



VILLAGE OF BELLEVILLE, WI

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

2018-2022

Prepared by MSA Professional Services, Inc.
in cooperation with the Village of Belleville
Public Works & Park Committee

Adopted October 1, 2018



RESOLUTION NO. 2018-10-01

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF BELLEVILLE, WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, the Village of Belleville has a need for developing an outdoor recreation planning program based on sound planning principals, citizen input, and long-range goals and objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Belleville Public Works and Parks Committee was given the responsibility of developing a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) for the Village of Belleville; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works and Parks Committee has developed the Village of Belleville Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2018-2022, which will serve as a guide for making future decisions relating to the expansion and development of parks and recreational areas in the Village of Belleville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Belleville does hereby approve the Village of Belleville Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2018-2022 for the Village of Belleville, Wisconsin.

Adopted this 1st day of October, 2018.

Village of Belleville

Roger Hillebrand
Roger Hillebrand, President

Attest:

Brian Wilson
Brian Wilson, Village Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following people are responsible for the creation, refinement, and adoption of this Plan

Village President

Roger Hillebrand

Village Board

Maxine Ward - Trustee
 Debra Kazmar - Trustee
 Michael Parkin - Trustee
 Jacob Myrland - Trustee
 Gary Ziegler - Trustee
 Gary Salmela - Trustee

Public Works & Parks Committee

Gary Ziegler - Chair
 Michael Parkin - Member
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 Tim Francois - Public Works Director

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Brian Wilson - Village Administrator

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Belleville residents, property owners, and business owners attended meetings, reviewed draft materials, and submitted comments that have improved this Plan.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Background
- 3 Planning Process
- 3 The Role of Village Parks
- 4 Regional Context

The following report is the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) for the Village of Belleville. The purpose of the plan is to provide general policy direction regarding park and open space planning and maintenance to satisfy the recreational needs of current and future residents, and to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base of the community. The Plan is also intended to be a support document and component of the Village of Belleville Comprehensive Master Plan. This plan along with the Village's other long-range plans and development-related ordinances, will be used to implement the Village's park program.

Specifically the plan provides:

- **Information regarding demographic trends and existing natural resources,**
- **An inventory of existing park and recreational facilities,**
- **An analysis of recreational needs and demands,**
- **General policy direction regarding park and open space planning and maintenance,**
- **Recommendations for improving existing park facilities,**
- **Recommendations for park and open space acquisition and (re)development projects.**

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

1.1 BACKGROUND

Recreation planning has been an essential component of long-range community planning in Belleville for many years. The Village prepared its first park and open space plan in 1990, and since that time, several updates have occurred including the latest one in 2012. This plan builds upon those previous efforts to address new challenges and opportunities which have only recently emerged. At this time, there are two primary factors which are influencing the decision to update the Village CORP.

The Village is growing. The population in Belleville has increased an estimated 484 people since year 2000 (25% growth), and additional growth is anticipated. In 2008, the Village approved the annexation of 230 acres known locally as the "Francois-Fox" and "Olson-Baker" properties. Combined with the adjacent and already approved "Shamrock Hills" plat, a new "West Neighborhood" had emerged. This area has become the Village's third major neighborhood area and is bounded by County Highway PB on the west, the Sugar River on the north, Lake Belle View on the east and State Highway 69/92 on the south.

A master plan for the area was developed by the Village as an amendment to their comprehensive plan in 2008, and development is slowly being implemented. The Village anticipates this new area will primarily develop as mixed-use residential neighborhoods. Studies have concluded that residential neighborhoods which incorporate adequate park and recreational

Chapter 1 Introduction

facilities maintain a higher value, both monetarily and socially, than those without. Creating a plan that addresses the park and recreational needs of the new neighborhood is essential to its long-term success.

Maintaining eligibility for competitive park and recreation acquisition and development grants. Further reason for updating a CORP involves maintaining eligibility for grant aids for

park and open space acquisition and development, such as the State's Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program. In order to maintain eligibility for Stewardship funds, municipalities must have a CORP that has been locally approved within the last five years. In addition, projects for which the Village seeks aid must be identified within its CORP.

LAKE BELLE VIEW RESTORATION PROJECT

The Village has been working on a plan to restore Lake Belle View for over thirty years. Lake Belle View is created by an impoundment of the Sugar River. The Lake consists of approximately 94 acres of open water and 18 acres of forested islands. It is estimated that four feet of river-borne sediment has accumulated in the lake since 1926, resulting in a mean depth of two feet and a maximum depth of less than 10 feet. The lake has the distinctive water quality and fishery problems associated with aging impoundments including sedimentation, turbidity, lack of aquatic plant diversity, excessive nutrients and algal blooms. Excessive biological production, such as the growth of algae, which reduces water clarity and ultimately leads to depressing oxygen levels in the lake, reduces water quality. Surface runoff from agricultural and urban areas draining into the river has magnified water quality issues.

In September of 2008, the Village hired a multi-disciplinary team of consultants to facilitate action on the restoration effort by reviewing previous studies and identifying restoration options and alternatives for the Village to consider. In October of 2009, the Village agreed upon a restoration plan.

The goal of the project was to provide water quality improvements to the Sugar River by reducing rough fish habitat, thermal pollution, and improvement of river system connectivity. This was accomplished by separating the lake from the river system by constructing a berm, and by development of a kayak run/fish passage around the dam. The berm has allowed the river to maintain velocity through and around the lake, preventing deposit of sediments and nutrients into the lake, and restoring the cool water fishery in the river downstream of the dam. The project is was unique in its approach of maintaining both bodies of water while allowing the river to run continuously past the lake.

