

*** All present are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with our City's Core Values ***



OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

of a meeting of a City Board, Commission, Department Committee, Agency, Corporation, Quasi-Municipal Corporation or Sub-unit thereof.

Notice is hereby given that the Park and Recreation Committee of the City of Wausau, Wisconsin will hold a regular or special meeting on the date, time and location shown below.

Meeting of the: **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF WAUSAU**
Date/Time: **Monday, November 7, 2022 at 4:30pm**
Location: **City Hall (407 Grant St, Wausau WI 54403) - Council Chambers**
Members: **Dawn Herbst, Carol Lukens, Tom Kilian, Lou Larson, Sarah Watson**

AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION (All items listed may be acted upon)

- 1 Call the Meeting to Order
- 2 Public Comment or Suggestions
- 3 Approve Minutes - October 3, 2022
- 4 Discussion and Possible Action Adopting the Updated City Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2023-2027
- 5 Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Table Donation to Two Hearts Dog Park
- 6 Discussion and Possible Action Amending Municipal Code Chapter 9.04.040, 9.20 and 12.56
- 7 Educational Items
 - A. Park Updates (Tree Planting, Peace Sculpture, Memorial Bench, Athletic Park Video Board Prep, Pier Removals, Water Systems, Sylvan Tow Rope, Dog Park Signs)
 - B. Riverside Park Remediation Update
- 8 Future Agenda Items -
- 9 Next Meeting Date - December 5, 2022, 4:30pm, 407 Grant St, Wausau WI 54403 - Council Chambers
- 10 Adjournment

Jamie Polley, Director

Members of the public who do not wish to appear in person may view the meeting live over the internet on the City of Wausau's YouTube Channel <http://www.tinyurl.com/WausauCityCouncil>, live by cable TV, Channel 981, and a video is available in its entirety and can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/WausauCityCouncil>. Any person wishing to offer public comment who does not appear in person to do so, may e-mail Jamie.polley@co.marathon.wi.us with "Parks Committee public comment" in the subject line prior to the meeting start. All public comment, either by email or in person, if agendaized, will be limited to items on the agenda at this time. The messages related to agenda items received prior to the start of the meeting will be provided to the Chair.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the ADA Coordinator at (715) 261-6590 or ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us to discuss your accessibility needs. We ask your request be provided a minimum of 72 hours before the scheduled event or meeting. If a request is made less than 72 hours before the event the City of Wausau will make a good faith effort to accommodate your request.

This Notice was posted at City Hall and transmitted to the Daily Herald newsroom on 11/4/2022 @ 9:30 a.m. Questions regarding this agenda may be directed to Jodi Luebke, Park Office (715) 261-1560.

Distribution List: City Website, Media, WSD-Admin, Alderpersons, Mayor, Polley, Dept. Staff, Maryanne Groat, Brad Lenz, Eric Lindman, Lance Leonhard, Wisconsin Woodchucks, Wausau Events, Public Access, Wausau River District

DRAFT

CITY OF WAUSAU – PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date/Time: October 3, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. Location: Council Chambers, City Hall
Members Present: Dawn Herbst (c), Carol Lukens, Tom Kilian, Sarah Watson, Lou Larson
Others Present: Jamie Polley-Parks Director

1. In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order by Chair Herbst at 4:30pm.
2. Public Comment or Suggestions – None brought forward.
3. Approve Minutes – September 6, 2022 – **Motion** by Kilian, second by Lukens to approve the Park and Recreation Committee draft September 6, 2022 minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 5-0.
4. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department 2023-2024 Fee Schedule – Polley explained that approval of the fees is recommended at this time to set the shelter rates for the following year. This allows the Department to allow users to reserve shelters and camping twelve months in advance. A two percent convenience fee on credit card transactions with the Department will be implemented. Other increases include three percent for shelter fees, and slight increases for Athletic Park, camping, private event add-on's, ball diamonds, sports fields and Sylvan tubing. The increases proposed are to keep in line with CPI increases and the increased departmental staffing and equipment costs. **Motion** by Watson, second by Kilian to approve the 2023 – 2024 fee schedule. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 5-0.
5. Educational Items
 - A. 2022 Pool Operations Review – Most revenues were up from 2021. Concession revenue was down and staff is looking to improve the menu. Lukens questioned if different options were looked at to keep the pools open longer at the end of summer. Polley said that a request for additional funds to do so had been denied last year by Council. The main costs are for staffing and a minor cost for the chemicals. The challenge is having trained lifeguards to staff pools. Staff looks at different options at the end of every summer, for example if funding is leftover due to pool closures for bad weather days and enough staff is willing to stay longer. Polley mentioned that anyone over the age of fifteen that can pass the requirements can be a lifeguard, even older adults. The Department offers courses for lifeguarding.
 - B. Park Updates – Memorial Benches – Four memorial benches have been installed. Sylvan Tubing - Sylvan tubing hill's bull wheel and paddles for the tow line are being serviced and is almost complete. 400 Block Improvements - 400 Block stage support repairs are underway. 400 Block ADA listening loop is installed. Riverlife Irrigation - Riverlife irrigation leak has been repaired. Water Systems - Water system winterization in progress.
 - C. Riverside Park Remediation Update – Samples were taken and the City is waiting on results. Staff is expecting them in the next week or so. Staff will then require a couple weeks to review followed by further review by the DNR. Kilian asked that Committee receive the results and numbers from the sample analysis. Polley said that request had already been relayed to the Director of Public Works, Eric Lindman, who receives the information.
6. Future Agenda Items – 2023-2027 CORP Review - Polley mentioned that an inventory of invasive species has been added to the Department's workplan possibly could fit into the CORP plan as well. Committee members were interested to see if the City Forester could take them on a tour of invasive species next spring.
7. Next Meeting Date – November 7, 2022 at 4:30pm in Council Chambers at City Hall, 407 Grant St., Wausau WI 54403
8. Adjournment – **Motion** by Larson, second by Lukens to adjourn at 5:00 pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 5-0.

AGENDA SUMMARY

4. Discussion and Possible Action Adopting the Updated City Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2023-2027

The committee will review the draft updated comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. Jason Valerius from MSA Professional Services will present the draft plan to the committee and provide an overview of the highlights of the plan. MSA will review the remainder of the schedule for adoption as well as answer questions that the committee might have. In your packet you can review the draft plan.

The committee is asked to approve the draft plan and recommend the adoption of the 2023-2027 City Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan to the City Council.

5. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Table Donation to Two Hearts Dog Park

A previous member of the dog park committee has a friend that has the below tables available. He has asked if the City was interested in these tables for the dog park. The shelter at the dog park has been complete and picnic tables are planned for under the shelter. The committee should determine if they would like to accept the donation of these tables as well as determine how they would like the park to look aesthetically. There are currently no tables similar to these in the park system. If the Committee feels the tables would be a good addition to the dog park, the committee should move to approve the donation.



6. Discussion and Possible Action Amending Municipal Code Chapter 9.04.040, 9.20 and 12.56

Staff is proposing a few amendments to the Municipal Code Chapter 9.04.040 Littering Prohibited, 9.20 Park Regulations and 12.56 Street Trees. The proposed amendments are recommendations to clarify and enhance a number of ordinances where questions have arisen in the field over the past year. These amendments will allow the ordinances to be more easily enforced by the Wausau Police Department and Assistant Facility Managers. At this time the Committee is asked to discuss these amendments, recommend changes if needed and forward on to the City Council. Any changes to these amendments will be reviewed/formatted by the City Attorney prior to approval by the City Council.

7. Educational Items

7A. Park Updates

- Arborists planted 213 trees this fall.
- Peace Sculpture bollard lights installed
- Memorial Bench installation at Fern Island

AGENDA SUMMARY

- Athletic Park prep work complete for video board installation
- All docks and fishing piers have been removed for the season
- Water winterization is well under way
- Sylvan Hill tow line repair is substantially complete
- Dog Park donor signs have been installed and the three informational signs with the story of Deb and the name of the park have been delivered and will be installed this month.

7B. Riverside Park Remediation Update

There is no information to report at this time.



City of Wausau CORP 2022-2027

PRC MEETING

NOVEMBER 7, 2022

COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

- The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) is a 5+ year plan used to guide annual budget and capital improvement projects by the City related to parkland acquisition and development; bicycle route and trail development; and pedestrian facility improvements.
- A requirement for receiving state or federal park and recreational grants.

PROJECT MILESTONES



JULY 2022

- Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting - Project Kickoff and Survey Development
- Community Survey

AUGUST 2022

- Community Survey
- Parks & Recreation Committee - Park Tours

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2022

- Plan Development
- MSA and Parks Director Meetings to Review Preliminary Recommendations and Draft Plan

NOVEMBER 2022

- Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting to Review Draft Plan
- Plan Finalized
- Wausau City Council Adoption (TBD)

DECEMBER 2022

- Executive Summary Finalized

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Tell us your ideas on how to improve our parks, trails, and recreation programming



TAKE THE SURVEY

Scan this QR code



OR GO TO:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WausauParks>

The survey will be live from
July 14–August 11



Questions?

Contact the Parks, Recreation, & Forestry Department at (715) 261-1550

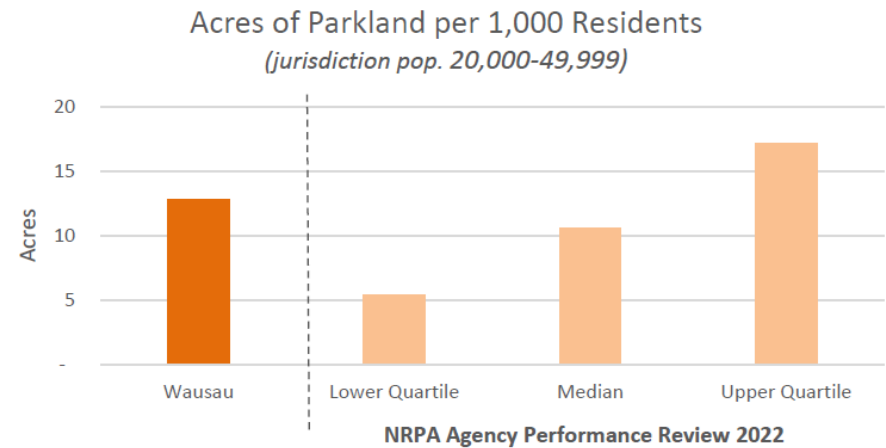
PLAN CONTENT

1. Introduction/Plan Purpose
2. About Wausau
3. Mission, Goals & Objectives
4. Analysis of Needs & Demands
5. Recommendations & Existing Parks Inventory
6. Implementation



PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

Total Park Acreage Surplus/Deficit (in acres)					
Year	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Population	39,994	40,627	41,012	40,973	40,597
Total Supply (acres)	513.9	513.9	513.9	513.9	513.9
Demand (10.5 acres/1,000)	419.9	426.6	430.6	430.2	426.3
Surplus (10.5 acres/1,000)	94.0	87.3	83.3	83.7	87.6



Level of service standard: 10.5 acres per 1,000 residents

Current level of service: 12.8 acres per 1,000 residents

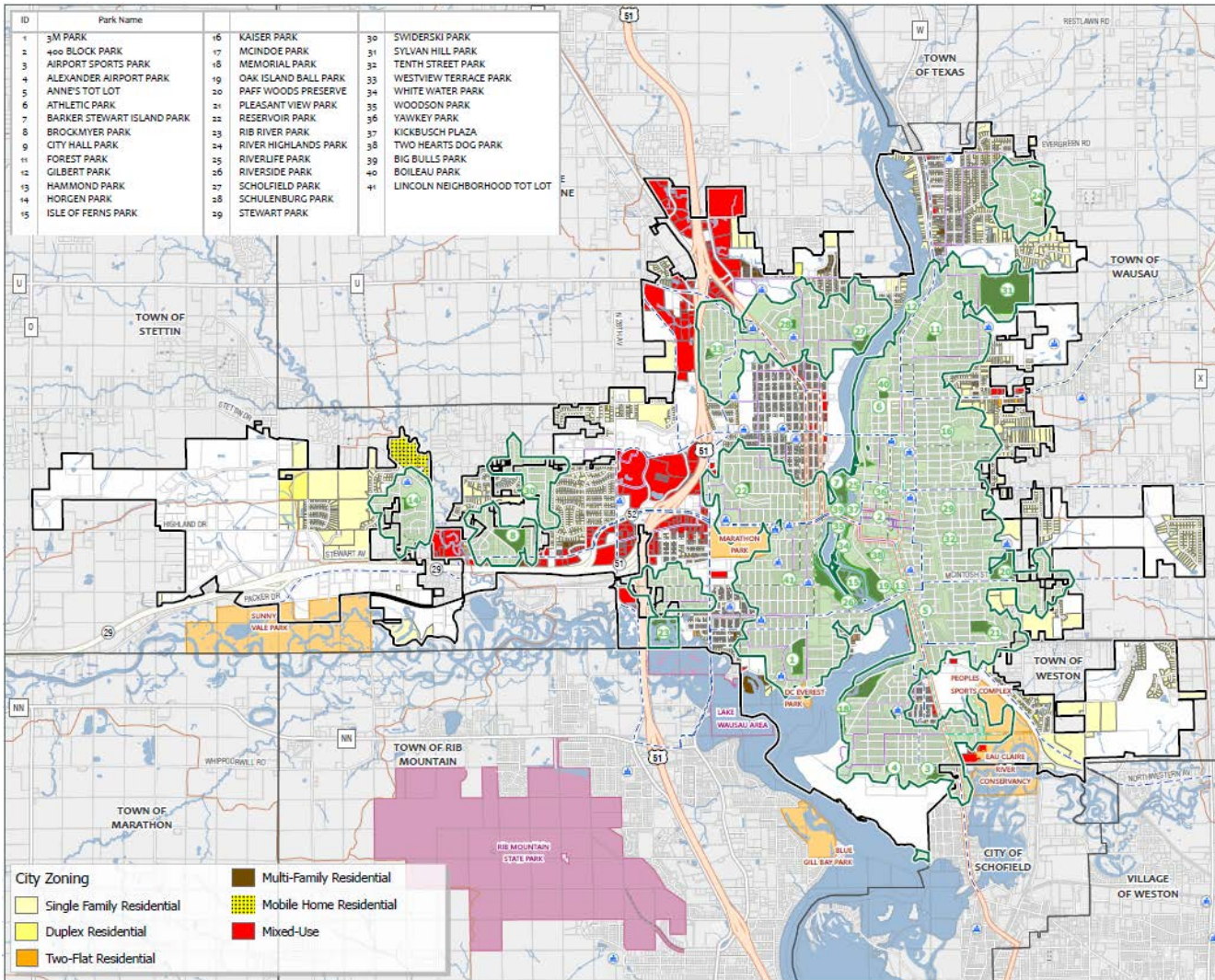


Park Service Areas

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

City of Wausau
Marathon County, Wisconsin

- School
- Local Bike Route
- Regional Bike Route
- Accomodate Bike Route
- Bus Route
- Snowmobile Trails
- Parcel Boundary
- City of Wausau
- Surrounding Municipality
- 10-Minute Walk Time to Park
- Park Type**
 - City Park
 - County Park
 - State Recreation Area



Ensure all residents are within a 10-minute walk (~0.5 miles) of a park.

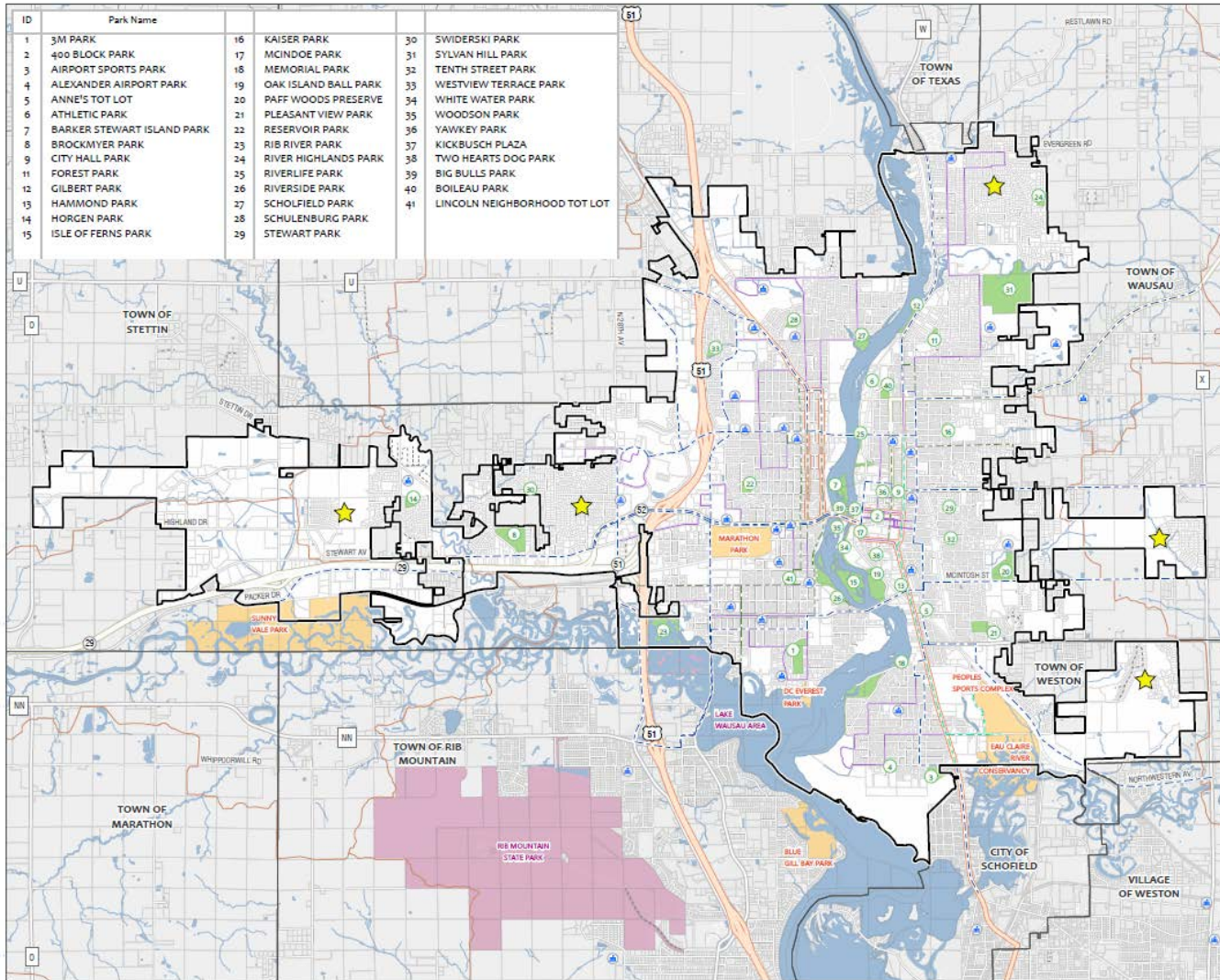


Proposed Parks Map

Comprehensive Outdoor
Recreation Plan

City of Wausau
Marathon County, Wisconsin

-  School
-  Local Bike Route
-  Regional Bike Route
-  Accomodate Bike Route
-  Bus Route
-  Snowmobile Trails
-  City of Wausau
-  Surrounding Municipality
- Park Type**
 -  Municipal Park
 -  County Park
 -  State Recreation Area
 -  General Proposed Park Location



PUBLIC FEEDBACK

623 Survey Responses

- 62% of respondents visited City parks 1 - 3+ times per week
- 50% of survey respondents did not have safety or accessibility concerns about City parks

Recreation Programming

- 33% of respondents had someone in their household attend a City-sponsored recreational program in the past year
- Impact of COVID-19: 59% had not attended a program in the past year
- 30% of respondents said they were too busy to participate

Support for More Bike & Pedestrian Facilities

- 56% of respondents supported the City allocating more funding for bicycle facilities and trails
- Same % for sidewalk facilities and pedestrian enhancements

Top Desired New Amenities

- 33% - Off-road walking/biking trails
- 28% - New canoe/kayak facilities
- 26% - Indoor pool

Favorite Parks

- Brockmeyer Park, Oak Island Park, Riverlife Park, Sylvan Hill Park
- Enjoy open green space, walking trails, playground equipment, access to water, variety of activities, and scenic views



PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

Park Name	Improvement	Priority	Timeline	Cost (Low)	Cost (High)
3M Park	Baseball/Softball Fields: Replace 3rd base fence at south field.	High	1-3 Years	\$10,000	\$15,000
3M Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Alexander Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Alexander Park	Seal cracks in tennis court/Resurface tennis courts.	High	1-3 Years	\$55,200	\$55,200
Anne's Tot Lot	Add a bike rack.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Athletic Park	Create a future parking plan.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Athletic Park	Create a video board.	High	1-3 Years	\$80,000	\$200,000
Athletic Park	Plan for structural updates to clubhouse.	High	1-3 Years	\$250,000	\$500,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Create a vegetation management plan for invasive species.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Repair bridge decking on both east and south bridge.	High	1-3 Years	\$6,000	\$20,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Seal cracks in concrete pad for bench.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,500	\$5,000
Big Bulls Falls Park	Install lights.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Big Bulls Falls Park	Replace "You Are Here" map.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,000	\$5,000
Boileau Park	Repurpose field if it's not frequently used, or reposition it for a clubhouse.	High	1-3 Years	TBD	TBD
Brockmeyer Park	Reduce planting bed maintenance.	High	1-3 Years	\$4	\$8
Eau Claire River Conservancy	Develop master plan with cost estimates.	High	1-3 Years	\$50,000	\$70,000
Eau Claire River Conservancy	Install a boardwalk.	High	1-3 Years	\$1,000	\$1,600
Forest Park	Add trash receptacles at playground/shelter area.	High	1-3 Years	\$750	\$750
Gilbert Park	Add picnic tables.	High	1-3 Years	\$3,000	\$3,000
Gilbert Park	Create a kayak launch.	High	1-3 Years	\$50,000	\$70,000
Gilbert Park	Widen trail to fishing area for handicap accessibility.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,500	\$6,000
Hammond Park	Add hardscape surface at bike rack so it is accessible from both sides.	High	1-3 Years	\$1,500	\$2,500
Hammond Park	Remove playground equipment.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Isle of the Ferns Park	Add a trail map at the park entrance.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$5,000
Isle of the Ferns Park	Trail surfacing and directional signage.	High	1-3 Years	\$100,000	\$125,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Add picnic tables.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Install a gate or bollard at park entrance.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000

High:
1-3 years

Medium:
3-5 years

Low:
5+ years



PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

Park Name	Improvement	Priority	Timeline	Cost (Low)	Cost (High)
Memorial Park	Create a sidewalk trail all the way into the park from Sturgeon Eddy Rd.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$45,000	\$60,000
Memorial Park	Create a vegetation management plan for the park's natural area.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Memorial Park	Create trail connections to ball diamonds.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$8,000	\$10,000
Memorial Park	Extend walkway.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$23,275	\$25,000
Memorial Park	Install new disc golf signage.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$3,000	\$7,500
Memorial Park	Repave parking lots.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$135,200	\$135,200
Oak Island Park	Paint and upgrade north shelter by farmers market.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$20,000	\$30,000
Oak Island Park	Tennis Courts: Paint ball return wall.	Medium	3-5 Years	Maint.	\$2,500
Paff Woods Preserve	Add interpretive signage.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$7,500
Paff Woods Preserve	Create a vegetation management plan.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Pleasant View Park	Install a tennis court practice wall.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$8,000	\$15,000
Pleasant View Park	Update park shelter.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$20,000	\$50,000
Reservoir Park	Construct asphalt path from Maple Street to playground.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$7,000	\$8,500
Reservoir Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$300	\$500
River Edge Parkway/Trail Corridor	Add trash cans along the trail.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$750	\$1,200
River Edge Parkway/Trail Corridor	Decrease the amount of plantings to lessen maintenance.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2	\$4
River Highlands Park	Add more picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Riverside Park	Basketball/Volleyball Court: Paint lines on basketball/volleyball court.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$1,500	\$5,000
Riverside Park	Improve advertisement of picnic island; consider planning an event at the location.	Medium	3-5 Years	No Cost	\$5,000
Riverside Park	Install 2 bike polo courts with parking.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$150,000	\$200,000
Riverside Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$300	\$500
Riverside Park	Resurface parking lot.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$80,000	\$280,000
Scholfield Park	Add more picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Schulenburg Pool	Add outside picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Schulenburg Pool	Install lighting.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Stewart Park	Plan a concert event or open mic night.	Medium	3-5 Years	No Cost	\$20,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Create a vegetation management plan for natural areas.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Create trail connections to parking lot.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$70,000	\$100,000

PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

Park Name	Improvement	Priority	Timeline	Cost (Low)	Cost (High)
Riverside Park	Add a volleyball court instead of, or in addition to, a ball field.	Low	5+ Years	\$30,000	\$80,000
Riverside Park	Create trail connections to the north.	Low	5+ Years	\$35,000	\$80,000
Scholfield Park	Add an open shelter.	Low	5+ Years	\$45,000	\$60,000
Scholfield Park	Add restroom.	Low	5+ Years	\$125,000	\$160,000
Scholfield Park	Create connecting trails.	Low	5+ Years	\$17,500	\$20,000
Stewart Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Low	5+ Years	\$300	\$500
Swiderski Park	Construct connector trail between Indian Court and Jade Avenue.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$40,000
Swiderski Park	Create a vegetation management plan.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Swiderski Park	Develop a park master plan with potential uses.	Low	5+ Years	\$25,000	\$30,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Modernize chalet.	Low	5+ Years	\$50,000	\$150,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Expand chalet.	Low	5+ Years	\$100,000	\$500,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Install lighting at parking lot.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Update tow rope system.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$40,000
Tenth Street Park	Add another amenity, like a volleyball court or other winter season use.	Low	5+ Years	\$50,000	\$75,000
Tenth Street Park	Add more playground equipment.	Low	5+ Years	\$75,000	\$90,000
The 400 Block Park	Add cornhole for families.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
The 400 Block Park	City to add a public restroom in downtown	Low	5+ Years	\$150,000	\$400,000
The 400 Block Park	Install a video system.	Low	5+ Years	\$25,000	\$100,000
The 400 Block Park	Install sign/kiosk with 400 Block event calendar and posters.	Low	5+ Years	\$8,000	\$10,000
Two Hearts Dog Park	Add an open shelter on the small dog side of the park.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$35,000
Two Hearts Dog Park	Expand park.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$40,000
Westview Terrace Park	Add an open shelter.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$35,000
Westview Terrace Park	Add sidewalks.	Low	5+ Years	\$2,500	\$5,000
Westview Terrace Park	Add trail connections.	Low	5+ Years	TBD	TBD
Westview Terrace Park	Install new playground equipment.	Low	5+ Years	\$200,000	\$200,000
White Water Park	Add a safety element to protect people from the edge of the property.	Low	5+ Years	\$25,000	\$80,000
White Water Park	Create a pedestrian bridge to Clarke Island.	Low	5+ Years	\$250,000	\$350,000
Yawkey Park	Add irrigation.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$35,000

PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

Other Recommendations:

- Add more kayak launches throughout the City's park system.
- Enhance the City webpage to include a parks location map
- Establish a community-wide wayfinding system that identifies key parks and bicycle routes along primary transportation corridors
- Expand recreational programs for youth ages 2 - 17
- Implement low maintenance plantings and landscaping.



Kaiser Pool

NEXT STEPS

- Tonight: PRC Recommendation for adoption
 - Incorporate any requested edits by the Committee
 - Incorporate any non-substantive staff edits
- Common Council Adoption: November 22, 2022

2022-2026

CITY OF WAUSAU

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Staff

Jamie Polley, *Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry*

Wausau Park & Recreation Committee

Carol Lukens, *Aldersperson*

Lou Larson, *Aldersperson*

Tom Kilian, *Aldersperson*

Sarah Watson, *Aldersperson*

Dawn Herbst, *Aldersperson*

Prepared by:

This document was prepared by MSA Professional Services, Inc. with assistance from County staff and the Park Commission.

Project No.: 13751000



Insert Adoption Resolution

Insert Adoption Resolution

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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLAN PURPOSE

Parks, recreation, trails, and forests are important elements in the quality of life for all communities. Not only do parks, forests and trails provide a safe and healthy place to recreate, they also serve to beautify, protect the natural environment and influence the patterns of development in and around the community.

The City of Wausau realizes the importance and benefits its parks, forests and trail systems have on its character and quality of life and is committed to providing for the recreational needs of current and future residents. This plan intends to guide the continual improvement of the City's park, forest and trail systems to maintain its eligibility for State and Federal park and recreation grants. This plan envisions a connected system of parks, forests, and trails throughout Wausau, in relation to the City's natural resources, geography and neighborhoods.

The plan is also intended as a support document to the City's Comprehensive Plan, and align with local and State initiatives to promote outdoor recreation. This plan, along with the City's other long-range plans and development-related ordinances, will be used to implement and promote its parks and recreation programming.

Specifically the plan provides:

- Information regarding demographic trends
- An inventory of existing park and recreational facilities
- An analysis of parkland and recreational needs and demands
- General policy direction regarding park, forest, open space, bicycle, and pedestrian facility planning and maintenance
- Recommendations for improving existing park, bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Recommendations for new parks
- Implementation strategies.

This plan identifies conceptual locations and recommendations for different types of parks, trails, natural areas, and recreational facilities. In nearly every case, more detailed planning, engineering, study, budgeting, and discussions will be necessary before decisions are made to actually acquire land, improve or construct recreational facilities.

CORP & GRANT FUNDING

The Wisconsin Legislature created the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program (Stewardship) in 1989. Named for two of Wisconsin's most revered conservation leaders, Warren Knowles (Governor 1965-1971) and Gaylord Nelson (Governor 1959-1963, U.S. Senator 1964-1981), the purpose of the program is to preserve valuable natural areas and wildlife habitat, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand opportunities for outdoor recreation. The conservation and recreation goals of the Stewardship Program are achieved through the acquisition of land and easements, development of recreational facilities, and restoration of wildlife habitat.

The Stewardship grant program is the most widely used recreational grant program in the state. Eligibility for the program requires that a community maintain a local comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (CORP), updated every five years, and that the project for which grant funding is sought is described in the CORP. Many other similar state and federal recreational grant programs have similar requirements or have shown a tendency to favor those grant applications which are supported through previous community planning efforts.

1.2 PLANNING PROCESS

Recreation, bicycle, and pedestrian planning are essential components of long-range community planning in the City of Wausau. Currently, Wausau has a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) that was adopted in 2017. In 2022, the City contracted with MSA Professional Services, Inc. to assist with an update to the 2017-2021 plan. Preparation and adoption of the plan occurred over a six month period. Assistance with the development of this plan was provided by City of Wausau and Marathon County Staff, as well as the City of Wausau Parks & Recreation Committee (PRC).

Early in the planning process Wausau facilitated an online community survey to gather citizen feedback on desired public park, trail and recreational facilities. Members of the PRC also toured each park individually and completed a Park Assessment Form. PRC members and City staff identified improvement projects, and assessed the “status” of each park within the City’s park system.

It is the City’s intention to update this plan every five years, in part to remain eligible for park and recreation grants (see side bar on previous page), and as best practice to ensure that the plan remains relevant to the City’s needs.

This plan was developed following the Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans of the 2019-2023 Wisconsin State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) created by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The plan content and format have been tailored to fit the needs of the City of Wausau.

1.3 THE ROLE OF PARKS, RECREATION & TRAILS

The benefits of parks go far beyond simply being spaces where people can recreate. Parks contribute to the physical and mental health of individuals and provide public safety, environmental, economic, and social equity benefits to our communities. Recently, parks have come to the forefront of public health discussions due to COVID-19. The pandemic has put parks in the spotlight as more people seek opportunities to be outdoors and socially distance themselves. It is important to remember the benefits parks provide to the communities they serve, which include:

PROJECT MILESTONES

JULY 2022

- Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting - Project Kickoff and Survey Development
- Community Survey

AUGUST 2022

- Community Survey
- Parks & Recreation Committee - Park Tours

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2022

- Plan Development
- MSA and Parks Director Meetings to Review Preliminary Recommendations and Draft Plan

NOVEMBER 2022

- Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting to Review Draft Plan
- Plan Finalized
- Wausau City Council Adoption (TBD)

DECEMBER 2022

- Executive Summary Finalized

Belonging

Public parks are a unique amenity because they have the potential to be accessible to anyone in the community, regardless of age, gender, ability, socioeconomic status, race, or ethnicity. Though we often find that disparities exist in the distribution and quality of parks and recreation amenities, many parks and recreation departments across the U.S. are rethinking how to engage and provide benefits to residents who currently lack sufficient access to parks. If parks can become more inclusive, they have the potential to function as a nucleus of neighborhood activity. They can be places where residents gather for social events, recreational activities, and meetings about local issues, increasing social interaction and creating an overall sense of community.

Community Health

According to the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), when individuals use green spaces, they have fewer health issues, improved blood pressure and cholesterol levels, and reduced stress—which leads to a lower incidence of depression and a greater ability to face problems. According to NRPA’s report *The Economic Impact of Parks*, “diabetic individuals taking 30-minute walks in a green space experienced lower blood glucose levels than [those] spending the same amount of time doing physical activity in other settings. Thirty minutes of walking in nature resulted in larger drops in blood glucose than three (3) hours of cycling indoors.”

Ecological Health

While parks, forests, and trails provide opportunities to improve the health of residents, they also contribute to the greater ecological health of a community. Parks are often tied together with environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, floodplains, surface waters, or significant woodlands which can include trails. These areas provide food and shelter for local wildlife and naturally retain stormwater. Individual parks can provide important “rooms” of natural resource activity; however, they become even more functional when they can be linked together through environmental corridors, or “hallways.” Wildlife, plants, and water all depend on the ability to move freely within the environment, or from room to room.

Economic Prosperity

Leisure time is an important component of everyone’s lifestyle and increasingly people are choosing locations to live based on quality-of-life factors such as recreational amenities. According to the NRPA’s Engagement with Parks Report, four out of five adults in the US sought high-quality parks and recreation when choosing a place to live. The ability to retain and attract new residents has direct economic benefits to the City. For this reason, having a great park, recreation, and trail systems contributes directly to economic development.

According to a study completed by NRPA and George Mason University, of 70 studied communities, 72% used parks and recreation images in their economic development materials. The study notes that parks and recreation contribute to economic development through business and talent attraction, retention, and expansion. If a park system is designed with connections to regional destinations, it can also bring in additional visitors. This additional tourism can be a significant benefit to local businesses. The City’s plan aligns with regional and state plans to promote outdoor recreation in the greater area.

Connections

Well-connected trail systems can provide an important alternate means of traveling for those who prefer to bike for health or environmental reasons and for those who lack other means of transportation due to age, income or disability. Shared-use paths also provide important connections to public transit. According to the National Household Travel Survey conducted by the Federal Highway Administration, 85% of transit trips begin and end with walking and nearly one in six walking trips is made for the purpose of accessing public transit.

Impact of COVID-19

With the COVID-19 pandemic, communities across the country have seen increased usage of trails and parks. This increase is coupled with new uses for parks (e.g. wi-fi hot spots), resulting in new design challenges and opportunities. It is likely these shifts will impact parks well into the future. We also anticipate the way parks are funded to shift, with a more diverse set of funding sources likely becoming available.

Chapter 2

ABOUT WAUSAU

ABOUT THE CITY OF WAUSAU

2.1 LOCAL & REGIONAL CONTEXT

The City of Wausau is located in central Wisconsin and is the seat of Marathon County. It is bordered on the north by the Village of Maine and Town of Texas; the Town of Wausau to the east and the Town of Stettin to the West; and on the south by the Town of Rib Mountain, Villages of Schofield and Weston, and Town of Weston.

2.2 TRANSPORTATION & CIRCULATION

I-39/USH 51 is the major highway that runs north-south through the City of Wausau and provides a connection to Ironwood in northern Wisconsin and Beloit in southern Wisconsin. WIS 29 is the major east-west highway that runs through Wausau and all of Marathon County, connecting to Green Bay on the eastern edge of the state and Hudson on the western edge of the state. USH 51 and WIS 29 intersect in the heart of the City, and is the major freeway interchange for all of Marathon County.

The River Edge Parkway is an important trail corridor within the City, running along the Wisconsin River from Oak Island Park in the south to Winton St in the north. This trail connects to an interpretive trail system in Barker-Stewart Island Park highlighting the history of the island. The Mountain Bay State Trail begins in the Village of Weston and travels along the former Chicago and Northwestern Rail right-of-way where it ends 3 miles from Green Bay in Howard. While this trail corridor is not currently within the City limits, it is accessible via Wausau area bike routes.

Wausau has the only fixed route transit service in Marathon County. As of 2020, Metro Ride served roughly 252,000 riders across a 20 square mile area. Metro Ride also provides para-transit service to persons who, due to disability, are unable to use the fixed route bus system. Ridership has fallen in recent years following reductions in funding that in turn reduced service; the COVID-19 pandemic also significantly affected ridership levels.



2.3 DEMOGRAPHICS

This section describes demographic trends pertaining to population, age composition, housing, and school enrollment in the City of Wausau. This includes data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) which is reported as a rolling average over a 5-year period. Because ACS data are only estimates and contain a margin of error, they may not always represent conditions as accurately as Census data. The 2020 population estimates comes from the 2020, 2010, and 2000 Decennial Censuses, and population projections are provided by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA).

Population

The most recent population estimate for the City is 39,994 for year 2020 (U.S. Census Bureau). From 1990 to 2020, the population of Wausau grew by 8%, which was below the 30-year growth rates of both Marathon County (19.6%) and the State of Wisconsin (20.5%).

The City of Wausau is fortunate to have a relatively diverse population, with 12% of its population identifying as Asian alone and 4.1% identifying as Hispanic or Latino. 78% of the City identifies as White alone, which is lower than Marathon County and the State of Wisconsin overall. 1.7% of the City identifies as Black or African American alone, which is higher than Marathon County (0.9%), but lower than the state overall (6.4%).

According to WDOA population projections, Wausau is expected to add an additional 1,018 residents over the next 10 years - a 2.5% increase. However, Marathon County's population is projected to increase by 5.6%, and the State by 8.2% over the next 10 years. As seen in Table 2.1, the WDOA projects that Wausau's population will peak in 2030.

Age Composition

Age composition is an important consideration in park and recreational planning as needs and desires of individuals will vary based on their interests and physical abilities. Table 2.2 summarizes the age composition of the City's population from 2020 (ACS 2016-2020 5-year estimate). Approximately 24.9% of the population is considered youth (<20 years old) which is below the 2010 Census count (26.6%). Approximately 24.2% of the population is considered at retirement age (>60 years old), which is higher than the 2010 Census (21.0%). This number is projected to grow as Baby Boomers continue to age; similar trends are being seen across the nation. The median age of the City rose slightly from 37.7 in 2010 to 38 in 2020, according to ACS estimates.

Housing

There are approximately 17,254 households in the City, 26.9% of which include at least one child under 18 years old. The total number of households was up 1,511 since the year 2000; however, the number of households with at least one child under 18 years old declined 3.2% since 2000. The average household size is currently 2.18 individuals, down from 2.36 in the year 2000. This decrease follows national trends (and elsewhere in the State) which show decreasing average household size, largely attributed to smaller family sizes, increases in life expectancy, and increases in single-parent households.

In total there were approximately 18,605 housing units in Wausau according to the 2020 Decennial Census: 17,420 occupied housing units and 1,185 vacant units. Of the occupied units, 11,658 (66.5%) are owner-occupied and 5,837 (35.5%) are renter-occupied.

Schools Districts

The vast majority of the City is served by the Wausau School District, with a small portion of the eastern edge of the City within the bounds of the D.C Everest School District. There are nearly 7,760 k-12 students in the Wausau School District; there are two middle schools, two high schools, 13 elementary schools, two charter schools, and one virtual school within the District.

Table 2.1 Population History & Projections

Source: US Census, 2020-2040 WI DOA Projections

Population History & Projections			
	City of Wausau	Marathon County	Wisconsin
1990	37,060	115,400	4,891,769
2000	38,426	125,834	5,363,715
2010	39,106	134,063	5,686,986
2020	39,994	138,013	5,893,718
Projections			
2025	40,627	142,279	6,203,850
2030	41,012	145,710	6,375,910
2035	40,973	147,641	6,476,270
2040	40,597	148,291	6,491,635
Change			
1990-2020	2,934	22,613	1,001,949
2020-2040	603	10,278	597,917
Percent Growth			
1990-2020	7.9%	19.6%	20.5%
2020-2040	1.5%	7.4%	10.1%

Table 2.2 Age By Range

Source: 2016 - 2020 American Community Survey

Age by Range		
Age	Total	Percentage
0-9	5,093	13.2%
10-19	4,555	11.8%
20-29	5,647	14.6%
30-39	5,167	13.4%
40-49	4,143	10.7%
50-59	4,723	12.2%
60-69	4,906	12.7%
70-79	1,985	5.1%
80+	2,466	6.4%
Median	38	

Table 2.3 Housing Statistics

Source: 2016 - 2020 American Community Survey

Wausau Housing Statistics	
Households	
2000	15,743
2010	16,667
2016 - 2020 ACS	17,254
Average Household Size	
2000	2.36
2010	2.27
2016 - 2020 ACS	2.18
% of Households with individuals under 18	
2000	30.1%
2010	26.2%
2016 - 2020 ACS	26.9%

Although not calculated as components of City-provided parks and open space, school facilities in Wausau offer additional outdoor recreation activities for residents, most often in the form of structured play equipment and athletic fields. Facilities at schools within City limits and part of the Wausau School District include:

- 17 soccer fields
- 12 softball fields
- 11 playgrounds
- 9 basketball courts
- 7 football fields
- 6 baseball fields
- 4 tennis facilities (29 courts)
- 4 tracks
- 2 sand volleyball courts

2.4 PHYSICAL CHARACTER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

The Wisconsin River, and its confluence with the Big Rib River from the west and Eau Claire River from the east, is the central natural feature that defines the City of Wausau. The Wisconsin River flows north-south, roughly bisecting the City. While just outside City limits, Rib Mountain is another key natural feature defining the City and region. According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Rib Mountain is a billion-year old hill and one of the oldest geological formations on earth.

2.5 EXISTING & FUTURE LAND USE

Per the 2017 Comprehensive Plan, the City of Wausau encompasses over 12,000 acres of land, with about 780 of those acres being water (6.1%). Residential land is the largest land use category in the City at 27.1%, with the second largest category being woodlands (14.7%). Roughly 4.7% of the City's land use is devoted to outdoor recreation. Refer to Figure 2.3 for a map of the City's current land uses.

The majority of land within the City's existing corporate boundary is built out, which constrains how land may be used in the future. Generally, there is limited land within the City to accommodate new growth (including parkland). Therefore, annexations are one of the primary means for expanding the

City's geographic footprint. Redevelopment of former industrial areas is another means for growth, but can be complicated by the presence of contamination (brownfields). See Figures 2.3 (pg. 20) for the City's current Land Use Map and Figure 2.4 (pg. 21) for the City's Future Land Use Map, both circa 2016.

2.6 CITY-OWNED FACILITIES & EXISTING RECREATION PROGRAMS

As of 1974, the City of Wausau and Marathon County combined the management of their parks and recreation systems into one, single unit: the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department. While each park system is considered its own system, the County and City collaborate to provide excellent services for residents

City-Owned Parks

The Wausau Parks & Recreation Committee oversees the City's 42 park facilities totaling roughly 514 acres (see Table 2.4). These parks feature a variety of passive and active recreation amenities, which are summarized in Table 2.5 and represented visually in Figure 2.2 (pg. 19)

City Park Classification

Wausau City parks are classified based on their size, amenities, and population they serve.

