VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND *NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING*

PARKS, RECREATION, AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 19, 2016 **6:00 P.M.** **William McFarland Park**
4820 Marsh Road
at the Bocce Ball Courts

Tour William McFarland Park

Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 2016 **7:00 P.M.** **McFarland Municipal Center**
Conference Room "A"

AGENDA

1. Call to order.
2. Public Comments.
3. Review and possible approval of draft Minutes of the Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee meeting of April 21, 2016.
4. Public Works Director update.
5. Development of parks project priorities and timeline for next three years (Committee members please review Outdoor Recreation & Open Space Plan and be prepared to discuss at meeting).
6. Adjournment.

NOTES:
1) Persons needing special accommodations should call 838-7287 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
2) A quorum of The Village Board may attend this meeting for the purpose of gathering information relevant to their responsibilities as Village trustees. No matter shall be considered nor shall any action be taken by said Village Board members at this meeting.
3) More specific information about agenda items may be obtained by calling 838-7287.

This agenda was posted, or caused to be posted, on the 13th day of May, 2016 at the following three (3) posting places in the Village of McFarland, to wit: McFarland Municipal Center, 5915 Milwaukee Street; E.D. Locke Public Library, 5920 Milwaukee Street; and McFarland State Bank, 5990 Hwy. 51.

Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes – DRAFT
April 21, 2016

1. **Call to order.**

Chair Kolk called the April 21, 2016 meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the McFarland Municipal Center.

Members Present: Chair Dan Kolk, Kate Barrett, Judy Sauer, Jacob Schkirkie, Greg Smith, Clair Utter (arrived at 8:00 p.m.) and Darrel Waldera

Members Absent: John Feldner, Chuck Rolfsmeyer and Rick Ruecking

Staff Present: Pauline Boness, Allan Coville and Linda Dieckhoff

Others Present: Tom TeBeest (Town & Country), Jim Amrhein (6410 Fox Run), Austin Gannon (4719 Farwell Street), Tom Gannon (4719 Farwell Street), Sam Martino (6407 Fox Run), Mark Shubak (Strand Associates Inc.) and Judy Taritas (6407 Fox Run)

2. **Public Comments.**

Sam Martino of 6407 Fox Run – Concerned about the proposed Grandview Conservancy path. Martino had comments about environmental disruption. Would like to have a Public Hearing date set.

Jim Amrhrein of 6410 Fox Run – Residents feel they were off guard as to what was going on at last weeks meeting. Felt this info should be put online. He is not for or against the trail; it is part of the parks plan.

Coville indicated that the Clerk was gone last week and there was confusion on getting the agenda on the website.

Coville indicated that the park grant money can only be used for this project. This grant was approved several years ago when Steve Hoeft was here and approved by the Village Board. He thought this had already been through the public hearing process. We are not hiding anything from the public...

Judy Taritas of 6407 Fox Run – In the bid proposal does it say that the path has to be an asphalt path?

Coville indicated that the type of finish was not specified. It was specified that this was to be a bike/pedestrian path.

Kolk indicated that the Village is currently short staffed and that Linda was gone last week. Normally all notices are on the website in advance of the meeting.

3. **Review and possible approval of draft Minutes of the Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee meeting of March 17, 2016.**

Motion by Kolk, second by Smith, to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2016 meeting as amended. Barrett abstained. Motion carried 5-0-1.

4. **Discussion and possible recommendation regarding Prairie Place Subdivision.**

Tom Gannon indicated that the plat was previously approved but because of economic times, the project was placed on hold and the permits have run out. Gannon is now starting the project over. Due to new DNR regulations, the development area now has seven acres of wetland delineated. This area has been farmed in the past.

Mark Shubak presented a preliminary stormwater plan. The stormwater area still receives run off from the developed lots. The overall plan is to create a prairie restoration of natural grasses and wildflowers. because the land is currently being farmed.

A CARPC variance is required for the wetlands.

Another variance is needed for a 75 foot set back for the impervious surface. There will be a shared bike/pedestrian path along the west side of the wetland. A petition that is filed does require support from the Village.

Kolk supports the water retention presented.

Barrett asked if they had any feedback or guidance from the DNR on what type of seed bank could exist now. Gannon said no. Barrett likes the idea of a wetland but would like to see what the current seed bank is.

Schkirkie likes the idea of restoring the wetland. Is this area on the map dedicated as parkland? Gannon said yes.

Sauer is also in favor of wetland restoration.

The plan is to continue the Eco Park into this development and incorporate the path and park area by the wetland.

5. **Discussion and possible recommendation to Village Board to accept bids for 2016 street tree plantings.**

Coville presented the bid results. We are focusing on replanting in areas where the ash trees were removed. Last year we had some money left in the budget and used those funds for larger trees by play ground structures. This was not included in the street plantings. Tree maintenance and tree removal are a budget item.

Motion by Kolk, second by Barrett, to recommend to Village Board to accept the bid for 2016 street plantings from McKay in the amount of $24,712. Motion carried 7-0 by acclamation.

Utter would like us to see if McKay would add 10 more trees at that same cost for the shade tree replacements. In the developer's agreement for Juniper Ridge it was at the option of the Village to plant trees. There are no trees in the terrace area yet for Veridian.

Moved to agenda item 8

6. **Review and possible recommendation to the Village Board regarding changes to Village Ordinances – Natural Lawns, Trees and Shrubs, Oak Tree Cutting and Noxious Weeds.**

7. **Discussion on procedure by which we name the new shelter, potentially, and/or the new park space at Juniper Ridge.**

8. **Discussion and possible recommendation to Village Board regarding the Grandview Conservancy Path Project.**

   The neighborhood has concerns of the path. The meeting last week was well attended. Public is concerned about environmental impact. The Village should have a public hearing so there is comprehensive discussion on this.

   Tom TeBeest received an initial letter from DNR requesting that we add six more culverts for a total add of 9 culverts. The design currently has 3 culverts.

   An archeological study will have to be done because there is an Indian burial ground in that area mainly on the Schneider property. Berquist indicated the cost would be approximately $1,400 and could be completed in approximately seven days. Committee felt this needed to be done.

   The current bid contract is good for 60 days and we are now at 48 days. The contractor would be willing to go over 60 days. The Village should look into the possibility of an extension for the grant due to the problems we have encountered.

   The board walk was more costly and disturbs more ground and requires different permits. The Committee needs to have a clear understanding before we have a public hearing. We need to obtain more info from the DNR of why more culverts are required.

   Items we need to address:

   - Do we want the path paved and will it be maintained in the winter.
   - What do we want this path to accomplish (bike, pedestrian)
   - Need DNR and Army Corp of Engineers approval

   This agenda item will need to be revised when we receive the required info.

   Items 6 and 7 will be postponed tonight.

9. **Discussion regarding May work day activities.**

   Kate indicated that she is already pulling garlic mustard. It was determined to have a work day on Sunday afternoon, May 1, at 1:00 p.m. and meet at the Yahara Trail Head. Publish this and try to get some support.

   Waldera recommended a project of seed collecting.

   We should work on creating a calendar with some work day projects.

10. **Update on Bird Festival event.**

Kate indicated it was a big success except for the cold weather.

11. **Public Works Director update.**

The Lower Yahara Trail project is underway. Our end of the path should be completed by the end of this year. The trail connection to Siggelkow Road, new water main and paving should be completed by Memorial Day.

The Lewis Park old shelter has been torn down and we salvaged the old rock and have them stored. The area at Lewis has been fenced off and contractor is in the process of moving a job trailer in. The old flag pole and monument will be re-used and two other poles have been salvaged.

The Broadhead/MN project will start mobilizing next week. Alben Avenue will be gutted from Broadhead to Marsh. The project is slated to be completed by September 15. The Holscher Road project will not take place this year.

John Feldner indicated that some roofs are being installed over the dugouts at Lewis Park baseball diamond with the help of volunteers.

After discussion it was decided that porta potties will be installed at Lewis Park and at the Dog Park. If there is vandalism at the Dog Park, the porta potty will be removed and put at the Falling Leaves Park.

Utter felt we need to follow ADA act and have porta potties that are ADA accessible.

12. **Adjournment. Motion** by Utter, second by Barrett, to adjourn at 9:23 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda L. Dieckhoff
Public Works/Utilities Clerk

Village of McFarland

McFarland Parks Department
Monthly Report

May, 2016

The following are items that have been accomplished in the parks over the last month:

McDaniel Park:

- Multiple meetings have been held with Dane County and the contractor who is working on the Lower Yahara River Trail Project. The project is underway and will continue through June of 2017. County Executive Parisi held a news conference on Wednesday May 11th to update the progress of the County's Lower Yahara Trail project.
- The Lower Yahara River Trail contractor has agreed to remove some very large cottonwood trees due to safety considerations for people using the trail. These trees will be removed as the contractor completes their portion of the project either late 2016 or spring of 2017.
- The Village's portion of the Lower Yahara River Trail Project is just about complete. The water main has been installed, the curb and gutter has been replaced, the street has been paved and striped, and the path has been paved. Remaining work consists of fence installation then seeding and mulching.
- The $64,000 grant the Village received to install the Village's part of the Lower Yahara River Trail Project is valid for the next few years.
- The bathrooms in McDaniel Park have been opened.

Brandt Park:

- The bathrooms have been opened, the outfields have been rolled, the softball association re-established the netting and both the infields and outfields are being maintained.

Indian Mound Park:

- Staff started the Indian Mound Maintenance items. These items included weed trimming on all of the Mounds and addressing the trail that was established last year. Volunteers met on May 1st and pulled garlic mustard weeds. Removal of the Phase III trees is scheduled to take place later this year.

Arnold Larson Park:

- The park has been opened and is being maintained on a weekly basis. Plans are being made with the Lions Club to remove the old hand rails and install new hand rails and spindles. The shelter will then be re-stained.

Street Trees:

- We continued to trim various terrace trees through out the Village as time and weather dictated.
- The Village went out for bids to plant additional terrace trees. McKay's was the low bidder and planted the new terrace trees through out the Village. The purpose of planting the new trees was to help off set the amount of ash trees removed due to emerald ash borer.

Lewis Park:

- The project to construct a new park shelter is underway. The old shelter has been removed. The stones from the old shelter have been saved along with a few other items from the shelter. The footings and foundations have been installed for the new shelter along with under ground utilities. The new shelter should be completed by October of this year, weather dependent.
- A Porta-Potty was delivered to the play ground area during the week of April 18th.

Conservancies:

- The Fire Department has burnt various conservancy areas through out the Village. Some of these areas were: Grand View Conservancy; Marshwoods Conservancy; Conservancy by the Dog Park; the rail road corridor by the gazebo; etc.

Grandview Conservancy:

- The Village just received the permit from the State Historic Society which will allow a consultant to do an archeological evaluation of the area where portions of the path will be installed. Once this work is complete, the resulting information will be sent to the State for evaluation and approval. Once this determination is complete, Village Board will probably hold a public hearing for the project.

William McFarland Park:

- The bathrooms have been opened.
- We worked with the school district to re-establish the infield that was partially washed out.
- We are currently maintaining the soccer fields on a weekly basis.

Community Garden:

- The water lines to the Community Garden have been turned back on.
- Village staff worked with volunteers and drilled fence post holes, installed fencing, hauled gravel to the garden, and delivered bark mulch.

Juniper Addition Park:

- Staff directed representatives from Veridian to re-establish erosion and address planting that were damaged over the winter months. Staff will continue to monitor the project to make sure plants and grasses are established through the growing season.

Dog Park:

- A porta-potty was delivered to the dog park. We will monitor the use and effectiveness of the placement.
- Due to the freeze thaw cycles, some of the fence posts were pushed up. Crew members have been dispatched multiple times to drive down the fence posts. We will continue to monitor this situation and repair as necessary.

Bocce Ball Courts:

- The overhead tarps have been re-installed.
- The water has been turned on.
- A badly damaged section of concrete has been replaced.
- Crew members worked with volunteers to deliver and place necessary materials to re-establish the Bocce Ball Courts.

Village of McFarland

Transportation Ad Hoc Committee

Final Close Out

At the beginning of 2015, the Village Board moved to create and ad hoc Transportation Committee. The purpose of the committee was to discuss various transportation items through out the Village. The committee was represented from all Village of McFarland's committees. The committee started meeting in February of 2015 with the last meeting being held on February of 2016. (See attached final minutes from the February, 2016 meeting.)

As the accomplishment of the committee, we recommend the attached Village Map, produced by Town and Country Engineering, and the write up from Vandewalle and Associates be included in the Village's 2016 Comprehensive Plan update.

"This Committee recognized that they could not do all the transportation needs. Therefore, they prioritized the needs and completed the bike and pedestrian path review. Unless directed to do more aspects of transportation, the committee feels they have accomplished the mission and are reporting findings to the Village Board. Therefore, the Ad Hoc Transportation Committee is dissolving as of February 17, 2016."

The committee felt that there were too many items to address in a short time period. As Chair of this Committee along with Committee person Rod Clark and others feel that there should be a committee for transportation needs or assigned those responsibilities to another full time Village Committee.

VANDEWALLE & ASSOCIATES INC.

