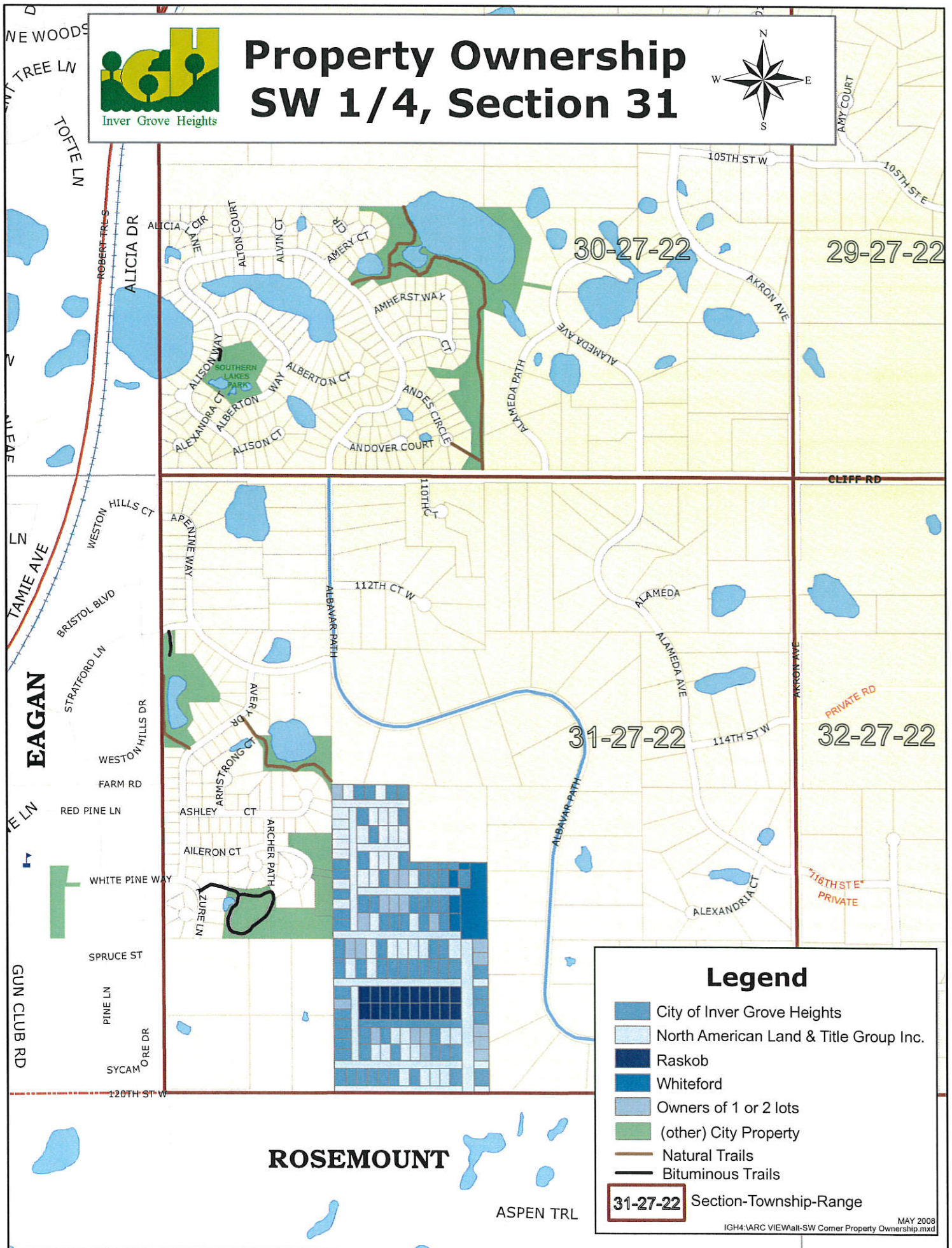
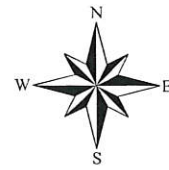
and universal design principles.

4. Special attention should be given to parks and open space improvements providing seating, shade and a trail loops of varying lengths to encourage active living for an aging population.
5. Special attention should be given to providing safe walking and biking routes to schools, parks and trails from neighborhoods.
6. The City will provide bicycle parking at park system destinations to encourage bicycle use.
7. To encourage the financial assistance of metropolitan, state, and federal agencies and non-profit organizations to fund healthy active living initiatives.
8. The City will implement the 2040 Comprehensive Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan.
9. That public safety improvement will be made as needed utilizing Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles to ensure park and trail user's well being.
10. Demonstrate and encourage healthy choices by offering nutritious foods in park vending and at events.
11. Promote the benefits of active living through Parks and Recreation Department communications and programming.