The berm doubles as a recreational trail connecting the North Shore neighborhoods to Community Park and beyond to Downtown Belleville. Some of the dredge material from the lake was used to help construct the dam and also deposited around the existing lake islands to enhance the islands and create additional rare forested floodplain habitat areas.

The restoration project concluded in 2011 with a 10-year maintenance and monitoring plan in place through 2020.



1.2 PLANNING PROCESS

In 2018, the Village of Belleville requested the assistance of MSA Professional Services, Inc. to update its Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Preparation and adoption of this plan occurred over a eight month period. Oversight for the project was provided by the Public Works and Parks Committee. The Committee met three times with the planning consultant to provide policy recommendations and to review draft documents. Public input was provided through a web-based survey and through attendance at the Public Works and Parks Committee meetings.

1.3 THE ROLE OF VILLAGE PARKS

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

Proper planning is essential for the Village's park and open space system to continue to meet the recreation needs of the community, as well as to continue to preserve valuable natural areas. Whether the Village is experiencing a bear or bull period of economic growth, it is important to remember the many benefits that park and recreational facilities provide the community.

Community Image – Local parks provide opportunities for formal and informal social gatherings. Community festivals, organized recreational events, or chance meetings between Village residents at local parks, all provide opportunities for residents to socialize with people they might not otherwise meet. In addition, having excellent park and recreation facilities can be a source of pride for a community. These factors contribute to the image of the Village as “A great place to live, work, and *play*”.

Community Health – With the rising national trend in obesity, especially among children, the Village's park and recreational facilities play a vital role in maintaining and improving the health of residents in the community. In addition, many studies have demonstrated increases in park and recreation facilities and programs can reduce community crime rates.

Ecological Health – While park and open spaces provide opportunities for improvements to the health of residents, they also contribute to the greater ecological health of the Village. Local parks are often tied together with environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, floodplains, surface waters, or significant woodlands. These areas provide food and shelter for local wildlife and natural stormwater retention. Individual parks can provide important “rooms” of natural resource activity; however, they become even more functional when they can be linked together by environmental corridors, or “hallways.” Wildlife, plants, and water all depend on the ability to move freely within the environment from room to room.

PROJECT MILESTONES

March, 12 2018

Park & Recreation Meeting #1 (previous plan review, plus park tour)

April 2-16, 2018

Park & Recreation Online Survey (gathered public opinions)

June 12, 2018

Park & Recreation Meeting #2 (survey results & prelim. recommendations)

August 30, 2018

Park & Recreation Meeting #3 (reviewed working draft plan)

September 19, 2018

Park & Recreation Meeting #4 (reviewed final draft plan)

October 1, 2018

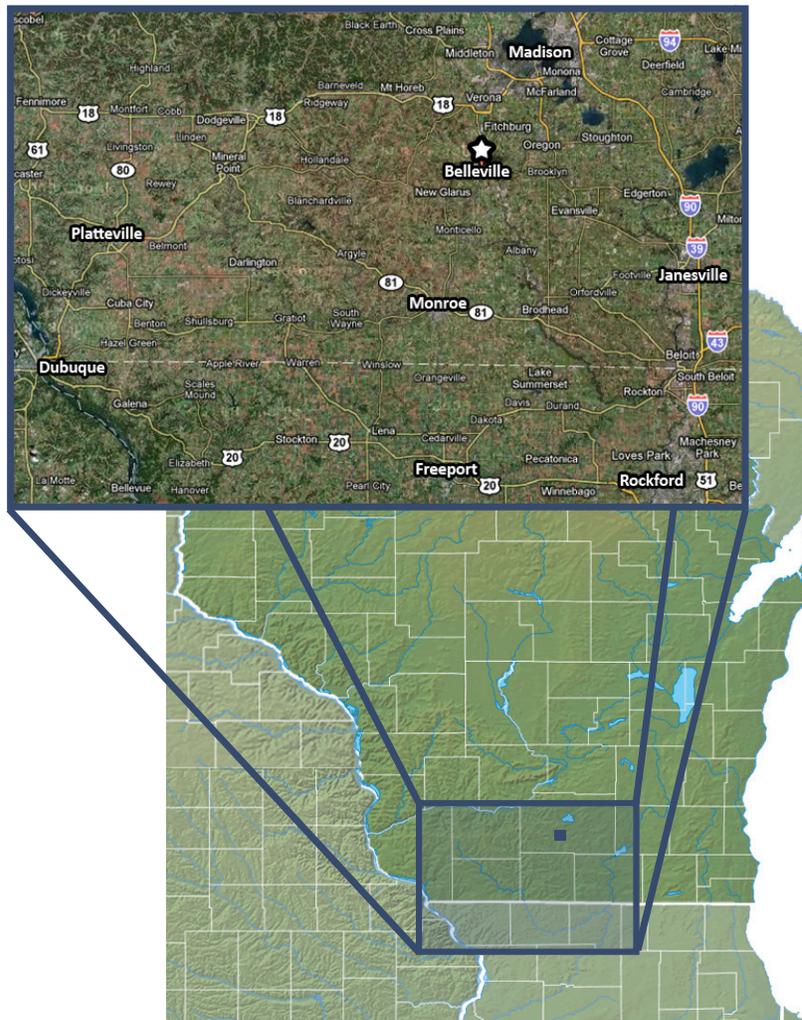
Village Board Meeting (plan adoption)

Chapter 1 Introduction

Economic Prosperity - Leisure time is an important component of people's lifestyles and increasingly people are choosing locations to live based on quality of life amenities such as the amount and type of recreational facilities a community can offer. The ability to retain or attract new residents has direct economic benefits to the Village. Studies have also concluded that property values generally increase the closer residential lots are to a park facility. In addition, if a local parks system is designed with regional amenities, or connections to regional destinations, it can serve to bring additional visitors to the Village. The additional tourism can be a significant benefit to businesses.