Mini parks include specialized facilities that serve a concentrated population, limited population or specific group such as small children or senior citizens. Typical size is 1 acre or less, preferably a minimum of ¼ acre.

Neighborhood parks are areas for multiple and sometimes intensive recreational activities. Facilities may include athletic fields, sports courts, playgrounds, picnic areas and splash pads. Neighborhood parks typically do not have permanent restroom facilities. Desirable size is between 3 to 10 acres.

Community parks are areas of diverse recreational activity and may include facilities such as athletic complexes, large swimming pools, and off-street parking. These parks typically have permanent restroom facilities. Desirable size is 10 acres but may vary depending on facilities offered.

Special use parks are typically areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities, such as golf courses, nature centers, skate parks and ball diamonds.

Conservancy parks, natural areas, and undeveloped parks are established for protection and management of the

natural or cultural environment with recreational facilities as a secondary objective. Additionally, undeveloped parks are parcels that have been reserved as future park lands but currently offer no recreational facilities.

Trails

Figure 2.1 provides an overview of existing trails in the City. Additional recommendations regarding these facilities are described under Chapter 5 of this plan.

Recreation Programming

The Wausau and Marathon City Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department offers a wide variety of programming throughout the year for youth, adults and families. Programming includes swim lessons, festivals, tennis lessons, special events (drive-in movie, camping, bird walks, disc golf, and shooting). For current offerings visit: <http://www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/ParksRecreationForestry/Recreation>.

2.7 REGIONAL PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The City of Wausau and Marathon County are in the eastern portion of the WDNR's West Central Region, and are well-served by regional parks and open spaces. The following list provides the most significant facilities within the region that City residents would likely use. It is not an exhaustive list, but provides a variety of recreational activities.

DC Everest Park

DC Everest Park is a 12 acre park on the Wisconsin River. Park amenities include two boat launches, a fishing pier and shelter. The park hosts the Central Wisconsin Water Ski Show Team during the summer months and bleachers are available to spectators of the shows through Labor Day.

People's Sports Complex

This sports facility features 15 irrigated soccer fields, a concession building, restrooms and parking for 430 vehicles. Many of the area soccer leagues make this complex their home field with over 1,200 youth soccer participants alone. Statewide soccer tournaments are planned at the site and the capability exists to host other field sports and special events.

Marathon Park

Marathon Park is 78 acre, community level park that is host to the Wisconsin Valley Fair. The most notable feature is a 4,000 seat, covered amphitheater that hosts a variety of events such as concerts, fireworks and tractor pulls. The park also includes exhibition

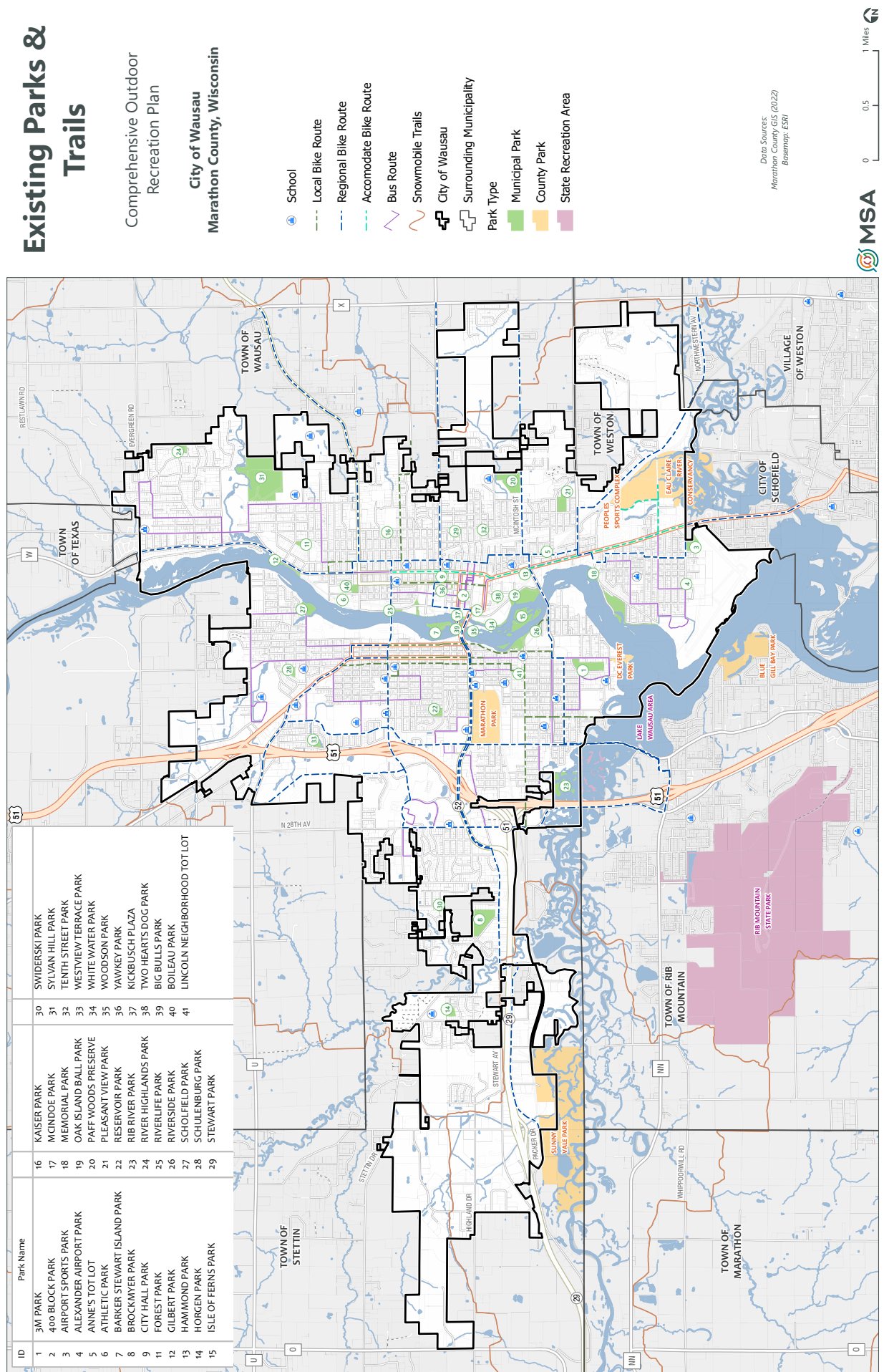
Table 2.4 City of Wausau Parks Unit Acreage

	Acreage
Mini Parks	2.4
Anne's Tot Lot	0.2
City Hall Park	0.5
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	0.9
Yawkey Park	0.8
Neighborhood Parks	43.7
Airport Sports Park	7.7
Alexander Airport Park	2.4
Big Bulls Falls Park	1.6
Forest Park	4.0
Hammond Park	1.4
Reservoir Park	4.4
River Highlands Park	5.1
Scholfield Park	10.1
Tenth Street Park	1.1
Westview Terrace Park	4.2
Woodson Park	1.7
Community Parks	208.5
3M Park	15.1
Brockmeyer Park	25.5
Memorial Park	24.6
Oak Island Park	22.1
Pleasant View Park	10.0
Rivers Edge Trail	6.6
Riverlife Park	6.4
Riverside Park/Picnic Island	16.2
Sylvan Hill Park	82.0
Special-Use Parks	21.2
400 Block Park	1.3
Athletic Park	4.2
Boileau Park	1.4
Kaiser Park	1.0
Kickbusch Plaza	0.9
Schulenburg Park	3.9
Stewart Park	1.9
Two Hearts Dog Park	2.0
White Water Park	4.6
Conservancy Parks/Natural Areas	238.1
Barker-Stewart Island Park	11.0
Eau Claire River Conservancy	130.5
Gilbert Park	6.0
Horgen Park	4.4
Isle of Ferns Park	23.8
McIndoe Park	0.1
Paff Woods Preserve	20.6
Rib River Park	39.4
Swiderski Park	2.3
Total Acres	513.9

16 City of Wausau | Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

16 City of Wausau | Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Figure 2.1 Existing Parks and Trails



buildings, festival grounds, a splash pad, campground, playground, sports facilities and many other amenities.

Sunny Vale Park

This 300 acre park on the City's west side includes the Sunny Vale Softball Complex, a swimming area, shelters and trails. The five diamond softball complex is used primarily for high school softball until May. The Wausau Area Softball Association and the Wausau Area Girls Softball Association host leagues at the complex after the first week in May. The complex is host to summer softball tournaments.

Rib Mountain State Park

Rib Mountain State Park is a 1,182-acre state park located on Rib Mountain to the southwest of the City. The Park is a premier day-use facility with picnicking, hiking trails and a reserve-able amphitheater. The top of the 60-foot observation tower offers spectacular views of the Wausau area and Wisconsin River. The privately owned and operated Granite Peak Ski Area is on the north face of the mountain and offers downhill skiing and snowboarding during winter. Rib Mountain State Park is popular with tourists and out-of-state skiers as well as City residents.

McMillan Marsh

The McMillan Marsh is an approximately 6,500-acre state Wildlife Management Area located in southwest Marathon County, about a 50-minute drive from downtown Wausau. Marathon County owns 1,720 acres of this Wildlife Management Area which is leased to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) on a 99-year lease. The Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department in cooperation the WDNR administer and maintains a 5 mile hiking/biking trail. The State DNR manages the McMillan Marsh for wildlife habitat and recreation.

Mountain-Bay State Trail

The Mountain-Bay State Trail is an 83-mile trail running from the Village of Weston, passing through Shawano City and ending in the Village of Howard in Brown City. The trail right-of-way, the former Chicago Northwestern Railroad right-of-way, is owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources except for the western 3.5 miles which is owned by the Village of Weston. The respective counties through which the trail passes are responsible for operation and maintenance of the trail. Marathon County manages approximately 17 miles of the Mountain-Bay Trail. The trail consists of a crushed limestone trail tread placed over existing railroad ballast. A picnic area is located along the trail at the Eau Claire River. Allowed uses of the trail in Marathon County include bicycling and hiking during non-snow cover periods and snowmobiling during snow cover periods.

Plover River Public Fishing Grounds

The Plover River Public Fishing Grounds consist of approximately 1,500 acres of state-owned land along the Plover River in eastern Marathon County. This land is used to provide public access for fishing along the river.

Mead Wildlife Area

The Mead Wildlife Area is an over 33,000-acre public hunting and fishing area in southern Marathon County, northwest Portage County, and northeast Wood County, with roughly 16,000 acres of the wildlife area situated within Marathon County. The Mead Wildlife Area contains some limited recreation facilities, such as picnic areas, in addition to parking lots and access trails.

Figure 2.2 Park Facilities Distribution

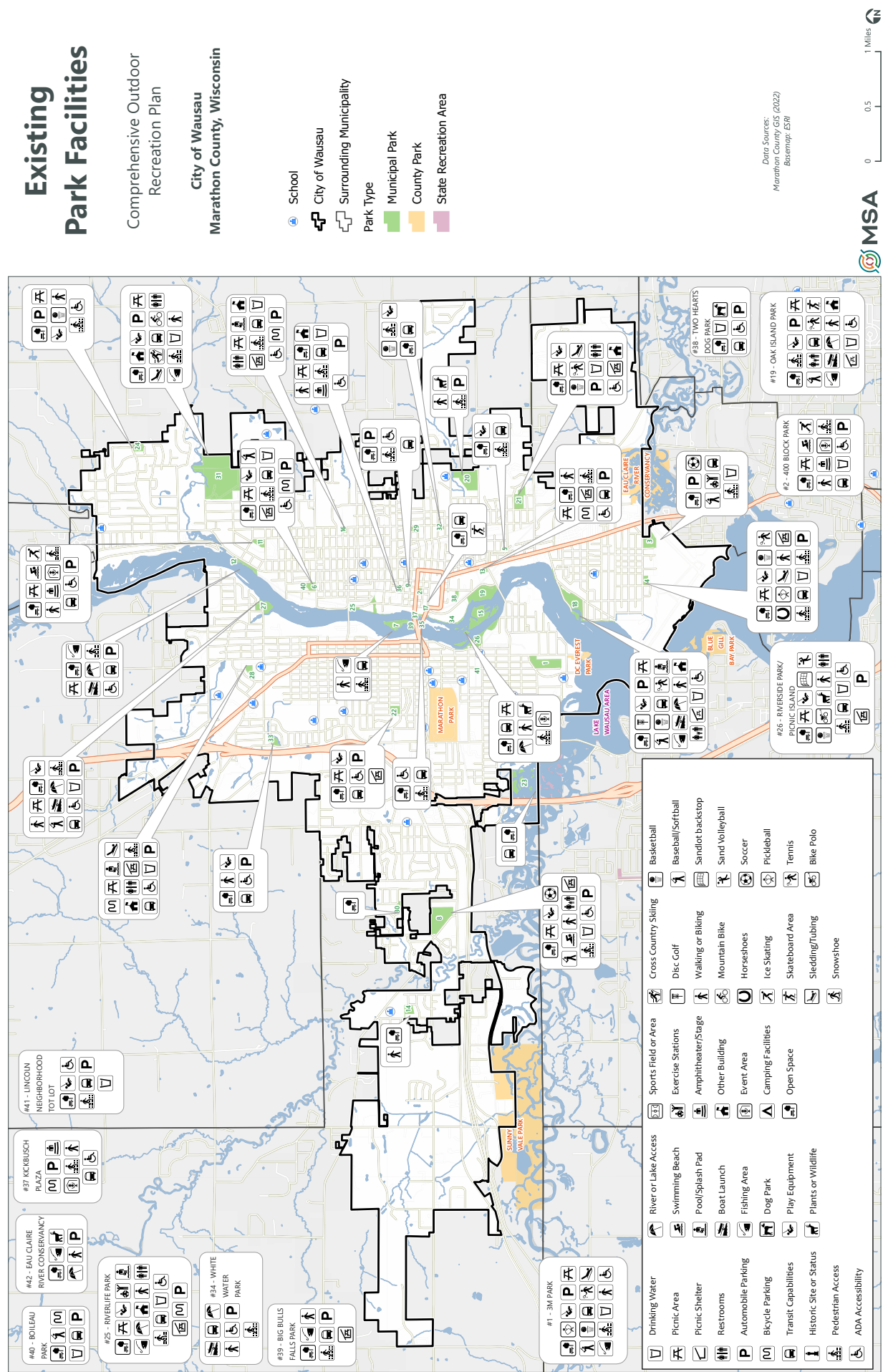


Figure 2.3 City of Wausau Existing Land Use Map (2016)

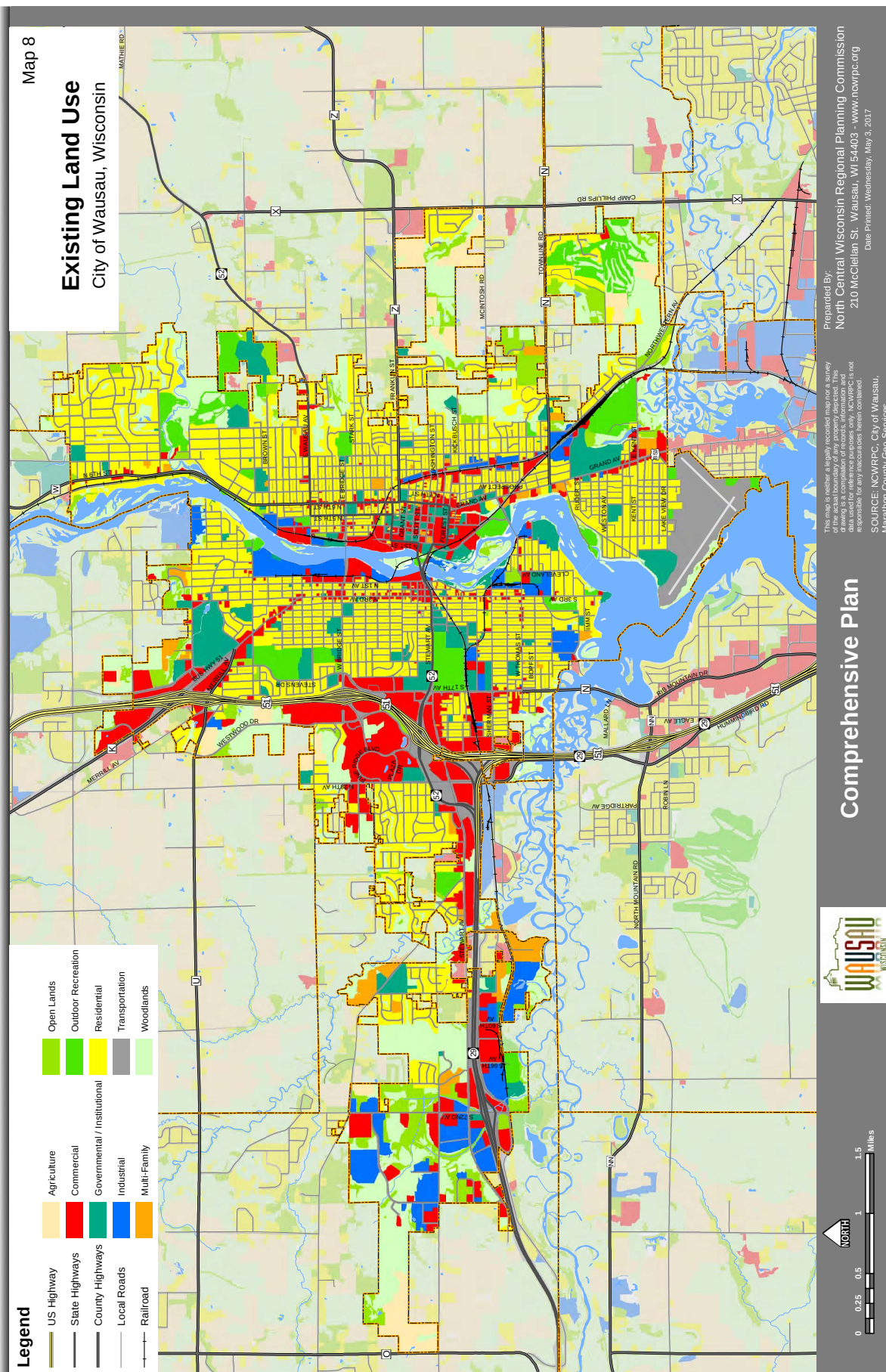
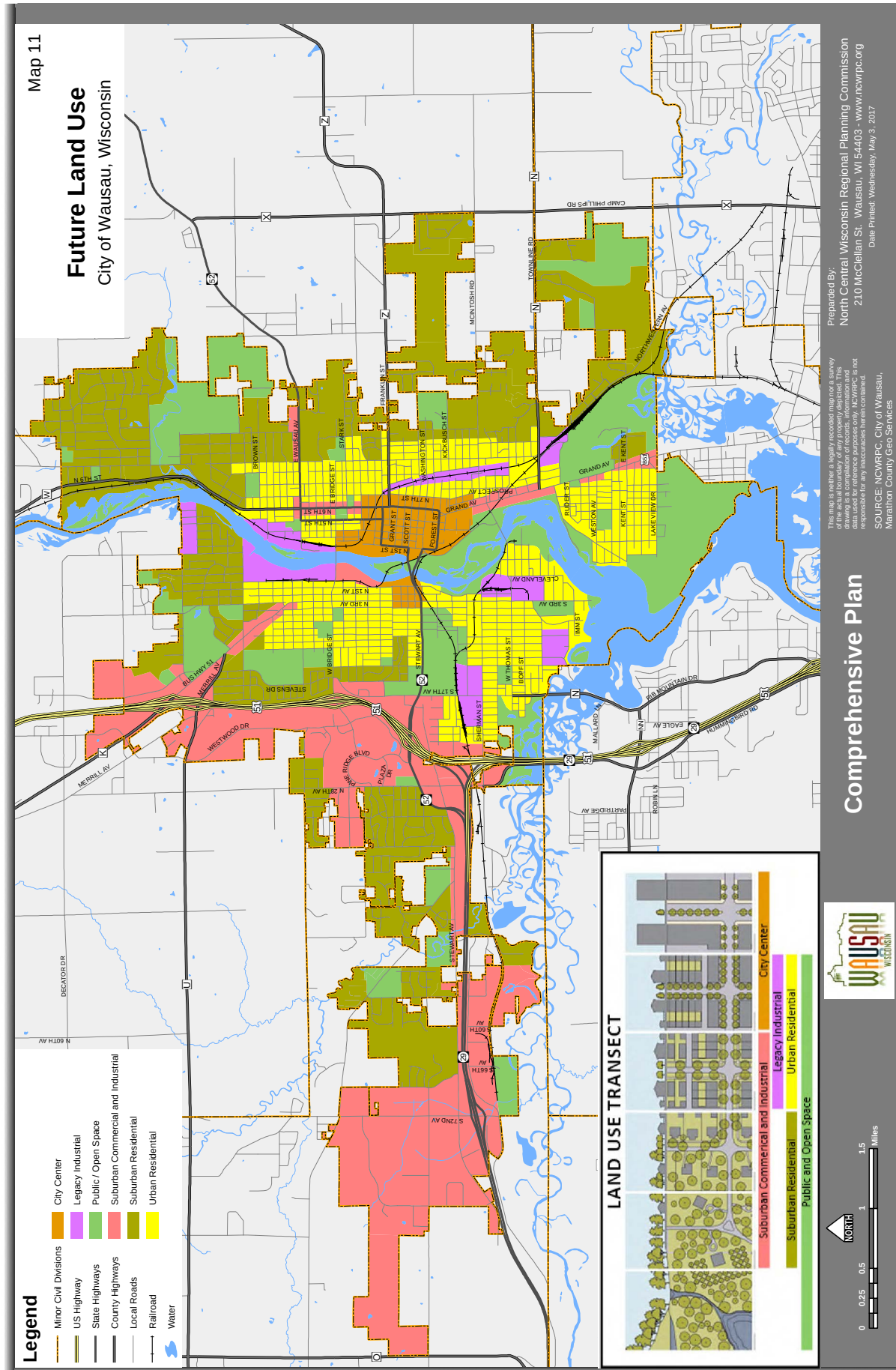


Figure 2.4 2018 Future Land Use Map (2016)



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Chapter 3

MISSION, GOALS, POLICIES & STRATEGIES

MISSION, GOALS, POLICIES & STRATEGIES

3.1 PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

Adaptively manage our park and forest lands for natural resource sustainability while providing healthy recreational opportunities and unique experiences making Marathon County the preferred place to live, work, and play

3.2 GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goals are a general statement about a desired future outcome. Goals provide the big idea and direction but do not indicate how they will be achieved.

Objectives are the steps needed to achieve a goal. Objectives are specific actions items.

Goal 1 - Establish and maintain high quality parks and recreational services.

Objectives

- 1.1 Ensure the amount of parks and recreational facilities is reflective of community population needs.
- 1.2 Upgrade and improve existing parks and facilities:
1) Develop bi-annual inspections and inventory of existing parks facilities to maintain an active log of facilities improvements. 2) Continue funding the replacement of old and deteriorating equipment in all city parks to ensure health, safety and welfare of visitors including playground equipment and safety surfacing.
- 1.3 Pursue funding for park and recreation development and land acquisition.
- 1.4 Pursue the development of revenue generating recreational facilities and activities, which can aid in the development of new facilities and/or the maintenance of existing facilities.

Goal 2 - Offer recreational services in an efficient, effective and economical manner.

Objectives

- 2.1 Cooperatively work with surrounding municipalities, the school district and other partners.
- 2.2 Conduct periodic reviews of programs and services and their benefit to the community.

Goal 3 - Evaluate and analyze park, open space and recreational services based on the needs of the community.

Objectives

- 3.1 Encourage citizen involvement with the development of the plan.
- 3.2 Survey community to determine changing needs.

Goal 4 - Promote bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout Wausau.

Objectives

- 4.1 Improve local trail connectivity throughout the Wausau area to parks, conservancy areas, schools, local businesses and all regional trails.
- 4.2 Improve/establish wayfinding signage to allow new residents or visitors to effectively travel throughout Wausau on foot or bicycle or other means (skateboard, rollerblades, etc.)
- 4.3 Increase the availability and accessibility of bicycle parking.

Goal 5 - Promote water recreation throughout the community.

Objectives

- 5.1 Improve visibility and awareness of the natural amenity and asset the river provides to the community.
- 5.2 Promote and maintain boat launches.
- 5.3 Continue to support community events that support river activity.

Goal 6 - Ensure that the community's existing open space, recreational facilities and programs are designed to meet the special needs of all residents regardless of age, gender, or ability.

Objectives

- 6.1 Prepare a site Master Plan prior to improvement and/or development of any public park to assure the highest and best use of existing resources.
- 6.2 Provide for barrier-free access in all new park facility construction and play areas.
- 6.3 Achieve compliance with accessibility requirements in existing facilities by 2025.
- 6.4 Encourage participation and accommodation of all interested participants at park and recreational meetings and in recreational programs.
- 6.5 Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act as it applies to communication with the public. This is in reference to the standard language that government agencies should use on their agendas and other public meeting documents stating accommodation of those with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting.

Goal 7 - Coordinate subdivision review with all departments responsible for providing or maintaining adequate park facilities.

Objectives

- 7.1 Consult and incorporate the needs identified in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan before subdivision plats are approved.
- 7.2 Evaluate land dedicated for parks to differentiate between land appropriate for active park use, land appropriate for open space only, and land requiring protection from development. Land requiring protection from development should be protected via development codes.
- 7.3 Continually evaluate and update local zoning and subdivision ordinances so that they adequately address the recreational needs of residents.
- 7.4 Preserve any proposed trail corridors in any review of new development.

COMPLYING WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The ADA, enacted in 1990, clearly states the right of equal access for persons to local government services, including parks. On September 15, 2010 the Department of Justice published revised final regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act. The 2010 Standards included new provisions for accessible design for recreational facilities such as playgrounds, swimming pools, fishing and golf facilities. Similar to when the original 1991 ADA Standards were adopted for public buildings, a community is required to complete a self-evaluation of their recreational facilities for ADA compliance by March 15, 2012. Those communities with 50 or more full or part-time employees are also required to develop a Transition Plan, which identifies what corrective work will be completed, when it will be completed, and the individual responsible for the corrective work. Any new recreational facilities designed, constructed, or shaped after March 15, 2012 are subject to the 2010 Standards. Any alteration (not simple maintenance, but something that changes the way the site is used) must make the element altered accessible and must create an accessible path of travel through the site or facility to that element.

There are some fundamental differences in how accessibility in the outdoors is accommodated compared to indoors or the built environment. While restrooms, shelters, interpretive centers, and parking lots, for example, need to follow detailed ADA guidelines, other improvements such as trails or swimming beach areas, for example, do not necessarily need to follow indoor or built environment ramp grades or surfacing requirements. A good rule of thumb for the City to follow is that anything constructed must not make the outdoor experience anymore difficult than what occurs naturally. Mother Nature does not have to comply with ADA, but the City does.

The New England ADA Center is a good resource to use and offers checklists to evaluate accessibility at existing park facilities. The fillable checklist forms can be found here: <http://www.adachecklist.org/checklist.html#rec>

Goal 8 - Provide residents with safe and reliable recreation equipment throughout the community park system.

Objectives

- 8.1 Accurately inventory existing parks facilities and maintain an active log of facilities improvement.
- 8.2 Continue funding the replacement of old and deteriorating recreation equipment in all area parks.
- 8.3 Continually monitor and maintain existing park equipment to ensure its longevity and safety.

Goal 9 - Stress the benefits of larger neighborhood and community parks that provide a wide range of facilities over small playground and tot-lot facilities.

Objectives

- 9.1 Analyze the location, size and function of existing and proposed parks as annexations, residential development, or land use changes occur.
- 9.2 Communicate the importance of dynamic, multi-purpose parks and recreational facilities as a component of Wausau's regional draw and economic development potential.
- 9.3 Use Park Service Area Map to help determine the location of future park sites.

Goal 10 - Recognize the importance of an adequate park budget, which can financially address existing park hazards and allow for future parkland acquisition and facility development.

Objectives

- 10.1 Use the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as a guide to establish yearly park budgets and funding for the Wausau park system.
- 10.2 Invest funds for the development of facilities that will maximize existing park and recreation areas and provide exciting recreational programs, with the intention of increasing park prominence, community visibility, and use.

Goal 11 - Use all available resources to further enhance the quality of the City's park system.

Objectives

- 11.1 Continually pursue state and federal funding programs, which can aid in the purchase and/or development of desired park system improvements.
- 11.2 Nurture the existing positive relationships with public and private organizations for donations and volunteer help to aid in park system development.
- 11.3 Update the Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years to maintain grant eligibility.
- 11.4 Pursue the development of revenue generating recreational facilities and activities, which can aid in the development of new facilities and/or the maintenance of existing facilities.

Chapter 4

ANALYSIS OF NEEDS AND DEMANDS

ANALYSIS OF NEEDS & DEMANDS

This chapter presents an analysis of how well the City’s existing park and forest facilities satisfy current needs. The adequacy of the City’s existing park and forest systems are evaluated using the following methods:

- **Quantitative Analysis** - a comparison of existing parkland acreage and population projections versus the City’s park service policy.
- **Geographic Analysis** - an analysis of the geographic distribution of park and forest facilities in the City.
- **Qualitative Analysis** - a summary of public input regarding City parks and recreational facilities gathered through the community survey.
- **Regional & State Insights** - a summary of the demand trends in recreational amenities at the regional and state level.

4.1 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

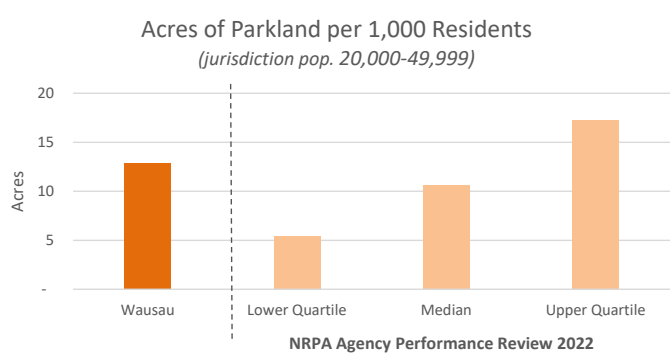
An analysis of existing parkland is provided to determine if the recreational needs of residents are being met. This analysis is limited to an evaluation of park acreage, and does not include off-road trails not located in City parks. Per the 2017 CORP, the City’s current policy is to provide a service level of at least 10.5 acres per 1,000 residents. This standard is used to calculate anticipated parkland demand for the City of Wausau.

Currently, Wausau’s park system encompasses 513.9 total acres of land, equating to 12.8 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents based on the 2020 Decennial population count (see Figure 2.1 on pg. 17)). Table 4.1 summarizes the current and projected supply and demand for total park acreage based on the City’s population and a service level. At 10.5 acres per 1,000 residents, the City in 2022 has a surplus of 94 acres. If no new land is added, by 2030 there will be a 83-acre surplus. Wausau’s population is projected to only grow 0.06% per year through 2040, and actually peak in 2030 at 40,973 people. Therefore, the projected parkland surplus will rise back to 87 acres by 2040 as the population begins to decrease. By contrast, Marathon County as a whole is expected to grow 0.29% annually through 2040, adding

Table 4.1 Total Parks Acreage Surplus/Deficit

Total Park Acreage Surplus/Deficit (in acres)					
Year	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Population	39,994	40,627	41,012	40,973	40,597
Total Supply (acres)	513.9	513.9	513.9	513.9	513.9
Demand (10.5 acres/1,000)	419.9	426.6	430.6	430.2	426.3
Surplus (10.5 acres/1,000)	94.0	87.3	83.3	83.7	87.6

Figure 4.1 Park Service Level National Comparison



roughly another 10,000 people over the next 20 years. However, based on City’s population projections, the County’s growth is likely to occur outside of Wausau’s jurisdiction.

In comparison to similarly sized municipalities across the country, Wausau’s rate of 12.8 acres per 1,000 residents is between the median and upper quartile. As seen in Figure 4.1, the median nationally for municipalities between 20,000 and 49,999 people is 10.6 acres per 1,000 residents, and the upper quartile is 17.2 acres.

While the City is providing a net surplus of parkland, it is important that new residential subdivisions continue to plat land dedicated for public parks. Close proximity to parks contribute to a high quality of life, which is important for retaining existing residents and attracting new residents.

While the total acreage of parkland is an easy indicator of the presence of parks and recreation space within a community, it is not the only indicator of whether a community is meeting the recreational needs of its residents. The National Recreation and Park Association advocates that the *location* of parkland, and the types of recreational facilities offered on that land,

are just as important as the total acres of parkland. A community with a lot of parkland, but few recreational facilities, is less likely to meet the needs of its residents than a community which has a lesser amount of parkland, but has a larger variety of recreational opportunities. Fortunately, Wausau residents have access to both a high degree of overall parkland and a wide range of recreational facilities, as shown in Figure 2.2 (pg. 19).

4.2 GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

The location of parks in relation to where the City's residents live is an important indicator of how well existing facilities are dispersed. The National Recreation and Park Association, in partnership with the Trust for Public Land and the Urban Land Institute, promotes the 10-Minute Walk Campaign (<https://10minutewalk.org>) which advocates that "there's a great park within a 10-minute walk of every person, in every neighborhood, in every city across America." Using the 10-Minute Walk as a guiding principal, Figure 4.2 indicates areas of the City that are within a 10-minute walk of a park (approximately 0.5 miles).

The area in green on this map (pg. 31) shows the aggregate 10-minute walk radius for all of the City of Wausau's parks; 10-minute walk radii for each city park can be found in Chapter 5. The central core of Wausau is well served by parks within easy walking distance, especially areas near the large concentration of parks along the Wisconsin River. Areas where residents may be under-served by parks within a 10-minute walk include the northern, eastern, and western reaches of the City. The areas in red on this map denote land that is zoned for mixed uses, but tend to lean toward commercial development, while areas in yellow are zoned for single family residential and duplex residential; brown areas are zoned Rural Holding and are likely to have less commercial and/or residential development overall.

It is assumed that more people live within the yellow residentially zoned areas than areas zoned as Mixed Use or Rural Holding, therefore yellow areas on the map outside the green 10-minute walk radius are the most likely to be under-served by City parks in close, walking proximity. See pg III in Chapter 5 for a map of proposed new park locations based on the 10-Minute Walk park service analysis.

An additional analysis of the populations within each 10-minute walk radius was also conducted, the results of which are summarized in Table 4.2. Special attention was paid to non-white and Hispanic demographics,

youth and senior populations within each park's 10-minute walk radius.

As of 2021, the parks with the highest non-white populations (32% or above) included those clustered near the Wisconsin River (Rib River, Barker-Stewart Island, Riverlife, Riverside Parks). Barker-Stewart Island and Woodson Park also had the highest Hispanic populations (1at 0%) within a 10-minute walk radius. The parks with the lowest non-white populations (between 7% and 9%) within walking distance were Alexander Park, River Highlands Park, and Eau Claire River Conservancy Park, which also had the lowest Hispanic population within walking distance at 2.6%.

Pleasant View Park has the largest population of residents under the age of 17 at 28%, with Boileau Park and Athletic Park closely behind at 27%, respectively. Sylvan Hill Park had the highest rate of seniors within walking distance at 30% of residents, with Gilbert Park and Alexander Park closely behind.

Finally, Horgen Park had the highest 2021 median income at \$89,257, while Barker-Stewart Island Park has the lowest median income at \$28,156. For reference, the median income for the City overall in 2021 was \$47,022. Overall, 60% of the parks in Wausau had residents nearby with incomes below the City-wide median, while 36% of parks had residents nearby with incomes above the city-wide median.

4.3 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

As part of the planning process, a survey was distributed to gauge resident preferences, opinions, and feedback on the City's park facilities and recreational programs. In total, the survey received 623 responses. This is a key component of analyzing recreational needs and demands in Wausau and the following is a summary of responses and findings.

General Use

Survey respondents favorite parks to visit were Oak Island Park, Brockmeyer Park, Riverlife Park, and Sylvan Hill Park. Respondents commonly noted that they enjoyed their favorite park because of its open green space, walking trails, playground equipment, access to water, variety of activities, and scenic views.

29% of survey respondents reported visiting City of Wausau parks three or more times per week, with another 33% visiting 1-2 times per week and 29% visiting 1-2 times per month. These reported rates were higher than other regional or near park systems, with the exception of Marathon County parks and State

Table 4.2 10-Minute Walk Park Service Population Breakdown

Parks	Acreage	2021 Population	2026 Projected Population	2021 % Non White*	2021 % Hispanic**	21-26 Projected Non-White Change*	21-26 Projected Hispanic Change**	2021 % 17 years old and under	2021 % Over 65 years old	2021 Median Household Income
Mini Parks	2.4									
Anne's Tot Lot	0.2	2,172	2,202	22.4%	4.9%	2.5%	0.8%	23.9%	19.9%	\$35,958
City Hall Park	0.5	2,185	2,271	28.6%	7.2%	2.9%	1.3%	19.9%	12.0%	\$31,496
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	0.9	2,798	2,788	29.9%	4.9%	1.9%	0.8%	25.1%	12.3%	\$37,870
Yawkey Park	0.8	2,367	2,460	28.7%	6.9%	2.9%	1.2%	21.5%	11.8%	\$33,080
Neighborhood Parks	43.7									
Airport Sports Park	7.7	799	800	8.4%	2.9%	1.0%	0.7%	19.1%	26.8%	\$54,939
Alexander Airport Park	2.4	1,116	1,117	7.5%	3.1%	1.1%	0.7%	19.2%	28.0%	\$57,192
Big Bulls Falls Park	1.6	1,164	1,175	30.1%	9.1%	2.6%	1.3%	24.0%	11.4%	\$29,617
Forest Park	4.0	1,492	1,500	12.3%	2.7%	1.0%	0.6%	18.7%	27.2%	\$63,100
Hammond Park	1.4	1,790	1,825	23.3%	5.5%	2.4%	1.0%	21.5%	18.1%	\$34,796
Reservoir Park	4.4	1,742	1,875	22.0%	3.2%	1.7%	0.4%	22.3%	17.0%	\$41,396
River Highlands Park	5.1	525	534	7.7%	3.0%	1.1%	0.7%	18.5%	22.6%	\$87,151
Scholfield Park	10.1	907	917	19.3%	3.6%	1.8%	0.7%	18.3%	24.2%	\$51,239
Tenth Street Park	1.1	2,694	2,770	23.1%	5.6%	2.5%	1.0%	19.9%	17.9%	\$33,877
Westview Terrace Park	4.2	582	596	20.8%	3.1%	2.2%	0.6%	24.0%	21.0%	\$37,307
Woodson Park	1.7	1,112	1,123	30.2%	8.7%	2.5%	1.4%	21.5%	11.2%	\$29,542
Community Parks	208.5									
3M Park	15.1	2,125	2,107	28.5%	4.0%	2.3%	0.7%	25.7%	13.6%	\$40,819
Brockmeyer Park	25.5	200	202	12.0%	3.5%	1.0%	1.0%	22.1%	19.1%	\$83,230
Memorial Park	24.6	1,258	1,249	9.3%	3.3%	1.2%	0.6%	22.0%	21.5%	\$57,939
Oak Island Park	22.1	217	225	18.5%	4.6%	2.8%	0.7%	21.4%	22.3%	\$35,732
Pleasant View Park	10.0	892	902	26.7%	4.0%	2.6%	0.7%	28.1%	16.0%	\$40,417
Riverlife Park	6.4	417	430	31.1%	6.5%	2.6%	0.9%	26.4%	10.4%	\$34,347
Riverside Park/Picnic Island	16.2	1,500	1,485	30.4%	5.4%	2.2%	0.9%	26.7%	11.6%	\$38,561
Sylvan Hill Park	82.0	204	208	8.9%	2.9%	1.1%	0.5%	17.2%	30.4%	\$79,103
Special-Use Parks	21.2									
400 Block Park	1.3	2,167	2,251	27.4%	7.2%	2.8%	1.2%	18.7%	13.2%	\$31,231
Athletic Park	4.2	2,238	2,220	25.2%	4.6%	2.3%	0.9%	27.2%	13.0%	\$41,630
Boileau Park	1.4	1,636	1,609	24.3%	4.3%	2.5%	0.8%	27.4%	14.0%	\$43,248
Kaiser Park	1.0	2,664	2,721	21.5%	4.3%	2.2%	0.7%	25.1%	14.1%	\$55,015
Schulenburg Park	3.9	708	714	21.3%	5.2%	1.8%	0.8%	17.8%	21.5%	\$47,247
Stewart Park	1.9	2,640	2,747	22.7%	5.4%	2.5%	1.0%	20.3%	16.9%	\$37,218
Two Hearts Dog Park	2.0	893	912	24.4%	6.4%	2.6%	1.1%	18.9%	16.3%	\$32,692
White Water Park	4.6	618	629	28.0%	7.8%	2.9%	1.3%	18.3%	12.8%	\$29,885
Conservancy Parks/Natural Areas	238.1									
Barker-Stewart Island Park	11.0	489	501	31.3%	8.8%	2.9%	1.4%	23.1%	9.9%	\$28,156
Eau Claire River Conservancy	130.5	114	113	8.0%	2.6%	1.8%	0.9%	21.6%	18.9%	\$60,489
Gilbert Park	6.0	754	764	11.2%	3.3%	1.4%	0.8%	17.7%	29.5%	\$69,535
Horgen Park	4.4	622	613	14.0%	2.7%	1.2%	0.2%	21.9%	19.0%	\$89,257
Isle of Ferns Park	23.8	134	139	18.9%	4.5%	2.0%	1.3%	18.9%	21.2%	\$35,850
McIndoe Park	0.1	1,330	1,354	28.2%	7.0%	1.4%	0.2%	18.9%	10.6%	\$29,054
Paff Woods Preserve	20.6	498	513	22.5%	3.8%	2.3%	0.7%	23.7%	20.1%	\$39,596
Rib River Park	39.4	289.0	285	32.4%	3.9%	1.1%	0.1%	18.9%	20.9%	\$49,624
Swiderski Park	2.3	246	243	14.2%	3.3%	2.1%	0.4%	20.1%	21.4%	\$86,624
Wausau Overall	513.9	39,429	40,053	19.5%	4.0%	1.8%	0.7%	21.9%	19.5%	\$47,022

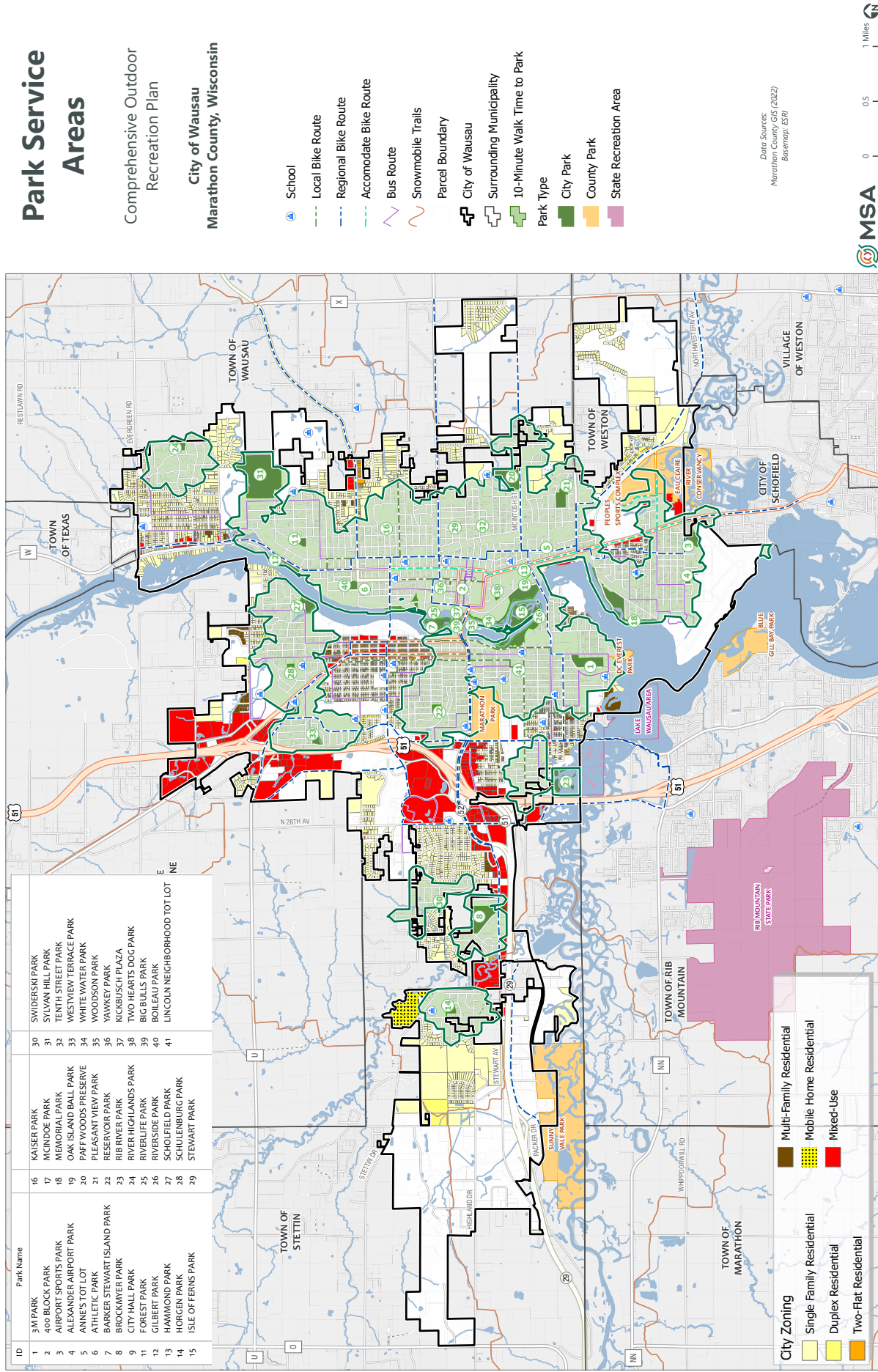
Notes

* Non-White Population percent is the sum of percentages for Black Alone, American Indian Alone, Asian Alone, Pacific Islander Alone, Some Other Race Alone, and Two or More Races.