SW Area Park Information



Property Ownership SW 1/4, Section 31



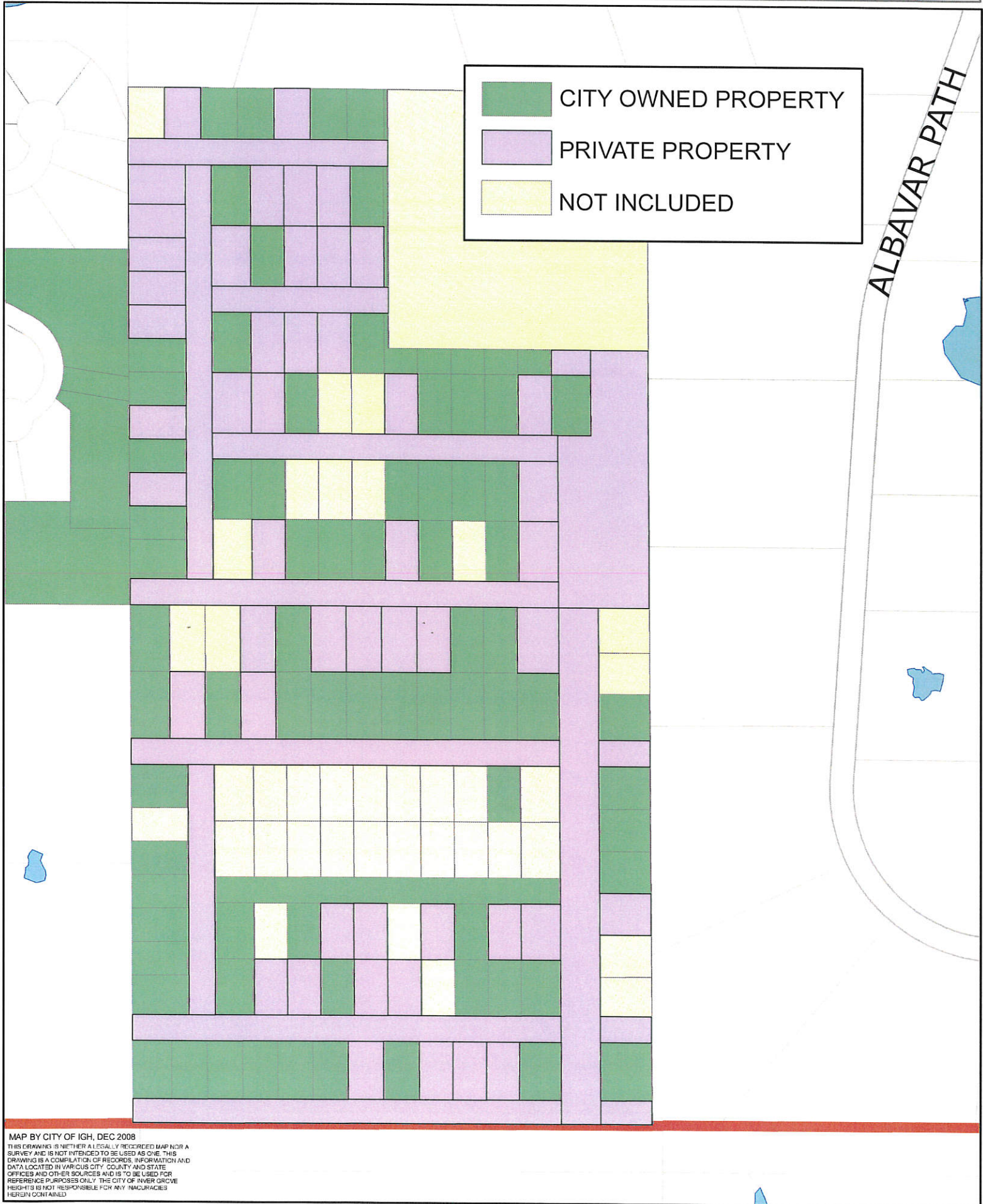
Legend

- City of Inver Grove Heights
- North American Land & Title Group Inc.
- Raskob
- Whiteford
- Owners of 1 or 2 lots
- (other) City Property
- Natural Trails
- Bituminous Trails

31-27-22 Section-Township-Range



SW AREA PROPERTIES



MAP BY CITY OF IGH, DEC 2008

THIS DRAWING IS NEITHER A LEGALLY RECORDED MAP NOR A SURVEY AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE USED AS ONE. THIS DRAWING IS A COMPILATION OF RECORDS, INFORMATION AND DATA LOCATED IN VARIOUS CITY, COUNTY AND STATE OFFICES AND OTHER SOURCES AND IS TO BE USED FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY. THE CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INACCURACIES HEREIN CONTAINED.