1.4 REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Village of Belleville (pop. 2,401) is located in southern Dane County and northern Green County, along State Highways 69 and 92, and County Highways PB, D, and CC. Belleville was founded in 1851 and incorporated as a village in 1892. The Village is approximately 20 miles southwest of Madison (state capital, pop. 250,073), 60 miles northwest of Rockford IL (pop. 147,651), and 90 miles northeast of Dubuque IA (pop. 58,276). Other communities within 15 miles of the Village include the cities of Verona (pop. 12,303) and Fitchburg (pop. 27,936), and the villages of Brooklyn (pop. 1,421), Monticello (pop. 1,219), New Glarus (pop. 2,151), and Oregon (pop. 9,917).



CHAPTER 2

EXISTING CONDITIONS

5	Demographics	8	Wetlands
6	Geology & Topography	8	Forests & Woodlands
6	River Basin & Watersheds	8	Endangered Species
7	Water Bodies	9	Existing Land Use
7	Floodplains	9	Proposed Land Use

The following chapter details some of the important natural resources in the Belleville area and Dane County. The information comes from a variety of resources, including the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the US Census.

2.1 DEMOGRAPHICS

The section describes some of the historic demographic trends for the Village of Belleville as it pertains to population, housing, age composition, income, and school enrollment.

POPULATION

From year 1970 to 2000, the population for Belleville grew by 80% (approximately 2.7% annually), while the growth rate for Dane County was only 47%. During the next decade (2000-2010), Belleville's growth rate was 25%, while Dane County was only 14%. This trend led Wisconsin's Department of Administration (DOA) to project the Village to have a population of 3,525 by 2030 (vintage 2013 data). However, while the county has continued to grow (8% since 2010), the Village's growth has stalled with less than a half percent of change since 2010 (i.e., 2,401 in 2018). This change in growth projections has the county on pace to meet, if not surpass, the vintage 2013 projection for the year 2020 with the Village more than likely not meeting its 2020 projection.

Due to this change in growth pattern, MSA has revised the population projections for the Village of Belleville (see the lower table on the right). Since the vintage 2013 county's projections are still valid, MSA multiplied the village's 2010 share of the county's population (0.49%) by the county's

	Village of Belleville	% of the County	Dane County	Wisconsin
1970	1,063	0.37%	290,272	4,417,821
1980	1,302	0.40%	323,545	4,705,642
1990	1,456	0.40%	367,085	4,891,769
2000	1,908	0.45%	426,526	5,363,675
2010	2,385	0.49%	488,073	5,686,986
2018 Estimate	2,401	0.45%	530,519	5,816,000
Projection (vintage 2013)				
2010	2,475	0.52%	480,573	5,751,470
2015	2,721	0.54%	503,017	5,931,386
2020	2,935	0.56%	527,534	6,110,878
2025	3,243	0.58%	554,848	6,274,867
2030	3,526	0.61%	579,976	6,415,923
Growth 2010-2030	47.8%	---	18.8%	12.8%

	Village of Belleville*	% of the County	Dane County	Wisconsin
2010	2,385	0.49%	488,073	5,686,986
2017 Estimate	2,392	0.46%	524,787	5,783,278
Projection *				
2010	2,355	0.49%	480,573	5,751,470
2015	2,465	0.49%	503,017	5,931,386
2020	2,585	0.49%	527,534	6,110,878
2025	2,719	0.49%	554,848	6,274,867
2030	2,842	0.49%	579,976	6,415,923
Growth 2010-2030	19.2%	---	18.8%	12.8%

* MSA's recalculated projection numbers using the Village's 2010 share of the County

2030 projection. This revised projection suggests the Village of Belleville will have 2,842 residents by the year 2030 (457 increase since 2010). This projection assumes the Village grows proportional to the growth of Dane County, and would likely fill the majority of the vacant (but current platted) lands in the West Neighborhood (which can provide for 550+ people based on average persons per households - see the next section).

HOUSING

As the population gradually increases, household size is expected to decrease. In 1970, the average household size in Belleville was 2.88. By 2010, this number had shrunk to 2.4. This follows national trends and reflects both a decrease in the number of children per family, increased life expectancies, and an increase in the divorce rate. It is expected that the average household size will stabilize between 2.0-2.5 over the next two decades.

AGE COMPOSITION

The 2000 and 2010 population-by-age statistics reveals a decrease in the proportion of the Village population under the age of 20 (down 1.1%) and an increase in the proportion of the population over 65 (up 2.1%).

Households & Housing Units			
	Village of Belleville	Dane County	Wisconsin
People per Household (1970)	2.9	3.3	3.3
People per Household (1980)	3	2.7	2.8
People per Household (1990)	2.6	2.6	2.7
People per Household (2000)	2.5	2.5	2.6
People per Household (2010)	2.4	2.3	2.4
Housing Units (1970)	369	92,442	1,472,322
Housing Units (1980)	486	126,275	1,863,857
Housing Units (1990)	561	147,851	2,055,774
Housing Units (2000)	764	180,398	2,321,144
Housing Units (2010)	1,030	210,009	2,549,915

Source: US Census

INCOME

The median household income in Belleville in year 2010 was \$62,586, 7% higher than Dane County's.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

The Village is located in the Belleville School District and is served by four schools: Belleville Elementary (grades Pre K-1), Belleville Intermediate (grades 2-6), Belleville Middle School (grades 7-8) and Belleville High School (grades 9-12). School enrollment for 2010 was 956 students, up 7.7% from 888 in year 2001.

