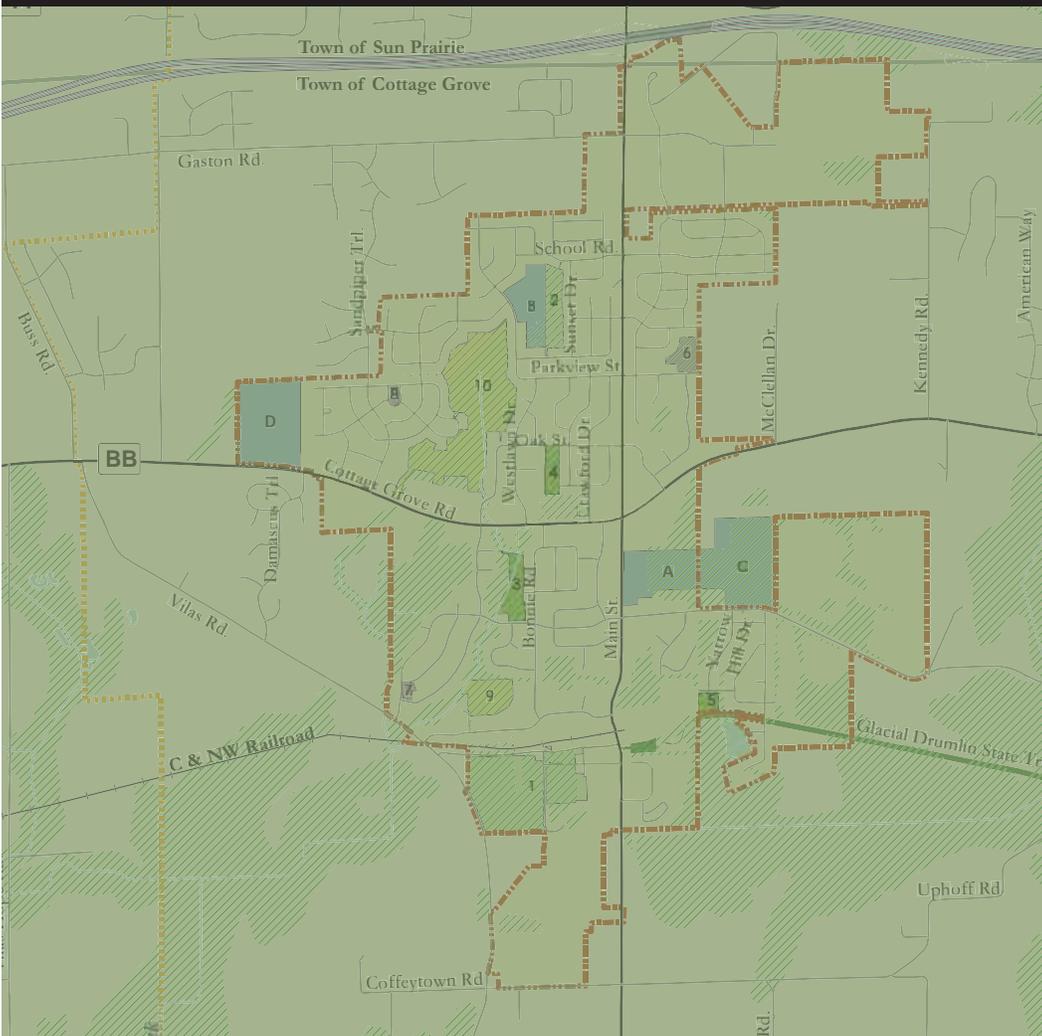




VILLAGE OF COTTAGE GROVE PARK & OPEN SPACE PLAN



ADOPTED
AUGUST 16, 2010



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PLAN PREPARED FOR:

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Cottage Grove, WI 53527

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Adopted August 16, 2010

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I. INTRODUCTION

In communities throughout Wisconsin, the preservation of parkland, open space, and natural resource areas have become key components of high quality living environments. Parks and open space do more than meet the basic human needs for recreation and aesthetics, they also protect and enhance the natural environment and shape the patterns of development in a community. Over the years, the park and open space system in Cottage Grove has been planned and designed to meet the diverse needs of all persons living in the community. The Village has recognized that proper recreation-based planning requires a focus on both the types of facilities needed to meet the needs of the area, as well as the geographic distribution of those facilities in relation to the residents who will use them. This *2009 Park and Open Space Plan* was prepared to further this tradition of park and open space planning in Cottage Grove.

The primary purpose of this *2009 Park and Open Space Plan* is to guide the preservation, acquisition, and development of land for park, outdoor recreation, and related open space uses in Cottage Grove as needed to satisfy the recreational needs of the Village population, and to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base in the community. Although the plan addresses the long-range park and open space needs of the community (through the year 2030), it focuses more directly on recreational development needs over the next five-year period.

Providing outdoor recreation sites and areas for natural resource protection has long been of concern to public officials and residents of Cottage Grove. This *2009 Park and Open Space Plan* is intended to update previous findings and recommendations contained in the Village's 2003 Park and Open Space Plan. This next generation of park and open space planning is meant to proactively plan for future recreational needs for this growing community.

This *Plan* has been prepared in accordance with guidelines that will make it certifiable by the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) and qualify the Village of Cottage Grove for matching grant funds through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON) and the State of Wisconsin Stewardship Fund. The *Park and Open Space Plan* should be updated every five years to ensure that it reflects the current needs of the community and retains its WisDNR certification. The plan has also been prepared as a component of the Village's Comprehensive Plan, under Wisconsin Statutes Section 62.23 and Section 61.35. Furthermore, it will be incorporated as a detailed component of the Village's "Smart Growth" Comprehensive Plan under Wisconsin Statutes 66.1001.

II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. GENERAL REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Village of Cottage Grove is located in eastern Dane County, Wisconsin, situated within the dynamic Madison metropolitan area. The Village is only 15 minutes from downtown Madison and 60 minutes to Milwaukee. The Village is bordered by the Town of Cottage Grove generally to the west, south, and east. The Town of Sun Prairie is located to the north. The Village is situated along the Interstate 94 corridor. The intersection of CTH BB and CTH N is the geographic center of the village.

B. NATURAL RESOURCES

The Village's relationship with its natural surroundings provides a valuable point of reference for this park and open space planning effort. Understanding these natural resources provides a framework for analysis and suggests possible locational advantages for certain park and recreational facilities. The following is a summary of the key environmental features within the Village and its environs.

1. LANDFORMS AND SOILS

Landforms in the area in and around the Village of Cottage Grove are basically glacial drift features. The most notable feature is the collection of drumlins and related hills that are scattered throughout the Planning Area, generally running in a northeasterly-southwesterly direction. The Village is located on the drainage divide between the Yahara River and Koshkonong Creek drainage basins. The highest point in the Planning Area is about 1,015 feet above sea level in the northeast part of the Village and the lowest point is about 850 feet above sea level near the tributary to Koshkonong Creek at the southeast corner of the Planning Area.

According to the Dane County Soil Survey, most of the Planning Area is covered by soils rated as generally unsuited, or poorly suited, for development utilizing septic systems. The Village contains primarily silt loams and loam soils, including the *Batavia*, *Boyer*, *Dodge*, *Griswold*, *Kidder*, *Plano*, *Ringwood* and *Waconia* soil series. This association is characterized by very poorly drained, poorly drained, somewhat poorly drained, and well-drained soils with a silty or loamy subsoil and are underlain by silt loam, sandy loam, or gravelly sandy loam. Most of these soils are suitable for development and have 2% to 12% slopes. Kidder soils are found in steep areas (over 20% slope), which are often drumlins.

Soils within wetland areas and the floodplain at the southeast and western edges of the Village consist of Houghton mucks, Orion silt loam and Sable silty clay loam. These soil types have severe to very severe limitations to development due to high compressibility, very low bearing capacity, seasonal high water table and occasional flooding. Development should generally be prohibited in these areas.

2. WATER BODIES AND DRAINAGE BASINS

The primary surface water bodies in the Planning Area are Koshkonong Creek to the east and Door Creek to the west. The Village does not discharge its municipal wastewater into these water bodies because it is served by the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District. The outfall of MMSD is Badfish Creek located south of the City of Madison.

The northwest parts of the Village lie within the Door Creek drainage basin, which drains southerly into Lake Kegonsa and the Yahara River. The southern and eastern parts of the Village lie in the Koshkonong Creek drainage basin, which drains southeasterly into Lake Koshkonong and the Rock River.

3. WETLANDS

Wetland areas are located along streams and drainageways and in isolated low spots. Most of the significant wetlands in the Cottage Grove area are immediately west and southeast of the Village, associated with tributaries of Door Creek and Koshkonong Creek. The wetlands within the Thaden Natural Area (see Map 1) include the headwaters of Door Creek. There are also two isolated wetland

areas within the Village, west of Forrestone Drive and north of Cottage Grove Road. These wetlands have been identified and mapped by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. These areas are important for aquifer recharge, groundwater and surface water quality improvement, and wildlife habitat. Wetlands are included within Environmental Corridor boundaries, as depicted on all the maps in this *Plan*. However, refer to the WisDNR Wisconsin Wetland Inventory maps and subsequent detailed onsite surveys for official delineation of wetland boundaries.

4. WOODLANDS

The Planning Area contains scattered wooded areas, including the woodlands within Governor Taylor Park. Most of these are located on the steepest slopes of the drumlins, and in lowland woodlands in inter-drumlin wetlands and along stream corridors. The most common species are oak, elm, and maple. The sparsely wooded condition of the remainder of the Planning Area is due to a combination of rich soils, few steep slopes, and residential development activity, which tends to place high value on wooded sites. As such, the remaining woodlands in and around the Village are valuable contributors to the area's character and beauty. The Village protects woodlands through assertive zoning overlay standards.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

Environmental corridors are, in effect, a composite of the most important individual elements of the natural resource base and have immeasurable environmental, ecological, and recreational value. These environmental corridors contain almost all of the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. Protection of environmental corridors from additional intrusion by incompatible land uses, and thereby from degradation and destruction, is an essential planning objective for the preservation of open natural spaces, that the Village continues to prove it is "ahead of the curve" on achieving.

In the Village, the features that define environmental corridors include:

- Floodplains—as designated by the DNR and FEMA.
- Wetlands—as designated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- Shoreland—all areas within 1,000 feet of the ordinary high water mark of navigable lakes, ponds, flowages and within 300 feet of the ordinary high water mark of navigable rivers or streams.
- Drainageways—areas within 75 feet of the ordinary high water mark of a perennial stream and all areas within 50 feet of an intermittent stream or open channel drainageway.
- Woodlands—areas where the combined canopy area of trees cover a minimum of 80 percent of an area of one acre or more.
- Steep slopes—areas that contain a gradient of 12 percent or greater.
- Ridgetops—areas located within 100 feet of, and at higher elevation than, areas deemed steep slopes.
- Other areas of permanently protected open space.

C. POPULATION TRENDS

The Village of Cottage Grove has experienced a significant increase in population in recent years. From 1990 to 2000, the Village's population grew from 1,131 to 4,059, or by about 259 percent (See Figure 1). This compares to a 16 percent growth increase in Dane County and 9.6 percent increase for the State as a whole over this time period. The Village continued to grow through the early 2000s; the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) estimated Cottage Grove's January 1, 2008 population at 5,525. The percent change from 2000 to 2008 is 36.1%, well above the Dane County and State average.

Figure 1: Population Trends

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2008	% Change 2000-2008
Village of Cottage Grove	478	888	1,131	4,059	5,525	36.1%
Dane County	290,272	323,545	367,085	426,526	471,559	10.6%
State of Wisconsin	4,417,821	4,705,642	4,891,769	5,363,675	5,675,156	5.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970-2000

D. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

In 2000, the Village of Cottage Grove had a median age of 31.4 years, which is younger than the Town of Cottage Grove, Dane County, and the State (see Figure 2). In 2000, the Village had 1,301 residents under the age of 18, comprising 32.1 percent of the total population. This proportion of younger residents has increased since the 1990 census, when approximately 30.7 percent of the Village's total population was younger than 18 years. The number of elementary and middle school age kids (ages 5 – 14) reported in 2000 was 732, or 18 percent of the total population, which is higher than the Town of Cottage Grove, County, and the State. According to the 2000 census, there were 243 residents age 65 or older (or 6.0 percent of the population). In 1990, this older age cohort made up 6.3 percent of the total population. This *Plan* includes recommendations for activities and facilities that serve a broad range of age groups.