Project Areas

Inver Grove Heights, MN - Southern Lakes Park

All statistical results are aggregated for the listed project areas and their service areas. Service areas are based on 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk times from project access points defined for each project area and based upon the walkable network.

Legend

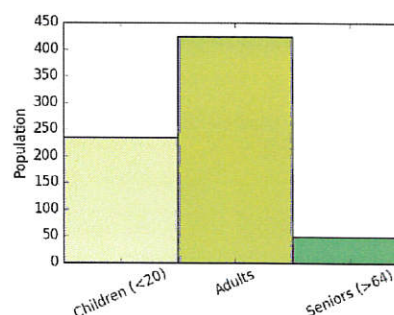
- Project Area
- Service Area



Population within a 10-minute walk

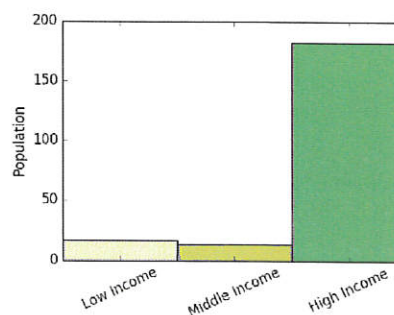
Total Population	707
------------------	-----

Age	Served
Children (less than age 20)	235
Adults (age 20 to age 64)	424
Seniors (age 65 and up)	48



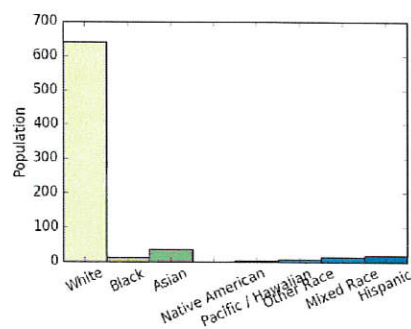
Household Income	Served
Low income	17
Middle income	13
High income	182

(Generated From Regional Median Incomes)



Race/Ethnicity	Served
White	640
Black	11
Asian	34
Native American	0
Pacific / Hawaiian	1
Other Race	7
Mixed Race	14
Hispanic*	18

* U.S. Census captures Hispanic Origin separate from race



Demographic information is derived from ESRI 2017 Demographic Forecast Block Groups data.

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Project Areas

Inver Grove Heights, MN - Broadmoor Park

All statistical results are aggregated for the listed project areas and their service areas. Service areas are based on 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk times from project access points defined for each project area and based upon the walkable network.

Legend

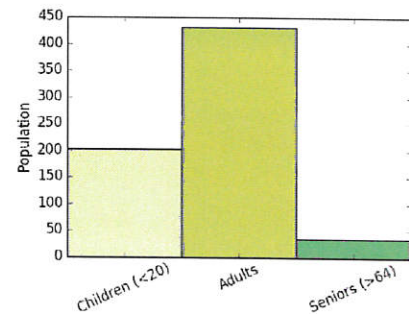
- Project Area
- Service Area



Population within a 10-minute walk

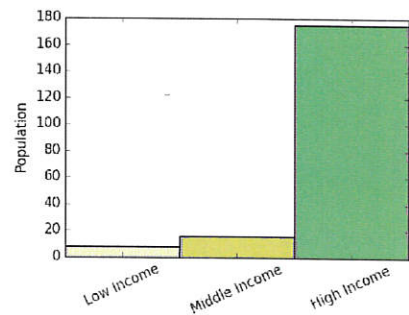
Total Population	667
------------------	-----

Age	Served
Children (less than age 20)	203
Adults (age 20 to age 64)	431
Seniors (age 65 and up)	34



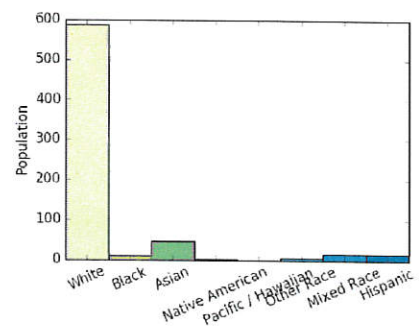
Household Income	Served
Low income	8
Middle income	16
High income	175

(Generated From Regional Median Incomes)



Race/Ethnicity	Served
White	587
Black	10
Asian	46
Native American	1
Pacific / Hawaiian	0
Other Race	6
Mixed Race	16
Hispanic*	16

* U.S. Census captures Hispanic Origin separate from race



Demographic information is derived from ESRI 2017 Demographic Forecast Block Groups data.