**Hispanic Population percent includes all races.

- Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst, U.S. Census Bureau. The population projections in this table come from the U.S. Census and are marginally different than the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's projections from Chapter 2.

Figure 4.2 Park Service Area Map (10-Minute Walk Time)



Parks, Forests, and Wildlife Areas; 40% of respondents reported visiting these parks 1-2 times per month, respectively.

The top reason why survey respondents, or a member of their household, did not participate in recreational activities was because they were too busy (29.7%). Other reasons included: overcrowding (19.0%), lack of restrooms (19.5%), and the parks not containing a desired feature or facility (19.8%).

Safety and Accessibility

The majority of survey respondents (50.8%) did not have safety or accessibility concerns about Wausau City parks, with another 26% being unsure. 23.3% of respondents did report having safety or accessibility concerns. When asked to elaborate, respondents commonly noted concerns with homeless populations, poor surface conditions (cracks in tennis courts, uneven gravel etc), and busy traffic adjacent to parks making traveling there by foot more dangerous. Other noted concerns about drug use at parks and a perceived lack of security.

Activities and Programming

The most popular activity or facility when visiting Wausau City parks, according to 63% of survey respondents, was walking. The next most popular activities/facilities were: restrooms (58.8%), picnic areas (44.9%), the outdoor pool (42.2%), river/lake access (38.9%), open space (36.4%), and play equipment (36.6%). The amenities that respondents were most interested in seeing added to the park system were more off-road walking/biking trails (33.0%), canoe/kayak facilities (28.3%), and indoor pool (26.4%).

33% of respondents reported that someone in their household had participated in City-sponsored recreational programming in the past year, while 59% reported that no one in their household had. This figure however is likely influenced by restrictions on indoor activities during the summer of 2021 due to the COVID-10 pandemic. When asked if the City's current recreational programming and classes met the needs of their household, 34% reported yes and nearly 47% reported that they were unsure.

Funding

A majority of survey respondents supported the city of Wausau allocating more funding for bicycle facilities/trails and sidewalk facilities/pedestrian enhancements (56%, respectively). 34.5% of respondents also supported allocating more funding for tree plantings, as well as recreational activities or programs (42.8%),

installing new park facilities/equipment (45.5%), and park maintenance (44%). 55.7% of survey takers believed the City was allocating the right amount for parkland acquisition, with another 13.5% believing the City should allocate less funding. Similarly, over 50% of survey takers believed the City was spending the right amount of money on special events, additional staff for enhanced service, recreational activities or programs, and park maintenance.

The full survey results are available in Appendix A.

4.4 REGIONAL & STATE INSIGHTS

Insights from the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), 2019-2023

The recently updated Wisconsin SCORP features a Recreation Opportunities Analysis (ROA). The ROA examines existing outdoor-recreation opportunities compared to future opportunities in eight regions throughout Wisconsin. Wausau is located in the Western Sands region.

The Western Sands Region has an abundance of public lands that draw visitors from Milwaukee, Chicago and the Twin Cities. From camping to ATV riding and hunting to bird watching, the county and state forests and the expansive wildlife areas here support a wide diversity of recreation. Although largely rural, easy highway access and relatively inexpensive land prices within the region have increasingly made it a popular location for seasonal home development.

The ROA found that residents of the Western Sands Region participate in the following activities at lower rates than the State average:

- Sailing/stand-up paddle boarding
- Downhill skiing/snowboarding
- Visiting a dog park
- Personal water craft - jet ski

Residents in the region participate at higher rates than the state average in big game hunting.

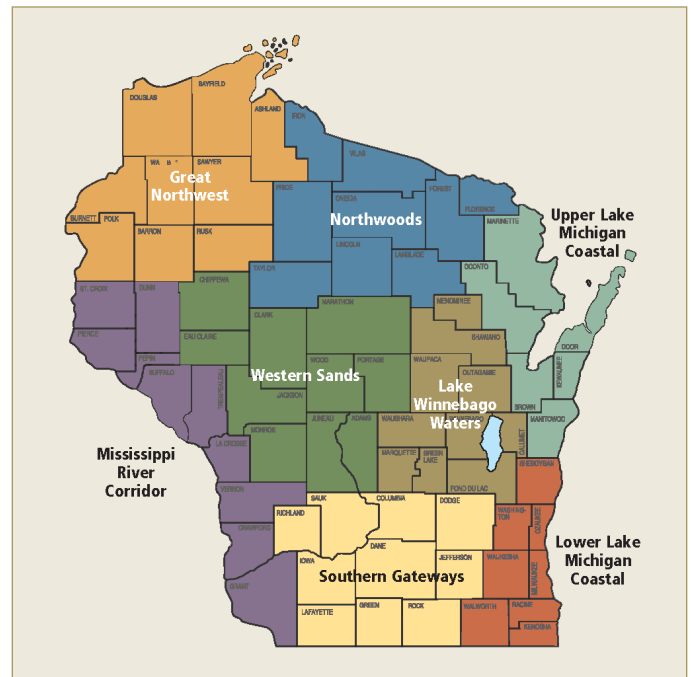
The most popular places to go in the region are the Ice Age Trail, Black River State Forest, Rib Mountain State Park, Hartman Creek State Park, and the Elroy Sparta State Trail.

Of the people who participated in the ROA, the majority (71%) selected the quality of trails as the most

important factor in determining their favorite property to visit. The three next most important factors are the desire to be in a quiet place, good maps, signage or information about properties and quality of habitat. The following recreation activities are identified in the SCORP as high priority needs in the Western Sands Region:

- Bicycling - bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking
- Bird or wildlife watching
- Camping - developed and primitive
- Canoeing or kayaking
- Cross country skiing
- Dog walking
- Fishing
- Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking
- Horseback riding
- Hunting - big game
- Picnicking
- Snowshoeing
- Swimming in lakes and rivers

Figure 4.3 Statewide Outdoor Comprehensive Recreation Plan
Planning Areas



Chapter 5

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

The quantitative, qualitative, and geographic analysis discussed in Chapter 4 reveals the need for improvements to existing facilities, as well as the acquisition and development of new sites for future recreational use. It should be noted that some of the recommendations may require considerable cooperation with others, including the citizens of the City of Wausau, local civic and business associations, and County and State agencies. In nearly every case, more detailed planning, engineering, study, budgeting, and/or discussion will be necessary before decisions are made to actually acquire land or construct recreational facilities.

The recommendations of this plan are divided into four major sections: (1) existing park facilities (2) new or expanded park facilities; (3) trail improvements; (4) miscellaneous improvements.

The timeline for completion of the recommendations is noted within each table of recommendations. High priority items should occur in the next 1-3 years (2025), Medium priority items should occur over the next three to five years (2027) and low priority items may not be completed within the next five years; however, initial planning activities may occur to bring these items closer to completion. Due to budgetary constraints it is unlikely that all of the recommendations within

this chapter will be implemented in the next five years. Maintenance and improvement projects will be prioritized on an annual basis by City staff in conjunction with the Wausau Parks & Recreation Committee as part of the City's annual budget and Capital Improvement Plan.

Many of the recommendations regarding locating new park or trail facilities will be coordinated with the sale or donation of land by other parties; therefore, the timing is much more variable. Acquisition projects will be implemented through donation, dedication, purchase, or a combination thereof.

5.1 EXISTING PARK FACILITIES

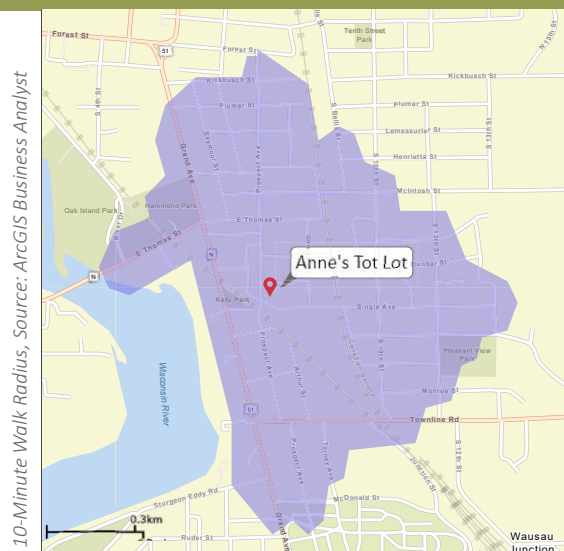
The following pages contain one- to two-page spreads dedicated to each existing park in the City of Wausau. Each spread includes general information, facilities (and approximate install dates), and recommendations for improvements to existing parks. Some of the recommendations identified within this section are remnants from the 2017 CORP. The remaining recommendations reflect staff, committee, public and consultant feedback obtained during the planning process.



Anne's Tot Lot

Park Address: 909 Prospect Avenue
Park Type: Mini Park
Park Size: 0.2 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:
2021 Population: 2,172
2021 # of Households: 1,003
Household Median Income: \$35,958



EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2018	Center of park
Chain Link Fence	2018	Around playground equipment

RECOMMENDATIONS

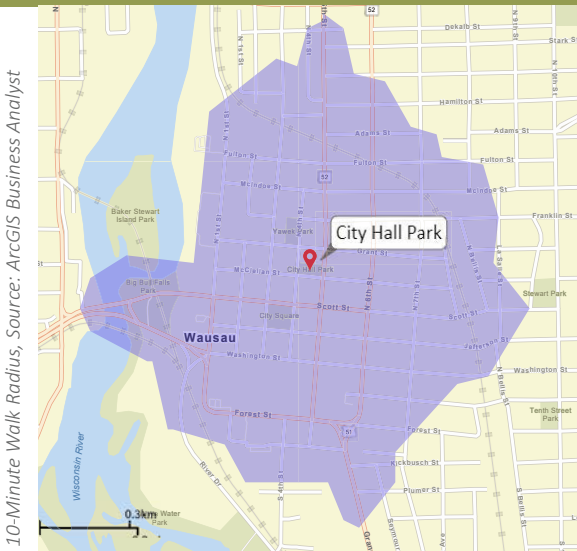
IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add a bike rack.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack



City Hall Park

Park Address: 407 Grant Street
Park Type: Mini Park
Park Size: 0.5 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:
2021 Population: 2,185
2021 # of Households: 933
Household Median Income: \$31,496



EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	1971	N/A
Fountain	N/A	South side of building

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)
None	-



Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot

Park Address: 822 S 5th Avenue

Park Type: Mini Park

Park Size: 0.9 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,798

2021 # of Households: 1,064

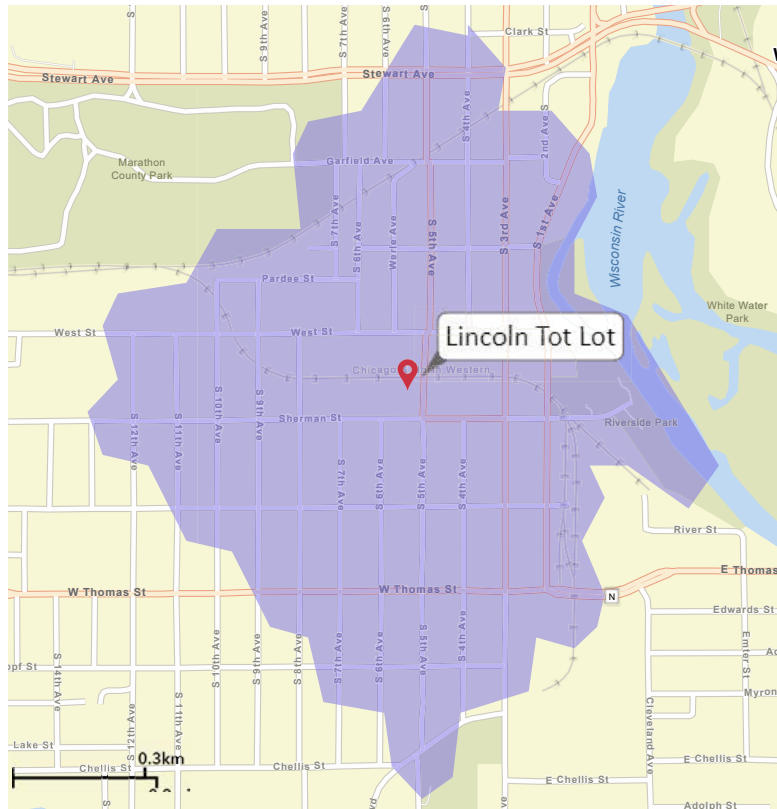
Household Median Income: \$37,870

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	West of playground
Play Equipment	2023	North & south of trail
Asphalt Trail	N/A	Throughout
Smoke Stack	N/A	North of trail, center of park
Bicycle Parking	2023	At park entrance

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add an open shelter.	Low	\$20,000 - \$30,000
Add picnic tables.	High	\$2,000 ea. with concrete pad
Add swings.	Low	\$8,000 - \$10,000
Install a gate or bollard at park entrance.	High	\$2,000 - \$3,000
Install new playground (planned for 2022/2023).	High	\$150,000 - \$200,000
Replace bike rack with Inverted-U style racks.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack
Seal crack in asphalt.	Medium	\$2,500 - \$4,000
Update signage (currently says Werle Park).	Medium	\$5,000 - \$7,500 ea.



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Yawkey Park

Park Address: 320 Grant Street

Park Type: Mini Park

Park Size: 0.8 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,367

2021 # of Households: 1,035

Household Median Income: \$33,080

EXISTING FACILITIES

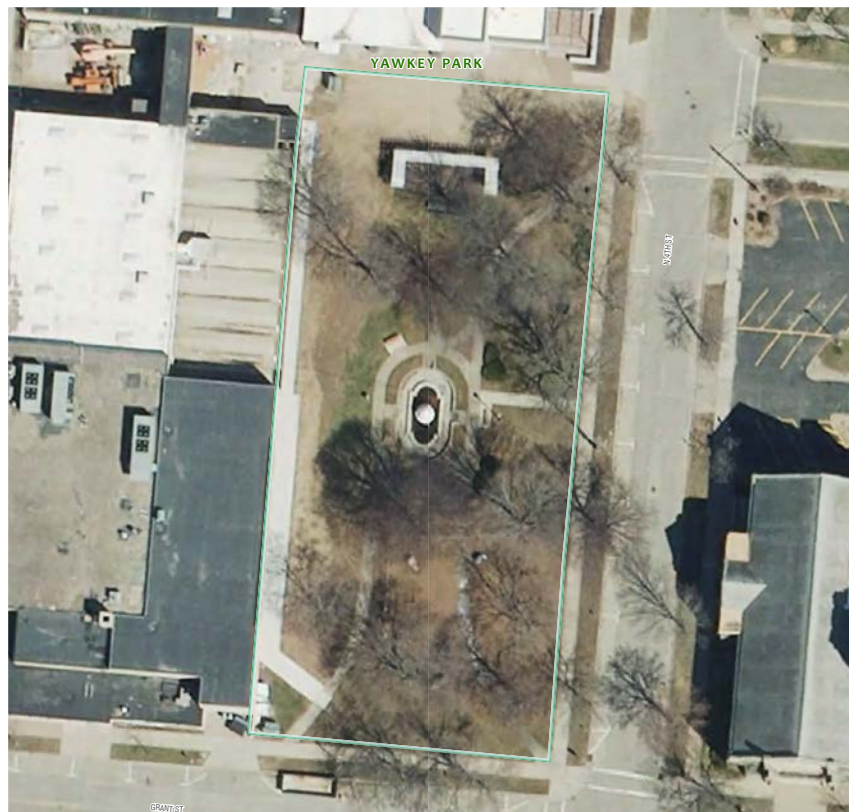
TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Throughout
Amphitheater/Stage	1930's	North end of park
Other Building (Fountain)	1930's	Center of park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add irrigation.	Low	\$20,000 - \$35,000
Reconstruct trails.	Medium	\$3,000 ea. with a concrete pad
Add picnic tables.	Medium	\$15,000 - \$25,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Airport Sports Park

Park Address: 155 Lake View Drive

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 7.7 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 799

2021 # of Households: 374

Household Median Income: \$54,939

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Soccer	N/A	South end
Softball/Youth Baseball	N/A	North end

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add another use for the winter season.	Low	\$50,000 - \$75,000
Add sidewalk.	Medium	\$16,470 - \$18,000
Install bike racks on hardscape surface.	Medium	est. \$300 per bike rack
Repave parking lot and road.	Medium	\$64,400 - \$75,000
Replace interior sidewalks/trails	Low	\$91,200 - \$95,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Alexander Airport Park

Park Address: 625 Lake View Drive

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 2.4 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,116

2021 # of Households: 524

Household Median Income: \$57,192

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	Throughout
Excercise Station	2017	East side of park
Play Equipment	2018	West end of park
Basketball	1970's	North of tennis courts
Tennis	1970's	East of shelter
Horseshoes	N/A	East of tennis courts
Pickleball	N/A	On tennis courts
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Throughout
Picnic Shelter	2018	South of playground

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add grills.	Low	\$500 - \$1,000
Add water fountains.	Low	\$9,000 - \$12,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack
Seal cracks in tennis court/Resurface tennis courts.	High	\$55,200 - \$55,200



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Big Bulls Falls Park

Park Address: 204 W Scott Street

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 1.6 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,164

2021 # of Households: 624

Household Median Income: \$29,617

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Fishing Area	N/A	Along river
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Through center of park
Picnic Shelter	1975	East of river
Asphalt Parking	N/A	East of shelter

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Improve parking information (signage).	Low	\$5,000 - \$7,500
Install lights.	High	\$5,000 - \$6,000 per pole
Remove or replace shelter.	Medium	\$20,000 - \$70,000
Replace "You Are Here" map.	High	\$2,000 - \$5,000
Seal cracks in asphalt and concrete.	Medium	\$8,000 - \$20,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Forest Park

Park Address: 3100 9th Street
Park Type: Neighborhood Park
Park Size: 4.0

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,492
2021 # of Households: 688
Household Median Income: \$63,100

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2020	On 9th St center
Tennis	1976	On Parcher St
Horseshoes	N/A	North of playground
Pickleball	N/A	On tennis courts
Picnic Shelter	1954	Corner of Spring St and 9th St

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add sidewalk/path between the pavilion, playground, and tennis courts.	Medium	\$17,500
Add trash receptacles at playground/shelter area.	High	\$750 ea.
Create a forest management plan.	Low	\$10,000 - \$20,000
Install drinking fountain at tennis courts.	Medium	\$9,000 - \$10,000
Install more lighting.	Low	\$5,000 - \$6,000 per pole
Update tennis courts.	Medium	\$56,120

Hammond Park

Park Address: 600 Grand Avenue

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 1.4 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,790

2021 # of Households: 799

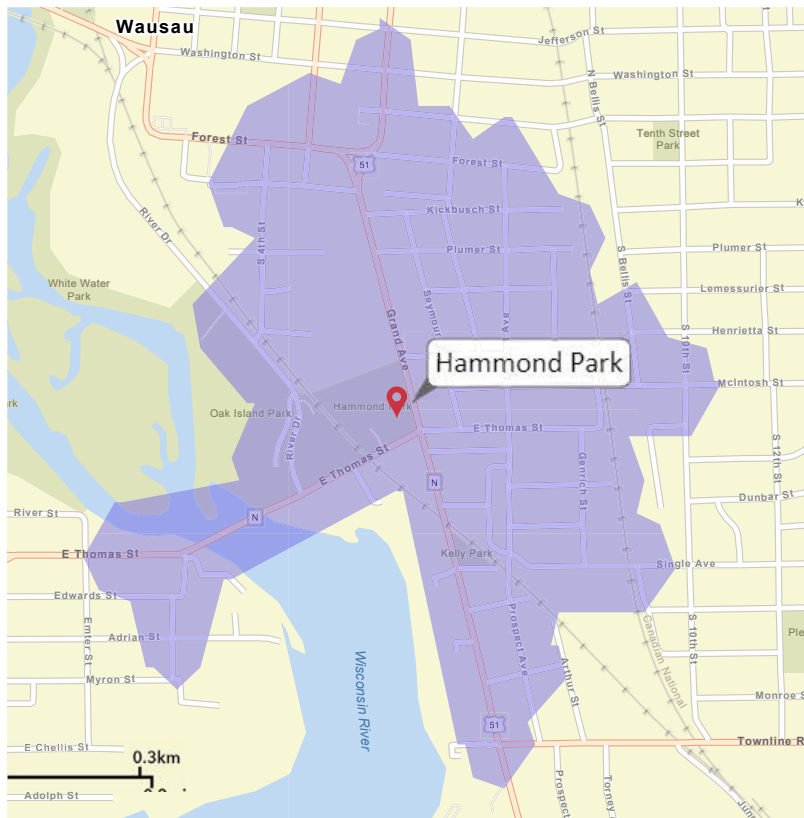
Household Median Income: \$63,100

EXISTING FACILITIES

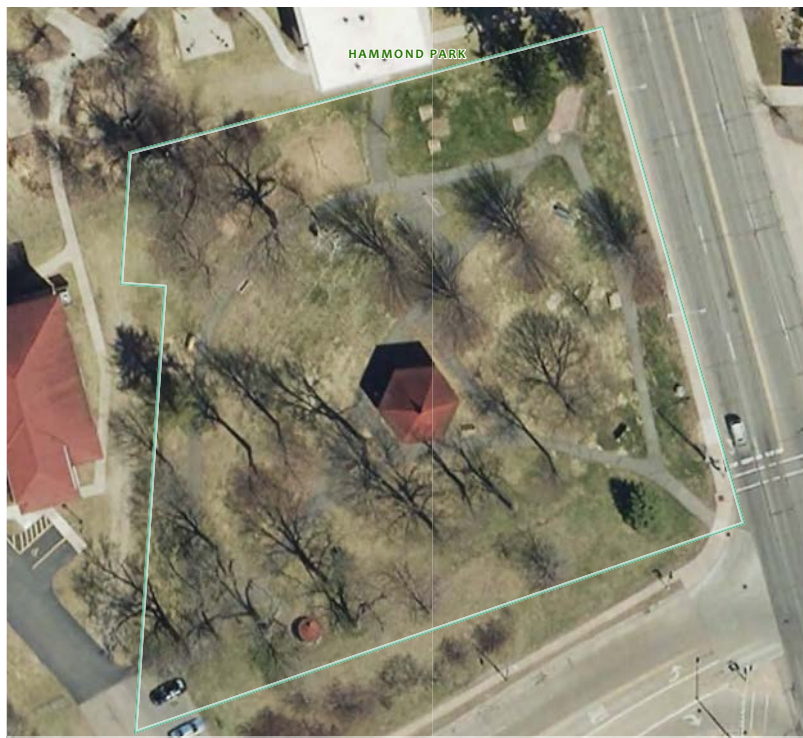
TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
<i>Open Space</i>	N/A	N/A
<i>Walking/Biking Trails</i>	N/A	Through center of park
<i>Picnic Shelter</i>	N/A	East of driveway

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add a park bench swing.	Low	\$5,000 - \$8,000
Add hardscape surface at bike rack so it is accessible from both sides.	High	\$1,500 - \$2,500
Create an outdoor adult exercise area.	Low	\$40,000 - \$80,000
Remove playground equipment.	High	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Repair gazebo roof (re-shingle).	Medium	\$8,000 - \$10,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Reservoir Park

Park Address: 1130 Elm Street
Park Type: Neighborhood Park
Park Size: 4.4 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,742

2021 # of Households: 729

Household Median Income: \$41,396

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2018	East of reservoir
Picnic Shelter	N/A	South of playground
Paved Parking	N/A	South of shelter

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add a water fountain.	Low	\$9,000 - \$10,000
Construct asphalt path from Maple Street to playground.	Medium	\$7,000 - \$8,500
Install a larger playground.	Low	\$200,000 - \$260,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	est. \$300 per bike rack
Plant more trees around tank.	High	\$500 ea.

River Highlands Park

Park Address: 1901 Marquardt Road

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 5.1 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 525

2021 # of Households: 178

Household Median Income: \$87,151

EXISTING FACILITIES

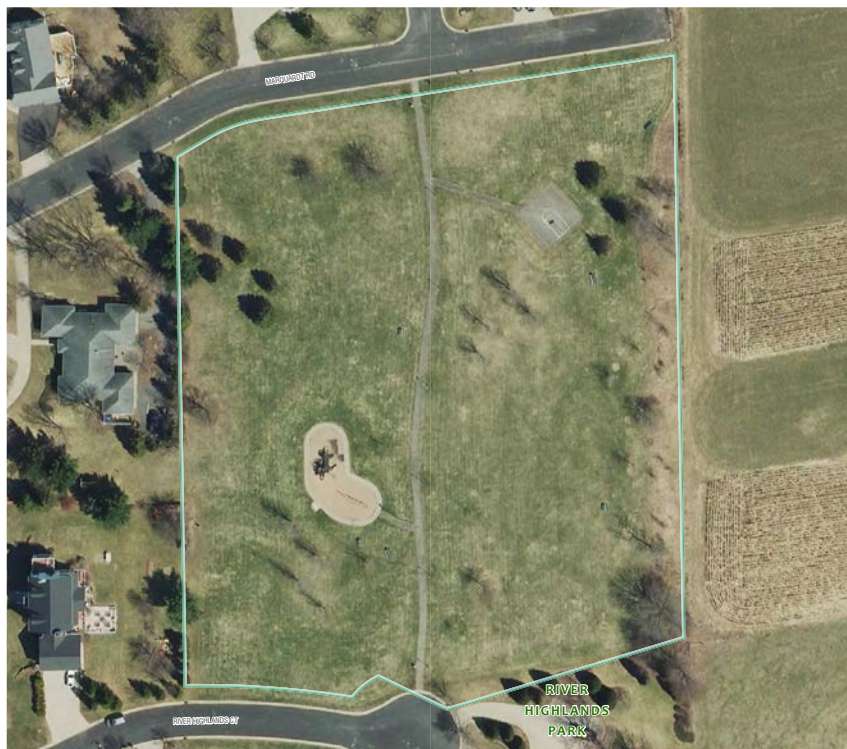
TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Shelter	1996	North of playground
Play Equipment	1998	South of shelter
Basketball	1996	North end of park
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Runs north-south through park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add an open shelter with a grill.	Low	\$22,000 - \$40,000
Add more picnic tables.	Medium	\$2,000 - \$3,000 ea. with concrete pad
Expand park amenities (new playground planned for FY 2023).	High	\$150,000 - \$300,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack
Re-stripe three-point line on basketball court.	High	\$500 - \$1,500



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Scholfield Park

Park Address: 606 E Randolph Street

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 10.1

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 907

2021 # of Households: 382

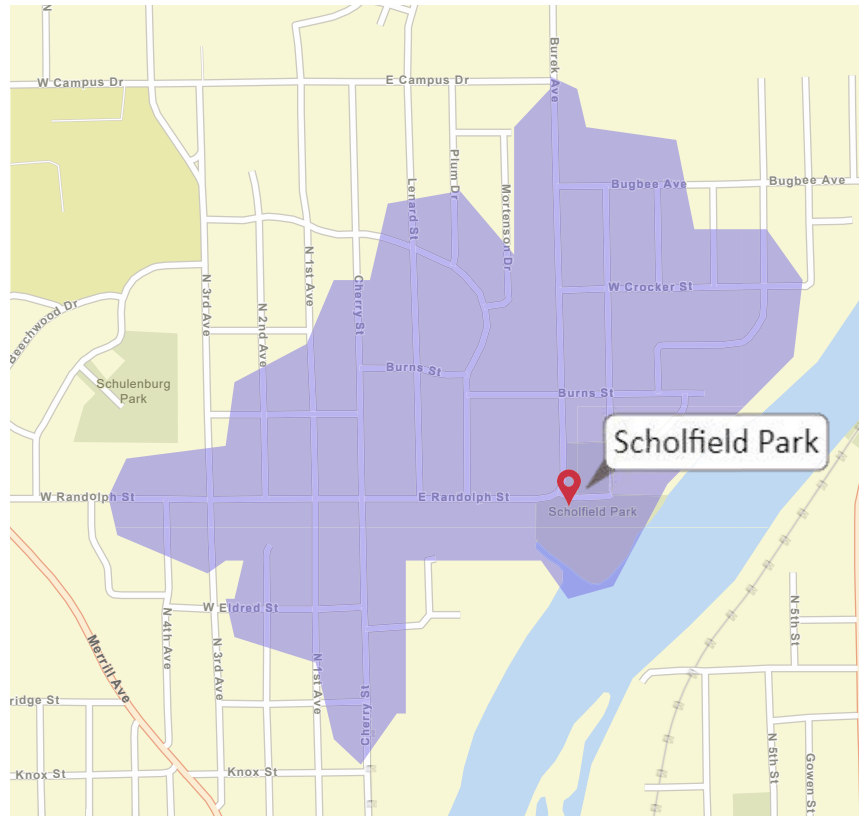
Household Median Income: \$51,239

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	1970's	N/A
Play Equipment	2021	East of ballfields
Softball/Youth Baseball	1970's	Along Randolph St
Boat Launch	2021	Southend of park
River/Lake Access	N/A	Southend of park
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Connects to Rivers Edge Trail

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add an open shelter.	Low	\$45,000 - \$60,000
Add more picnic tables.	Medium	\$2,000 - \$3,000 ea. with concrete pad
Add restroom.	Low	\$125,000 - \$160,000
Create connecting trails.	Low	\$17,500 - \$20,000
Install asphalt path from sidewalk on Randolph to existing path at north ball field.	High	\$8,000 - \$10,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack
Paint equipment shed at north ball field.	High	Maintenance
Pave gravel parking lot.	High	\$56,000 - \$60,000
Replace scoreboard at south ball field.	High	\$15,000 - \$20,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Tenth Street Park

Park Address: 935 Jackson Street

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 1.1 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,694

2021 # of Households: 1,006

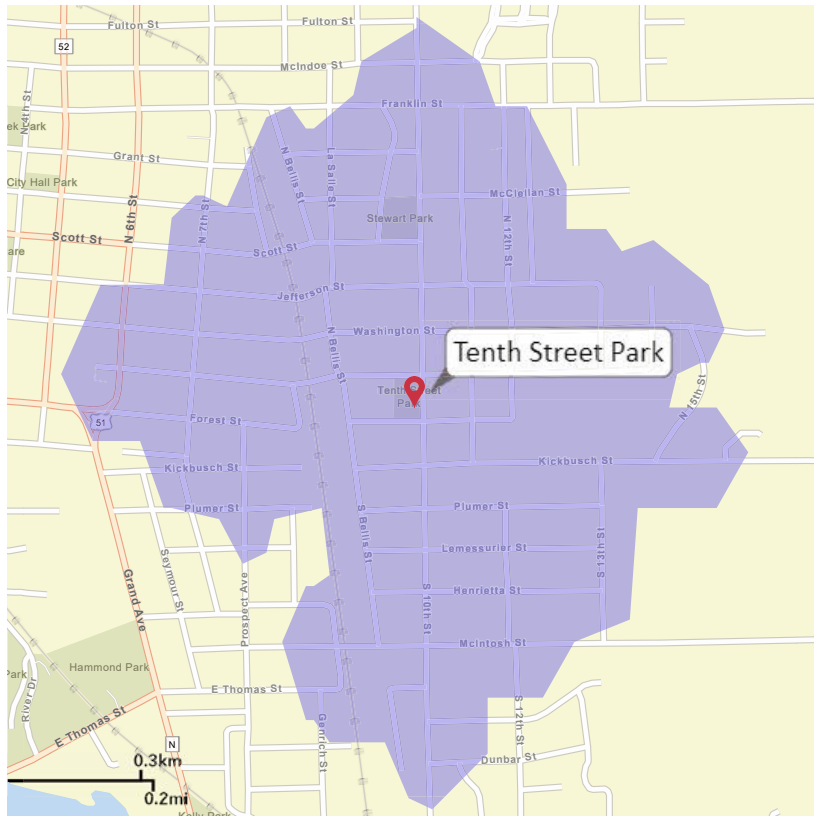
Household Median Income: \$33,877

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2016	North end of park
Basketball	1996	South end of park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add another amenity, like a volleyball court or other winter season use.	Low	\$50,000 - \$75,000
Add more picnic tables and benches.	Medium	\$2,000 - \$3,000 ea. with concrete pad
Add more playground equipment.	Low	\$75,000 - \$90,000
Create trail access and connections from sidewalk.	Medium	\$2,500 - \$7,500
Install asphalt path to playground and basketball courts.	Medium	\$10,500
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack
Install trash receptacle at playground.	High	\$750 ea.
Seal cracks in basketball court, resurface and cut expansion joint between courts.	Medium	\$10,000 - \$15,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Westview Terrace Park

Park Address: 1501 Bissel Street

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 4.2 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 582

2021 # of Households: 251

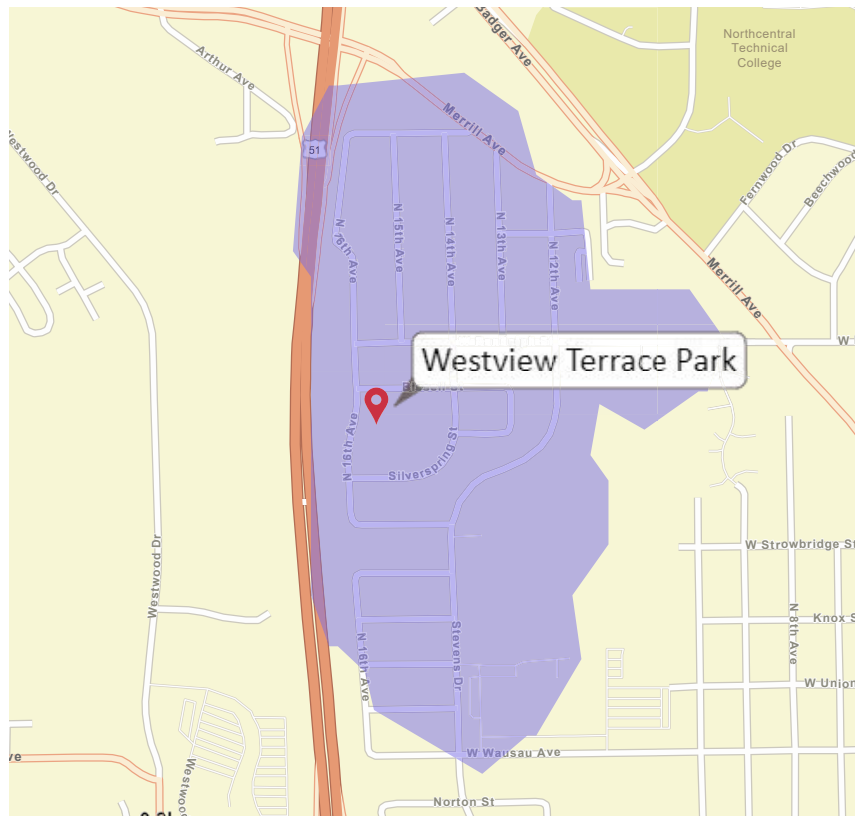
Household Median Income: \$37,307

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2002	Along N 16th St
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Through center of park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add an open shelter.	Low	\$20,000 - \$35,000
Add more picnic tables.	Medium	\$2,000 - \$3,000 ea. with concrete pad
Add sidewalks.	Low	\$2,500 - \$5,000
Add trail connections.	Low	TBD
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	est. \$300 per bike rack
Install new playground equipment.	Low	\$200,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Woodson Park

Park Address: 220 W Washington Street

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 1.7 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,112

2021 # of Households: 571

Household Median Income: \$29,542

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Monument	N/A	West of Washington St
Kayak Statue	N/A	East of Washington St
Trail	N/A	North/south east of Washington St

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Ensure park is easier to search and locate online.	High	No Cost



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



3M Park

Park Address: 405 Park Boulevard

Park Type: Community Park

Park Size: 15.1

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,125

2021 # of Households: 836

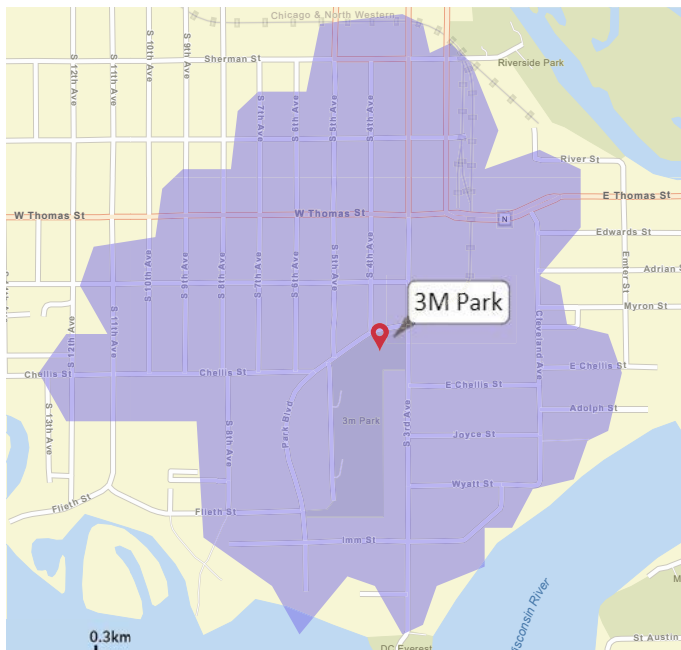
Household Median Income: \$40,819

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2021	East of tennis courts
Softball/Youth Baseball	1970's	South end
Basketball	1970's	West of playground
Tennis	1970's	South of basketball court
Pickleball	N/A	Within tennis courts
Sledding	N/A	North end of park
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Runs north/south along eastside
Picnic Shelter	1970	East of north parking lot
20-Stall Paved Parking	N/A	North of tennis courts
22-Stall Paved Parking	N/A	South end of park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add a shelter at the top of the sledding hill.	Low	\$50,000 - \$60,000
Add new restroom building.	Medium	\$125,000 - \$250,000
Baseball/Softball Fields: Replace 3rd base fence at south field.	High	\$10,000 - \$15,000
Basketball Courts: Resurface and restripe basketball court (include three point line). Install new net.	Medium	\$10,000 - \$18,000
Create more trails and trail connections.	Medium	\$20 - \$25 per LF
Expand playground.	Low	\$40,000 - \$80,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Brockmeyer Park

Park Address: 4200 Stettin Drive

Park Type: Community Park

Park Size: 25.5 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 200

2021 # of Households: 96

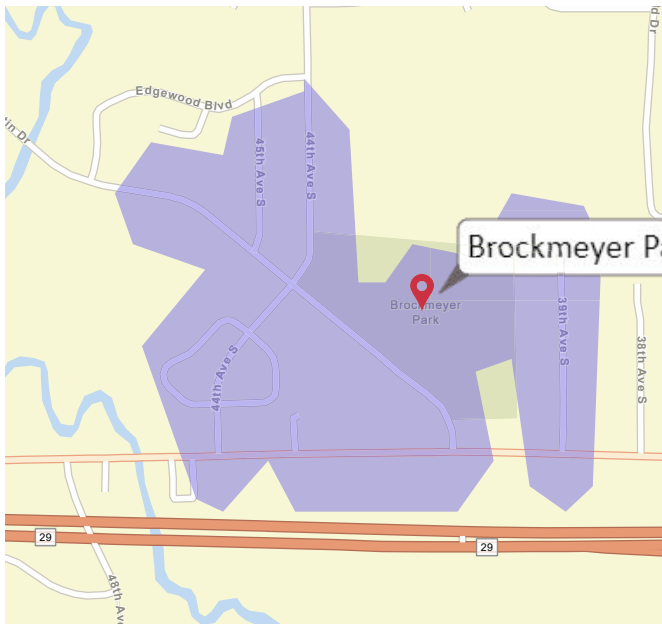
Household Median Income: \$83,230

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Picnic Area	2020	Shelter within Jojo's Jungle
Play Equipment	2020	North of west parking lot
Soccer	N/A	2 fields in NE corner of park
Baseball	N/A	SW corner of park
Splash Pad	2020	Within Jojo's Jungle
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	East/west from parking lot
Restrooms	1998	SE of Jojo's Jungle
Picnic Shelter	1998	SE of Jojo's Jungle
60-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	SW corner of park
115-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	West of ball field

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Baseball Fields: Install drinking fountain.	Medium	\$9,000
Construct path from parking lot to baseball field.	Medium	\$15,750
Install a turf field or additional baseball diamonds.	Medium	\$50,000 - \$70,000
Reduce planting bed maintenance.	High	\$4 - \$8 per SF
Re-shingle roof of shelter.	Low	\$20,000 - \$35,000
Upgrade restroom.	Low	\$100,000 - \$150,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Memorial Park