To: Allan Coville

From: Brian Munson

CC:

Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2016

Re: McFarland Bike Plan: Network Summary

The development of a comprehensive network of bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the Village of McFarland creates community transportation options and quality of life improvements for residents and visitors of the Village. The Transportation Committee, in consultation with Vandewalle & Associates and Town & Country Engineering, completed the Bike/Ped study as part of its charge to encourage system wide discussions on the future transportation network of the Village.

The resulting bicycle pedestrian network represents a guide for discussion of phased connections throughout the Village with a goal of offering a guide for implementation of regional, neighborhood, local, and critical connections on a street by street basis. The resulting network identifies key segments and desired routing needed to facilitate a community wide system. The recommendations for segments anticipate incremental design and construction of these facilities as opportunities arise, rather than a call for immediate reconstruction. Final facility cross sections, sidewalk/terrace configurations, and path segments will require additional study, detailed design, and community discussion on a street segment and block level prior to implementation.

The following systems components were identified in the bicycle pedestrian network:

Priority Sidewalks
Priority Sidewalks represent pedestrian focused connections in response to areas with higher density housing (Paulson Road), commercial destinations (Highway 51), or missing links (Ridge Road). These sidewalk connections seek to increase pedestrian safety, address existing desired travel routes, and encourage walking between compatible uses.

Off-Street Ped Paths
Off-Street Ped Paths are pedestrian only connections that serve as low volume or nature based walking paths. These path segments are anticipated to be non-paved and may consist of mowed paths or gravel/bark mulch surfaces.

120 East Lakeside Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53715 • 608.255.3988 • 608.255.0814 Fax
247 Freshwater Way, Suite 530 • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53204 • 414.988.8631
www.vandewalle.com

On-Street Signed Routes

On-Street Signed Routes are utilized on low volume streets that connect to neighborhoods or other destinations. While a majority of the neighborhood streets are appropriate for bicycling, these routes are signed to encourage concentration of bicycle use within these otherwise safe cycling conditions, with a goal reinforcing the "safety in numbers" presence of on-street cyclists.

On-Street Bike Lanes

On-Street Bike Lanes utilize on-street pavement markings to reinforce key connections and routes through the City. Through the creation of dedication space, these facilities offer cyclists safe travel space within these higher volume roads, create visual cues for cyclist routes through the Village, and offer traffic calming by clearly delineating travel space for cars and cyclists, even when not in use.

Off-Street Bike/Ped Paths

Off-Street Bike/Ped Paths represent the highest level of pedestrian and bicycle safety through the creation of separated facilities. Adaptable to a broad range of user groups, skill levels, and fitness levels, these systems build upon the existing paths to create connections throughout the Village and can leverage the County's Regional bicycle network currently planned to connect to the Village.

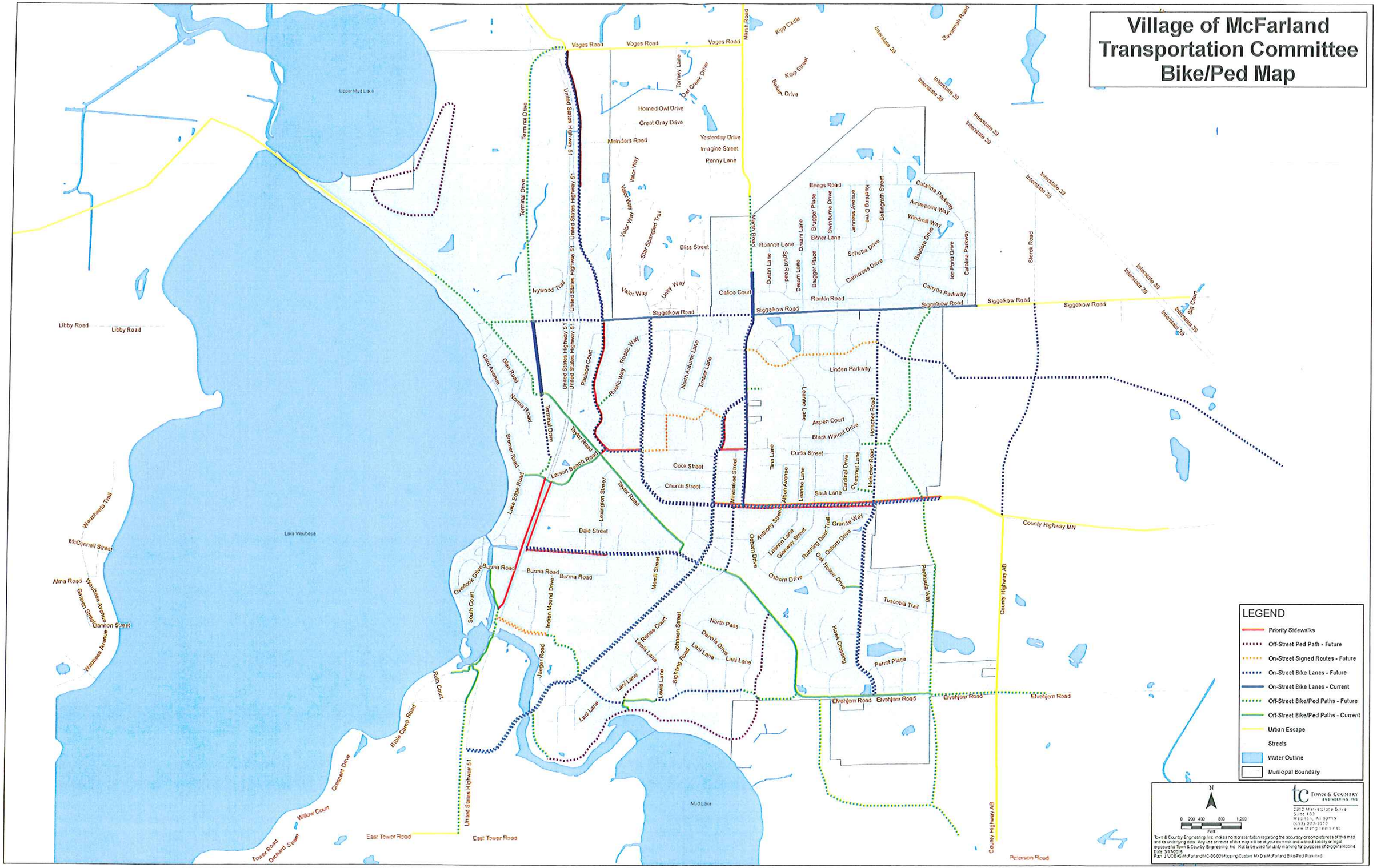
Urban Escape Routes

Urban Escape Routes represent key connections in and out of the Village to the surrounding area with minimal traffic conflicts and are included for reference and future discussion. Future development and street reconstruction projects should include discussions on bicycle accommodations or potential adverse impacts as part of the review of projects.

Implementation of the network will be determined by a combination of project timing and funding opportunities. This plan will help guide discussions on projects as well as spark regional conversations about opportunities to connect the Village to the surrounding region, County park lands, and state parks. Further studies of specific bicycle pedestrian facilities and funding opportunities can build upon the concepts contained herein and should be integrated into the pending Comprehensive Plan Update or future Bicycle Pedestrian Planning initiatives.

Final 2-18-16 Changes

Village of McFarland Transportation Committee Bike/Ped Map



LEGEND

- Priority Sidewalks
- Off-Street Ped Path - Future
- On-Street Signed Routes - Future
- On-Street Bike Lanes - Future
- On-Street Bike Lanes - Current
- Off-Street Bike/Ped Paths - Future
- Off-Street Bike/Ped Paths - Current
- Urban Escape
- Streets
- Water Outline
- Municipal Boundary

N

0 200 400 800 1,200

Feet

Town & Country Engineering, Inc. makes no representation regarding the accuracy or completeness of this map and its underlying data. Any use or reuse of this map will be at your own risk and without liability or legal exposure to Town & Country Engineering, Inc. Not to be used for utility marking for purposes of Diggers Hotline.

Date: 3/17/2016

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Village of McFarland

Outdoor Recreation & Open Space Plan

2013-2018

PLAN SUMMARY

2013-2018 Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan

Recreation planning has become an essential element of long-range community planning. Increased leisure time, renewed emphasis on physical fitness, and the need to find relief from the pace of life in urbanizing communities has underlined the need for expanded recreational facilities. Parks also serve a valuable function of providing open space in an increasingly urbanizing environment, provides important habitats for urban wildlife and laboratories for environmental/conservation education. As a community grows and densities increase, parks also function as the focal point for community aesthetics.

An attempt has been made in planning McFarland's parks and conservancy areas to view outdoor recreation facilities as part of a system serving diverse functions for all members of the community. Parks are no longer viewed as a single-use facilities serving only limited groups in a community; rather, there is now an emphasis on providing diverse outdoor recreational opportunities for all ages and social groups. In viewing parks as part of a system, issues such as access, neighborhood aesthetics and multiple uses of environmental resources are all elements of park planning.

Purpose

- Establish goals, objectives and policies to serve as the base for subsequent recreation and conservation planning efforts.
- To remain eligible to participate in federal, state and county recreation/conservation programs by updating this plan every 5 years.

Goals

- To provide permanent open space throughout the Village for outdoor recreation, environmental protection and to encourage the same within neighboring towns.
- To recognize that the natural environment is an integrated unit comprised of interacting land, water and air resources, and to ensure that the health and stability of this resource system are maintained.
-

Primary Objectives

- Provide an adequate supply and maintenance of park, recreation and open space facilities for the enjoyment of all age groups and capabilities of McFarland residents.
- Provide better pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular access to all parks and recreation facilities, including internal linkages between our parks, recreation and conservancy areas.
- Restore and preserve natural areas through continued development and implementation of management plans.
- Explore new and innovative funding methods for outdoor park and recreation facilities. These methods may include public/private partnerships or cost sharing among many governmental agencies.
- Explore ways to better market our parks, conservancies and open spaces to the public through brochures, maps, website, etc.

Key Policies

- To develop a system of open spaces which would be multifunctional in nature, providing storm drainage, neighborhood recreational space and a secondary connection system for pedestrians and bicycles, and linked where possible, with other recreational open space areas/ corridors.
- To recognize the differing nature of open space needs, from locally provided neighborhood parks and communitywide facilities, to county-provided large scale resource areas.
- To encourage the development of parks and open spaces accessible to all residents as well as using open space preservation as a vehicle for protecting the historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage of McFarland.
- To provide outdoor recreation facilities for McFarland residents, regardless of age and physical condition, e.g. exercise stations along pedestrian pathways that support maximum individual and family health and fitness.
- When feasible, promote the development of shared park facilities by coordinating efforts of the Village, School District, State, County and Townships.
- Support efforts to build or expand indoor community facilities, (e.g. community center, senior center, splash pad) to serve residents of all ages for meetings, recreation activities and social events.

Analysis of Existing Facilities

The Village currently provides 16.8 acres of active/passive park and open space facilities per 1,000 persons; which, is greater than the 6.25 – 10.5 acres per 1,000 persons recommended by the Natural Recreation and Park Association. However, with regard to specific park types, the Village falls short of meeting the standard for mini-parks with .23 acre per 1,000 persons. The standard range is .25 - .5 acres per 1,000 persons.

With an expected Village population of 10,258 persons by 2025, the Village would require an additional 41 acres of active and passive parkland/open space if we strictly adhere to National Recreation and Park Standards. It should be noted, the Village uses these Standards only as a guideline; while, continuing to assess our unique recreational needs to determine the focus of our future.

Key Recommendations

- Implement the management plans for Marshwoods Conservancy, Grandview Conservancy Area, Legion Memorial Park, Taylor Road Conservancy, and Indian Mound Conservancy.
- Update the Master Plan for John Urso Community Park which includes the Schuetz property.
- Continue to work with County, DNR and Rail Commission to develop a trail adjacent to the railroad bridge that crosses Upper Mud Lake and Lake Waubesa connecting to Lake Farm Centennial State Park.
- Improvements to existing parks or development of new parks should include features to help make them accessible to the disabled.

Appendices

- 2012 Parks and Recreation Survey Results
- McDaniel Park and Brandt Park Master Plan
- Urso Community Park Master Plan
- Public Facilities Needs Assessment for Park Improvements
- Conservancy Management Plans
- Indian Mound Policy

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND

OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

Adopted December 9, 2013

Prepared by McFarland Parks and Recreation Committee and
the Natural Resources Committee

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Village Board:
Brad Czebotar, President
Aaron Babcock
Mary Pat Lytle
Jerry Adrian
Brian Utter
Tim Utter
Scott Gletty - Syoen

Parks and Recreation Committee:
Aaron Babcock, Chair
Chuck Basford
John Feldner
Scott Gletty-Syoen
Kathryn Lyons
Judy Sauer
Cliff White
Allan Zeller

Natural Resources Committee:
Brian Utter, Chair
Scott Gletty-Syoen
Pat Babcock
Kate Barrett
Dan Kolk
Stan Nichols
Chuck Rolfsmeyer
Rick Ruecking
Greg Smith
Darrel Waldera
Cliff White
Allan Zeller

Plan Commission:
Brad Czebotar, Chair
Robert Fasick
Cathy Kirby
Kate Barrett
Steve Jackson
Aaron Babcock
Jeff Sorenson

Village Staff:
Pauline Boness, Community Development Director
Steve Hoeft, Assistant Director Public Works/Parks Manager
Karen Knoll, Community Development Clerk II

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INTRODUCTION

Recreation planning has become an essential element of long-range community planning. Increased leisure time, renewed emphasis on physical fitness, and the need to find relief from the pace of life in urbanizing communities has underlined the need for expanded recreational facilities. Parks also serve a valuable function of providing open space in an increasingly urbanizing environment creating important habitats for urban wildlife and laboratories for environmental/conservation education. As a community grows and densities increase, parks also function as the focal point for community aesthetics.

