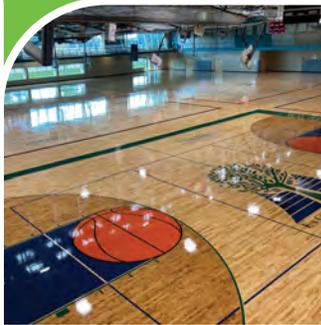


# Waukegan Park District



## Parks, Facilities & Open Space **MASTER PLAN** 2022



# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

## RESOLUTION 2022-21

**WHEREAS** the Park District recognizes that developing and adopting a Parks and Open Space Master Plan is a common best practice; and

**WHEREAS** the Park District has utilized a Parks and Open Space Master Plan since 1989-1993 with revisions occurring in 1995-1999, 2001-2005, 2008-2013, 2015-2020; and

**WHEREAS** the Park District established the Master Plan Committee to advise the staff and provide valuable public input in the Master Plan process; and

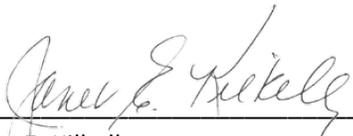
**WHEREAS** the Park District retained Hitchcock Design Group, who assisted with the production of the plan; and

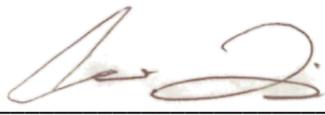
**WHEREAS** the Park District conducted an online survey of Waukegan Park District citizens about parks and open space to evaluate the District's effectiveness at meeting the needs and expectations of the community for the District; and

**WHEREAS** the staff has compiled the recommendations and findings of the community input.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners that the Waukegan Park District does hereby adopt this 2022 Parks, Facilities and Open Space Master Plan.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this plan was developed to guide and shape the future of the Waukegan Park District parks and facilities and will serve as a guide for the Commissioners and staff to conceive and define the future direction for the infrastructure of the Park District.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet E. Kilkelly  
President, Board of Commissioners

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amanda Florip  
Attorney and Secretary

Adopted November 15, 2022

# Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Chapter 1: Overview, Goals and Input</b>	
1.1 Waukegan Park District Overview and History	3
1.2 Why This Plan Was Developed	7
1.3 Goals and Objectives of the Plan	8
1.4 Community Input Methodology and Results	9
<b>Chapter 2: Park and Open Space Inventory and Analysis</b>	
2.1 Parks and Open Space Providers	18
2.2 Waukegan Park District in Context	20
2.3 Waukegan Park District Open Space	20
2.4 Other Public Open Space in Waukegan	24
2.5 Private Open Space in Waukegan	24
2.6 Park & Open Space Purpose, Functions and Classifications	26
2.7 Level of Service Standards and Analysis	32
<b>Chapter 3: Park and Open Space Needs Assessment and Plan</b>	
3.1 Planning Communities	36
3.2 Community Park Resources Plan	38
3.3 Neighborhood Park Resources Plan	40
3.4 Planning Community Profiles and Assessments	42
3.5 Linear Park Resources Plan	48
3.6 Community-Wide Special Facilities Plan	50
3.7 Conservation/Protection Plan	51
<b>Chapter 4: Recommendations</b>	
4.1 Introduction	52
4.2 Land Acquisition	52
4.3 Recommended Park Improvements	52
4.4 Recommended Facility Improvements	65
4.5 Recommended Park Connections and Paths	71
4.6 Fiscal and Budget Considerations	71
4.7 Reviewing, Funding and Updating the Plan	72
4.8 Implementing the Plan	72

# 2022 Parks Open Space and Facilities Master Plan

## Executive Summary

### Purpose of This Plan

This plan was developed to guide and shape the future of the “infrastructure” of the Waukegan Park District parks, open space and facilities. This plan is a general master plan that is primarily concerned with the Park District’s purpose for management, protection, use and development of parks and facilities. It is the primary planning tool for future decision making related to its Capital Improvement Plan. The following are the highlights and Key Themes from the plan with *Chapter 4: Recommendations* being the key chapter.

### Chapter 1: Overview, Goals and Input

The District has a rich and very successful history that is responsive to community needs. To help determine current infrastructure needs, detailed input was collected from the following:

- ❖ Community: Online survey summarized by consultant to avoid bias.
- ❖ Master Plan Committee: Group and one-on-one meetings with 7 Key Partners.
- ❖ Staff: One-on-one meetings with 5 Key Staff and detailed input from Parks and Planning Staff.

*Key Theme: Maintaining and improving our current infrastructure is critical to meeting community needs.*

### Chapter 2: Park and Open Space Inventory & Analysis

Since 2015, the District has grown from 48 to 53 park sites and from 727.94 acres to 741.83 acres through diverse acquisitions. An analysis at a community and neighborhood level draws out these key findings that affect the recommendations of this plan:

- ❖ The District is the primary provider of park spaces in the community, but other providers included in our analysis include the City of Waukegan, School District 60, Lake County Forest Preserve District and The State of Illinois.
- ❖ On its own, the District provides almost all the park acres needed to meet NRPA standards. When School District and City of Waukegan recreation spaces are considered, the acres far exceed the standard.
- ❖ As community needs and development change, the District should grow with these changes.

*Key Theme: Although national standards for park land are met, there is continued opportunities to add park land, especially along the lakefront.*

### Chapter 3: Parks and Open Space Needs Assessment and Plan

The District has long used the “neighborhood within a community” concept with six planning communities and three to eight neighborhoods in each community. Ideally, each community has a community park, and each neighborhood has one or more neighborhood parks. The key findings of the needs assessment are:

- ❖ The Northwest Planning Community is the only community without a Community Park.
- ❖ Only 4 of the 29 neighborhoods within our planning communities lack a Neighborhood Park.
- ❖ There is great potential of connecting parks and open spaces through linear greenway and trail connections, especially along the lakefront.
- ❖ Careful management of the District’s Conservation lands is critical to their long-term value.

*Key Theme: Although the District has nearly met all the needs within its planning communities and neighborhood areas, there is still room to grow.*

## Chapter 4: Recommendations

*This is the key chapter of this document.* Based on thorough input, current demographics, refinement of our open space inventory and an assessment of our current park and open space resources, the key findings are below. A strategic and continual effort must be made to incorporate these recommendations into the District's Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

- ❖ The District should continue to research and consider acquiring larger open space parcels to create new parks and make linear connections and acquire strategic parcels to expand existing parks.
- ❖ Maintaining and improving the infrastructure within parks and facilities is high priority.
- ❖ The District-wide, Multi-site and Individual park and facility recommendations provided in this chapter should be priority for selecting capital improvement projects.
- ❖ As part of the District's Strategic Plan review process, this plan should be reviewed, progress tracked, and updates made as necessary.
- ❖ This plan will serve as the District's Parks Open Space and Facilities Master Plan until it is determined to be out of date. At that time a new plan will be created and adopted.

*Key Theme: Maintaining the District's park and facility infrastructure is priority for capital improvement planning.*

## 1.1 Waukegan Park District Overview and History

### Park Resources

Established on December 26, 1916, The District has 53 properties and 742 acres of land with 46 buildings, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook Golf Course and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Course. The District operates four recreation centers: Belvidere Recreation Center, Bevier Center, the Community Recreation Center (licensed to The Boys & Girls Club of Lake County) and the Field House Sports, Fitness & Aquatics Center at Hinkston Park. Other significant facilities include: the SplashZone at Corrine J. Rose Park, Jack Benny Center for the Arts, Waukegan History Museum, Waukegan's Greg Petry SportsPark, one rental hall (Jane Addams Center), 15 ball diamonds, 15 soccer fields, 6 tennis courts, 6 dedicated pickleball courts, 4 tennis/pickleball courts, 40 grill pads, 7 picnic shelters, 34 playgrounds, 15 outdoor basketball courts, 1 skate park, 1 BMX track, 1 disc golf course, 5 spray parks, 2 dog parks, 1 formal garden and 13 jogging/hiking trails. Major renovations have begun at the historic Carnegie Library and a new facility for Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County (SRSNLC) at Roosevelt Park.

### Programs and Services

The District provides a full range of activities and services year-round. Major recreation programs include athletics, music, visual arts, dance, drama, day camps, fitness, preschools, outdoor recreation, trips, and special events. Programs and services are provided for special populations such as senior citizens and individuals with disabilities. The District sponsors the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus.

### Staffing

The District employs 66 authorized full-time staff, 132 part-time and more than 95 seasonal and temporary employees.

### Affiliations

The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA), Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County (SRSNLC), and Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA).

### Accreditations

The District is recognized as a Distinguished Park and Recreation Accredited Agency by the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) as well as national Agency Accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) through NRPA.

### Boundaries

The Park District is approximately coterminous with the City of Waukegan north of Tenth Street. The Park District also includes most of Waukegan Township and portions of Benton, Warren, Newport, and Libertyville Townships, and portions of the villages of Beach Park and Gurnee. The Park District boundaries encompass approximately 26.7 square miles.

### Population

Park District population is approximately 89,369 (2020).

# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

## OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Waukegan Park District is committed to providing parks, facilities and leisure opportunities to our culturally diverse population through leadership with community involvement, dedicated staff and sound management.

### VISION STATEMENT

An innovative park district that creatively adapts to our evolving community and provides exceptional parks, recreation and cultural arts that benefit all.

### VALUE STATEMENT

- **Accountability...**We will work to achieve the most effective and efficient use of our financial resources while striving for the best return on the use of our assets.
- **Excellence...**We will strive for the best in everything we do.
- **Integrity...**We will practice steadfast adherence to a high moral and ethical code, and we will reliably deliver on what we say we are going to do.
- **Service Oriented...**We will focus our efforts on our customers and will operate the District based on the needs of the community.
- **Working Together...**We will work WITH one another.
- **Sustainability...**The Board and staff will use a collaborative and cooperative team based approach that results in the best possible decisions for the long term greater good of the entire community.



## Early History

The Park District traces its origin back to December 26, 1916, when the people of Waukegan authorized the creation of the Park District in a local referendum. The Park District marked its first official act on January 8, 1917, when the first five Park Commissioners met to organize the District and elect officers. The Park District, which had become a reality through the efforts of the Waukegan Woman's Club, the Waukegan Park Day Association, and the Waukegan Chamber of Commerce, began to embark on its mission to acquire and provide public parks and recreation facilities for residents of Waukegan.

The initial planning efforts of the Park District were concentrated on acquiring property for parks. Roosevelt and Washington Parks were among the earliest acquisitions of the new Park District. Other parks acquired in the first 14 years were Smith Park, Upton Park, Victory Park, Yeoman Park, Hinkston Park, and the expansion of Powell Park on Grand Avenue.



The boldest park acquisition of all was to come in 1931 when the District acquired the Bonnie Brook Golf Club. As early as 1926, citizens had urged the Park Commissioners to acquire a municipal golf course. At the height of the Great Depression, the private Bonnie Brook Golf Club became available. This made a public golf course for the Waukegan community a reality. Today, this 152-acre course is one of the finest municipal golf courses in northern Illinois and an indication of the importance of public opinion and changing economic conditions in affecting park planning and acquisition. Bonnie

Brook has been the recipient of the Reader's Choice Best of the Best Award Top Pick in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

After the acquisition of the golf course, the Park District settled into a period of slow growth. From 1932 through 1941, the only new park added was Belvidere Park in 1938. However, by its 25th anniversary year in 1941, the Park District had acquired 12 parks totaling over 225 acres.

After World War II, the City of Waukegan and the Park District experienced another period of growth and expansion. Demands for new housing spurred development and increased the competition for available land. The Park District not only had to compete with many developers but with the City's Recreation Department, which was still acquiring small parks and playgrounds for its programs.

From the end of World War II through the early 1960s, the Park District began providing and expanding the recreational facilities in parks to create structured play opportunities. These facilities included tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, picnic areas, and ball diamonds. The Park District also built a new outdoor swimming pool at Belvidere Park in 1956, which was named for former Commissioner Howard E. Ganster.

The most significant land acquisition made in the era after World War II came in 1963 when the Park District purchased Bowen Park. The Hull House had established the Bowen Park Country Club, as it was then known, as a summer retreat for Chicago's urban youth.

The Bowen Country Club was opened in 1912. It included a full range of facilities including dormitories, activity buildings, a pool, and a dining hall. For 50 summers, the children of Hull House came to Bowen Country Club to enjoy the “country life” far from inner city of Chicago. Today, Bowen Park has been transformed into a public park with a wide range of recreation facilities. The park houses Lilac Cottage, which is home to the John L. Raymond Historic Research Library, and the Waukegan History Museum, the current headquarters for the Waukegan Historical Society. Other facilities include Grosche Baseball Field, Waukegan Skate Park, greenhouse, and an expansive playground. Bowen Park is also home to the Jack Benny Center for the Arts that opened in February 1987.

## Recent History

In September of 2006 the \$12 million Field House at Hinkston park opened as a premier state of the art facility. In 2016 a \$9.6 million Aquatic Center was added through a \$2.5 million Park and Recreational Facilities Construction (PARC) grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

In June 2011, the \$18 million Waukegan SportsPark opened. It is now known as Waukegan’s Greg Petry SportsPark and has received numerous awards.

Early in 2020, Victory Park received an OSLAD Grant for \$400,000 to assist with the renovation of the park and updating of the playground and ballfield. The City of Waukegan contributed \$25,000 in a CDBG grant. A ComEd/Openlands Grant contributed \$10,000 to the park. Funds were used to add a bathroom building, small dog park, perimeter walking paths, new outdoor fitness stations, and a Healing Garden with fountain.



The District offered its first virtual programs in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Events and programs continued to be offered virtually throughout 2020 and into 2021. The American Independence Parade Shoebox Edition was held virtually on Facebook, July 4, 2020. The successful event was recognized by the Illinois Park and Recreation Association as the 2020 Overall Outstanding Program and Special Event award.

Ownership of the historic Carnegie Library located in downtown Waukegan was transferred by the City of Waukegan to the Waukegan Park District on August 13, 2020.

The History Companion was added to the Waukegan Park District Mobile App in fall of 2020, providing on the go historical information about parks and sites, self-guided tours, and educational outreach programs for schools.

In fall 2020, the District established the Nature’s Classroom at Bevier Center. It is a hands-on, indoor nature exhibit that supplements the exploration of nature outdoors in Bevier Park including the pond.

In October 2020 the \$1.2 million Eugene P. King Park renovation was completed with an Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) OSLAD grant for \$400,000. The park features the District’s first challenge course.

In 2021, the District acquired two small parks in the Links of Midlane subdivision and developed playgrounds at both sites, Friendship and Hilltop Park.

The District received nearly \$350,000 in CARES Act related funding from Lake County, reimbursing COVID-19 related expenses for personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies and equipment. \$30,000 was dedicated

to childcare coverage for working parents. The District also received nearly \$40,000 from FEMA for recovery funds throughout the pandemic.

The Waukegan Parks Foundation held a capital campaign to fund the purchase and installation of a percussion playground at Corrine J. Rose Park. The percussion playground opened in July 2021.

In March 2021, The Carnegie Museum Project received an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Public Museum Capital Grant for \$750,000. The museum project received CDBG grants from Lake County and the City of Waukegan totaling \$150,000. The Waukegan History Museum received \$150,000 from IDNR for exhibit



development about the Waukegan Harbor. IDOT property purchased north of the museum building will allow the proposed addition with elevator and ADA entrance to the Museum project to be built on the north side of the building. In February 2022, the Board approved names for the Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie and the existing Haines House Museum. Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie was awarded a \$3 million grant from the State of Illinois and another \$3 million grant from the Federal Government. Both grants recognized the economic development potential of the museum at its key location in downtown Waukegan. The entire project has been in partnership with the Waukegan Historical Society.

The Waukegan Park District purchased a building adjacent to Roosevelt Park, 540 S. McAlister Avenue, to become the new home of Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County. Since 2019, Special Recreation has received nearly \$50,000 from Autism Speaks to become a leading agency in Northeast Illinois for special recreation programming. The new building is set to open in 2023. The new location will allow the District to expand to day-long programming for special recreation participants.

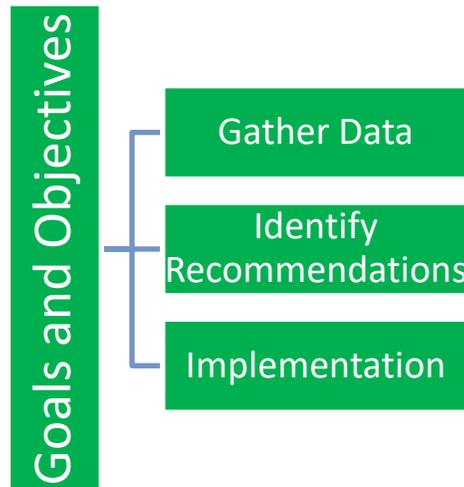
## 1.2 Why This Plan Was Developed

The development of a Master Plan by a park agency is essential to meeting the challenges of today's demand for the public's everchanging expectations for park and recreation facilities. With limited financial resources, disappearing suitable land for parks, changing trends in recreation and growth in population, park agencies must carefully plan for their future by accommodating the needs of constituents.

This plan was developed to guide and shape the future of the Waukegan Park District parks, open space and facilities. This plan will serve as a guide for Commissioners and the public to conceive and define future direction for the infrastructure of the Park District. This plan is a general master plan that is primarily concerned with the Park District's purpose for management, protection, use and development of parks. It intentionally does not address recreational programming which is accomplished through separate and effective planning processes. The plan has been developed to be both responsive to the people and consistent with the mission of the Park District. To accomplish this, we obtained public input through an online survey which is detailed later in this chapter.