Figure 2: Demographic Characteristics - 2000

	Village of Cottage Grove	Town of Cottage Grove	Dane County	State of Wisconsin
Median Age	31.4	38.1	33.2	36.0
% ages 5 to 14	18%	17.2%	12.8%	14.6%
% under age 18	32.1%	28.8%	22.6%	25.5%
% over age 65	6.0%	6.3%	9.3%	13.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

E. HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

The average household size in Cottage Grove in 2000 was 2.83 persons per household, a decrease since the 1990 census count of 2.90 persons. As shown in Figure 3, the average household size in the Village of Cottage Grove was comparable to the Town of Cottage Grove and slightly higher than the County and State. Household sizes are trending toward decline nationwide; a factor important to consider when planning for future land use demand and the distribution of housing and recreational facilities in the Village. The Village has a higher proportion of renters than the Town, but is comparable to the County and State.

Figure 3: Household Characteristics

	Village of Cottage Grove	Town of Cottage Grove	Dane County	State of Wisconsin
Total Housing Units	1,453	1,356	180,398	2,321,144
Household Size	2.83	2.87	2.37	2.50
% Occupied	98.2%	98.7%	96.2%	89.8%
% Owner Occupied	68.5%	91.6%	57.6%	68.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

F. REVIEW OF EXISTING PLANS

An important step in the park planning process is an assessment of past planning efforts in the Village. A review of existing plans helps ensure consistency between this plan and the Village's broader goals, objectives, and policies. In addition, a review of related planning efforts from overlapping jurisdictions helps ensure and maximize coordination.

1. A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF COTTAGE GROVE (2003)

The Village Park and Recreation Committee worked with Vandewalle & Associates to prepare the 2003 Park and Open Space Plan. The Plan provided an analysis of the existing park system and made general recommendations for future parkland acquisition and improvements. Specifically, the plan identified the need for an additional 56.9 acres of active and passive parkland in the Village over the next two decades to meet population projections. Specific recommendations were made towards improvements at Fireman's Park, Willow Run Park, and Oakengate Hill and trail extensions on the Glacial Drumlin State Trail in the Village and a connector trail from McCarthy County Park to Glacial Drumlin State Trail.

2. VILLAGE OF COTTAGE GROVE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (2009)

The Village's Comprehensive Plan was first adopted in 2000 in compliance with the 1999 "Smart Growth" legislation and has been regularly updated through an annual amendment process to keep the plan relevant and up to date. The Plan establishes 20-25 year growth areas for the village, provides for residential and non-residential infill development within the current boundaries of the Village, as well as continued revitalization, redevelopment, and infill along existing commercial corridors. Additionally, the plan promotes the creation of a new Village "Downtown," economic development strategies, methods to retain and enhance community character and outlines sustainability initiatives.

3. DANE COUNTY PARKS & OPEN SPACE PLAN (2006)

Dane County's most recent Parks & Open Space Plan was adopted in 2006. The plan makes a number of recommendations that affect the Cottage Grove area:

- McCarthy County Youth and Conservation Park: With the recent acquisition of 40 acres, total acreage for McCarthy County Park is now 208.5 acres. The 2006 plan recommends developing a group campground at the north end of the property, an equestrian group camp, natural playground area at the first parking lot with a small shelter, and acquiring additional lands to the east, north, and west of the park for expansion of trail and wetland restoration projects.
- Blooming Grove Drumlins: The Blooming Grove Drumlin Resource Site is located south of I-94, west of the Village. The plan recommends continuing to acquire acreage with the eventual goal of providing a continuous corridor of public land between I-94 and the Glacial Drumlin State Trail and exploring the possibility of developing a bicycle-pedestrian trail that would link to the Glacial Drumlin State Trail.
- The plan recommends development of four regional off-road bicycle and pedestrian trails:
 - *Georgia O'Keeffe Trail*. Connects Sun Prairie to McCarthy County Park
 - *McCarthy County Park Connector Trail*. Connects McCarthy County Park to the proposed Blooming Grove Drumlin/Door Creek Park Trail



- *Capital City Connector Trail*. Connects the Capital City Trail to the Glacial Drumlin Trail – passing through the Village of Cottage Grove
- *McCarthy County Park to Lake Kegonsa State Park*. Trail Connects McCarthy County Park to Lake Kegonsa State Park travelling through the Village of Cottage Grove.

4. WISCONSIN STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN (2005-2010)

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) examines and assesses current and future recreational needs within the state. To aid in the process of preparing a statewide SCORP, Wisconsin was divided into a group of eight planning regions, each representing a loose collection of natural resource and tourism based assets. The Village of Cottage Grove is located in the area identified as the Southern Gateway Planning Region.

One of the primary purposes of the SCORP is to identify shortfalls in recreation facilities across the state. This identification process relies on both primary data gathering techniques such as surveys, local park and recreation plans, as well as anecdotal comments on recreation user perceptions. In the Southern Gateways Planning Region, the SCORP identifies the following nature-based supply shortages: backcountry/walk-in camping, boat launches (carry-in), natural areas, public water access, hiking trails, and horseback riding trails. The majority of these activities are more applicable to unincorporated areas. The SCORP also identified the following developed recreation supply shortages: boat launches, educational camps, dog parks, ice skating rinks, nature centers, picnic areas, sailboat clubs/rentals, tennis courts and programs, and bicycle trails. Most of these activities are more appropriate for developed areas, like the Village of Cottage Grove.

In addition, several recreation needs are common throughout the State. Common deficiencies within the nature-based category include a shortage of parks, camping, carry-in boat launches, and certain trail types. These elements are, for the most part, provided at a federal, state, or county level of development. Within the developed setting category, local shortages such as basketball courts, ice skating rinks, boat launches, and dog parks are the most common.

As a component of preparing this *Plan*, the Village considered the supply shortages noted through the SCORP, and internally evaluated its current and potential ability to provide the needed components. Many of those deficiency areas identified are more effectively delivered by the State or County park systems. The recommendations provided in Chapter Seven suggest how the Village intends to provide for some of the recreational needs identified in the SCORP.

III. EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

The Village's park and open space system consists of 208.5 total acres of active and passive parkland and special use areas. Of this total, 130.5 acres are under the control of the Village, and 78.0 acres are under the control of the Monona Grove School District. This system includes a full range of developed facilities including community parks, neighborhood parks, mini-parks, and special uses areas located throughout the community. These are shown on Map 1.

The following is a summary of the existing park and recreational facilities in the Village area. A complete list of all facilities within each park is provided in Figure 4. The numbers (in parentheses) after each park name correspond with the numbers on Map 1.

A. DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

1. COMMUNITY PARKS

Fireman's Park (1): This 49.0-acre park is located at the southern end of the Village at the west end of Reynolds Street. The park often functions as a regional facility serving surrounding areas outside the village. Facilities include a baseball field, a ball field, volleyball court, playground equipment, shelters, picnic facilities, and restrooms. The Village has prepared a Master Plan to guide the development of the park. The Village recently acquired 37.0 acres of land west of Fireman's Park and is considering developing a multi-purpose community recreation facility on this site. The Village is currently developing four fields in coordination with long range plans for soccer and rugby fields with the Wisconsin Rugby Club. Long term expansion plans include parking, clubhouse with restrooms, playground, skate park, and pedestrian trails, subject to Village Board approval.

Northlawn Park (2): This 13.0-acre park is located adjacent to Taylor Prairie Elementary School on the north side of the Village. Facilities include softball fields, basketball court, soccer field, tennis courts, playground equipment, a concession stand, picnic shelter, and restrooms.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Community Park (3): This 8.8-acre park is located south of CTH BB and is accessible from Lori Lane. This park often functions as a community facility for picnics and recreational programs. Facilities include ball fields, play fields, a basketball court, ice skating, playground equipment, a shelter, and restrooms.

Governor Taylor Nature Park (4): This 5.0-acre park is located near the center of the Village north of CTH BB. The park is accessible from Oak Street and Woodview Drive. The park is primarily an undeveloped, conservancy park with nature trails. Facilities include picnic area with tables and benches, seating areas, and flower beds.

R.G. Huston Memorial Park (5): This 4.0-acre park is located along the Glacial Drumlin State Trail on the southeast side of the Village near the intersection of Trillium Trail and Yarrow Hill Drive. Facilities include a little



league baseball diamond, a half-basketball court, playground equipment, sand volleyball court, soccer fields, walking trails, a shelter, and restrooms.

3. MINI-PARKS

Willow Run Park (6): This 1.3-acre park is located on the east side of the Village along East Parkview Street. Facilities include playground equipment and a half-basketball court. This park also serves as an overflow area for 100-year flood events.

Strouse Park (7): This 1.2-acre facility is located along Southing Grange. Facilities include playground equipment, basketball court, tetherball, open air gazebo, and open fields.

Dublin Park (8): This 1.3-acre park is located on Dublin Circle in the Northwest part of the Village. Facilities include playground equipment, swing sets, open air gazebo, and open green space.

4. SPECIAL USE AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

Oakengate Hill (9): This 10.3-acre wooded hill is located between Fireman's Park and Community Park. Future facilities may include a walking trail and benches.

Thaden Natural Area (10): This 36.6-acre open space and wetland area is located west of North Parkview Street. Most of the area is intended to remain an undeveloped passive area, with future walking trails and benches.

B. DESCRIPTION OF OTHER LOCAL AND REGIONAL FACILITIES

1. SCHOOL-OWNED FACILITIES

Cottage Grove School (A): This 4.0-acre park facility is located on the east side of CTH N near its intersection with CTH BB. Facilities include softball diamonds, basketball courts, a soccer field, and playground equipment.

Taylor Prairie Elementary School (B): This 2.0-acre park facility is located adjacent to Northlawn Park on the north side of the Village. Facilities include playground equipment.

Norman Vethe School Forest (C): This 68-acre facility is located east of Cottage Grove Elementary School. A portion of the property is used as a sledding hill in winter. The school district used DNR funds to install prairie restoration and wetland study areas and cross country and walking trails.

Glacial Drumlin School (D): This 4.0 acre park is located on Cottage Grove Rd. (Cnty Hwy BB), west of Damascus Trail, and consists of softball fields, soccer and football fields, and a community garden.