2.2 GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

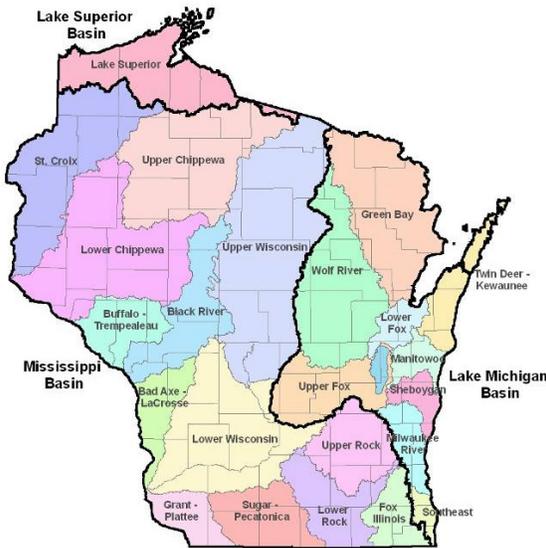
The surface geology north of the Sugar River consists primarily of sand and gravel outwash plain deposits from the most recent glaciation. The part of Belleville south and west of the river is in the "driftless" region of Dane County, where there are no glacial deposits. The subsurface geology of the Village consists of Ordovician sandstones and dolomite (magnesium-rich limestone) deposited 400-600 million years ago. Most of the Village south of the Sugar River consists of Ordovician-St. Peter formations, which are mainly sandstone, shale and conglomerates. North and west of the Sugar River, dolomite of the Prairie du Chien Group is found.

The topography in the Village of Belleville reflects both the unglaciated and glaciated landscape of Dane County. Topographic relief ranges from about 1,000 feet above sea level at its highest elevation in the southwest corner of the Village, down to 860 feet above sea level near the Sugar River.

2.3 RIVER BASINS & WATERSHEDS

Wisconsin is divided into three major River Basins each identified by the primary waterbody into which the basin drains. The Village is in the Mississippi River Basin.

The three basins are further subdivided into 24 Water Management Units (WMUs) with the Village of Belleville in the Sugar-Pecatonica WMU. Each WMU is further subdivided into one or more of Wisconsin's 334 Watersheds. A watershed can be defined as an interconnected area of land draining from surrounding ridge tops to a common point such as a lake or stream confluence with a neighboring watershed. The Sugar-Pecatonica WMU consists of 16 watersheds. The Village of Belleville is within the Upper Sugar River and the Allen Creek and Middle Sugar River Watersheds (as shown below).

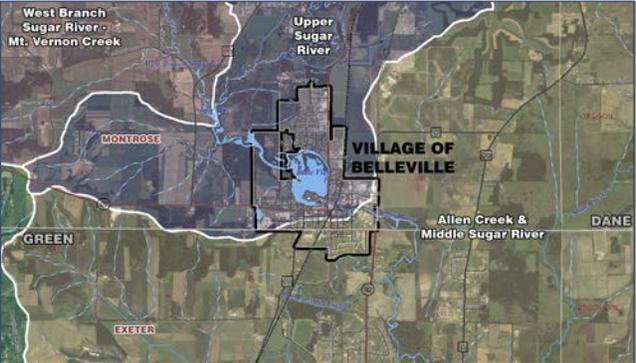


obligations requiring Wisconsin to adopt an “antidegradation” policy that is designed to prevent any lowering of water quality.

Three “threatened” fish species (redfin shiner, river redhorse, and Ozark minnow) have also been found in the Sugar River. There are over 30 different species of fish in the river. Major water quality concerns are associated with streambank erosion, animal waste runoff and sedimentation from cropland erosion. In addition, most of the storm sewers in the Village discharge either to the Sugar River or to Lake Belle View. All of these sources contribute to lake sedimentation problems.

2.4 WATER BODIES

The primary surface water bodies in the Village are the Sugar River and Lake Belle View. The Sugar River flows southeast through the Village.

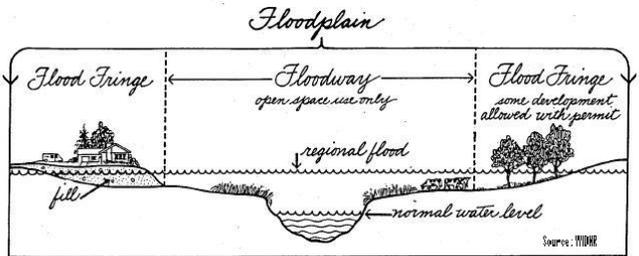


The Village discharges its treated municipal wastewater to the river.

The Sugar River has been nominated as a state “Exceptional Resource Water” since it supports a productive smallmouth bass and trout fishery above the Village. An ERW designation does not include water quality criteria like a use designation. Instead, it is a label that identifies waters the State has identified that warrant additional protection from the effects of pollution. These designations are intended to meet federal Clean Water Act

2.5 FLOODPLAINS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplain areas. A flood is defined as a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas. The area inundated during a flood event is called the floodplain. The floodplain includes the floodway, the floodfringe, and other flood-affected areas. The floodway is the channel of a river and the adjoining land needed to carry the 100-year flood discharge. Because the floodway is characterized by rapidly moving and treacherous water, development is severely restricted in a floodway. The floodfringe, which is landward of the floodway, stores excess floodwater until it can be infiltrated or discharged back into the channel. During a regional flood event, also known as the 100-year, one-percent, or base flood, the entire floodplain or Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) is inundated to a height called the regional flood elevation (RFE).