Park Address: 505 Memorial Park Road

Park Type: Community Park

Park Size: 24.6 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,258

2021 # of Households: 569

Household Median Income: \$57,939



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Disc Golf	2000's	Throughout park
Play Equipment	2018	South of tennis
Softball/Youth Baseball	1976	South of boat launch parking
Basketball	1976	Within tennis courts
Tennis	1960's	SW of pool
Pool	2016	NE of tennis
Fishing Area	N/A	Along shoreline
Boat Launch	N/A	SW end of park
River/Lake Access	N/A	Boat launch
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Around ballfield
Other Building	1976	N/A
Octagon Picnic Shelter	N/A	North of pool
40-Stall Paved Parking Lot	1976	Adjacent to pool
Unlined Public Parking	N/A	Adjacent to ballfield
10-Stall Paved Boat Parking	N/A	North of boat launch

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add a handicap/accessible boat launch.	Low	\$60,000 - \$75,000
Baseball Field: Repaint dugouts and press box.	Medium	\$4,000
Create a sidewalk trail all the way into the park from Sturgeon Eddy Rd.	Medium	\$45,000 - \$60,000
Create a vegetation management plan for the park's natural area.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Create trail connections to ball diamonds.	Medium	\$8,000 - \$10,000
Extend walkway.	Medium	\$23,275 - \$25,000
Increase turning radius at boat launch.	High	\$10,000 - \$20,000
Install a larger playground.	Low	\$200,000 - \$300,000
Install new disc golf signage.	Medium	\$3,000 - \$7,500
New restroom building.	Low	\$125,000 - \$160,000
Repair pool where pad is anchored.	High	\$2,500 - \$7,000
Repave parking lots.	Medium	\$135,200 - \$135,200
Replace sea wall.	Low	\$500,000 - \$750,000
Replace splitting timber column on upper shelter.	High	\$8,000 - \$12,000
Tennis Courts: Cut expansion joint in court surface to prevent future cracking.	Low	\$2,500 - \$5,000
Tennis Courts: Move basketball hoop to new area to prevent conflicts with tennis and pickle ball.	Low	\$2,500 - \$5,000
Tennis Courts: Seal cracks in court surface.	Low	\$8,000 - \$12,000



Oak Island Park

Park Address: 500 River Drive

Park Type: Community Park

Park Size: 22.1

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 217

2021 # of Households: 178

Household Median Income: \$35,732

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2020	NW of shelter
Baseball	1970	East of River Dr
Softball/Youth Baseball	1970	West of tennis
Tennis	1970's	West of River Dr
Skateboard Area	2002	South corner of park
Fishing Area	N/A	Along shoree
Boat Launch	N/A	North of youth ballfield
River/Lake Access	N/A	At boat launch
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Runs north/south along Rivers Edge Trail
Other Building	2002	Skatepark shelter
Restrooms	1977	South of tennis courts
Kayak Restrooms	2012	West of Farmer's Market
Picnic Shelter	1950	North of baseball field
33-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	North of baseball field
Pressbox	N/A	At baseball field
17-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	At tennis courts
5-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	At restrooms
7 to 10-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	At skatepark
50-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	At main shelter
Grill Shelter	N/A	Next to main shelter
33-Stall and 8-Boat Stall Paved Parking	N/A	At boat launch
Picnic Shelter	N/A	Next to Farmer's Market

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add additional features to skate park (planned for 2022/2023)	High	\$50,000 - \$100,000
Add more trash cans along the river path.	Low	\$750 ea.
Baseball Field: Install curb ramps at crosswalk on River Drive to baseball field	High	\$2,500 - \$5,000
Create paved path connections between restrooms, tennis courts, and ball field.	High	\$27,475 - \$30,000
Install a new restroom facility.	High	\$125,000 - \$160,000
Install bike racks (2) on hardscape surface.	High	\$600 - \$1,200
Install lighting and security cameras at skate park.	High	\$5,000 - \$6,000
Paint and upgrade north shelter by farmers market.	Medium	\$20,000 - \$30,000
Tennis Courts: Construct path between tennis court and tennis parking lot.	High	\$16,200 - \$18,000
Tennis Courts: Paint ball return wall.	Medium	\$2,500
Tennis Courts: Stripe two courts for pickleball/tennis combo.	Low	\$6,000 - \$8,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Pleasant View Park

Park Address: 1221 Sumner Street

Park Type: Community Park

Park Size: 10.1

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 892

2021 # of Households: 364

Household Median Income: \$40,417

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2020	Along 12th St
Basketball	1976	Within tennis courts
Tennis	1976	Corner of 12th St and Sumner St
Sledding	N/A	East of playground
Restrooms	1958	In picnic shelter
Picnic Shelter	1958	Along Sumner St

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Install a tennis court practice wall.	Medium	\$8,000 - \$15,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack
Resurface tennis courts.	Low	\$65,000
Tennis Courts: Cut expansion joints between courts to prevent future cracking.	Low	\$2,500 - \$5,000
Tennis Courts: Move basketball hoop to a new area.	Low	\$2,500 - \$5,000
Update park shelter.	Medium	\$20,000 - \$50,000
Update sledding hill.	Low	\$15,000 - \$45,000



Rivers Edge Trail

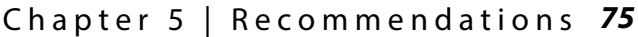
Park Address: N/A
Park Type: Community Park
Park Size: 6.6 acres

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Fishing Area	N/A	Along trail
Kayak Launches	N/A	Along trail
River/Lake Access	N/A	Along trail
Walking/Biking Trails	2017	From Oak Island Park to Winton St

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add bike service station at park entrance.	High	\$2,000
Add trash cans along the trail.	Medium	\$750 ea.
Address gap in connection on east trail.	High	TBD
Connect to Gilbert Park.	Low	<i>see Gilbert Park</i>
Decrease the amount of plantings to lessen maintenance.	Medium	\$2 - \$4 per



Riverlife Park

Park Address: 1200 N River Drive

Park Type: Community Park

Park Size: 6.4 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 417

2021 # of Households: 155

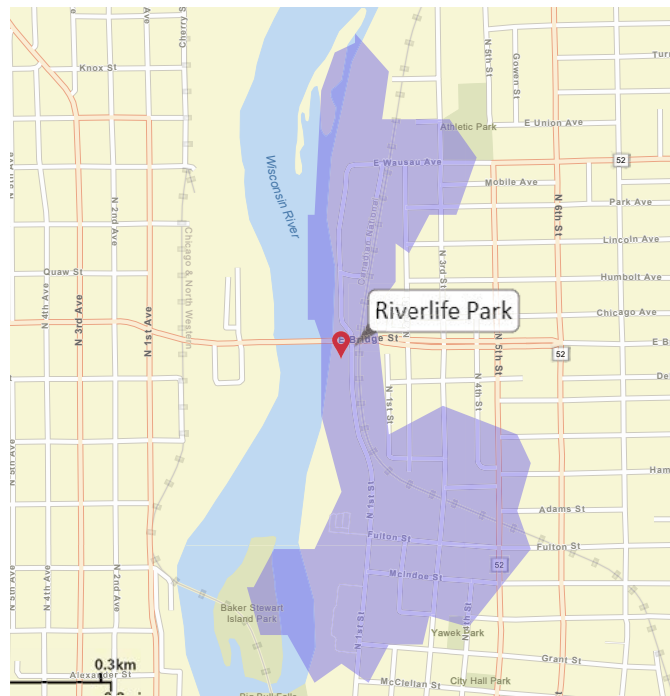
Household Median Income: \$34,347

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	South of concessions
Picnic Area	N/A	West of concessions
Play Equipment	2018	North of concessions
Exercise Stations	2018	North of playground
Splash Pad	2018	South of concessions
Fishing Area	N/A	Along shore
River/Lake Access	N/A	Northend of kayak launch
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Rivers Edge Trail
Concession Building	2018	South of playground
Restrooms	2018	Within concessions building
Picnic Shelter	2016	Pergola west of open space
Pedestrian Bridge	2016	Over channel
Bicycle Parking	2018	Under Bridge St

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Create a yard game section.	Low	\$2,000 - \$2,500
Install an additional sign next to Wausau on Water.	High	\$5,000 - \$7,500
Replace turf at the challenge course.	High	\$25,000 - \$40,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Riverside Park/Picnic Island

Park Address: 100 Sherman Street

Park Type: Community Park

Park Size: 16.2 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,500

2021 # of Households: 585

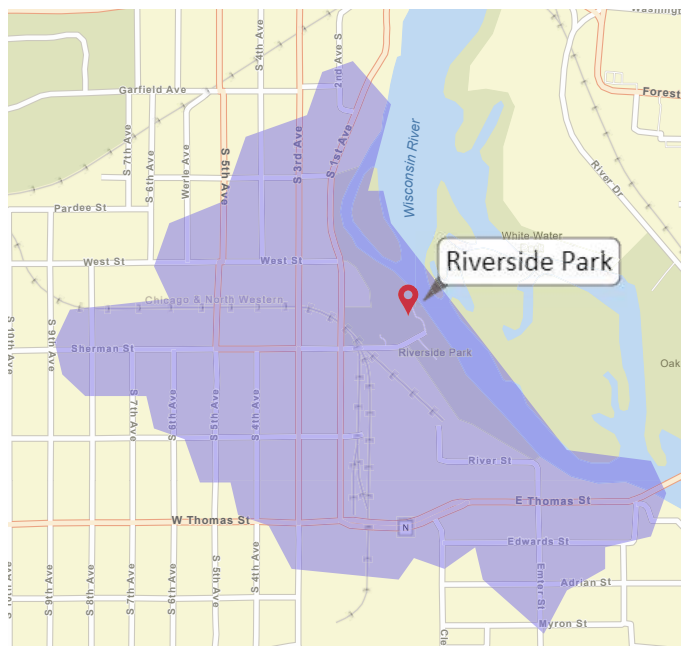
Household Median Income: \$38,561

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N of shelter
Play Equipment	2022	Top of hill, west of shelter
Sand Volleyball	N/A	North end of Park
Basketball	1970's	SW of playground
Bike Polo	2016	South end of park
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Runds north/south by playground and east of shelter
Restrooms	1950	Within shelter
Picnic Shelter	1950	North of drive
Pedestrian Bridge	N/A	Northend to Picnic Island
Grill Shelter	N/A	East of picnic shelter
8-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	East of shelter
17-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	North of playground
63-Stall Paved Parking Lot	N/A	South of shelter

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add a volleyball court instead of, or in addition to, a ball field.	Low	\$30,000 - \$80,000
Basketball/Volleyball Court: Paint lines on basketball/volleyball court.	Medium	\$1,500 - \$5,000
Create trail connections to the north.	Low	\$35,000 - \$80,000
Improve advertisement of picnic island; consider planning an event at the location.	Medium	No Cost to est. \$5,000 depending on program
Install 2 bike polo courts with parking.	Medium	\$150,000 - \$200,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	est. \$300 per bike rack



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Sylvan Hill Park

Park Address: 1329 Sylvan Street

Park Type: Community Park

Park Size: 82.0

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 204

2021 # of Households: 85

Household Median Income: \$79,103

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Play Equipment	2016	SE of shelter
Tubing	2002	South of shelter, up the hill
Cross Country Skiing	N/A	North end of the park
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Throughout
Mountain Bike Trails	2018	South end of park
Tubing Building	2008	Between tubing hills
Restrooms	1974	Within chalet
Chalet	1974	East of parking lot
Picnic Shelter	2008	South of chalet
Maintenace Shed	N/A	South of chalet and trail
Mountain Biking Kiosk	N/A	At entrance to bike park
Paved Parking Lot	N/A	

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add a hiking trail map for summertime use.	High	\$2,000 - \$5,000
Create a vegetation management plan for natural areas.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Create trail connections to parking lot.	Medium	\$70,000 - \$100,000
Modernize chalet.	Low	\$50,000 - \$150,000
Expand chalet.	Low	\$100,000 - \$500,000
Install asphalt path from shelter to playground.	Medium	\$8,000 - \$12,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	est. \$300 per bike rack
Install lighting at parking lot.	Low	\$5,000 - \$6,000 per pole
Repave & restripe north parking lot.	Medium	\$192,000 - \$200,000
Update tow rope system.	Low	\$20,000 - \$40,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



400 Block Park

Park Address: 401 N 3rd Street

Park Type: Special-Use Park

Park Size: 1.3 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,167

2021 # of Households: 991

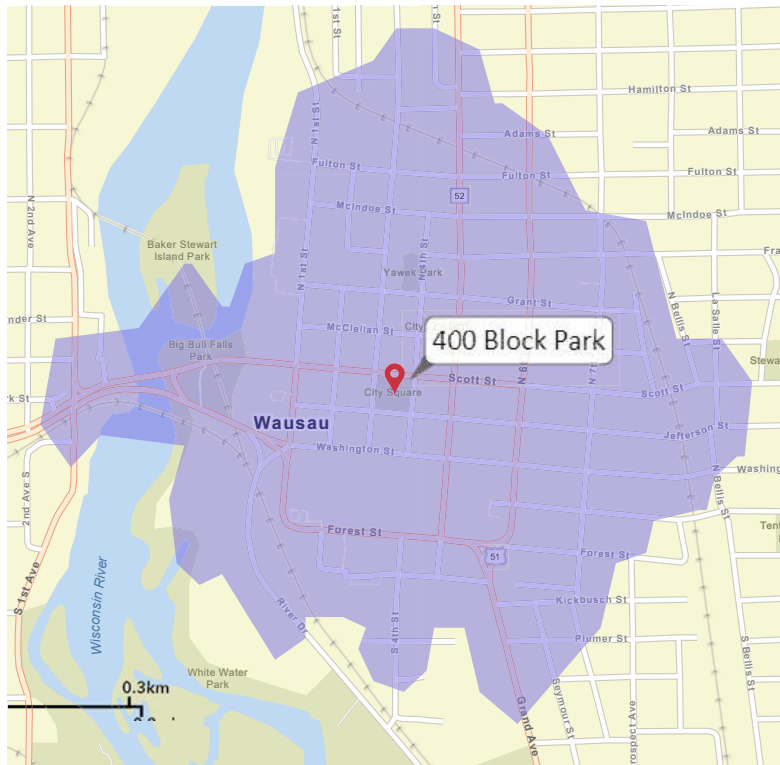
Household Median Income: \$31,231

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	2011	Turf area
Picnic Area	2011	West side of park
Splash Pad	2011	East side of park
Ice Skating	N/A	Winter only
Walking/Biking Trails	2011	Through center of park
Amphitheater/Stage	2011	South end of park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add cornhole for families.	Low	\$5,000 - \$10,000
City to add a public restroom in downtown	Low	\$150,000 - \$400,000
Install a video system.	Low	\$25,000 - \$100,000
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	est. \$300 per bike rack
Install sign/kiosk with 400 Block event calendar and posters.	Low	\$8,000 - \$10,000
Repair pillars (scheduled for 2022).	High	N/A



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Athletic Park

Park Address: 324 E Wausau Avenue

Park Type: Special-Use Park

Park Size: 4.2 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,238

2021 # of Households: 904

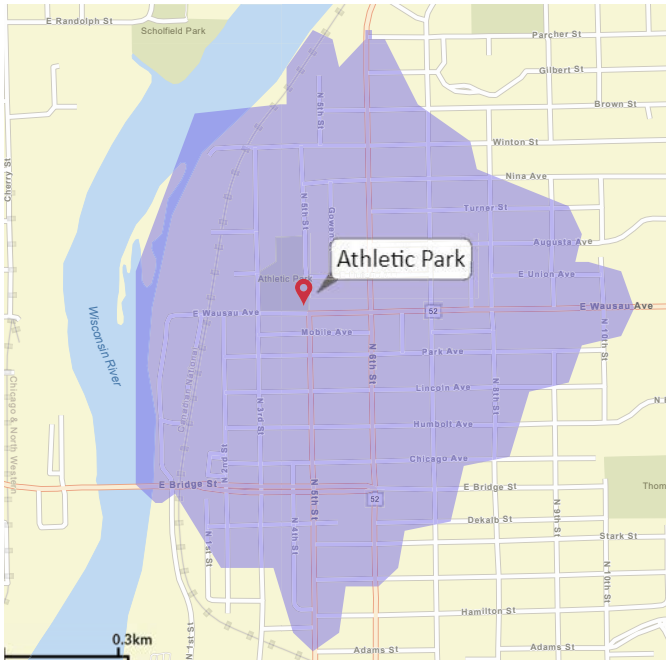
Household Median Income: \$41,630

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	2014	East of shelter
Play Equipment	2014	South of open space
Baseball Stadium	1950's - 2021	Corner of Wausau Ave and 3rd St
Picnic Shelter	2014	North of open space
Maintenance Garage	N/A	SW corner of park
Maintenance Shed	1950	Outfield
Lights	2014 - 2020	Outfield
Clubhouse	N/A	NE corner of park
Bicycle Parking	N/A	Outside of stadium
ADA Parking	N/A	E Union Ave

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Create a future parking plan.	High	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Create a scoreboard replacement plan (over the next 5 years).	Medium	\$15,000
Create a video board.	High	\$80,000 - \$200,000
Install ramp (in place of elevators).	Medium	\$80,000 - \$150,000
Plan for structural updates to clubhouse.	High	\$250,000 - \$500,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Boileau Park

Park Address: 2404 N 5th Street

Park Type: Special-Use Park

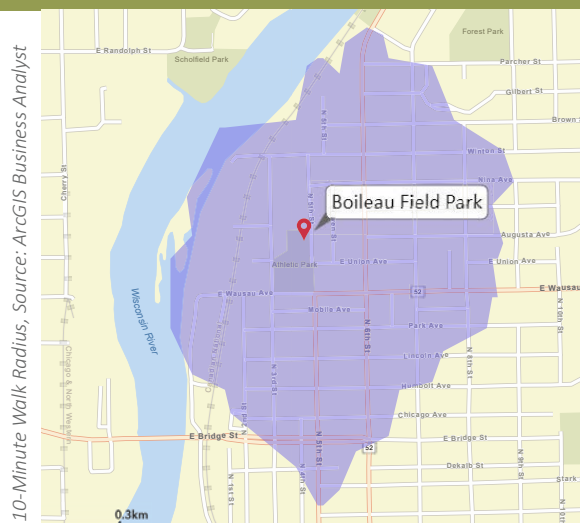
Park Size: 1.4 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 1,636

2021 # of Households: 658

Household Median Income: \$43,248



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Baseball	1958	North of Athletic Park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Improve access to the park (currently difficult because of one-way road).	Low	\$5,000 - signage \$100,000 - parking revision
Move bike rack to a hardscape surface.	Medium	\$300 - \$500
Repurpose field if it's not frequently used, or reposition it for a clubhouse.	High	TBD
Update ballfield and player area.	Low	\$150,000 - \$250,000



Stewart Park

Park Address: 508 10th Street

Park Type: Special-Use Park

Park Size: 1.9 acres

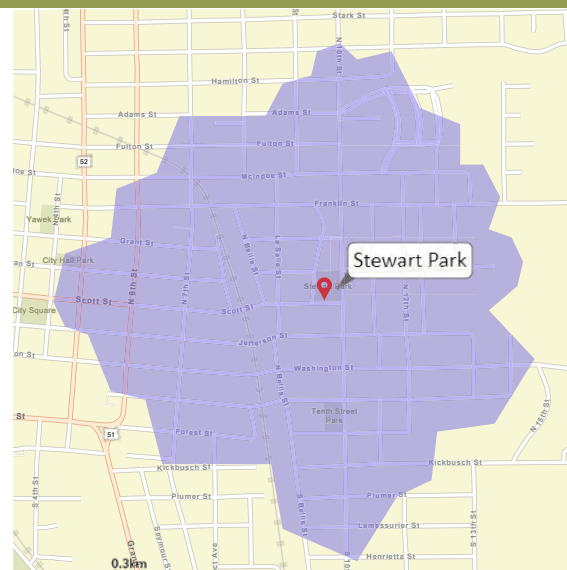
Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,640

2021 # of Households: 1,085

Household Median Income: \$37,218

10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Picnic Area	N/A	Throughout
Amphitheater/Stage	1926	West side of park
Event Area	N/A	On stage
Other Building	1920's	North end of park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Low	est. \$300 per bike rack
Plan a concert event or open mic night.	Medium	No Cost to \$20,000 depending on event



Kaiser Pool

Park Address: 900 E Bridge Street

Park Type: Special-Use Park

Park Size: 1.0 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,664

2021 # of Households: 1,049

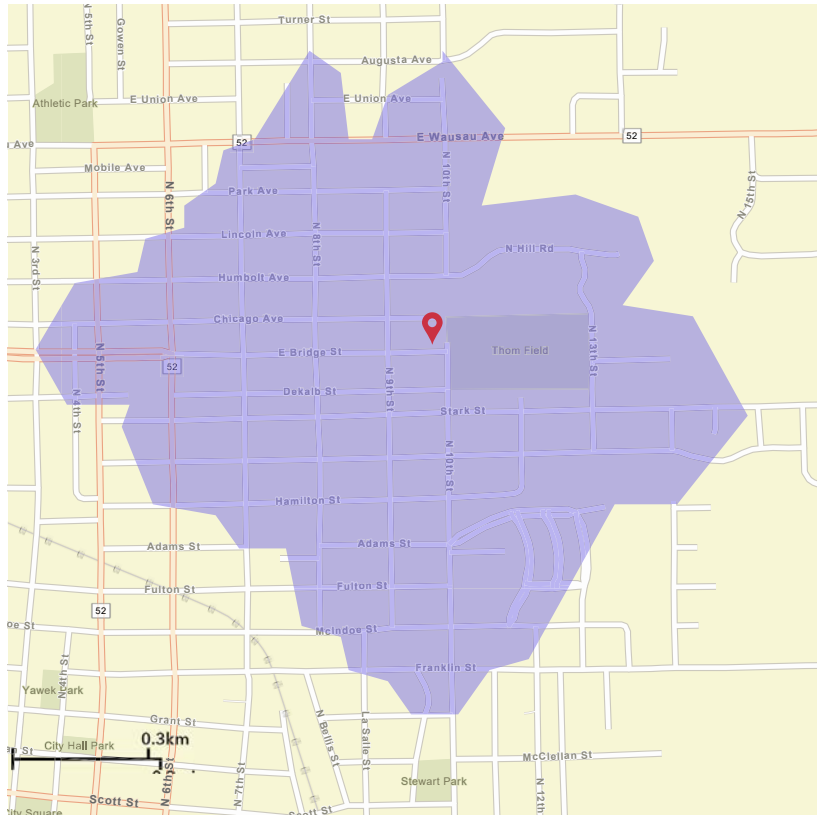
Household Median Income: \$55,015

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Picnic Area	2015	Around pool
Pool	2015	Includes slides
Pool Building	2015	West of pool
Restrooms	2015	Within pool building
Shade Structures	2015	North of pool
Bicycle Parking	N/A	Outside of pool
Automobile Parking	N/A	South of pool

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Install lighting.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$6,000 per pole
Repave parking area.	Low	\$76,500 - \$80,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Schulenburg Pool

Park Address: 1533 Summit Drive

Park Type: Special-Use Park

Park Size: 3.9 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 708

2021 # of Households: 286

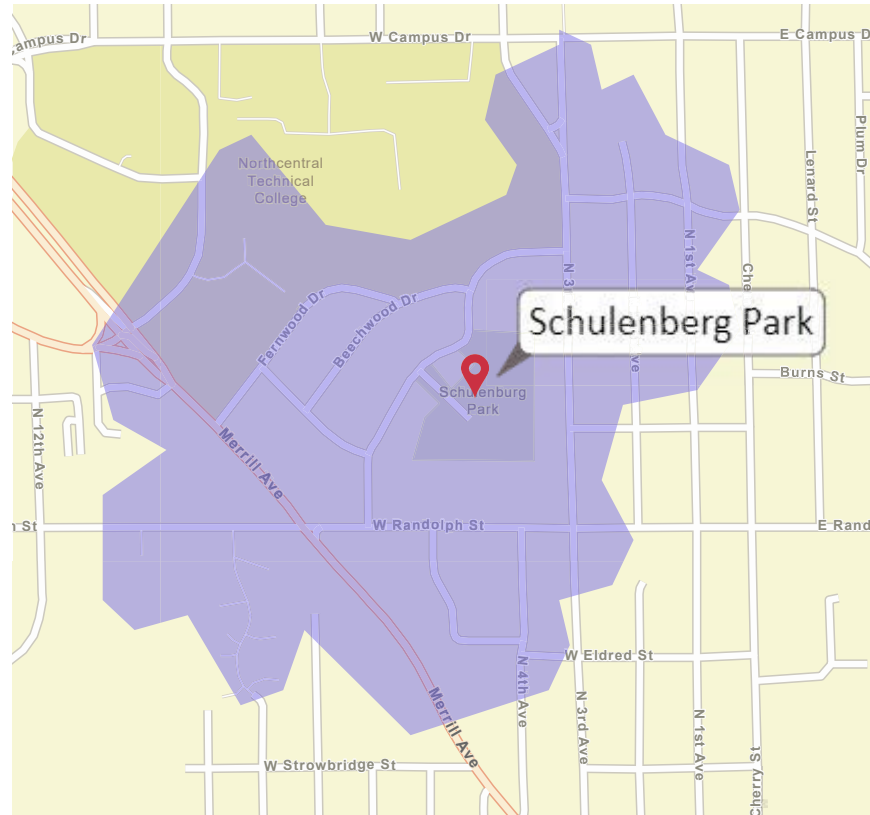
Household Median Income: \$47,247

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Picnic Area	2017	Around pool
Pool	2017	Includes slides
Sledding	N/A	School Facility
Pool Building	2017	South of pool
Restrooms	2017	Within shelter
Shade Structures	2017	East of pool
Drinking Water	N/A	N/A
ADA Accessibility	N/A	N/A
Bicycle Parking	N/A	Outside of pool
39-Stall Paved Parking Lot	2017	West of pool

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add outside picnic tables.	Medium	\$2,000 - \$3,000 ea. with concrete pad
Install lighting.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$6,000 per pole
Repair leaks.	High	\$10,000 - \$50,000 Pool assessment required



Two Hearts Dog Park

Park Address: 224 S 4th Street

Park Type: Special-use Park

Park Size: 2.0

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 2,640

2021 # of Households: 373

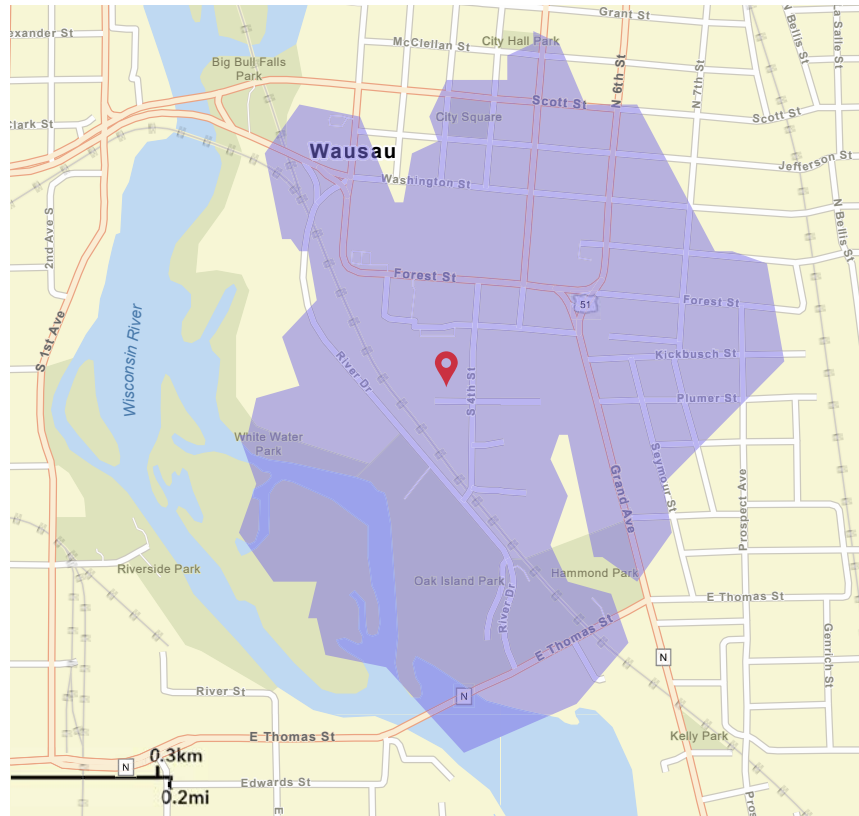
Household Median Income: \$37,218

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	2021	N/A
Chain Link Fence	2021	Around perimeter and entrance
Shelter	N/A	North of entrance
Drinking Water	2021	At entrance
ADA Accessibility	N/A	N/A
Automobile Parking	N/A	N/A
Entrance Sign	2021	Over entrance
Agility Equipment	2022	NW corner of park
9-Stall Paved Parking Lot	2021	East side of park

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add an open shelter on the small dog side of the park.	Low	\$20,000 - \$35,000
Add more trash cans within the park.	High	\$750 - \$1,500 ea.
Expand park.	Low	\$20,000 - \$40,000
Install better turf.	High	\$2 - \$3 per SY
Install lighting.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$6,000 per pole



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



White Water Park

Park Address: 200 River Drive

Park Type: Special Use Park

Park Size: 4.6 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 618

2021 # of Households: 305

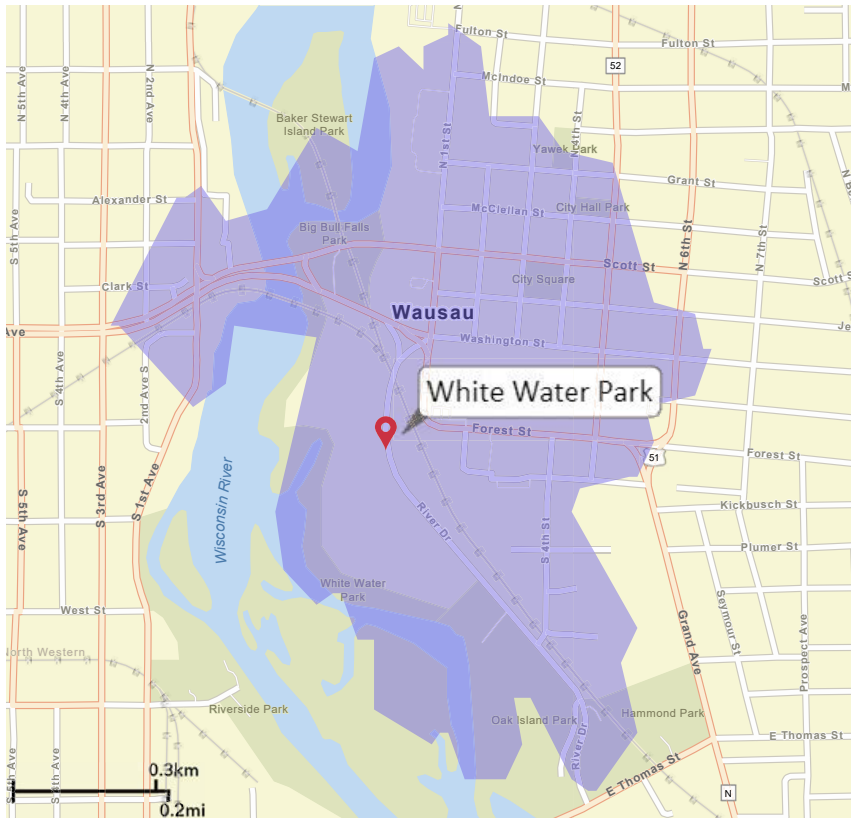
Household Median Income: \$29,885

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Kayak Launch	1983	Throughout
River/Lake Access	1983	Frm launches/shore
Walking/Biking Trails	2010	Rivers Edge Trail
Pedestrian Access	N/A	Via trail
Spectator Seating	2017 - 2021	Along east bank of river

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Create a pedestrian bridge to Clarke Island.	Low	\$250,000 - \$350,000
Add a safety element to protect people from the edge of the property.	Low	\$25,000 - \$80,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Barker-Stewart Island Park

Park Address: 600 Stewart Island
Park Type: Conservancy Park/Natural Area
Park Size: 11.0 acres

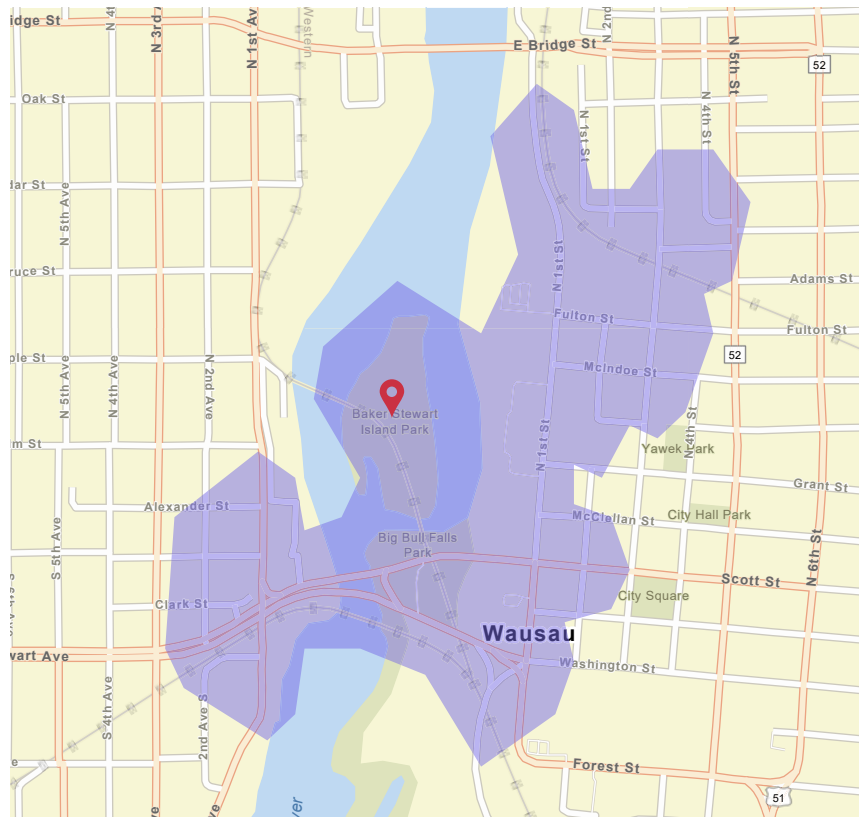
Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:
2021 Population: 489
2021 # of Households: 259
Household Median Income: \$28,156

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Fishing Area	N/A	From shore
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Around perimeter and to the south
Pedestrian Access/Bridge	N/A	Bridge from east
Mill Remnant	N/A	Within trail loop

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add picnic tables.	Medium	\$2,000 - \$3,000 ea. with concrete pad
Create a vegetation management plan for invasive species.	High	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Create access to west to River Edge trail.	Low	\$100,000 - \$150,000
Install lighting along trails.	Low	\$3,000 - \$5,000
Install small picnic shelters for day use.	Medium	\$15,000
Plant large trees.	Medium	\$350 - \$500 ea.
Repair bridge decking on both east and south bridge.	High	\$6,000 - \$20,000
Replace missing, damaged, or worn interpretive signage.	Medium	\$1,500 - \$5,000 ea.
Seal cracks in concrete pad for bench.	High	\$2,500 - \$5,000



Eau Claire River Conservancy

Park Address: 507 East Kent Street
Park Type: Conservancy Park/Natural Area
Park Size: 130.5 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 114

2021 # of Households: 53

Household Median Income: \$60,489

EXISTING FACILITIES

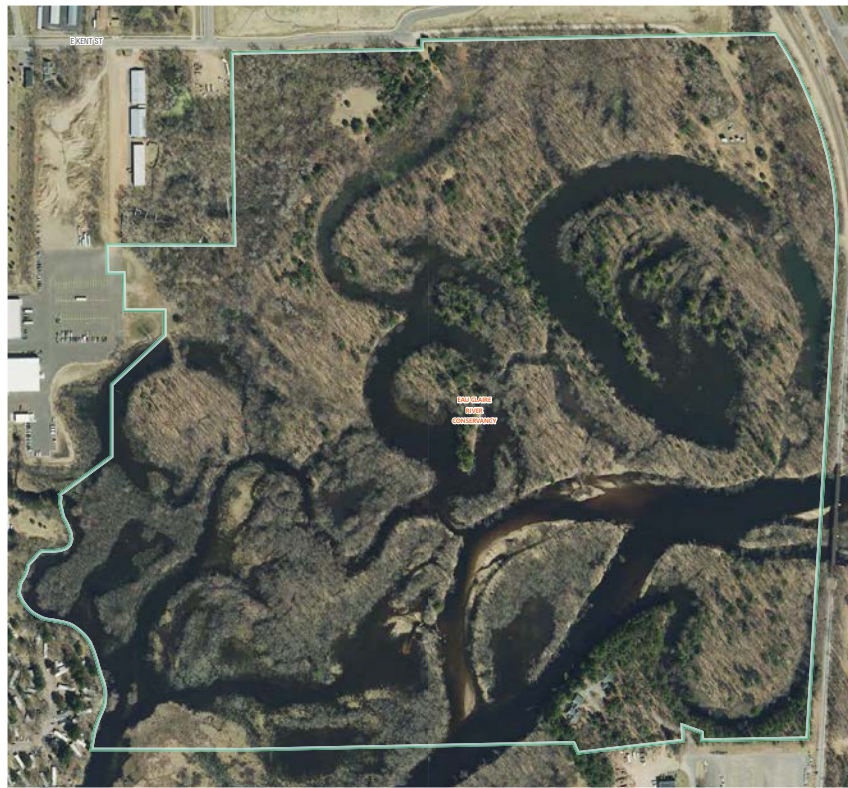
TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
Fishing Area	N/A	From shore
River/Lake Access	N/A	From shore
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Undeveloped
Wildlife	N/A	Throughout

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Create better signage and trail maps (explain how to use the site).	Medium	\$5,000 - \$7,500 ea.
Develop master plan with cost estimates.	High	\$50,000 - \$70,000
Improve trails to create additional trails.	Medium	\$20 - \$25 per LF
Install a boardwalk.	High	\$1,000 - \$1,600 per LF



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Gilbert Park

Park Address: 3000 N 6th Street
Park Type: Conservancy Park/Natural Area
Park Size: 6.0 acres

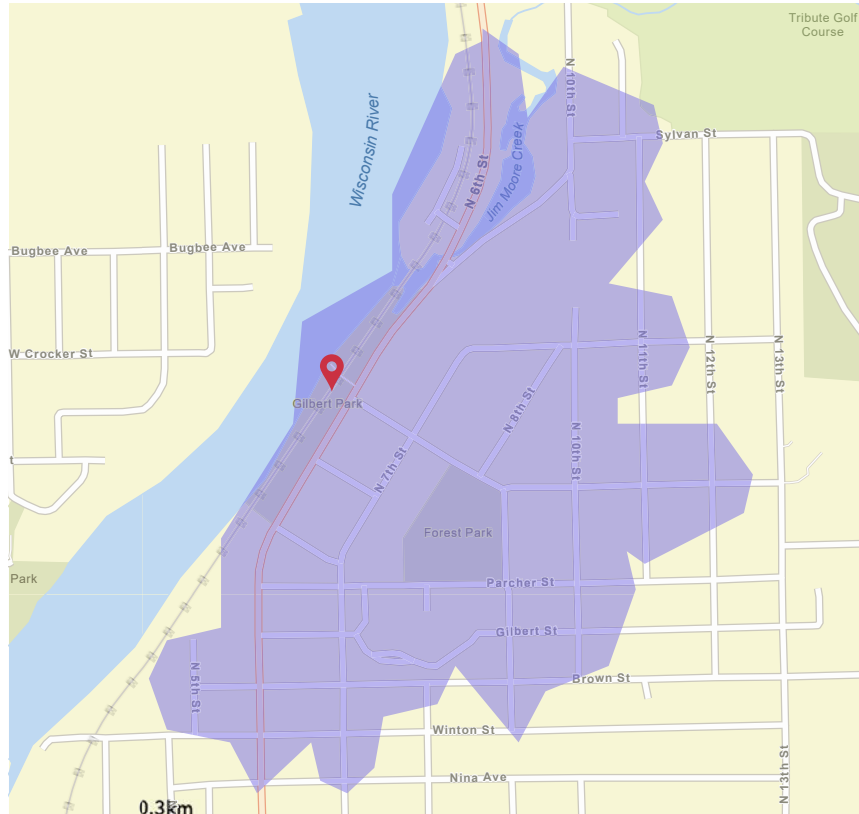
Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:
2021 Population: 754
2021 # of Households: 365
Household Median Income: \$69,535

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Picnic Area	N/A	Within park
Fishing Area	N/A	North of landing
Boat Launch	N/A	West of parking lot
River/Lake Access	N/A	From shore/launch
9-Stall and 6-Stall Parking Lot	N/A	West of railroad tracks

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add picnic tables.	High	\$3,000 ea. with concrete pad
Add signage to highlight history of the site along the sidewalk.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$5,000 ea.
Create a kayak launch.	High	\$50,000 - \$70,000
Create connection to Winton St with River Edge trail.	Medium	\$77,000
Widen trail to fishing area for handicap accessibility.	High	\$2,500 - \$6,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



Horgen Park

Park Address: 101 s 56th Avenue
Park Type: Undeveloped/Natural Area
Park Size: 4.4 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:* 2022

2021 Population: 622

2021 # of Households: 245

Household Median Income: \$89,257

10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	54th Ave and Beckman Dr

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add more trails.	Low	\$20 - \$25 per LF



Swiderski Park

Park Address: 3901 Jade Ave

Park Type: Conservancy Park/Natural Area

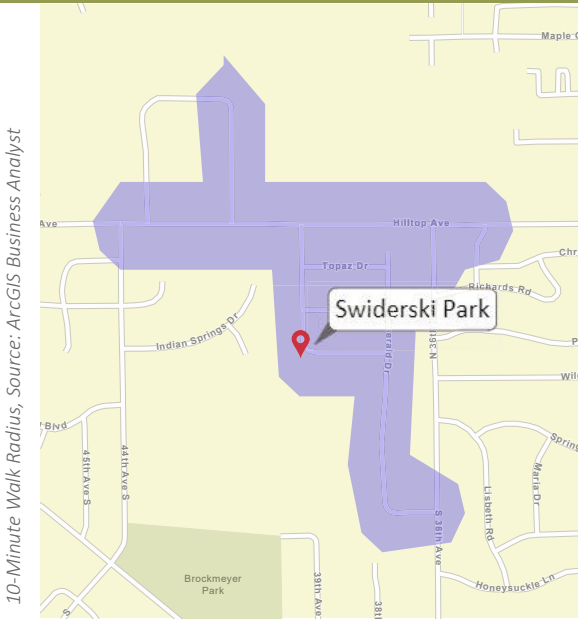
Park Size: 2.3 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:*2022

2021 Population: 246

2021 # of Households: 73

Household Median Income: \$86,624



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Undeveloped	N/A	N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Construct connector trail between Indian Court and Jade Avenue.	Low	\$20,000 - \$40,000
Develop a park master plan with potential uses.	Low	\$25,000 - \$30,000
Create a vegetation management plan.	Low	\$5,000 - \$10,000



Isle of Ferns Park

Park Address: 450 Island
Park Type: Conservancy Park/Natural Area
Park Size: 23.8 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 134
2021 # of Households: 112
Household Median Income: \$35,850