An attempt has been made in planning McFarland's parks and conservancy areas to view outdoor recreation facilities as part of a system serving diverse needs for all members of the community. Parks are no longer viewed as single-use facilities serving only limited groups in a community; rather, there is now, an emphasis on providing diverse outdoor recreational opportunities for all ages and social groups. In viewing parks as part of a system, such issues as access, neighborhood aesthetics and multiple uses of environmental resources become elements of park planning.

As McFarland continues to grow, additional park areas must be acquired and developed. The McFarland Outdoor Recreation Plan provides guidance for the expansion and development in a fiscally responsible manner of McFarland's outdoor recreation facilities. Updates to this document occur every five years in order to remain eligible for financial assistance from federal, state, and county recreation and conservation programs.

The Plan begins with a listing of objectives and policies; followed by a set of definitions and a discussion of criteria used to evaluate the adequacy of park system standards. "Demographics" places park planning within the context of community development population trends and projections. The next section inventories existing park facilities and school recreation areas, followed by an analysis our outdoor recreation needs. The final section proposes acquisitions and sets forth recommendations and a capital improvement schedule.

Public Participation

The Village of McFarland conducted a Survey of Parks in 2012. The survey was available in paper form and on-line through links published in the Village newsletter, website, and in the local newspaper. The survey was open from the April 3rd election until June 30th and elicited 552 returned surveys. A similar survey in 2007 had 105 forms returned. Results from the 2012 survey are incorporated into the general recommendations where applicable:

A. Findings from the August 2012 Village of McFarland parks and recreation survey (see Appendix A) were incorporated in the Plan.

   1. The majority of survey respondents were satisfied with the physical condition of parks and recreation facilities. However, the greatest dissatisfaction resulted from the condition and number of restrooms. Also mentioned are the lack of furnishings e.g., picnic tables, benches, and water fountains.

   2. Of the 552 respondents, the highest priorities for improvements were identified as follows:

      a. Expanding pedestrian and bicycle trail systems,

b. Expand and improve our natural resources based parks,
c. Explore the addition or development of a splash pad or water-based park for the youth of McFarland, and
d. Explore the development of a community/senior center.

3. Walking, bicycling, hiking, picnicking, gardening, swimming, fishing, and sledding/tobogganing were identified as the most popular recreational activities.

4. Repair of our existing hockey rink at Lewis Park.

An overwhelming number of respondents support donations, raising fees or fundraising as a means of financial support.

B. A public hearing was held on October 17, 2013 to hear comments regarding the contents of this plan.

RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

The first step in the recreation and open space planning process is to establish goals, objectives, and policies that serve as the base for all subsequent planning efforts. The term goals, objectives, and policies are frequently used interchangeably even though each has its own distinct definition. It is; therefore, appropriate to define each of these terms to eliminate confusion about their meaning. *Goals are general in nature and represent conditions which are striven for but which may not be fully attainable.* An example of a goal is "clean air and water". *Objectives are more specific and are usually attainable.* For example, an objective might be "construction of three new parks in the community during the year". *Policies are rules or courses of action used to ensure plan implementation.* An example of a policy would be "all public recreation facilities shall be accessible to the handicapped".

Goals:

- To provide permanent open space throughout the Village for outdoor recreation, environmental protection and to encourage the same within neighboring towns.

- Evaluate proposed land to be dedicated for park and open space purposes as new subdivisions develop for contributions to the quality as well as to the quantity of the Village's park and open space system.

- To recognize that the natural environment is an integrated unit comprised of interacting land, water, and air resources, and to ensure that the health and stability of these resource systems are maintained.

- To regard all land as an irreplaceable resource, and to ensure that its use does not impair its value for future generations.

Objectives:

An essential element of any long-range planning process is the development of a set of objectives acceptable to McFarland.

- Provide an adequate supply and maintenance of park, recreation and open space facilities for the enjoyment of all age groups and capabilities of McFarland residents.
- Provide ongoing safe accessible playground equipment and scheduled maintenance to ensure safety of its use.
- Provide improved identification signage throughout the system, including trail directional signs.
- Preserve the natural features within the Penitto Creek, Mud Lake and Door Creek watersheds. These features include such areas as wetlands, prairies and woodlands.
- Provide better pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular access to all parks and recreation facilities, including internal linkages between our parks, recreation, and conservancy areas.
- Restore and preserve natural areas through continued development and implementation of management plans.
- Facilitate and participate in linking public lands and trails of various political jurisdictions to McFarland to amplify the accessibility and recreational use of these lands.
- Explore new and innovative funding methods for outdoor park and recreation facilities. These methods may include public/private partnerships or cost sharing among many governmental agencies.
- Explore ways to better market our parks, conservancies and open spaces to the public through brochures, maps, website, etc.

Policies:

These policies encompass those listed in Village of McFarland Comprehensive Plan.

1. To guide the location and design of urban development in order to minimize potential adverse impacts on the quality and quantity of ground and surface waters.
2. To encourage land use patterns and practices which preserve the integrity of the natural water-related system, including the balance between ground and surface waters.
3. To incorporate natural drainage patterns and erosion control measures in the design of urban development.

4. To preserve the role of wetlands and woodlands as essential components of the water-related system as well as valuable wildlife habitat and to restore degraded natural resources where possible.

5. To protect floodplain areas, emphasizing their value to the community as potential focal points of natural beauty and recreation.

6. To develop a system of open spaces which would be multifunctional in nature, providing storm drainage, neighborhood recreational space and a secondary connection system for pedestrians and bicycles, and linked where possible, with other recreational open space areas/corridors.

7. To recognize the differing nature of open space needs, from locally provided neighborhood parks and communitywide facilities, to county-provided larger scale resource areas.

8. To develop a program of designation and acquisition of open space and resource protection areas. Lands should be acquired in advance when the opportunity presents itself, in order to reduce purchase costs and to provide additional features for the guidance in the design and location of subsequent development.

9. To continue use of environmental corridors for preservation of natural resources, including the open space system, as guidance tools for the location and pattern of developed areas.

   Comment: *Environmental corridors include those lands forming continuous, linear systems of natural resource features and/or public open space and recreation lands. Examples of features within an environmental corridor include parks, recreation trails, wooded steep slopes, water drainage parkways, wetlands, and floodplains.*

10. To encourage the development of parks and open spaces accessible to all residents as well as using open space preservation as a vehicle for protecting the historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage of McFarland.

11. To provide outdoor recreation facilities for McFarland residents, regardless of age and physical condition, e.g. exercise stations along pedestrian pathways that support maximum individual and family health and fitness.

12. To prepare master plans for all undeveloped parklands prior to improvements of those parks.

13. Provide opportunities for year-round use of park facilities.

14. When feasible, promote the development of shared park facilities by coordinating efforts of the Village, School District, State, County and Townships.

15. Support efforts to build or expand indoor/outdoor community facilities, (e.g., community center, senior center, splash pad) to serve residents of all ages for meetings, recreation activities, and social events.

This Plan also incorporates the following goals, actions and recommendations of the **Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2011-2016.**

Goal: Assess, understand and adapt to growing recreation tourism demands and preferences.
Actions and Recommendations:

- Understand the recreation and tourism preferences associated with growing market segments.
- Identify existing and emerging strategies to evaluate appropriate levels and types of service for expanding user groups.

Goal: Improve integration of outdoor recreation interests and needs in land use and other relevant planning efforts.
Actions and Recommendations:

- Promote the collaboration of public and private recreation opportunities through integrated management planning.

Goal: Continue to provide and enhance public access to Wisconsin recreational lands and waters.
Actions and Recommendations:

- Continue to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards for accessibility to outdoor recreation facilities.
- Support community-based efforts to increase access to outdoor recreation.
- Promote sustainable recreation facility design construction and maintenance practices.

Goal: Promote outdoor recreation as a means of improving public health among Wisconsinites.
Actions and Recommendations:

- Educate the public about the health benefits of moderate and enjoyable physical activities such as walking, biking, nature study, etc.
- Start a dialogue between public outdoor recreation providers and health agencies to identify other (non-traditional) funding sources for recreational facilities and development.

Goal: Establish great urban parks and community green spaces.
Actions and Recommendations:

- Connect people with urban parks, trails and community green spaces.
- Create and enhance a new generation of safe, clean, accessible, and connected great urban parks, trails and community green spaces.

PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

An important step in the park and open space planning process is to define a set of minimum standards for such facilities. These standards enable a community to determine how well it's existing recreational facilities meets the needs of its current residents, as well as to project future needs. There are typically three sets of standards. The first are gross acreage standards, expressed as population ratios, that is, the minimum number of acres recommended per 1,000 persons. Second, are service area standards, expressed as park service radii which differs by park type. Last are activity related standards, expressed as acres per 1,000 population for a specific activity e.g., one baseball diamond per 3,500 persons. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has developed a set of recommended park and open space standards which can be used by local communities as a general guide in their park and open space planning efforts. While providing guidelines as a resource, the NRPA acknowledges a shift away from reliance on national standards and suggests that they be used only as tools, allowing communities to work within their unique social, economic, and institutional structures in determining the needs of their own community.

The following is a list of various types of park and open space facilities and their recommended standards. Activity standards have been customized for the Village of McFarland based on population and service area using NRPA standards. Generally, the NRPA gross acreage standard is 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed park/open space per 1,000 population.

Totlot: These parks are specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens.

> *Desirable site characteristics*: Within neighborhoods and in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouse development or housing for the elderly.
>
> *Desirable size:* 1 acre or less.
>
> *Acres per 1,000 population*: 0.25 to 0.5 acres.
>
> *Service area:* Less than ¼ mile radius.

Neighborhood Park/Playground: An area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus area, skating, picnicking, wading pools, ball fields, adult areas with benches, shelters and game tables. Trees, open fields and undeveloped natural areas are also desirable components of neighborhood parks.

> *Desirable site characteristics*: Suited for intense development. Easily accessible to the neighborhood population. Geographically centered with safe walking and bike access. May be developed as a school-park facility.
>
> *Desirable size:* 1-5 acres.
>
> *Acres per 1,000 population:* 1 to 2 acres.

Service area: ¼ to ½ mile radius to serve a population of 1,000 to 5,000 persons.

Community Park: An area of diverse uses. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation such as walking, viewing, sitting, picnicking. May be any combination of the above, depending on the site and community need. Desirable facilities in community parks include those listed above in neighborhood parks, along with swimming facilities, picnicking, lighted ball fields and tennis courts, a community center, and adequate off-street parking. It is important that community parks be located on or near major thoroughfares and also be easily accessible by foot. Landscaping and natural areas are desirable in a community park.

Desirable site characteristics: May include natural areas such as water bodies, and areas suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood served.

Desirable size: 5 or more acres with 15 to 40 acres being most common.

Acres per 1,000 population: 5 to 8 acres.

Service area: Several neighborhoods. 1 to 2 mile radius.

Special Use Area: Areas for single-purpose recreational activities such as golf courses, nature centers, marinas, zoos, conservatories, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, downhill ski areas, trails, or areas that preserve, maintain and interpret buildings, sites and objects of archeological significance. Plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards, or parkways also serve as special use areas.

Desirable site characteristics: Within communities.

Desirable size: Variable.

Service area: No applicable standard.

Activity Related Standards

Activity	Standard
Baseball Diamonds/Skating Rinks	1 per 3,500 persons
Softball Diamonds/Soccer Fields	1 per 1,000 persons
Tennis Courts	1 per 1,500 persons
Basketball Courts	1 per 1,000 persons
Swimming Pools	1 per 10,000 persons

DEMOGRAPHICS

The Village of McFarland has a history of steady population growth over the last several decades, outpacing the overall growth rate of Dane County. 2010 Census figures indicate the Village population rose from 6,416 in 2000 to 7,808, or 21.7%. This increase is modest compared to the 80s and 90s. A contributing factor may be the economic slowdown which began in 2007. The Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) estimates a population of 8,686 for the Village in 2015, an 11.2% increase over 2010. During the next 20 years, the population of McFarland is projected to grow faster than the county as a whole, but the rate of growth will be less than growth rates experienced during the 80s and 90s.