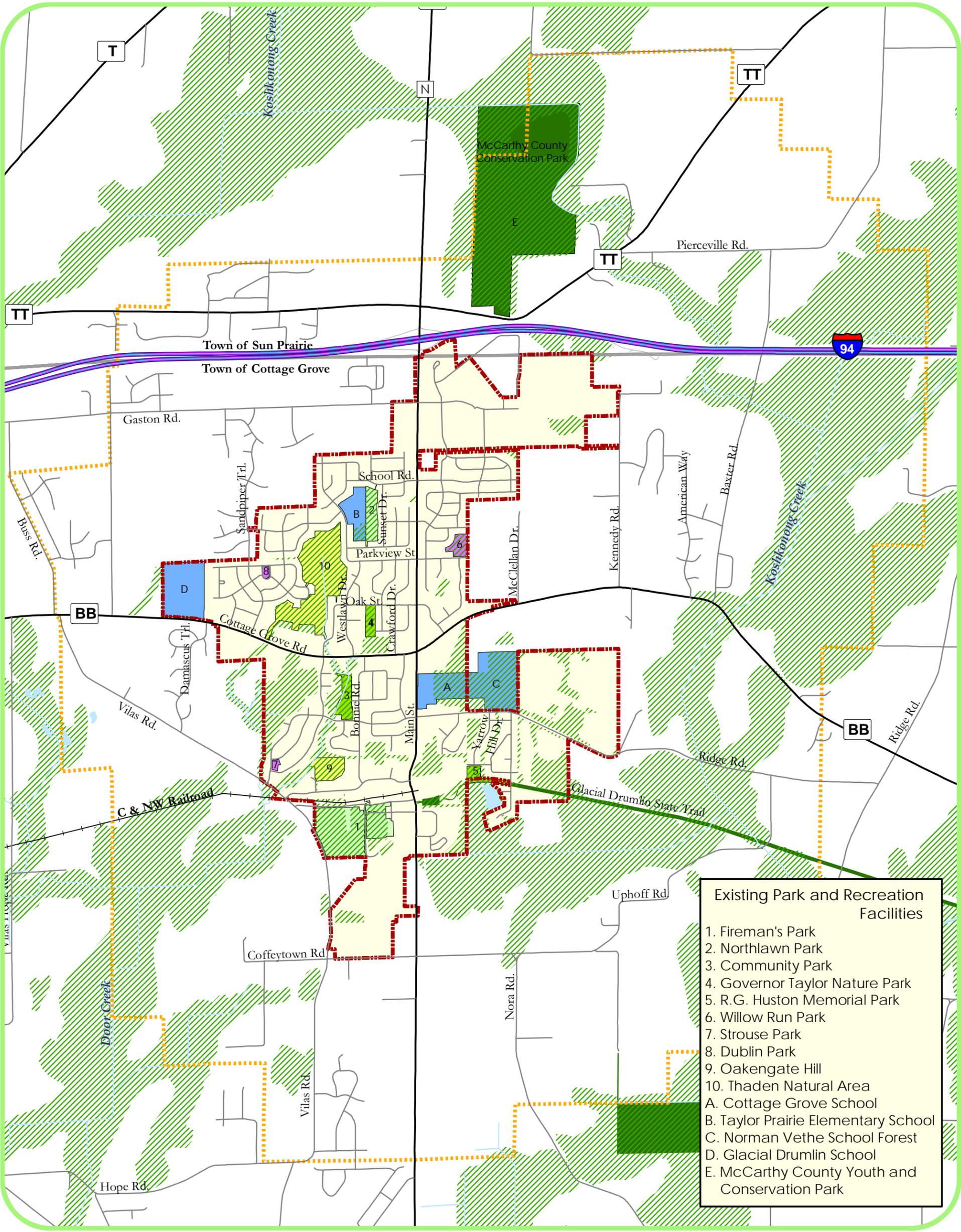
2. REGIONAL FACILITIES

McCarthy County Youth and Conservation Park (E): This 220-acre Dane County Park is located east of CTH N north of I-94. The park is currently undeveloped. Potential improvements include a shelter, hiking trails, and play facilities.

Glacial Drumlin State Trail: This 52-mile trail runs from Cottage Grove east to Waukesha. The trail is open to bikers and pedestrians. When the opportunity arises, the WisDNR intends to continue the trail seven miles to the west to connect with the Capital City State Trail in Madison.

Figure 4: Recreation Amenities in Public Parks and Schools – 2009

Park Facility	Acres	Play Equipment	Baseball	Softball	Soccer Field	Basketball Courts	Tennis	Volleyball	Ice Skating	Sledding Area	Hiking/Trails	Cross-Country Skiing	Drinking Water	Rest Rooms	Warming Shelter	Open Shelter	Picnic Tables/Grills	Concession Stand	Passive Area
Community Parks:																			
1. Fireman’s Park	49.0	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
2. Northlawn Park	13.0	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Neighborhood Parks:																			
3. Community Park	8.8	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
4. Governor Taylor Nature Park	5.0										✓						✓		
5. Huston Park	4.0	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		
Mini-parks:																			
6. Willow Run Park	1.3	✓			✓	✓											✓		
7. Strouse Park	1.2	✓				✓										✓			
8. Dublin Park	1.3	✓														✓	✓		
Special Use Areas:																			
9. Oakengate Hill	10.3										✓								✓
10. Thaden Natural Area	36.6										✓								✓
School Facilities																			
11. Cottage Grove Elementary	4.0	✓		✓	✓	✓													
12. Taylor Prairie Elementary	2.0	✓			✓	✓													
13. Norman Vethe School Forest	68.0									✓	✓								✓
14. Glacial Drumlin School	4.0			✓	✓	✓				✓									



- Existing Park and Recreation Facilities**
1. Fireman's Park
 2. Northlawn Park
 3. Community Park
 4. Governor Taylor Nature Park
 5. R.G. Huston Memorial Park
 6. Willow Run Park
 7. Strouse Park
 8. Dublin Park
 9. Oakengate Hill
 10. Thaden Natural Area
 - A. Cottage Grove School
 - B. Taylor Prairie Elementary School
 - C. Norman Vethe School Forest
 - D. Glacial Drumlin School
 - E. McCarthy County Youth and Conservation Park

Existing Park Facilities

Map 1

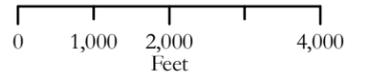
Village of Cottage Grove Parks and Open Space Plan

- Village of Cottage Grove
- Town Boundary
- Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Boundary
- Railroad
- Surface Water

Park and Recreation Facilities

- Mini-Park
- Special Use Facility
- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- County Park or Conservancy
- School Recreational Facility
- Environmental Corridor

Source: Dane County LIO; Village of Cottage Grove; WisDNR; Dane County RPC; USGS



August 27, 2009



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Shaping places, shaping change

IV. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

The first step in the park planning process is to establish goals, objectives, and policies that serve as the base for all subsequent planning efforts. The following goals, objectives, and policies are based on a review of existing plans, basic planning principals, and input gathered through the vision setting workshop.

Goals are broad statements that express general public priorities. Goals are formulated based on the identification of key issues, opportunities and problems that affect the park system.

Objectives are more specific than goals and are usually attainable through strategic planning and implementation activities. Implementation of an objective contributes to the fulfillment of a goal.

Policies are rules and courses of action used to ensure plan implementation. Policies often accomplish a number of objectives.

Lastly, an overview of the Public Participation for this planning process is provided.

A. GOALS

1. Ensure provision and protection of sufficient parks, recreation facilities and open space areas to satisfy the health, safety, and welfare of Village residents and visitors. These include special groups such as the elderly, the handicapped, and pre-school age children.
2. Preserve natural features and amenities and conserve natural resources for the benefit of the community as a whole. Preserve most remaining critical environmental areas within a continuous greenway system. However, these natural areas should generally not be counted as fulfilling the park land dedication requirements.

B. OBJECTIVES

1. Provide both active and passive recreation opportunities for the Village's citizens at the neighborhood and community levels.
2. Provide recreation opportunities within neighborhoods, which strengthen the neighborhood's identity and provide areas for nearby recreation.
3. Link together all of the Village's neighborhoods, parks, and schools. Cooperate with others in connecting these trails into a regional network of trails and parks. Continue to pursue long-term collaboration with the WisDNR in extending the Glacial Drumlin Trail to Madison.
4. Encourage and coordinate year-round recreational programs and facilities.
5. Recognize the importance of environmental features, in particular the Door Creek and Koshkonong Creek watersheds, in providing recreational opportunities.
6. Maintain an overall ratio of park acreage to population of at least 15 acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents.
7. Strengthen the role of the lands west of Fireman's Park as a community-wide resource for recreation.
8. Provide park and recreational facilities to serve residents of all ages and abilities.
9. Provide a diversity of recreational opportunities (active and passive, resource-oriented and nonresource-oriented, water-based and land-based) so that residents of all ages and abilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy the park and open space system.
10. Balance the need to acquire and develop new park and recreational facilities with the need to maintain and upgrade existing park sites and facilities.
11. Provide good pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular access to all parks and recreational facilities.

12. Focus preservation, protection, and enhancement of open spaces and conservancy areas along drainageways and other environmentally sensitive-areas to the extent possible.
13. Maintain a system of trails and pathways so that all residential neighborhoods will have safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle access to parks, schools, neighborhood commercial districts, public open spaces, and conservancy areas.

C. POLICIES

1. Strive to provide neighborhood parks within safe walking distance of all residential neighborhoods. One-quarter mile is a preferred walking distance, with maximum distance of one-half mile between residences and neighborhood parks.
2. Park facilities should be scaled and located to the future needs of the area and population served, both present and future. The Village should continue to use a hierarchy of park sites based on size, facilities, and areas served to suit different neighborhoods and types of development.
3. Continue to site and design neighborhood parks to enhance neighborhood cohesion and provide a common neighborhood-gathering place. All parks should have multiple access points from surrounding neighborhoods and be served by a complete sidewalk and trail network.
4. Parks should have full street frontage along at least one side of the park to enhance the relationship between the neighborhood and the park, and to provide a high degree of visibility into the park to strengthen public safety. Structures and landscaping within the park should be arranged so as not to block views into the park from the public street. High activity areas within the park should be located within view of the public street.
5. Parks and recreational facilities should be combined with school facilities where appropriate and feasible. Specifically, the Village should target lands for neighborhood park acquisition adjacent to school athletic and playground areas.
6. The Village should develop a unified walking and bicycle trail and route system throughout the Village to link neighborhoods with schools, parks, and other destination areas. A unified wayfinding signage system should be developed as part of the trail system. The Village should continue to work on the state bike trail extension.
7. Cooperate with other units of government and agencies whenever possible in providing park and recreation areas and facilities. The Village and school officials responsible for providing recreational space in Cottage Grove should place a continued emphasis on the provision of areas and facilities that support recreational activities for all ages and abilities, rather than facilities geared only toward team sports or certain age groups. The Village should also work with the Dane County, WisDNR, and the Towns of Cottage Grove and Sun Prairie to coordinate the park systems and recreation services and to implement the regional trail network included in the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan.
8. All new residential developments should meet the park and open space standards and recommendations as outlined in this *Plan* and implemented by the Village of Cottage Grove Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, and Official Map. The Village should require all proposed residential developments to identify pedestrian access corridors to public parks and schools. Parks should be integrated into future neighborhood designs and linked by a network of sidewalks, bike routes and open space corridors. Parkland dedications in new subdivisions should be consistent with the locations identified on Map 4.
9. A detailed park management and maintenance plan should be included as a component of each park design.

10. Acquisition of park and open space lands should occur in advance of or in coordination with development to provide for reasonable acquisition costs and facilitate site planning.
11. Alternative means of reserving lands required for open space use should be fully explored to ensure that lands are obtained at the lowest cost to the public. Mandatory dedication of lands for public use as parklands and/or park impact fees should be continued as provided by Village ordinances.
12. Dedicate a set portion of the Village's budget to expenditures for capital improvements in the Village's parks.
13. Acquire parkland in developing areas through park land dedication, or fees-in-lieu of dedication, requirements.
14. Consider actively fundraising for large park improvement projects, including improvements within Fireman's Park and the acquired lands west of the park.
15. Continue to support volunteer groups and donated materials to the greatest extent possible to develop and maintain its park and open space system. Utilization of volunteer labor is generally most successful where a single tangible project is involved, such as tree planting, construction of a facility, or a one-day clean up and beautification project.
16. Actively encourage the donation of gifts by private individuals. Such gifts may include trees, park amenities such as benches and shelters, and money for park development. The Village should also explore the opportunity to develop a public-private partnership with local construction companies, asphalt companies, and quarry owners who may be willing to reduce costs or even donate time, equipment, and supplies needed for park development.
17. Discourage the alteration of natural areas and encourage the restoration of indigenous plant communities in all private and public developments.
18. The preservation of steep slopes, woodlands and forests, lakes and ponds, streams, lakeshores, floodplains and wetlands should receive special attention to ensure their maintenance as wildlife and fish habitats, as natural drainage areas, as areas for passive recreation and outdoor recreation, and as stormwater management areas, where appropriate. An exception to this should be the area of steep slopes necessary to accommodate the expansion of Fireman's Park and Willow Run Park.
19. Utilize management policies that protect and enhance the natural features of all its parks. This "green" focused management should include efforts to establish and maintain buffers for sensitive environmental features, minimize fertilizer and pesticide use, and implement native species plantings and landscape initiative, to the extent possible.
20. Encourage public awareness of the Village's parks and recreational facilities by promoting them through maps, signage, and other materials, such as wayfinding signage, newsletters and special events.
21. The Village should continuously evaluate all park and open space sites and facilities to ensure compliance with the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public participation of this planning process included discussions with the Village Parks and Recreation Committee along with the Town of Cottage Grove which jointly directed the update of this *Plan*. Public hearings were held at the Plan Commission and Village Board level at which public input was heard and considered for inclusion in the *Plan*.