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Open Space	N/A	N/A
River/Lake Access	N/A	From shore
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Throughout
Wildlife (Special Event Area)	N/A	Throughout
Event Area	N/A	Within open space

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add a trail map at the park entrance.	High	\$5,000 ea.
Create a vegetation management plan.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Install lighting.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$6,000 per pole
Trail surfacing and directional signage.	High	\$100,000 - \$125,000



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst



McIndoe Park

Park Address: 104 W Washington Street

Park Type: Undeveloped/Natural Area

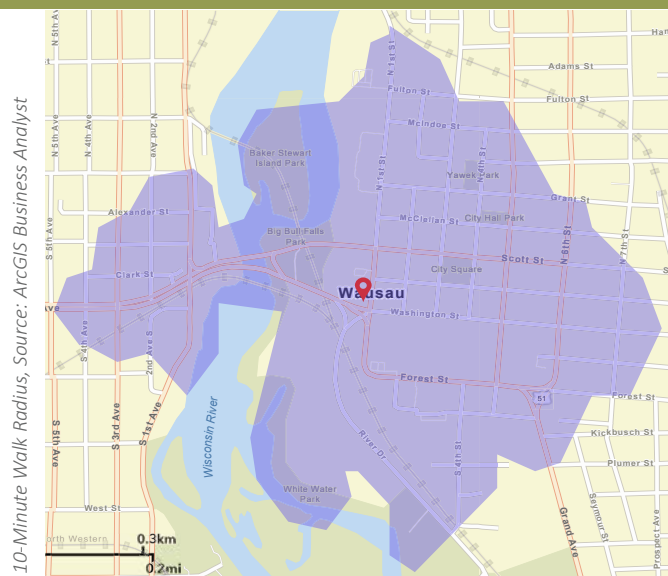
Park Size: 0.1 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:* 2022

2021 Population: 1,330

2021 # of Households: 482

Household Median Income: \$29,054



EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Sculpture	N/A	South of library

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add picnic tables.	Medium	\$2,000 - \$3,000 ea. with a concrete pad
Add signage.	High	\$5,000 - \$7,500 ea.
Prune trees.	High	Maintenance
Repair concrete bench.	Medium	Maintenance

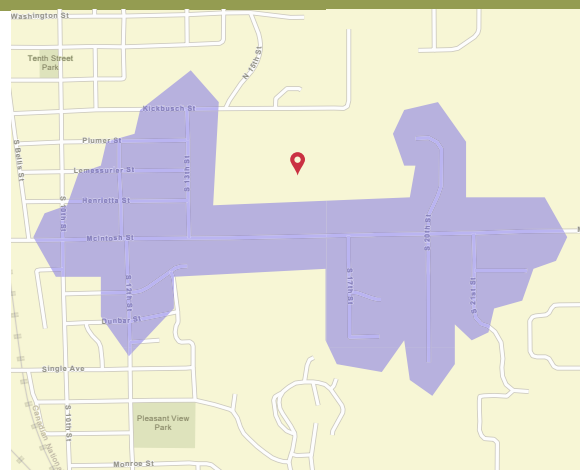


Paff Woods Preserve

Park Address: 1601 Kickbush Street
Park Type: Conservancy Park/Natural Area
Park Size: 20.6 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:

2021 Population: 498
2021 # of Households: 190
Household Median Income: \$39,596



10-Minute Walk Radius, Source: ArcGIS Business Analyst

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Walking/Biking Trails	N/A	Throughout
Wildlife	N/A	Throughout

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Add interpretive signage.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$7,500 ea.
Add more trails.	Low	\$20 - \$25 per LF
Create a vegetation management plan.	Medium	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Fix google address (currently wrong at McIntosh St.).	High	No Cost



Rib River Park

Park Address: 2115 W Thomas Street
Park Type: Undeveloped/Natural Area
Park Size: 39.4 acres

Within a 10-Minute Walk Radius:* 2022

2021 Population: 289.0

2021 # of Households: 141

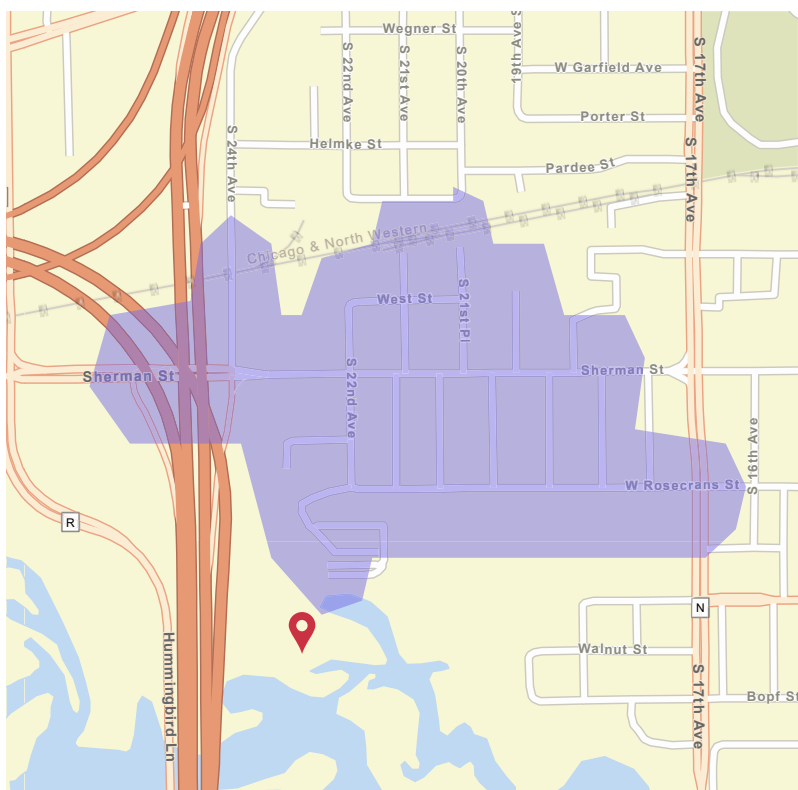
Household Median Income: \$49,624

EXISTING FACILITIES

TYPE	INSTALL YEAR	LOCATION
Undeveloped	N/A	N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS

IMPROVEMENT	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)	COST ESTIMATE
Develop a park master plan that includes drive, parking, and kayak launch.	Low	\$25,000 - \$30,000
Create a vegetation management plan.	Low	\$5,000 - \$10,000



RECOMMENDATIONS

5.2 NEW OR EXPANDED PARK FACILITIES

The City should develop new parks in areas that are under-served by existing facilities, where future residential expansion is expected to occur, or where the acquisition of park and open space will advance the goals and policies of this plan or the City of Wausau Comprehensive Plan. While there is currently relatively good geographic coverage of City parks, there are still pockets of the City where residential neighborhoods are outside the aggregate 10-minute walk radius. The City should focus on expanding, where possible, existing parks to increase acreage and use.

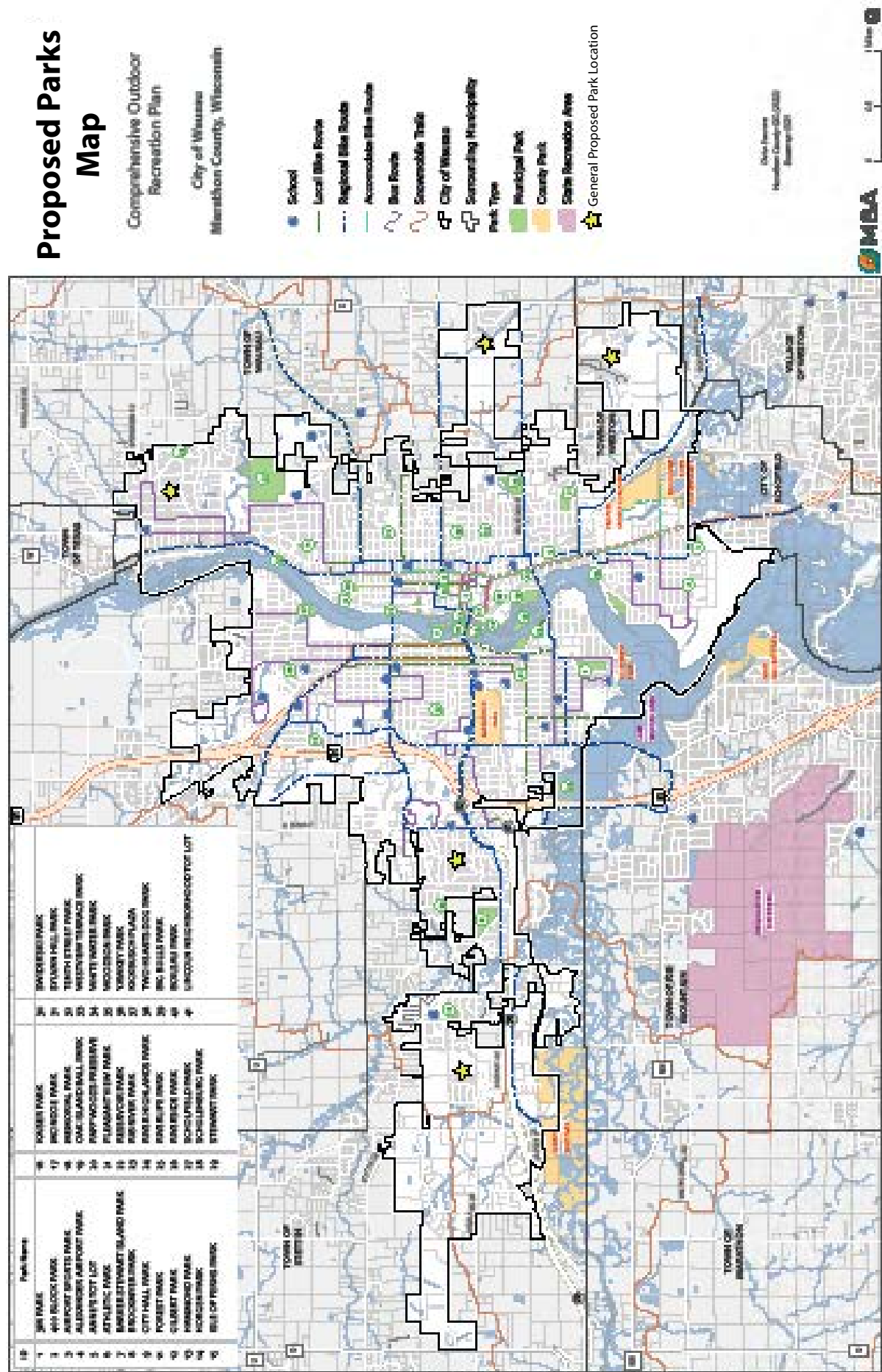
The Proposed Parks Map to the right identifies the general location for potential new facilities, based in part on the City's future land use plan (pg. 21), the Park Service Area Map (pg. 31), and discussion with City and County staff. These locations are relatively new residential subdivisions that lack neighborhood-level parks within easy walking distance; most are also near local schools, indicating that families live nearby. These are large, generalized areas used for planning purposes only, and any site locations listed should indicate demand in that general area, not necessarily at a specific site.

5.3 TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

Bicycle connections, both on-road and off-road, should be planned where feasible to connect growing population centers with the City's recreational assets. This includes direct routes (out and back), as well as recreational loops offering long distance riding opportunities without repeating route sections. These routes should be planned using signage where appropriate ("share the road", bicycle route, etc.), and highway shoulder widths increased when necessary due to traffic counts. Routes should meet standards of the WI Bicycle Planning Guide. **Within these guidelines, paved shoulders are recommended only for roads with traffic counts greater than 1,000 vehicles per day.**

As the City continues to expand in all directions, it is imperative that the City and County coordinate to add bicycle and pedestrian facilities as City and County roads are re-done or resurfaced. Special attention should be paid to the eastern sections of Wausau to create better trail connections from the new residential subdivisions into the core of the City. Roads of note for potential trail connections include McIntosh Rd (City-Owned) and County Hwy N, which partially runs through the Town of Weston.

Figure 5.1 Proposed Park and Trail Facilities



5.4 ONGOING RECOMMENDATIONS

In addition to action recommendations that will guide future facility development and acquisition in the City, these recommendations provide a basis for important updates, environmental protections, user engagement, and access that do not specifically require easement. Many of these recommendations are best programmatic practices the City should implement within the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry agency itself, while other require annual review of trends in use and detail specific classes of users (ADA access, etc.).

RECOMMENDATION	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)
Park System Wide Facility Recommendations	
Retrofit all parks and park facilities to be disabled accessible (when possible). This includes assuring barrier-free access to all play areas, shelters, river access points, seating areas and restrooms.	High
Where possible with existing infrastructure, assure that all parks are improved with ADA approved drinking fountains, picnic tables and other park components.	High
Consider the construction of park restrooms in parks that host events, host leagues and/or have high attendance and no restrooms.	Medium
Add more kayak launches throughout the City's park system.	Low
Add more pickleball courts, if possible.	Low
Park System Promotion & Education	
Continue to communicate with user groups over facilities updates; promote donations and formalized use agreements for maintenance.	High
Enhance the City webpage to include a parks location map and specific site maps for each park illustrating site layout and amenities.	High
Invite private partner groups to participate in periodic park update meetings to keep participation and awareness high for ongoing project endeavors.	Medium
Establish a community-wide wayfinding system that identifies key parks and bicycle routes along primary transportation corridors to and throughout the City. Regularly update all bicycle and park system maps as new facilities are developed.	High
Consider integrating rain gardens and bio-retention facilities, rain barrels, and other stormwater best management practices into existing facilities and proposed improvements.	Medium

RECOMMENDATION	PRIORITY (LOW-MED-HIGH)
Consider a variety of operational and maintenance activities that often can be accomplished for less cost; examples include limiting car idling and warming up.	High
When replacing and/or installing new lighting in City parks, consider fixtures that utilize solar regeneration and LED illumination to reduce long-term maintenance costs and minimize non-renewable energy use.	Medium
Improve promotion and communication of recreational programming with the public. Ensure classes are easy to view online, and consider sending out a quarterly mailer with class offerings.	High
Expand recreational programs for youth age 2 - 17.	Medium
Implement low maintenance plantings and landscaping.	Medium
Annually update the City's park maps and brochures to reflect the most current and relevant information available for prospective users.	High
Partner with agencies and utilize volunteers to provide educational and interpretive programs, trail and signage development, maintenance, etc.	Low
Coordinate or respond to requests for nature programs when possible to drive youth engagement.	Low
Annually report to the Parks and Recreation Committee and City Council the achievements from this plan, steps taken toward implementation, ranking of parks in need of master plans, and other key acquisitions, developments, or programs.	High

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Chapter 6

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION

This chapter summarizes tools and mechanisms that the City can use to fund implementation of the park, trail, and open space recommendations discussed in Chapter 5, plan adoption and plan amendments.

6.1 TOOLS AND MECHANISMS TO FUND IMPLEMENTATION

Maintenance and operational expenses for the Wausau and Marathon County's Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department are generally funded through property taxes and user fees. As the park system grows the need to increase funding to meet the basic maintenance and operational costs also grows. Often there are insufficient funds to undertake major capital improvement projects. There are a wide variety of potential funding sources to assist with up-front capital costs, including acquisition of land and the development of new recreational facilities.

Grant Programs

An important source of funding is grant programs offered by state and federal agencies, especially the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Table 6.1 provides a summary of common state and federal park and recreation grant programs. The table is not an exhaustive list of grant programs, rather those that are typically used by jurisdictions to supplement acquisition and development of park and recreation areas. Other grant programs may exist and information regarding funding details shown in Table 6.1 should be verified prior to seeking grant funding.

Community Fund-raising & Volunteer Groups

Community groups and civic organizations are sometimes willing to organize fundraising efforts to assist with costs, programming, and upkeep. They may also be able to organize volunteer labor to assist with small development projects such as trail creation, maintenance, or playground installations. Local business and corporate support should also be sought. Both non-profit and for-profit organizations can be rewarded for their support with acknowledgment on a plaque or sign at the site.

501(c)3 Foundation

The City can set up an endowment fund as an additional means of providing continual financial support for park acquisition and development. An endowment fund is a self-sustaining account, in which assets are invested. The annual disbursement amount of the fund is a set percent of assets, generally smaller than the accrued interest amount, which allows the value of the fund and assets to grow over time. A park endowment fund can provide a means for residents to provide ongoing donations to the City's park system with the certainty that the money donated will only be used for the advancement of recreation in the community. Gifts to an endowment fund are tax deductible under federal and state law.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

As part of a broader plan to redevelop an area, Cities, Villages, and Towns within the County can use tax increment financing to assist with parkland/trail acquisition and development. There are some limitations to what revenues from a TIF district can be used to pay for (e.g., generally the costs of constructing public buildings cannot be funded with TIF).

Tax Increment Districts are generally created for the purpose of stimulating redevelopment and new public and private investments. Tax increment can however be used for land acquisition and site development, but could not be used for construction of park shelters.

Under state statute 66.1105 a municipality can use tax increment to complete public improvements within a 0.5-mile radius of the TID, so long as the use of the funds supports and benefits the TID. Therefore, it may be possible for the City to use TIF increment to pay for trail improvement projects near TIDs that connect City trail and park systems.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The City of Wausau and Marathon County should work with the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC), Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission (Wausau MPO), and WisDOT to include recommendations of this Plan and/or future committees in annual updates of the Transportation Improvement Program, to

Table 6.1 Park and Recreation Grant Funding Programs

Funding Programs By Category	Maximum Award	Application Due Date	Granting Agency
Natural Heritage Land Trust (NHLT)			
A non-profit conservation organization that buys land and holds conservation easements. Conservation easements are voluntary agreements between a landowner and an easement holder (NHLT) to protect land by restricting certain uses. Conservation easements are voluntary and permanent.			
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)			
- This fund is used to implement projects that are identified by both the local and the state Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. - In general, land acquisition, development, and renovation projects for public outdoor recreation purposes are eligible LWCF projects. LWCF does not include the “nature-based outdoor recreation” restriction that the Stewardship Local Assistance Programs do.	50% local match required	1-May	DNR
Recreational Trails Program Grant			
- Eligible projects include: maintenance and restoration of existing trails, development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages, construction of new trails, and acquisition of easement or property for trails. - May only be used on trails which have been identified in or which further a specific goal of a local, county or state trail plan included or reference in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan required by the federal LAWCON.	Up to 50% of the total project costs of a recreational trail project. Payments are reimbursements on costs incurred after project approval.	1-May	DNR
Urban Forestry			
Provides technical service and financial assistance to communities for developing urban forestry programs. Priorities include: - Communities needing to develop an urban forestry plan; - Communities needing worker training; and - Communities needing to conduct a street tree inventory. Eligible projects include 1) Undertaking street tree inventories; 2) Training for Village tree workers; 3) Developing urban open space programs; 4) Developing urban forestry plans; 5) Developing a tree ordinance; 6) Developing a public awareness program; and, 7) Tree planting and maintenance	50% local match required. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$25,000.	1-Oct	DNR
Lake Protection and Classification Grants			
- Designed to assist lake users, lake communities and local governments as they undertake projects to protect and restore lakes and their ecosystems. Eligible projects include: - Purchase of property or a conservation easement - Restoration of wetlands - Development of local regulations or ordinances - Lake classification projects that allow counties to design and implement local land and water management programs that are tailored to specific classes of lakes in response to various development and recreational use pressures (these grants are limited to \$50,000). - Lake protection projects recommended in a DNR-approved plan including watershed management, lake restoration, diagnostic feasibility studies, or any other projects that will protect or improve lakes.	25% local match required. \$200,000 maximum per project.	1-May	DNR
Recreational Boating Facilities Grant			
- Construction of capital improvements to provide safe recreational boating facilities and for feasibility studies related to the development of safe recreational facilities. - Also includes purchase of navigation aids, dredging of channels of waterways, and chemically treating Eurasian water milfoil.	50% local match required	Established quarterly	DNR

Funding Programs By Category	Maximum Award	Application Due Date	Granting Agency
Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program			
The Stewardship Program was established in 1989 to preserve Wisconsin's most significant land and water resources for future generations and to provide the land base and recreational facilities needed for quality outdoor experiences.	50% local match required	1-May	DNR
These goals are achieved by acquiring land and easements for conservation and recreation purposes, developing and improving recreational facilities, and restoring wildlife habitat.			
This is an umbrella program that funds the following grants:			
Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)			
Helps to buy land or easements and develop or renovate local park and recreation area facilities for nature-based outdoor recreation purposed (e.g., trails, fishing access, and park support facilities).			
Urban Green Space (UGS)			
Helps to buy land or easements in urban or urbanizing area to preserve the scenic and ecological values of natural open spaces for nature-based outdoor recreation, including non-commercial gardening.			
Urban Rivers (UR)			
Helps to buy land on or adjacent to river flowing through urban or urbanizing areas to preserve or restore the scenic and environmental values of riverways for nature-based outdoor recreation.			
Acquisition of Development Rights Grants (ADR)			
Helps to buy development rights (easements) for the protection of natural, agricultural, or forestry values, that would enhance nature-based outdoor recreation.			

facilitate access to federal and state funding support. In particular, partner communities should request that “first priority” projects get included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Parkland Dedication

The City’s Municipal Code includes regulations regarding parkland dedication at a rate of 9/10 an acre per 100 people. Additionally, the total population of the planned subdivision or unified development is determined by summing the population per lot, or dwelling unit, based on a formula provided by zoning district (see Sec. 21.16.085(b)(3) for more information).

Comparable communities

Table 6.2 compares the City of Wausau’s land dedication requirements to comparable communities within the State. The City of Fond du Lac and City of Beloit based their land dedication requirements upon the number of dwelling units per acre or square feet, with Fond du Lac requiring 1 acre per 35 dwelling units, or 1,244 square feet per dwelling unit. This is slightly higher than the City of Beloit’s rate of 1,175 square feet per dwelling unit. The City of Wausau’s requirement of 9/10th an acre works out to 39,204 square feet per 100 people, or 392 square feet per person.

While the number of dwelling units does not correlate directly to the number of people within a proposed development, if it is assumed they are for the sake

of comparison, Wausau is requiring less land on a per unit basis than Fond du Lac or Beloit. The City of Manitowoc on the other hand devises its land dedication requirement as a percent of the total lot coverage, with different rates for different zoning districts.

When it is determined that land cannot be set aside for the purpose of public open space or parks within a proposed development, municipalities can charge fees in lieu of land dedication. The city of Wausau’s 2022 fee schedule provides different fee in lieu rates depending on the zoning district of the proposed subdivision or development. For planned and unified developments, the City charges different fees depending on the type of residential unit being proposed. The highest fee on a per unit basis is for duplexes (\$500 per duplex unit) and the lowest is for apartments (\$200 per apartment unit).

Amongst the comparable cities summarized in Table 6.2, only the City of Beloit provides a specific dollar amount per residential unit for its fees in lieu of parkland dedication: \$141, which is lower than all of Wausau’s fees. Per the City of Fond du Lac’s municipal code, an appropriate fee in lieu of parkland dedication is determined by the City Council at the time a building permit is issued. Similar to the land dedication requirements, the City of Manitowoc uses an average equalized assessed value for undeveloped land,

Table 6.2 Summary of Land Dedication Requirements and Budgets in Peer Cities

	City of Wausau	City Fond du Lac	City of Beloit	City of Manitowoc
Parkland Dedication Requirements	9/10 acre per 100 people; additional requirements based on zoning classification.	1 acre per 35 dwelling units	1,175 square feet per dwelling unit, and no less than 1 acre total; if no dwelling units are proposed, the rate is based on the number of dwelling units permitted by right within the zoning district.	Land dedication based upon the percent of total residential acreage proposed and the type of zoning district. R-1: 5% of acreage R-2, R-3: 7% of acreage R-4: 9% of acreage R-5, R-6, R-7: 10% of acreage
Fees in Lieu of Parkland Dedication	- SR-2, SR-3, SR-5, and SR-7: \$400/lot - DR-8, TF-10 and TF-12: \$500/lot - MRL-12, MRM-20 and MRH-50: \$200/unit - Planned and Unified Developments: \$400/SFH unit, \$500/duplex unit, \$200/apartment unit - Additional lots (replat or certified survey): \$400/additional lot	"a fee...shall be paid to the City for each dwelling unit. Public site fees shall be paid in the amount set by City Council resolution at the time of building permit issuance." Sec. 705-29(C)	" \$141 per residential unit permitted by right under the proposed subdivision and zoning in effect at the time of preliminary plat or condominium plat submittal...This fee amount shall be adjusted...by a percentage equal to the rate of consumer inflation." Sec. 12.11(1)(b)	"the subdivider shall in lieu thereof pay to the City a fee determined by taking an average equalized assessed value per acre of undeveloped property within the City... multiplied by the total gross residential acreage in the proposed subdivision (including street right-of-way)." Sec. 21.030(4)(f)((3)
Total Number of Parks	42	27	44	38
Total Park Acreage	513.9	715.45	924.4	712
2020 Decennial Census Population	39,994	44,678	36,657	34,626

multiplied by the total gross acreage of the proposed residential development, to determine its fees in lieu of parkland dedication.

Beyond parkland dedication and fees in lieu thereof, the City of Wausau could explore using park impact fees as a means of generating more funding for parkland acquisition and development. Additionally, the City could create a parkland dedication for commercial and industrial developments; as is common across the State of Wisconsin, Wausau's parkland dedication requirements only apply to proposed residential subdivisions. The City could explore examples of commercial and industrial land dedication requirements in the State of Minnesota, where such ordinances are more common.

6.2 ANTICIPATED FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

This section details generalized anticipated levels of funding required for necessary upkeep, renovation, acquisition, and development so that the City can maintain consistent service levels. It does not detail specific costs or funding sources, but rather anticipates a general annualized amount of plan funding required per year to implement the plan recommendations. These numbers are generally presented as a range, factoring in projected inflation for the entire scope of recommendations by level of priority.

Action Plan Priorities

The attached Action Plan details park upkeep and improvement recommendations based on three different priority levels: High, Medium, and Low. High-priority actions identified in this plan should be implemented by 2025, Medium-priority actions by 2027, and Low-priority actions beyond 2027. There are additional needs that may arise, so this Action Plan should be revised with every subsequent CORP.

Ranges of general costs include:

High-priority Recommendations:

- Budget of \$ \$443,144 - \$735,437 annually to 2023

Medium-priority Recommendations:

- Budget of \$ \$454,719 - \$751,108 annually 2023-2025

Low-priority Recommendations:

- Budget of \$ 3,389,290 - \$5,684,300

Medium- and low-priority budget recommendations

should be used as a baseline. New projects and park requirements will be added with new acquisition, planning, and evaluation of upkeep needs that will increase costs over time.

6.3 SYSTEM STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

Realizing the desire of residents for improved and expanded programming and operation of the City parks system, as well as recommendations of this plan, staffing will remain a key consideration in continued maintenance and operations.

Additional considerations include park improvements and plans that are already planned for and underway. The City currently has undeveloped parks within the system that will need to be expanded and developed to keep pace with desired levels of service. As these improvements move forward, additional staff capacity will be needed to administer additions and improvements to an expanded park system.

Additional conversations with staff during the planning process indicated that since the prior CORP, there has been significant increase in the amount of requests from community groups for events and staffing. While every attempt is made to accommodate all requests, there is not current capacity to meet all inquiries for service. This indicates that there exists a current need for expanded staff capacity to meet current demand, even without accounting for expansion of the system.

Staffing Trends and Structure

Due to the unique structure of the Department as a combined City/County Department, staffing levels cannot be directly compared to peer counties. As staff serve roles for both park systems, this creates unique opportunity for coordination, collaboration, and flexibility.

Under desire for maintaining levels of service, Department staffing has increased slightly since 2013, increasing from 42 to 44 full-time employees and one contracted Sheriff's deputy, although there has been no increase since 2016.

Due to the nature of parks systems, many positions are filled through seasonal staff. These staff levels have increased 17.6% for both the City and County since 2014. However, the City share of seasonal hours has increased by 24% compared to 10% for the County due to the aquatic centers. As more programming, upkeep, and maintenance are required on a seasonal basis (snowmaking, pool maintenance, etc.), more seasonal

staff will be required to fill positions, as well as more full-time staff to oversee administration of the system.

In order to continue to provide consistent levels of service under increased park planning, acquisition, and existing park development needs, more full-time staff will be required. In addition to expansion, the Department has a continued need to respond to current system needs in facilities and programs.

As facilities and programs expand in alignment with current City plans, the Department will need to add additional staff positions to ensure a consistent and maintained level of service.

To implement all recommendations under this and other plans, the Department will likely need to add 3 full-time staff positions over the next 5-year period. If additional and expanded community programming is identified as a priority need, the Department would also likely need to add 1 additional full-time position in recreational programming to ensure consistent, efficient, and effective implementation of expanded community programs.

6.3 PLAN ADOPTION & AMENDMENTS

This plan is adopted as a complement to the City Comprehensive Plan. As such, procedures for adoption of this plan, and future amendments follow similar Committee Recommendation and City Council approvals highlighted below:

Parks and Recreation Committee Recommendation

This CORP should be approved first by the Parks & Recreation Committee. The Committee should pass by a majority of its members a resolution to recommend the CORP for adoption by the City Council.

Plan Adoption

This plan and any future amendments become official City policy when the City Council passes, by a majority vote, a resolution to adopt. The Council may choose to revise the plan after it has been recommended by the Parks & Recreation Committee, and after any potential public hearing (optional). Once adopted, the plan will become a component of the city comprehensive plan. The city should follow all rules and procedures established in the citizen participation plan adopted as part of the comprehensive planning process (per State Statute 66.1001) when adopting this CORP.

Plan Amendment vs. Plan Update

Amendments can be made at any time, but the City should not amend the plan more than once per year. A common recommended approach is to establish a consistent annual schedule for consideration of minor plan amendments.

This plan should be updated every five years in order to maintain eligibility for Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Stewardship Funding. Unlike an amendment, a plan update would revisit the entirety of the plan content and include more robust opportunities for public participation.

6.4 ACTION PLAN

Table 6.3 Summary of Estimated Costs

Summary of Overall Estimated Improvement Costs	
High Priority	\$1,329,431 - \$2,206,311
Medium Priority	\$1,364,157 - \$2,253,324
Low Priority	\$3,389,290 - \$5,684,300
Total	\$6,082,878 - \$10,143,935

The Parks & Recreation Committee has prioritized certain recommendations for each existing park in the City of Wausau. These are explored park by park in Chapter 5. Table 6.3 lists these improvements in a singular list to provide easy access to desired improvements by park. Table 6.4 lists only the high-priority improvements, which are generally improvements with implementation schedules over the next three years (2022-2025). Medium-priority improvements generally should begin implementation between 2025-2027, and low-priority improvements beyond 2027.

Table 6.4 High Priority Park Improvements

Park Name	Improvement	Priority	Timeline	Cost (Low)	Cost (High)
3M Park	Baseball/Softball Fields: Replace 3rd base fence at south field.	High	1-3 Years	\$10,000	\$15,000
3M Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Alexander Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Alexander Park	Seal cracks in tennis court/Resurface tennis courts.	High	1-3 Years	\$55,200	\$55,200
Anne's Tot Lot	Add a bike rack.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Athletic Park	Create a future parking plan.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Athletic Park	Create a video board.	High	1-3 Years	\$80,000	\$200,000
Athletic Park	Plan for structural updates to clubhouse.	High	1-3 Years	\$250,000	\$500,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Create a vegetation management plan for invasive species.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Repair bridge decking on both east and south bridge.	High	1-3 Years	\$6,000	\$20,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Seal cracks in concrete pad for bench.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,500	\$5,000
Big Bulls Falls Park	Install lights.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Big Bulls Falls Park	Replace "You Are Here" map.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,000	\$5,000
Boileau Park	Repurpose field if it's not frequently used, or reposition it for a clubhouse.	High	1-3 Years	TBD	TBD
Brockmeyer Park	Reduce planting bed maintenance.	High	1-3 Years	\$4	\$8
Eau Claire River Conservancy	Develop master plan with cost estimates.	High	1-3 Years	\$50,000	\$70,000
Eau Claire River Conservancy	Install a boardwalk.	High	1-3 Years	\$1,000	\$1,600
Forest Park	Add trash receptacles at playground/shelter area.	High	1-3 Years	\$750	\$750
Gilbert Park	Add picnic tables.	High	1-3 Years	\$3,000	\$3,000
Gilbert Park	Create a kayak launch.	High	1-3 Years	\$50,000	\$70,000
Gilbert Park	Widen trail to fishing area for handicap accessibility.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,500	\$6,000
Hammond Park	Add hardscape surface at bike rack so it is accessible from both sides.	High	1-3 Years	\$1,500	\$2,500
Hammond Park	Remove playground equipment.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Isle of the Ferns Park	Add a trail map at the park entrance.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$5,000
Isle of the Ferns Park	Trail surfacing and directional signage.	High	1-3 Years	\$100,000	\$125,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Add picnic tables.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Install a gate or bollard at park entrance.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Install new playground (planned for 2022/2023).	High	1-3 Years	\$150,000	\$200,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Replace bike rack with Inverted-U style racks.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$300
McIndoe Park	Add signage.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$7,500
McIndoe Park	Prune trees.	High	1-3 Years	Maint.	Maint.
Memorial Park	Increase turning radius at boat launch.	High	1-3 Years	\$10,000	\$20,000
Memorial Park	Repair pool where pad is anchored.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,500	\$7,000
Memorial Park	Replace splitting timber column on upper shelter.	High	1-3 Years	\$8,000	\$12,000
Oak Island Park	Add additional features to skate park (planned for 2022/2023)	High	1-3 Years	\$50,000	\$100,000

Table 6.4 High Priority Park Improvements

Oak Island Park	Baseball Field: Install curb ramps at crosswalk on River Drive to baseball field	High	1-3 Years	\$2,500	\$5,000
Oak Island Park	Create paved path connections between restrooms, tennis courts, and ball field.	High	1-3 Years	\$27,475	\$30,000
Oak Island Park	Install a new restroom facility.	High	1-3 Years	\$125,000	\$160,000
Oak Island Park	Install bike racks (2) on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$600	\$1,200
Oak Island Park	Install lighting and security cameras at skate park.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Oak Island Park	Tennis Courts: Construct path between tennis court and tennis parking lot.	High	1-3 Years	\$16,200	\$18,000
Paff Woods Preserve	Fix google address (currently wrong at McIntosh St.).	High	1-3 Years	No Cost	No Cost
Pleasant View Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Reservoir Park	Plant more trees around tank.	High	1-3 Years	\$500	\$500
River Edge Parkway/Trail Corridor	Add bike service station at park entrance.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,000	\$2,000
River Edge Parkway/Trail Corridor	Address gap in connection on east trail.	High	1-3 Years	TBD	TBD
River Highlands Park	Expand park amenities (new playground planned for FY 2023).	High	1-3 Years	\$150,000	\$300,000
River Highlands Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
River Highlands Park	Re-stripe three-point line on basketball court.	High	1-3 Years	\$500	\$1,500
Riverlife Park	Install an additional sign next to Wausau on Water.	High	1-3 Years	\$5,000	\$7,500
Riverlife Park	Replace turf at the challenge course.	High	1-3 Years	\$25,000	\$40,000
Riverside Park	Playground: Install benches (2) on concrete pads.	High	1-3 Years	\$3,000	\$3,000
Riverside Park	Reconfigure ADA parking at south lot to allow for a connection to the asphalt path (a light post is blocking possible connection).	High	1-3 Years	\$2,500	\$7,500
Scholfield Park	Create connecting trails.	Low	5+ Years	\$17,500	\$20,000
Scholfield Park	Install asphalt path from sidewalk on Randolph to existing path at north ball field.	High	1-3 Years	\$8,000	\$10,000
Scholfield Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Scholfield Park	Paint equipment shed at north ball field.	High	1-3 Years	Maint.	Maint.
Scholfield Park	Pave gravel parking lot.	High	1-3 Years	\$56,000	\$60,000
Scholfield Park	Replace scoreboard at south ball field.	High	1-3 Years	\$15,000	\$20,000
Schulenburg Pool	Repair leaks.	High	1-3 Years	\$10,000	\$50,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Add a hiking trail map for summertime use.	High	1-3 Years	\$2,000	\$5,000
Tenth Street Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
Tenth Street Park	Install trash receptacle at playground.	High	1-3 Years	\$750	\$750
The 400 Block Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	High	1-3 Years	\$300	\$500
The 400 Block Park	Repair pillars (scheduled for 2022).	High	1-3 Years	-	-
Two Hearts Dog Park	Add more trash cans within the park.	High	1-3 Years	\$750	\$1,500
Two Hearts Dog Park	Install better turf.	High	1-3 Years	\$2	\$3
Woodson Park	Ensure park is easier to search and locate online.	High	1-3 Years	No Cost	No Cost

Table 6.5 Medium Priority Park Improvement

Park Name	Improvement	Priority	Timeline	Cost (Low)	Cost (High)
3M Park	Add new restroom building.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$125,000	\$250,000
3M Park	Basketball Courts: Resurface and restripe basketball court (include three point line).	Medium	3-5 Years	\$10,000	\$18,000
3M Park	Create more trails and trail connections.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$20	\$25
Airport Park	Add sidewalk.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$16,470	\$18,000
Airport Park	Install bike racks on hardscape surface.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$300	\$500
Airport Park	Repave parking lot and road.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$64,400	\$75,000
Athletic Park	Create a scoreboard replacement plan (over the next 5 years).	Medium	3-5 Years	\$15,000	\$15,000
Athletic Park	Install ramp (in place of elevators).	Medium	3-5 Years	\$80,000	\$150,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Add picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Install small picnic shelters for day use.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$15,000	\$15,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Plant large trees.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$350	\$500
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Replace missing, damaged, or worn interpretive signage.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$1,500	\$5,000
Big Bulls Falls Park	Remove or replace shelter.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$20,000	\$70,000
Big Bulls Falls Park	Seal cracks in asphalt and concrete.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$8,000	\$20,000
Boileau Park	Move bike rack to a hardscape surface.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$300	\$500
Brockmeyer Park	Baseball Fields: Install drinking fountain.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$9,000	\$9,000
Brockmeyer Park	Construct path from parking lot to baseball field.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$15,750	\$15,750
Brockmeyer Park	Install a turf field or additional baseball diamonds.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$50,000	\$70,000
Eau Claire River Conservancy	Create better signage and trail maps (explain how to use the site).	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$7,500
Eau Claire River Conservancy	Improve trails to create additional trails.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$20	\$25
Forest Park	Add sidewalk/path between the pavilion, playground, and tennis courts.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$17,500	\$17,500
Forest Park	Install drinking fountain at tennis courts.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$9,000	\$10,000
Forest Park	Update tennis courts.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$56,120	\$56,120
Gilbert Park	Add signage to highlight history of the site along the sidewalk.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$5,000
Gilbert Park	Create connection to Winton St with River Edge trail.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$77,000	\$77,000
Hammond Park	Repair gazebo roof (re-shingle).	Medium	3-5 Years	\$8,000	\$10,000
Isle of the Ferns Park	Create a vegetation management plan.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Isle of the Ferns Park	Install lighting.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Kaiser Pool	Install lighting.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Seal crack in asphalt.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,500	\$4,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Update signage (currently says Werle Park).	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$7,500
McIndoe Park	Add picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
McIndoe Park	Repair concrete bench.	Medium	3-5 Years	Maint.	Maint.
Memorial Park	Baseball Field: Repaint dugouts and press box.	Medium	3-5 Years	Maint.	\$4,000

Table 6.5 Medium Priority Park Improvements

Memorial Park	Create a sidewalk trail all the way into the park from Sturgeon Eddy Rd.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$45,000	\$60,000
Memorial Park	Create a vegetation management plan for the park's natural area.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Memorial Park	Create trail connections to ball diamonds.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$8,000	\$10,000
Memorial Park	Extend walkway.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$23,275	\$25,000
Memorial Park	Install new disc golf signage.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$3,000	\$7,500
Memorial Park	Repave parking lots.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$135,200	\$135,200
Oak Island Park	Paint and upgrade north shelter by farmers market.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$20,000	\$30,000
Oak Island Park	Tennis Courts: Paint ball return wall.	Medium	3-5 Years	Maint.	\$2,500
Paff Woods Preserve	Add interpretive signage.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$7,500
Paff Woods Preserve	Create a vegetation management plan.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Pleasant View Park	Install a tennis court practice wall.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$8,000	\$15,000
Pleasant View Park	Update park shelter.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$20,000	\$50,000
Reservoir Park	Construct asphalt path from Maple Street to playground.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$7,000	\$8,500
Reservoir Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$300	\$500
River Edge Parkway/Trail Corridor	Add trash cans along the trail.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$750	\$1,200
River Edge Parkway/Trail Corridor	Decrease the amount of plantings to lessen maintenance.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2	\$4
River Highlands Park	Add more picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Riverside Park	Basketball/Volleyball Court: Paint lines on basketball/volleyball court.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$1,500	\$5,000
Riverside Park	Improve advertisement of picnic island; consider planning an event at the location.	Medium	3-5 Years	No Cost	\$5,000
Riverside Park	Install 2 bike polo courts with parking.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$150,000	\$200,000
Riverside Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$300	\$500
Riverside Park	Resurface parking lot.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$80,000	\$280,000
Schofield Park	Add more picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Schulenburg Pool	Add outside picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Schulenburg Pool	Install lighting.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Stewart Park	Plan a concert event or open mic night.	Medium	3-5 Years	No Cost	\$20,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Create a vegetation management plan for natural areas.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Create trail connections to parking lot.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$70,000	\$100,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Install asphalt path from shelter to playground.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$8,000	\$12,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$300	\$500
Sylvan Hill Park	Repave & restripe north parking lot.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$192,000	\$200,000
Tenth Street Park	Add more picnic tables and benches.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Tenth Street Park	Create trail access and connections from sidewalk.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,500	\$7,500
Tenth Street Park	Install asphalt path to playground and basketball courts.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$10,500	\$10,500
Tenth Street Park	Seal cracks in basketball court, resurface and cut expansion joint between courts.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$10,000	\$15,000
Two Hearts Dog Park	Install lighting.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Westview Terrace Park	Add more picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$2,000	\$3,000
Westview Terrace Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$300	\$500
Yawkey Park	Add picnic tables.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$3,000	\$3,000
Yawkey Park	Reconstruct trails.	Medium	3-5 Years	\$15,000	\$25,000