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Project Areas

Inver Grove Heights, MN - Woodland Preserve

All statistical results are aggregated for the listed project areas and their service areas. Service areas are based on 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk times from project access points defined for each project area and based upon the walkable network.

Legend

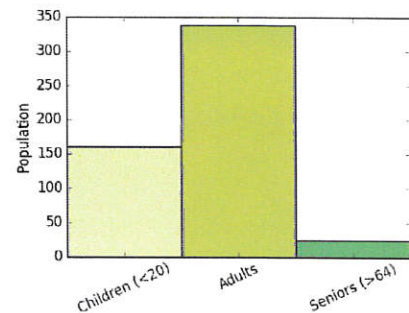
- Project Area
- Service Area



Population within a 10-minute walk

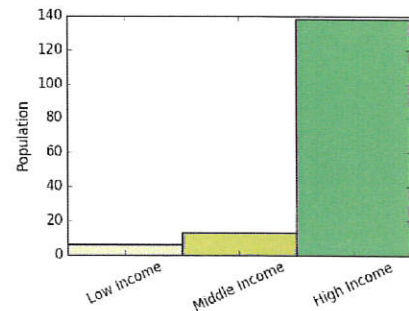
Total Population	526
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Age	Served
Children (less than age 20)	161
Adults (age 20 to age 64)	338
Seniors (age 65 and up)	25



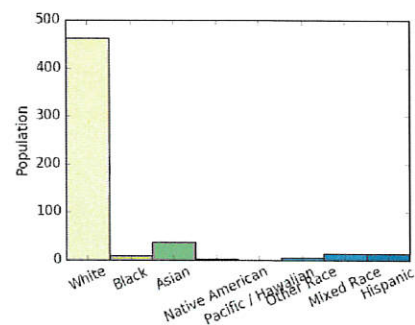
Household Income	Served
Low income	6
Middle income	13
High income	138

(Generated From Regional Median Incomes)



Race/Ethnicity	Served
White	462
Black	8
Asian	37
Native American	1
Pacific / Hawaiian	0
Other Race	5
Mixed Race	13
Hispanic*	12

* U.S. Census captures Hispanic Origin separate from race



Demographic information is derived from ESRI 2017 Demographic Forecast Block Groups data.

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CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Consider Approval of 2019 Park and Recreation Department Fees

Meeting Date: October 10, 2018
 Item Type: Regular Agenda
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Eric Carlson
 Reviewed by: Matt Moynihan
 Tracy Petersen

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ☐ | None |
| ☐ | Amount included in current budget |
| ☐ | Budget amendment requested |
| ☐ | FTE included in current complement |
| ☐ | New FTE requested – N/A |
| ☒ | Other |

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Commission approve the attached fees for Parks & Recreation.

SUMMARY

Attached is a copy of the 2019 proposed fees for Parks & Recreation. Highlights of the changes are as follows:

Recreation

- A number of facility use fees will increase marginally.

VMCC/Grove

- Membership fees increase slightly

Inver Wood

- Fees are going up \$0.50 - \$1.00 on various fees/services.