This planning process occurred concurrently to an update to the Village's Comprehensive Plan. Because the Park and Open Space Plan is a detailed component of the Comprehensive Plan, input heard through that process was factored into this plan document.

V. 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 park and open space facilities. These standards enable a community to determine how well its existing recreational facilities meet the needs of its residents at the present time, as well as to project the future need for such facilities. Typically, these standards are expressed as a population ratio, that is, the minimum number of park acres recommended per 1,000 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 and flexible guide in their park and open space planning (see Appendix B).

However, NRPA guidelines should be used as a standard for comparison, and not an absolute target. The NRPA produces one set of guidelines that are intended to be applicable to all urban/suburban communities. Local geographic conditions, economic conditions, and community desires should also be considered. Other issues that should be considered are the context of each residential neighborhood, local traditions and customs, the availability of parks and open space that might lie outside the jurisdiction of the park system being studied (including both private and public facilities), and the local social history of the use and expectation of parks and open space. These additional factors may be equally, if not more important than national standards which, by definition, are highly generalized and which must ignore local circumstances.

The tables on the following pages show the various types of park and open space facilities provided in Cottage Grove and their recommended NRPA standards. This list includes a hierarchy of parks and open space facilities based on an area to population ratio and a recommended minimum service area for each type of facility.

A. MINI-PARKS

General Description:	These parks are specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as pre-school and elementary school age children or senior citizens.
Service Area:	¼ mile radius in residential areas
Desirable Size:	2,500 square feet to 2.0-acres
Acres per 1,000 population:	0.25 to 0.5-acres
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinated play equipment and structures for pre-school and elementary school age children ▪ Sitting areas arranged to permit easy surveillance by parents ▪ Landscaped areas which provide buffering and shade ▪ Lighting for security at night. Lighting must be designed to be direct cut-off and not spill into adjacent properties. ▪ Parking is typically not required
Desirable Site Characteristics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suited for intensive recreation use and foot traffic. ▪ Easily accessible to the neighborhood population ▪ Located in close proximity to residential development ▪ Accessible by walking or biking ▪ Well buffered by open space and/or landscape plantings and separated from roadways by physical barriers, such as fences

B. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

General Description:	These parks are designed specifically to accommodate residents living within a defined service area. They are often characterized by active recreational facilities such as baseball and soccer fields, but can also incorporate passive recreational areas for picnicking and nature-study.
Service Area:	¼ to ½ mile radius uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers
Desirable Size:	5 acres minimum; 5 to 10 acres is optimal
Acres per 1,000 population:	1 – 2 acres
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active recreational facilities such as playfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ice-skating rinks ▪ Passive recreational facilities such as picnic/sitting areas and nature study areas ▪ Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms ▪ Lighting for security at night ▪ Adequate on-street and off-street parking spaces
Desirable Site Characteristics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Easily accessible to the neighborhood population ▪ Accessible by walking or biking

C. COMMUNITY PARKS

General Description:	Community parks are intermediate in size and are able to accommodate visitors multiple neighborhoods and the greater community. These parks focus on both the developed aspects of the parks and natural resource amenities, and typically include a range of active (sports fields, etc.) and passive (trails, observation areas) recreation facilities.
Service Area:	½ to 3 mile radius
Desirable Size:	10 or more acres with 20 to 50 acres being the most common
Acres per 1,000 population:	5-8 acres
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, biking/walking/skiing trails, playfields, playgrounds, tennis courts, and basketball courts ▪ Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and nature study areas ▪ Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms ▪ Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park ▪ Community Center building with multi-use rooms for crafts, theater, restrooms, social activities, and senior adult use ▪ Lighting for security at night ▪ Adequate off-street parking spaces, where the size of the park and the neighborhood context allow
Desirable Site Characteristics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May include natural areas, such as water bodies ▪ Easily accessible to the neighborhood population and community as a whole ▪ Easily accessible for walking and biking ▪ May be developed as a school-park facility

D. SPECIAL USE PARKS AND FACILITIES

General Description:	Special Open Space Areas enhance an overall park and open space system by maintaining and improving the community’s natural resource base, accommodating special activities not included in other parks, and providing interconnections between isolated parks and recreation areas. Examples of Special Open Space Areas are varied but can include those lands that accommodate passive or special recreational activities, such as golf courses, sledding/skiing hills, marinas, beaches, display gardens, arboreta, and outdoor amphitheaters, as well as lands that have been protected for their environmental significance or sensitivity and provide limited opportunity for recreational use. Examples of the latter may include water bodies, floodplains, wetlands, shorelands and shoreland setback areas, drainageways, stormwater management basins, conveyance routes, environmental corridors or isolated natural areas as mapped by Dane County, wildlife habitat, areas of rare or endangered plant or animal species, prairie remnants, and restoration areas.
Service Area:	Variable -- depends on function
Desirable Size:	Variable -- depends on function
Acres per 1,000 Population:	Variable -- most Special Open Space Areas are not included in the overall community calculation of park and recreation space per 1,000 persons
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, skiing hills, biking/walking/skiing trails, skating rinks, and golf courses ▪ Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and natural study areas ▪ Service buildings for shelter, equipment storage/rental, concessions, and restrooms ▪ Signage, trail markers, trash receptacles, information booths ▪ Lighting for security at night ▪ Off-street parking spaces if appropriate to the area
Desirable Site Characteristics:	Variable, depending on use

VI. ANALYSIS OF THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

This chapter presents information on how the Village of Cottage Grove’s existing park and open space facilities satisfy current needs in the community. The most common method used for measuring the adequacy of a community’s park and open space system is to:

- Determine whether or not the park system serves, or has the capacity to serve, the current and projected number of residents in the community based on reliable population projections and adopted per-capita service standards.
- Determine whether or not the park system provides an adequate coverage throughout the community so that all current and future residents have the desired accessibility based on the amount and location of planned growth areas and adopted service standards.

Based on the 2009 inventory of 130.5 Village-owned acres of developed active and passive park facilities, and an estimated 2008 population of 5,525 residents, the Village is currently providing about 23.6 acres of developed park and open space per 1,000 residents. County and school facilities provide additional active park space in and adjacent to the community. This analysis, as described below, served as the basis for this *Plan’s* park and open space recommendations presented in the next chapter.

A. ANALYSIS OF EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

1. EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE SERVICE STANDARDS

Figure 5 shows the NRPA recommended acreage standards for each type of park per 1,000 persons and the existing active and passive acreages per park category provided in the Village. The information in this table indicates that the Village is currently exceeding Village standards and the NRPA standard ratio of 6.25-10.5 acres of active and passive parkland to 1,000 persons in the Village. (The table does not indicate whether these parks are in proper geographic locations which will be address subsequently).

Figure 5: Active and Passive Park and Open Space Facilities (2009)

Type of Park	NRPA Standard acres per 1,000 persons	Village-Owned Facilities		School-Owned Facilities		Total Park and School
		Total Acres	Acres per 1,000 persons	Total Acres	Acres per 1,000 persons	Acres per 1,000 persons
Mini-Park	0.25 - 0.5 acres	3.8	0.69	0.0	0.00	0.69
Neighborhood Park	1 - 2 acres	17.8	3.22	10.0	1.81	5.03
Community Park	5 - 8 acres	62.0	11.22	0.0	0.00	11.22
Special use area	Local standard	46.9	8.49	68.0	12.31	20.80
Total	6.25 - 10.5 acres	130.5	23.6	78.0	14.12	37.74

¹Based on 2008 Wis. DOA estimated population for the Village of Cottage Grove of 5,525.

When the community's school recreational facilities are included in the calculation, the community has a total of 208.5 acres of park and open space land in active and accessible passive use. This breaks down to 37.7 acres per 1,000 persons, well above the recommended standard. However, most of these facilities serve a much larger geographic area and population than just Village residents and are not under the jurisdiction of the Village.

2. LOCATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

The *location* of the park and open space facilities in relation to the Village's residents is also an important indicator of how well existing facilities meet the needs of Cottage Grove residents. To illustrate how well the Village's parklands serve the various areas of the community, two maps have been prepared which illustrate the service areas of the Village's community, neighborhood, and mini parks. The following is a summary of these maps.

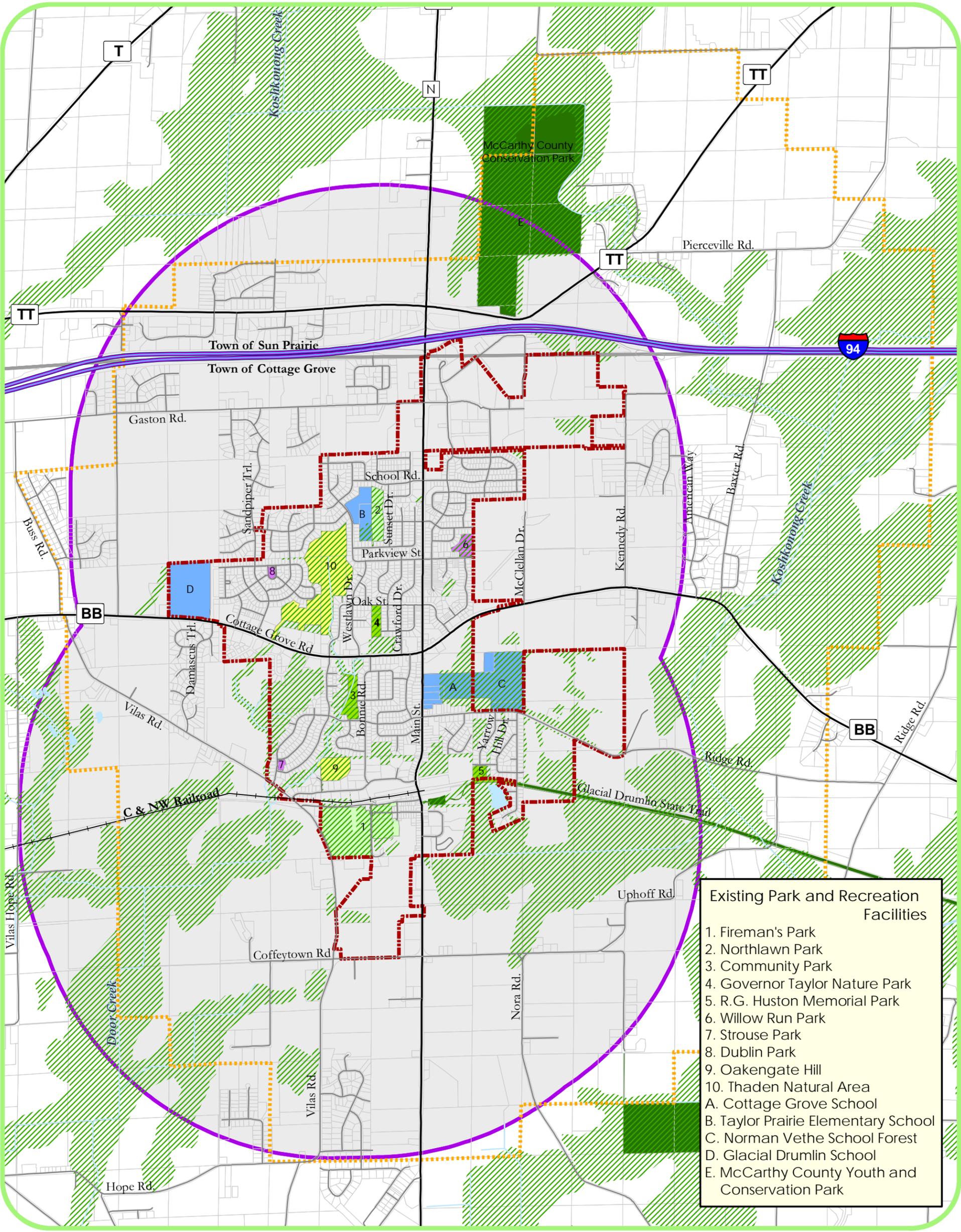
a. COMMUNITY PARK SERVICE AREAS (MAP 2)

Based upon a service area of 1 ½ miles, Cottage Grove's community parks (Fireman's and Northlawn) adequately serves the existing residential portions of the community at this time. The service area of the parks will also serve most of the areas planned for short and long-term residential development in the future. However, according to the population projections, the Village will need additional community parkland by 2030. Because Northlawn Park is much smaller than Fireman's Park, this *Plan* recommends that another community park be located on the north side of the community between Interstate-94 and Gaston Road, as shown on Map 4.

b. NEIGHBORHOOD AND MINI-PARK SERVICE AREAS (MAP 3)

The Neighborhood and Mini-Park Service Areas map shows most of the residential neighborhoods in the Village fall within either the ½-mile recommended service area for neighborhood parks or the ¼-mile recommended service area for mini-parks. Neighborhood parks and mini-parks should be easily accessible to the surrounding residents with safe walking and biking access. Map 3 illustrates how major barriers (e.g., CTH N, CTH BB, railroad tracks) have limited the service area radii for some neighborhood and mini-parks in the community. The service area analysis for neighborhood parks also includes public school recreational facilities and community parks since they also serve as accessible neighborhood parks to the surrounding areas.