(Source: WisDNR Floodplain & Shoreland Zoning Guidebook)

Chapter 2 Existing Conditions

Floodplain areas generally contain important elements of the natural resource base such as woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat; therefore, they constitute prime locations necessary for park, recreation, and open space areas. Much of the land area along the Sugar River on the Village's northwest side lies within the floodway, refer to Map 1 (Existing Land Use). Every effort should be made to discourage incompatible urban development of floodplains and to encourage compatible park, recreation, and open space uses.

Benefits of floodplain management are the reduction and filtration of sediments into area surface waters, storage of floodwaters during regional storms, habitat for fish and wildlife, and reductions in direct costs (cleanup operations, reconstruction, etc.) and indirect costs (disruption of business operations, declining tax base in flood blight areas, etc.) due to floods.

2.6 WETLANDS

Wetlands are areas in which water is at, near, or above the land surface and which are characterized by both hydric soils and by the hydrophytic plants such as sedges, cattails, and other vegetation that grow in an aquatic or very wet environment. Wetlands are nature's filters and sponges. They temporarily store floodwaters, filter pollutants from surface waters, control erosion and sediment, supply surface water flow and recharge groundwater supplies, and provide habitat for wildlife.

Wetlands are not conducive to residential, commercial, and industrial development. Generally, these limitations are due to the erosive character, high compressibility and instability, low bearing capacity, and high shrink-swell potential of wetland soils, as well as the associated high water table. If ignored in land use planning and development, those limitations may result in flooding, wet basements, unstable foundations, failing pavement, and excessive infiltration of clear

water into sanitary sewers. In addition, there are significant onsite preparation and maintenance costs associated with the development of wetland soils, particularly as related to roads, foundations, and public utilities. The Wisconsin DNR and the US Army Corp of Engineers require mitigation when natural wetland sites are destroyed. Recognizing the important natural functions of wetlands, every effort should be made to discourage incompatible urban development and to encourage compatible park, recreation, and open space.

All the significant wetlands located in the Belleville area are associated with floodplains. The largest wetland areas are along the Sugar River on the northwest and southeast sides of Belleville. Refer to Map 1 (Existing Land Use) for the wetland areas in the Belleville region, as designated by the Wisconsin DNR.

2.7 FOREST & WOODLANDS

Under good management forests, or woodlands, can serve a variety of beneficial functions. Unfortunately, woodlands, which require a century or more to develop, can be destroyed through mismanagement in a comparatively short time. The destruction of woodlands, particularly on steep slopes, can contribute to stormwater runoff, the siltation of lakes and streams, and the destruction of wildlife habitat.

Woodlands can and should be maintained for their total values; for scenery, wildlife habitat, open space, education, recreation, and air and water quality protection. The Existing Land Use Map displays those lands that are wooded in the Belleville area.

2.8 THREATENED OR ENDANGERED SPECIES

While the conservation of plants, animals and their habitat should be considered for all species, this is particularly important for rare or declining species. The presence of one or more rare species

and natural communities in an area can be an indication of an area's ecological importance and should prompt attention to conservation and restoration needs. Protection of such species is a valuable and vital component of sustaining biodiversity.

Both the state and federal governments prepare their own separate lists of such plant and animal species but do so working in cooperation with one another. The Wisconsin DNR's Endangered Resources Bureau monitors endangered, threatened, and special concern species and maintains the State's Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) database. The NHI maintains data on the locations and status of rare species in Wisconsin and these data are exempt from the open records law due to their sensitive nature.

2.9 EXISTING LAND USE

Existing land use within the Village as of January 2018 are summarized in the table on the right (see *Existing Land Use Map in Appendix C*). The Village consists of two distinct neighborhoods separated by Lake Belle View. The older historic Village Center is located south of Lake Belle View and has experienced some recent growth south of STH 92. The neighborhood north of the lake contains a higher percentage of the Village's multi-family developments. In addition, there is a small cluster of houses south of Blaser Park that are in the Town of Montrose.