Population Trends 1970-2010

Year	Village of McFarland	Increase from prev. census	% increase from prev. census	Dane County	% increase from prev. census
1970	2,386	--	--	290,272	--
1980	3,783	1,397	58.5%	323,545	11.5%
1990	5,232	1,449	38.3%	367,085	13.5%
2000	6,416	1,184	22.6%	426,526	16.2%
2010	7,808	1,392	21.7%	488,073	14.4%

Source: U.S. Census, Wisconsin Department of Administration

Population Projections

Year	V.McFarland Population	Increase since 2010	% increase since 2010	Dane Co. Population	% increase since 2010
2010	7,808			488,073	
2015	8,686	878	11.2%	523,818	7.3%
2020	9,482	1,674	21.4%	559,005	14.5%
2025	10,258	2,450	31.3%	592,917	21.5%
2030	10,995	3,187	40.8%	624,500	27.9%

Source: U.S. Census, Wisconsin Department of Administration 2008 projections

The City of Madison is an employment center for Dane County, with McFarland primarily a suburban community. In 2000, 86.9 percent of the workforce traveled outside of McFarland, to places of employment; while 13.1 percent worked in the Village. Like most suburban communities, McFarland tends to attract families with children. The average household size in McFarland was 2.63 in 2000, dropping to 2.54 in 2010. Following nationwide trends reflecting aging baby boomers and smaller families, household size in the Village is projected to continue to decline over the next several years.

Household Projections					
Year	**V.McFarland Population**	**V.McFarland Households**	**% increase Households Since 2010**	**Pers./HH (Village)**	**Pers./HH (County)**
2000 census	6,416	2,434	--	2.63	2.46
2005 estimate	7,179	2,720	10.5%	2.64	2.44
2010	7,808	3,200		2.54	2.33
2015	8,686	3,405	6.4%		2.30
2020	9,482	3,737	16.7%		2.29
2025	10,258	4,047	26.4%		2.29
2030	10,995	4,356	36.1%		2.28

Source: U.S. Census, Wisconsin Department of Administration

In addition to growing smaller, our population is also aging. In 2010, 27 percent of the population of McFarland was under the age of 18, while 41.5 percent was over the age of forty-five. Our median age was 39.7 in 2010 compared to 37.1 in 2000.

The rural areas immediately surrounding the Village of McFarland contributes to demands on Village parks and its open space system. Growth in surrounding areas impacts McDaniel Park, Brandt Park, Lewis Park, and William McFarland Park, all of which are located near our Village limits or near major traffic arteries.

McFarland is predominantly a community of single-family dwelling units (82% in 2010). However, the proportion of multifamily units in the Village has increased slightly from 15 percent of total housing in 1980 to 18 percent in 2010. As the housing market recovers from the recession, it is questionable whether families will still gravitate towards the single-family market or look to duplex and multi-family units to meet their needs.

Highway AB appears to be an unofficial boundary for near-term Village expansion. Siggelkow Road is the northern boundary for Village growth based on a 20-year boundary agreement with the City of Madison. Growth to the northwest has been predominately for commercial development. The strongest residential growth is still expected to be to the east. Growth to the southwest is limited, by the Villages boundary agreement with the Town of Dunn. Some of these areas beyond the Village limits will make use of McFarland's recreation services.

Village of McFarland Demographics – Census 1990 - 2010						
Category	**Census 1990**	**% of Total**	**Census 2000**	**% of Total**	**Census 2010**	**% of Total**
Population	5,232		6,416		7,808	
Households	1,846		2,434		3,200	
Avg. Household Size	2.83		2.63		2.54	
AGE						
0-4	472	9.0%	412	6.4%	469	6.0%
5-19	1,312	25.1%	1,615	25.2%	1,787	22.9%
20-24	231	4.4%	234	3.6%	284	3.6%
25-44	2,064	39.4%	2,051	32.0%	2,028	26.0%
45-64	818	15.6%	1,595	24.9%	2,438	31.2%
65+	335	6.4%	509	7.9%	802	10.3%
Median Age	31.6		37.1		39.7*	
Per Capita Income	$14,932		$26,625		$35,894*	
Median Household Income	$41,090		$62,969		$73,814*	

Source: U.S. Census *2006 – 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimate

Per capita personal income for the Village of McFarland was $35,894 in 2010 with a median household income of $73,814. Similar data for Dane County unsurprisingly was lower with a per capita income of $32,392 and median income of $60,519.

McFarland School District Enrollment		
Fall 2012 Grade	**School**	**Total**
Early Learning, 4 &5 KG	C. Elvehjem Ctr.	301
1	McFarland Primary	161
2	McFarland Primary	176
3	Waubesa Intermediate	156
4	Waubesa Intermediate	177
5	Waubesa Intermediate	173
6	Indian Mound Middle	155
7	Indian Mound Middle	150
8	Indian Mound Middle	178
9	McFarland High	201
10	McFarland High	179
11	McFarland High	151
12	McFarland High	172
Total		**2330**

Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Virtual Enrollment ± 1,964 students

EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

A comprehensive land use survey was conducted in 1995 and updated in 2001, 2006 and 2012 to inventory existing park areas and recreation facilities and their relationship to residential and planned residential developments. Included in the inventory were municipal and educational recreational areas which contribute to the recreational opportunities (or supply) in the Village.

The following are descriptions of each open space area or park and a summary of its facilities. Using the number to the left of each description, the geographic location of each park and open space can be found on the Existing Park and Open Space Map.

1. **Capitol Springs State Recreation Area Upper Mud Lake Portion of E-Way:** This large (123.6 acres) conservancy area, except for a 12-acre parcel owned by the City of Madison, is owned and managed by the State Department of Natural Resources. This floodplain-wetland complex makes up the eastern edge of the E-Way, a greenbelt across the southern part of Madison urban area.

2. **McDaniel Park, 4806 McDaniel Lane (refer to Master Plan):** This area was acquired by the Village in 1976 and is a community park to complement nearby Brandt Park. Together, the two parks are 13.6 acres in size. McDaniel Park itself is 8.7 acres; of which, the northern portion is wetland intended for conservancy use (7 acres). The southern portion is developed and includes an open picnic shelter, 1 grill, benches, picnic tables, public restrooms, a drinking fountain, public pier, wading beach, sand volley ball court, trail marker and description board – Eagle Scout project Troop 53. Wood play apparatus was removed in 2006 and new replacement playground equipment was installed in 2008.

3. **Brandt Park, 4601 Siggelkow Road:** This community park is heavily used by all age groups. Presently, the park design is cramped and leads to conflicts between the upper and lower softball diamonds. Facilities serving the park include 2 softball fields (upper and lower); both are lit (6 poles each), have cyclone fence backstops and cyclone fencing, 2 sets of bleachers, a score box with a public address system (lower) and a park bench (upper). Other facilities include a new shelter constructed in 2009, restrooms, drinking fountain, kitchen facility, numerous picnic tables, a basket ball court, and 2 backhoes. The park area covers 4.9 acres. A new playground was added in 2010, with fence improvements along Siggelkow Road.

4. **Beckler Street:** - Path, small amount of parking, "Pedestrian access only" sign

5. **Field Avenue:** – Stairs to lake, parking, "Pedestrian access only" sign

6. **Larson Street:** – Poor access, no sign

7. **Lakeview Avenue:** – Bench, limited parking, "Pedestrian access only" sign

8. **Wisconsin Avenue:** – Limited parking, "Pedestrian access only" sign

9. **Bellevue Court:** – Good access, bench, "Pedestrian access only" sign

10. **Siggelkow Road Park, 5002 Valley Drive:** This passive park area was acquired under the provisions of the Village subdivision ordinance. The area (approximately 5.5 acres) has the potential to become a neighborhood park. The western portion of the park is extremely hilly.

Protection and maintenance of the Indian Mounds located on the hilltop should be a priority. An Indian Mound Maintenance Policy was developed and adopted in 2010.

11. **Autumn Grove Park, 5207 Falling Leaves Lane:** This park (1.5 acres) on Falling Leaves Lane serves the north-central neighborhood. It includes 2 tot swings, 2 swings, 2 backhoes, a play module with slides and climbing wall, a sand area, 3-hoop basketball half-court, picnic tables, benches and an open playfield. Wood play apparatus was removed in 2006 and replaced with new equipment in 2007.

12. **William McFarland Park, 4820 Marsh Road:** This partially developed park (20.3 acres) contains 8 soccer fields, a pedestrian/bike path, a skate board facility, and a baseball diamond. An indoor curling facility is located on Village parkland. The McFarland Community Ice Arena is located next to William McFarland Park. A sand box and play area comprised of a climbing structure with slides, 2 spring animals, 2 sand diggers, woodchips, and picnic tables have been installed in the last few years. A high school batting cage and outfield fence were added in 2010, along with a state of the art bocce ball court system that includes 3 shelters, 4 courts, 2 grills, 1 water fountain, and a small maintenance shed.

13. **Waubesa Intermediate School, 5605 Red Oak Trail:** This 24.5-acre neighborhood school provides 18.5 acres for a play area with 2 varsity softball fields with dugouts and concession stand, 4 bleachers, 2 batting cages, 1 shed, 1 soccer/football field with 4 goals, 6 swings, tether ball, one handicap swing, 1 climbing apparatus, 3 hole Frisbee golf and 3 basketball hoops.

14. **Cedar Ridge Park, 5303 Wild Cherry Lane:** This 3.9-acre neighborhood park serves the northeast portion of the Village with a playground of 4 swings, sandbox, slides, climbers, backhoe, small gazebo, picnic tables, walking path, open play area, and soccer practice field.

15. **Ridgeview Totlot, 5323 Black Walnut Drive:** This 0.4-acre play lot serves part of the Ridgeview neighborhood with a playground slide, spring animal, an open play area, and picnic table.

16. **Woodland Estates Park, 5601 Glenway Street:** This neighborhood park (2.4 acres) serves the east-central neighborhood. The park includes a shelter house, an outside grill, a basketball half-court, a play module with slides and climbing wall, bike rack, 3 swings, 1 tot swing, a volleyball court, picnic tables, a bench and an open playfield with backstop. Wood play apparatus was removed in 2006 and replaced with new equipment in 2007

17. **Highland Oaks Park, 5945 Osborn Drive:** This 2.2-acre park provides a park shelter, basketball court, 2 swings, 2 tot swings, 2 benches, sandbox, 2 back hoes, 2 spring animals, play structure with 4 slides, climbing wall, climbing bars, walking path and picnic tables.

18. **Glenway Totlot, 5807 Glenway Street:** This 0.2-acre play lot serves the immediate neighborhood and is owned by a developer. Equipment includes a picnic table, 2 back hoes, 2 spring toys, a slide, 2 swings, and 2 tot swings. The area remains as parkland at the discretion of the developer.

19. **McFarland Community Garden, 5710 Anthony Street:** Property owned by United Church of Christ, leased to the Village, developed and maintained by the Friends of McFarland Parks, a private non-profit 501c (3) organization. Garden to be developed in phases over three years. Consisting of individual planting beds, 4H youth garden, composting area, pumpkin patch, flower beds, shed, adaptive garden, McFarland School District garden. McFarland's first community garden initiative. Could possibly be temporary location depending upon

community response and desire of the property owner to lease the property beyond the initial 3 year period.

20. **Discovery Garden Park, 5920 Milwaukee Street:** Serving as a neighborhood park (.02 acres), this particular area was once owned by McFarland State Bank. It was purchased along with the bank site to be redeveloped. The area is now home to the E.D. Locke Public Library. The park was redeveloped in 2007 and includes 3 play structures, sand box, and a cedar fence.

21. **Arnold Larson Park, 6002 Exchange Street:** This Village redevelopment area (1.4 acres) is located downtown with a gazebo, 8 park benches, and 3 picnic tables. It is the home of the community band's summer performances and could be used as a regional stop for the future development of the Dane County Nine Springs County Trail.

22. **Valley Totlot, 5100 Broadhead Street:** This one-acre greenway on Valley Drive has been filled after installation of storm sewer and developed as a totlot. The play equipment includes 2 tot swings, a play module with slides, a bench and picnic tables. Wood play apparatus was removed in 2006 and replaced with new equipment in 2007.

23. **Taylor Road Conservancy, Taylor Road:** This 5.9-acre hillside conservancy preserves the northeastern slope of the drumlin adjacent to Taylor Road. An Indian mound is located in the area. Limited hiking access is available.

24. **Woodland Commons Conservancy, 5604 Lexington Street:** 5 acres acquired as a result of parkland dedication requirements for Woodland Commons Subdivision. The park is currently used for passive recreation. Two Indian mounds have been identified within the park.

25. **Public Access Site, South Court:** This Village-owned access site located on Lake Waubesa is relatively unimproved and consists of a public right-of-way called South Court, ending at water's edge.

26. **Babcock Conservancy, South Court:** This 16.3 acre Village site located on Lake Waubesa was deeded to the Village in 1986. It is relatively unimproved and consists of natural areas and a public right-of-way called South Court. It provides excellent views of Lake Waubesa and is a popular fishing spot

27. **Babcock County Park, 4214 US Hwy 51:** Babcock Park straddles our southeast border. Named after Stephen Babcock, an internationally known Wisconsin dairy scientist, this 36.4 acre park is owned and operated by Dane County and is of regional significance. It is recognized as a location which provides picnicking, 25 campsites, boat launches and fishing opportunities.