A few existing residential areas are not well served by a neighborhood or mini-park. Residential areas south of the railroad are currently not served because of pedestrian barriers. Residents on either side of CTH N off of School Road lack service by a neighborhood or mini-park. Areas on the west side of School Road are currently not served by the ¼ mile service area. The proposed mini-park in the Quarry Ridge development will serve this area.



- Existing Park and Recreation Facilities**
- 1. Fireman's Park
 - 2. Northlawn Park
 - 3. Community Park
 - 4. Governor Taylor Nature Park
 - 5. R.G. Huston Memorial Park
 - 6. Willow Run Park
 - 7. Strouse Park
 - 8. Dublin Park
 - 9. Oakengate Hill
 - 10. Thaden Natural Area
 - A. Cottage Grove School
 - B. Taylor Prairie Elementary School
 - C. Norman Vethe School Forest
 - D. Glacial Drumlin School
 - E. McCarthy County Youth and Conservation Park

Community Park Service Areas

Map 2

Village of Cottage Grove Parks and Open Space Plan

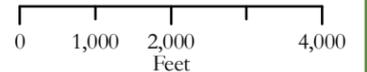
- Village of Cottage Grove
- Town Boundary
- Parcel Lines
- Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Boundary
- Railroad
- Surface Water

Park and Recreation Facilities

- Mini-Park
- Special Use Facility
- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- County Park or Conservancy
- School Recreational Facility
- Environmental Corridor

1.5 mile Community Park Service Area

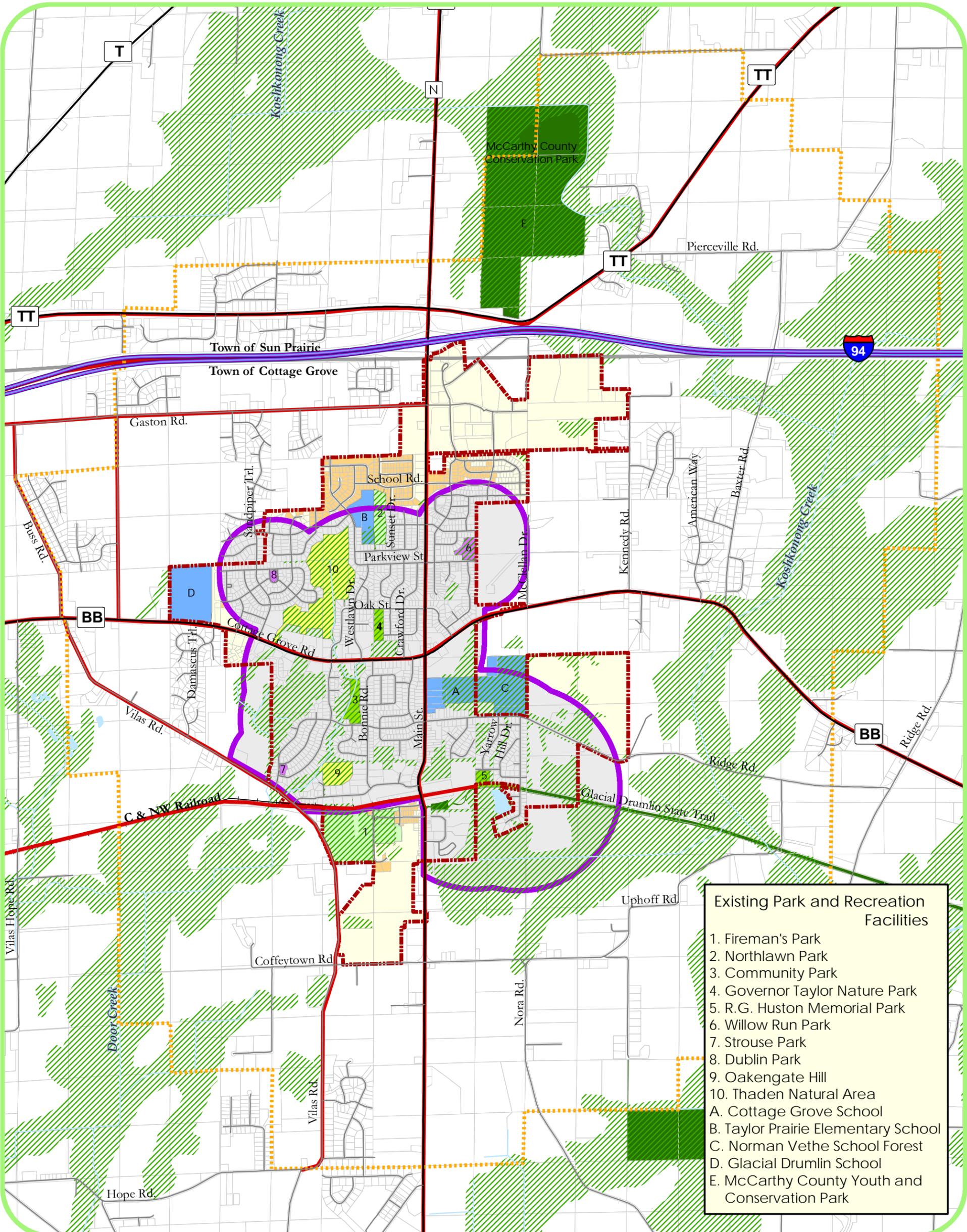
Source: Dane County LIO; Village of Cottage Grove; WisDNR; Dane County RPC; USGS



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- Existing Park and Recreation Facilities**
1. Fireman's Park
 2. Northlawn Park
 3. Community Park
 4. Governor Taylor Nature Park
 5. R.G. Huston Memorial Park
 6. Willow Run Park
 7. Strouse Park
 8. Dublin Park
 9. Oakengate Hill
 10. Thaden Natural Area
 - A. Cottage Grove School
 - B. Taylor Prairie Elementary School
 - C. Norman Vethe School Forest
 - D. Glacial Drumlin School
 - E. McCarthy County Youth and Conservation Park

Neighborhood and Mini-Park Service Areas

Map 3

Village of Cottage Grove Parks and Open Space Plan

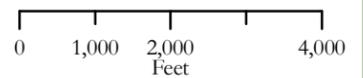
- Village of Cottage Grove
- Town Boundary
- Parcel Lines
- Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Boundary
- Railroad
- Surface Water

Park and Recreation Facilities

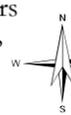
- Mini-Park
- Special Use Facility
- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- County Park or Conservancy
- School Recreational Facility
- Environmental Corridor

- 1/2 mile neighborhood park and 1/4 mile mini-park service areas
- Existing residential areas not served by park service areas
- Pedestrian Barriers (i.e. major streets, railroads)

Source: Dane County LIO; Village of Cottage Grove; WisDNR; Dane County RPC; USGS



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B. ANALYSIS OF FUTURE PARK & OPEN SPACE NEEDS

1. POPULATION AND HOUSING PROJECTIONS

Population projections for the Village indicate that the community will continue to grow at a substantial rate over the 20 year planning period (Figure 6). Various population growth scenarios were considered for this *Plan*. These projections were derived by a variety of sources and methodologies. Wisconsin Department of Administration (WisDOA) population projection (produced in 2008) estimates a population of 9,968 residents by the year 2030—representing an increase of nearly 150 percent from 2000 to 2030. Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) projects a similar rate of population growth over the same period, showing a 130 percent increase in Cottage Grove between the years 2000 and 2030. These may be low given the residential growth trends, continued economic development efforts, and the overall trends of the Madison region.

In addition to WisDOA and CARPC projections, two alternative population projections show higher rates of population growth in the community. Based on the average of the growth rates (4.2%) of other “first tier metro” communities (Sun Prairie, Verona, Waunakee, Oregon, and Stoughton) that have experienced similar population increase, the Village is projected to grow to 13,767 residents by the year 2030. In the final projection, the economic slowdown was weighed into the 2010 projection but the following years were based on a linear extrapolation of past population growth (1990 to 2008) in the community, Cottage Grove is projected to grow to 10,470 by the year 2030.

Considering all the alternatives, it was determined that the Adjusted Straight Line Extrapolation forecast may present the most reasonable basis for dwelling unit projections and future park land needs.

It is worth noting that making future population projections for a small jurisdiction is difficult—particularly one that is located on the edge of a growing metropolitan area.

Figure 6: Population Projections

	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Wisconsin Dept. of Administration ¹	1,131	4,059	4,911	5,869	6,889	7,934	8,967	9,968
Capital Area Regional Planning Commission ²	1,131	4,059	-	5,689	-	6,438	-	9,372
First Tier Metro Growth Rates ³	1,131	4,059	4,911	6,035	7,417	9,115	11,202	13,767
Adjusted Straight Line Extrapolation ⁴	1,131	4,059	4,911	5,590	6,810	8,030	9,250	10,470

¹2009 Wisconsin Department of Administration, *Official Municipal Population Projections, 2000-2030*

²2006 Dane County Regional Trends (Population Forecasts for Urban Service Area), Capital Area Regional Planning Commission

³Vandeville & Associates, based on 1990-2008 average annual growth rates for Sun Prairie, Stoughton, Verona, Waunakee, and Oregon (4.2%)

⁴Vandeville & Associates, based on a straight-line trend of 1990-2008 population growth (244 annually)

Projected future dwelling unit demand is based on the population forecasts in Figure 6, a forecasted decrease in household size is projected to continue over the next 20 years. With an estimated 1,973 housing units in 2008, the Village is expected to add an additional 1,820 housing units through 2030 (see Figure 7).

Figure 7: Household Projections

	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	% Change 2005-2030
Projected Population*	4,911	5,590	6,810	8,030	9,250	10,470	113%
Projected Household Size**	2.80	2.78	2.77	2.77	2.77	2.76	-1%
Projected Households	1,753	2,011	2,458	2,899	3,339	3,793	116%

Source: *Economic Adjustment Growth Rates projection from Figure 6; **WisDOA projected household size, 2009

2. PROJECTED ADDITIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE ACREAGE

The overall future recreation needs of the Village are determined by applying the recommended minimum acreage standards to a reasonable population projection for the Village of Cottage Grove in the year 2030. This type of future needs assessment is a critical component of this 2009 *Village of Cottage Grove Park and Open Space Plan*. It is included in part to satisfy Wisconsin Statutes §66.0617 and §236.29 regarding the collection of fees and also to assist the Village with planning and budgeting for the development of future parks.