Table 6.6 Low Priority Park Improvements

Park Name	Improvement	Priority	Timeline	Cost (Low)	Cost (High)
3M Park	Add a shelter at the top of the sledding hill.	Low	5+ Years	\$50,000	\$60,000
3M Park	Expand playground.	Low	5+ Years	\$40,000	\$80,000
Airport Park	Add another use for the winter season.	Low	5+ Years	\$50,000	\$75,000
Airport Park	Replace interior sidewalks/trails	Low	5+ Years	\$91,200	\$95,000
Alexander Park	Add grills.	Low	5+ Years	\$500	\$1,000
Alexander Park	Add water fountains.	Low	5+ Years	\$9,000	\$12,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Create access to west to River Edge trail.	Low	5+ Years	\$100,000	\$150,000
Baker-Stewart Island Park	Install lighting along trails.	Low	5+ Years	\$3,000	\$5,000
Big Bulls Falls Park	Improve parking information.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$7,500
Boileau Park	Improve access to the park (currently difficult because of one-way road).	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$100,000
Boileau Park	Update ballfield and player area.	Low	5+ Years	\$150,000	\$250,000
Brockmeyer Park	Re-shingle roof of shelter.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$35,000
Brockmeyer Park	Upgrade restroom.	Low	5+ Years	\$100,000	\$150,000
Forest Park	Create a forest management plan.	Low	5+ Years	\$10,000	\$20,000
Forest Park	Install more lighting.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Hammond Park	Add a park bench swing.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$8,000
Hammond Park	Create an outdoor adult exercise area.	Low	5+ Years	\$40,000	\$80,000
Horgen Park	Add more trails.	Low	5+ Years	\$20	\$25
Kaiser Pool	Repave parking area.	Low	5+ Years	\$76,500	\$80,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Add an open shelter.	Low	1-3 Years	\$20,000	\$30,000
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot	Add swings.	Low	5+ Years	\$8,000	\$10,000
Memorial Park	Add a handicap/accessible boat launch.	Low	5+ Years	\$60,000	\$75,000
Memorial Park	Install a larger playground.	Low	5+ Years	\$200,000	\$300,000
Memorial Park	New restroom building.	Low	5+ Years	\$125,000	\$160,000
Memorial Park	Replace sea wall.	Low	5+ Years	\$500,000	\$750,000
Memorial Park	Tennis Courts: Cut expansion joint in court surface to prevent future cracking.	Low	5+ Years	\$2,500	\$5,000
Memorial Park	Tennis Courts: Move basketball hoop to new area to prevent conflicts with tennis and	Low	5+ Years	\$2,500	\$5,000
Memorial Park	Tennis Courts: Seal cracks in court surface.	Low	5+ Years	\$8,000	\$12,000
Oak Island Park	Add more trash cans along the river path.	Low	5+ Years	\$750	\$750
Oak Island Park	Tennis Courts: Stripe two courts for pickleball/tennis combo.	Low	5+ Years	\$6,000	\$8,000
Paff Woods Preserve	Add more trails.	Low	5+ Years	\$20	\$25
Pleasant View Park	Resurface tennis courts.	Low	5+ Years	\$65,000	\$65,000
Pleasant View Park	Tennis Courts: Cut expansion joints between courts to prevent future cracking.	Low	5+ Years	\$2,500	\$5,000
Pleasant View Park	Tennis Courts: Move basketball hoop to a new area.	Low	5+ Years	\$2,500	\$5,000

Table 6.6 Low Priority Park Improvements

Pleasant View Park	Update sledding hill.	Low	5+ Years	\$15,000	\$45,000
Reservoir Park	Add a water fountain.	Low	5+ Years	\$9,000	\$10,000
Reservoir Park	Install a larger playground.	Low	5+ Years	\$200,000	\$260,000
Rib River Park	Create a vegetation management plan.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Rib River Park	Develop a park master plan that includes drive, parking, and kayak launch.	Low	5+ Years	\$25,000	\$30,000
River Edge Parkway/Trail Corridor	Connect to Gilbert Park.	Low	5+ Years	-	-
River Highlands Park	Add an open shelter with a grill.	Low	5+ Years	\$22,000	\$40,000
Riverlife Park	Create a yard game section.	Low	5+ Years	\$2,000	\$2,500
Riverside Park	Add a volleyball court instead of, or in addition to, a ball field.	Low	5+ Years	\$30,000	\$80,000
Riverside Park	Create trail connections to the north.	Low	5+ Years	\$35,000	\$80,000
Scholfield Park	Add an open shelter.	Low	5+ Years	\$45,000	\$60,000
Scholfield Park	Add restroom.	Low	5+ Years	\$125,000	\$160,000
Scholfield Park	Create connecting trails.	Low	5+ Years	\$17,500	\$20,000
Stewart Park	Install bike rack on hardscape surface.	Low	5+ Years	\$300	\$500
Swiderski Park	Construct connector trail between Indian Court and Jade Avenue.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$40,000
Swiderski Park	Create a vegetation management plan.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
Swiderski Park	Develop a park master plan with potential uses.	Low	5+ Years	\$25,000	\$30,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Modernize chalet.	Low	5+ Years	\$50,000	\$150,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Expand chalet.	Low	5+ Years	\$100,000	\$500,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Install lighting at parking lot.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$6,000
Sylvan Hill Park	Update tow rope system.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$40,000
Tenth Street Park	Add another amenity, like a volleyball court or other winter season use.	Low	5+ Years	\$50,000	\$75,000
Tenth Street Park	Add more playground equipment.	Low	5+ Years	\$75,000	\$90,000
The 400 Block Park	Add cornhole for families.	Low	5+ Years	\$5,000	\$10,000
The 400 Block Park	City to add a public restroom in downtown	Low	5+ Years	\$150,000	\$400,000
The 400 Block Park	Install a video system.	Low	5+ Years	\$25,000	\$100,000
The 400 Block Park	Install sign/kiosk with 400 Block event calendar and posters.	Low	5+ Years	\$8,000	\$10,000
Two Hearts Dog Park	Add an open shelter on the small dog side of the park.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$35,000
Two Hearts Dog Park	Expand park.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$40,000
Westview Terrace Park	Add an open shelter.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$35,000
Westview Terrace Park	Add sidewalks.	Low	5+ Years	\$2,500	\$5,000
Westview Terrace Park	Add trail connections.	Low	5+ Years	TBD	TBD
Westview Terrace Park	Install new playground equipment.	Low	5+ Years	\$200,000	\$200,000
White Water Park	Add a safety element to protect people from the edge of the property.	Low	5+ Years	\$25,000	\$80,000
White Water Park	Create a pedestrian bridge to Clarke Island.	Low	5+ Years	\$250,000	\$350,000
Yawkey Park	Add irrigation.	Low	5+ Years	\$20,000	\$35,000



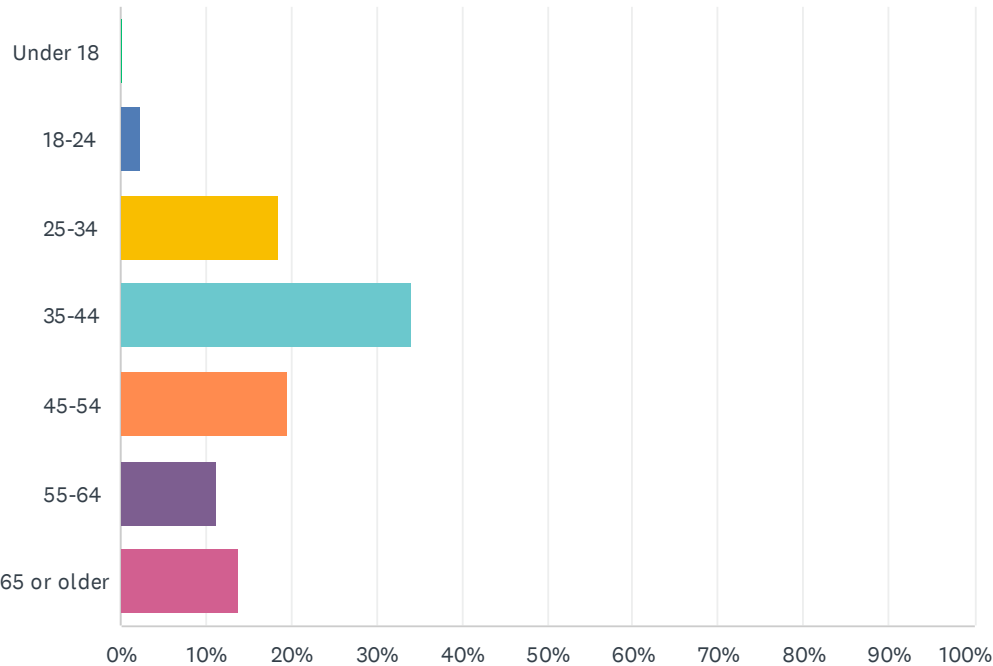
Wausau & Marathon County
**Parks, Recreation
& Forestry**

Appendix A: Survey Results

A list of open-ended question responses is available upon request from the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department

Q1 What is your age?

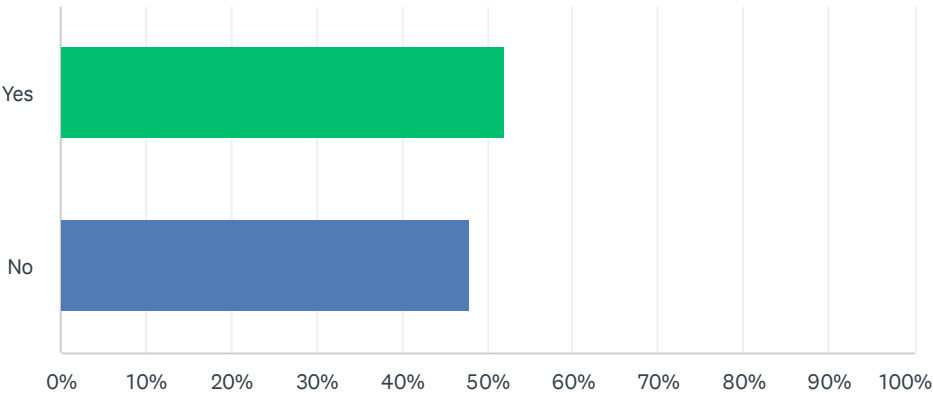
Answered: 623 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.16%	1
18-24	2.41%	15
25-34	18.46%	115
35-44	34.03%	212
45-54	19.58%	122
55-64	11.40%	71
65 or older	13.96%	87
TOTAL		623

Q2 Do you have any children under the age of 18 living in your home?

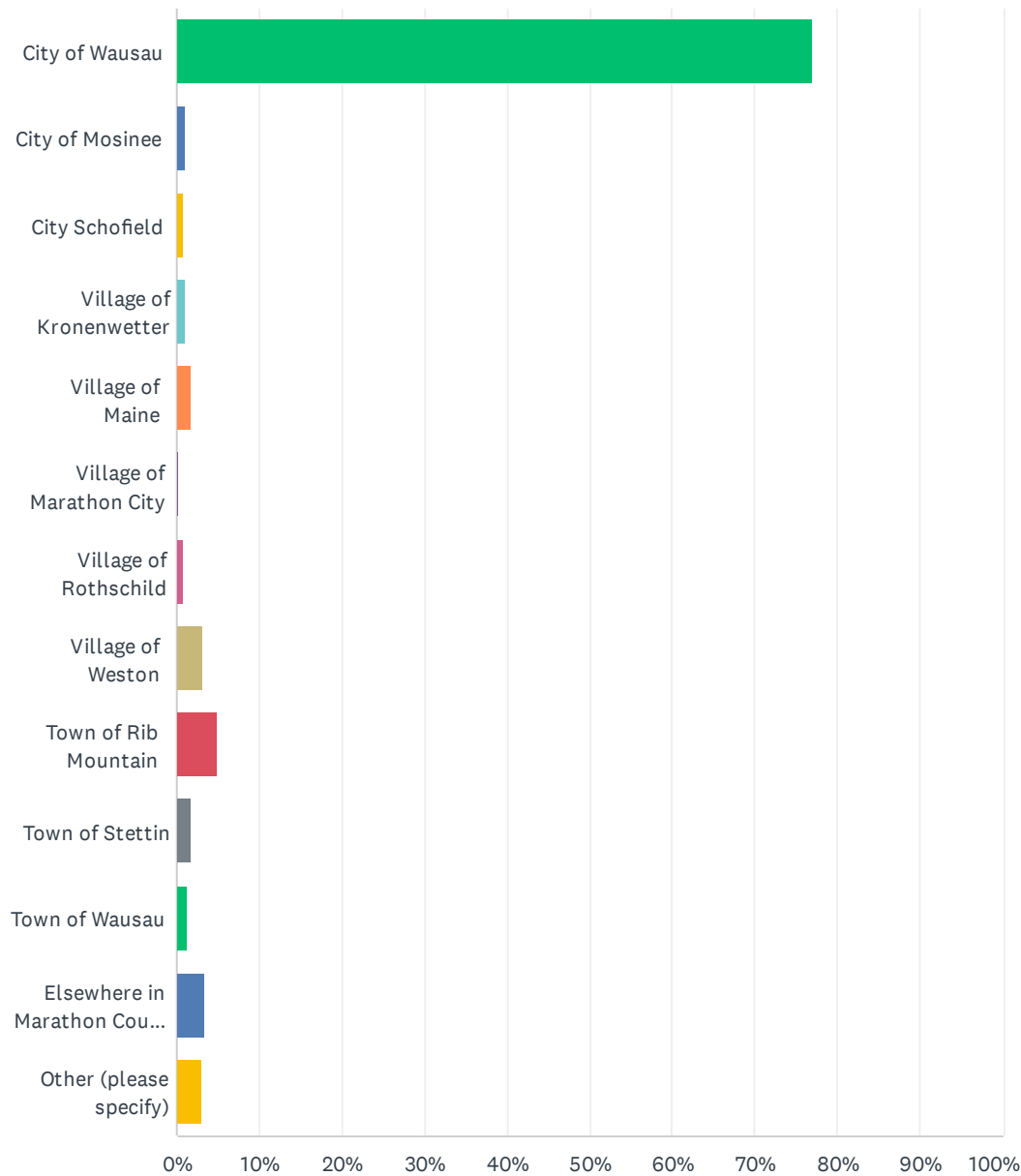
Answered: 623 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	52.01%	324
No	47.99%	299
TOTAL		623

Q3 Where do you live?

Answered: 623 Skipped: 3

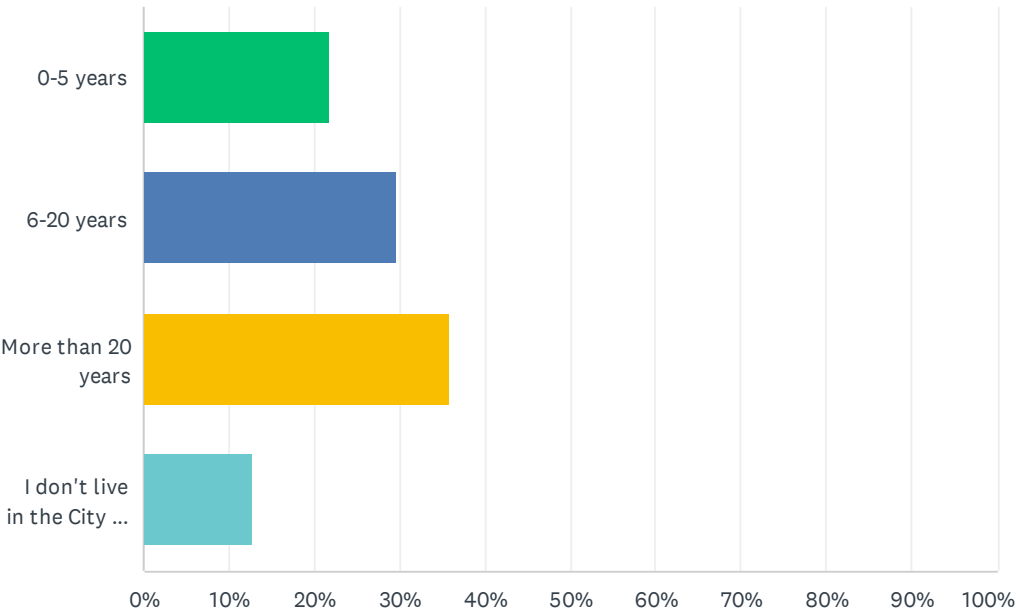


City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
City of Wausau	77.05%	480
City of Mosinee	0.96%	6
City Schofield	0.80%	5
Village of Kronenwetter	1.12%	7
Village of Maine	1.61%	10
Village of Marathon City	0.16%	1
Village of Rothschild	0.80%	5
Village of Weston	3.21%	20
Town of Rib Mountain	4.82%	30
Town of Stettin	1.77%	11
Town of Wausau	1.28%	8
Elsewhere in Marathon County	3.37%	21
Other (please specify)	3.05%	19
TOTAL		623

Q4 How long have you lived in the City of Wausau?

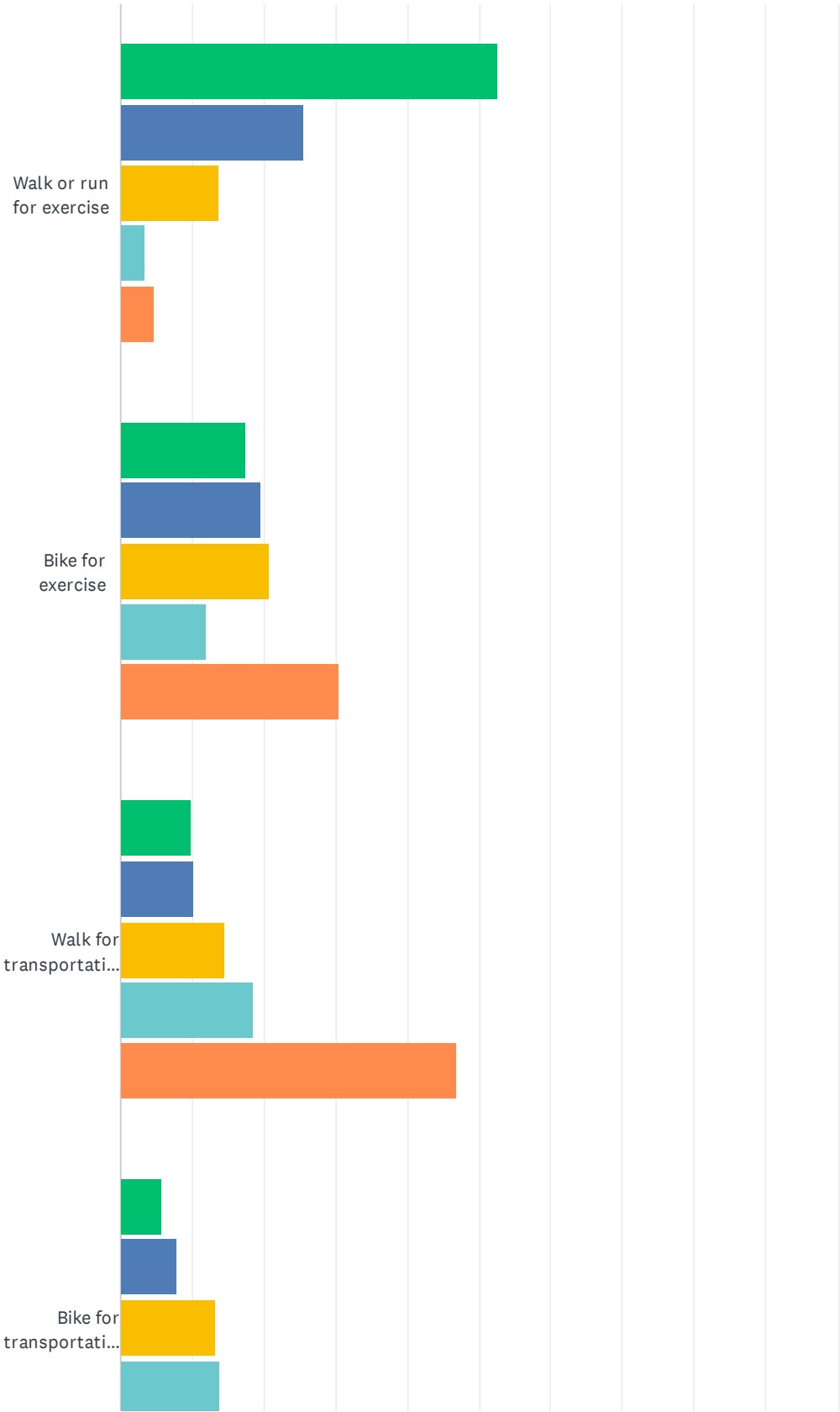
Answered: 623 Skipped: 3



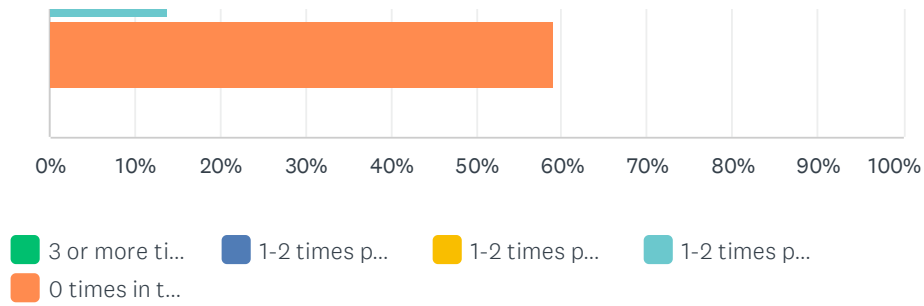
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-5 years	21.83%	136
6-20 years	29.53%	184
More than 20 years	35.79%	223
I don't live in the City of Wausau	12.84%	80
TOTAL		623

Q5 How often do you....

Answered: 552 Skipped: 74



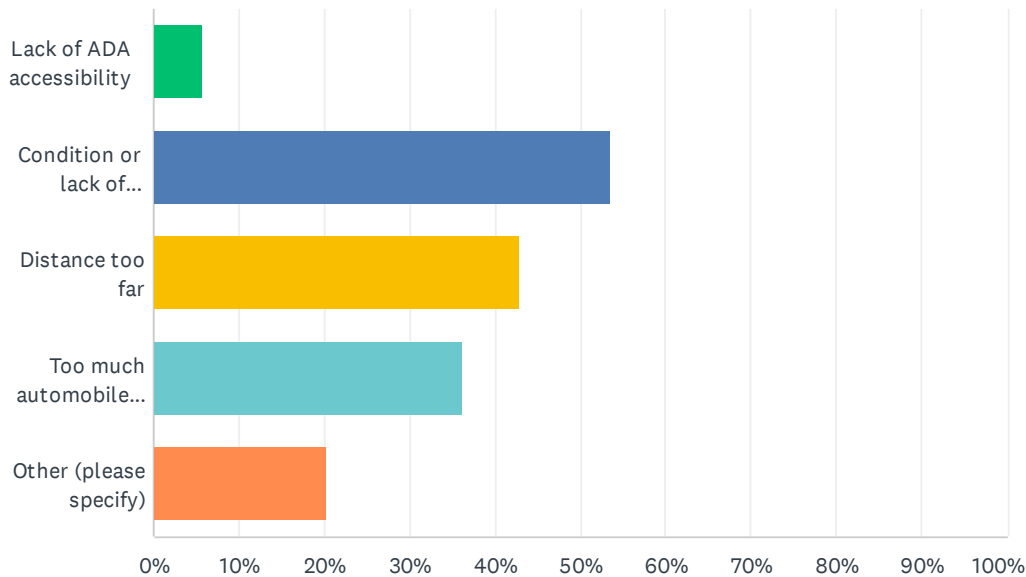
City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



	3 OR MORE TIMES PER WEEK	1-2 TIMES PER WEEK	1-2 TIMES PER MONTH	1-2 TIMES PER YEAR	0 TIMES IN THE PAST YEAR	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Walk or run for exercise	52.63% 290	25.59% 141	13.61% 75	3.45% 19	4.72% 26	551	1.60
Bike for exercise	17.50% 95	19.52% 106	20.63% 112	11.97% 65	30.39% 165	543	2.55
Walk for transportation from home to work, stores, restaurants, etc.	9.76% 53	10.13% 55	14.55% 79	18.60% 101	46.96% 255	543	3.03
Bike for transportation from home to work, stores, restaurants, etc.	5.73% 31	7.95% 43	13.31% 72	13.86% 75	59.15% 320	541	3.26

Q6 What do you see as barriers to walking more within the community?
Select all that apply.

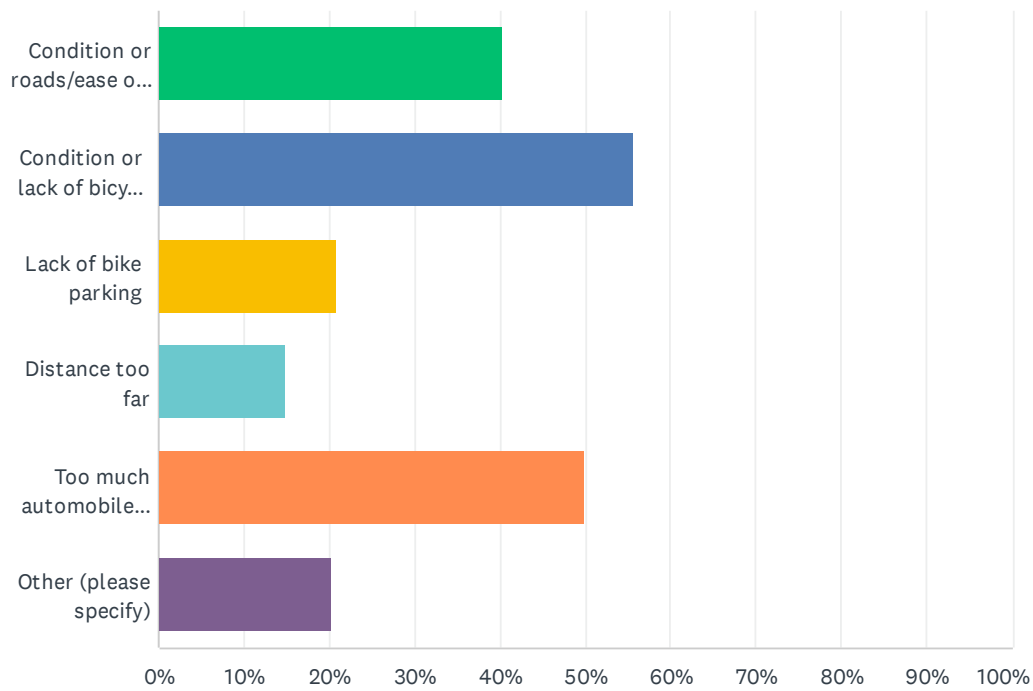
Answered: 526 Skipped: 100



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lack of ADA accessibility	5.70%	30
Condition or lack of sidewalk	53.42%	281
Distance too far	42.78%	225
Too much automobile traffic	36.31%	191
Other (please specify)	20.15%	106
Total Respondents: 526		

Q7 What do you see as barriers to biking more within the community? Select all that apply.

Answered: 495 Skipped: 131



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Condition or roads/ease of travel	40.40%	200
Condition or lack of bicycle lanes or off-road trails	55.56%	275
Lack of bike parking	20.81%	103
Distance too far	14.95%	74
Too much automobile traffic	49.90%	247
Other (please specify)	20.20%	100
Total Respondents: 495		

Q8 Is there a specific location or destination in the City of Wausau that needs to be improved for bicycle or pedestrian safety?

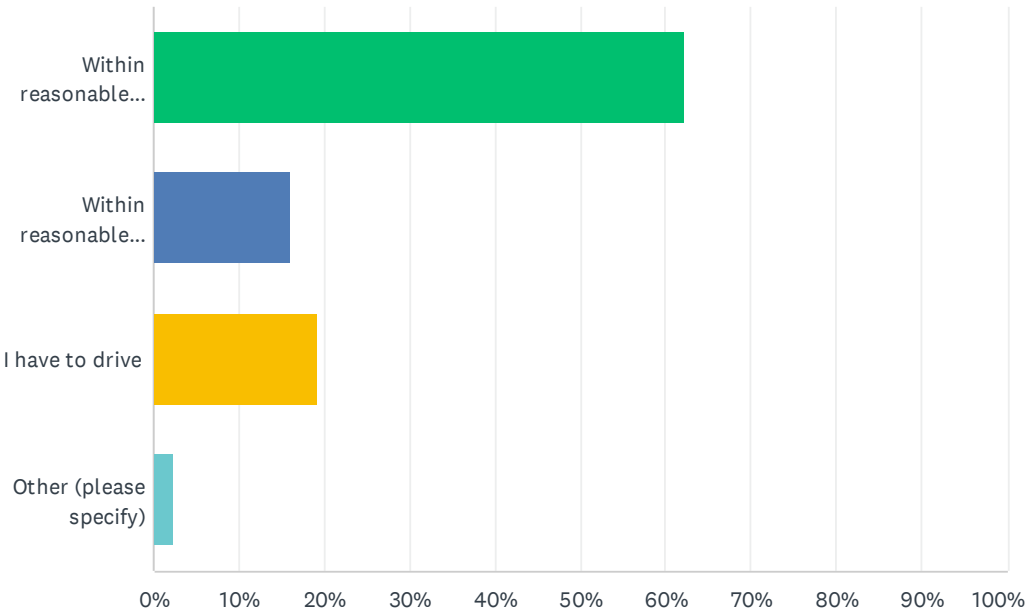
Answered: 275 Skipped: 351

Q9 Where would you prioritize the location of new bike facilities, routes, or trails?

Answered: 248 Skipped: 378

Q10 How close is the nearest park or trail to your home?

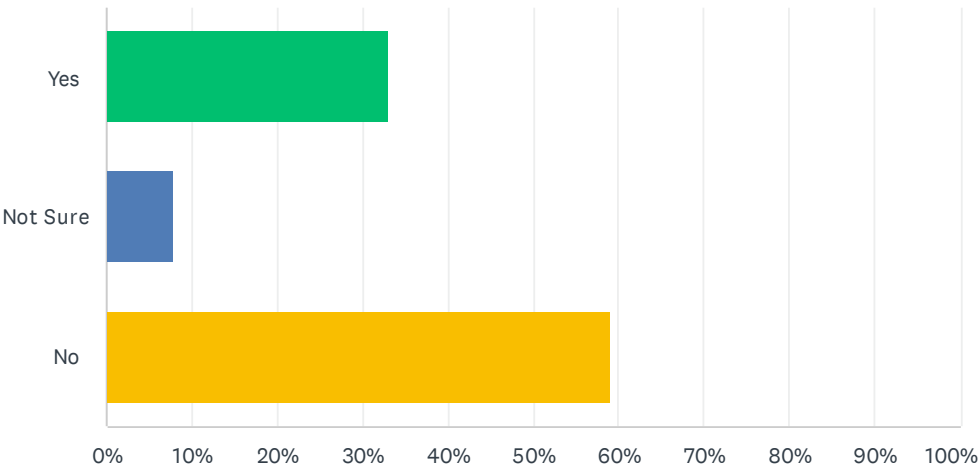
Answered: 541 Skipped: 85



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Within reasonable walking and biking distance	62.29%	337
Within reasonable biking distance, but not walking distance	16.08%	87
I have to drive	19.22%	104
Other (please specify)	2.40%	13
TOTAL		541

Q11 Did anyone in your household participate in recreational programing sponsored by the City of Wausau in the past year? (e.g. swim, tennis, Playground Program, Water Exercise, etc.)

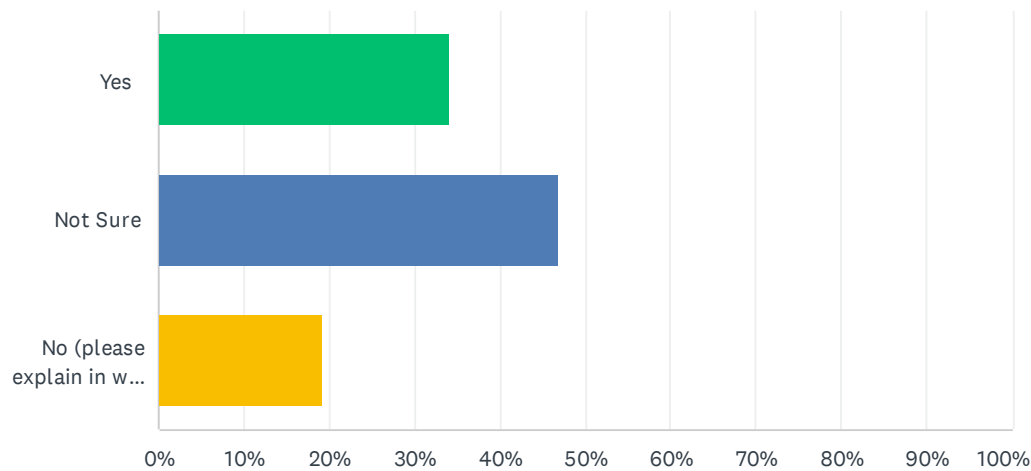
Answered: 523 Skipped: 103



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	33.08%	173
Not Sure	7.84%	41
No	59.08%	309
TOTAL		523

Q12 Does the City's current variety of recreational programs and classes meet the needs of your household?

Answered: 517 Skipped: 109



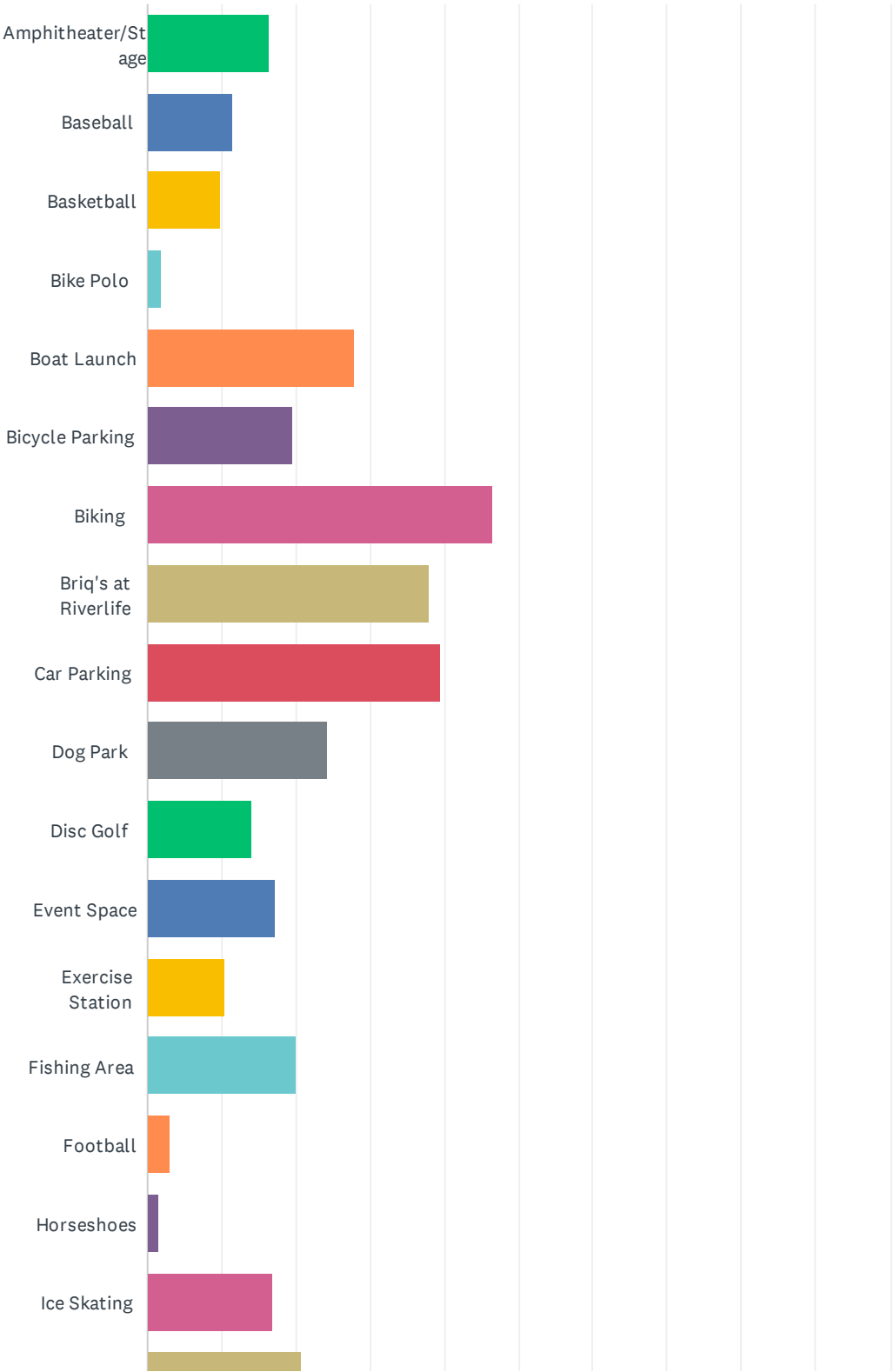
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	34.04%	176
Not Sure	46.81%	242
No (please explain in what ways it is not meeting your needs)	19.15%	99
TOTAL		517

Q13 Please use the space provided below to identify a type of new recreation program or service that the City should consider offering.

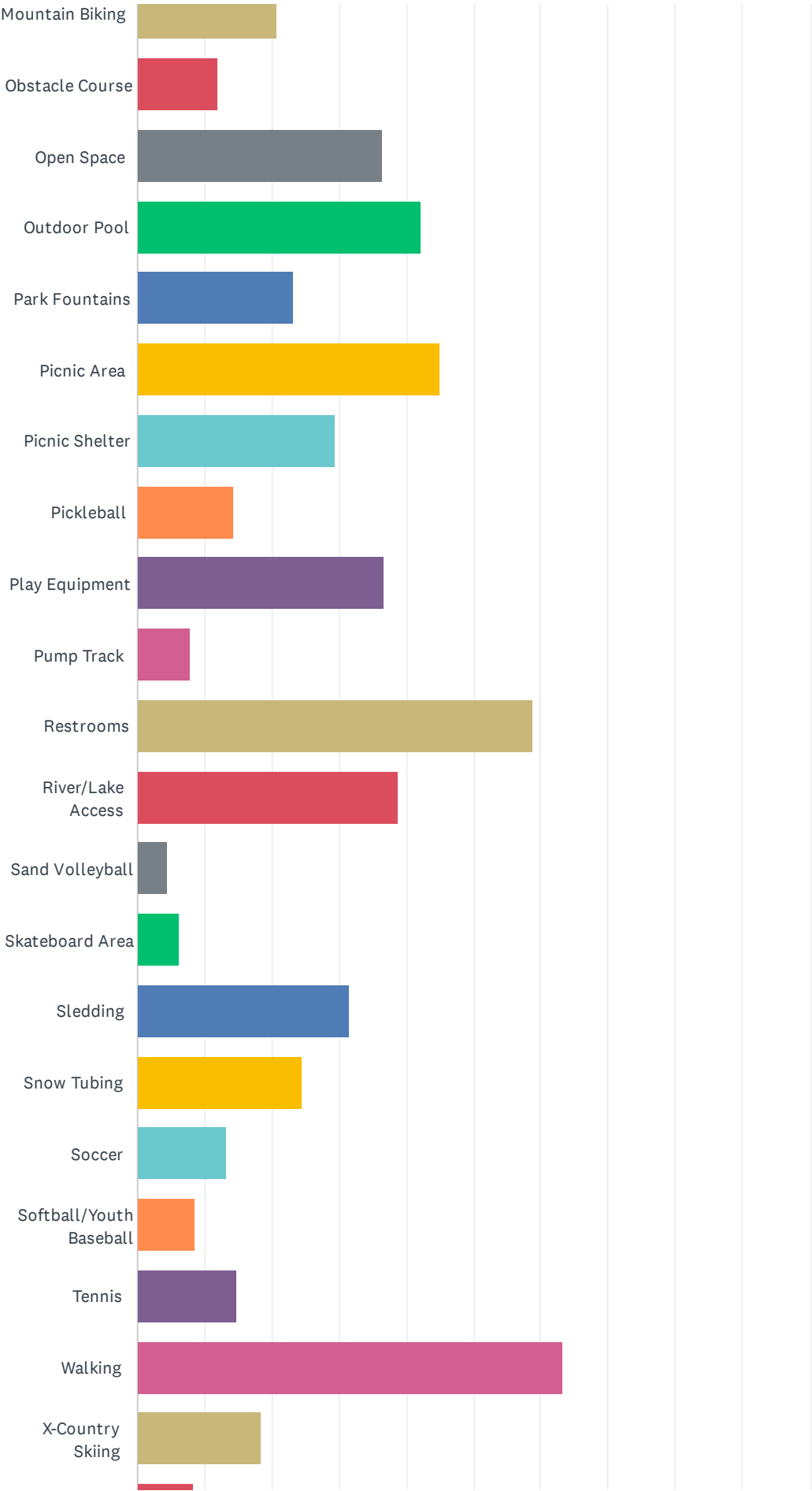
Answered: 188 Skipped: 438

Q14 When visiting City parks, which activities or facilities do you or members of your household most commonly participate in or use? Check all that apply.