28. **Indian Mound Conservancy, 6400 Exchange Street:** While serving as a specialized recreation area, this park is a wooded hill that includes seven Indian mounds (Indian effigy mound cultural tradition) and a Village water tower site. As well as providing a beautiful view of McFarland and the surrounding area, this is an important historical site. The area is limited to passive recreational uses. There are walking trails, some made of asphalt and some of gravel, that allow a walking tour of the area. No vehicle access is allowed. Acres are classified as conservancy, not as a neighborhood park area. Trail improvements and mound restoration efforts are planned for the forest and mounds. A restoration plan was developed and adopted in 2010.

29. **Thurn Marsh and Conrad Jaeger Conservancy, 6400 Jaeger Road:** Like the Grandview Conservancy Area, Thurn Marsh is a wetland area of approximately 6.2 acres located adjacent to the high school/middle school site. The northwestern edge has a graveled path identified as "Jaeger Hiking and Biking Trail." This trail links Yahara Drive with Highland Drive and Conrad Jaeger Conservancy. This 2-acre conservancy located west of the marsh on the Yahara River is accessible by Jaeger Drive. The site is leased by the DNR to the Village and consists of a paved parking lot, a small boat ramp, and 6 canoe racks.

30. **McFarland High School/Indian Mound Middle School, 5103 Farwell/6330 Exchange Street:** Serving as a community playfield, the school provides a baseball field, 5 bleacher sections located by the baseball field, a storage shed, and an electric scoreboard and lighting system that serves the baseball field. There is a combination football-soccer field with track-and-field-event pits. Surrounding the field is an 8-lane, all weather track, lighting, bleachers for 1,200 persons and a combination press box, concession stand and rest room facility. At the Middle School are youth ball diamonds, basketball courts and swings. About 15 acres of the school's 42 acres are used for playfield activities.

31. **Yahara River Conservancy, 6623 Meredith Way:** This 1.8 acre conservancy area located north of the Yahara River provides pedestrian access to the river and a canoe launch.

32. **Lewis Park, 5012 Highland Drive:** When combined with adjacent Legion Memorial Park, this area serves the southern half of the Village as a 22.2-acre community park. Lewis Park itself provides a volleyball court, one baseball field with backstop, play module, slides and climbing apparatus, benches, picnic tables, 7 swings and 1 tot swing on 6.4 acres. Wooden play equipment was removed in 2006 and replaced with new equipment in 2007.

    Located on the western portion of the park are a heated shelter house with a fireplace inside, public restrooms, an outdoor grill and several picnic tables. The play area includes 4 swings and 2 outdoor skating rinks with lighting.

33. **Legion Memorial Park, 5301/5305 Marshwoods Drive:** This park, like McDaniel Park, serves two functions. The eastern portion consists of wetlands and woodlands. It also has frontage on Mud Lake, where an observation deck is located. The western portion of this 15.8-acre park includes a lit ice-skating rink and an open playfield by Lewis Park's baseball field. The parking area is located at the end of Highland Drive. The eastern conservancy portion of the park can be accessed from Marsh Woods Drive. Legion Memorial Park, together with Lewis Park (adjacent), serves as a combined community park for the southern half of McFarland.

34. **Marsh Woods Conservancy, 5301/5305 Marshwoods Drive:** This park is a specialized recreation area located on Lower Mud Lake and is predominately a wetland area of 19.2 acres, classified as conservancy use. The wetland area should be used strictly as a conservancy area, and is accessible through Legion Memorial Park. The area could best be used for educational purposes. A nature trail constructed of wood chips with benches and informational signage has been completed by volunteer youth groups. Restoration efforts, including formal restoration, began in 2010.

35. **McFarland Primary School and Conrad Elvehjem Early Learning Center, 6009/6013 Johnson Street:** Serving as a neighborhood playground, this outdoor recreation area serves both of these schools. It provides playground apparatus (12 various climbing apparatus, 2 slides), 3 basketball courts, 2 lower basketball standards, an asphalt play area with striping for various games, 1 softball field (grass infield) with backstop, and a large grassy open area that

also has one set of soccer goal posts. Eight tennis courts were built in 1998. Four courts have lights. The area covers 13.2 acres with 6 acres for recreation.

A portion of the property is owned by the Village, with the school district holding a 50-year lease, was developed in 2012 for new school parking.

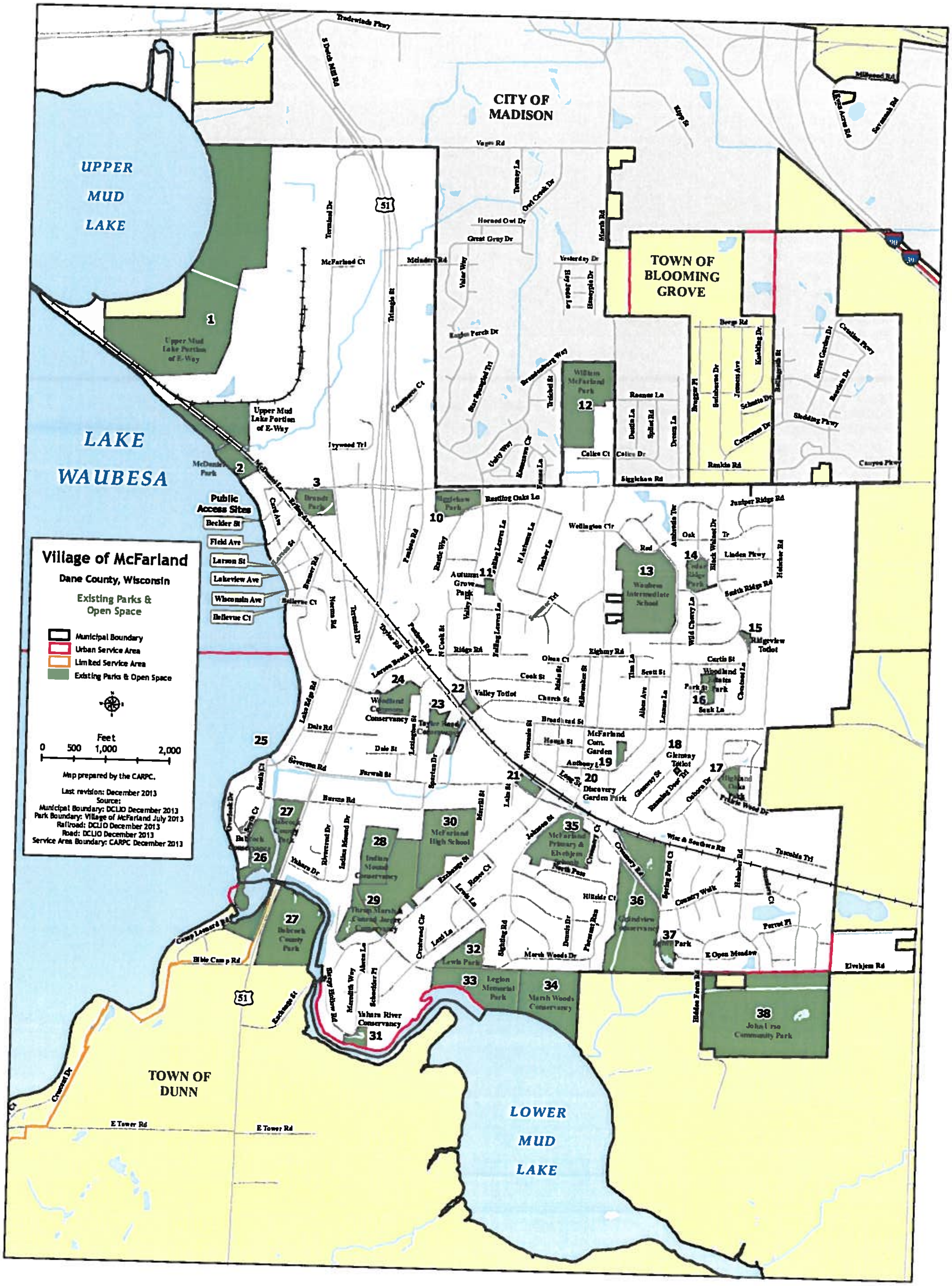
36. **Grandview Conservancy, 5602 Creamery Road:** This specialized area was acquired in 1984. The southern 25.6 acres were received by dedication and the northern 7 acres by purchase. A small part of the conservancy area south of Creamery Road could be improved for passive recreation purposes.

37. **Egner Park, 5703 Bird Song Court:** This neighborhood park (2.3 acres) serves the southeast side of the Village. It is developed with a shelter house, well house included, picnic tables, a basketball half-court, a children's basketball court, 3 swings, 1 tot swing, 2 tot backhoes, 2 spring toys, modular-climbing unit, and 1 overhead climber.

38. **John Urso Community Park, 6201 Elvehjem Road:** consists of 39.5 acres acquired as part of parkland dedication requirements for Park View Estates and the 18.8 acre Schuetz property acquired in 2008 with state stewardship funds. A Master Plan for passive recreation areas was completed in 2005 and updated in 2009 (see Appendix C). Eight acres were set aside for an off-leash dog exercise area in 2009. Trails were added on the western portion in 2011.

The following parks are identified by official park signs:

William McFarland; Conrad Jaeger Trail; McDaniel Park; Brandt Park; Woodland Estates Park; Lewis Park; Egner Park; Arnold Larson Park, Cedar Ridge Park, Urso Park, and Highland Oaks Park.


Village of McFarland
Dane County, Wisconsin
Existing Parks & Open Space
Municipal Boundary
Urban Service Area
Limited Service Area
Existing Parks & Open Space
Feet
0 500 1,000 2,000
Map prepared by the CARPC.
Last revision: December 2013
Source:
Municipal Boundary: DCLIO December 2013
Park Boundary: Village of McFarland July 2013
Railroad: DCLIO December 2013
Road: DCLIO December 2013
Service Area Boundary: CARPC December 2013
UPPER MUD LAKE
LAKE WAUBESA
LOWER MUD LAKE
CITY OF MADISON
TOWN OF BLOOMING GROVE
TOWN OF DUNN
Public Access Sites
Beckler St
Field Ave
Larson St
Lakeview Ave
Wisconsin Ave
Bellevue Ct
1
Upper Mud Lake Portion of E-Way
Upper Mud Lake Portion of E-Way
2
3
10
11
12
William McFarland Park
13
Waubesa Intermediate School
14
15
Ridgeview Totlot
16
Woodland Estates Park
17
18
Glenway Totlot
19
McFarland Com. Garden
20
Discovery Garden Park
21
22
Valley Totlot
23
24
Woodland Commons Conservancy
25
26
27
Babcock County Park
28
Indian Mound Conservancy
29
30
McFarland High School
31
Yahara River Conservancy
32
Lewis Park
33
Legion Memorial Park
34
Marsh Woods Conservancy
35
McFarland Primary & Elvehjem
36
37
38
John Urso Community Park
Tradewinds Pkwy
Terminal Dr
McFarland Ct
Triangle St
Commerce Ct
Ivywood Trl
Vogel Rd
Horned Owl Dr
Great Gray Dr
Yesterday Dr
Eagles Perch Dr
Berge Rd
Rankin Rd
Siggelkow Rd
Canyon Pkwy
Rustling Oaks Ln
Juniper Ridge Rd
Wellington Cir
Linden Pkwy
Smith Ridge Rd
Ridge Rd
Olson Ct
Elginny Rd
Curtis St
Cook St
Scott St
Church St
Broadhead St
Park St
Sauk Ln
Dale Rd
Dale St
Haugh St
Anthony
Severson Rd
Farwell St
Burma Rd
Yahara Dr
Exchange St
Johnson St
North Pass
Hillside Ct
Country Walk
Tecumseh Trl
Wisc & Southern RR
Spring Pond Ct
Ferret Pl
E Open Meadow
Elvehjem Rd
Hidden Farm Rd
Marsh Woods Dr
Lewis Ln
Crestwood Cir
Camp Leonard Rd
Bible Camp Rd
E Tower Rd
Crescent Dr
Lake Ridge Rd
Taylor Rd
Larsen Beach Rd
Exchange St
Skyline Dr
Siggelkow Rd
Millpond Rd
Savannah Rd
Colics Ct
Indian Mound Dr
51
90
39

ANALYSIS OF EXISTING FACILITIES

The most commonly used method for measuring the adequacy of a community's park and open space system is to determine if the number of people it serves, or has the capacity to serve, the geographic distribution as well as accessibility, meets the Village's desired standards. This analysis begins by assigning a minimum acreage standard to each type of park and to the system as a whole. Table 5 below shows the total acreage of land devoted to each type of park in the Village. The table also breaks down the aggregate acreage per park type into five categories of open space. This breakdown more clearly indicates how much parkland in McFarland is devoted to both active and accessible passive recreational activity and how much is comprised of open space areas which serve specialized recreation purposes or provide environmental and/or aesthetic benefits. *This plan focuses on the 131.2 acres of active and accessible passive public park facilities which are currently provided by the Village (highlighted in the shaded area – Table 5).* The 301.6 acre balance of the Village's 432.8 aggregate acres of parkland (432.8-131.2) is comprised of other open space areas which do not relate to open space provision standards.