## 1.3 Goals and Objectives of the Plan

This plan is designed to achieve three broad goals consisting of specific objectives.



**Gather Data:** *To collect a body of knowledge and information concerning the Park District's resources, demographics and public interests.*

- Update the inventory of recreation, parks and open space resources.
- Compile economic, geographic, demographic and trends information.
- Gather information about public interest and attitudes by conducting an online survey. Input was also gathered from staff and board members through multiple input meetings.

**Identify Recommendations:** *To analyze available data and identify specific needs and issues.*

1. Define the needs of the parks and open space system by comparing inventory data with national standards, conducting service area mapping and comparing the district with other similar districts.
2. Develop a list of specific recommendations to address the needs such as:
  - Revitalize and improve existing park facilities. Improve connection of our parks and other community open spaces through pathways and greenways.
  - Acquire additional park land to meet identified needs.

**Implementation:** *To develop realistic and accomplishable plans to implement the recommendations of the plan.*

1. Integrate the implementation of this plan into the District's Strategic Plan
2. Define a three-year Capital Improvement Budget Forecast
3. Develop a phased plan for the development and rehabilitation of parks based on the three-year CIP forecast.
4. Identify potential land acquisitions that would meet the needs identified in this plan.
5. Make the public aware of the plan.

## 1.4 Community Input Methodology and Results

The development of the Master Plan is being informed by the opinions and input gathered in several ways from the public, staff, and board members.

### Master Plan Committee

A 15 member Master Plan Committee was created to both guide and inform the master plan process and provide input on the plan itself. Representatives included governmental and not for profit liaisons and Park District Staff and a Board of Commissioners liaison. The committee convened both as an entire committee as well as one-on-one meetings with staff with vibrant dialogue shared at each meeting. The committee list is provided below followed by a summary of the input received.

Master Plan Committee	
Member	Organization
Jay Lerner	Staff
Quincy Bejster	Staff
Errick Beverly	Staff
Jon Beckmann	Staff
Tim Girmscheid	Staff
Kristy De Boer	Staff
Shelby McDonald	Staff
Anton L. Mathews	Board of Commissioners
Nathan Hintz	Waukegan Parks Foundation
Marc Jones	Waukegan Township
Noelle Kischer-Lepper	City of Waukegan
Maggie Morales	Lake County Community Foundation
LeBaron Moten	Waukegan School District #60
Jesus Ruiz	College of Lake County
Randy Seebach	Lake County Forest Preserve District

### 2022 Parks and Open Space Master Plan Summaries of Master Plan Committee One-on-One Meetings

#### Lake County Forest Preserve District - Randy Seebach

- Lyons to Wadsworth Savanna is a great collaborative project that can grow
  - Green Bay to York House – Beach Park to be local sponsor (20% funding)
  - Airport needs ~50 acres from the Forest Preserve District who may give in exchange for the Port District contributing towards the trail and underpass construction to get to Delany. Scheduled for a 2023 federal funding application for 2024 earliest construction.
  - Delany to Wadsworth Savanna currently unfunded.
  - WPD should be involved in input/planning. We could request a path connection from York House to west end of SportsPark. We would likely need to fund and maintain. He uses \$500,000 per mile for cost estimating.
- Urban Ag. – FPD just provides lot for community garden on MLK Drive by Bedrosian. Fuller Center operates.

3. Greenbelt Area – The proximity of Greenbelt, McClory Path and Dugdale Parks make this an area to consider for more planning for connections. New path along rebuilt 14<sup>th</sup> Street connects Green Bay Road, Greenbelt and the McClory Path.
4. Lakefront – FPD is involved in high level talks with the City regarding lakefront property and potential paths.

#### College of Lake County – Jesus Ruiz

1. Urban Agriculture – Waukegan is a food desert and CLC is addressing. Farm on Ogden is a model for them at expanded and renovated campus. Addressing both hunger and health issues. Plan to have farmers markets with other farmers involved. Hope to be self-sustainable within 3 years. Chicago Botanic Garden involved and hiring process begun for Farm Executive Director.
2. Community Impact – More than academics, vision is to be community centerpiece. “Community owns the space”. Addressing racial equity issues. Industrial kitchen capable of catering and supplying cafeteria. We may have access to kitchen for programs. Plans to include childcare with connection to farm. Interested in possible advice for outdoor play equipment and installation.
3. Partnership Potential – Connection to Carnegie including shared parking, WPD programming held at CLC, City and Lakefront/downtown redevelopment

#### District 60 School District – LeBaron Moten

1. Playgrounds and play spaces are a main area that we both provide for the community.
  - a. Playgrounds at Oakdale, McCall, Andrew Cooke, Washington Elementary and John Clark are next to be replaced in the next few years. May be more in the next five years.
  - b. There is a set process to replace with Principals involved. Some are Community Builds.
  - c. They may have a Pre-K playset to re-purpose from the Alternate/Optional Education Center which could come to us.
  - d. School owns playground and court at Joe Sisolak Park and is considering replacing soon. We requested the replacement take place on their own property. Basketball to remain.
2. Most of their formal athletic fields are rented by groups in addition to their own use.
3. The public use their playgrounds and play space regularly and should be considered in our Level of Service Analysis.
4. Natural area west of Brookside campus is not used but it was agreed that there is potential. They would likely be open to us managing it along with our portion of the natural area and adding a public walking loop.

#### Lake County Community Foundation – Maggie Morales

1. In general, best partnership opportunities involve bringing funding to the table for shared interests.
2. Small Business Development – They support businesses like Supermercado Gonzalez – owners have interest in health issues and providing nutritious food. They are encouraging others.
3. Washington Corridor – There may be opportunities for business and open space development – connection to McClory Path.
4. Help Needy – Homeless population is an interest to them and may be able to help connect the dots in addressing homeless in our parks – connecting resources. They have supported Public Action to Deliver Shelter (PADS).
5. Community Engagement – They have supported our Community Engagement work and would like to continue.
6. Beacon Place – They have supported their start up development. We partner with them at King Park by providing space for their programs and we shaped some of the redevelopment to better serve their

users. They and Roberti provide community gardening and nutritional assistance to the needy. Emily Weber is now working for LCCF and is strong in community gardening. They may be interested in use of our York House farm property.

#### **Waukegan Parks Foundation – Nathan Hintz**

1. Foundation is about five years old and really hitting its stride. We have an excellent partnership.
2. Goals are to directly fund projects like the Rose Music Park and the Victory Healing Garden, being a conduit to other related 501c3 organizations and to be a pass through for tax deductible contributions.
3. They have nine members who contribute and secure donations from their connections.
4. They typically pick projects to fund from a list that we and the community provide.
5. They have an interest in pollinators and the Bevier Discovery Dock that may be a part of the OSLAD dependent Bevier Park Renovation.
6. They also plan to continue support of the second-grade swim lesson program.

#### **City of Waukegan – Noelle Kischer-Lepper**

1. They have a good long-standing relationship with us.
2. Their planning department is losing Steve Sabourin and Russ Tomlin to early retirement.
3. Top partnership opportunities include:
  - a. Northern Lakeshore Trail Connectivity Plan (2020)– they adopted.
  - b. City Sustainability Plan – They adopted - can be found online.
  - c. Trails – ComEd corridors are key. They have a good relationship with them, but Forest Preserve District is very helpful.
  - d. Downtown – Carnegie Redevelopment is exciting.
  - e. Lakefront – Skidmore, Owings and Merrill plan is still the guiding document. OMC cleanup is nearly complete. Some containment there which limits development. Coke plant cleanup is complete. Request For Proposals in process for Bombardier property – looking for master developer. A proposed “Great Park” could connect Sheridan Road to the lakefront.
  - f. Land Transfers – The City has several open space parcels that they would like the Park District to consider taking ownership of.

#### **Waukegan Township – Marc Jones**

1. The Township would like to continue and strengthen their partnership with us.
2. They will continue with a strong operation for seniors at Park Place and serving other populations at the Eddie Washington Center and Staben House.
3. They plan to replace the roof at Park Place but will be later than replacement of ours at the Belvidere Recreation Center. They are interested in working with us to improve the large steel fascia on both buildings to update aesthetics.
4. The redevelopment of Rose Park has benefited them – addition of fitness and path improvements in particular.

## Community Online Survey

In addition to input from our Master Plan Committee, we conducted an online survey which was promoted through social media, community emails and our website. Approximately 275 responses were received. To avoid inherent bias of staff interpreting the results, Hitchcock Design Group was hired to study and distill the input which follows.

### Summary by Jenna Beck, Hitchcock Design Group

#### Parks:

- Restrooms
  - Needed in all parks, located near playgrounds to allow for extended park use times – lack of restrooms or closed restrooms are typically the limiting factors in how long families stay in the parks
  - Existing restrooms need updates – new faucets, hand dryers, etc.
  - Increase maintenance / improve cleanliness
  - Extend time existing restrooms are open – parks still get used during the winter
- Playgrounds
  - Add toddler-friendly / preschool playgrounds – newer playgrounds are often geared towards older kids and are too challenging for young kids
  - Increase amount of equipment in existing playgrounds – some recent updates seem to be lacking in amount of equipment
  - Add equipment similar to Bowen Park’s playground at more parks
  - Add more natural playgrounds throughout District
  - Install shade over / around playgrounds – new equipment is great, but it gets hot in the summer
- Splash Pads / Outdoor Aquatics
  - Add splash pads at more parks – existing splash pads are overcrowded during peak season
  - Provide aquatic activities for older kids / teens – existing splash pads seem to be geared toward younger kids
  - Open splash pads earlier in the morning
  - Evaluate outdoor pool / diving well
- Safety / Security
  - Increase police presence / patrols at parks, especially in evenings / on weekends
  - Add blue lights / emergency contact stations in parks
  - Install / increase lighting at parks, especially along trails
  - Close off parking lots after park hours to deter loitering and unwanted activities after dark (drinking, drug use / dealing, gang activity noted, especially at Bowen and Rose Parks)
  - Bullying by unsupervised children on playgrounds is becoming more prevalent
- Maintenance
  - Increase waste removal, especially on weekends (e.g. litter receptacles are often overflowing by Sunday at Bowen Park)
  - Provide dog waste stations at all parks to encourage owners to clean up after their dogs
- Trails
  - Add distance markers along existing trails
  - Add more walking / biking trails in parks
  - Add / improve trail connections throughout District
  - Widen trails / resurface uneven existing trails

- Sports Fields / Courts
  - Add soccer goals at parks with open space
  - Expand tennis court use during off-season (e.g. off-leash dog training, futsal [with fencing reinforcement], etc.)
  - Install tennis wall for single-player practice opportunities
  - Install a disc golf course(s) at another park – participation is increasing and the course at Bevier is overcrowded at times
  - Evaluate locations for additional pickleball, volleyball, and basketball courts
- Dog Park
  - Consider providing fenced areas at more parks for dogs
- Shelters / Furnishings
  - Add shelters at more parks
  - Evaluate rental rates – Forest Preserve District rates are often lower than WPD rates
  - Update / maintain existing grills
  - Provide electrical outlets for public use (at shelters)
  - Add tables
  - Increase number of benches, especially along walking trails
  - Provide covered benches / seating areas in more parks
  - Add more litter receptacles / Provide designated recycling receptacles at all parks
  - Add drinking fountains at all parks
- Accessibility
  - Evaluate entrance / spectator fee at SportsPark
  - Provide park matrix on website / in Park District communications (several comments noting people are unsure at which parks they can find specific amenities)
  - Increase accessibility by adding trail connections to existing neighborhoods as land availability allows (e.g. Clearview Park access from south)
  - Improve crossings with striped crosswalks, signals, etc. at busy roadways
  - Evaluate land acquisition opportunities
    - More parks needed on the west side of town (e.g., Midlane Estates neighborhood)
    - Consider acquiring and improving Waukegan Beach
  - Implement more ADA accessible features at all parks – site furnishings, restrooms, playgrounds, etc.

### Facilities:

- Accessibility:
  - Evaluate Field House membership fees – seems too expensive for area and number of low-income residents within the District, cost prohibitive for large families and seniors
  - Evaluate Field House hours of operation – seems to close earlier than privately owned gyms
  - Evaluate acquisition / expansion opportunities – facilities often seem overcrowded
  - Improve ADA accessibility at all facilities
  - Centralize facility rentals within a single department
- Field House
  - Consider adding a turf field to support additional uses (football training, lawn fitness activities, etc.)
  - Evaluate pool hours and adjust as needed:
    - Early morning therapy pool times are difficult for handicapped / senior residents to make
    - Summer swim programs for kids limit pool use opportunities for non-program users

- Consider how elimination of the outdoor pool at Rose and elimination of swim lessons at the high school pools will impact demand on the Field House Aquatic Center
- Open additional lockers in locker rooms (Covid-related restriction)
- Reopen steam room (Covid-related restriction)
- Continue maintaining facility at current level (mixed comments received – some praising cleanliness, others state need for more cleaning in pool and track areas)
- Jack Benny Center
  - Increase maintenance / evaluate renovation opportunities
  - Evaluate and update sound system
- Bonnie Brook Golf Course
  - Replace damaged foot bridges
  - Evaluate clubhouse vendor(s)

### Programs:

- Accessibility
  - Evaluate timing of programs – work schedules often impede program participation for adults
  - Evaluate and adjust program offerings as needed
  - Increase communication with residents on program availability – many comments regarding frustration over program cancellation due to lack of participation
  - Improve registration portal / make more user friendly
- Age-Group Focused Programs
  - Evaluate / increase adult program offerings, especially for childless adults
  - Evaluate / increase senior program offerings
  - Evaluate / increase teen program offerings
  - Evaluate / increase intergenerational program offerings

## Staff Input

One on one meetings with the staff below were held to secure input as it relates to programming of our facilities. The aggregated input follows:

**Kaitlin Fischer, Superintendent of Sports, Fitness & Aquatics**

**Ty Rohrer, Manager of Cultural Arts**

**Jen Dumas, Manager of General Recreation and Special Recreation**

**Shelby McDonald, Director of Marketing & Community Relations**

**Elizabeth Fallon, Department Coordinator**

### Hinkston Park

- Pavilion/bathroom clearly needs updating or replacement
- Second pavilion would be good
- Needs new playground

### Field House

- Intense use leading to increased wear and tear
- Separate assessment and long-term improvement is needed to address:
  - Improving Front Desk as a control point
  - Updating locker rooms
  - Is fitness center large enough
  - Increasing fitness studio space (one is not enough)
  - Lap and therapy pool surface and floor maintenance/resurfacing
  - Aquatics staff office space
  - Is rock wall used enough to warrant use of space?
  - Front door replacement
  - Component replacement – Curtains, flooring
  - Repaving of original parking lot

### SportsPark

- Parking tight for tournament days.
- Artificial soccer/football turf close to replacement age. Could consider inflatable dome to extend season.
- Additional artificial turf soccer or softball infields would help.
- Indoor soccer would be a well-used addition.
- Access via Beach Road is an issue. Need better control.

### Belvidere Recreation Center

- Indoor bathrooms need renovation
- Gym addition would be very useful. Indoor pickleball could be one of the uses (share with Park Place).

### Bevier Park

- Connection to Bird Sanctuary would be good. Could be just from Bevier and not connection to neighborhood.

### Douglas House

- Need to address future use
- Still have moisture issues in basement
- Could be used as intern housing or artist in residence (mixed input on artist in residence)

### Carnegie Museum

- Parking will be a long-term challenge.
- Intersection crossing should be assessed and improved if feasible.

### Bowen Park

- Bike “pump track” or similar could help separate users of skate park
- Outdoor amphitheater would be useful to bring programming outdoors or Stiner Pavilion could be used more. Should be large enough for Orchestra.
- Speeding still issue on two roads and parking. More speed bumps?

### Haines Museum

- Does Victorian Era Interpretation well which should continue to complement Carnegie.

### Lilac Cottage

- Underutilized now, library to move to Carnegie and Country Club exhibit to Haines.
- Could be used for Visual Arts including ceramics (assuming Visual Arts Center is phased out of use)
- Intern housing could move to Douglas House.
- Paved path to formal garden is needed.

### Jack Benny Center

- Community Theatre programming on the upswing, especially youth theatre.
- Theatre should be professionally improved and kept as a theatre but designed to be flex space.
- Connecting to Jane Addams would be very useful. Reduces staff need.

### Jane Addams

- Space is good but needs new floor and refreshed bathrooms and possibly acoustic improvements for presentations.

### Grosche Field

- Bathroom building and press box need renovation.

### Bowen Greenhouse

- Bathroom use is difficult. Could improve east garage just as an emergency bathroom.

### Special Recreation Building

- Parking will be tight. Acquiring home to the south to expand would be helpful.

### Golf Courses

- Our two courses meet the demand.
- Top Golf should attract non-golfers and will hopefully generate revenue. Additional parking can also help with overflow parking at SportsPark.

### Larsen Park

- Dog agility course needs to be renovated.
- Used a lot by walkers and bikers – gravel lot is adequate.

### Brookside (Undeveloped)

- Opening up woods and adding a walking path would be good if it is open enough for walkers to feel safe.
- The neighborhood could also use a playground.

### Gym Space

- Could use a couple more gym spaces especially on the south side of town.
- Could be an addition to BRC or long-term arrangement with schools (past attempts have been challenging).

### Trails

- They are an important part of transportation, not just for recreation.

- Need to connect more, especially east to west and lakefront.