Using the NRPA recommended standard of 6.25 to 10.5 acres of park and open space land per 1,000 persons, the Village would need to add up to 32 acres of park and open space land to meet NRPA standards. However the Village’s policy is to provide 15 acres of parkland per 1,000 persons. Using this standard, the Village will need to add 73.5 acres of park and open space land by the year 2030.

Of the Village’s existing active recreation parkland, approximately 74% are community parks, 21.3% are neighborhood parks, and 4.5% of the acres are mini-parks. If these percentages are applied to the Village’s standard of 15 acres of parkland per 1,000 persons, over the next 20 years Village should expect to provide 54.9 acres for community parks, 15.8 acres for neighborhood parks, and 3.4 acres for mini-parks. The Village will also continue to accept conservancy areas as donations to the park system; however these lands will not count toward the land dedication requirement described in Chapter VIII of this *Plan*.

Figure 8: Projected Additional Park Acres per Park Type based on Village Standard

	Recommended Useable Active and Passive Acreage per 1,000 persons	Projected Additional Population Factor per 1,000 persons	Projected Additional Acres Needed
Community Park	11.2	4.9	54.9
Neighborhood Park	3.22	4.9	15.8
Mini-Park	0.69	4.9	3.4
Village Standard	15.0	4.9	73.5

VII. RECOMMENDED PARK AND OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

The following recommendations to improve the Village of Cottage Grove's park and open space system are based on projected growth rates and additional parkland acres needed, as identified in the preceding chapters of this *Plan*. This *Plan* recommends adding 73.5 acres of active and passive parkland in the Village over the next two decades, so that by 2030 the Village would own approximately 204 acres of total parkland. Based on the projected population for 2030 (10,470 residents), the Village would be providing about 19.5 acres of developed park and open space per 1,000 residents, which meets both the Village's ratio policy and the NRPA standards. These recommendations are based on the assumption that Cottage Grove will continue to grow at a moderate rate and that park and open space facilities planning should be oriented toward serving a growing population. The actual timing of park acquisitions and development should coincide with the actual demand for recreational facilities in the Village's developed and newly developed areas, although the Village should consider acquiring lands for a new community park in advance of its need.

A. PROPOSED PARKLANDS

This *Plan* identifies approximate locations for future community, neighborhood, and mini parks in the Village of Cottage Grove over the next 20+ years, based on the planned residential neighborhoods included in the Village's Comprehensive Plan. Because the Comprehensive Plan looked out beyond the typical 20-year planning period for comprehensive plans, this *Park and Open Space Plan* also identifies long-term locations for parks in neighborhoods that will probably not develop in the next 20 years. The number of recommended parks is more than the number of acres that will be required over the next 20 years. This allows the Village to have a long-term park plan that anticipates the need and plans for parks well beyond the typical 5-year planning period for park plans. The specific park facility boundaries in these general locations will be determined when the lands are actually platted or acquired. The following is a description of these general park locations.

1. COMMUNITY PARK

This *Plan* recommends one future community park to serve long-term residential development on the north side of the Village. The community park should include recreational facilities, such as tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer fields, play equipment, shelters, restrooms, and a parking lot. The park should also contain areas for outdoor recreation, such as walking, bicycling, sitting, viewing, and picnicking. It is important that this park be located on or near a major thoroughfare, has adequate off-street parking, and is accessible by foot and bicycle. The park should be approximately 20-30 acres in size and serve an area within a 1 to 2 mile radius. This *Plan* advises that the Village attempt to secure land for this community park in advance of its need. This will hopefully result in more reasonable land prices than if the land were acquired when development was occurring around it. The Village could hold the land for several years before actually developing any facilities. The following is a brief description of the recommended community park location, as labeled on Map 4:

- **C1:** This recommended park site is located northwest of the Village, north of Gaston Road. The Village should attempt to secure land for this park in advance of development, which will hopefully result in more reasonable land prices.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

This *Plan* recommends 12 future neighborhood parks to serve areas that are either currently undergoing development or planned for development in the future. All of these parks should be easily accessible to the surrounding neighborhood with safe walking and bicycling access. These parks should be approximately 5 to 10 acres in size and serve an area within a ¼ to ½ mile radius, or a population of 1,000 to 5,000 persons. The following is a brief description of the recommended neighborhood park locations, as labeled on Map 4:

- **N1:** This is a recommended expansion of Willow Run Mini-Park into a neighborhood park.
- **N2:** This recommended park site is located west of the Village on the Coyle Property, which is expected to develop in the next two to three years.
- **N3:** This recommended park site is adjacent to an existing park in the Town of Cottage Grove on the northwest side of the Village. The Village should work with the Town to expand this mini-park into a neighborhood park. If a Village-owned park is located adjacent to the existing park, the Village may want to consider purchasing the Town park or working with the Town to develop a maintenance agreement for land and equipment. This neighborhood is expected to develop in the next 5 years.
- **N4:** This recommended park site is adjacent to an existing park in the Town of Cottage Grove along Sandpiper Trail on the northwest side of the Village. The Village should work with the Town to expand this mini-park into a neighborhood park. If a Village-owned park is located adjacent to the existing park, the Village may want to consider purchasing the Town park or working with the Town to develop a maintenance agreement for land and equipment. This neighborhood is expected to develop in the next 5 years.
- **N5:** This recommended park site is located in a planned neighborhood on the east side of the Village south of CTH BB. This neighborhood is not expected to develop for 10-15 years. When development does occur, the Village should require the developers to dedicate sufficient land for this park.
- **N6:** This recommended park site is located in a planned neighborhood on the southeast side of the Village between West Ridge Road and the Glacial Drumlin Trail. This neighborhood is not expected to develop for another 10-15 years. When development does occur, the Village should require the developers to dedicate sufficient land for this park.
- **N7:** This recommended park site is located in a planned neighborhood on the east side of the Village north of CTH BB and west of Kennedy Road. The Village's Comprehensive Plan does not expect this neighborhood to develop for 10-15 years. When development does occur, the Village should require the developers to dedicate sufficient land for this park.
- **N8:** This recommended park site is adjacent to an existing park in the Town of Cottage Grove on the southwest side of the Village along Damascus Trail. The Village should work with the Town to expand this mini-park into a neighborhood park. If a Village-owned park is located adjacent to the existing park, the Village may want to consider purchasing the Town park or working with the Town to develop a maintenance agreement for land and equipment. This neighborhood is expected to develop in the next 10 years.
- **N9:** This recommended park site is located west of the Village between Buss Road and Vilas Road. This neighborhood is not expected to develop for 10-15 years. When development does occur, the Village should require the developers to dedicate sufficient land for this park.
- **N10:** This recommended park site is located north of the Village, west of CTH N and north of CTH TT. This neighborhood is not expected to develop for another 15-20 years. When development does occur, the Village should require the developers to dedicate sufficient land for this park.
- **N11:** This recommended park site is located north of the Village, west of CTH N. This area is not expected to develop for 15-20 years. When development does occur, the Village should require the developers to dedicate sufficient land for this park.

3. MINI-PARKS

As depicted on Map 4, this *Plan* recommends two new Mini-Park sites to provide service for long-range development on the Village's southwest and northwest side. These smaller parks are specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as pre-school and elementary

school age children, or senior citizens. These parks should be easily accessible to the surrounding neighborhood with safe walking and bicycling access. They should be approximately 1 acre in size and serve an area within a ¼ mile radius. The following is a brief description of the recommended Mini-Park sites:

- **M1:** This site is planned to serve the multi-family neighborhood southwest of Vilas Road. When this neighborhood develops, the Village should require the developer to dedicate sufficient land for this park.
- **M2:** This site is planned to serve the neighborhoods east of CTH N and north of Willow Run Park. Amenities should include playgrounds, sport fields, and shelter facilities.

4. SPECIAL USE PARKS

As depicted on Map 4, this *Plan* recommends one new Special Use Park to enhance the overall park and open space system by maintaining and improving the community's natural resource base and providing interconnection between isolated parks and recreation areas. These parks vary in size and use depending on the community. The following is a brief description of the recommended Special Use Park site:

- **S1:** This recommended site is planned to be a natural area located north off Vilas Road. The property contains glacial drumlins, esker ridges, wetlands, prairies, a pond, and the headwaters of Door Creek. Plans for the park include multi use trails for biking, walking, and cross country skiing. Additional future uses include a dog exercise area and a disc golf course.

B. PROPOSED PATHS, TRAILS, AND ON-STREET BICYCLE ROUTES

This *Plan* forwards the trail and bicycle route recommendations of the Village's Comprehensive Plan, the 2003 Park and Open Space Plan, and Dane County's Park and Open Space Plan (2006). Recommended bicycle and pedestrian routes and facilities are included on Map 4. As new neighborhoods are developed, the Village will need to determine whether on-street or off-street facilities are more appropriate, based on the neighborhood street layout and expected traffic volumes.

1. ON-STREET BICYCLE LANES

A signed and striped bicycle lane is the preferred bicycle accommodation on busier streets (generally more than 2,000 vehicles per day). Striping bicycle lanes establishes designated traffic channels that promote an orderly flow by both cyclists and motorists. According to AASHTO's Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities (1999), the recommended minimum width for a designated bike lane is 4 feet (not including the gutter pan). Where on-street parking is provided, the bike lane should be located between traffic and parked cars with a minimum 8-foot wide parking lane and 5-foot wide bike lane. Where a combined on-street parking and bike lane is provided, the minimum width of the lane should be 11 feet. Bike lanes should be maintained on a regular basis through street sweeping to remove any sand, gravel, and/or debris.

2. RURAL ROADS WITH BICYCLE FACILITIES

Rural roadways with high traffic volumes (generally more than 1,000 vehicles per day) can best accommodate bicycle use through the construction of widened, paved shoulders. Paved shoulders intended to benefit bicyclists should be at least 4 feet wide. On rural roadways with low traffic volumes (generally less than 1,000 vehicles per day), cyclists can "share" the roadway with motorists without widened shoulders.

3. ON-STREET BIKE ROUTES

On-street bike routes are generally recommended to provide a continuous bike route system. These types of routes provide good access to many origins and destinations throughout a community. Bicyclists typically find that sharing roadway space with automobiles is most feasible on local streets in residential areas with low automobile traffic volumes (< 2,000 vehicles per day) and slow speed limits (< 30 mph). Maintaining on-street bike routes is relatively inexpensive and can be accomplished primarily by

eliminating basic hazards to bike travel, including parallel drainage grates, rough at-grade railroad crossings, rumble strips, pot holes, pavement seams, and gravel and debris along the curbside. Preferred routes, which provide direct access to major destinations, may be signed with a bicycle symbol and in some cases, directional arrows.

The following recommendations apply to the installation of Proposed On- and Off-Street routes:

- Major roadway crossings should generally be at controlled intersections.
- For areas posing crossing challenges, consider installation of bike/pedestrian crossing signs or flashing light signals at a minimum, consider the feasibility of over or under passes.
- Trail standards should include a minimum 10 feet of paved surface within a 20 foot wide easement or dedication; ¼ mile markers to indicate location on trail for longer trails; regular extended right-of-way bulb out for emergency vehicle turn-arounds. Bicycle and walking paths intended for less intense use may be 8-feet wide and surfaced with pavement, crushed limestone or similar materials. Walking paths that require minimum impact, such as in a natural area, are generally 6 to 8 feet wide, with a soft surface such as grass or woodchips.
- For any planned road expansion, on-street bike lanes should be considered.

4. OFF-STREET PATHS

Bicycle and walking facilities separated from the street and road system are referred to as off-street paths. In addition to providing recreational opportunities, off-street paths provide a safe environment desired by less skilled cyclists. These paths are most effective when they provide system continuity and adequate access points to on-street bike routes that encompass the remainder of the Village's bicycle system. Typically off-street paths intended for intense bicycle and pedestrian use within an urban area have a paved surface 10-feet wide or more to accommodate two-way travel.

Bicycle and walking paths intended for less intense use may be 8-feet wide and surfaced with crushed limestone or similar materials. Walking paths that require minimum impact, such as in a natural area, are generally 6 to 8 feet wide, with a soft surface such as grass or woodchips.



C. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

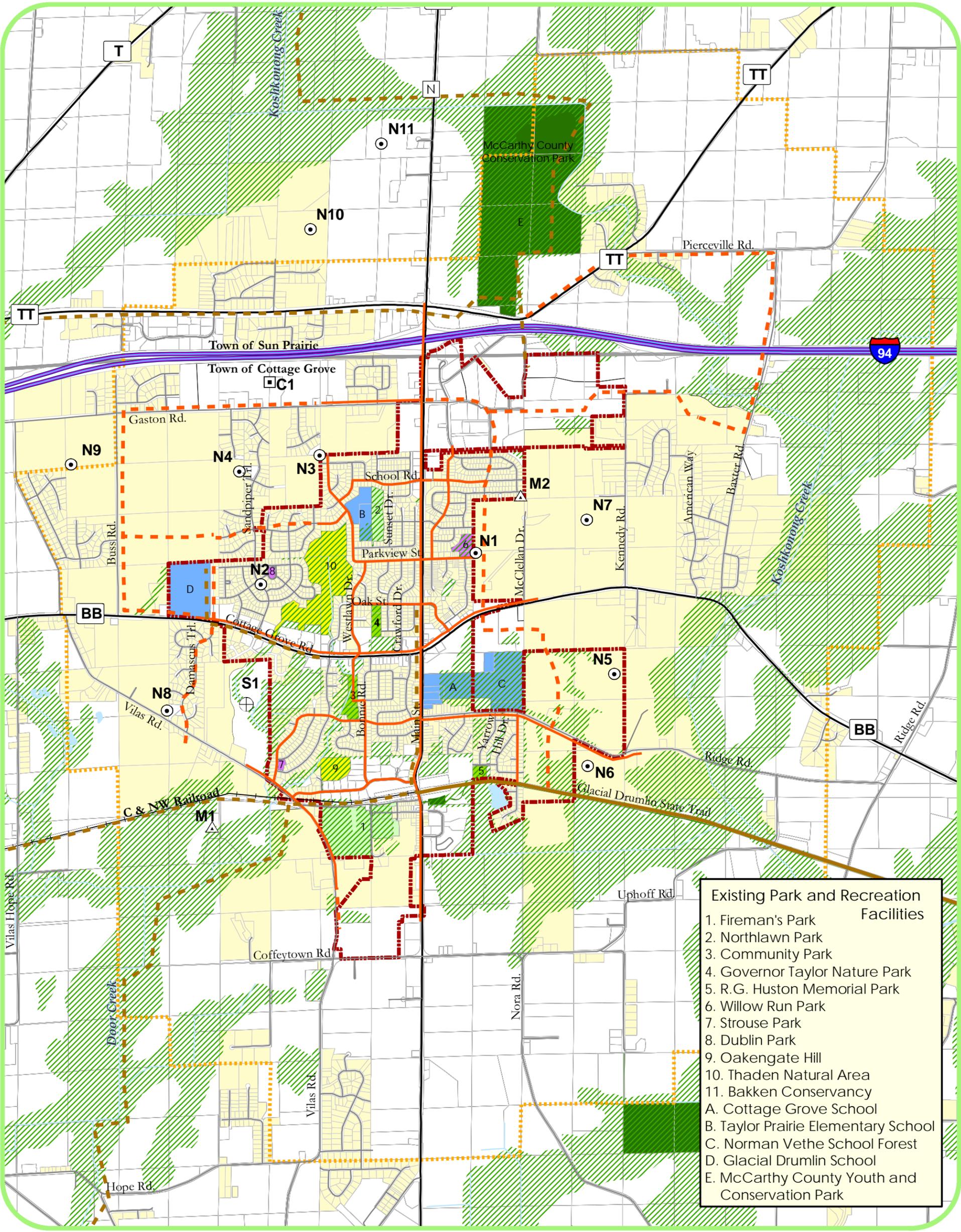
In addition to the recommendations above for the acquisition of a new park sites in the Village, the following are recommendations for enhancing and maintaining the existing park and open space system:

1. Continue to develop and monitor master plans for each of the Village's park properties. Once established, these master plans form the basis for developing a capital improvements program. Improvements within specific parks include:
 - a. **Fireman's Community Park:** A Master Plan has already been prepared for the park. Potential facilities include softball and fields, soccer fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, skate park,

- concession stand, announcer's booth, and restrooms. The Village should continue to fundraise, contact local civic organizations, and apply for grants to seek funding for the development of this park.
- b. **Lands west of Fireman's Park:** Consider the development of a multi-purpose community recreation facility.
 - c. **Willow Run Neighborhood Park:** Potential facilities include a shelter, playfields, additional play equipment, picnic facilities, benches, restrooms, and off-street parking.
 - d. **Dublin Mini-Park:** Explore the options of developing basketball courts.
 - e. **Oakengate Hill:** Potential facilities include an unpaved walking trail and benches.
 - f. **Thaden Natural Area:** Consider the development of unpaved walking trails and benches throughout the natural area.
 - g. **Mini Park in Quarry Ridge Development:** Plans should be developed to serve this area with park amenities.
2. Explore opportunities to develop an ice rink facility.
 3. Emphasize and prioritize the completion of the Glacial Drumlin Trail through portions of the community, and provision of safe and convenient bike connections to this regional trail, in on-going Village planning efforts.
 4. Work with the Town to discuss the recommended Village-owned parks adjacent to existing town parks. The discussions may focus on long-term purchase and/or maintenance agreements for these existing town parks.
 5. Work with surrounding communities and the Dane County Parks Department to implement the regional trail network included in the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan.
 - a. Work closely with the County to implement regional trail connecting McCarthy County Park and the Glacial Drumlin State Trail. A key component of this trail is a connection across I-94, which will need to provide a safe and convenient trail connection between the park and the Village. Any plans for a reconstruction of the CTH N/I-94 or a potential underpass should be coordinated with Village and County plans for the trail.
 - b. Work closely with the Dane County Parks Department, the DNR, area governments, and private organizations to complete the connection of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail and the Capital City Trail. The Trail could parallel the existing railroad track.
 - c. Develop a southern spur off the Glacial Drumlin State Trail to McFarland and Stoughton.
 6. Update the Village's land dedication and/or fee-in-lieu and its park improvement fees to reflect the recommendations of this *Plan*.
 7. In addition to identifying locations and dedication lands to the Village for trails, the Village should update its ordinances to also require the developer to install off-street trails.



8. Develop and implement a schedule for preparing park management and maintenance plans for existing park facilities within the Village.



- Existing Park and Recreation Facilities**
1. Fireman's Park
 2. Northlawn Park
 3. Community Park
 4. Governor Taylor Nature Park
 5. R.G. Huston Memorial Park
 6. Willow Run Park
 7. Strouse Park
 8. Dublin Park
 9. Oakengate Hill
 10. Thaden Natural Area
 11. Bakken Conservancy
 - A. Cottage Grove School
 - B. Taylor Prairie Elementary School
 - C. Norman Vethe School Forest
 - D. Glacial Drumlin School
 - E. McCarthy County Youth and Conservation Park

Recommended Park Facilities

Map 4

Village of Cottage Grove Parks and Open Space Plan

- Village of Cottage Grove
- Town Boundary
- Parcel Lines
- Extraterritorial Boundary
- Railroad
- Surface Water

- Existing Park and Recreation Facilities**
- Mini-Park
 - Special Use Facility
 - Neighborhood Park
 - Community Park
 - County Park or Conservancy
 - School Recreational Facility
 - Environmental Corridor

- Proposed Park and Recreation Facilities**
- Mini-Park
 - Neighborhood Park
 - Community Park
 - Special

- Off-Street Bike/Ped Facilities**
- Existing
 - Proposed
- On-Street Bike/Ped Facilities**
- Existing
 - Proposed

Existing and Planned Residential Development per the Village of Cottage Grove Comprehensive Plan

Source: Dane County LIO; Village of Cottage Grove; WisDNR; Dane County RPC; USGS, V&A



October 28, 2009
VANDEWALLE & ASSOCIATES INC.
 Shaping places, shaping change

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION

The recommended improvements to Cottage Grove’s park and open space system described in this *Plan* will be phased over time. This phasing will be dictated, in part, by private landowner decisions to develop their property for residential use and by the funding available to the Village to make necessary acquisitions or improvements.

It should be emphasized that the elements of this plan are recommendations, and not mandated expenditures. As with most plans for functional components of a larger community pattern of facilities and infrastructure, expenditures for parks and open space must be balanced against other needs. The allocation of limited resources to help achieve the best overall community benefit is a larger criterion that should be applied. In this regard, the current and future Village Boards will ultimately make decisions whether and when to fund specific elements recommended herein.

The Village should also coordinate efforts with other units of government (e.g., Town of Cottage Grove, City of Madison, and Dane County), governmental departments and public agencies (e.g., Monona Grove School District, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources) and private and non-profit agencies to help fund and implement the recommendations presented in this *Plan*.

A. ESTIMATED COST PROJECTIONS FOR FUTURE PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

To assist in budgeting and planning for future park facilities, Wisconsin statutes (§66.0617 and §236.29) permit the Village of Cottage Grove to impose impact fees on new land development. The following subsections provide an analysis and the results that may be used by the Village as a starting point to update its park impact fee ordinance, though more detailed analysis would be required.

1. ESTIMATED PARK LAND DEDICATION OR FEE-IN-LIEU OF LAND DEDICATION

Based on a projected growth of 4,945 persons by the year 2030 applied to the Village standard of 15 acres per thousand persons, the Village should plan to spend a minimum of \$1,224,000 in 2009 dollars for park land acquisition. Assuming the addition of 1,820 households, a fee-in-lieu of land dedication of \$666 per new dwelling unit would meet this demand. The alternative dedication of 1,759 square feet per dwelling unit would satisfy this fee, if land dedication were preferred. However, land dedicated per this provision must be suitable for the development of a mini, neighborhood, or community park. The Village will continue to accept conservancy areas as donations to the park system; but these lands will not count toward this land dedication requirement.

Figure 9: Projected Parkland Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication

Multipliers	Calculation
A. Projected Additional Number of Dwelling Units (see Figure 7)	1,820 dwelling units
B. Projected Additional Acres Needed (See Figure 8)	73.5 acres
C Calculated Land Dedication Requirement (Row B/Row A)	1,759 square feet
D. Land Cost per Acre Estimate	\$15,000
E. Projected Cost of Land Acquisition (Row B x Row D)	\$1,102,500
F. Legal, Engineering, and Design Costs (Row E x 10%)	\$110,250
G. Total Land Acquisition Cost (Row E + Row F)	\$1,212,750
H. Calculated Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication per Dwelling Unit (Row G/Row A)	\$666

2. ESTIMATED PARK IMPROVEMENT COSTS

The facility and equipment costs presented in Appendix A were compiled by reviewing park and trail facility expenditures from similarly sized Wisconsin communities. These base costs represent average expenditures, and may vary depending upon a variety of factors including the type and amount of equipment, how the equipment is obtained and installed, and the amount of labor required for each facility development.

Based on a projected growth of 4,945 additional persons by the year 2030 and the use of standard park facility budgets included in Appendix A, the Village should plan to spend a minimum of \$3,631,655 in 2009 dollars for park facility improvements (this does not include improvements at existing parks). Based on the calculations presented in Figure 10, a park improvement fee of \$1,711 per new dwelling unit would meet this demand.

Figure 10: Projected Park Facility Improvement Costs

	Estimated Park Improvement Costs per Acre	Projected Additional Acres Needed	Projected Cost of Park Facility Improvement	Calculated Fee for Park Facility Improvement per Dwelling Unit
Community Park (20 acres)	\$51,288	54.9	\$2,815,711	\$1,547
Neighborhood Park (5 acres)	\$24,640	15.8	\$389,312	\$214
Mini-Park (1 acre)	\$28,600	3.4	\$97,240	\$53
Total	\$104,528	73.5	\$3,302,263	\$1,814

3. IMPACT ON LOW-INCOME HOUSING

As part of the public facilities needs assessment, Wisconsin Statutes 66.0617(4)(a)(3) requires estimating the effect of imposing park impact fees on the availability of affordable housing within the municipality. For this type of analysis, it is first assumed that housing in the Village of Cottage Grove is affordable if:

- The costs of the monthly mortgage payment consumes no more than 30 percent of a household's adjusted gross income;
- That homeowners borrow no more than 2½ times the Village of Cottage Grove's median household income for a home mortgage (which in 1999 was \$66,628 according to U.S. Census 2000 data); and
- That homeowners would make a minimum down payment of 5 percent of the total home cost.

