

E. Community Facilities and Utilities Programs and Recommendations

The community facilities element of this *Comprehensive Plan* is designed to provide an overview of the implications of the recommended land use pattern and transportation network on the full range of community facilities that serve Village residents. More detailed planning will be required to refine these broad recommendations as opportunities or needs for community facility development become apparent. This effort is complicated by population growth uncertainty.

Provision of Urban Services

This *Plan* anticipates the need for the Village of Cottage Grove to amend its urban service area (USA) (described in the Land Use chapter) on a regular basis. USAs are established and approved by CARPC and WisDNR and depict those areas planned to accommodate projected growth and development over the next 20 years. The Village of Cottage Grove will likely seek USA amendments on a regular basis tied to the projected pace of growth and development of the Village as described in of the Land Use chapter of this *Plan*. Urban service area amendments and sewage facilities and service must be consistent with regional plans in the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District. The Village will continue to coordinate with CARPC on logical and timely extensions of its urban service area.

Public Utilities

Village growth should be closely coordinated with public facilities expansions and improvements to ensure a logical and cost effective approach to providing sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water to the Village. Planning of these facilities should be based on detailed utilities studies and with consultation from the Village engineer.

The Village is considering sites for an additional water reservoir, a North Water Tower. Two potential sites are shown on Map 6. These are both west of CTH N, just south of the Interstate. The westernmost site is adjacent to the existing Alliant Energy sub-station. Well site #5 is planned for Coyle Highlands South.

Other Municipal Facilities

As the Village continues to expand geographically and demographically, increased strains will be placed on its municipal facilities. The Village Municipal Building has adequate facilities to meet short-term needs. The Police and Fire facilities are also currently meeting short-term needs. Phased expansion of these facilities can occur at their current locations as needed based on future population growth.

The Village intends to find a new, larger site for a public works facility. This site should be a minimum of 15 acres, and should be well-screened from public roads and adjacent properties. Map 6 shows three potential sites for a new public works facility, including between Gaston Road and the Interstate on the north side of the Village (east of CTH N), the Planned Mixed Use area between the railroad line and Vilas Road, and in the southeastern area north of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail.

The Village may also consider establishing a community center over the planning period. This community center should be sited in a location that is easily accessible to Village residents, such as the planned new downtown area.

Public School Facilities

To an even greater degree than the Village, the public school system is adversely affected by the uncertain local development rate. This is compounded in complexity by a lack of predictability regarding the location of development. The Village and School District are establishing a working relationship which will be critical in ensuring that appropriate school sites are provided in key long-term growth areas of the Village—particularly on the west, north, and east sides of the community. The School District will probably encourage an additional elementary school for approximately every 4,000 persons. Based on the population projections presented in Figure 1.2, the Village may need one additional elementary school by the year 2020. In the last few years, however, the rate of new residential development in Cottage Grove has been balanced against

population declines in other portions of the school district—particularly within the City of Monona. This balance is anticipated to continue in the near term. However, long-term school population losses in Monona will not be a permanent trend that is strong enough to eliminate the need for new schools in the District. New school facilities should be located so as to better serve the growing student population located in the Village.

Parks and Recreation Facilities

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 Village of Cottage Grove Park and Open Space Plan, which is updated every five years. The Park and Open Space Plan includes an inventory of existing parks and open spaces in the Village, as well as recommendations about appropriate population—parkland ratios (based on the Village's ratio policy and the National Recreation and Park Association standards) to serve the Village as it grows and the general locations of future park and open space facilities. 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.

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 may not develop in the next 20 years. As a result, 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.

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

- Acquire new parkland through dedication or purchase as guided by the Village's Park and Open Space Plan.
- 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.
- Encourage the completion of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail through portions of the community, and provision of safe and convenient bike connections to this regional trail, in on-going Village planning efforts.
- Work with the towns 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.
- 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.
- 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 interchange or a separate trail potential underpass should be coordinated with Village and County plans for the trail.

- Work closely with the Dane County Parks Department, WisDNR, area governments, and private organizations to complete the connection of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail and the Capital City Trail.
- Update and enforce land dedication and/or fee-in-lieu and its park improvement fees consistent with direction provided in the Park and Open Space Plan.
- In addition to identifying locations and dedication lands to the Village for trails, update ordinances to also require the developer to install off-street trails.
- Develop and implement a schedule for preparing park management and maintenance plans for existing park facilities within the Village.