**Other**

- We have built so much in the last 18 years and are continuing with Carnegie. There seems to be a need to pause and ensure upkeep of current infrastructure is addressed well.
- An Indoor playground could extend “play season” through winter months. A walking track at same site would be great.
- Infrastructure failures, especially roofs and HVAC do affect programming and need to be minimized by addressing aggressively in CIP.
- Could use more indoor storage space for program vehicles.
- Chilled ice rink should still be considered as part of a new recreation facility.
- There is a need for festival grounds, ideally downtown/lakefront.
- Access to 500 seat auditorium would be nice. Smaller than Genesee but bigger than High School.

## 2.1 Parks and Open Space Providers

The Waukegan Park District is the primary open space provider in Waukegan. It has the power and statutory authority to levy and collect taxes, for operational purposes, on all of the taxable property in the District. Funds may be accumulated annually for such purposes related to the planning, establishment and maintaining of a municipal park and recreation program within the boundaries of the District. Also, the Waukegan Park District may acquire by gift, grant, or purchase, real estate and lands for parks and playground purposes. These lands may be improved, equipped, and maintained.

Open space may be defined as a land or water area with its surface open to the sky which serves a specific use to:

- ❖ provide parks and recreational opportunities
- ❖ conserve valuable cultural, historic, and natural resources
- ❖ balance and shape urban development

A thorough understanding of open space and the definition of a complete open space system is an important aspect of this Master Plan document.

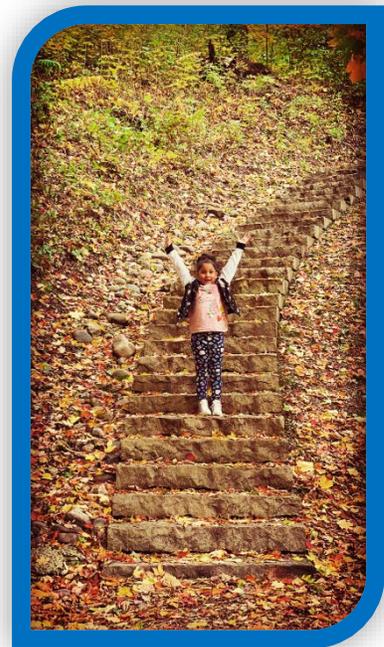
Experience has shown that simply defining a park by its classification does not adequately relate a park to other open space requirements in an urban system. A system had to be established that could distinguish between the recreation, conservation and shaping functions of open space. The responsibilities for open space also require understanding and definition as the Park District, City and private developers negotiate for public and private land use. Open space for recreation has often received inadequate attention with too little land set aside, and with land available being poorly located and unsuitable for recreation purposes.

### Open Space Responsibilities

In Lake County, a variety of governmental agencies are currently responsible for providing open space. These include the Park District, City of Waukegan, Port District, Lake County Forest Preserve District, certain Townships, and the Waukegan School District.

The Lake County Forest Preserve is responsible for **regional** open space, while the Park District, City and School District are responsible for **local** open space.

Local responsibilities for open space are recommended according to two broad categories, **Primary** and **Cooperative**.





### Primary Responsibility

- acquire, develop and maintain the recreation function of open space at the local level
- centers on the development of neighborhood, community, city-wide, and city-wide special parks
- is in response to the established goals, community leisure needs and authority granted in the Park District Code of the State of Illinois



### Cooperative Responsibility

- two or more agencies may work together on projects for which there is a common interest and responsibility
- the School District and Forest Preserve are examples of “Cooperative” agencies

The **Cooperative Responsibility** suggests that two or more agencies may work together on projects for which there is a common interest and responsibility. In the accompanying designations of responsibility, the school districts and Forest Preserve listed as “Cooperative” have no primary responsibility for the recreation function at the local level.

The matrix below reflects the recommended responsibilities for the Waukegan Park District, City of Waukegan, Lake County Forest Preserve, Waukegan Port District, and the Waukegan School District.

**The Primary Responsibility** of the Waukegan Park District is to acquire, develop and maintain the recreation function of open space at the local level. Other governmental agencies, such as the City of Waukegan, school districts, and Lake County Forest Preserve District may be involved, but usually assist on a cooperative basis. This responsibility centers on the four classifications mentioned in the accompanying chart. This primary responsibility is in response to the established goals, community leisure needs, and authority granted in the Park District Code of the State of Illinois.

## WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

Local Open Space Classifications	Waukegan Park District	City of Waukegan	Waukegan School District	Waukegan Port District	Lake County Forest Preserve
<b>RECREATION FUNCTION</b>					
Neighborhood	Primary	Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative	None
Community	Primary	Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative	None
City-wide	Primary	Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative	None
Community-wide Special	Primary	Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative
Linear	Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative	Primary
<b>CONSERVATION/PROTECTION FUNCTION</b>					
Conservation and Protection Areas	Primary/Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative	Cooperative	Primary
<b>SHAPING FUNCTION</b>					
All Classifications	Cooperative	Primary	None	Cooperative	Cooperative

## 2.2 Waukegan Park District in Context

The Waukegan Park District has a “Sphere of Influence” beyond its borders. The park and open space resources provided by the District affect and are affected by what is provided by surrounding communities and vice versa. These communities include three neighboring Park Districts which are depicted on the map found on the following page:

- ❖ [North: Zion Park District](#)
- ❖ [West: Gurnee Park District](#)
- ❖ [South: Foss Park District](#)



## 2.3 Waukegan Park District Open Space

The Waukegan Park District is the primary provider of park, recreation, and open space in Waukegan. The District owns 41 developed parks, three facility specific sites (Park Maintenance Facility, Administration and The Waukegan Museum at the Carnegie) and nine undeveloped sites encompassing 741.83 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. This results in the District owning approximately 4.36% of the 16,629 acres within its boundaries. These lands are managed to high environmental and conservation standards.

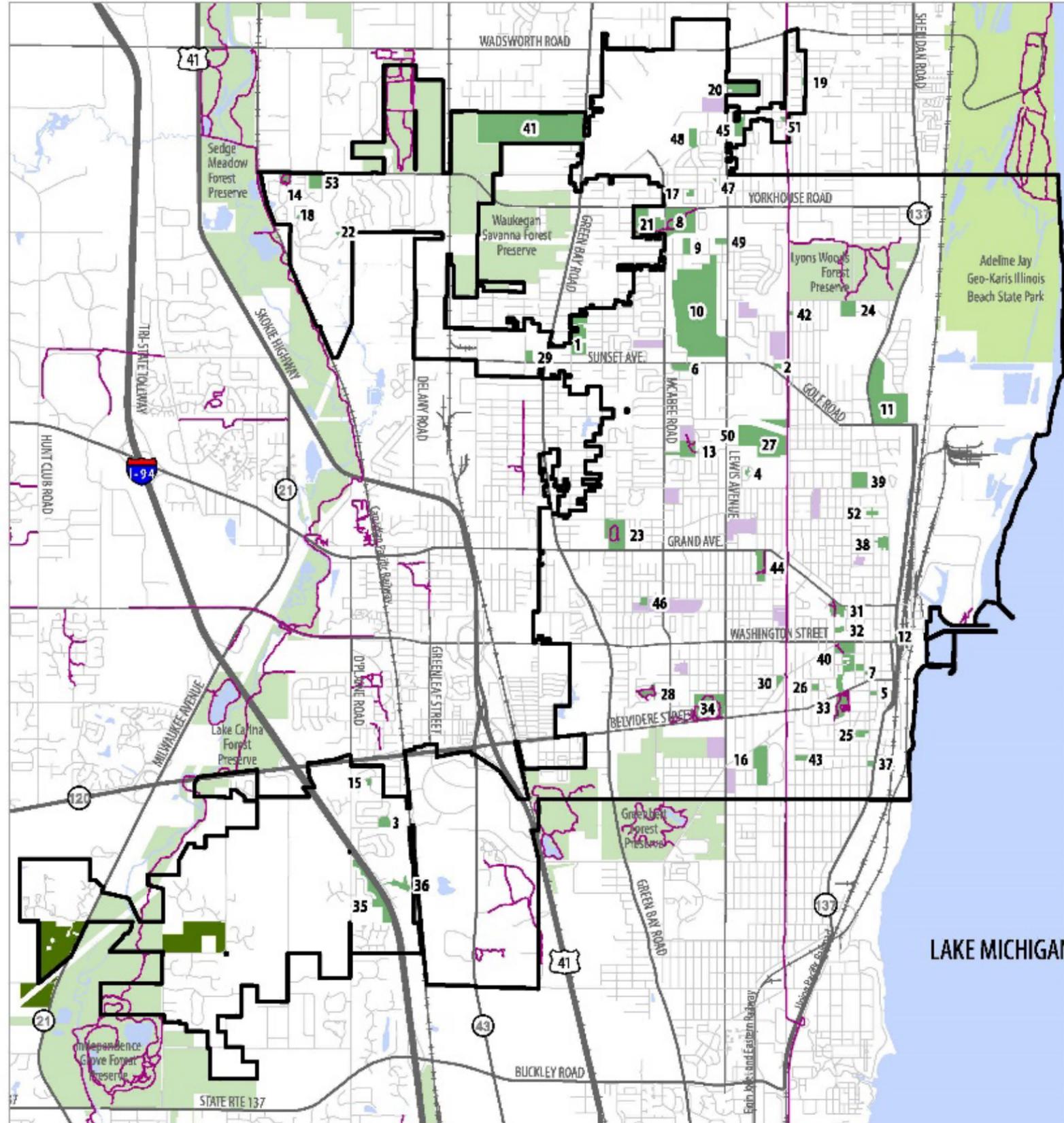
Per section 2.1, the land the District owns and has developed as parks, have been classified *by function*. By this method 117.94 acres are classified as “Neighborhood Park Land” and 108.8 acres as “Community Park Land”, for a total of 226.74 acres. **Out of the District’s 741.83 acres, only the combined Neighborhood and Community Park Lands acreage is used toward meeting the NRPA recommended Level of Service (LOS) detailed in Section 2.7.**

This approach provides a more realistic Level of Service (LOS) analysis for the District. Only the land within each park that provides a park or recreation function count against the standard. **The resulting higher deficiencies may appear significant, but when land from other public and private landowners that provide park and open space function is factored in, the deficiencies are eliminated.** See detailed analyses in Sections 2.6 and 2.7.

The following Park Inventory Map and Classification Matrix provide a detailed picture of the District’s holdings.



# PARK INVENTORY MAP



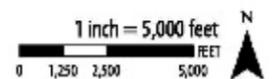
### Park Site Key

Total Park Acreage:  
741.83

- 1 Adelphi Park 17.94 Acres
- 2 Administrative Center 1.21 Acres
- 3 Arbor Park 4.50 Acres
- 4 Armory Park 0.69 Acres
- 5 Bedrosian Park 0.80 Acres
- 6 Ben Diamond Park 4.78 Acres
- 7 Besley Park 0.20 Acres
- 8 Bevier Park 29.63 Acres
- 9 Bonnie Brook Bird Sanctuary 4.30 Acres
- 10 Bonnie Brook Golf Course 156.21 Acres
- 11 Bowen Park 61.48 Acres
- 12 Carnegie Library 0.58 Acres
- 13 Clearview Park 11.28 Acres
- 14 Country Lane Park 4.28 Acres
- 15 Diversity Park 1.17 Acres
- 16 Dugdale Park 18.53 Acres
- 17 Firemans Memorial Park 1.53 Acres
- 18 Friendship Park 0.22 Acres
- 19 Graham Park 0.89 Acres
- 20 Greenshine Golf Course 15.87 Acres
- 21 Henry Pfau Callahan Park 24.78 Acres
- 22 Hilltop Park 0.38 Acres
- 23 Hinkston Park 21.98 Acres
- 24 Joe Sisolak Park 8.80 Acres
- 25 King Park 2.75 Acres
- 26 Kirk Park 1.48 Acres
- 27 Larsen Nature Preserve 33.73 Acres
- 28 Park in the Glen 5.81 Acres
- 29 Park Maintenance Facility 2.99 Acres
- 30 Pionien Park 1.47 Acres
- 31 Powell Park 6.83 Acres
- 32 Ray Bradbury Park 1.71 Acres
- 33 Roosevelt Park 12.16 Acres
- 34 Rose Park 30.20 Acres
- 35 Rudd Farm Park 14.40 Acres
- 36 Serenity Park 5.17 Acres
- 37 Smith Park 1.14 Acres
- 38 Upton Park 4.81 Acres
- 39 Victory Park 9.00 Acres
- 40 Washington Park 19.59 Acres
- 41 Waukegan SportsPark 135.80 Acres
- 42 Western Tot Lot 0.50 Acres
- 43 Woodard Park 3.06 Acres
- 44 Yeoman Park 9.24 Acres
- 45 Undeveloped - Beach and Cornell 7.07 Acres
- 46 Undeveloped - Brookside and Evergreen 2.01 Acres
- 47 Undeveloped - Devonshire and Bristol 0.20 Acres
- 48 Undeveloped - Eagle Ridge and Lewis 5.59 Acres
- 49 Undeveloped - East Bonnie Brook and Lewis 2.55 Acres
- 50 Undeveloped - Edwards Field 15.78 Acres
- 51 Undeveloped - James Creek 0.73 Acres
- 52 Undeveloped - Stewart and Ridgeland 2.30 Acres
- 53 Undeveloped - Yorkhouse Farm 7.50 Acres

### Map Legend

- Waukegan Park District
- Park
- Libertyville Township Open Space
- Forest Preserve
- State Park
- Schools
- Trail





Map No.	Parcel	NEIGHBORHOOD	COMMUNITY	LINEAR	COMMUNITY-WIDE SPECIAL	CONSERVATION/PROTECTION	UNDEVELOPED	ACRES	NON-PARK SITES
31	Powell Park	4		0.5	0	2.33		6.83	
32	Ray Bradbury Park	1		0.2		0.51		1.71	
33	Roosevelt Park	4.16		1.2	0.64	6.8		12.8	
34	Rose Park	4.5	23.8		2			30.49	
35	Rudd Farm Park	9.2				5.2		14.4	
36	Serenity Park	5.17						5.17	
37	Smith Park				1.14			1.14	
38	Upton Park	3			0.9	0.91		4.81	
39	Victory Park	4.5	4.5					8.47	
40	Washington Park	4.5		2.3	0.79	13.1		21.81	
41	Waukegan SportsPark	2			133.8			135.8	
42	Western Tot Lot	0.5						0.5	
43	Woodard Park	3.06						3.06	
44	Yeoman Park	3.5				5.74		9.24	
45	Undeveloped - Beach and Cornell						7.07	7.07	7.07
46	Undeveloped - Brookside and Evergreen						2.01	2.01	2.01
47	Undeveloped - Devonshire and Bristol (Lost Park)						0.2	0.2	0.2
48	Undeveloped - Eagle Ridge/Lewis Avenue (Airport)	5.59						5.59	5.59
49	Undeveloped - East Bonnie Brook and Lewis						2.55	2.55	2.55
50	Undeveloped - Edwards Field						15.78	15.78	15.8
51	Undeveloped - James Creek Property						0.73	0.73	0.73
52	Undeveloped - Stewart & Ridgeland	2.3						2.3	2.3
53	Undeveloped – York House Farm						7.5	7.5	7.5
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>117.94</b>	<b>108.8</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>336.87</b>	<b>135.65</b>	<b>35.84</b>	<b>741.829</b>	<b>47.95</b>

## 2.4 Other Public Open Space in Waukegan

*There are eight public or quasi-public entities responsible for maintaining public recreational open space within the boundaries of the Waukegan Park District Study Area.*

The following eight entities are responsible for approximately 7,336.60 acres of open space in the District.