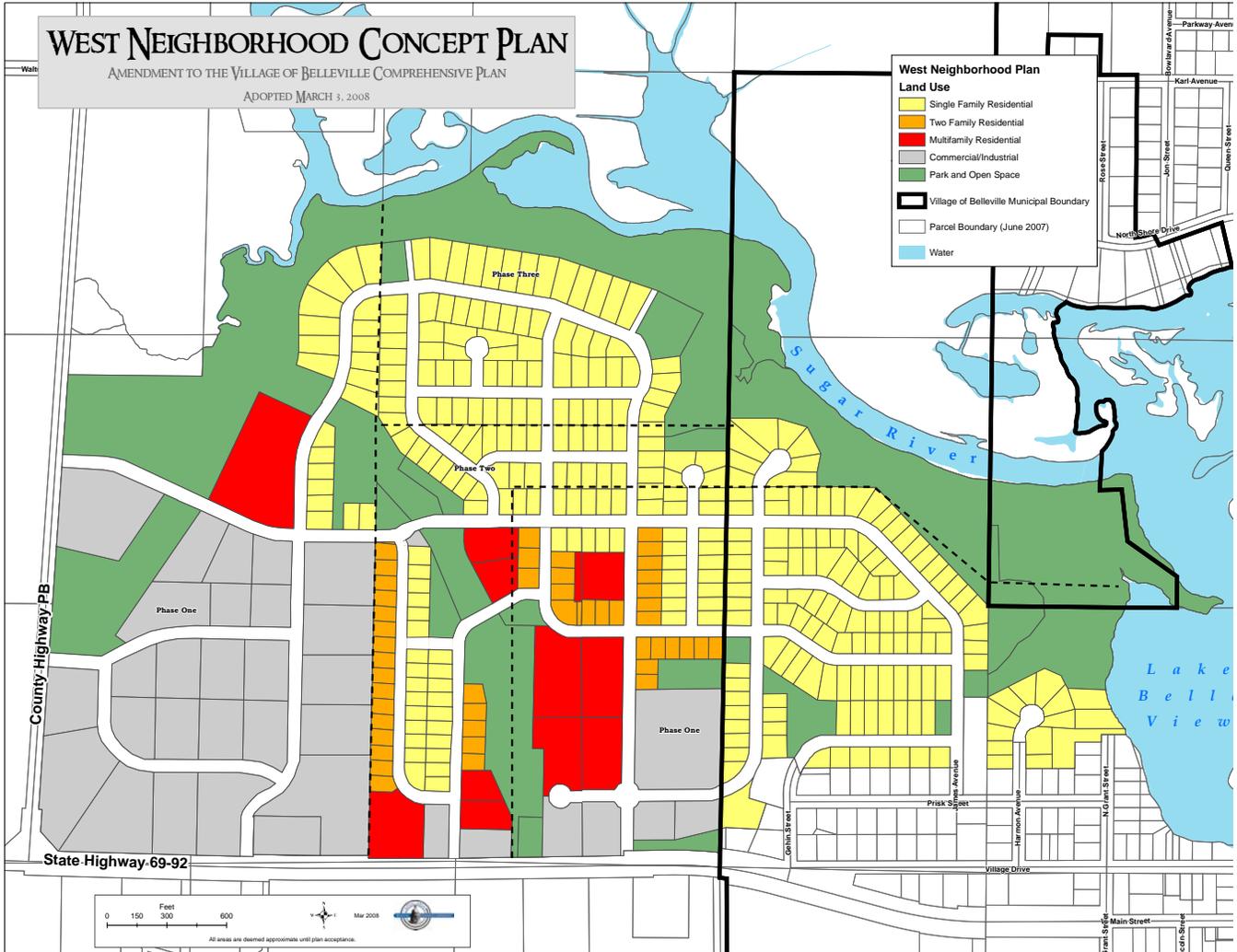
There are two commercial areas within the Village. The central business district comprises 2-3 blocks of retail sales and services along East and West Main Street. The second commercial area includes the land on either side of River Street. Most industrial development is located within the Village's business park between Third Avenue and the Lower Sugar River.

2.10 PROPOSED LAND USE

There is a significant percentage of open and vacant lands in the Village due to significant development restricted lands (i.e., floodplain, wetlands, steep slopes, etc. - See *Development Limitations Map in Appendix C*) and several subdivisions platted on the west side that have not been built. Planned land uses in this area include commercial development along CTH PB and STH 69-92, predominantly single-family housing to the north and east, and dedicated open space along the south side of the Sugar River. Refer to the next page for a conceptual layout of land uses in this neighborhood completed as part of the master plan. While some changes to planned roadways and land uses have occurred, the general development concepts still remain relevant.

EXISTING LAND USES		
	AREA (acre)	PERCENT
Agriculture	111.9	9.8%
Commercial	39.1	3.4%
Industrial / Manufacturing	51.7	4.5%
Wholesale and Retail Trade	3.7	0.3%
Single Family Residential	207.3	18.1%
Two Family Residential	11.6	1.0%
Multifamily Residential	19.1	1.7%
Open Land / Vacant Platted Lands	205.1	18.0%
Parks & Recreation	82.2	7.2%
Institutional/Governmental	60.7	5.3%
Transportation, Communications & Utilities	167.7	14.7%
Water	95.0	8.3%
Woodlands	87.0	7.6%
TOTAL	1,141.9	

**BELLEVILLE
FAR WEST
NEIGHBORHOOD**



CHAPTER 3

PARK, OPEN SPACE, & RECREATION INVENTORY

11 Village-Owned Facilities
14 Rec. Programs & Events

14 Schools/Private-Owned
15 Regional Park & Recreation

The following chapter documents existing park and recreational facilities both within the Village of Belleville and the surrounding region. Several other relevant plans exist and should be consulted for additional information including:

- Dane County Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Wisconsin State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

3.1 VILLAGE-OWNED FACILITIES

Currently, the Village of Belleville manages six parks and has conserved several other sites as open space, totaling roughly 66 acres. The six parks are Belleville Community Park, Veterans Memorial Park, John Frederick Memorial Park, Blaser Park, Green View Park and Sugar River Park. Below are descriptions of facilities and activities at each park site.

BELLEVILLE COMMUNITY PARK



This community park is the largest in the Village at approximately 13 acres and has the most improved and utilized recreational facilities in the Village. The park is located on an island within the 93-acre Lake Belle View, just north of the downtown.

The site has the following amenities:

- A Lighted Combined Football-Baseball Field
- Four Picnic Shelters (400/700/1,500/1,920 sq.ft.)
- A Concession Building (580 sq.ft.)
- A Concessions / Restroom Facility (1,200 sq.ft.)
- A Warming House (540 sq.ft.)
- Two Playground Areas (totaling 6,750 sq.ft.)
- A Horseshoe Pit Area
- Two Basketball Half-Courts
- One Basketball Full-Court
- 75+ Picnic Tables
- A Lighted Parking Lot (~0.75 acres)
- A Boat Launching Ramp

The park serves a wide variety of functions, including no-wake boating, fishing, athletic events, playgrounds, and picnicking. The park also has a Veteran's Memorial, which sits on the south-side of the Sugar River near downtown Belleville.