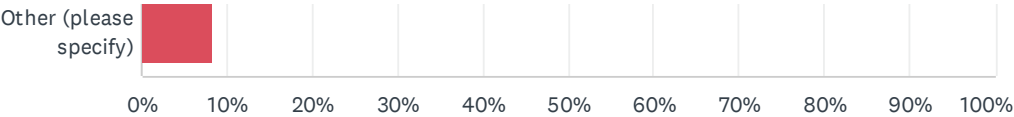
Answered: 481 Skipped: 145



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

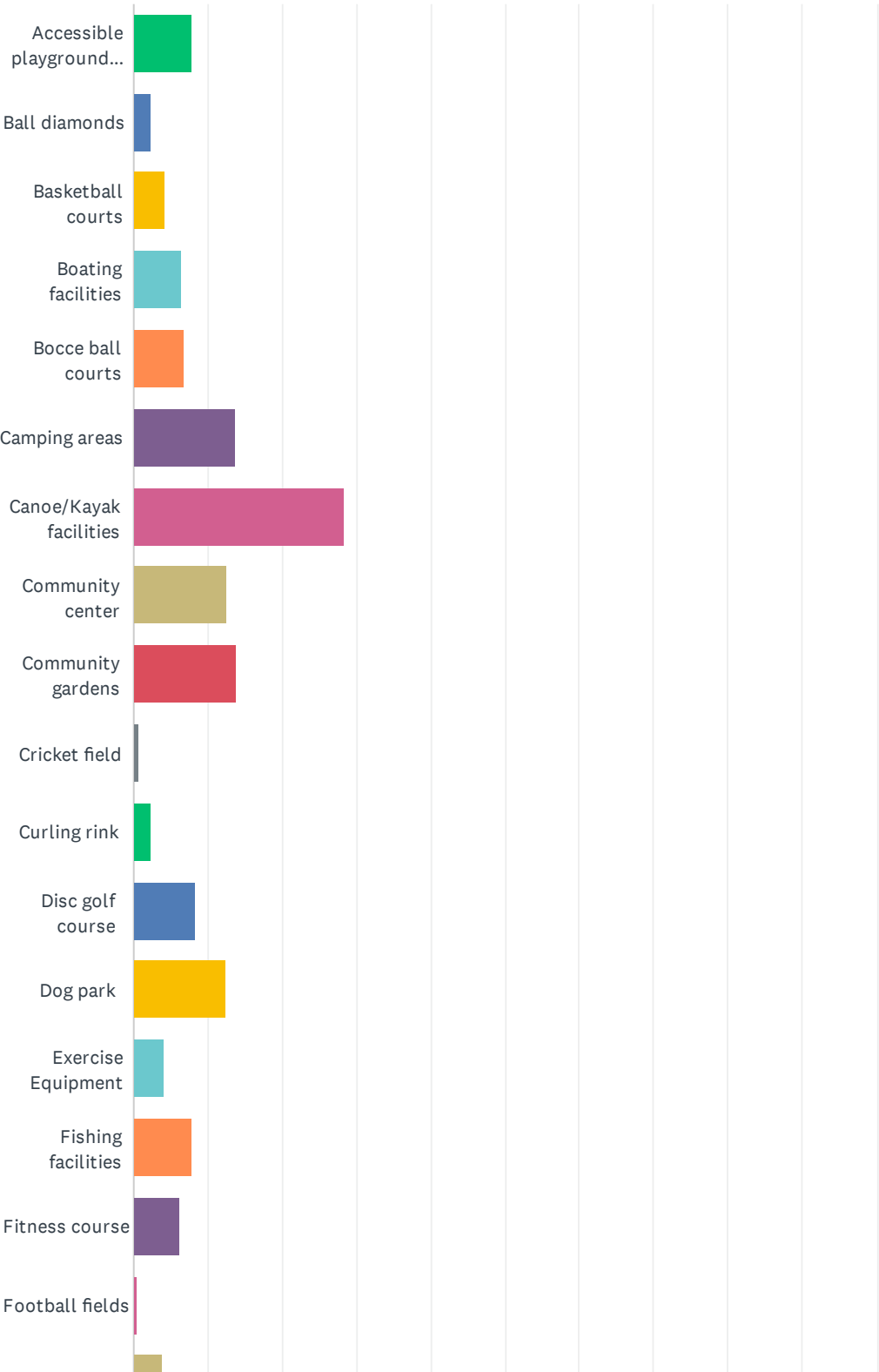
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Amphitheater/Stage	16.42%	79
Baseball	11.43%	55
Basketball	9.77%	47
Bike Polo	1.87%	9
Boat Launch	27.86%	134
Bicycle Parking	19.54%	94
Biking	46.57%	224
Briq's at Riverlife	38.05%	183
Car Parking	39.50%	190
Dog Park	24.32%	117
Disc Golf	14.14%	68
Event Space	17.26%	83
Exercise Station	10.40%	50
Fishing Area	19.96%	96
Football	2.91%	14
Horseshoes	1.46%	7
Ice Skating	16.84%	81
Mountain Biking	20.58%	99
Obstacle Course	11.85%	57
Open Space	36.38%	175
Outdoor Pool	42.20%	203
Park Fountains	23.28%	112
Picnic Area	44.91%	216
Picnic Shelter	29.52%	142
Pickleball	14.35%	69
Play Equipment	36.59%	176
Pump Track	7.90%	38
Restrooms	58.84%	283
River/Lake Access	38.88%	187
Sand Volleyball	4.57%	22
Skateboard Area	6.24%	30
Sledding	31.60%	152

City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

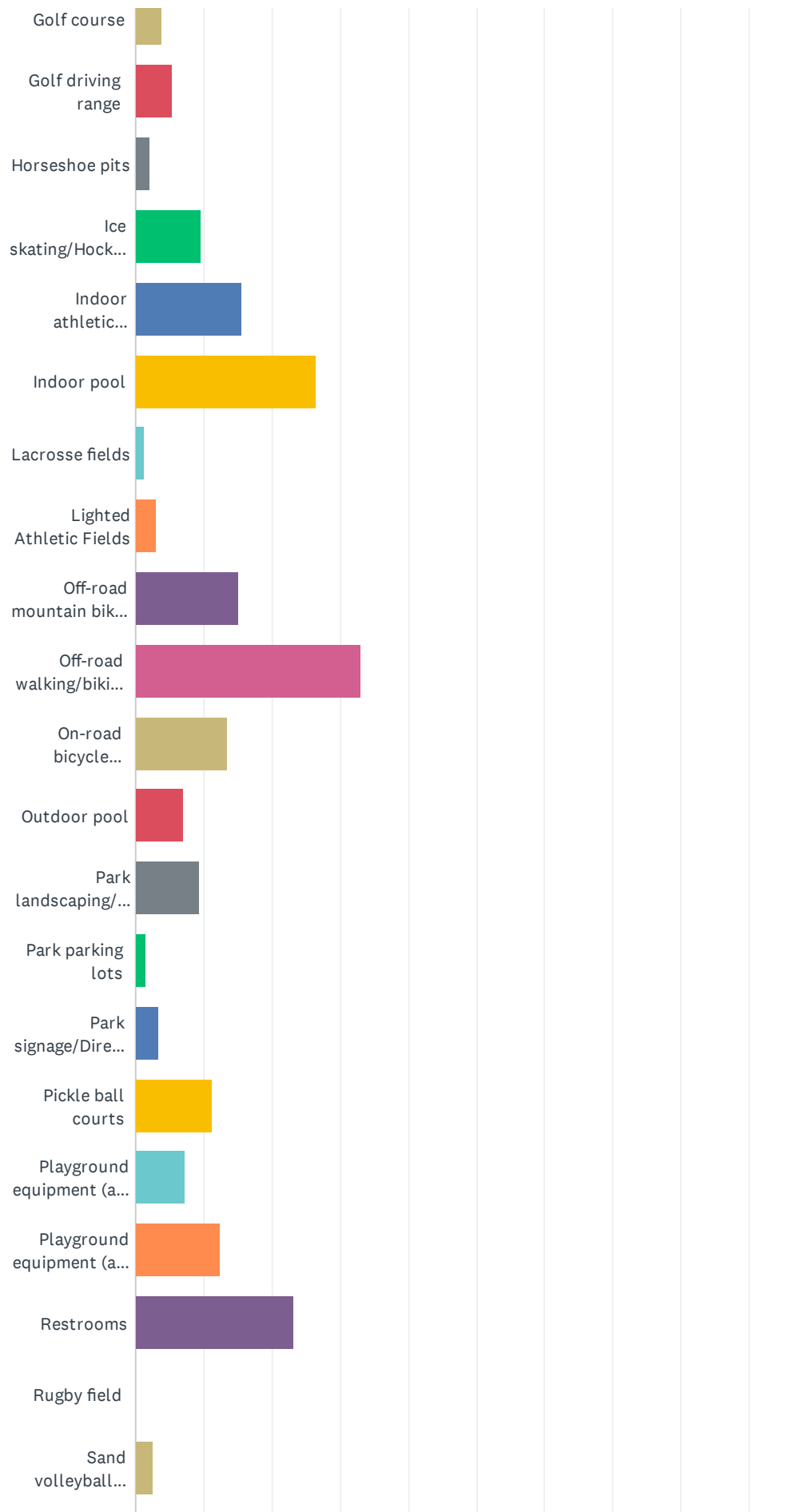
Snow Tubing	24.53%	118
Soccer	13.31%	64
Softball/Youth Baseball	8.52%	41
Tennis	14.76%	71
Walking	63.41%	305
X-Country Skiing	18.30%	88
Other (please specify)	8.32%	40
Total Respondents: 481		

Q15 Which of the following amenities would you like to see added or expanded to the City of Wausau's parks system? Check up to 6 preferences.

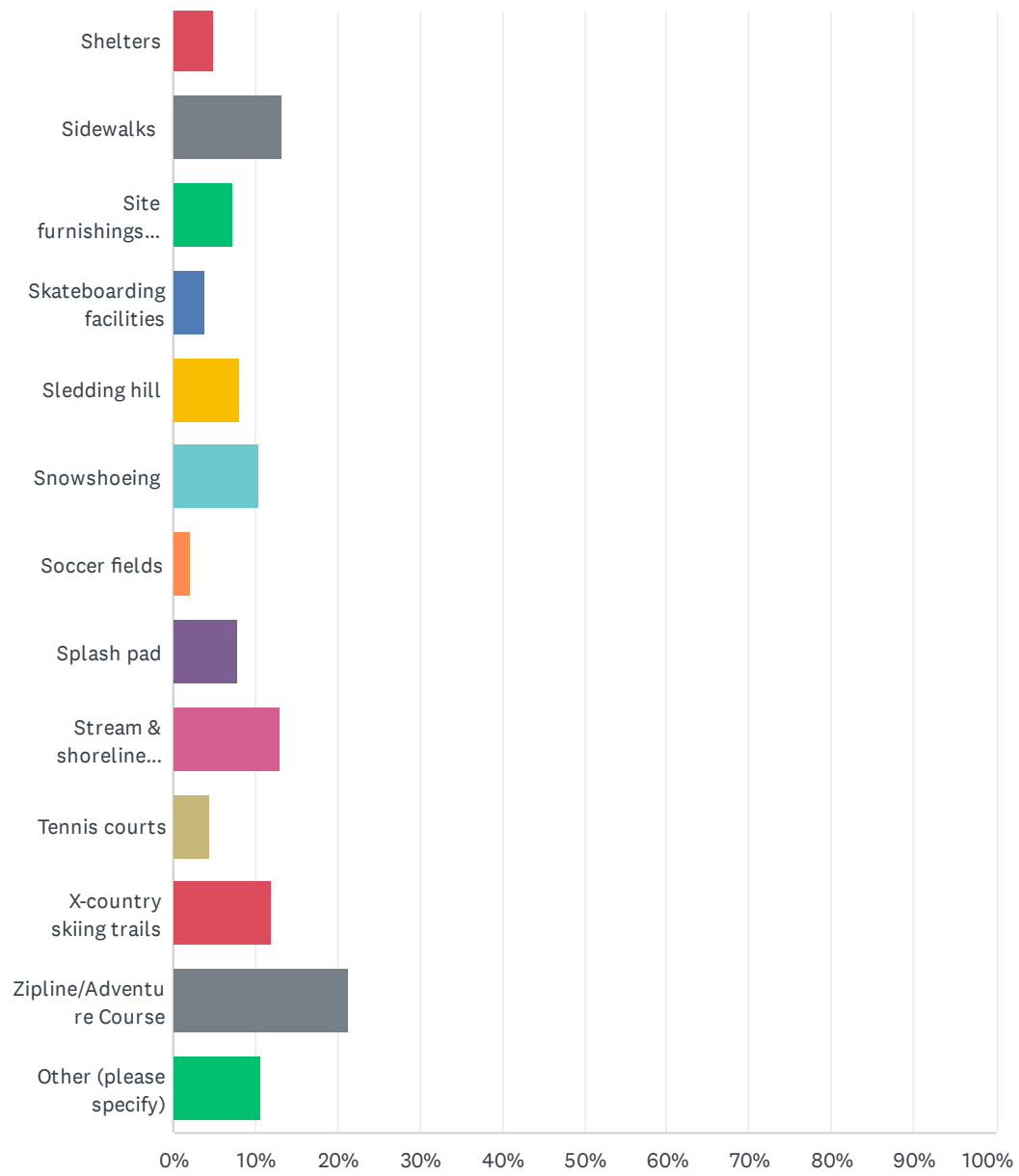
Answered: 488 Skipped: 138



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

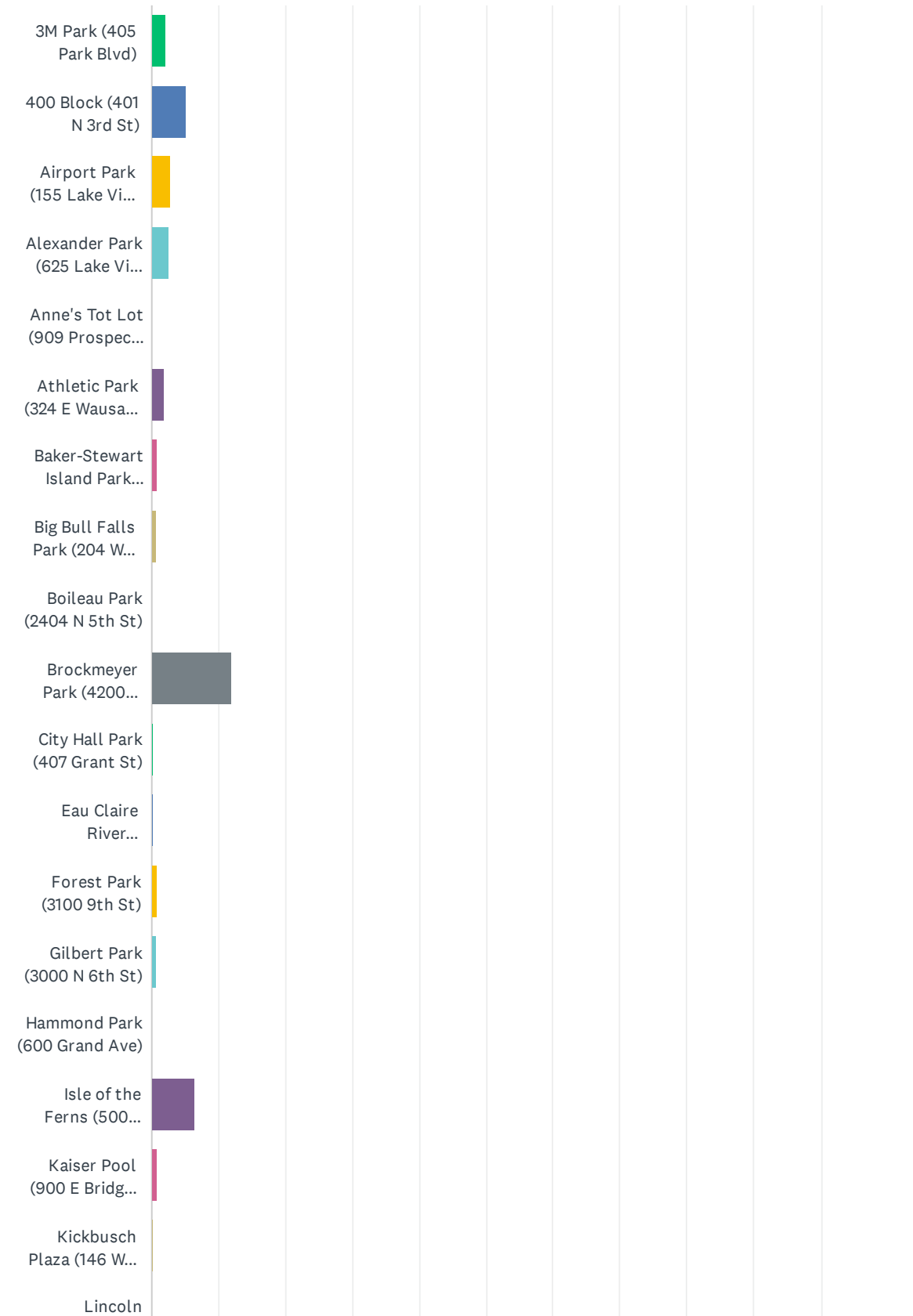
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Accessible playground equipment	7.99%	39
Ball diamonds	2.25%	11
Basketball courts	4.30%	21
Boating facilities	6.35%	31
Bocce ball courts	6.76%	33
Camping areas	13.73%	67
Canoe/Kayak facilities	28.28%	138
Community center	12.50%	61
Community gardens	13.93%	68
Cricket field	0.61%	3
Curling rink	2.25%	11
Disc golf course	8.40%	41
Dog park	12.30%	60
Exercise Equipment	4.10%	20
Fishing facilities	7.99%	39
Fitness course	6.15%	30
Football fields	0.41%	2
Golf course	3.89%	19
Golf driving range	5.33%	26
Horseshoe pits	2.05%	10
Ice skating/Hockey rink	9.63%	47
Indoor athletic complex (for multiple programs/sports)	15.57%	76
Indoor pool	26.43%	129
Lacrosse fields	1.23%	6
Lighted Athletic Fields	3.07%	15
Off-road mountain biking trails	15.16%	74
Off-road walking/biking trails	32.99%	161
On-road bicycle facilities	13.52%	66
Outdoor pool	6.97%	34
Park landscaping/Trees	9.43%	46
Park parking lots	1.43%	7
Park signage/Directional signage	3.48%	17

City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

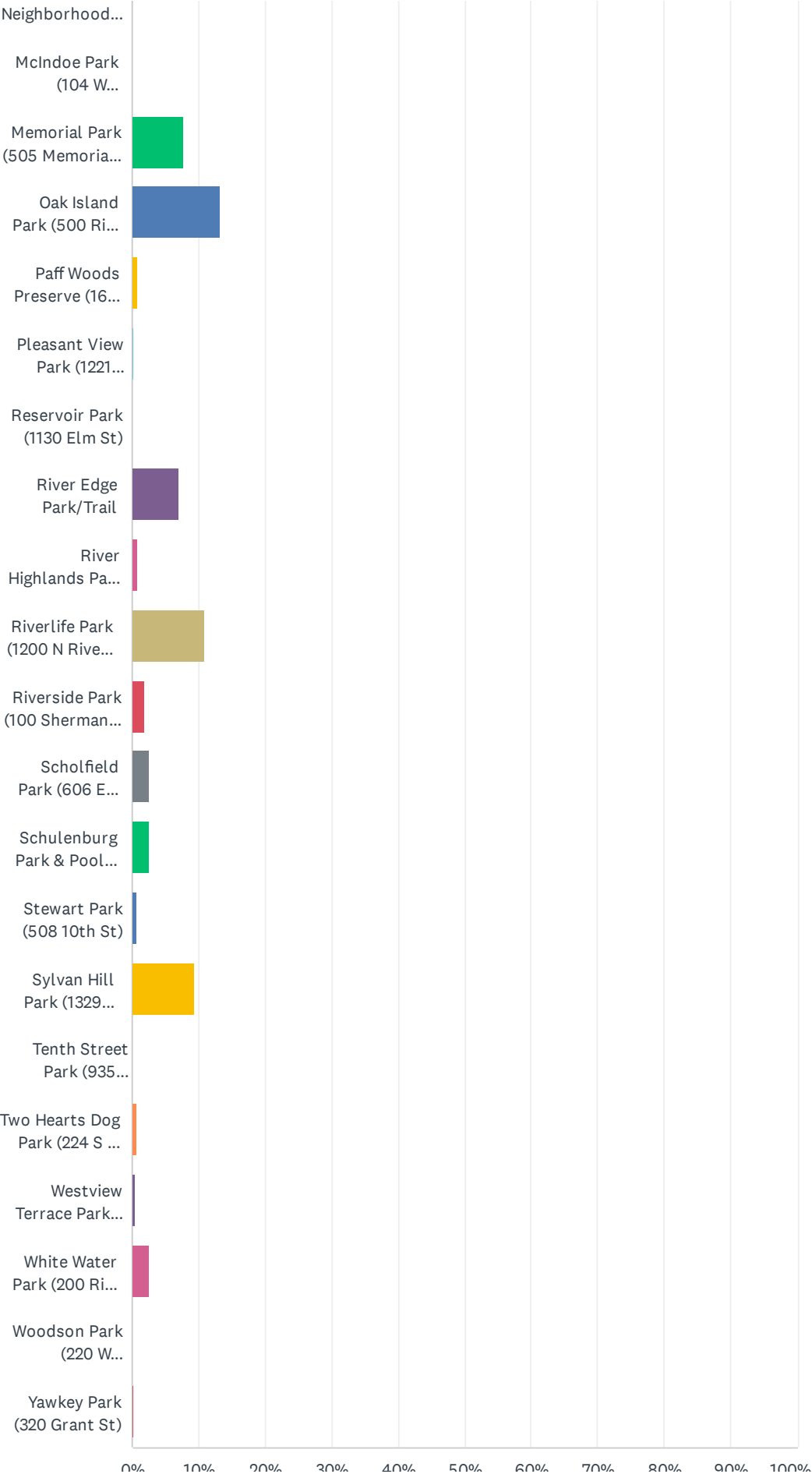
Pickle ball courts	11.27%	55
Playground equipment (ages 2-5 years)	7.17%	35
Playground equipment (ages 5-12 years)	12.30%	60
Restrooms	23.16%	113
Rugby field	0.00%	0
Sand volleyball courts	2.66%	13
Shelters	4.92%	24
Sidewalks	13.32%	65
Site furnishings (benches, tables, grills,etc.)	7.17%	35
Skateboarding facilities	3.89%	19
Sledding hill	8.20%	40
Snowshoeing	10.45%	51
Soccer fields	2.05%	10
Splash pad	7.79%	38
Stream & shoreline restoration	12.91%	63
Tennis courts	4.51%	22
X-country skiing trails	11.89%	58
Zipline/Adventure Course	21.31%	104
Other (please specify)	10.66%	52
Total Respondents: 488		

Q16 What is your favorite park to visit in the City of Wausau?

Answered: 452 Skipped: 174



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
3M Park (405 Park Blvd)	2.21%	10
400 Block (401 N 3rd St)	5.09%	23
Airport Park (155 Lake View Dr)	2.88%	13
Alexander Park (625 Lake View Dr)	2.65%	12
Anne's Tot Lot (909 Prospect Ave)	0.00%	0
Athletic Park (324 E Wausau Ave)	1.99%	9
Baker-Stewart Island Park (600 Stewart Island)	0.88%	4
Big Bull Falls Park (204 W Scott St)	0.66%	3
Boileau Park (2404 N 5th St)	0.00%	0
Brockmeyer Park (4200 Stettin Dr)	11.95%	54
City Hall Park (407 Grant St)	0.22%	1
Eau Claire River Conservancy (507 E Kent St)	0.22%	1
Forest Park (3100 9th St)	0.88%	4
Gilbert Park (3000 N 6th St)	0.66%	3
Hammond Park (600 Grand Ave)	0.00%	0
Isle of the Ferns (500 River Dr)	6.42%	29
Kaiser Pool (900 E Bridge St)	0.88%	4
Kickbusch Plaza (146 W Washington St)	0.22%	1
Lincoln Neighborhood Tot Lot (822 S 5th Ave)	0.00%	0
McIndoe Park (104 W Washington St)	0.00%	0
Memorial Park (505 Memorial Park Rd)	7.74%	35
Oak Island Park (500 River Dr)	13.27%	60
Paff Woods Preserve (1601 Kickbush St)	0.88%	4
Pleasant View Park (1221 Sumner St)	0.22%	1
Reservoir Park (1130 Elm St)	0.00%	0
River Edge Park/Trail	7.08%	32
River Highlands Park (1901 Marquardt Rd)	0.88%	4
Riverlife Park (1200 N River Dr)	10.84%	49
Riverside Park (100 Sherman St)	1.99%	9
Scholfield Park (606 E Randolph St)	2.65%	12
Schulenburg Park & Pool (533 Summit Dr)	2.65%	12
Stewart Park (508 10th St)	0.66%	3

City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

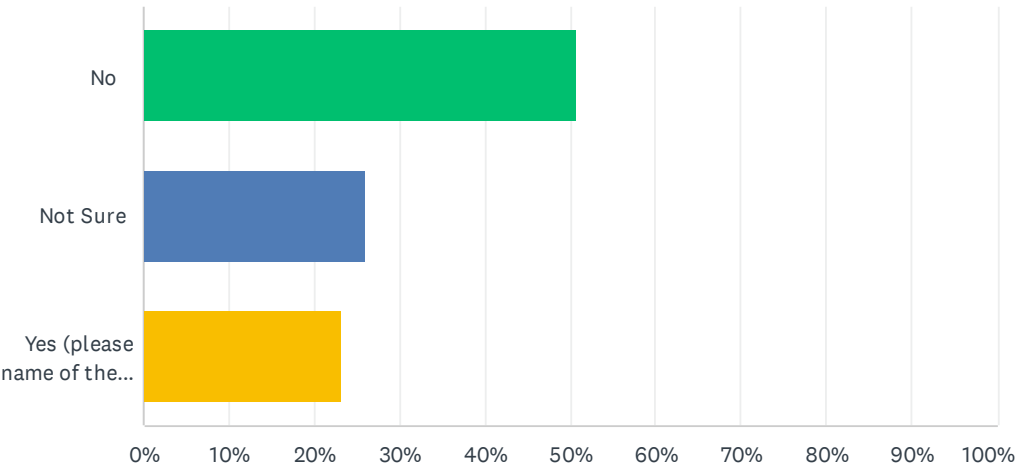
Sylvan Hill Park (1329 Sylvan St)	9.29%	42
Tenth Street Park (935 Jackson St)	0.00%	0
Two Hearts Dog Park (224 S 4th St)	0.66%	3
Westview Terrace Park (1502 Bissell St)	0.44%	2
White Water Park (200 River Dr)	2.65%	12
Woodson Park (220 W Washington St)	0.00%	0
Yawkey Park (320 Grant St)	0.22%	1
TOTAL		452

Q17 Why is this park your favorite park to visit in the City of Wausau?

Answered: 401 Skipped: 225

Q18 Do you have any concerns about safety or accessibility in any of the City's parks?

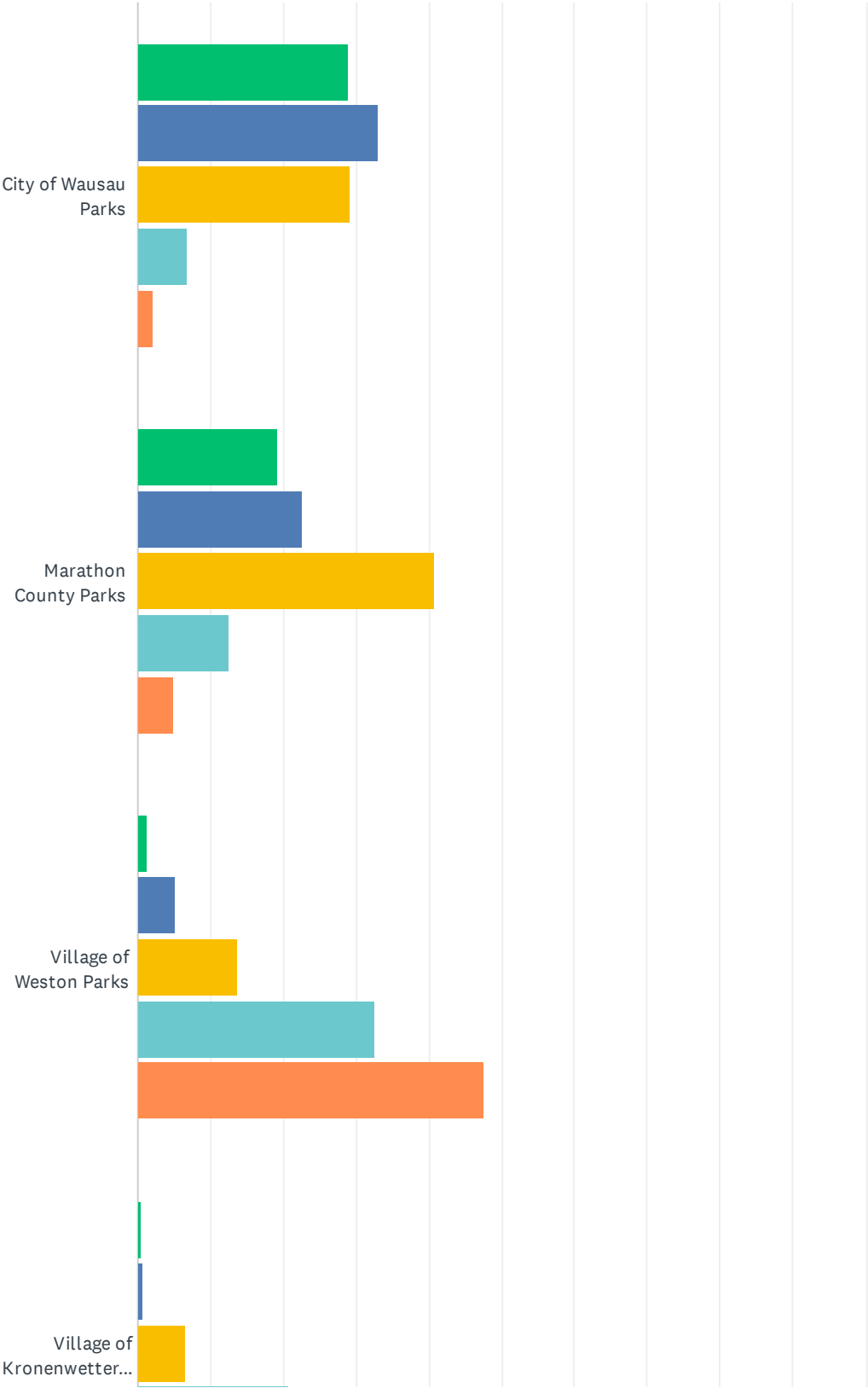
Answered: 465 Skipped: 161



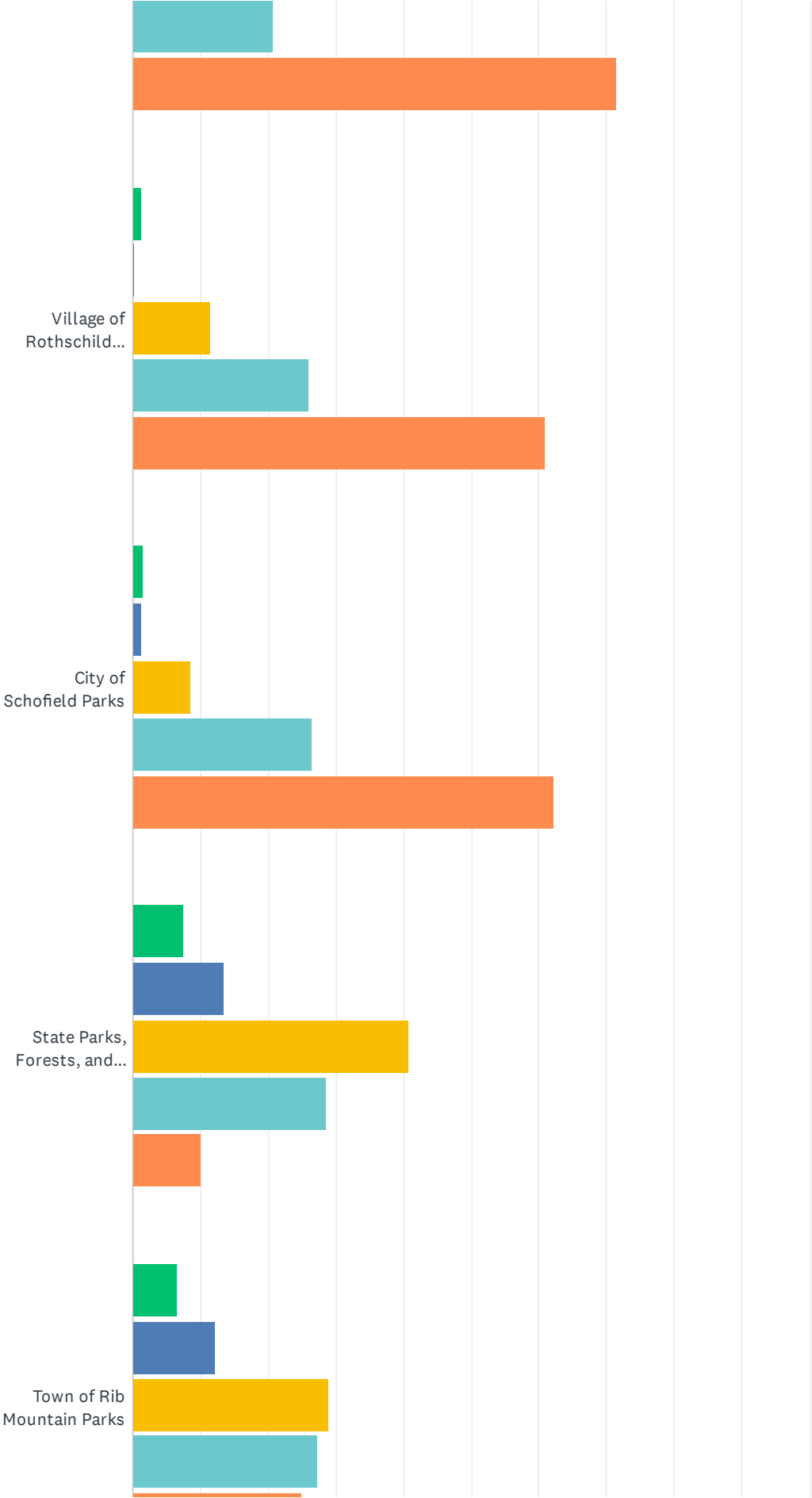
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
No		50.75%	236
Not Sure		26.02%	121
Yes (please name of the park and describe the concern)		23.23%	108
TOTAL			465

Q19 Excluding winter months, on average how often do you or members of your household visit or use...

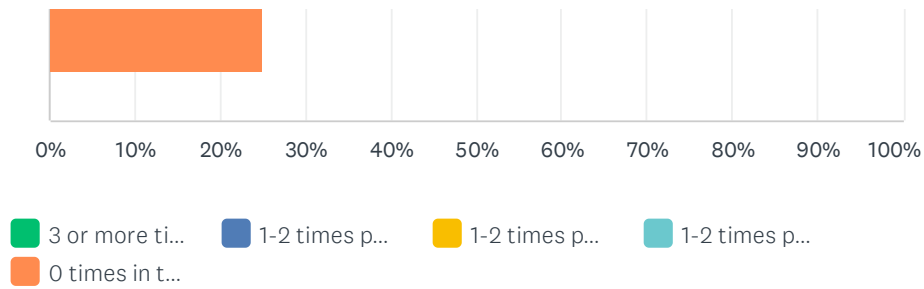
Answered: 476 Skipped: 150



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



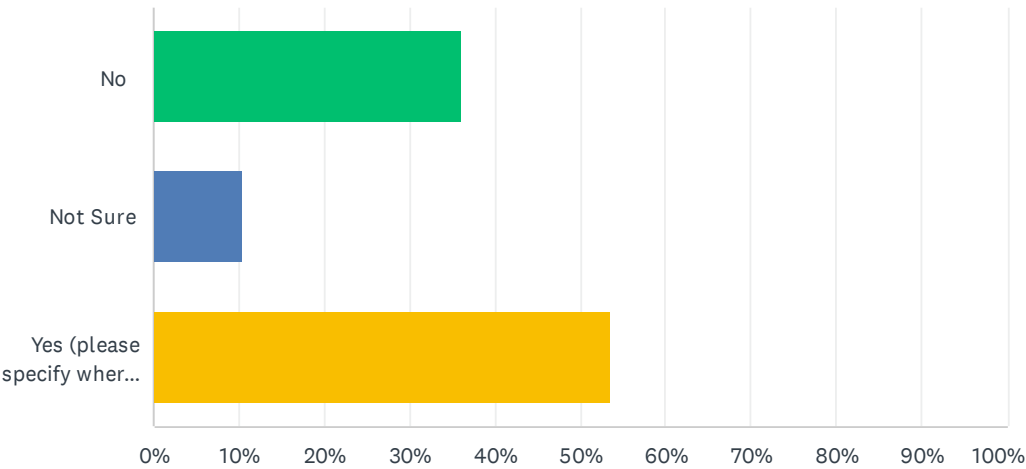
City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



	3 OR MORE TIMES PER WEEK	1-2 TIMES PER WEEK	1-2 TIMES PER MONTH	1-2 TIMES PER YEAR	0 TIMES IN THE PAST YEAR	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
City of Wausau Parks	28.96% 137	32.98% 156	29.18% 138	6.77% 32	2.11% 10	473	1.82
Marathon County Parks	19.13% 88	22.61% 104	40.65% 187	12.61% 58	5.00% 23	460	2.03
Village of Weston Parks	1.20% 5	5.02% 21	13.64% 57	32.54% 136	47.61% 199	418	3.27
Village of Kronenwetter Parks	0.48% 2	0.72% 3	6.52% 27	20.77% 86	71.50% 296	414	3.63
Village of Rothschild Parks	1.20% 5	0.24% 1	11.54% 48	25.96% 108	61.06% 254	416	3.47
City of Schofield Parks	1.47% 6	1.23% 5	8.58% 35	26.47% 108	62.25% 254	408	3.50
State Parks, Forests, and Wildlife Areas	7.37% 33	13.39% 60	40.63% 182	28.57% 128	10.04% 45	448	2.41
Town of Rib Mountain Parks	6.62% 29	12.10% 53	29.00% 127	27.40% 120	24.89% 109	438	2.71

Q20 Do you or members of your household commonly (an average of at least once per month) drive somewhere outside of the City of Wausau to use specific recreational facilities?

Answered: 475 Skipped: 151

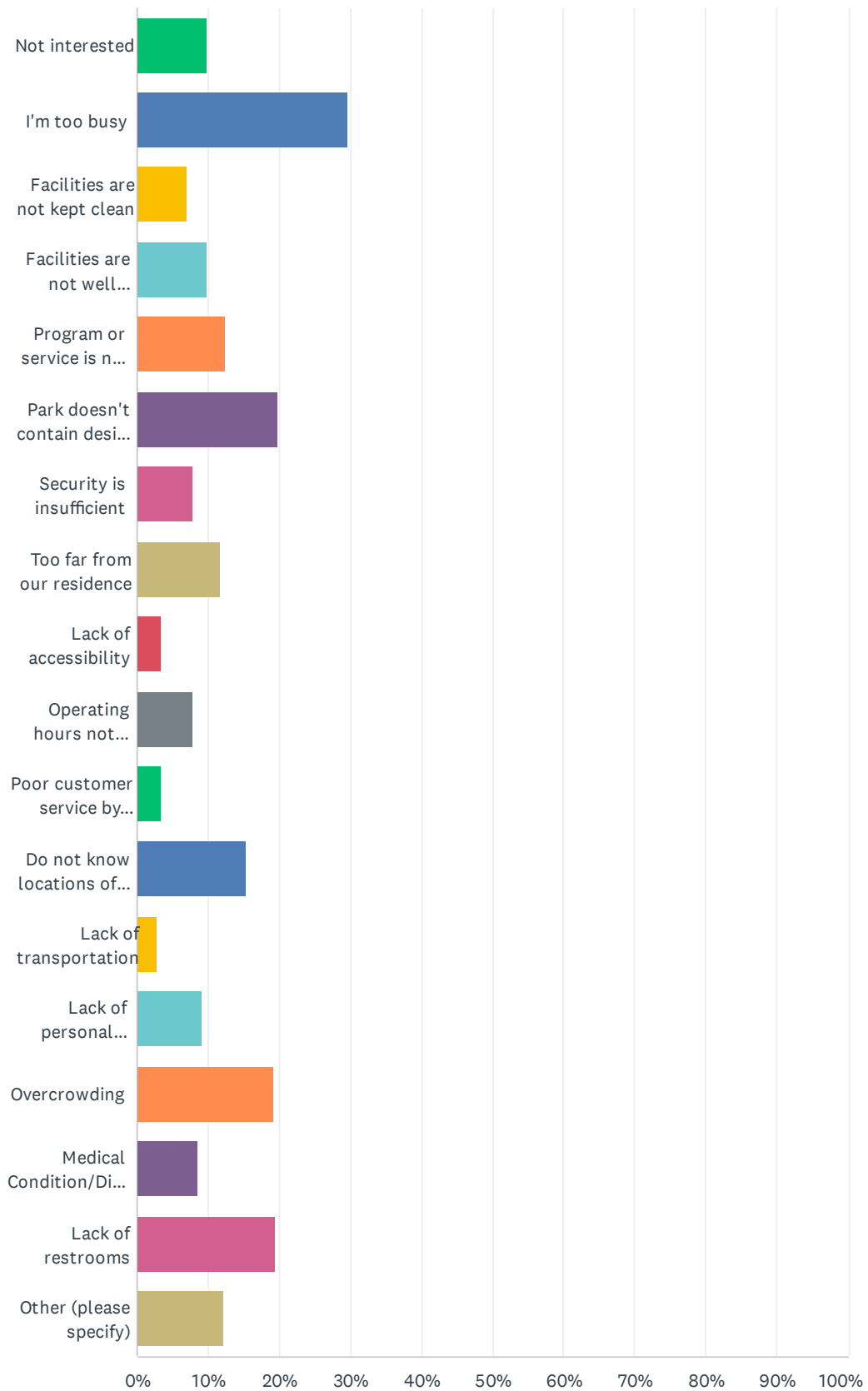


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	36.00%	171
Not Sure	10.53%	50
Yes (please specify where you go and for what activities/facilities)	53.47%	254
TOTAL		475

Q21 Are there any reasons that you or members of your household do not participate in recreational activities? If yes, check all that apply.

Answered: 313 Skipped: 313

City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

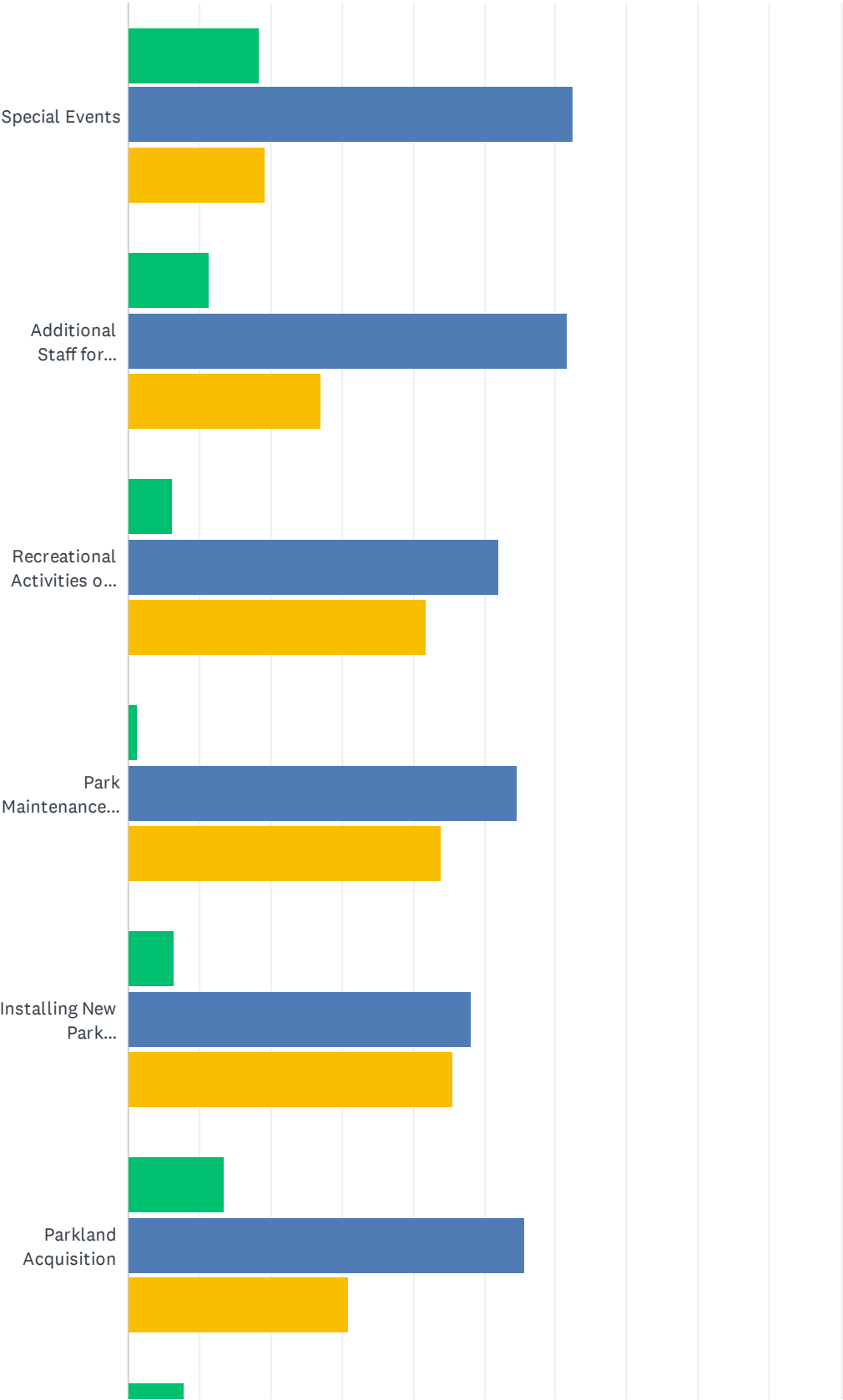


City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

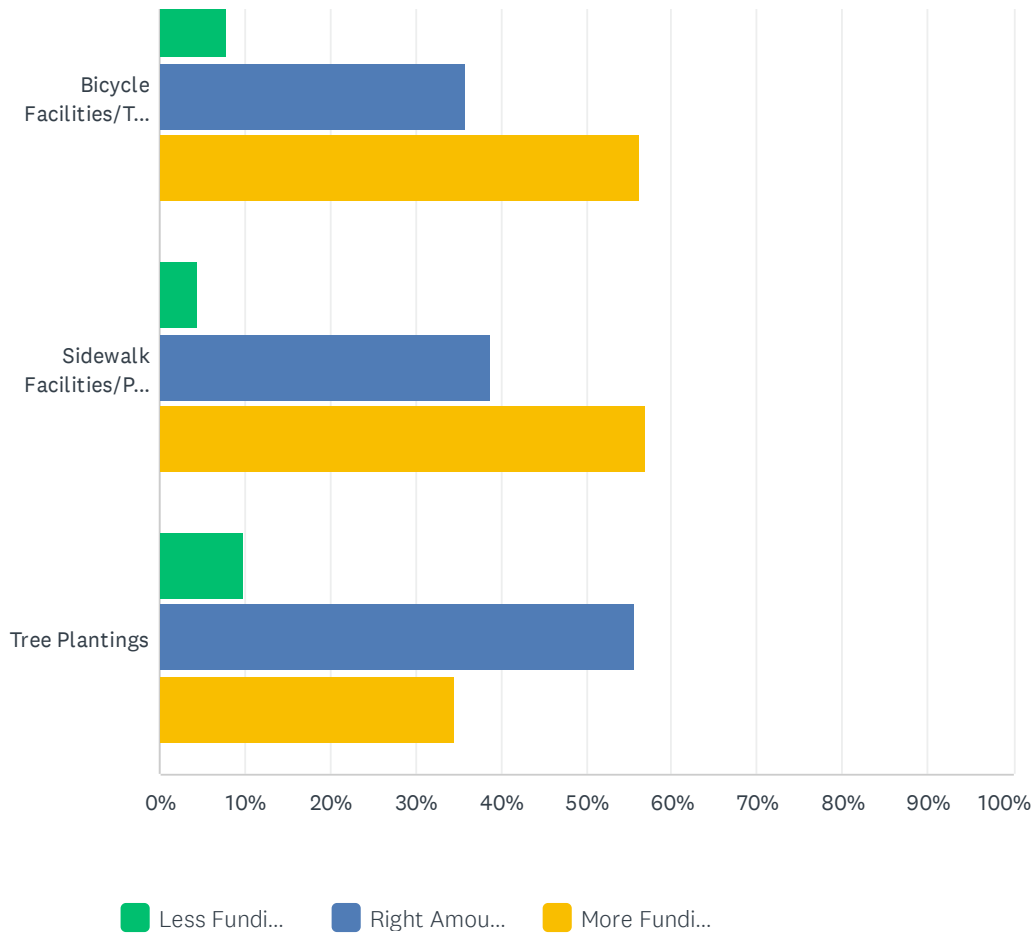
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not interested	9.90%	31
I'm too busy	29.71%	93
Facilities are not kept clean	7.03%	22
Facilities are not well maintained	9.90%	31
Program or service is not available	12.46%	39
Park doesn't contain desired features or facilities	19.81%	62
Security is insufficient	7.99%	25
Too far from our residence	11.82%	37
Lack of accessibility	3.51%	11
Operating hours not convenient	7.99%	25
Poor customer service by staff	3.51%	11
Do not know locations of facilities	15.34%	48
Lack of transportation	2.88%	9
Lack of personal resources (money, equipment, etc.)	9.27%	29
Overcrowding	19.17%	60
Medical Condition/Disability	8.63%	27
Lack of restrooms	19.49%	61
Other (please specify)	12.14%	38
Total Respondents: 313		

Q22 How do you think the City should allocate funding for...