- ❖ Waukegan School District 60 (275.40 acres)
- ❖ City of Waukegan (88.30 acres)
- ❖ Waukegan Port District (10.0 acres)
- ❖ Lake County Forest Preserve District (3655.00 acres)
- ❖ State of Illinois - Parks (1903.00 acres)
- ❖ Commonwealth Edison (30.00 acres)
- ❖ North Shore Sanitary District (3.0 acres)
- ❖ Private Agency (368.00 acres)

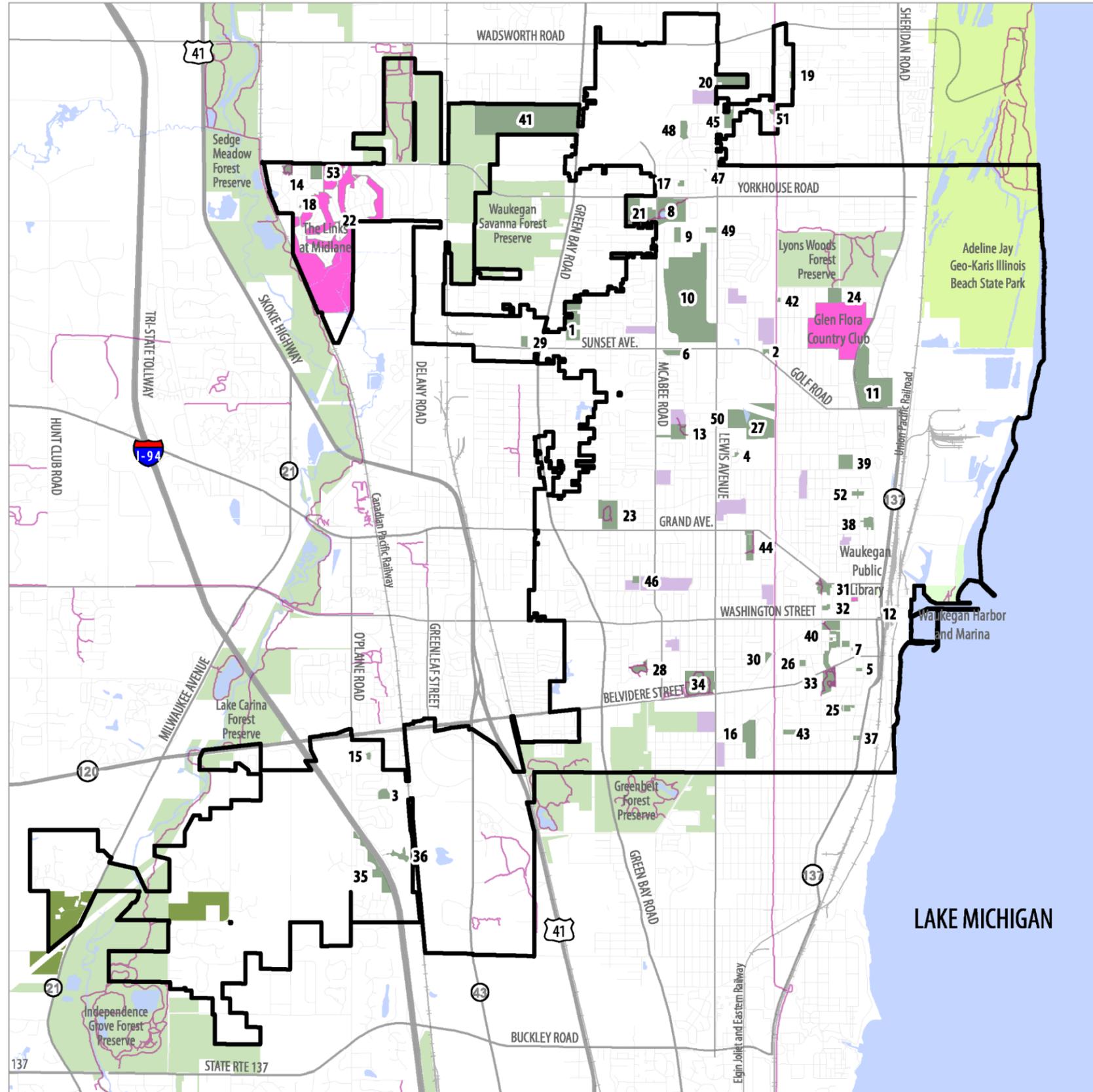
See the Private and Public Open Space map and the matrices in Section 2.6 for a detailed acreage breakdown.

## 2.5 Private Open Space in Waukegan

*There are approximately 368 acres of open space privately controlled throughout the Waukegan Park District.*

Private open space is limited to the Glen Flora Country Club and Midlane Country Club in Waukegan. These two provide approximately 368 acres of open space to the community. The Lake County Sports Center is a privately held recreational business that provides an indoor soccer field which meets some of the recreational need for soccer.

See the Private and Public Open Space map on the following page and the matrix later in this chapter for a detailed acreage breakdown.



**Park Site Key**

Total Park Acreage:  
741.83

- 1, Adelphi Park, 17.94 Acres
- 2, Administrative Center, 1.21 Acres
- 3, Arbor Park, 4.50 Acres
- 4, Armory Park, 0.69 Acres
- 5, Bedrosian Park, 0.80 Acres
- 6, Ben Diamond Park, 4.78 Acres
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- 48, Undeveloped - Eagle Ridge and Lewis, 5.59 Acres
- 49, Undeveloped - East Bonnie Brook and Lewis, 2.55 Acres
- 50, Undeveloped - Edwards Field, 15.78 Acres
- 51, Undeveloped - James Creek, 0.73 Acres
- 52, Undeveloped - Stewart and Ridgeland, 2.30 Acres
- 53, Undeveloped - Yorkhouse Farm, 7.50 Acres



**PUBLIC - PRIVATE  
OPEN SPACE MAP**

**Public - Private Open Space  
Map Legend**

- Waukegan Park District
- Public - Park
- Libertyville Township Open Space
- Public - Forest Preserve
- City of Waukegan
- Public - State Park
- Public - Schools
- Private Open Space
- Trail



## 2.6 Park & Open Space Purpose, Functions and Classifications

The term open space, in its broadest sense, includes land to serve parks and recreation, conservation/protection, and urban shaping functions. Open space should never be considered synonymous with “vacant” or “unused” land since open space does not lay idle. Open space is also not synonymous with “parks and recreation areas.” While vacant or undeveloped land has the potential for being classified as open, that should be done only after a conscious decision has been made to purchase or regulate these lands, and only if these lands are able to perform one of three open space functions.

Along with residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial uses, open space serves an important purpose in land classification and in planning for how land will be used.

### Open Space Functions

**Recreation Function;** *“Recreation open space” covers a multitude of facility types and activities ranging from neighborhood parks to the larger regional forest preserves and state parks.*

Recreation open space may be used for either passive or active recreational activities and may be either publicly or privately owned. This includes the most common and essential park areas such as playgrounds, picnic areas, athletic fields, play spaces, paths, and recreation facilities. Each type of recreation area will be further classified to better define its purpose, objective, size, service area, population served and location.

**Conservation/Protection Function;** *“Conservation open space” protects natural resources and provides opportunities to increase biodiversity through appropriate ecological management.*

“Conservation/Protection open space” elements are identified and defined by their physiographic, geologic, vegetative, hydrologic, or biologic characteristics. The designation of areas as conservation open space does not depend upon demand as in the case for the provision of most recreation open space, but rather upon their suitability for urban development or their uniqueness as natural resources.



Open space for conservation encompasses objectives such as: protecting water bodies and water courses, groundwater recharge areas, erodible slopes, forests, floodwater control and woodlands, soils having severe limitations for development, unique or endangered vegetation and wildlife habitat, areas of unique historic, cultural, and architectural merit.

Protection, however, does not mean total prohibition of use. Such lands may be used for a variety of recreation activities such as hiking, outdoor recreation, interpretation, research, etc., as long as that use will not cause deterioration nor interfere with the capacity to perform the protective function.

Open space conservation lands do not have to be publicly owned, however, there must be some assurance that they will remain open, and that development will be consistent with the level of protection that is necessary.

**Shaping Function:** *“Shaping open space” is land set aside to limit the development of neighborhoods, define boundaries, and preserve natural environments near developed areas.*

The use of open space areas to shape the pattern of urban development is the open space function. It is based, however, on the following objectives:

- ❖ Open space can promote the formation of distinct cohesive neighborhoods which can be served effectively by municipal services and facilities, thus promoting urban growth into efficient corridors of development and helping to prevent urban sprawl.
- ❖ Open space can define the boundaries of neighborhoods, districts, or entire urban areas to maintain distinctive characteristics, thus giving a sense of community identity.
- ❖ Open space can provide relief from extensive urbanization by preserving elements of the natural environment near developed areas, thus breaking visual monotony by its own contact with development.

The Shaping Function is not a primary responsibility of the Park District and will not be given extensive consideration as such. But as all open space functions can and do overlap one another, the lands designated by this plan as filling a Recreation or Conservation/Protection function may also be determined by city and regional planning agencies to have value as a shaping function.



## Recreation

- Open space land used for recreation covers a multitude of facility types and activities ranging from neighborhood parks to the larger regional forest preserves and state parks.
- may be used for either passive or active recreational activities
- may be either publicly or privately owned



## Conservation / Protection

- “Conservation open space” protects natural resources and provides opportunities to increase biodiversity through appropriate ecological management
- Open space conservation lands do not have to be publicly owned; however there must be some assurance that they will remain open and that development will be consistent with the level of protection that is necessary



## Shaping

- Open space areas used to shape the pattern of urban development is the open space function which has been least recognized in the past
- The Shaping Function is not a primary responsibility of the Park District and will not be given extensive consideration as such

## Open Space Classifications

Because land designated as open space is viewed as a distinct land use in itself and serves a variety of vital land use functions, it would be included as a separate category in land use mapping and planning which may be subdivided into detailed classifications. Just as residential use, for example, can be subdivided into more detailed categories (single family, multiple family, etc.) based on their use, so can all lands having open space use.

The classifications are intended to serve as a guide for all government agencies involved in open space.

Each classification is further related to the maximum area it is intended to serve (i.e. Local, Regional).

For the purpose of this plan, five classifications have been categorized:



### Neighborhood Parks

These are located within neighborhoods that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. Neighborhood Parks are an area for active or passive recreational activities which draw from the neighborhood population. Arbor Park in the Southwest Planning Community is a good example of a Neighborhood Park.

### Community Parks

Parks that serve several neighborhoods that form a community within the city. These may include more highly developed recreational facilities that not only draw people from the surrounding neighborhoods, but from the entire city as well. Corinne J. Rose Park in the South-Central Community is a good example of a Community Park.

### Community-Wide Special Areas

Areas specifically developed for specialized or single-purpose recreational activities generally found within community park areas or schools. The Field House as a specialized facility within Hinkston Park which serves as a Community Park is a good example of a Community-Wide Special Area.

### Linear Greenways

Areas built on natural corridors that link community facilities such as schools, commercial areas, governmental buildings, parks, or nature areas. The Larsen Nature Preserve along the Robert McClory Bike Path is a good example of a Linear Greenway.

### Conservation and Protection Areas

These are areas that have resources sufficient for protection. These provide management of the natural environment with recreational use as a secondary objective. The natural areas at Bowen Park are a good example of Conservation and Protection Areas within a Community park.

<b>WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT EXISTING OPEN SPACE BY CLASSIFICATIONS</b>								
<b>Number</b>	<b>Parcel</b>	<b>NEIGHBORHOOD</b>	<b>COMMUNITY</b>	<b>LINEAR</b>	<b>COMMUNITY-WIDE SPECIAL</b>	<b>CONSERVATION/ PROTECTION</b>	<b>UNDEVELOPED</b>	<b>ACRES</b>
<b>WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT</b>								
1	Adelphi Park	4				13.94		17.94
2	Administrative Center				1.21			1.21
3	Arbor Park	4.5						4.5
4	Armory Park	0.69						0.69
5	Bedrosian Park	0.8						0.8
6	Ben Diamond Park	2.58	2.2					4.78
7	Besley Park	0.2						0.2
8	Bevier Park	5	18.63		1	5		29.63
9	Bonnie Brook Bird Sanctuary					4.3		4.3
10	Bonnie Brook Golf Course	1			155.21			156.21
11	Bowen Park	4	24.48		6	27		61.47
12	Carnegie (Waukegan History Museum)				0.21			0.579
13	Clearview Park	2	9.28					11.37
14	Country Lane Park	4.28						4.28
15	Diversity Park	1.17						1.17
16	Dugdale Park	2	16.53					18.53
17	Fireman's Memorial Park	1.53						1.53
18	Friendship Park (Augusta)	0.22						0.22
19	Graham Park	0.89						0.89
20	Greenshire Golf Course				15.87			15.87
21	Henry Pfau Callahan Park				8.6	16.18		24.78
22	Hilltop Park (Southern Hills)	0.38						0.38
23	Hinkston Park	4	9.38		5.5	3.1		21.98
24	Joe Sisolak Park	8.8						8.8
25	King Park	3.7						3.92
26	Kirk Park	1.48						1.48
27	Larsen Nature Preserve	4		1	1	27.73		33.82
28	Park In The Glen	2				3.81		5.81
29	Park Maintenance Facility				3			2.99
30	Plonien Park	1.74						1.74
31	Powell Park	4		0.5	0	2.33		6.83
32	Ray Bradbury Park	1		0.2		0.51		1.71
33	Roosevelt Park	4.16		1.2	0.64	6.8		12.8
34	Rose Park	4.5	23.8		2			30.49
35	Rudd Farm Park	9.2				5.2		14.4

Number	Parcel	NEIGHBORHOOD	COMMUNITY	LINEAR	COMMUNITY-WIDE SPECIAL	CONSERVATION/ PROTECTION	UNDEVELOPED	ACRES
36	Serenity Park	5.17						5.17
37	Smith Park				1.14			1.14
38	Upton Park	3			0.9	0.91		4.81
39	Victory Park	4.5	4.5					8.47
40	Washington Park	4.5		2.3	0.79	13.1		21.81
41	Waukegan SportsPark	2			133.8			135.8
42	Western Tot Lot	0.5						0.5
39	Victory Park	4.5	4.5					8.47
40	Washington Park	4.5		2.3	0.79	13.1		21.81
41	Waukegan SportsPark	2			133.8			135.8
42	Western Tot Lot	0.5						0.5
43	Woodard Park	3.06						3.06
44	Yeoman Park	3.5				5.74		9.24
45	Undeveloped - Beach and Cornell						7.07	7.07
46	Undeveloped - Brookside and Evergreen						2.01	2.01
47	Undeveloped - Devonshire and Bristol (Lost Park)						0.2	0.2
48	Undeveloped - Eagle Ridge/Lewis Avenue (Airport)	5.59						5.59
49	Undeveloped - East Bonnie Brook and Lewis						2.55	2.55
50	Undeveloped - Edwards Field						15.78	15.78
51	Undeveloped - James Creek Property						0.73	0.73
52	Undeveloped - Stewart & Ridgeland	2.3						2.3
53	Undeveloped – York House Farm						7.5	7.5
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>117.94</b>	<b>108.8</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>336.87</b>	<b>135.65</b>	<b>35.84</b>	<b>741.83</b>

<b>WAUKEGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT 60</b>								
50	Andrew Cooke Magnet School	4.00			2.00	1.00		7.00
51	Carman-Buckner Elementary School	1.80			1.20			3.00
52	Clark Elementary School	4.00			2.00			6.00
53	Clearview Elementary School	6.70			3.30			10.00
54	Daniel Webster Middle School	4.80			9.20			14.00
55	Glen Flora Elementary School	4.50			4.50			9.00
56	Glenwood Elementary School	3.10			5.90			9.00
57	Greenwood Elementary School	1.10			1.90			3.00

Map No.	Parcel	NEIGHBORHOOD	COMMUNITY	LINEAR	COMMUNITY-WIDE SPECIAL	CONSERVATION/ PROTECTION	UNDEVELOPED	ACRES
58	Hyde Park Elementary School	3.40			1.60			5.00
59	Jack Benny Middle School	7.00			10.00			17.00
60	Lincoln Center	3.60			2.40	6.00		12.00
61	Little Fort Elementary School	5.20			4.30			9.50
62	Lyon Elementary School	3.30			5.60			8.90
63	McCall Elementary School	4.70			5.30			10.00
64	Miguel Juarez Middle School	2.00			6.00			8.00
65	North Elementary School	2.60			0.40			3.00
66	Oakdale Elementary School	8.30			1.70			10.00
67	Robert Abbott Middle Sch.	5.40			0.60			6.00
68	Thomas Jefferson Middle Sch.	8.40			6.60			15.00
69	Washington Elementary Sch.	3.90			2.10			6.00
70	Wkgn. H.S. & Weiss Field		25.00		13.00			38.00
71	Waukegan 9th Grade Center				8.00			8.00
73	Whittier Preschool				6.00			6.00
74	Parcel #1 (Landfill)					52.00		52.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>87.80</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>103.60</b>	<b>59.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>275.40</b>

CITY OF WAUKEGAN								
80	Haig Paravonian Park			1.00				1.00
81	Waukegan Municipal Beach		13.00	5.80		31.20		50.00
82	Parcel W1 (Landfill)					13.00		13.00
83	Parcel W2 (Landfill)					24.30		24.30
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13.00</b>	<b>6.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>68.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>88.30</b>

WAUKEGAN PORT DISTRICT								
86	Harbor			2.00	8.00			10.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>2.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>			<b>10.00</b>

LAKE COUNTY: FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION								
91	Greenbelt Forest Preserve		85.00		25.00	485.00		595.00
92	Independence Grove Preserve		300.00		15.00	820.00		1135.00
93	Lyons Woods Forest Preserve					272.00		272.00
94	Robert McClory Bike Path (Dept. of Transportation)			73.00				73.00
95	Waukegan Savanna					773.00		773.00
96	Des Plaines River (Sedge Meadow)					87.00		807.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>385.00</b>	<b>73.00</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>2437.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3655.00</b>

Map No.	Parcel	NEIGHBORHOOD	COMMUNITY	LINEAR	COMMUNITY-WIDE SPECIAL	CONSERVATION/ PROTECTION	UNDEVELOPED	ACRES
<b>ILLINOIS STATE PARKS</b>								
99	Illinois Beach State Park		120.00	50.00		1733.00		1903.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>120.00</b>	<b>50.00</b>		<b>1733.00</b>		<b>1903.00</b>
<b>COMMONWEALTH EDISON</b>								
100	Utility Easement U-1			48.30				48.00
101	Utility Easement U-2			167.00				167.00
102	Utility Easement U-3			91.00				91.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>306.30</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>30.00</b>
<b>NORTH SHORE SANITARY DISTRICT</b>								
105	Beach			3.00				3.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>
<b>PRIVATE AGENCY</b>								
110	Glen Flora Country Club				118.00			118.00
111	Midlane Country Club				250.00			250.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>368.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>368.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OPEN SPACE</b>		<b>204.20</b>	<b>651.70</b>	<b>446.30</b>	<b>786.40</b>	<b>4432.00</b>	<b>27.96</b>	<b>7336.56</b>

## 2.7 Level of Service Standards and Analysis

### National Open Space Standards

If recreation, park and other public officials are to be responsive to the present and future needs of the community, they must be guided by standards that recognize human needs as well as cultural, geographic and economic differences in their community. Standards are guides for planning, acquiring and developing park and recreation areas. Waukegan Park District strives to meet National Recreation and Park Association’s (NRPA) goal of providing **10 acres of permanent publicly owned urban park space for each 1,000 residents of the population.**

The 10 acres per 1,000 residents standard is the recommendation from 1996 publication of “Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines”. This new standard is based on the Level of Service (LOS) which is “a quantification of the park and recreation delivery philosophy and policy of a community. The methodology for determining LOS is needs-based, facilities-driven and land-measured.” It is a function of “current, real demand for park and recreation opportunities.”