**CITY
OF
INVER GROVE HEIGHTS**



**2019 PROPOSED FEES
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

RECREATION

INVER WOOD GOLF COURSE

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER

Parks & Recreation

Item	Frequency	2018 Approved Resident	2018 Approved Non-Res	2019 Proposed Resident	2019 Proposed Non-Res
Park Shelters *(excludes Swing Bridge Park)	Per 5 hour block	\$70	\$90	\$70	\$90
Park Shelter * Swing Bridge Park Only		\$110	\$110	\$110	\$110
Additional trash barrels/picnic tables	NA	\$30	\$40	\$32	\$42
Outdoor Ice Rink *	Per hour	\$25	\$35	\$27	\$37
Outdoor Ice Rink w/attendant *	Per hour	\$35	\$45	\$37	\$47
Outdoor Rink Lights	Per hour	\$40	\$60	\$42	\$62
Neighborhood Park/School Athletic Field	Per use	\$40	\$50	\$40	\$50
Tennis Courts	Per Hour/Court	\$7	\$9	\$7	\$9
Rich Valley Baseball Field (youth)	Per gm/practice	\$80	\$100	\$85	\$105
Rich Valley Baseball Field (adult)	Per gm/practice	\$95	\$115	\$100	\$120
Rich Valley Softball Field	Per gm/practice	\$60	\$80	\$65	\$85
Rich Valley/Skyview Soccer Field (youth)	Per gm/practice	\$80	\$100	\$85	\$105
Rich Valley/Skyview Soccer Field (adult)	Per gm/practice	\$95	\$115	\$100	\$120
Rich Valley Soccer ½ Field	Per gm/practice	\$50	\$60	\$55	\$65
Rich Valley Lights	Per hour	\$40	\$60	\$45	\$65
Rich Valley Field Tournament Fee	Per field/day	\$190	\$215	\$190	\$215
Rich Valley Tournament Vendor Fee	Per Weekend	\$55	\$110	\$60	\$115
Rich Valley Concession Stand	Per Weekend	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
Rich Valley Additional Maintenance Service- staff, equipment and supplies (4 fields or less)	Per hour	\$50	\$60	\$50	\$60
Rich Valley Additional Maintenance Service- staff, equipment & supplies (5 fields or more)	Per hour	\$70	\$80	\$70	\$80
Rich Valley Additional Maintenance Service-labor & supplies	Per hour	\$40	\$50	\$40	\$50
IGH Baseball, Softball & Soccer Association Tournament Fee	Per field/day	\$85	\$85	\$90	\$90
Local Athletic Assoc. User Fee	Per Player	\$13	\$20	\$13	\$20
Disc Golf Annual Pass	Per year	\$30	\$40	\$30	\$40
Disc Golf Daily Pass	Daily	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5
Disc Golf Tournament	Per day	\$200	\$225	\$210	\$235
Disc Golf Tournament	Per Weekend	\$500	\$525	\$510	\$535
Mountain Bike Course	Per Day	\$500	\$525	\$510	\$535
Community Garden Plot	Per Garden	\$25	\$25	\$30	\$30
Dog Park (Dog 1)	Annual			\$20	\$30
Dog Park (Dog 2)	Annual			\$15	\$25
Dog Park Lost Pass Replacement				\$5	\$5
Dog Park Bundle (Dog Park Pass & License)				\$25	\$45

- *Requires damage deposit
- **Fee replaces the agreement that expired in 2009 to build Rich Valley Athletic Complex. Revenue generated can be used on a project that would benefit youth athletics and the City. The project would be agreed upon between staff and the association.
- Fees include tax
- Manager has discretion to negotiate off peak time usage rates

Inver Wood Golf Course

Item	Frequency	2018 Approved Resident	2018 Approved Non-Res	2019 Proposed Resident	2019 Proposed Non-Res
Pull Cart Rental	Per Round	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50
Player's Card	Per Season	\$90	\$110	\$90	\$110
Driving Range Balls-Large	Per Bucket	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12
Driving Range Balls-Medium	Per Bucket	\$9	\$9	\$9	\$9
Driving Range Balls-Small	Per Bucket	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6
Diving Range Balls-All Day	Unlimited Per Person	\$14	\$14	\$14	\$14
Season Passes	Adult Season Pass-Restr.	\$1200	\$1200	\$1200	\$1200
	Sr. Season Pass-Restr.	\$1000	\$1000	\$1000	\$1000
	Jr. Season Pass-Restr.	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Weekday	18 Hole Green Fee	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35
Mon - Thur	9 Hole Green Fee	\$19.50	\$19.50	\$19.50	\$19.50
7 am to 5 pm	Patron 18 Green Fee	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30
Sat - Sun	Patron 9 Green Fee	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$17.50
Noon to 5 pm	Sr/Jr 18 Green Fee	\$24	\$24	\$25	\$25
	Sr/Jr 9 Green Fee	\$13.50	\$13.50	\$14	\$14
	Executive Green Fee	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50
	Patron Exec Green Fee	\$12.50	\$12.50	\$12.50	\$12.50
	Sr/Jr Exec Green Fee	\$11	\$11	\$11	\$11
Weekend	18 Hole Green Fee	\$43	\$43	\$43	\$43
Friday	9 Hole Green Fee	\$29	\$29	\$29	\$29
Noon to 5 pm	Patron 18 Green Fee	\$36	\$36	\$36	\$36
Sat - Sun	Patron 9 Green Fee	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
6 am to Noon	Sr/Jr 18 Green Fee	\$31	\$31	\$32.50	\$32.50
	Sr/Jr 9 Green Fee	\$19	\$19	\$20	\$20
	Executive Green Fee	\$18.50	\$18.50	\$18.50	\$18.50
	Patron Exec Green Fee	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50
	Sr/Jr Exec Green Fee	\$11	\$11	\$11.50	\$11.50
Golf Car	18 Hole Car Fee	\$19	\$19	\$20	\$20
Rentals	9 Hole Car Fee	\$12	\$12	\$13	\$13
	Executive Car Fee	\$7	\$7	\$7.50	\$7.50
	Sr. 18 Hole Car Fee	\$14.50	\$14.50	\$15	\$15
	Sr. 9 Hole Car Fee	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$11	\$11
	Sr. Exec Car Fee	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$7	\$7
Evening	Twilight Green Fee	\$27	\$27	\$27	\$27
5 pm to end	Patron Twilight Green Fee	\$21.50	\$21.50	\$21.50	\$21.50
	Sr/Jr Twilight Green Fee	\$18	\$18	\$18	\$18
	Twilight Car Fee	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50
	Sr. Twilight Car Fee	\$11.50	\$11.50	\$12	\$12
Advertised/Promotional	18 Hole Green Fee	\$27.50	\$27.50	\$27.50	\$27.50
Young Adult	9 Hole Green Fee	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$17.50
	Executive Green Fee	\$14.50	\$14.50	\$14.50	\$14.50
	18 Hole Car Fee	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50
	9 Hole Car Fee	\$11	\$11	\$11	\$11
	Executive Car Fee	\$7	\$7	\$7	\$7
Foot Golf	Adult	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12
	Youth	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10
	Ball Rental	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3