TABLE 4: EXISTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL AREA BY FUNCTION AND ACREAGE

Glenway	0.2	Autumn Grove	1.5	Woodland Commons	5.0	Grandview	25.6
Discovery Garden	0.2	Highland Oaks Park	2.2	Brandt	4.9	Indian Mound	8.9
Ridgeview	0.4	Egner	2.3	Lewis	6.4	Legion Mem. (E)	9.2
Valley Greenway	1.0	A. Larson	1.4	Legion Mem.	6.6	Marsh Woods	19.2
Totlots	1.8	Siggelkow Road	5.5	McDaniel	8.7	McDaniel (N)	7.0
Primary & Elvehjem ELC	6.0	Woodland Estates	2.4	Urso	58.3	Thrun Marsh	8.2
Waubesa Intermediate	18.5	Cedar Ridge	3.9	Community	89.9	Taylor Road	5.9
School Playgrounds	24.5	Neighborhood	19.2	W. McFarland	20.3	Yahara River	1.8
		Upper Mud Lake	123.6	McFarland H.S./Ind. Mnd. Sch.	15.0	Babcock Conservancy	16.3
		Wetland/Floodplain	123.6	Babcock Co. Park	36.4	Natural Areas	102.1
				Special Use	71.7		

TABLE 5: TOTAL DEVELOPED ACREAGE OF PARKLAND BY TYPE OF RECREATIONAL USE PER SPECIFIC TYPE OF PARK

Type of Park	Active Recreation Area[1]	Passive Recreation Area[2]	Natural Area[3]	Special Facilities Area[4]	Water, Wetland, Floodplain	Total Park Acreage
PUBLIC PARK FACILITIES						
Totlots	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8
Neighborhood Parks	19.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.2
Community Parks	26.6	63.3	102.1	0.0	123.6	315.6
Special Use Areas	20.3	0.0	0.0	36.4	0.0	56.7
Total Public Park Facilities	**67.9**	**63.3**	**102.1**	**36.4**	**123.6**	**393.3**
SCHOOL PARK FACILITIES						
Totlots	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neighborhood Parks	24.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.5
Community Parks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Special Use Areas	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.0
Total Public/Private School Parks	**39.5**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**39.5**
Grand Total	**107.4**	**63.3**	**102.1**	**36.4**	**123.6**	**432.8**

[1]Active Recreation Area: playgrounds, athletic fields, etc.
[2]Passive Accessible Area: walking trails, picnic groves, etc. (Urso Park & Woodland Commons Park)
[3]Natural Area: passive, areas for conservation
[4]Special Facilities Area: golf courses, arboretums, scenic over-looks, cemeteries, etc. (Babcock County Park)

Table 6 includes the NRPA recommended acreage standards for each type of park per 1,000 persons and the existing active and accessible passive acreages per park category in McFarland. The information in this table indicates that the Village of McFarland is currently satisfying the recreational needs of its residents in terms of the ratio of *total acreage of active and accessible passive Village recreation parkland to persons.*

Specifically, Table 6 indicates that McFarland currently meets the NRPA standard, of 6.25 to 10.5 acres per 1,000 persons, with an aggregate 131.2 useable acres for recreational activity which breaks down to 16.8 acres per 1,000 persons. In terms of the provisions of specific park types, the Village falls just short of the NRPA suggested range for mini-parks, at 1.8 acres, and exceeds the ranges for neighborhood and community parks. The Village provides 2.6 acres per 1,000 persons of land for active and accessible passive recreation activities in special use areas, for which there is no specified NRPA standard.

When recreational facilities belonging to the School District are included with Public Park Facilities, the community has a total of 170.7 acres of park and open space land in active and accessible passive use. This breaks down to 21.8 acres per 1,000 persons, higher than the Dane County gross acreage standard of 15 acres per 1,000 persons. However, these school facilities serve a larger geographic area and population than just the Village-proper and are not under the control of the Village park system.

TABLE 6: ACTIVE AND PASSIVE ACCESSIBLE ACRES IN PUBLIC PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES – 2012

Type of Park	NRPA Standards	Public Park Facilities		School Facilities		Total Park and School
	Acres/1,000 persons	Total Acres	Acres per 1,000 persons[1]	Total Acres	Acres per 1,000 persons[1]	Acres per 1,000 persons[1]
Mini-park	0.25 - 0.5	1.8	0.23	0.0	0.0	0.23
Neighborhood Park	1 - 2	19.2	2.5	24.5	3.1	5.6
Community Park	5 - 8	89.9	11.5	0.0	0.0	11.5
Special Use Area[2]	Local standard	20.3	2.6	15.0	1.9	4.5
Total	6.25 - 10.5	131.2	16.83	39.5	5.0	21.83

[1]2010 population estimate 7,808 U.S. Census
[2].Does not include Babcock County Park

As the Village population increases, deficiencies will be ongoing especially with park types where we are currently falling behind with meeting the acre per 1,000 persons standards e.g., mini-parks. As our community grows we must continually reassess our park and open space needs.

Park and Open Space Needs Assessment

The future needs assessment is a critical component of the Outdoor Recreation Plan. This analysis is included in part, to assist the Village with planning and budgeting for the development of future parks. Overall, future recreational needs were determined by applying the recommended minimum acreage standards to a reasonable Village population for the year 2025. By examining how well the Village meets activity related standards as well as the location of existing facilities serving the Village's population, recommendations for future improvements can be developed.

Gross Acreage Requirements

The 2001 Outdoor Recreation Plan recommended the rate of ten (10) acres of parkland and open space per 1,000 persons be raised to more closely parallel the fifteen (15) acres per 1,000 persons used by Dane County. Since 2001, the Village has succeeded in increasing its acreage per thousand acre standard to 16.8. By the year 2025, the Village population is projected to increase by 10,258 persons. Excluding school facilities, the Village would require a total of 172.2 (10.25 x 16.8) acres of active and accessible passive parkland/open space land or an additional (172.2 – 131.2) 41 acres by 2025 to maintain the current Village standard.

Activity Related Standards

TABLE 7: ACTIVITY RELATED STANDARDS

Activity	Standard No./Persons	Minimum Requirements[2]	Current Facilities	Future Needs (2025)
Baseball Diamonds	3,500	3	2	1
Skating Rinks[1]	3,500	3	3	1
Softball Diamonds	1,000	9	10	0
Soccer Fields	1,000	9	8	1
Tennis Courts	1,500	6	8	0
Basketball Courts[2]	1,000	9	11	0
Swimming Pools[3]	10,000	1	1	1

[1]Includes winter rink at Lewis Park
[2]This is a locally adopted standard
[3]McFarland High School indoor pool is open to the public.

Table 7 indicates the number of activity related facilities has a few deficiencies. Mixed into this analysis should be distribution factors, including the need for an outdoor water facility.

Locations of park and open space facilities in relation to Village residents are also an important indicator of how well existing facilities meet community needs. Whereas community parks serve the entire Village, other parks have a more defined service area. For example, totlots have a service area of 1/4 mile and neighborhood parks 1/2 mile. Service area recommendations do not consider barriers such as major roads e.g., Farwell Street, Broadhead Street, Holscher Road, etc. Access barriers must be considered when determining service distances for parks and planning linkages using pedestrian/bike paths.

Park Distribution and Access

When adding to McFarland's Park and Trail System consideration should be given to the following:

- Newer subdivisions on the eastern edge of the Village are generally well served by neighborhood parks. Totlots, however, are in shorter supply. With trends towards smaller residential lot sizes or concentrations of multi-family housing, land becomes a premium. As a result, park distribution is increasingly important. New subdivisions should be scrutinized for park and open space needs relating to park distribution of totlots and smaller neighborhood parks.

- Many neighborhoods lack sidewalks or pathways for safe pedestrian access to park facilities particularly along heavily traveled streets and should be improved.

- Future trail systems should take the form of bike, nature, jogging, walking or multi-purpose systems. Links to existing systems are important if we are to achieve an inter-connected system.

- While the number of tennis courts appears sufficient (see Table 7), all eight courts are clustered in one location. Additional courts should be dispersed throughout the Village.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations to improve recreation programs in the Village of McFarland are based on projected growth rates and deficiencies identified in preceding sections. Recommendations encompass not only parkland acquisition, development projects and the provision of diversified recreational opportunities, but also relate to administration, funding, and land use.

Most of the recommendations are based on the assumption that McFarland will continue its moderate rate of growth and that park and recreational facilities planning should be geared toward serving a population with growing recreational needs. However, the timing of park acquisitions and development should coincide with the actual demand for growing recreational needs. The highest priority should be placed on expanding and improving parks and recreation areas to meet a growing desire for recreational outlets.

General Recommendations

1. **Village and school officials responsible for recreation in McFarland should place a continued emphasis on the provision of areas and facilities that can support "lifetime" recreational exercise activities.** Falling into this category are activities such as tennis, horseshoes, bicycling, cross-country skiing, skating, walking, running, volleyball, pickle ball, badminton, hiking, bird watching, swimming and bocce ball. Currently, the greatest use of McFarland Parks is for exercise, as demonstrated by responses to the 2012 recreation survey, followed by ecology-based recreation, team sports, and identified family play activities. Too often, community and school recreation facilities are oriented towards games important only to younger well-conditioned athletes, rather than, to recreational opportunities for older adults and less athletically inclined men and women. In designing recreation areas, recreational needs of all members of the community especially seniors should be taken into account, as evidenced by the many activities identified in the 2012 recreation survey.

2. **The Village should emphasize developing child-safe pedestrian access to parks and school playgrounds.** Access improvements are especially needed where there are no sidewalks. Street improvement programs along collector streets in the developed portions of the Village should include provisions for better parking, sidewalks/bicycle trails. Where recreation use is heavy, an off street path system may be preferred. Developers of new subdivisions are required to provide sidewalks or pathways. Adequate crossing facilities need to be provided at major road obstacle points during both school and non-school hours. Emphasis will be placed on increasing the use of bicycles within the Village, by making a connection to other communities (Madison, Dunn and Blooming Grove) e.g., completing a trail connection to the Capital Springs State Recreation Area through McDaniel Park; connections into the City of Madison system via the Marsh Road overpass tying into Femrite Drive; and paths recently constructed at the Stoughton Rd. underpass at the Beltline.

3. **More emphasis should be placed on the aesthetic function of parks and management of conservancy areas.** Park conservancy areas provide the largest expanse of green open space in the community, and in some newer sections of the community they are the only areas of mature vegetation. Many types of recreational activities, particularly "lifetime" activities such as hiking, bird watching and wildlife observations, are greatly enhanced by the attractive environments conservancy areas provide. A buffer of trees or tall shrubbery around playfields and open area enhances these types of locations and reduces land use conflicts

between heavily used parks and neighboring residential areas. Trail entrances should be clearly identified.

The Village has begun to actively maintain or manage conservancy areas or to make them more accessible to citizens for passive recreational opportunities. In the past, these areas have suffered from neglect and from the invasion of undesirable species. In recent years, volunteer groups have contributed considerable time in helping eradicate invasives from park and conservancy areas. The Village has adopted and is implementing management plans (see Appendix F) for these sensitive areas.

An active and continuous tree and shrub planting program for our parks should be sustained. The planting program should emphasize native species with a mix of fast-growing and slow-growing species avoiding overdependence on one or two species, which may fall victim to blight or other diseases. Other considerations in developing a planting program are selecting trees for attractiveness, shade, time and expense involved with maintenance, and the adverse effects of trees and shrubs on surface and underground public utilities.

4. **The Village developed and adopted a policy for preservation and maintenance of McFarland's Indian Mounds at 4 different locations in August of 2010** (see Appendix E). This policy addresses a phased approach to the mounds that included hazard tree removal, invasive control of weeds and brush and new seeding requirements. McFarland places a high priority on its mound maintenance, this should continue to be a high priority both in budgeting and work schedules.

5. **The Village should look beyond its present corporate boundaries to the east and south for lands suited to recreational development.** This is of particular importance where annexation is imminent. Larger community parks are proposed in the Village's Comprehensive Plan and the East Side Neighborhood Plan. The location for needed totlots and smaller neighborhood parks should be analyzed for our eastside growth area. Advance planning will give added assurance that lands best suited to satisfying recreational demands or protecting vital recreational resources, will be preserved for public use.

6. **The Village should utilize volunteer labor and donated materials to the greatest extent possible.** Community groups such as the Friends of McFarland Parks, Lions, garden clubs, scouts, and senior citizen clubs often make significant contributions to recreation programs. Utilization of volunteer labor is generally most successful where a single tangible project is involved, such as tree planting, construction of a single facility, or a one-day clean-up and beautification project. Volunteer labor should not be relied on for day-to-day maintenance or routine acquisitions and improvements. The Village has established a volunteer committee to provide a framework or structure for managing the efforts of volunteer groups. Adequate funds for hiring employees should be budgeted so that the community recreation program can succeed regardless of whether or not volunteer labor is available. There were 324 responses to the survey that supported opportunities for volunteer activities.

7. **The Village should develop existing recreation facilities concurrent with park acquisition.** McFarland has developed a land pool for its parks and recreation facilities, but a few of these areas have not been developed to their full capacity. Concurrent with consideration of expansion of the parks and recreation land base, the Village should assure that all existing facilities fulfill the needs of their designated service areas and consider redevelopment if warranted.