Answered: 447 Skipped: 179



City of Wausau Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey



	LESS FUNDING	RIGHT AMOUNT	MORE FUNDING	TOTAL
Special Events	18.31% 78	62.44% 266	19.25% 82	426
Additional Staff for Enhanced Service	11.40% 48	61.52% 259	27.08% 114	421
Recreational Activities or Programs	6.10% 26	52.11% 222	41.78% 178	426
Park Maintenance (maintain existing grounds/facilities)	1.38% 6	54.61% 237	44.01% 191	434
Installing New Park Facilities/Equipment	6.34% 27	48.12% 205	45.54% 194	426
Parkland Acquisition	13.49% 56	55.66% 231	30.84% 128	415
Bicycle Facilities/Trails	7.87% 34	35.88% 155	56.25% 243	432
Sidewalk Facilities/Pedestrian Enhancements	4.41% 19	38.75% 167	56.84% 245	431
Tree Plantings	9.79% 42	55.71% 239	34.50% 148	429

Q23 Please use this space to provide any other comments relating to pedestrian, bicycle, park, recreation services, or facilities in the City of Wausau.

Answered: 121 Skipped: 505

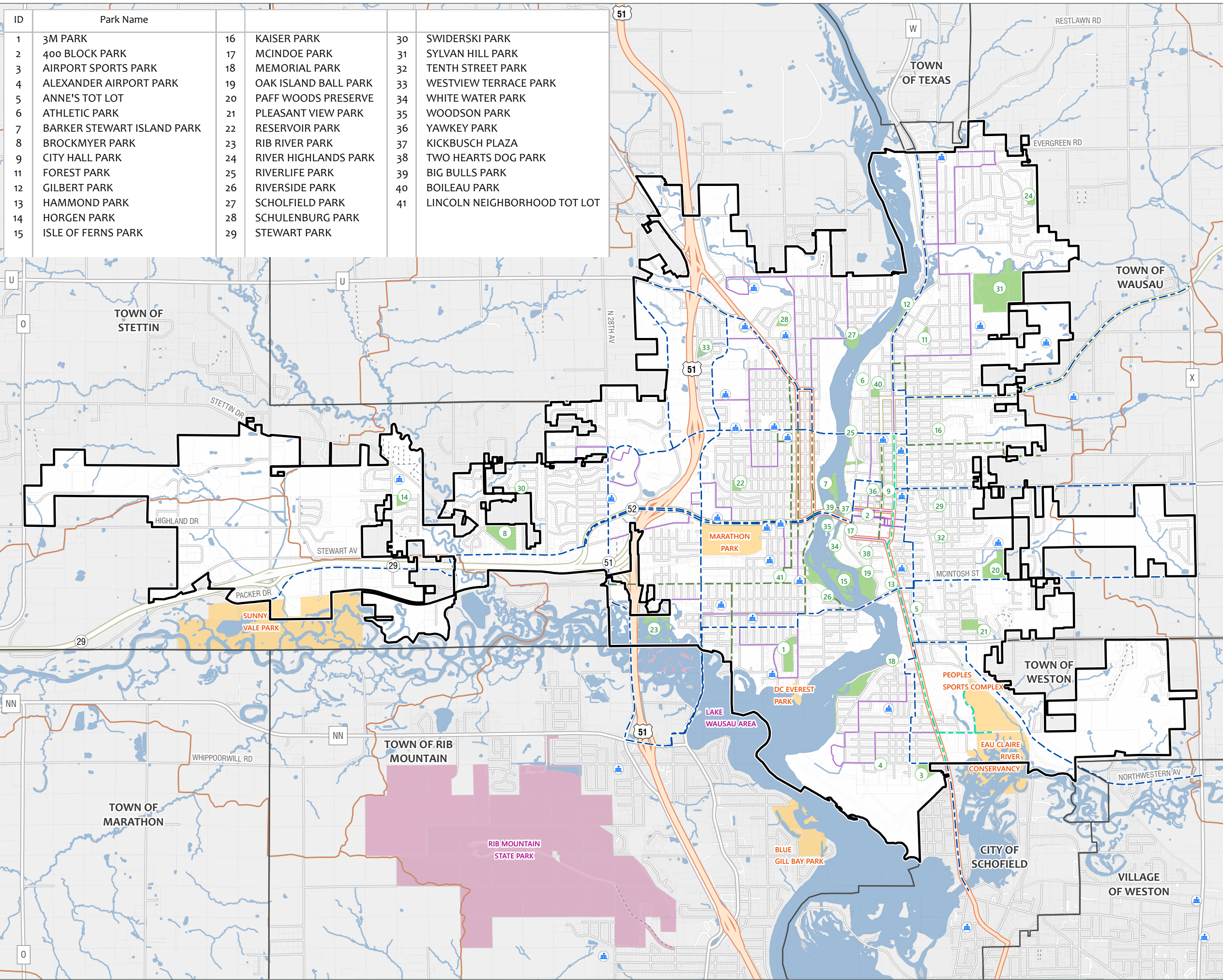
Appendix B: Maps

Map 1: Existing Parks & Trails

Map 2: Park Facilities Distribution

Map 3: Park Service Area

Map 4: Proposed Park Areas



Existing Parks & Trails

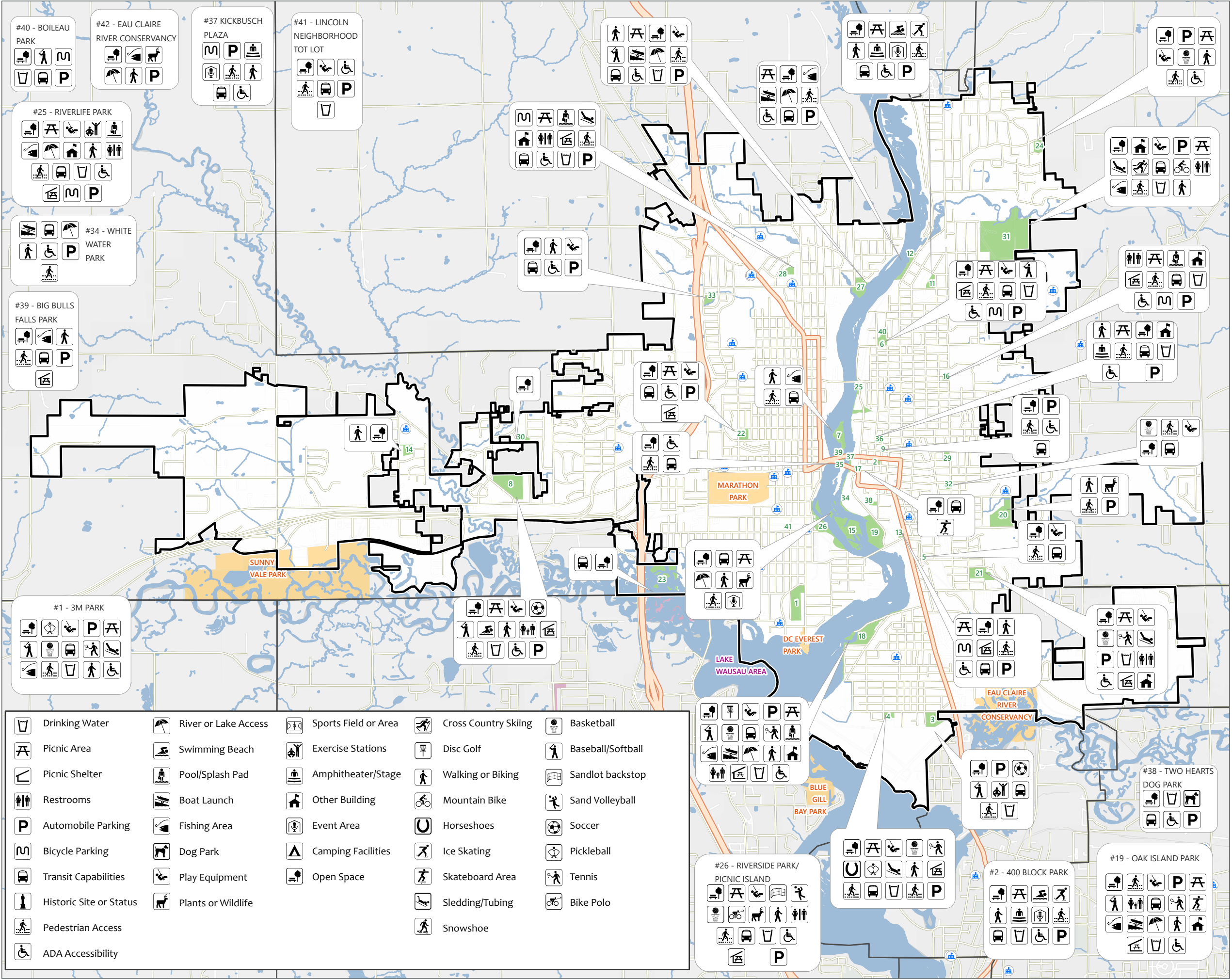
Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

City of Wausau
Marathon County, Wisconsin

- School
- Local Bike Route
- Regional Bike Route
- Accomodate Bike Route
- Bus Route
- Snowmobile Trails
- City of Wausau
- Surrounding Municipality
- Park Type
 - Municipal Park
 - County Park
 - State Recreation Area

Data Sources:
Marathon County GIS (2022)
Basemap: ESRI





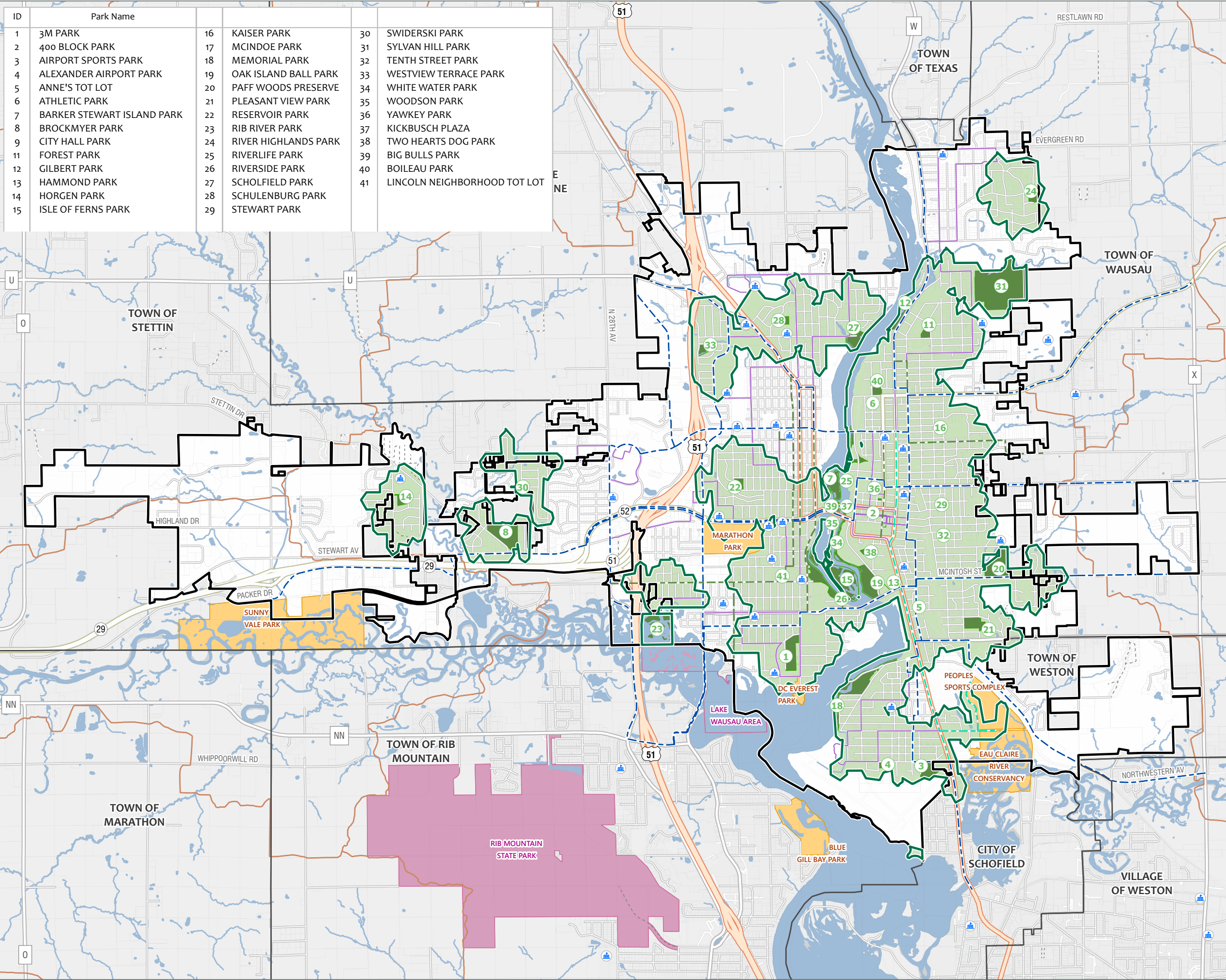
Existing Park Facilities

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

City of Wausau
Marathon County, Wisconsin

- School
- City of Wausau
- Surrounding Municipality
- Park Type**
 - Municipal Park
 - County Park
 - State Recreation Area

Data Sources:
Marathon County GIS (2022)
Basemap: ESRI



Park Service Areas

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

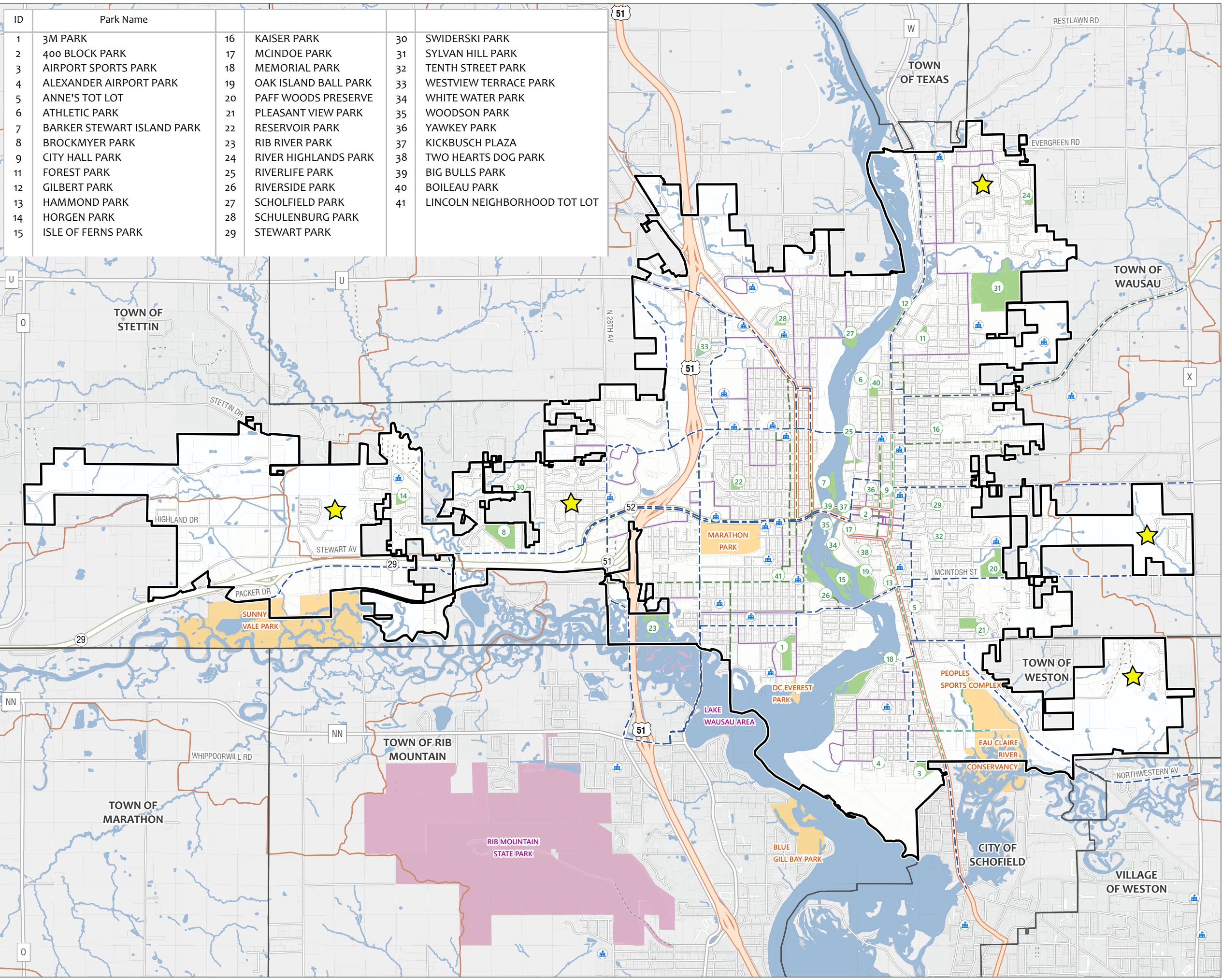
City of Wausau
Marathon County, Wisconsin

- School
 - Local Bike Route
 - Regional Bike Route
 - Accomodate Bike Route
 - Bus Route
 - Snowmobile Trails
 - Parcel Boundary
 - City of Wausau
 - Surrounding Municipality
 - 10-Minute Walk Time to Park
- Park Type
- City Park
 - County Park
 - State Recreation Area

Data Sources:
Marathon County GIS (2022)
Basemap: ESRI



ID	Park Name				
1	3M PARK	16	KAISER PARK	30	SWIDERSKI PARK
2	400 BLOCK PARK	17	MCINDOE PARK	31	SYLVAN HILL PARK
3	AIRPORT SPORTS PARK	18	MEMORIAL PARK	32	TENTH STREET PARK
4	ALEXANDER AIRPORT PARK	19	OAK ISLAND BALL PARK	33	WESTVIEW TERRACE PARK
5	ANNE'S TOT LOT	20	PAFF WOODS PRESERVE	34	WHITE WATER PARK
6	ATHLETIC PARK	21	PLEASANT VIEW PARK	35	WOODSON PARK
7	BARKER STEWART ISLAND PARK	22	RESERVOIR PARK	36	YAWKEY PARK
8	BROCKMYER PARK	23	RIB RIVER PARK	37	KICKBUSCH PLAZA
9	CITY HALL PARK	24	RIVER HIGHLANDS PARK	38	TWO HEARTS DOG PARK
11	FOREST PARK	25	RIVERLIFE PARK	39	BIG BULLS PARK
12	GILBERT PARK	26	RIVERSIDE PARK	40	BOILEAU PARK
13	HAMMOND PARK	27	SCHOLFIELD PARK	41	LINCOLN NEIGHBORHOOD TOT LOT
14	HORGEN PARK	28	SCHULENBURG PARK		
15	ISLE OF FERNS PARK	29	STEWART PARK		



Proposed Parks Map

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

City of Wausau
Marathon County, Wisconsin

- School
- Local Bike Route
- Regional Bike Route
- Accomodate Bike Route
- Bus Route
- Snowmobile Trails
- City of Wausau
- Surrounding Municipality
- Park Type
 - Municipal Park
 - County Park
 - State Recreation Area
- General Proposed Park Location

Data Sources:
Marathon County GIS (2022)
Basemap: ESRI

9.04.040 Littering prohibited.

No person shall leave or throw any glass, rubbish, waste, personal items or filth upon the streets, alleys, highways, public parks or other property of the City or upon any private property not owned by him or upon the surface of any body of water within the City.

(Ord. 61-4210 (2(part), 1972; prior code (11.04(2).)

Chapter 9.20 PARK REGULATIONS¹

9.20.010 Vehicle regulation.

- (a) No person shall operate any vehicle as defined in Wis. Stats. § 340.01(74) at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour or contrary to official traffic signs in any park.
- (b) No person shall operate or park any motor vehicle as defined in Wis. Stats. § 340.01(35), except as provided in this subchapter, upon any paved trail, hiking trail, beach area, playground, picnic area or any other area other than established roads, parking areas, boat ramps and service areas or contrary to posted notice or within any park seasonally closed to vehicular traffic.
- (c) No person shall operate a snowmobile as defined in Wis. Stats. § 340.01(58a) in any park, except on snowmobile trails approved by or for events authorized by the Park and Recreation Committee.
- (d) No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or utility task vehicle (UTV) as defined in Wis. Stats. § 340.01(2g), in any City park, except on established paved roads.
- (e) No other motorized vehicles other than an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or utility task vehicle (UTV) shall be operated on a designated ATV/UTV trail on park property with the exception of authorized personnel in the performance of their duties.
- (f) No person shall park, stop or leave standing, whether attended or unattended, any vehicle, obstruction or watercraft:
 - (1) In any manner as to block, obstruct or limit the use of any road, trail, sidewalk, parking lot, boat landing, waterway or winter sport facility; or
 - (2) Outside of any area provided for such purposes when it is practical to use such areas; or
 - (3) Contrary to posted notice.
- (g) Vehicles may be operated or parked in parks contrary to this subchapter subject to having obtained proper City permits.
- (h) Any vehicle or watercraft in violation of subsection (d) may be towed off the property and stored at the owner's expense.

(Ord. 61-5483 (1 (part), 2011, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-5178 (1, 2002, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-5036 (1, 2000; prior code (11.05(1).)

¹State law reference(s)—For statutory provisions granting a City Park Board certain Board regulatory powers, see Wis. Stats. § 27.08.

9.20.020 Regulation of persons.

Persons using the public parks shall comply with the following:

- (a) No fires shall be permitted in any park other than The 400 Block, except for cooking purposes at designated places. No fires shall be permitted under or within a park shelter. No grilling shall be permitted on The 400 Block, with the exception of those special events for which waivers are granted upon the recommendation of Public Health and Safety Committee and approval of the Common Council. Open fires utilizing liquid or gas fuels may be permitted on The 400 Block with the written consent of the City of Wausau;
- (b) No person shall enter or be in any park between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Persons in attendance of an activity involving rental of a shelter or participation in a sanctioned special event shall be allowed to remain within the park as allowed by the event agreement. Persons traveling on the River Edge Trail or on walkways traversing The 400 Block and persons transporting watercraft to and from designated boat landings are permitted at any hour;
- (c) No person shall distribute or post bills or advertisements in any park without written consent of the City of Wausau;
- (d) [This subsection is intentionally left blank]
- (e) No person shall sell or offer for sale any goods, wares or merchandise in any park, except as authorized by the City of Wausau and when holding proper licenses;
- (f) No person shall play or practice golf in any park;
- (g) No person shall carry into, possess, or throw any cup, glass, flask, bottle or other container made of glass or other shatterable material designed or used for holding a beverage within a City park including the stadium and bleachers at Thom Field and the grandstand and bleachers in Athletic Park;
- (h) No owner or person having immediate custody, care or control of any animal, shall permit said animal to enter and/or remain in any designated public park building, bathing beach, the Marathon County Sports Complex, the Marathon Park Amphitheater, or playground safety surface area within any City park, except for a dog specially trained to lead blind or deaf persons or to provide support for mobility-impaired persons. This restriction is in addition to the provisions contained in chapter 8.08 of the Wausau Municipal Code;
- (i) No person shall use any facility, shelter, land or other area, for which a fee or charge has been established by the City of Wausau, without payment of such fee or charge prior to the use.
- (j) No person shall enter in any way any building, facility or area that may be under construction or locked or closed to public use, enter or be upon any building, facility or area after the posted closing time or before the posted opening time or contrary to posted notice in any park;
- (k) No person shall use docks or piers adjacent to any boat landing in any manner as to obstruct or hinder the launching, landing, loading or unloading of watercraft;
- (l) No person shall play or practice hockey, broomball or any other games or sports that may interfere with casual ice skaters, when casual skaters are present on outdoor ice skating rinks established by the Park and Recreation Committee, except hockey and broomball may be played on designated hockey rinks;
- (m) No person shall knowingly obstruct any law enforcement officer while the law enforcement officer is doing any act in an official capacity and with lawful authority. Obstruct includes without limitation

knowingly giving false information with intent to mislead the law enforcement officer in the performance of duty including the issuance of any citation;

- (n) No person shall take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue, feed or otherwise disturb any wild animals or birds in any park, except that nuisance animals may be trapped upon written consent of the Park and Recreation Committee or its authorized agent and in accordance with applicable state statutes and applicable provisions of the Wisconsin Administrative Code setting forth regulations of the Department of Natural Resources;
- (o) Rules and regulations may be made governing the use and enjoyment of all lands, structures and property owned, leased or administered by the City and under the management, supervision and control of the Park and Recreation Committee. No person shall disregard posted rules and regulations or engage in any activity contrary to posted notice. Any person who shall violate such rules and regulations or who refuses to subject himself thereto may be excluded from the use of such facility. The decision of the Director of the Parks Department to exclude individuals from the use of park facilities shall be final and the City elects not to be bound by the provisions of Wis. Stats. ch. 68, with respect to administrative procedure in this regard;
- (p) No person shall allow a dog or other animal to intimidate any other person from the use or enjoyment of any park. Evidence that a dog or other animal intimidates persons includes, but is not limited to, such animal not being amenable to control or threatening to attack persons or other animals. Any law enforcement officer may order the animal be removed from the park;
- (q) No person shall disturb, molest, deface, remove or destroy any trees, shrubs, plants or other natural growth; disturb or remove shoreline rip-rap; carve on any rocks, archaeological or geological features, signs, walls or structures; drive nails in trees or move, deface or vandalize in any manner any structures including buildings, signs, fences, tables or other park property. Edible fruits, nuts, wild mushrooms and wild asparagus may be picked or gathered without a permit.
- (r) No person shall hike, walk or run or allow a dog or any other animal on groomed cross-country ski and snowshoe trails, during that period of the year when such trails are open for cross-country skiing or snowshoeing in any City park unless in the case of an emergency or injury.
- (s) No person shall possess or consume intoxicating liquor or fermented malt beverages in or upon The 400 Block except between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.; during a Class I, II, or III Special Event upon request of the event organizer and as approved under the City's Special Events Policy and Procedures for a period beginning two hours before the time for the Class I, II, or III Special and ending one hour after the event if the event closes prior to 4:00 p.m., or such hours beginning before and ending after the event as may otherwise be approved by the Public Health and Safety Committee; or, as otherwise approved by the Public Health and Safety Committee and Common Council as provided in section 9.04.025(d).

(Ord. 61-5803 (1, 2019, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-5749 (2, 2017; Ord. 61-5745 (1, 2017, File No. 80-0828; Ord. 61-5714 (2, 2016; Ord. 61-5710 (1, 2016, File No. 80-0828; Ord. 61-5663 (1, 2015, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-5640 (1, 2014; Ord. 61-5586 (1, 2013, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-5567 (1, 2013, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-5483 (2, 2011, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-339 (3, 2007, File No. 07-0718; Ord. 61-5267 (1, 2005, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-5178 (2, 2002, File No. 02-0511; Ord. 61-5036 (2, 2000; Ord. 61-4986 (2, 1997; Ord. 61-4959 (1, 1996; Ord. 61-4934 (1, 1996; Ord. 61-4909 (1, 1995; Ord. 61-4779 (1, 1992; Ord. 61-4476 (1, 1981; Ord. 61-4343 (1, 1977; prior code (11.05(2).)

(Ord. No. 61-5880 , § 2, 3-23-2021)

Chapter 12.56 STREET TREES¹

12.56.010 Purpose.

It is the policy of the City to regulate and control the planting, removal, maintenance, and protection of trees and shrubs in the City; to eliminate and guard against dangerous conditions which may result in injury to persons using the public areas of the City; to promote and enhance the beauty of the City; to prevent damage to any public sewer or water main, street, sidewalk, or other public property; to protect trees and shrubs located in public areas from undesirable and unsafe planting, removal, maintenance, and protection practices; and to guard all trees and shrubs within the City against the spread of disease or pests. The provisions of this chapter shall apply:

- (a) To all trees and shrubs presently or hereafter planted in or upon any public area; and
- (b) To all trees and shrubs presently or hereafter planted in or upon any private premises which shall endanger the life, health or safety of persons or property.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1 (part), 1972.)

12.56.020 Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Maintenance and protection include all operations of: trimming, pruning, spraying, injecting, fertilizing, treating, bracing, doing surgery work, cutting above or below ground.

Public area includes all public ways, parks, and other lands owned or leased by the City.

Public way includes all public streets, roads, boulevards, alleys and sidewalks.

Trees and/or shrubs includes all woody vegetation presently or hereafter planted on any public area.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.030 City Forester.

- (a) *Appointment.* The Wausau Park and Recreation Committee may employ a City Forester (§ 27.09, Wis. Stats.).
- (b) *Powers and duties.* The City Forester shall have the following general powers and duties:
 - (1) To direct, manage, supervise, and control the City street tree program to include all planting, removal, maintenance, and protection of all trees and shrubs on all public areas; to supervise park department personnel in the planting, removal, maintenance, and protection of said trees and shrubs.
 - (2) To guard all trees and shrubs within the City so as to prevent the spread of disease or pests and to eliminate dangerous conditions which may affect the life, health or safety of persons or property.

¹State law reference(s)—For statutory provisions defining the powers and duties of the City forester, see § 27.09, Wis. Stats. As to the removal of fallen trees from highways, see § 86.03, Wis. Stats.

-
- (3) Such other powers and duties as are provided by the laws of Wisconsin, particularly Wis. Stats. §§ 27.08 and 27.09; by ordinances of the City; and by the Wausau Park and Recreation Committee.

(Ord. 61-5339 §5, 2007, File No. 07-0718; Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.040 Damage to or illegal removal of trees and shrubs.

No person shall in any public area of the City: break, injure, mutilate, kill, or destroy any tree or shrub; permit any animal under his control to do so; permit any fire to injure any portion of any tree or shrub; permit any leak to exist in any gas line within the root zone of any tree or shrub; permit any toxic chemical to seep, drain, or be emptied on or about any tree or shrub; or permit electric wires to come in contact with any tree or shrub. During building operations, the builder shall erect suitable protective barriers around public trees and shrubs which may be injured, after first giving written notice to the City Forester.

Illegal removal of trees or shrubs within the public way shall be replaced at a 1:1 caliper inch or a per tree fee will be assessed as determined by the City Forester.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.050 Fastening materials to trees and shrubs.

No person shall fasten any sign, rope, wire, or other materials to or around or through any public trees or shrub without obtaining a written permit from the City Forester, except in emergencies such as storms or accidents.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.060 Permit to move buildings on streets.

For provisions relating to moving buildings, see chapter 15.40 of this Code.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.070 Permit to public utilities.

No permit shall be issued by the City for the installation of public utilities until it is endorsed in writing by the City Forester. When a permit is given by the City Forester to a telephone, telegraph, electric power, gas or other public service corporation or utility to trim trees or perform other operations affecting trees or shrubs, the amount or extent of such work shall be limited to the actual necessities of the services of the company and such work shall be done in a neat and professional manner and according to the arboricultural specifications and standards set forth in the written permit. The City Forester may assign an inspector to supervise the work performed under the permit. The expense of such service shall be charged to the permittee at the usual City rate.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.080 Permit to plant, remove, maintain and protect trees and shrubs.

No person shall plant trees or shrubs in any public area unless a written permit is first obtained from the City forester. No person shall trim, prune, remove, treat, spray, inject, fertilize, brace, do surgery work, cut above or below ground, or otherwise disturb any tree or shrub in any public area without obtaining a written permit from the City Forester. The permittee shall adhere to the arboricultural specifications and standards of workmanship set

forth in the permit and outlined in the Tree Planting and Preservation Manual. A permit shall not be required to water trees and shrubs.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.090 Power to plant, remove, maintain and protect trees and shrubs.

The City Forester shall have the authority to plant, remove, maintain, and protect trees and shrubs on all public areas as may be necessary to insure safety or preserve the symmetry and beauty ~~of~~ such grounds.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.100 Public nuisance.

Any tree or shrub or part thereof growing upon private or public property which is:

- (a) Interfering with the use of any public area;
- (b) Infected with an infectious plant disease;
- (c) Infested with injurious insects;
- (d) Injurious to public improvements; or
- (e) Endangers the life, health, or safety of persons on public property is declared a public nuisance.

(Ord. 61-5627 §1(part), 2014, Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.110 Abatement of nuisance.

- (a) *Trees and shrubs on public areas.* If the City Forester determines, with reasonable certainty upon inspection or examination, any nuisance tree or shrub, as herein defined, exists in or upon any public area in the City, he shall immediately cause it to be treated, trimmed, removed, or otherwise abated in such manner as to destroy or prevent the spread of the nuisance. The manner in which the nuisance shall be abated, shall be determined by the City forester.
- (b) *Trees and shrubs on private premises.* If the City Forester determines with reasonable certainty upon inspection or examination that any nuisance tree or shrub, as herein defined, exists in or upon any private premises, he shall in writing notify the owner or tenant having charge of such premises. Within 30 days after the issuance of said notice, said person shall cause the treatment, trimming, or removal and destruction of said nuisance tree or shrub as directed in the written notice. No damage shall be awarded the owner for the destruction of trees or shrubs destroyed pursuant to this chapter. In case the owner or tenant having charge of such premises shall refuse or neglect to comply with the terms of the written notice within 30 days after receiving it, the City Forester shall cause the removal, treatment, or trimming of said nuisance tree or shrub. The expense thereof shall be a charge upon the real property on which said tree or shrub is located pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 66.0627.

(Ord. 61-5758 §1, 2018; Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.120 Interference with the City Forester.

No person shall prevent, delay, or interfere with the City Forester or his assistants in the execution or enforcement of this chapter.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.130 Appeal from order of City Forester.

A person who objects to all or a part of an order or decision of the City forester may, within eight days of receipt thereof, notify the Park and Recreation Committee and the City Forester, in writing, of the nature of the objection and request a hearing thereon. Upon receipt of such objection, the City Forester shall stay the order or work pending the outcome of the appeal process. Within eight days of the receipt of such notice of appeal, the Park and Recreation Committee shall schedule a hearing before the committee or its designated subcommittee to hear the objection. The hearing shall be held within eight days of notice to the appellant. The City Forester shall be present at such hearing. The appellant is entitled to be represented by counsel at appellant's expense. Within eight days after such hearing, the Park and Recreation Committee shall, in writing, notify the appellant and the City Forester of its decision. The Park and Recreation Committee may affirm, cancel or modify the order, in its discretion, to best conform such order to the intent of this chapter and make its report thereon to the Common Council. If the appellant objects to the decision of the Park and Recreation Committee, the appellant may, within eight days of receipt thereof, notify the City Clerk, in writing, of the nature of the objection and request a hearing before the Common Council thereon. The Council may adopt, reject or amend the Park and Recreation Committee's recommendation. The City Clerk shall notify the appellant, Park and Recreation Committee, and City Forester, in writing, of the Council's decision.

(Ord. 61-5627 §2(part), 2014; Ord. 61-4290 §1, 1975.)

12.56.140 Master street tree plan.

The master street tree plan shall consist of City-wide, street-by-street written evaluation of all space and site factors which will aid in the determination of the tree species best suited to a particular planting site in regard to growth habits, shape, form, health, disease and pest resistance, conflicts with wires, lights, pavement, traffic, pedestrians, sidewalks, environmental pollution, sewers and space availability. The evaluation of the space and site factors and the species selection for a particular street shall be made by the City Forester.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.150 Arboricultural specifications and standards.

The following specifications and standards are established for the planting, trimming, and removal of trees and shrubs in the streets, parks and public places of the City:

(a) *Planting:*

- (1) All trees will be not less than one inch in diameter of trunk, at six inches above ground level.
- (2) No tree shall be planted closer than two feet from the curb line or outer line of the sidewalk. All trees shall be planted in line with each other and at a spacing of between 40 and 60 feet from each other depending on the species of the tree. The exact planting location of each tree and shrub shall be determined by the City forester.
- (3) Where the soil is of poor quality, good soil shall be provided in an amount sufficient to insure proper growth.
- (4) The following species and varieties are prohibited for planting on the boulevards of public streets in the City: female trees of the genus *Populus* and female trees of boxelder.
- (5) No tree shall hereafter be planted at or within 20 feet of an intersection.

(b) *Trimming:*

- (1) All trees and shrubs, on public or private property, which have branches overhanging a public street, shall have said branches trimmed to a clearance height of 14 feet; all trees and shrubs, on public or private property, which have branches overhanging a public sidewalk, shall have said branches trimmed to a clearance height of ten feet. The City forester may waive the provisions of this section for newly planted trees if he determines they do not interfere with public travel, obstruct the light of any street light, or endanger public safety. Any tree or shrub not trimmed as herein provided shall be subject to the provisions of section 12.56.110.

~~(2) All saw cuts exceeding one inch in diameter shall be waterproofed with proper paint.~~

- (3) All dead wood, stubs, broken branches, badly formed branches, disease infected and insect infested branches and branches interfering with public travel, lighting, existing buildings, and traffic signs shall be removed during the trimming operation, with consideration given to the symmetry and beauty of the tree or shrub.

(c) *Removing:*

All public trees and shrubs which are marked for cutting shall be completely removed from the growing site and disposed of in an authorized manner. The stump shall be ground out to a depth suitable for future planting of trees or turf.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.160 Dutch elm disease.

- (a) *Public nuisances declared.* The Common Council having determined the health of the elm trees within the City is threatened by a fatal disease known as "Dutch elm disease" declares the following to be public nuisances:

- (1) Any living or standing elm tree or part thereof infected with the Dutch elm disease fungus *Ceratocystis ulmi* (Buisman) Moreau or which harbors any of the elm bark beetles *Scolytus multistriatus* (Eichh) or *Hylurgopinus rufipes* (Marsh);
- (2) Any dead elm tree or part thereof, including logs, branches, stumps, firewood or other elm material not buried, burned, sprayed with an effective elm bark beetle destroying insecticide, or from which the bark has not been removed.

- (b) *Nuisances prohibited.* No person shall permit any public nuisance as defined in subsection (a) of this section to remain on any premises owned or leased by him within the City.

- (c) *Abatement of Dutch elm disease nuisance.* Abatement of Dutch elm disease nuisance shall be pursuant to section 12.56.110.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.XX Emerald Ash Borer.

- ~~(a) *Public nuisances declared.* The Common Council having determined the health of the ash trees within the City is threatened by a fatal insect known as "Emerald Ash Borer" declares the following to be public nuisances:~~

- ~~(1) Any living or standing ash tree or part thereof infested with the Emerald Ash Borer beetle.~~
- ~~(2) Any dead ash tree or part thereof, including logs, branches, stumps, firewood or other ash material not buried, burned or chipped.~~

(b) *Nuisances prohibited.* No person shall permit any public nuisance as defined in subsection (a) of this section to remain on any premises owned or leased by him/her within the City.

(c) *Abatement of Emerald Ash Borer nuisance.* Abatement of Emerald Ash Borer nuisance shall be pursuant to section 12.56.110.

12.56.170 Authority of City forester to enter private premises.

The City Forester or his representatives, after giving advance notice to the owner or tenant having charge, shall have the authority to enter upon private premises at reasonable times for the purposes of examining or inspecting any suspected nuisance tree or shrub. All nuisance trees and shrubs to be removed under the provision of section 12.56.110 may be appropriately marked by the City Forester.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.180 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter is declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not invalidate any other provision of this chapter. The Common Council of the City declares they would have adopted each and every provision of this chapter separately regardless of the possible invalidity of any part thereof.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)

12.56.190 Cost of planting, removing, maintaining and protecting trees and shrubs.

The entire cost of planting, removing, maintaining, and protecting trees and shrubs on all public areas of the City, when done by Park Department employees or their contractors at the direction of the City Forester, shall be borne by the City out of the Park department budget. When a permit is issued by the City forester to plant, remove, maintain or protect trees and shrubs, pursuant to sections 12.56.070 and 12.56.080, the permittee shall incur all expenses.

(Ord. 61-4202 §1(part), 1972.)