- All fees include tax

VMCC/Grove

Item	Frequency	2018 Approved Resident	2018 Approved Non-Res	2019 Proposed Resident	2019 Proposed Non-Res
National Guard Room A, B, C	Per Hour	\$37	\$47	\$37	\$47
Community Room 1, 2, 3	Per Hour	\$42	\$52	\$42	\$52
Community Room Kitchen	Per day	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25
PA System	Per day	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25
Screen	Per day	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15
TV/DVD/Projector	Per day	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25
Room Rental Attendant	Per Hour	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35
Gymnasium – Athletic	Per Hour	\$69	\$79	\$69	\$79
Gymnasium – Weekday (M-F)	Per Hour	\$90	\$100	\$90	\$100
Gymnasium – Wedding Package (0-300 ppl)	Per Day	\$900	\$1,300	\$900	\$1,300
National Guard Gym Kitchen	Per day	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90
Catering	Flat fee	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
Alcohol	Flat fee	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
West Rink-Turf	Per Hour	\$90	\$100	\$90	\$100
Childcare Drop-In Rate(non-member)	Per Hour/per child	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50
Childcare Employee Rate	Per Hour/per child	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1
Membership – Single Enrollment Fee	One-Time	\$49	\$59	\$49	\$59
Membership – Dual Enrollment Fee	One-Time	\$49	\$59	\$49	\$59
Membership – Household Enrollment Fee	One-Time	\$49	\$59	\$49	\$59
Membership – Senior (60+)	Annual	\$459	\$459	\$459	\$459
Membership – Single	Annual	\$592	\$592	\$592	\$592
Membership – Dual	Annual	\$796	\$796	\$796	\$796
Membership – Household (up to 6)	Annual	\$918	\$918	\$918	\$918
Membership – PCA added to household	Annual	\$204	\$204	\$204	\$204
Membership – Senior (60+)	Monthly	\$45	\$45	\$45	\$45
Membership – Single	Monthly	\$58	\$58	\$58	\$58
Membership – Dual	Monthly	\$78	\$78	\$78	\$78
Membership – Household (up to 6)	Monthly	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90
Membership – PCA added to household	Monthly	\$17	\$17	\$17	\$17
City Emp. Membership – Senior (60+)	Monthly	\$37	\$37	\$37	\$37
City Emp. Membership – Single	Monthly	\$47	\$47	\$47	\$47
City Emp. Membership – Dual	Monthly	\$67	\$67	\$67	\$67
City Emp. Membership – Household	Monthly	\$77	\$77	\$77	\$77
Corporate Membership – Senior	Monthly	\$41	\$41	\$41	\$41
Corporate Membership – Single	Monthly	\$53	\$53	\$53	\$53
Corporate Membership - Dual	Monthly	\$71	\$71	\$71	\$71
Corporate Membership - Household	Monthly	\$82	\$82	\$82	\$82
Military Active - Single	Monthly	\$47	\$47	\$47	\$47
Military Active – Senior	Monthly	\$37	\$37	\$37	\$37
Military Active – Dual	Monthly	\$67	\$67	\$67	\$67
Military Active – Household	Monthly	\$77	\$77	\$77	\$77
Military Vet – Senior-change to military rate	Monthly	\$41	\$41	\$37	\$37
Military Vet – Single-change to military rate	Monthly	\$53	\$53	\$47	\$47
Military Vet – Dual-change to military rate	Monthly	\$71	\$71	\$67	\$67
Military Vet – Household-change to military rate	Monthly	\$82	\$82	\$77	\$77
1 month Fee-Single	Monthly	-	-	\$65	\$65
1 month Fee-Household	Monthly	-	-	\$100	\$100
Daily Admission after 5:30pm (waterpark)	Daily	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6