Based on these assumptions, if someone is spending 2½ times the Village population's median household income for a home mortgage (\$166,570), and making a 5 percent down payment, then an affordable house in the Village of Cottage Grove costs approximately \$175,337. (According to U.S. Census 2000 data, the median value of an owner-occupied housing unit in the Village of Cottage Grove is \$163,600). Assuming a typical single-family detached housing price of \$175,337, a 5 percent down payment, a 30-year mortgage at a standard interest rate of 8 percent, and a mortgage amount of \$166,570, the typical monthly mortgage payment is \$1,222.23.

The Village's imposed fees for parkland, park improvements, and recreation trails would be an integral part of the housing unit mortgage amount. Based on the recommendation of this *Plan*, the park fee added to the home mortgage amount is \$2,480. After adding this fee, the mortgage amount for the typical single family detached home would increase to \$169,050; assuming the same 30 year mortgage at an interest rate of 8.0 percent, the monthly mortgage payment would be \$1,240. This increase in monthly mortgage payments due to the imposition of the park fee is \$18 per month. Therefore, using the assumptions for a home in the Village of Cottage Grove, this study finds that the park impact fee requirements will have minimal effect on the provision of affordable housing in the Village.

B. PARK AND RECREATION FACILITY ACQUISITION AND FUNDING OPTIONS

1. VILLAGE ORDINANCE/SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

Generally, the Village of Cottage Grove should continue to utilize its existing planning framework and regulations to implement the recommendations in this *Plan*. The Village should continue to use the development review process to secure parklands as development occurs.

2. IMPACT FEES

The Village should update its park impact fee ordinance to acquire and develop the recommended new park and open space facilities. Updating the Village's official map would also help the Village implement the recommendations of this *Plan*. The official map allows the Village to identify existing and future parks and trails to ensure that as lands in the community are developed, these facilities are incorporated into the design of subdivisions and site plans.

3. GRANT PROGRAMS

There are a number of potential funding sources available to help finance implementation. These funding sources are included as Appendix C. Funds from programs such as the State Stewardship Program and Intergovernmental Surface Transportation Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) are subject to change due to uncertainties with current federal and state budgets. Perhaps most importantly, the park and open space facility improvements recommended in this *Plan* should be incorporated in the Village's regular capital improvement plans and programs.

C. NEAR-TERM IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

This section summarizes new park and recreation facilities that are expected to develop within the next five years. Aside from the development of two parks, the Village plans to develop two trail systems and promote the connection of the Glacial Drumlin Trail to Madison. Likely short-term implementation activities the Village intends to pursue include:

- New park site in the Coyle Highlands Development located on the west side of the Village.
- New mini park located in the Quarry Ridge Development
- New special use park north off Vilas Road. This natural area includes glacial drumlins, esker ridges, wetlands, prairies, a pond, and the headwaters of Door Creek.
- The development of a trail system in Oakengate Hill
- The development of a trail system in Thaden Natural Area
- Trail connections through the Village connecting Glacial Drumlin Trail to Madison

APPENDIX B: NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

Component	Use	Service area	Desirable size	Acres / 1,000 population	Desirable site characteristics
Minipark	Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens	Less than 1/4 mile radius	1 acre or less	0.25 to 0.5	Within neighborhoods and close to apartment complexes, townhouse development, or housing for the elderly
Neighborhood Park / Playground	Area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, skating, and picnicking; also for wading pool and playground apparatus areas	1/4 to 1/2 mile radius to serve a population up to 5,000	15+ acres	1.0 to 2.0	Suited for intense development; easily accessible to neighborhood population; geographically centered with safe walking and bike access; may be developed as a school-park facility
Community Park	Area of diverse environmental quality; may include areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes, 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 upon site suitability and community need	Several neighborhoods, 1 to 2 mile radius	25+ acres	5.0 to 8.0	May include natural features, such as water bodies, and areas suited for intense development; easily accessible to neighborhood served
Total Close-to-Home Space = 6.25 to 10.5 acres per 1,000 population					
Regional / Metropolitan Park	Area of natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation, such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, and trail uses; may include play areas	Several communities, 1 hour driving time	200+ acres	5.0 to 10.0	Contiguous to or encompassing natural resources
Regional Park Reserve	Areas of natural quality for nature-oriented outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, wildlife habitats, conservation, swimming, picnicking, hiking, fishing, boating, camping, and trail uses; may include active play areas; generally 80% of the land is reserved for conservation and natural resource management, with less than 20% used for recreation	Several communities, 1 hour driving time	1,000+ acres, sufficient area to encompass the resource to be preserved and managed	Variable	Diverse or unique natural resources, such as lakes, streams, marshes, flora, fauna, and topography
Total Regional Space = 15.20 acres per 1,000 population					
Linear Park	Area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel, such as hiking, biking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cross country skiing, canoeing, and pleasure driving; may include active play areas. (Note: Any activities included for the preceding components may occur in the linear park.)	No applicable standards	Sufficient width to protect the resources and provide maximum use	Variable	Built on natural corridors, such as utility rights-of-way, bluff lines, vegetation patterns, and roads, that link other components of the recreation system or community facilities, such as schools, libraries, commercial areas, and other park areas
Special Use	Areas for specialized or single-purpose recreational activities, such as golf courses, nature centers, marina, zoos, conservatories, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, gun ranges, or downhill ski areas, or areas that preserve, maintain, and interpret buildings, sites, and objects of archeological significance; also plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards, and parkways	No applicable standard	Variable depending on desired size	Variable	Within communities
Conservancy	Protection and management of the natural and cultural environment with recreational use a secondary objective	No applicable standard	Sufficient to protect the resource	Variable	Variable, depending on the resource being protected

APPENDIX C: POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
Wisconsin Stewardship Programs						
Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)	To acquire or develop public, nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities	\$4 million avail. per yr. 50% local match per project	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan in required Priority for land acquisition Projects must comply with ADA 	WDNR	Pat Sheahan, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Urban Green Space Program (UGS)	To acquire land to provide natural space within or near urban areas, or to protect scenic or ecological features	\$1.6 million avail. per yr. 50% local match per project	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan in required Projects must comply with ADA 	WDNR	Pat Sheahan, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Acquisition of Development Rights	To acquire development rights for nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities	\$1.6 million avail. per yr. 50% local match per project	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funds available to acquire development rights in areas where restrictions on residential, industrial, or commercial developments are in place. May include enhancements of outdoor recreation. 	WDNR	Pat Sheahan, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP)	To acquire lands, or rights in lands, adjacent to urban rivers for the purpose of preserving or restoring them for economic revitalization or nature-based outdoor recreation activities	\$800,000 avail. per yr. 50% local match per project	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan in required Projects must comply with ADA 	WDNR	Pat Sheahan, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Federal Programs						
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	To acquire or develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities	50% local match per project	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan in required	WDNR with TEA-21 Funds	Pat Sheahan, South Central Region 608-275-3218

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
Recreational Trails Act (RTA)	To provide funds for maintenance, development, rehabilitation, and acquisition of land for motorized, non-motorized, and diversified trails	50% local match per project	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funds may only be used on trails which have been identified in, or which further a specific goal of a local, county, or state trail plan. ▪ Funds may be used on trails that are referenced in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan 	WDNR with TEA-21 Funds	Pat Sheahan, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Statewide Multi-Modal Improvement Program (SMIP)						
Transportation Enhancements Program	Providing facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists. This program provides funding for rehabilitating and operating historic transportation buildings and structures, restoring railway depots, as well as streetscaping “Main Streets” and landscaping near transportation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funded through TEA-21 ▪ 20% required match 	February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not a grant program. 80% of funds are reimbursed if all federal guidelines are met ▪ Project must relate to surface transportation ▪ Construction projects must be over \$100,000 ▪ Non-construction projects must be over \$25,000 	WisDOT	David McCosh 608-246-5445
Surface Discretionary Grant Program (STP-D)	Provides flexible funds, which can be spent on a wide variety of projects, including roadway projects through the Federal-aid highway system, bridges, transit facilities, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funded through TEA-21 ▪ 20% required match 	February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any project that fosters alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips ▪ Facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists ▪ System-wide bicycle planning ▪ Construction projects must be over \$100,000 ▪ Non-construction projects must be over \$25,000 	WisDOT	
Federal Transit Administration Grant						
Section 5309 (old Section 3 discretionary funds)	Transit capital projects; includes intermodal facilities such as bicycle racks on buses and bicycle parking at transit stations; most funds are to be directed toward transit itself.	20% local match per project	Early Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding for this program is allocated on a discretionary basis ▪ Congress/Administration can pick the projects; however, the authorization bill contains a list of specific criteria 	WisDOT Bureau of Transit	David Vickman 608-264-9532

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program	Funds projects that will reduce vehicle trips and miles; reduce emissions due to traffic congestion, or reduce the per mile rate of vehicle emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded through TEA-21 20% local match 	In April of odd numbered years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only available to Milwaukee, Kenosha, Racine, Ozaukee, Waukesha, Washington, Sheboygan, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Walworth, and Door Counties 	USDOT	David McCosh 608-246-5445
Section 402 – Highway Safety Funds						
Community Programs Empowerment Program Enforcement Program	For bicycle and pedestrian safety, education, and training projects, including helmet promotion and purchases, sponsorship of rodeos, classes, and development of brochures	20% local match per project	October – December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engineering and maintenance work not eligible for funding 	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	Michelle Ellias 608-245-2675
Highway Safety Program (Section 403)	Available for bicycle/pedestrian education. May also be used to develop safety classes for bicycle/pedestrian offenders	20%-50% local match per project	February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For communities that can document bicycle crashes related to motor vehicle violations Funds new enforcement programs up to \$1000 	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	Michelle Ellias 608-245-2675
Research Projects	Funds the research needed to substantiate unique local needs for additional safety funding	20% local match per project	February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A study of transit needs on public lands to assess the feasibility of alternative transportation modes (Section 3039) 	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	Michelle Ellias 608-245-2675
Other Programs						
Surface Transportation-Environment Cooperative Research Program	Evaluate transportation control measures. Improve understanding of transportation demand factors. Develop performance indicators that will facilitate the analysis of transportation alternatives	20% local match per project		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$ available for the development of national bicycle safety education curriculum \$ available for grants to a national not-for-profit organization engages in promoting bicycle and pedestrian safety \$ available for a study of the safety issues attendant to the transportation of school children to and from school and school-related activities by various transportation modes 	FHWA	U.S. Dept. of Trans 202-366-4000

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
Recreational Boating Fund	Encourages the development of recreational boating facilities and related activities	50% local match per project; may increase to 80% if the project is of statewide or regional significance and meets certain criteria		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$ available to conduct feasibility studies related to the development of safe recreation boating facilities and for construction of improvements ▪ \$ available to purchase aquatic weed harvesting equipment, navigation aids, dredging channels, and chemically treating Eurasian water milfoil. 	WDNR WI Waterway Commission	Pat Sheahan, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Urban Forestry Grants	Assistance for tree maintenance, planting, and public awareness	\$1,000 to \$25,000 grants awarded with a 50% local match	October 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding is prioritized for communities needing to develop an urban forestry plan, needing worker training, and needing to conduct a street tree inventory 	WDNR Urban Forestry	Jeff Roe 608-275-3256
Home Depot Community Improvement (Environmental) Grants	Assistance for forestry and ecology projects, clean-up beautification projects, recycling programs				Home Depot Community Affairs	Local Home Depot Store Manager