8. **The Village should emphasize the development of winter recreation programs and facilities.** In the upper Midwest, winter activities should be an essential part of recreation planning. Future trail development will provide many opportunities for cross-country skiing. The trail system could be tied in with nature trails developed for summer and fall use. Sledding and tobogganing hills that are safe and accessible should be developed. Grooming equipment would be needed to develop and maintain a formal cross country trail system. There were 283 responses to the survey that supported more winter sport activities.

9. **Improvements to existing parks or development of new parks should include features to help make them accessible to the disabled and seniors where feasible.** Features should include ramps, grab rails, traction walkways, special seating, accessible drinking fountains, designated parking and special playground equipment. Currently, many handicapped individuals are restricted in the areas of active and passive recreation. The Village is striving to continue to improve ADA access at each of its parks.

10. **The Village of McFarland should continue use of environmental corridors to preserve and connect open space and direct development to lands suitable for construction as shown on the Proposed Park and Open Space Plan Map.** Environmental corridors include those lands forming continuous, linear systems of natural resource features and/or public open space and recreation lands. Examples of features within environmental corridors include parks, school playgrounds, Indian mounds and other areas of historical importance, drainage ways, wetlands and floodplains. There were 384 responses to the survey that supported environmental corridor recreations such as hiking, bird watching, and geo-caching, while 191 also supporting fishing along McFarland's river and lake shorelines.

11. **Distribution of parks and facilities should be considered in addition to service area and per thousand population standards when determining deficiencies.** Strict adherence to formal park standards may need re-evaluation when analyzing the distribution of parks (e.g., tennis courts) within the Village. Natural and man-made barriers, e.g. lack of sidewalks and crosswalks, can hinder use by adjacent residents. Heavily traveled roads and topography can be obstacles to parks posing accessibility and safety issues.

12. **The Village of McFarland should explore the creation of a stand alone Parks Department that would function as the key department for the physical planning, operations, and maintenance of our parks and conservancy areas.** This potential reorganization would utilize the current parks manager and budgeted staff positions within the Public Works Department, with no additional staff requirements. The Village may also consider park recreation programming as a part of this future department.

    The current operational structure utilizes the Department of Public Works to coordinate all functions relating to Village parks and conservancy areas. A potential reorganization would utilize the current parks manager and budgeted staff positions within the Public Works Department, with no additional staff requirements. The goal for this change would be to provide more time and better service selected areas in the park system that are currently underserved.

13. **The Village should incorporate technology into marketing our park system, e.g. Q.R. codes. In addition explore geocaching opportunities where feasible.**

14. **A community park of approximately 20 acres in size with proposed a location between Siggelkow Road and County Trunk Highway MN East of the proposed extension of CTH AB is identified for acquisition in the Village's Comprehensive Plan.** In addition,

the Village should acquire or otherwise preserve lands adjacent to the E-Way, the wetlands and Yahara River frontage located west and south of Legion Memorial Park, and natural resources areas adjacent to the Lower Mud Lake Resource Protection Area.

15. **Park Signage.** The Village should continue to develop consistent park signage policies through out its entire park and conservancy system. The overall goal of an effective sign policy is to enable Village residents and visitors to locate and enjoy McFarland's vast park system. Signs will also provide information in emergencies and other situations. Aging park signs should be refurbished or replaced based on condition and the need for updated information.

16. **Continue to promote and enhance efforts to keep our designation for Tree City U.S.A. and Bird City Wisconsin.** McFarland achieved Tree City U.S.A. in 2009 and Bird City Wisconsin in 2011. Volunteers are active in promoting Bird City through multiple events through out the season including IMBD (International Migratory Bird Day) held each spring. Residents and visitors have the opportunity to learn about habitat, bird identification along with hands on events for kids. A program established by the Arbor Day Foundation, Tree City U.S.A. provides the opportunity to educate people who care about their community, the value of tree resources, the importance of sustainable tree management and engaging the citizenry in advancing tree planting and care across the urban forest. McFarland should continue to build and promote both of these green initiatives.

Acquisition Recommendations

Acquisition recommendations are located on the Proposed Park and Open Space Plan Map. Those areas shaded in brown are identified for future park and open space as depicted in the 2006 Village of McFarland Comprehensive Plan (see Appendix E); and the 2008 East Side Neighborhood Growth Area Plan (see Appendix F) are carried over from the previous Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan. Among the proposed sites is a parcel located at Broadhead Street and Holscher Road owned by the McFarland School District. It is identified here for possible acquisition for park and open space purposes in the event the property is not developed by the School District.

The Village finalized acquisition of the Schuetz property in 2008, encompassing nearly 19 acres of land located south of Elvehjem Road and east of Hidden Farm Road. When combined with Urso Park to the east, both parcels have the potential to serve as a community park, to preserve significant natural resource areas, to provide linkages to surrounding publicly-owned lands, and to extend an important environmental and open space corridor located on the edge of urban development.

Specific Development Recommendations

1. **Capital Springs State Recreation Area Upper Mud Lake Portion of E-way** – includes the eastern half of the Nine Springs E-Way from Fish Hatchery Road to Upper Mud Lake.
   a. Work with staff from Dane County Parks to develop a County parking area and access way for users of Upper Mud Lake
   b. Continue to work with County, DNR and Rail Commission to develop a trail adjacent to the railroad bridge that crosses Upper Mud Lake and Lake Waubesa connecting to Lake Farm Centennial State Park

2. **McDaniel Park, 4806 McDaniel Lane** – Continue implementation of Master Plan (see Appendix B)
   a. Expand the existing parking lot
   b. Implement plans to develop a future trail connection to the Capital Springs State Recreation Area. Increase establishment of native plant species along trail corridor
   c. Install a multi-use path
   d. Develop additional picnic areas
   e. Increase woodland buffers with additional tree plantings
   f. Construct second shelter/storage building
   g. Add larger outdoor grills, informational kiosks, horse shoe pits, and trash cans
   h. Maintain pier
   i. Replace and add trees

3. **Brandt Park, 4601 Siggelkow Road**
   a. Continue to add trees to filter setting sun
   b. Update ball field lighting, update ball field fencing, add 2-5 year age-appropriate playground equipment, and underground utilities
   c. Supply internet access
   d. Explore additional parking
   e. Acquire the adjacent house on the Siggelkow Road for added parking

4. **Beckler Street** - Path, small amount of parking, "Pedestrian access only" sign

5. **Field Avenue** – Stairs to lake, parking. "Pedestrian access only" sign

6. **Larson Street** – Poor access, no sign

7. **Lakeview Avenue** – Bench, limited parking, "Pedestrian access only" sign

8. **Wisconsin Avenue** – Limited parking, "Pedestrian access only" sign

9. **Bellevue Court** – Good access, bench, picnic table, "Pedestrian access only" sign

10. **Siggelkow Road Park, 5002 Valley Drive**
    a. Provide plan for development as a passive area
    b. Landscape the flat section: garden areas with corner entryway emphasis
    c. Develop hiking trails through the wooded sections with benches
    d. Implement Indian Mound Policy for this park
    e. Add community sign
    f. Explore the idea of establishing a community garden and soccer field
    g. Add park benches and kiosk
    h. Add disc golf course

11. **Autumn Grove Park, 5207 Falling Leaves Lane**
    a. Add park benches and trees
    b. Add main park sign
    c. Add informational kiosk

12. **William McFarland Park, 4820 Marsh Road**
    a. Maintain rain garden
    b. Add two water fountains

c. Explore the development of a joint concession/storage facility between the soccer association, the 4 Lakes Bocce Ball Association, and baseball boosters
d. Improve or relocate skate park facility
e. Add benches and trash receptacles
f. Add informational kiosks
g. Replace ash species trees, landscaping and screening
h. Improve pedestrian access with sidewalk and crosswalk
i. Add pickle ball court
j. Create and implement a field maintenance program
k. Improve condition of parking lot
l. Explore relocation of the skate park

13. **Waubesa Intermediate School, 5605 Red Oak Trail**
    a. Continue cooperation between Village and School District to develop or improve sports fields and play area

14. **Cedar Ridge Park, 5303 Wild Cherry Lane**
    a. Continue to implement park master plan
    b. Improve and maintain gazebo
    c. Provide park benches
    d. Add additional playground equipment
    e. Add informational kiosk
    f. Explore the addition of restrooms and water fountain
    g. Add ice skating rink

15. **Ridgeview Totlot, 5323 Black Walnut Drive**
    a. Maintain
    b. Install trees near park bench and play area
    c. Add park sign
    d. Explore the addition of a water fountain
    e. Add informational sign

16. **Woodland Estates Park, 5601 Glenway Street**
    a. Look at the possibility of establishing a youth soccer practice field
    b. Replace ash species trees, shrubbery and screening
    c. Add informational kiosk, and water fountain
    d. Reconfigure basketball court

17. **Highland Oaks Park, 5945 Osborn Drive**
    a. Plant additional trees and landscaping
    b. Provide informational kiosk
    c. Explore the addition of restrooms and a water fountain

18. **Glenway Totlot, 5807 Glenway Street**
    a. Maintain
    b. Update playground equipment
    c. Add park sign
    d. Add informational sign
    e. Explore addition of a water fountain

19. **McFarland Community Garden, 5710 Anthony Street**
    a. Continue Village support for this effort.

20. **Discovery Garden Park, 5920 Milwaukee Street**
    a. Establish central parks information kiosk
    b. Maintain

21. **Arnold Larson Park, 6002 Exchange Street**
    a. Provide hiking/biking path from Taylor Road to Main Street which connects to the Lower Yahara River Trail.
    b. Add informational kiosk
    c. Add water fountain
    d. Explore the addition of restrooms
    e. Explore the addition of ADA parking
    f. Improve parking across the street to the east
    g. Expand power for community band events
    h. Add trees on north side to screen railroad

22. **Valley Totlot, 5100 Broadhead Street**
    a. Maintain
    b. Add signage
    c. Add informational kiosk
    d. Explore the addition of a water fountain

23. **Taylor Road Conservancy, Taylor Road**
    a. Implement a conservancy management plan
    b. Implement the Indian Mound Policy for this park
    c. Prune pine trees and develop sledding hill
    d. Provide informational kiosk
    e. Provide park sign
    f. Develop a forest management plan

24. **Woodland Commons Conservancy, 5604 Lexington Street**
    a. Develop a Master Plan
    b. Implement the Indian Mound Policy for this park
    c. Provide informational kiosk
    d. Provide park sign
    e. Improve easement for better access
    f. Update vegetative management plan
    g. Improve access

25. **Public Access Site, South Court**
    a. Maintain
    b. Add signage
    c. Add informational kiosk

26. **Babcock Conservancy, South Court**
    a. Add park identification sign
    b. Provide informational sign
    c. Provide benches
    d. Develop a management plan

27. **Babcock County Park, 4214 US Hwy 51**
    a. Support County development of trails linking boat ramp to Camp Leonard Road through to Bible Camp Road

28. **Indian Mound Conservancy, 6400 Exchange Street**
    a. Implement the Indian Mound Policy for this park.
    b. Continue to involve the school in any development and maintenance plan.
    c. Update signage at trailhead

29. **Thrun Marsh and Conrad Jaeger Conservancy, 6400 Jaeger Road**
    a. Maintain trails
    b. Add a bench and trees
    c. Maintain storage racks for canoes
    d. Provide maps and kiosk information about area
    e. Add signage

30. **McFarland High School/Indian Mound Middle School, 5103 Farwell/6330 Exchange Street**
    a. Continue cooperation between School District and Village

31. **Yahara River Conservancy, 6623 Meredith Way**
    a. Add informational sign
    b. Add a bench
    c. Develop a management plan

32. **Lewis Park, 5012 Highland Drive**
    a. Provide lighting for hiking/biking path
    b. Refurbish shelter for year-round use
    c. Plant trees by playground structure (shade)
    d. Provide additional benches especially near skating rink
    e. Provide informational kiosk
    f. Partner with the Hockey Association for repairs to the hockey rink
    g. Add skate rink lighting (east)

33. **Legion Memorial Park, 5301/5305 Marshwoods Drive**
    a. Improve hiking/biking path to include boardwalk
    b. Maintain grass walkway and construct boardwalk to Marsh Woods Drive
    c. Implement the Conservancy Management Plan
    d. Add signage
    e. Add informational kiosk
    f. Implement a vegetation management plan for the shoreline