Daily Admission before Noon (waterpark/features off)	Daily	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3
Daily Admission after 8 pm	Daily	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6
Daily Admission – Youth (1-9-year-old)	Daily	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6
Daily Admission – Adult/Senior (Ages 10+)	Daily	\$9	\$9	\$9	\$9
Daily Admission – Observer	Daily	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5
10-time Pass – Youth/Senior	10 Visits	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80
10-time Pass – Adult	10 Visits	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$85
ATM Transaction Fee	Per Transaction	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3
Open Gym	Daily	\$3	\$5	\$3	\$5
Open Gym – Members	Daily	Free	Free	Free	Free
Open Pickleball-Members	Daily	Free	Free	Free	Free
Open Pickleball-Non-Members	Daily	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3
Open Pickleball-Non-Members	10 Visits	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25
Fitness Studio Rental	Per Hour	\$55	\$65	\$55	\$60
Fitness TRX Room Rental	Per Hour	\$40	\$50	\$40	\$50
Open Skate – adults (18 & older)	Daily	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5
Open Skate – children (17 & under)	Daily	\$4	\$4	\$4	\$4
Open Skate – Members	Daily	Free	Free	Free	Free
10-time Pass (Open Skate 18 & Older)	10 Visits	\$45	\$45	\$45	\$45
10-time Pass (Open Skate 17 & Under)		\$36	\$36	\$36	\$36
10-time Pass (Open Hockey)	10 Visits	\$54	\$54	\$54	\$54
Daily Admission-Open Freestyle	Daily	\$8	\$8	\$8	\$8
10-time Pass-Open Freestyle	10 Visits	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70
Skate Rental	Daily	\$2	\$2	\$2	\$2
Open Hockey	Daily	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6
Shower Rental	Daily	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5
Towel Rental	Daily	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1
Locker Rental (small)	Annual	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Locker Rental (large)	Annual	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Locker Rental (small)	Monthly	\$11	\$11	\$11	\$11
Locker Rental (large)	Monthly	\$22	\$22	\$22	\$22
Birthday Party Rental-Friday	Per use	Fri: \$175/ Wknd: \$205	Fri: \$175/ Wknd: \$205	\$195	\$195
Birthday Party Rental-Wknd Up to 16 ppl	Per Use	\$205	\$205	\$225	\$225
Birthday Party Rental-Wknd up to 30 ppl	Per Use			\$300	\$300
Skating Birthday Party Rental- up to 16 ppl	Per Use			\$195	\$195
Individual Lane Line	Per Hour	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15
Leisure Pool	Per Hour	\$495	\$495	\$495	\$495
Lap Pool	Per Hour	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125
Diving Well	Per Hour	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$90
Swim Event (Lap and Diving)	Per Hour	\$170.50	\$170.50	\$170.50	\$170.50
Simley High School -Indiv Lane	Per Hour	\$6.25	n/a	\$6.25	n/a
Simley High School-Lap Pool	Per Hour	\$49.50	n/a	\$49.50	n/a
Simley High School-Diving Well	Per Hour	\$35.75	n/a	\$35.75	n/a
Simley High School- Swim Event	Per Hour	\$68.75	n/a	\$68.75	n/a

- All month-to-month members can receive a 15% discount off 12 months paid in full (fee listed reflects discount)
- All fees include tax
- Pool rentals includes lifeguard fee(s)
- Swim Event rental does not include lifeguard fee(s)
- Employee membership rates are also available to City Council members and active Commission members.
- Manager has discretion to negotiate off-peak time usage rates for swimming pools.
- Seasonal staff working at the VMCC are afforded free use of the facility during their employment this does not include their spouse or family members.

ICE TIME	Monday – Friday		Saturday & Sunday	
	Prime	Non Prime	Prime	Non Prime
	3:00pm – 9:59pm	Before 3:00pm and after 10pm	7:00am – 8:59pm	Before 7:00am and after 9:00pm
October 1, 2018 – March 12, 2019	\$215	\$145	\$215	\$145
	Monday – Friday		Saturday & Sunday	
	Prime	Non Prime	Prime	Non Prime
	5:00pm – 8:59pm	Before 5:00pm and after 9:00pm	9:00am – 7:59pm	Before 9:00am and after 8:00pm
March 13, 2018 – September 30, 2018	\$155	\$140	\$155	\$140

- * - Certain restrictions apply to availability, reservations, and terms of usage.
- Fees do not include tax
- Manager has discretion to negotiate early and late ice time rates

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Department Happenings

Meeting Date: October 10, 2018
 Item Type: Administrative Presentations
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Eric Carlson
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

☒	None
☐	Amount included in current budget
☐	Budget amendment requested
☐	FTE included in current complement
☐	New FTE requested – N/A
☐	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

No action required. Item is for informational purposes and Commissioners are encouraged to ask appropriate questions.