The 10 acres per 1,000 residents standard is further allocated for this plan with 2 ½ acres for Neighborhood Open Space, and 7 ½ acres for Community Open Space. Refer to Waukegan Park District Standards, and Open Space Acreage and Population Comparison.

## Waukegan Park District Standards

Local Classification	Neighborhood	Community
Designation	Neighborhood Park	Community Park and Community Park / School
Size Range	1 to 15 acres	15 to 200 acres
Acres per 1,000 Population	2.5	7.5
Population Served	800–3,000	3,000+
Service Area	Within 1/2 mile walking distance	15 minutes driving time 1/2 mile to 3 miles

• • •  
*10 acres per 1,000 residents standard is the  
 recommendation from National Recreation and Park  
 Association's (NRPA)*  
 • • •

## Waukegan Park District Open Space Acreage and Population Comparison

LEVEL OF SERVICE - WPD NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY PARK SPACE ONLY					
CLASSIFICATION	WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT (TOTAL)	WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT EXISTING LEVEL OF SERVICE (ACRES / 1,000 POPULATION)	IAPD/NRPA RECOMMENDED ACREAGE	IAPD/NRPA RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SERVICE (ACRES / 1,000 POPULATION)	ACREAGE DEFICIENCY / SURPLUS (ACRE)
Neighborhood Park	117.94	1.32	223.42	2.50	-105.48
Community Park	108.8	1.22	670.27	7.50	-561.47
Total	226.74	2.54	868.47	10.00	-699.95

*Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 89,369.*

LEVEL OF SERVICE – ALL WPD LAND HOLDINGS					
CLASSIFICATION	WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT (TOTAL)	WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT EXISTING LEVEL OF SERVICE (ACRES / 1,000 POPULATION)	IAPD/NRPA RECOMMENDED ACREAGE	IAPD/NRPA RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SERVICE (ACRES / 1,000 POPULATION)	ACREAGE DEFICIENCY / SURPLUS (ACRE)
Neighborhood Park	117.9	1.34	217.12	2.50	-100.76
Community Park	108.8	1.25	651.35	7.50	-542.65
Linear Park	5.20	0.06	0.00	0.00	5.20
Community-Wide Special	336.87	3.86	0.00	0.00	334.80
Conservation/Protection	135.65	1.56	0.00	0.00	135.55
Undeveloped	35.84	0.32	0.00	0.00	27.96
Total	741.83	8.39	868.47	10.00	-126.64

*Recommended acreage is based on the existing population of 89,369 (2020 census).*

<b>LEVEL OF SERVICE - WPD PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND HOLDINGS</b>					
<b>CLASSIFICATION</b>	<b>WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT (TOTAL)</b>	<b>WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT EXISTING LEVEL OF SERVICE (ACRES / 1,000 POPULATION)</b>	<b>IAPD/NRPA RECOMMENDED ACREAGE</b>	<b>IAPD/NRPA RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SERVICE (ACRES / 1,000 POPULATION)</b>	<b>ACREAGE DEFICIENCY / SURPLUS (ACRE)</b>
WPD All Parks	741.83	8.39	868.47	10.00	-126.64
Waukegan School District 60	275.40	3.17	0.00	0.00	275.40
City of Waukegan	88.30	1.02	0.00	0.00	88.30
Waukegan Port District	10.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	10.00
Lake County Forest Preserve District	3655.00	42.09	0.00	0.00	3655.00
Illinois Beach State Park	1903.00	21.91	0.00	0.00	1903.00
Commonwealth Edison	306.00	3.52	0.00	0.00	306.00
North Shore Sanitary District	3.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	3.00
Private Agency	368.00	4.24	0.00	0.00	368.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7336.64</b>	<b>84.48</b>	<b>868.47</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>6468.17</b>

*Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 89,369.*

Acreage alone does not assure a well-balanced park system. Sites should be designed and developed with a balance of facilities according to the recommended classifications. Therefore, a proper relationship in the size, number, location, and type of facilities developed for each park is crucial to a relevant system for parks and recreation in the Park District.

The changing leisure attitudes and interests of the public must be an ongoing factor for consideration along with standards for planning leisure facilities and programs. Public needs are especially critical in determining what is to be built in the parks and when it is to be built. Citizen involvement in the planning process is encouraged.

In cases of extremely large projects where revenues are critical to capital and operating costs, it is important that public needs be carefully studied. A Market Study, Attitude and Interest Survey, Focus Groups and/or a Financial Feasibility Study can provide valuable information and should be used in conjunction with adopted standards. Direct citizen involvement at the neighborhood and community level should always be considered.

### 3.1 Planning Communities

In this planning process, the “*neighborhood* within a community” is the concept upon which this Master Plan is based. This plan establishes six planning communities which are designated on the map on the following page as:

- ❖ Northwest
- ❖ North Central
- ❖ Central
- ❖ South Central
- ❖ Downtown/Lakefront
- ❖ Southwest

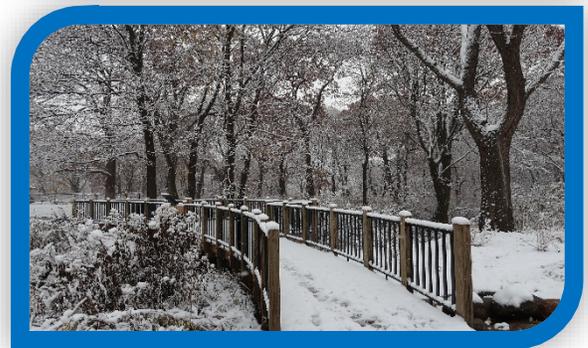
These planning communities have been extended to include areas of potential growth for the Waukegan Park District. Each community has been further divided into neighborhood planning areas.

Ideally the District would provide at least one neighborhood park for each neighborhood and one community park for each community, but this is not always necessary depending on demographics and land use patterns. Currently, the following deficiencies appear to exist in the planning communities:

- ❖ Northwest: Lacks a community park but the development of the York House Farm property could meet this need.
- ❖ North Central: Lacks a park in Neighborhoods D.
- ❖ Central: Lacks a park in Neighborhoods A and F.
- ❖ South Central: Lacks a park in Neighborhood C.
- ❖ Downtown/Lakefront: Lacks a community park but the Waukegan Municipal Beach meets the need.
- ❖ Southwest: Lacks a community park but Independence Grove Forest Preserve meets the need.

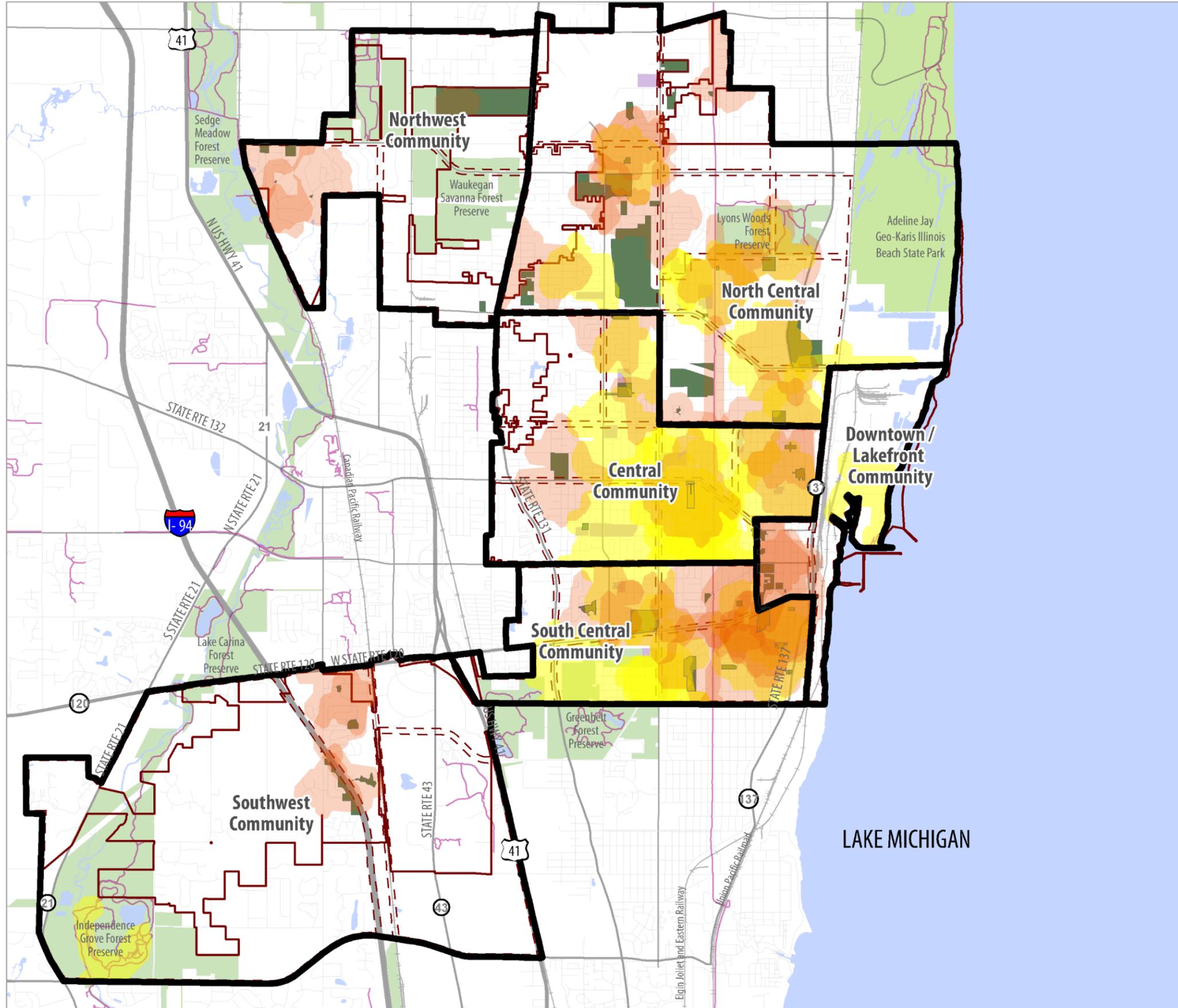
All these communities and their respective deficiencies of parkland were determined using population demographics for each community and in certain cases, individual *neighborhoods* to gain a better understanding of the true need for additional space. This information was cross-referenced with several layers of data including, Level of Service (LOS) from each park, income, housing values, and population statistics.

The boundary of each community and neighborhood is defined by major traffic arteries, railroads, natural features and restrictive land uses. The ability of a resident to walk or bike to a park facility is an important aspect of defining the *neighborhood*, and subsequently the community.

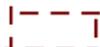
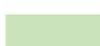
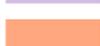
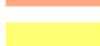


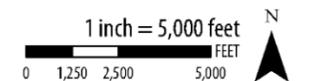


# PLANNING COMMUNITIES MAP



### Map Legend

-  Waukegan Park District Boundary
-  Planning Communities Area
-  Neighborhood Planning Boundary
-  Park
-  State Park
-  Forest Preserve
-  Schools
-  Neighborhood LOS (0.5 miles)
-  Community LOS (1.0 miles)
-  Trail



## 3.2 Community Park Resources Plan

A “community” park differs considerably from a “neighborhood” park as defined in the classification standards discussed in Chapter 2.

When it comes to the specific facilities and activities, the larger community park may provide more unique leisure opportunities with feature design attractions needed by the residents. Visits to the park by individuals and family groups may be for special events and for extended periods of time. Corrine J. Rose Park would be an example of a community park.

### Design Program Objectives

- ❖ Provide fields or courts for organized sports and games.
- ❖ Provide recreation opportunities that encourage extended individual and family visits to the park.
- ❖ Provide activities classified as Community-Wide Special, if consistent with site and local conditions.
- ❖ Establish a distinct park “personality” which the Park District can identify with pride.
- ❖ Preserve and enhance the existing natural and environmental resources.
- ❖ Provide for the development of neighborhood park facilities where needed and appropriate proximity to the community park.

### Location

A central location to a segment of the Park District population. Access to convenient vehicle traffic is required. Site should permit night lighted sports events and active programs. Bicycle access is desirable. Accessibility to public transportation is desirable.

### Attributes

The Community Park areas within the Waukegan Park District range in size from 2.2–24.48 acres. A min. of 15 acres of buildable dry ground suitable for active use and development of permanent recreational structures is preferred for a Community Park.

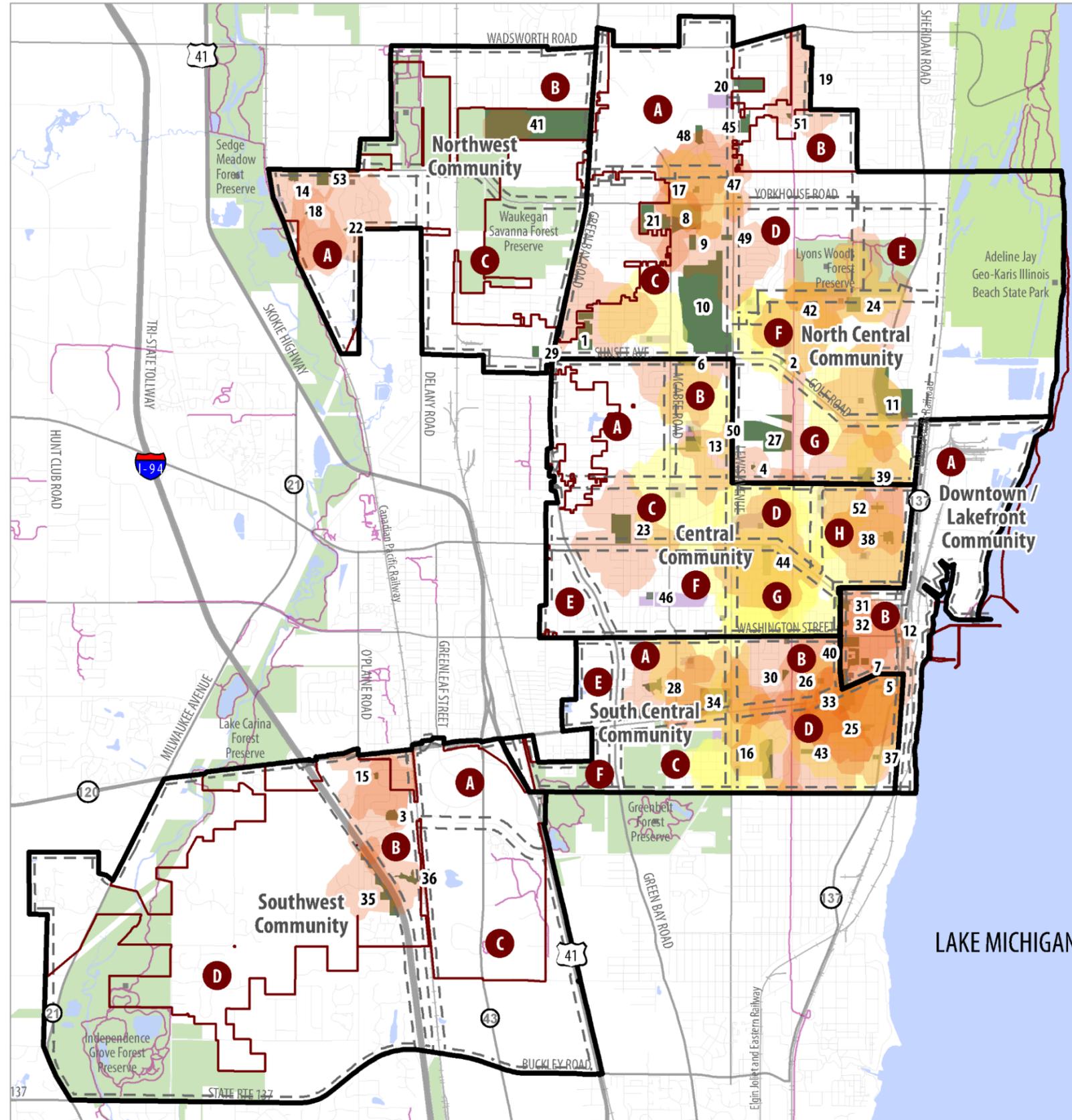
Seven and a half acres (7.5) of Community Park per 1,000 population.

10-15 minute drive or one (1) miles from home.

If appropriate, it may be combined with junior or senior high school. May be a part of the primary recreation corridor system.

### Community Analysis

Community open space is a vital part of the Neighborhood within a Community Concept. Each of the six communities becomes the basis for one or more community parks. The Neighborhood within a Community Concept, Standards and the Community Classification data provides the basis for the analysis of each community. Existing and future residential populations, barriers, natural features, and existing open space facilities are also analyzed in the process of making recommendations for future community park facilities. Because of its larger size and intended purpose, the Community Park contains many facilities not found in a Neighborhood Park.