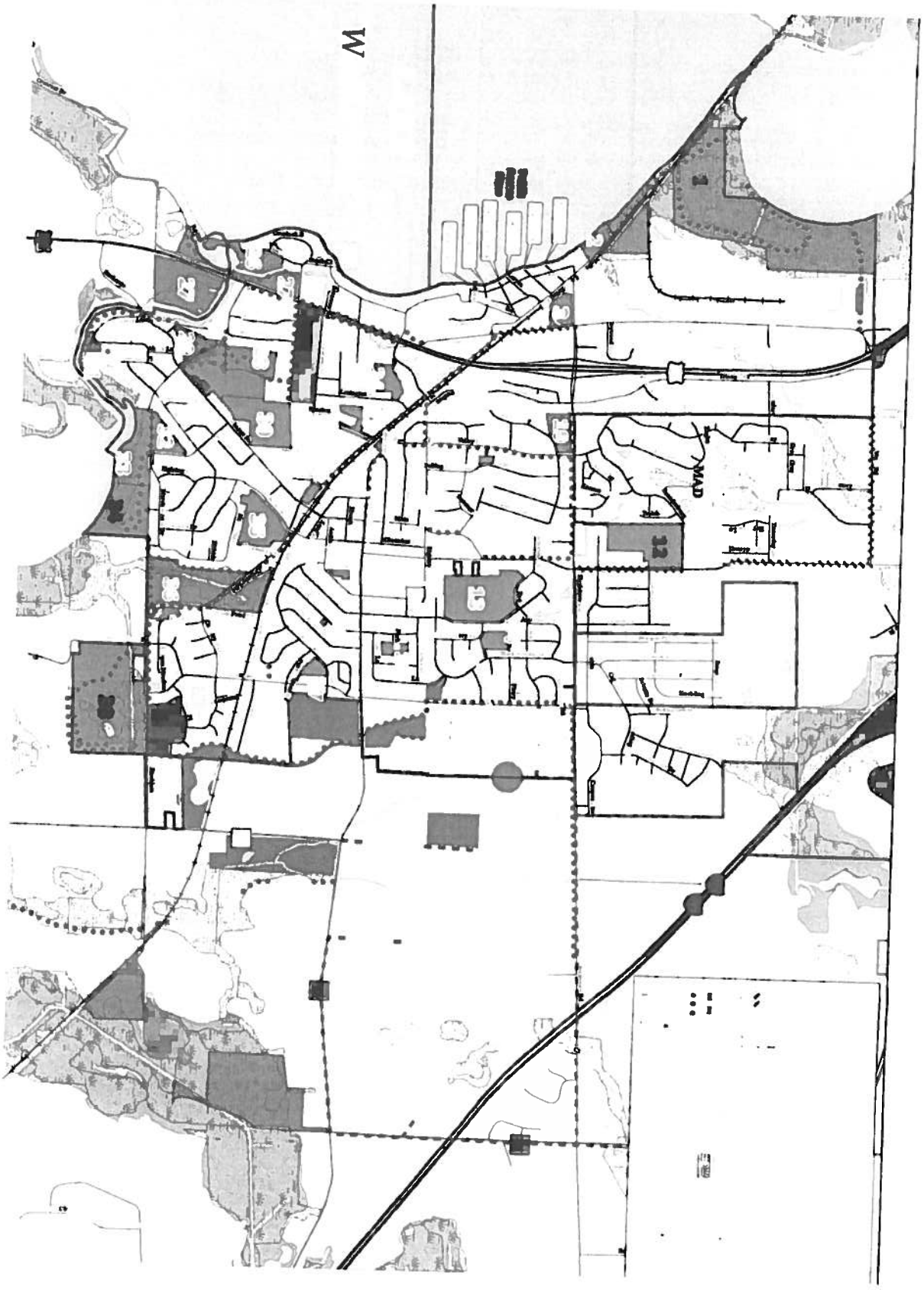
34. **Marsh Woods Conservancy, 5301/5305 Marshwoods Drive**
    a. Maintain hiking trails
    b. Implement the Conservancy Management Plan
    c. Add trail signage
    d. Add park main sign
    e. Improve informational kiosk
    f. Implement a vegetation management plan for the shoreline
    g. Add boardwalk between Marsh Woods Park and Legion Park

35. **McFarland Primary School/Conrad Elvehjem Early Learning Center, 6009/6013 Johnson Street**
    a. Continue cooperation between School District and Village

36. **Grandview Conservancy, 5602 Creamery Road**
    a. Update and implement the Conservancy Management Plan
    b. Develop trail system with signage, with a connection to Marsh Woods Park
    c. Add park sign
    d. Add informational kiosk

37. **Egner Park, 5703 Bird Song Court**
    a. Maintain
    b. Add playground equipment
    c. Add informational kiosk
    d. Add water fountain

38. **John Urso Community Park** (includes Schuetz property), **6201 Elvehjem Road**
    a. Update the Master Plan (see Appendix C)
    b. Ensure Master Plan addresses ADA standards
    c. Expand off-leash dog exercise area
    d. Provide trail signage and improve trail surfaces
    e. Provide informational kiosk
    f. Establish connection to Lower Yahara River Trail
    g. Explore addition of a water fountain
    h. Explore construction of a deck overlook to view Lower Mud Lake and bird trails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FUNDING PARKLAND ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT

Parkland Dedication or Fees-in-Lieu of Parkland Dedication

As part of its subdivision regulations, the Village of McFarland requires developers to dedicate land for public parks. The dedication standard used by the Village is one acre per fifteen dwelling units.

For development projects where the dedication of land serves no benefit to citizens of the Village, a fee-in-lieu payment may be required as an alternative. The amount of this payment is reviewed annually and is based upon development activity in and around the Village to appropriately measure the cost the Village would incur to acquire parkland for recreational purposes.

Prior to a recommendation by the Plan Commission as to whether land dedication or fees-in-lieu is appropriate, development projects are typically referred to the Village's Park and Recreation Committee for review. Recreational needs created by the proposed development are assessed. Opportunities to fulfill needs expressed in the Outdoor Recreation Plan are also taken into consideration.

Park Improvement/Impact Fee

In order to fund improvements (other than land acquisition) for future parks and recreational areas, the Village Board in April 2004 adopted an ordinance establishing a park improvement/impact fee.

Wis. State Statutes 66.0617 establishes the authority for municipalities to charge impact fees. Prior to imposing a new or revised fee, a public facilities needs assessment must be prepared. Such an assessment must include:

- An inventory of existing public facilities including identification of any existing deficiencies.
- Identification of new public facilities or improvements/expansions of existing public facilities that will be required because of land development for which impact fees may be imposed.
- A detailed estimate of the capital costs of providing new or expansion to existing public facilities.

While the fee is commonly referred to as a "Park Impact Fee", the actual assessment covers impact fees for future bike trails, expansion to the public works facility as well as for future park capital costs.

The total Park Facility Improvement Impact Fee per single-family home is $731.47 and for multi-family units is $443.93 per unit. Actual monies are collected at the time a building permit is issued.

A copy of the Public Facilities Needs Assessment for Park Improvements can be found in Appendix D. This document will be updated in 2013.

FIVE-YEAR PARKS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PLAN 2013-2017	
2013	
Park Development	
Tree planting (various parks)	1,000
Park furnishings – picnic tables/grills (various parks)	1,500
Arnold Larson Park Trail Project	10,000
Total for 2013	$12,500
2014	
Park Development	
Playground equipment Brandt Park	30,000
Tree planting & EAB (various parks)	25,000
Park identification signs (various parks)	4,000
Lewis Park master planning	35,000
Urso/Schuetz Park small parking lot & trail development	15,000
Dog park expansion	5,000
Total for 2014	$114,000
2015	
Park Development	
Erling Ave. (Yahara River Bike Trail Extension Project)	195,000
Park identification signs (various parks)	4,000
McDaniel Park bridge	53,110
Lewis Park shelter development	465,000
Urso/Schuetz Park development	10,000
Tree planting & EAB (various parks)	25,000
Playground equipment	5,000
William McFarland Park – (parking lot repairs)	10,000
William McFarland Park (planning shelter)	25,000
Total for 2015	$792,110
2016	
Park Development	
Playground equipment (various parks)	5,000
Brandt Park – fencing & lighting	150,000
William McFarland Park (shelter)	375,000
Tree planting & EAB (various parks)	25,000
Trail development (Yahara River Trail)	164,500
Urso/Schuetz Park development	30,000
Total for 2016	$749,500
2017	
Park Development	
Trail development (Yahara River Trail)	34,100
Tree planting & EAB (various parks)	25,000
McDaniel Park shelter #2 development	40,000
Urso/Schuetz Park	50,000
Total for 2017	$149,100
2018	
Park Development	
Outdoor Recreation Plan	5,000
Total for 2018	5,000

Existing park and recreation amenities

Park (Park Location #)	# Of Acres	Bench	Picnic Table	Shelter	Grill	Rest room	Drinking Fountain	Play Set	Sand Box	Ball Field	Soccer Field	Tennis Court	Basket ball Court	Volley ball Court	Skate Park	Bike Trail	Walking Trail	Boat Launch	Fishing	Camp	Dog Park	Green Space	Bocce Court
Arnold Larson Park (21) 6002 Exchange St	1.4	•	•																				
Autumn Grove Park (11) 5207 Falling Leaves Ln	1.5	•	•					•	•				•									•	
Babcock Conservancy (26) South Court																							
Babcock County Park (27) 4214 US Hwy 51	16.2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•															
Beckler Street (4) Lake Access	N/A															•			•	•			
Bellevue Court (9) Lake Access	N/A	•																	•				
Brandt Park (3) 4601 Siggelkow Rd	4.9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•						•				
Cedar Ridge Park (14) 5303 Wild Cherry Ln	3.9	•	•	•				•	•		•												
Discovery Garden Park (20) 5920 Milwaukee St	0.2	•	•				•	•								•	•						
Egner Park (37) 5703 Bird Song Ct	2.3	•	•	•				•	•				•			•	•						
Field Avenue (5) Lake Access	N/A																						
Glenway Totlot (18) 5807 Glenway St	0.2		•					•	•										•				
Grandview Conservancy (36) 5602 Creamery Rd	32.6															•	•						
Highland Oaks Park (17) 5945 Osborn Dr	2.0	•	•	•				•	•				•			•	•					•	
Indian Mound Conservancy (28) 6400 Exchange St	8.9																•						
Lakeview Avenue (7) Lake Access	N/A																					•	
Larson Street (6) Lake Access	N/A	•																					
Legion Memorial Park/Marsh Woods Conservancy (33/34) 5301/5305 Marshwoods Dr	28.4																		•				
Lewis Park (32) 5012 Highland Dr	6.4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•													
McDaniel Park (2) 4806 McDaniel Ln	8.7	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•		•	•					•	
McFarland Community Garden (19) 5710 Anthony St.		•												•			•	•	•				
McFarland High School/Indian Mound Middle School (30) 5103 Farwell/6330 Exchange St	15.0							•		•	•		•			•	•					•	
McFarland PrimarySchool/Conrad Elvehjem Early Learning Center (35) 6009/6013 Johnson St	6.0	•		•				•		•	•	•	•										
Public Access Site (25) South Court																							
Ridgeview Totlot (15) 5323 Black Walnut Dr	0.4		•																				
Siggelkow Road Park (10) 5002 Valley Dr	5.5							•	•									•					
Taylor Road Conservancy (23) Taylor Road	5.9																						
Thrun Marsh and Conrad Jaeger Conservancy (29) 6400 Jaeger Rd	6.2		•																			•	
Capitol Springs Upper Mud Lake Portion of E-Way (1)	123.6																•		•				
Urso Community Park (Includes Schuetz property) (38) 6201 Elvehjem Rd	38.8																					•	
Valley Totlot (22) 5100 Broadhead St	1.0	•	•					•									•				•	•	
Waubesa Intermediate School (13) 5605 Red Oak Trl	18.5							•		•	•		•										
Wisconsin Avenue (8) Lake Access	N/A																						
Wm. McFarland Park (12) 4820 Marsh Rd	20.3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•			•				
Woodland Commons Conservancy (24) 5604 Lexington St	5.0																					•	
Woodland Estates Park (16) 5601 Glenway St	2.4	•	•	•	•			•		•	•		•	•								•	
Yahara River Conservancy (31) 6623 Meredith Way	1.8																•						

RESOLUTION #11-2013

RESOLUTION 11-2013

MOTION	SECOND
Czebotar	Babcock
ACTION	**DATE**
Adopted	12/9/13
Referred	
Tabled	
Withdrawn	
Defeated	
Published	

INDIVIDUAL VOTING RECORD			
Adrian	Aye	Lytle	Aye
Babcock	Aye	Utter, B.	Aye
Czebotar	Aye	Utter, T.	Nay
Glotty-Sycan	Aye		

VOTING RESULTS	
Motion Carried:	6-1
Motion Defeated:	

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2013-2018 OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

WHEREAS, for over thirty years, the Village of McFarland Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan has provided the foundation for creating active and passive parks that enhance the quality of life in the Village; and

WHEREAS, the 2013-2018 Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan serves as a guide for making future decisions relating to the preservation, development, and expansion of needed passive and active recreation areas in the community; and

WHEREAS, the 2013-2018 Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan is consistent with the Village's Comprehensive Plan and was reviewed and endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Committee, the Natural Resources Committee and the Plan Commission; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the 2013-2018 Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan was held on October 17, 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of McFarland does hereby adopt the 2013-2018 Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan for the Village of McFarland.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Board does hereby request the Department of Natural Resources to continue to extend the Village's eligibility to participate in the Stewardship fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and Recreational Trail Act Programs.

The above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the McFarland Village Board on the 9th day of December, 2013.

APPROVED:

Brad Czebotar, Village President

ATTEST:

Tracey K. Berman, Village Clerk

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