Chapter 3 Park, Open Space, & Recreation Inventory

JOHN FREDERICK MEMORIAL PARK



This 1.8-acre special purpose park is located on the southside of Main Street at the east end of the downtown.



The site has the following amenities:

- A National Landmark - Old Library
- A Memorial of Village Founder, John Frederick
- A Drinking Fountain
- A Gazebo
- An Information Board
- A Restored Water Fountain

Library Park, as it is also known locally, primarily provides open space amongst large mature trees. The site is home to the Village's National Landmark, known as the Old Library, which has been restored and now plays host to a variety of public meetings. The park also plays host to farmers markets, community events, and the Fall Festival, which celebrates the end of the growing season.

BLASER PARK



This neighborhood park provides 7.5 acres of useable outdoor recreation space. It is located in the northwest corner of the Village bordered by Karl Avenue and Bowlavard Avenue.



The site has the following amenities:

- Two Soccer Fields
- Two Soccer Fields for Small Children
- A Playground Area
- A Picnic Shelter
- A Bathroom Facility with Drinking Fountain

The Village also owns the 17.4 acre parcel north of the park, which consists primarily of wetlands.

GREEN VIEW PARK



This 2.4-acre neighborhood playground is nestled between single-homes and elderly housing. The park is accessed by Blaser Drive between Mitchell Street and East Avenue.



The site has the following amenities:

- A Shelter
- A Play Structure

This park is primarily used by the residents within the surrounding neighborhood.

SUGAR RIVER PARK



This 8.5-acre community playfield is located in the southeast section of the Village bordered by E. School Street and Remy Road.



The site has the following amenities:

- Two Soccer Fields
- Two Ballfields
- A Shelter
- A Cook Shack (975 sq.ft.)
- A Playground Area with Picnic Tables
- A Double Restroom
- A Paved Parking Lot

This site also has a paved bike path along E. School Street and Remy Road, connecting the neighborhood to the Sugar River. The community festival has moved to this park, and is planned to be hosted here for the foreseeable future.

Chapter 3 Park, Open Space, & Recreation Inventory

LAKE BELLE VIEW ISLANDS

There are several islands within the lake that are owned by the Village, totaling approximately 17.2 acres. Most of them are heavily wooded and add significantly to the scenic quality of the lake and its shorelines. Some of the islands have land access via the bike path along the berm built as a part of the Lake Belle renovation project (see more details on page 2). However, none of the islands contain any improvements.

RIVER EDGE AREA

The Village owns 2.6 acres of land along the banks of the Sugar River within the Belleville Industrial Park on the eastside of the Village.

CANDY POINT

This signed point is at the end of N Harrison Street, and provides views of Sugar River, Lake Belle View and Community Park. Currently there are no amenities, except for the public sidewalk. However, a fishing pier will be added in 2018.

3.2 EXISTING RECREATION PROGRAMS & EVENTS

At this time, the Village of Belleville does not support a director of recreational services. Youth and adult sports leagues are organized by volunteers, who coordinate scheduled use of park space amongst each other and Village staff. Many of these organizations support on-going park maintenance by volunteering labor or through direct financial assistance.

Youth or Adult Sports Leagues include:

- Belleville-Albany Bobcat Youth Football
- Belleville Youth Baseball
- Belleville Youth Softball
- Belleville Bulldogs Youth Soccer
- Adult Softball League
- Adult Horseshoe League

In addition to these various leagues, the community also sponsors several events throughout the year, including:

- Belleville Community Picnic
- Busy Beaver 4-H Club Picnic in the Park
- Tae Kwon Do Demonstration
- Public Library Summer Reading Program Picnic
- Car Show (sponsored by Community Club)
- Kiwanis "Movie in the Park"
- Belleville PTO Fall Festival
- Belleville UFO Day activities

3.3 SCHOOL-OWNED FACILITIES

In addition to Village's recreational sites, residents have access to recreational facilities at area schools.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The former Belleville Elementary School is located at 237 W. Pearl Street, just south of Main Street. There is a one-acre open field that is fenced in, as well as the following amenities:

- A Basketball Court
- A Playground Area
- A Fenced-In Open Field

This facility is now closed. However, the village is looking at moving the playground equipment from this site to one of the village parks (see *Chapter 5 for recommendations*).

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

This school is located at 101 S. Grant Street, just east of the middle and high school complex. There is a one-acre open field, as well as the following amenities:

- A Basketball Court
- An Outdoor Swimming Pool
- A Playground Area

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL COMPLEX

This school complex is located at 625-635 W. Church Street, just south of Main Street on the west side of the Village. There is approximately 30 acres of useable outdoor recreation area, which include:

- A Baseball Diamond
- A Softball Diamond
- A Soccer Field
- A Lighted Flex Field (Football/Soccer) & Track with Stadium Bleachers
- A Discus Field
- A Shot Put Field
- Play Equipment (at the Middle School)

3.4 REGIONAL PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES

There are variety of other park and recreational facilities within close proximity to the Village of Belleville. Ownership varies between State, County, DNR, and private ownership. The following list provides the most significant facilities within the Belleville region that residents most likely would use. It is not an exhaustive list, but provides a variety of recreational activities. For more information, contact the representative websites (Dane and Green Counties, DNR, etc.).