SUMMARY

Items included:

- Department Happenings Report
- Miscellaneous



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



New Communications Specialist

Stephanie Waegener started in early September as the new Communications Specialist. Stephanie will be helping the department with continued marketing and communications efforts as they relate to the parks and recreation department.

WALKtober Program

This is the second year of our WALKtober program which challenges individuals to walk 2 miles per day for 31 days! Participants track their walking on their own and are eligible for weekly motivational prizes as well as a 2018 WALKtober t-shirt if they complete the challenge.

Painting Events

Staff is offering two painting events this fall for adults. One is a Paint N' Sip class and the other is a Paint Your Own Pet class. Both events are held in the evening as we are trying to cater to those adults that still may work outside the home.

Prep for Holidays in the Heights Events

Staff is starting to prepare for all of the family activities scheduled for this year's Holidays in the Heights. Events include tree lighting ceremony, holiday VINGO, Skate with Santa, Breakfast with Santa, Candy Cane Hunt, Holiday Cookies & Canvas and the Light up the Heights holiday lights contest. These programs are fully supported by business sponsorships.

Wrap-Up of Rich Valley Athletic Complex

The last tournament will be held October 13-14. Staff will turn around and begin planning for 2019 here yet this fall.

New Stand-Up Paddleboard Class a Big Hit!

The fitness division offered a new stand-up paddleboarding class in September and it was very well received. The class was conducted in the lap pool to utilize open space as well as offer a new program opportunity to the community.

One-Act Radio Show

Staff in partnership with the Senior Club presented the second part of a small, one-act radio show which was performed by members of the community. About 70 people attended the event.

Expansion of Birthday Parties

Due to the demand for birthday party options, staff has extended pool birthday parties to larger groups. These parties will utilize community rooms as our current pool birthday party room only allows for 16 kids. We will also be offering skating parties during open skate as another party option.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Indoor Walking Buttons Back!

In partnership with local high schools, Veterans Memorial Community Center is a walking destination for those that purchase a button for \$5. Walkers can walk in the west arena as well as the hallways. The button is also good at Simley High School, South St. Paul High School and Henry Sibley High School. The buttons are good through May 31.

Argenta Hills

The Argenta Hills subdivision has undisturbed open space platted as outlots that are used for storm water and natural areas, the City is also allowed to have paved trails through the areas. Many of the outlots are owned by the Homeowners Association and they are ultimately responsible for any required maintenance such as noxious weed removal and dead or diseased tree removal. There are several dead/diseased trees in one of the outlots and we have notified the association that they are responsible for the removal of the trees.

Dog Park Update

Construction of the dog park has been hampered by the poor weather. At this point the curb and gutter and first lift of bituminous pavement are installed. The storm water treatment area and most of the fence posts have been installed. If we can get a 2-3 week stretch of good weather the contractor feels they can complete the project.

Given the wet weather we have had, there has been a significant amount of unplanned disruption to the turf that had previously been established. It is likely that we will need to wait to open the dog park until sometime next spring to let new turf get established so the park isn't a muddy mess for dogs and their owners.

West Rink Update

The dasher board system will be installed on the West Rink next week. Everything is coming together, and we should have skateable ice by November 1st.

Gymnastics Space Expansion

We are working with the architectural firm 292 Group to explore potential changes to space at the VMCC/Grove that was intended to be racquetball courts when the building was constructed but were never finished off as racquetball courts. The space has been used for a variety of programs over the years, most recently as gymnastics space.

Doffing Ave Update

Walser has vacated their property as of September 28th. Staff is currently working on the final touches of an RFP to demolish the Kramer and Walser properties and we expect the Council to award a contract in November. We hope to have these two properties cleaned up by January 2019.

Heritage Village Park Update

At a recent Council meeting, the Council approved the removal of all the trees along Doffing Ave in preparation for Phase II of the park's construction. It is expected that the



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



contractor will begin this work next week and although residents were notified, it may generate an email or phone call.

We are likely going to need 30-35,000 CY of fill for the Phase II development of the park in 2019. The new fire station has about 14,000 CY of excess clean fill and we are working with Engineering and the contractor to potential stockpile up to 10,000 CY of the fill at Heritage Village Park. The 65th St project has an additional 20-25,000 CY excess fill that may be brought to HVP in 2019.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Commission Comments

Meeting Date: October 10, 2018
Item Type: Commission Presentations
Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:	
☒	None
☐	Amount included in current budget
☐	Budget amendment requested
☐	FTE included in current complement
☐	New FTE requested – N/A
☐	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

No action required. Commissioners are encouraged to make appropriate comments.

SUMMARY

None.