**Park Site Key**

Total Park Acreage:  
741.83

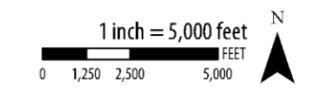
- 1 Adelphi Park 17.94 Acres
- 2 Administrative Center 1.21 Acres
- 3 Arbor Park 4.50 Acres
- 4 Armory Park 0.69 Acres
- 5 Bedrosian Park 0.80 Acres
- 6 Ben Diamond Park 4.78 Acres
- 7 Besley Park 0.20 Acres
- 8 Bevier Park 29.63 Acres
- 9 Bonnie Brook Bird Sanctuary 4.30 Acres
- 10 Bonnie Brook Golf Course 156.21 Acres
- 11 Bowen Park 61.48 Acres
- 12 Carnegie Library 0.58 Acres
- 13 Clearview Park 11.28 Acres
- 14 Country Lane Park 4.28 Acres
- 15 Diversity Park 1.17 Acres
- 16 Dugdale Park 18.53 Acres
- 17 Firemans Memorial Park 1.53 Acres
- 18 Friendship Park 0.22 Acres
- 19 Graham Park 0.89 Acres
- 20 Greenshire Golf Course 15.87 Acres
- 21 Henry Pfau Callahan Park 24.78 Acres
- 22 Hilltop Park 0.38 Acres
- 23 Hinkston Park 21.98 Acres
- 24 Joe Sisolak Park 8.80 Acres
- 25 King Park 2.75 Acres
- 26 Kirk Park 1.48 Acres
- 27 Larsen Nature Preserve 33.73 Acres
- 28 Park in the Glen 5.81 Acres
- 29 Park Maintenance Facility 2.99 Acres
- 30 Plonien Park 1.47 Acres
- 31 Powell Park 6.83 Acres
- 32 Ray Bradbury Park 1.71 Acres
- 33 Roosevelt Park 12.16 Acres
- 34 Rose Park 30.20 Acres
- 35 Rudd Farm Park 14.40 Acres
- 36 Serenity Park 5.17 Acres
- 37 Smith Park 1.14 Acres
- 38 Upton Park 4.81 Acres
- 39 Victory Park 9.00 Acres
- 40 Washington Park 19.59 Acres
- 41 Waukegan SportsPark 135.80 Acres
- 42 Western Tot Lot 0.50 Acres
- 43 Woodard Park 3.06 Acres
- 44 Yeoman Park 9.24 Acres
- 45 Undeveloped - Beach and Cornell 7.07 Acres
- 46 Undeveloped - Brookside and Evergreen 2.01 Acres
- 47 Undeveloped - Devonshire and Bristol 0.20 Acres
- 48 Undeveloped - Eagle Ridge and Lewis 5.59 Acres
- 49 Undeveloped - East Bonnie Brook and Lewis 2.55 Acres
- 50 Undeveloped - Edwards Field 15.78 Acres
- 51 Undeveloped - James Creek 0.73 Acres
- 52 Undeveloped - Stewart and Ridgeland 2.30 Acres
- 53 Undeveloped - Yorkhouse Farm 7.50 Acres



**NEIGHBORHOOD PARK  
LEVEL OF SERVICE MAP**

**Map Legend**

- Neighborhood Park LOS - WPD
- Neighborhood Park LOS - Public
- Planning Communities Areas
- Waukegan Park District
- Neighborhood Planning Boundary
- Neighborhood Planning Area
- Park
- State Park
- Forest Preserve
- Schools
- Trail



### 3.3 Neighborhood Park Resources Plan

A “neighborhood” park remains the basic unit of the park system and is generally designed for active and passive recreation and community gathering spaces.

When it comes to the specific facilities and activities, the neighborhood park adapts to meet the needs of the adjacent neighbors, users within a walkable distance, and the character of the surrounding neighborhood. Country Lane Park would be an example of a neighborhood park.

#### Design Program Objectives

- Provide active and passive recreational opportunities.
- Provide seating areas for visitors.
- Provides a visual relief in a built environment.
- Establish a distinct park “personality” which the neighborhood can identify with pride.
- Preserve and enhance the existing natural and environmental resources.
- Involve the adjacent neighbors in initial planning and development of the Neighborhood Park.
- Provide public accessibility to existing rivers and streams.
- Provide a reasonable compatibility with adjacent property owners.

#### Location

Neighborhood Parks are nestled within neighborhoods around the Park District. These are accessible by pedestrian routes and vehicular routes, although on-site parking usually is not be available.

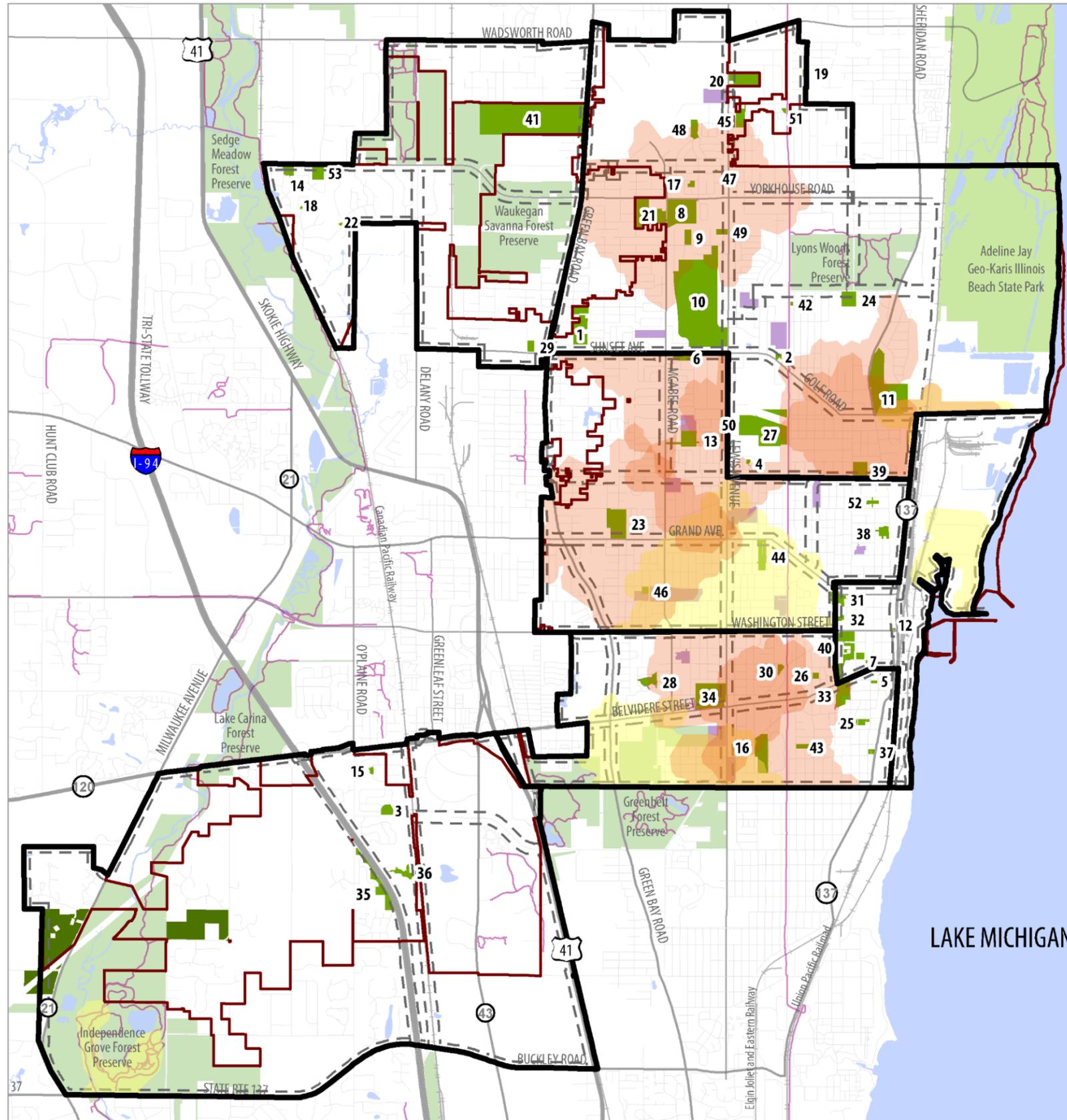
#### Attributes

The neighborhood parks within the Waukegan Park District range in size from 0.2 – 9.20 acres.

Standard is Two and a half acres (2.5) of Neighborhood Park per 1,000 population.

Within a 5–10 minute walk or 1/2 (0.5) miles from home.

Although no regional connectivity to other Neighborhood Parks is required, the location of the parks should have safe and direct access (walkable) by users within it's service area (0.5 miles). Used as a passive and active recreation space.



**Park Site Key**

Total Park Acreage:  
741.83

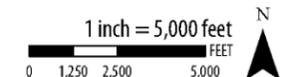
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- 2 Administrative Center 1.21 Acres
- 3 Arbor Park 4.50 Acres
- 4 Armory Park 0.69 Acres
- 5 Bedrosian Park 0.80 Acres
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- 13 Clearview Park 11.28 Acres
- 14 Country Lane Park 4.28 Acres
- 15 Diversity Park 1.17 Acres
- 16 Dugdale Park 18.53 Acres
- 17 Firemans Memorial Park 1.53 Acres
- 18 Friendship Park 0.22 Acres
- 19 Graham Park 0.89 Acres
- 20 Greenshire Golf Course 15.87 Acres
- 21 Henry Pfau Callahan Park 24.78 Acres
- 22 Hilltop Park 0.38 Acres
- 23 Hinkston Park 21.98 Acres
- 24 Joe Sisolak Park 8.80 Acres
- 25 King Park 2.75 Acres
- 26 Kirk Park 1.48 Acres
- 27 Larsen Nature Preserve 33.73 Acres
- 28 Park in the Glen 5.81 Acres
- 29 Park Maintenance Facility 2.99 Acres
- 30 Plonien Park 1.47 Acres
- 31 Powell Park 6.83 Acres
- 32 Ray Bradbury Park 1.71 Acres
- 33 Roosevelt Park 12.16 Acres
- 34 Rose Park 30.20 Acres
- 35 Rudd Farm Park 14.40 Acres
- 36 Serenity Park 5.17 Acres
- 37 Smith Park 1.14 Acres
- 38 Upton Park 4.81 Acres
- 39 Victory Park 9.00 Acres
- 40 Washington Park 19.59 Acres
- 41 Waukegan SportsPark 135.80 Acres
- 42 Western Tot Lot 0.50 Acres
- 43 Woodard Park 3.06 Acres
- 44 Yeoman Park 9.24 Acres
- 45 Undeveloped - Beach and Cornell 7.07 Acres
- 46 Undeveloped - Brookside and Evergreen 2.01 Acres
- 47 Undeveloped - Devonshire and Bristol 0.20 Acres
- 48 Undeveloped - Eagle Ridge and Lewis 5.59 Acres
- 49 Undeveloped - East Bonnie Brook and Lewis 2.55 Acres
- 50 Undeveloped - Edwards Field 15.78 Acres
- 51 Undeveloped - James Creek 0.73 Acres
- 52 Undeveloped - Stewart and Ridgeland 2.30 Acres
- 53 Undeveloped - Yorkhouse Farm 7.50 Acres



## COMMUNITY PARK LEVEL OF SERVICE MAP

### Map Legend

- Community Park LOS - WPD
- Community Park LOS - Public
- Planning Community Areas
- Waukegan Park District
- Neighborhood Planning Areas
- Schools
- Park
- Libertyville Township Open Space
- Forest Preserve
- State Park
- Trail



## 3.4 Planning Community Profiles and Assessments

The following neighborhood assessments provide the base knowledge the District should utilize when addressing park needs at both the planning community and neighborhood level.

### Northwest Neighborhood Assessments

#### Planning Area A

There are 4.3 acres of existing neighborhood parkland in the neighborhood at Country Lane Park. In 2021 the District acquired and redeveloped two small park sites now named Friendship Park and Hilltop Park in that area. The District could research any vacant parcels in Midlane Estates and consider acquiring for the development of a neighborhood park.

#### Planning Area B

This neighborhood is inside the study area, but the majority of the population reside outside of the Waukegan Park District. The population is less than 1,000 people and does not justify any neighborhood parkland acreage. Additionally, the Lake County Forest Preserve District owns the majority of open space in this neighborhood. If a significant portion of this neighborhood is developed and annexed into the City and Park District, the Waukegan Park District should pursue a developer land dedication to develop a neighborhood park site.

#### Planning Area C

This neighborhood is inside the study area, but most of the population reside outside the Waukegan Park District. The Lake County Forest Preserve District owns most of the open space in this neighborhood. If a significant portion of this neighborhood is developed and annexed into the City and Park District, the Waukegan Park District should pursue a developer land dedication to develop a neighborhood park site.

## North Central Neighborhood Assessments

### Planning Area A

With the neighborhood being served by the 5.59-acre Eagle Ridge/Lewis Avenue Park site (classified as undeveloped but does provide usable park space), it meets the standard of 2.5 acres of neighborhood park land per 1,000 people. Improvements at this site would add to the quality of service provided.

### Planning Area B

Graham Park (0.89 acres) is currently the only developed neighborhood park site in this neighborhood making it deficient by 7.91 acres. Development of the 7.1 acre Beach and Cornell property acquired in 2013 could meet most of this deficiency.

### Planning Area C

The existing amount of neighborhood parkland acreage does not meet the neighborhood classification standards. There are just over 11.5 acres of existing Neighborhood Park land, and 13.82 acres are required by the standard. There may be a need for an expansion to an existing park or new Neighborhood Park site in this area, especially if this neighborhood experiences a large population growth.

### Planning Area D

Since the neighborhood is served by Little Fort School facilities including a playground, it does meet the national standard. A neighborhood/school park site agreement for

future facility improvement should be considered for Little Fort School. Near Little Fort School are potential parcels of land that could be used to connect the lower half of Neighborhood D and the upper portion of Neighborhood F.

### Planning Area E

The population is less than 1,000 people and does not justify any neighborhood parkland acreage. If the neighborhood reaches a population of 1,000 in the near future a neighborhood park may be warranted. This could be accomplished by either pursuing a cooperative land use agreement with the Lake County Forest Preserve District or acquiring more property for a neighborhood park.

### Planning Area F

This neighborhood does meet the neighborhood park site standard. Future expansion of the Western Tot Lot park site may be achieved by acquiring usable property along the Robert McClory Bike Path.

### Planning Area G

This neighborhood is deficient in neighborhood park land by approximately 4 acres. Consideration should be given to acquiring any open space south of Larsen Nature Preserve along Western Avenue, south to Glen Flora Avenue.

## Central Neighborhood Assessments

### Planning Area A

This neighborhood is moderately dense residential and has no park sites. About half the land lies outside the Waukegan Park District and approximately 8 acres of neighborhood parkland are needed to fulfill the national standard.

### Planning Area B

This neighborhood does meet the acreage standard for Neighborhood Park land. The neighborhood is currently served by Ben Diamond Park, Clearview School and Clearview Park.

### Planning Area C

This neighborhood does meet the acreage standard for Neighborhood Park land. The neighborhood is currently served by Hinkston Park and Glenwood Elementary School. This neighborhood is the most central location in the Park District. This area is an equal distance away for those living in the Northwest, North Central, South Central and Southwest neighborhoods. It is also the most accessible location due to its proximity to several major streets (Grand Avenue to the south, Lewis Avenue to the east and Green Bay Road to the west).

### Planning Area D

This neighborhood does meet the acreage standard for Neighborhood Park land. Edith M. Smith Middle School provides park space for this neighborhood. This site may be improved through cooperative agreement to enhance the existing school site.

### Planning Area E

Although the neighborhood does not meet the acreage standard for Neighborhood Park land, open space is limited in the area and most of the population reside in apartment complexes which provide a playground and open space. No parkland is needed.

### Planning Area F

Currently there is no Neighborhood Park land in this area and approximately 12 acres are needed to meet the standard. Potential development of the Undeveloped Brookside and Evergreen Park Site and the adjacent School District 60 property could remedy much of this deficiency.

### Planning Area G

The neighborhood does not meet the acreage standard for Neighborhood Park land and requires approximately 10 acres to meet the standard. Open space is limited for park expansion. Acquiring ravine sites adjacent to existing neighborhood park sites should be considered as they become available, as well as other surrounding properties.

### Planning Area H

The neighborhood does not meet the acreage standard for Neighborhood Park land and requires approximately 9 acres to meet the standard. This neighborhood's population is stable and open space is limited. Therefore, efforts in the future should concentrate on enhancing or expanding existing park sites or through a cooperative agreement with the School District to improve existing school sites.

## South Central Neighborhood Assessments

### Planning Area A

The neighborhood does not meet the acreage standard for Neighborhood Park land and requires approximately 2 acres to meet the standard. A cooperative agreement for developing facilities at Washington Park School should be pursued to enhance the quantity of neighborhood park land available to residents. There is also a 4.7-acre vacant parcel at the northwest corner of Keller Avenue and Belvidere Street that could be considered for acquisition.

### Planning Area B

The neighborhood does not meet the acreage standard for Neighborhood Park land and requires approximately 9 acres to meet the standard. Consideration should be given to improving facilities in this neighborhood through a cooperative agreement with Abbott Middle School and the Waukegan High School Washington Campus.

### Planning Area C

This neighborhood meets the Neighborhood Park site standard. Consideration should be given to a cooperative park/school agreement for improving and providing facilities at Thomas Jefferson Middle School.

### Planning Area D

This neighborhood is deficient in Neighborhood Park land by approximately 9 acres. There are several ravine areas in the area, but they are not desirable neighborhood park sites. Acquiring sites adjacent to existing neighborhood park sites should be considered as they become available.

### Planning Area E

This neighborhood is predominantly commercial and office businesses. No neighborhood parkland is needed. A small residential community of 20 residents exists in this neighborhood. An area of open space exists in this neighborhood which is primarily wetlands.

### Planning Area F

This neighborhood borders the south end of the Greenbelt Forest Preserve. The Forest Preserve built a playground and provides picnic and open play areas. No neighborhood parkland is needed.

## **Downtown/Lakefront Neighborhood Assessments**

### **Planning Area A**

There are no lakefront Neighborhood Parks. The population fails to warrant developing a neighborhood park at this time. However, the City of Waukegan's Lakefront Downtown Master Plan - A 21st Century Vision for Waukegan's Downtown and Lakefront calls for the development of the area. This would create the need for neighborhood recreation space. Future land acquisition and development should be planned in conjunction with the City of Waukegan's Lakefront and Downtown Master Plan.

### **Planning Area B**

The downtown area is densely populated and heavily developed. It is well served by existing Neighborhood Park areas. It currently meets the standard for neighborhood parks with a surplus of approximately 4 acres. There are several ravine areas in this neighborhood, but they are not desirable neighborhood park sites. Urban park areas can be created by pursuing a developer land dedication to obtain property when an area is in the redevelopment planning and review stages. Acquiring blighted buildings or abandoned properties adjacent to existing neighborhood park sites should also be considered as they become available.

## **Southwest Neighborhood Assessments**

### **Planning Area A**

This neighborhood has a very small population. No neighborhood park land is needed. Portions are developed as an industrial park, therefore the daytime population is greater. Lakehurst Apartments provides neighborhood park facilities for their residents.

### **Planning Area B**

This neighborhood meets the Neighborhood Park site standard. Diversity Park, Arbor Park, and Serenity Park serve as the neighborhood's parks.

### **Planning Area C**

This neighborhood is being developed as an office park. Because of the land use of this area, no potential Neighborhood Park sites are needed.

### **Planning Area D**

This neighborhood meets the Neighborhood Park site standard. Rudd Farm Park serves as the only Neighborhood Park in this area. There are currently no park sites within the River Road corridor subdivision.

### 3.5 Linear Park Resources Plan

A “Linear” park is in effect an elongated site generally related to the course of a natural or scenic feature. It provides a means of preserving and enjoying such features and may accommodate specific recreation opportunities. The width of the park depends generally upon topographic features and intended recreation use of the site.

A “Recreation Corridor” is an elongated site generally related to one or more specific modes of transportation. It may provide a linkage that connects the elements of open space to provide continuity. All three functions of open space may be served.

#### Design Program Objectives

- ❖ Preserve and enhance existing scenic and natural features.
- ❖ Provide, where appropriate, continuity or relationship of one open space area to another.
- ❖ Provide for one or more varying modes of recreational travel, such as hiking, biking, snowmobiling, canoeing, jogging, boating, cross-country skiing and pleasure driving.
- ❖ Provide for public accessibility to existing rivers and streams.
- ❖ Utilize utility rights-of-way and abandoned railroad rights-of-way, where appropriate.
- ❖ Utilize private property with the use of easements and agreements.
- ❖ Cooperate with other public and private agencies to connect recreation corridors that cross political boundaries and give continuity to recreational travel.
- ❖ Provide a reasonable compatibility with adjacent property owners.
- ❖ Provide linkage between points of interest and a variety of destinations.

#### Location and Attributes

Dependent upon natural features, existing easement, rights-of-way and destinations.

Sufficient width to protect the natural features, allow for selected recreation activities, and provide a buffer with adjacent private property owners.

Linear Parks serve as Recreation Corridors, primary and secondary linkage connections, and preservation areas of natural features while providing some recreational opportunities.

Acres of Linear Parks / 1,000 population is not analyzed.

Service areas are not calculated for Linear Parks.

## Linear Resources Analysis

Several potential linear park sites exist throughout the study area.

The most obvious linear site is the Robert McClory Bike Path (the old North Shore Rail Line right-of-way) oriented north/south along Western Avenue. The bike path intersects Larsen Nature Preserve and Western Tot Lot. It is also near Plonien, Dugdale and Graham Parks.

The District partnered with the Lake County Forest Preserve District on a regional path which runs from Lyons Woods (at the McClory Bike Path) west to a terminus at Green Bay Road. It runs through Bevier and Callahan Parks and future connections planned by LCFPD will connect all the way to the Waukegan Savanna, Waukegan's Greg Petry SportsPark and the DesPlaines River Trail.



Several Commonwealth Edison rights-of-way intersect throughout the study area. They should be considered for improved pathways that would link existing park sites, schools, regional trails, and major thoroughfares. Commonwealth Edison should be approached regarding such a cooperative effort.

Several privately and publicly owned parcels of undeveloped land along Lake Michigan could be enhanced to better serve the recreational needs of the community. The City of Waukegan owns and maintains the Waukegan Beach along Lake Michigan which serves as a recreational destination.

The City's Lakefront Downtown Master Plan - A 21st Century Vision for Waukegan's Downtown and Lake Front considers future parkland acquisition and development along the lakefront. A linear green space with pathways should be considered for easier and safer pedestrian access from the downtown to the train station, harbor, and beach front. The plan should also provide for some level of neighborhood recreation space for housing proposed in the City plan.

The Northern Lakeshore Trail Connectivity Plan provides the conceptual planning and potential partnership to make an even larger trail system a reality. The District should make this involvement a high priority for the community.

There are several ravine areas throughout the study area that could be linked to existing park sites. Areas near Powell Park, Ray Bradbury Park, Roosevelt Park and Washington Park have potential for use as public park land or open space. This area remains private property or is City owned. The District should work cooperatively with the City and private landowners to create a more elaborate and accessible greenway along the north and south branches of the Waukegan River.

In 2009 and 2014, the District completed construction of Phases 1 and 2 of River Road Bike Path on Libertyville Township Open Space District property. These paths connect three River Road subdivisions to Independence Grove Forest Preserve and the Des Plaines River Trail. Libertyville Township maintains the new paths. The projects exemplify the role the District can play in connecting Linear Resources.

## 3.6 Community-Wide Special Facilities Plan

The varied leisure needs, trends and interests of the community often require facilities not normally found within the Neighborhood or Community Park setting. Often these are single purpose facilities. Standards can be considered for implementing Community-Wide Special Facilities, but local demand and financial feasibility are far more valid considerations.

In implementing Community-Wide Special Facilities, careful consideration should be given to providing a balanced program for all ages, skills, and interests. The completion of the Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie will be a significant addition to the District's Special Facilities.

### Design Program Objectives

- ❖ Provide for one or more of the singular purpose leisure needs of the community.
- ❖ Provide for a balance of recreation opportunity for all ages, skills, and interests.
- ❖ Determine community need and economic feasibility of each special facility prior to implementation.
- ❖ Carefully consider the location of a specific special facility relative to maximum community use and the beneficial and detrimental effect it may have on the proposed park or open space site, and the surrounding community/neighborhood.
- ❖ Developed with the use priorities as follows:
  1. Meet the needs of District residents.
  2. Unused capacity used by non-residents
  3. Events, programs, and services attract tourism with economic benefit.

### Typical Facilities and Activities

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ❖ Aquatic Facilities (indoors, outdoor) | ❖ Senior Citizens Center                        |
| ❖ Performing Arts Center                | ❖ Conservatory                                  |
| ❖ Golf Course (9-hole, 18-hole, etc.)   | ❖ Environmental/Interpretive Educational Center |
| ❖ Par 3 Golf Course                     | ❖ Campground                                    |
| ❖ Ice Skating Rink                      | ❖ Arts & Crafts Center Indoor                   |
| ❖ Stadium (soccer, baseball)            | ❖ Tennis Complex                                |
| ❖ Day Camp                              | ❖ Special Recreation Center                     |
| ❖ Marina                                | ❖ Handball/Racquetball                          |
| ❖ Museum, Library                       | ❖ Administration Headquarters                   |
| ❖ Sports Complex                        | ❖ Restaurant/Banquet Facilities                 |
| ❖ Historical Farm                       | ❖ Maintenance Facilities                        |
| ❖ Outdoor Theater                       | ❖ Preschools/Day Care                           |
| ❖ Boat Launching Ramps                  | ❖ Skateboard/In-line Skating Complex            |
| ❖ Bandshell                             | ❖ BMX Track                                     |
| ❖ Community Activity Center             | ❖ In-Line Hockey Rink                           |

### 3.7 Conservation/Protection Plan

Conservation and Protection sites guard, protect and preserve certain natural resource elements and maintain natural processes, thereby safeguarding people from natural hazards and protecting unique or fragile natural areas.

The designation of Conservation and Protection Areas does not depend upon demand, but rather on their uniqueness as natural resources, or their intrinsic unsuitability for urban development.

The Conservation and Protection Area designation does not mean a total prohibition of recreation activities, however, it may limit or prohibit recreation usage that will cause deterioration or interfere with the ability to perform the Conservation/Protection Function. By the same measure, certain Conservation and Protection Areas, such as wetlands, woodlands, prairies, detention basins and retention ponds, have a limited potential for satisfying recreation needs.

Conservation and Protection designations do not have to be publicly owned, but there must be some assurance that they will remain in their natural condition or that development is consistent with the level of protection that is necessary. If government ownership or conservation easements are desirable, the responsibility must be carefully considered according to previously accepted agreements. Long-term maintenance requirements and cost must be strongly considered.

#### Facilities and Activities

There are 4,432.0 acres classified as conservation/protection areas across the District. See Chapter 2. This classification represents most of the acreage for all classifications. More than 60% of all open space/parkland in the study area is classified as conservation or protection area.

There is a deficiency of conservation and protection acreage in this area. However, greater attention must be focused on how the conservation and protection areas are being utilized. Adelphi and Callahan Parks are former landfills and development as a park may be limited. Roosevelt and Washington Parks are used extensively as stormwater collection areas.

At this time, Bowen, Bevier, Roosevelt and Washington Parks provide conservation, education and environmental interpretation. Emphasis must be placed on environmental and conservation programs throughout the service area for all age levels. Facilities and programs should be considered for implementation that would help the public gain a greater understanding and sensitivity toward natural resources in our community.

The Waukegan Park District's primary responsibility is to function as a park and recreation service agency. Primary responsibility for stormwater management should be undertaken by other governmental agencies, such as the City of Waukegan, Lake County and the State of Illinois. The Waukegan Park District encourages the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission to study and recommend controls for stormwater management in our watersheds. The Waukegan Park District will fully cooperate and provides assistance as appropriate and feasible to acquire, develop, manage and study conservation and protection areas.

The District should participate with other agencies to prepare a comprehensive greenway/land use and watershed plan linking properties along the North and South Branch of the Waukegan River and Ravine, Lake Michigan and the Downtown/Lakefront Community. The plan should assess land acquisition, land development, point and non-point source pollution concerns, geographical features, historical features, properties and local concerns. The plan will serve as a guide for implementing these critical natural resource corridor link. As the District continues to restore and manage existing natural areas within parks (e.g. Bowen, Bevier, Roosevelt, Washington, Arbor, Park in the Glen and Rudd Farm Parks), management of these natural areas becomes critical. The District needs to develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plans for these sites to remain of high quality.



## 4.1 Introduction

This Recommendations Chapter is the key chapter of this document. After a careful review of our community and staff input, demographics, trends, and opinions, along with an assessment of our current park and open space resources, the following recommendations have been identified as priority action items. It is important to note that these recommendations are based on current needs and expected resources. As these needs and resources change, priorities and recommendations may change as well.

## 4.2 Land Acquisition

As identified in Chapter 3, there are community and neighborhood areas within the District where there is insufficient park and open space to meet national standards. To meet these needs, the District will continue to pursue land acquisition as opportunities arise and limited financial resources allow. The District has identified larger parcels of land (undeveloped open space and/or vacant buildings) that exist in Waukegan that, if acquired, could meet some of those identified needs. The District will continue to research and track these open space parcels along with properties around existing parks and consider acquiring strategic parcels to create new parks or expand existing parks. These acquisitions may be through purchase, developer donation or cooperative agreements with other organizations. It is important to note that some of the needs identified to meet standards may be met by partnering with other public agencies such as the Waukegan School District, City of Waukegan and the Lake County Forest Preserve District to improve public access and use of their properties.

## 4.3 Recommended Park Improvements

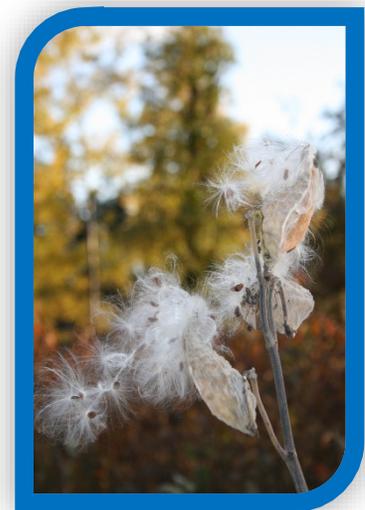
The Waukegan Park District currently maintains 53 park sites, 44 of which are developed with amenities. Nine sites are undeveloped. Below are District-Wide and Multiple-Site Park Improvement Recommendations as well as a listing of each park site and recommended improvements. A strategic and continual effort must be made to incorporate these recommendations into the District's Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

### District-Wide Park Improvements

1. Maintain asphalt parking lots and pathways per Pavement Maintenance Plan (PMP).
2. Maintain basketball, tennis and other sport courts per Sport Court Maintenance Plan (SCMP).
3. Correct Non-Compliant Playground Hazards per 2013 Playground Safety Audit Report through modification or playground replacements.
4. Accomplish Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance recommendations as feasible per the 2012 ADA Access Audit and Transition Plan.
5. Maintain and/or replace District vehicles and equipment per Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Schedule (VERS).

### Multiple-Site Recommendations (Based on Community and Staff Input)

1. Bathrooms – Update outdoor bathrooms and expand where possible.
2. Playgrounds – Add more 2 to 5-year-old equipment and natural play features, add more shade.
3. Picnic Areas – Add more tables in parks, add picnic pads with grills.
4. Trails – Add more, increase connections, add maps or distance markers and benches.
5. Sports Fields/Courts – Add more soccer goals, add basketball and pickleball courts, add tennis practice walls.
6. Outdoor Aquatics – Splash Pads are very popular – expand hours and potentially add more with more equipment



for older kids. Outdoor pool not needed at this time.

7. Dogs – Add more off-leash dog park areas and dog waste stations.
8. Safety/Security – Add more lighting, increase surveillance.
9. Accessibility – Increase ADA accessibility as part of renovations, add park sites through new acquisitions or developing undeveloped sites.
10. Property Boundary Marking – Develop priority list of parks with boundary issues with neighbors and accurately mark these boundaries with permanent monuments.

## RECOMMENDED INDIVIDUAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>1 ADELPHI PARK</b>			
	Restore wooded area west of playground and create a trail connection to the north end of Adelphi Avenue.	Consider access path from Burriss Ave to Vermont Avenue and into park.	
	Evaluate status of landfill on south end and develop a future use plan.		
	Pursue vacating right-of-way of contiguous portion of Nemesis Avenue.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>2 ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER</b>			
	Replace retaining wall east of parking lot.		
	Refresh aesthetics of old drive-through.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>3 ARBOR PARK</b>			
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).	Consider expansion of park south through the potential vacation of McGaw Road.	
	Repair boardwalks.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>4 ARMORY PARK</b>			
	Add existing game court to Sports Court Maintenance Plan.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>5 BEDROSIAN PARK</b>			
	Correct low water pressure to spray pad. Evaluate spray features and consider replacements.		
	Replace poured in place surfacing at fitness pad.		
	Consider acquiring properties to the south to increase park size.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>6</b>	<b>BEN DIAMOND PARK</b>		
	Add small picnic shelter or add permanent picnic table pads (locate with shared grills).		Incorporate shelter as a rental facility.
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>7</b>	<b>BESLEY PARK</b>		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations	Improve or replace retaining walls.	

<b>8</b>	<b>BEVIER PARK</b>		
	Complete 2023 OSLAD Park Renovation.	Consider expansion of existing or additional picnic shelter(s).	
	Pursue additional sidewalk on south side of York House Road with Lake County Division of Transportation.	Pursue revival of the Bonnie Brook Riverine and Riparian Restoration Plan with the Army Corps of Engineers.	
	Consider trail connection to Bonnie Brook Bird Sanctuary.		
	Continue collaboration with DISContinuum Disc Golf Club to maintain, improve and possibly expand the disc golf course.		
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP) including maintenance of pond shoreline naturalization and implementing stream bank stabilization.		
	Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>9</b>	<b>BONNIE BROOK BIRD SANCTUARY</b>		
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).	Pursue revival of the Bonnie Brook Riverine and Riparian Restoration Plan with the Army Corps of Engineers.	
	Consider trail connection to Bevier Park and possibly neighborhood (based on neighborhood input).		

Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>10</b>	<b>BONNIE BROOK GOLF COURSE</b>		
	Continue collaboration with Golf Management group to maintain and improve golf course and clubhouse.	Pursue revival of the Bonnie Brook Riverine and Riparian Restoration Plan with the Army Corps of Engineers.	
	Renovate/replace playground.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>11</b>	<b>BOWEN PARK</b>		
	Replace playground climber and assess remaining structures and develop improvement/replacement plan.	Consider trail connection to Lyons Woods using eastern ComEd corridor.	
	Update Park Entrance signage (at Jack Benny and Joe Favero Drives).	Re-design and replace Grosche paths for ADA accessibility.	
	Renovate Grosche Field dugouts and consider additional fencing improvements. (Bathroom/press box addressed in Facility Recommendations above).	Assess potential for additional parking.	
	Add BMX component to Skate Park.		
	Replace east side park perimeter fencing.		
	Add picnic shelter at north picnic area.		Incorporate shelter as a rental facility.
	Renovate Formal Garden.		
	Assess Rosenwald and Craft Cottages for any potential future use. Consider removals.		
	Consider outdoor Amphitheatre.		
	Add vehicle speed control measures.		
	Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
	Pursue pedestrian bridge improvements with Illinois Division of Transportation.		
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>12 CARNEGIE LIBRARY</b>			
	Monitor redevelopment of the building and identify any needed projects and fold into CIP.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>13 CLEARVIEW PARK</b>			
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>14 CORRINE J. ROSE PARK</b>			
	Add shade to Bocce Courts.		
	Replace baseball backstop and line fencing.		
	Improve west side drainage with Stormwater BMPs.		
	Work with Lake County Health Department to connect our paths along Belvidere Road.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>15 COUNTRY LANE PARK</b>			
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP) in cooperation with the Country Lane Homeowners Association (HOA).		
	Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>16 DIVERSITY PARK</b>			
	Renovate/replace playground.		
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>17 DUGDALE PARK</b>			
	Secure OSLAD grant and renovate park per current conceptual plan.	Consider trail connection to the McClory Bike Path in cooperation with the Kiley Center.	
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>18 FIREMAN'S MEMORIAL PARK</b>			
	Renovate/replace playground.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>19 FRIENDSHIP PARK</b>			
	Screen border west of playground with landscaping.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>20 GRAHAM PARK</b>			
	Add path connection to West Chaplin Avenue to the east.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>21 GREENSHIRE GOLF COURSE</b>			
	Continue collaboration with Golf Management group to maintain and improve golf course and clubhouse.	Assess need and viability of the course through a cost-benefit analysis.	
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>22 HENRY PFAU CALLAHAN PARK</b>			
	Add topsoil to landfill cap north of bike path and naturalize with prairie.	Continue collaboration with DISContinuum Golf Club to consider expanding Bevier disc golf course back to Callahan.	
	Continue collaboration with Waukegan BMX Club to maintain and improve the BMX track and associated amenities.		
	Implement Environmental Consultant's recommendations on landfill management.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

	Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
23	<b>HILLTOP PARK</b>			
		Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
24	<b>HINKSTON PARK</b>			
		Renovate or replace pavilion and bathrooms.		
		Redevelop playground and consider changing location.		
		Repair/replace asphalt path.		
		Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
		Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).		
		Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
25	<b>JOE SISOLAK PARK</b>			
		Coordinate with the School District to move their playground to their property when they replace it.		
		Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
		Collaborate with Lake County Forest Preserve District and School District for future site improvements.	Consider acquisition of undeveloped lots along the eastern border.	
26	<b>KING PARK</b>			
		Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
27	<b>KIRK PARK</b>			
		Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
28	<b>LARSEN NATURE PRESERVE</b>			
		Replace dog run fencing.	Improve parking lot in cooperation with LCDOT.	
		Improve dog agility equipment.		

Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP) for northern property area.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

29	PARK IN THE GLEN		
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP) focusing on opening viewscales.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

30	PARK MAINTENANCE FACILITY GROUNDS		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

31	PLONIEN PARK		
	Improve drainage to reduce flooding.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

32	POWELL PARK		
	Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.	Consider converting wood steps to North Park Avenue to stone.	
	Assess ravine and associated natural areas and develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).	Renovate/replace playground.	
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

33	RAY BRADBURY PARK		
	Assess ravine and associated natural areas and develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).		
	Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

34	ROOSEVELT PARK		
	Renovate/replace playground with inclusive equipment and accessible surfacing.	Consider daylighting under Rt. 120 and provide trail access to Washington Park.	

Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
	Repaint bridges and handrails, refurbish boardwalks and steps.		
	Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
	Continue ravine and associated natural areas management.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

35 RUDD FARM PARK			
	Renovate/replace playground.		
	Improve pond accessibility with access points.		
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

36 SERENITY PARK			
	Naturalize turf areas north of access path.	Renovate/replace playground.	
	Continue collaboration with Fields of the Hidden Orchid Homeowners Association and Conserve Lake County on management of the surrounding Dokum Mskoda Nature Preserve.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

37 SMITH PARK			
	Assess with Boys and Girls Club of Lake County for future park improvements.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

38 UPTON PARK			
	Renovate/replace playground.	Consider options for additional parking.	
	Rebuild tennis court and replace fencing.		
	Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

	Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
39	<b>VICTORY PARK</b>			
		Consider addition of ½ court basketball court.		
		Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

40	<b>WASHINGTON PARK</b>			
		Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.	Consider acquisition of adjacent private lots on Juniper Street and Bluff Street.	
		Repaint pavilion and replace roof.		
		Assess ravine and associated natural areas and develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).		
		Develop conceptual plan for walking path from playground to Roosevelt Park.		
		Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

41	<b>WAUKEGAN SPORTSPARK</b>			
		Replace Softball Netting System.		
		Access heaving concrete issues and damaged stone veneer at bathroom buildings and correct.		
		Improve access to facility.		
		Add pavement path to continue to restroom unit #1.		
		Improve/Expand maintenance wash pad.		
		Add employee parking lot.		
		Convert softball infields to synthetic turf.		
		Replace champ field artificial turf.		
		Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		

Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>41 WESTERN TOT LOT</b>			
	Acquire lot to the south if City has Lake County Stormwater Management Commission approve site.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>43 WOODARD PARK</b>			
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.	Renovate/replace playground.	
<b>44 YEOMAN PARK</b>			
	Assess ravine and associated natural areas for beneficial management, especially slopes to improve visibility.	Consider formal trail connection to Hyde Park School.	
	Implement applicable District-Wide Park Improvement Recommendations.	Pursue grant funding (IL EPA Section 319 or other) for restoring fishery, stream bank and ecological restoration along Waukegan River Corridor.	
<b>45 UNDEVELOPED - BEACH AND CORNELL</b>			
	Determine future use and develop Master Plan for the site.		
<b>46 UNDEVELOPED - BROOKSIDE AND EVERGREEN</b>			
	Develop trail and restoration plan and implement.		In cooperation with Waukegan School District.
	Consider playground for the site and pursue OSLAD or other funding.		
	Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).		
	Improve health of trees through new plantings and proper tree care.		
<b>47 UNDEVELOPED - DEVONSHIRE AND BRISTOL</b>			
	Consider selling.		
<b>48 UNDEVELOPED - EAGLE RIDGE/LEWIS AVENUE (AIRPORT)</b>			
	Develop pollinator garden and beehive program with Waukegan Parks Foundation. Consider naming park.		

	Park	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
49	<b>UNDEVELOPED - EAST BONNIE BROOK AND LEWIS</b>			
		No recommendations.		
50	<b>UNDEVELOPED - EDWARDS FIELD</b>			
		No recommendations.		
51	<b>UNDEVELOPED - JAMES CREEK</b>			
		Develop and implement Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP).	Assess development of a simple rest stop for McClory Bike Path with Lake County Division of Transportation.	
52	<b>UNDEVELOPED - STEWART AND RIDGELAND</b>			
		No recommendations.		
53	<b>UNDEVELOPED - YORKHOUSE FARM</b>			
		Improve health of trees through new plantings, proper tree care and naturalization of select turf areas.		
		Complete Barn Renovation.		
		Develop master site plan with Recreation Department.		

## 4.4 Recommended Facility Improvements

The Waukegan Park District currently maintains 46 buildings at 19 park sites. These buildings and facilities are of varying ages and conditions, and some are considered deficient in size or function to meet current and future demands. As an extension of this plan, it is recommended that the District completes a thorough building and facility assessment to identify these deficiencies and assess the conditions of the buildings and facilities.

### District-Wide Facility Improvements

1. Maintain HVAC systems per Inventory and Replacement Schedule.
2. Accomplish Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance recommendations as feasible per the 2012 ADA Access Audit and Transition Plan.
3. Maintain and/or replace District vehicles and equipment per Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Schedule (VERS).

RECOMMENDED FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS			
Facility	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>1</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>		
	Replace roof		
	Repair window seals		
	Replace 3 RTUs and condensing line sets.		
	Repair foundation leak at SE corner at planter box.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		
<b>2</b>	<b>BELVIDERE RECREATION CENTER</b>		
	Renovate interior bathrooms.		
	Consider gym addition.		
	Partner with Park Place to improve the large steel fascia on both buildings to update aesthetics.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

Facility	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>3</b>	<b>BEVIER CENTER</b>		
	Evaluate and repair/replace asphalt leading up to building.		Playground and pond are being improved as part of the 2023 Bevier Park Renovation.
	Improve drainage around building to prevent flooding.		
	Replace entry doors, concrete apron in front of doors and fixtures in outdoor bathrooms.		
	Replace HVAC.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>4</b>	<b>BEVIER PRESS BOX</b>		
	Refresh building with siding/trim restoration or replacement and painting.	Replace doors and renovate interior.	Ball field is being improved as part of the 2023 Bevier Park Renovation.
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>5</b>	<b>BONNIE BROOK CLUBHOUSE</b>		
	Continue collaboration with Golf Management group to maintain and improve golf course and clubhouse.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>6</b>	<b>COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER (LICENSED TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF LAKE COUNTY)</b>		
	Evaluate Roof and HVAC. Improve as needed.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>7</b>	<b>DOUGLAS HOUSE</b>		
	Determine future use and scale improvements to that use.		Special Recreation is moving to the new McAlister Building.
	Restore or replace doors, windows, railings, gutters, and hardware.		
	Evaluate and potentially improve waterproofing of basement.		
	Repair spalled and cracked sidewalks and stairs.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

Facility	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>8 FIELD HOUSE AT HINKSTON PARK</b>			
	Create a "Field House Improvement Plan". See staff input in Chapter 1. Add recommendations to this list.	Add roof over loading dock.	
	Assess roof and make necessary repairs.		
	Replace RTUs and exhaust fans per schedule.		
	Repair seals on Gym windows.		
	Replace deteriorated curbs in parking and drop off lane. Consider removing island for easier maintenance.		
	Replace fitness lockers and evaluate other locker room improvements.		
	Replace front doors.		
	Evaluate pool shells and floors and identify improvements.		
Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.			

<b>9 GREENSHIRE CLUBHOUSE</b>			
	Evaluate HVAC. Add second PTAC unit.		
	Repair ceiling from previous HVAC leaks.		
	Evaluate and improve roof.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>10 GROESCHE BATHROOMS AND PRESS BOX</b>			
	Renovate bathrooms including doors.	Improve bleacher area and paths for accessibility.	
	Improve shell for aesthetics.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>11 HAINES HOUSE MUSEUM</b>			
	Repaint/refresh outside.		
	Replace 2nd floor AC per schedule.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

Facility	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>12 HINKSTON PAVILION AND BATHROOMS</b>			
	Determine if renovation or demolition and replacement is preferred option.		
	Pursue OSLAD grant as part of larger north end renovation.		
	Renovate or replace pavilion and bathrooms per plan.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>13 JACK BENNY CENTER</b>			
	Replace siding.		
	Repair back stairs.		
	Improve outside security and access lighting.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>14 JANE ADDAMS CENTER</b>			
	Replace siding.		
	Improve outside security and access lighting.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>15 LILAC COTTAGE</b>			
	Evaluate future use with program staff and develop/implement interior improvement plan to support.		
	Refresh outside – First phase occurred in Fall 2022. Future phases to include siding and trim repair, window improvements and complete exterior repainting.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

Facility	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
<b>16</b>	<b>PARK MAINTENANCE FACILITY</b>		
	Add storage bin roofs.	Epoxy downstairs floors.	
	Repaint downstairs walls and refresh bathrooms.		
	Replace upstairs carpet.		
	Assess man doors and repair/replace if needed.		
	Renovate or replace north roof.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>17</b>	<b>SPECIAL RECREATION BUILDING</b>		
	Replace outdated and inefficient windows (all) and some doors.		
	Acquire lot(s) to the south and expand parking.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>18</b>	<b>VISUAL ARTS CENTER</b>		
	Determine future use for building and either demolish or renovate to meet future use.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>19</b>	<b>WAUKEGAN MUSEUM AT THE CARNEGIE</b>		
	Assess needs when it opens and develop recommendations to amend this plan.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>20</b>	<b>WAUKEGAN SPORTSPARK MAINTENANCE</b>		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

<b>21</b>	<b>WAUKEGAN SPORTSPARK MAIN CONCESSIONS</b>		
	Replace/Update concession stand refrigeration equipment.		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

Facility	Short-Term Recommendations	Long-Term Recommendations	Notes
22	<b>WAUKEGAN SPORTSPARK CHAMP FIELD CONCESSIONS</b>		
	Implement applicable District-Wide Facility Improvement Recommendations.		

## 4.5 Recommended Park Connections and Paths

1. Be an active partner in the implementation of the Northern Lakeshore Trail Connectivity Plan.
2. Improve the use and function of the Robert McClory Bike Path by collaborating with Lake County Division of Transportation to improve way finding signs and consider improved connections to nearby parks. The District could also develop the James Creek Undeveloped Park site as a potential rest area along the McClory Bike Path. Also, facilitate discussion possibly leading to acquisition (by the District or others) of strategic open space parcels along or near the McClory Bike Path.
3. Develop a strategic plan for a greenway corridor along the Waukegan River through coordination and cooperation of governmental and non-governmental agencies.
4. Continue with the cooperative effort led by the Lake County Forest District to create a multi-use path from Lyons Woods to Waukegan Savanna which already exists from Lyons Woods to Green Bay Road, passing through Bevier and Callahan Parks.
5. Improve greenways and paths with appropriate partners, in particular the City of Waukegan and Commonwealth Edison.

## 4.6 Fiscal and Budget Considerations

The Park and Open Space Master Plan has identified capital requirements throughout the District's park and recreation system. The multi-year plan developed by the Master Plan provides the basis for the District's multi-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP provides the link between the Master Plan, a fiscal plan and actual physical development. In addition to capital projects identified through the Master Plan process, the CIP includes vehicle and equipment replacement schedules and reoccurring and existing capital commitments.

The CIP is reviewed and updated annually. The current year of the CIP is a capital improvement budget. This budget translates the general principles and standards of a multi-year planning document to specific authorization of outlays.

Planning for capital improvements, must take into consideration the impact upon the operating budget. Improvements or acquisitions which require increased operating or maintenance costs must be carefully reviewed.

### Sources of Capital Funding

The District has the ability and authority to fund capital expenditures by various sources. Specific statutory authorizations and limitations are contained in the Park District Code (Chapter 105, Illinois Revised Statutes 1987, Article 1-13).

The alternative sources for capital funding and a brief description follows:

1. **Current Revenue (pay-as-you-go):** Pay-as-you-go involves the financing of capital projects from current revenues. The sources of these revenues may be real estate taxes, fees and charges, interest income, contributions, and grants.
2. **Reserve Funds:** This source is similar to pay-as-you-go. Surplus current revenue is accumulated until sufficient funds are available to complete the project. A portion of the Corporate Tax increase from the referendum is dedicated to ongoing capital improvement programs and constitutes a portion of the Reserve Funds. An annual transfer of these funds is made from the Corporate Fund to the Capital Fund based on availability and need.
3. **Installment Purchase Contracts:** This type of debt instrument is basically a note payable for up to twenty years. The District may fund the installment contract payments through current operating revenues. Installment contracts provide access to borrowing power for projects too large for a one-time payment.
4. **General Obligation Bonds:** The District may issue referendum General Obligation Bonds for capital improvements and acquisition. The sale of the bonds may be sold by competitive bidding or negotiation.
5. **Capital Funding:** The District's Corporate and Recreation Funds have limited funds available for capital outlay. The Special Recreation, Paving and Lighting and Museum Funds currently have the resources for funding certain capital improvements.

Capital expenditures, within these funds, should be restricted to the special purposes of these funds. As appropriate, funds for these operating funds will be transferred to the District's Capital Improvement Fund.

Designated contributions for capital projects will, in certain cases, be held in the District's Memorial/ Endowment Fund or Master Plan Capital Projects Fund until such time that the funds are required or utilized.

## 4.7 Reviewing, Funding and Updating the Plan

This Parks and Open Space Master Plan is intended to guide the District with future decisions. The adoption of this plan by the Board of Commissioners will initiate a sequence of actions by the District to implement the plan.

1. This plan will be reviewed, interpreted, and updated if needed to fulfill the intentions of the plan. Approved updates will be added as supplements to the plan.
2. The capital improvements recommended in this plan will be funded to the greatest extent possible. Project planning must be coordinated with financial planning for this plan to succeed. As part of the budget process, Leadership Staff and the Executive Director shall convene in each year of the plan to review proposed projects and available financial resources. A list of priority projects with estimated costs will be developed for the following year. This list will be used for planning possible bond issues and allocating operating and capital fund sources toward master plan projects.
3. A new plan should be created when the current plan is determined to be out of date.

## 4.8 Implementing the Plan

### Implementation Guidelines:

1. This plan should have direct connection and accountability to the District's Strategic Plan and Capital Improvement Program (CIP).
2. As part of the Strategic Plan review process, this plan should be reviewed, progress tracked, and updates made as necessary.
3. All employees and Board members should receive an electronic copy of this plan and appropriate review should be incorporated annually.