DNR SITES

- **Badger State Trail** - This limestone-surfaced trail runs 40 miles between Madison and the Wisconsin-Illinois border along an abandoned railroad corridor. The trail runs through Belleville along side the Library Park where there are bike racks, benches, and a parking lot. Walking, bicycling, in-line skating, snowmobiling, all-terrain vehicle (during winter months), cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing are allowed recreational activities.
- **Military Ridge State Trail** - This limestone and asphalt trail runs 40 miles between Dodgeville and Madison by the way of

an 1855 military route between Verona (*approximately 9.9 miles from Belleville*) and Dodgeville. Walking, bicycling, in-line skating, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing are allowed recreational activities.

- **Sugar River State Trail** - This limestone and asphalt trail runs 24 miles from New Glarus to Brodhead along an abandoned railroad corridor. The Trailhead is located in New Glarus (*approximately 6.8 miles from Belleville*). Walking, bicycling, in-line skating, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing are allowed recreational activities. Camping can be found at the New Glarus Woods State Park, which can be accessed via this state trail.
- **New Glarus Woods State Park** - This Wisconsin DNR site is approximately 431 acres, and is located in the Village of New Glarus (*approximately 6.8 miles from Belleville*). The site offers camping, hiking, hunting, picnicking and snow snowshoeing. The park also provides direct access to the Sugar River State Trail.
- **Sugar River Wetlands State Natural Area** - This 110-acre state natural area is located near the City of Verona (*approximately 9.9 miles from Belleville*). The site is a part of a larger grassland habitat restoration complex along the Sugar River and contains a diverse wetland ecology with a few species that are on the State's Endangered and Threatened Species list. Activities allowed in SNAs include hiking, fishing, hunting, trapping and skiing, but exceptions may apply to some sites.
- **Olson Oak Woods State Natural Area** - This 166-acre state natural area is located near the City of Verona (*approx. 12.7 miles from Belleville*). This site offers a variety of tree species, including open-grown oaks dating to the 1750's, and nearly 300 species of vascular plants. See Sugar River Wetlands SNA for possible activities on this site.

Chapter 3 Park, Open Space, & Recreation Inventory

- **Hook Lake Bog State Natural Area** - This 380-acre state natural area is located in the Village of Oregon (*approximately 15.6 miles from Belleville*). The site is one of the highest quality wetlands in Dane County and contains many species that are rare to Dane County. See Sugar River Wetlands SNA for possible activities on this site.

DANE COUNTY SITES

- **Badger Prairie Park** - This park is located just east of the City of Verona (*approximately 9.6 miles from Belleville*) at the intersection of County Highway PB and U.S. Highway 18 and 151, serves as the center of the Ice Age Trail Junction Area. The park has a shelter facility, play fields, mountain bike trails, a playground, and a new aeromodeling field. The park also provides access to Military Ridge State Trail and a segment of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.
- **Prairie Moraine Park** - This 160-acre park is primarily a dog park, but also offers views of the Johnstown Moraine. The entrance is two miles south on County Highway PB outside of the City of Verona (*approximately 9.9 miles from Belleville*).
- **Scheidegger County Forest** - This 78.6-acre managed forest is located along the Range Trail south of the City of Verona (*approximately*

7.0 miles from Belleville). It is presently not open to the public, but there are plans to provide passive recreation on this site in the future.

- **Donald County Park** - This park is located right off of STH 92 southeast of the Village of Mt. Horeb (*approximately 11.9 miles from Belleville*) and encompasses more than 700 acres of parkland. The site provides many scenic views of oak/pine woods, restored prairie habitat, wetlands and rock outcroppings. The many miles of trails provide views of the rugged beauty while hiking, cross country skiing, horseback riding and snow shoeing. The park also is well-known for its trout streams (Deer Creek, Frye Feeder and Mt. Vernon Creek).

GREEN COUNTY SITES

- **Exeter Park** - This 8-acre park is sits on the Sugar River in Dayton (*approximately 3.6 miles from Belleville*). There is a shelter, playground equipment, handicap-accessible porta-potty, and parking. There is also a gravel trail leading down to the river with a canoe/kayak landing.
- **Lake Montesian** - This small lake is located in the Village of Monticello (*approximately 13.2 miles from Belleville*) has an island that is accessible by footbridge, and provides opportunities to fish, canoe, and kayak.

Private Sites

- Argue-Ment Golf Course, New Glarus, WI (*approximately 3.7 miles away*)
- Edelweiss Chalet Country Club, New Glarus, WI (*approximately 5.8 miles away*)
- Bergamont Golf Course, Oregon, WI (*approximately 7.5 miles away*)
- Foxbury Golf Club, Oregon, WI (*approximately 9.0 miles away*)
- University Ridge Golf Course, Madison, WI (*approximately 11.0 miles away*)
- Hawks Landing Golf Course, Verona, WI (*approximately 12.0 miles away*)
- Hawks Landing Pool & Tennis Club, Verona, WI (*approximately 12.0 miles away*)
- John Powless Tennis Center, Madison, WI (*approximately 13.0 miles away*)
- Parkcrest Swim & Tennis Club, Madison, WI (*approximately 15.0 miles away*)

CHAPTER 4

ANALYSIS OF NEEDS & DEMANDS

17 Quantitative Analysis
18 Qualitative Analysis

20 Geographic Analysis

This chapter presents an analysis of how well the Village's existing park and recreational facilities satisfy current needs in the community. The adequacy of the Village's existing park and recreation system was evaluated in the following ways:

- **Quantitative Analysis** – a comparison of existing parkland acreage and population projections versus park and recreational facility service standards.
- **Qualitative Analysis** – a summary of public input regarding Village park and recreational facilities gathered from a 2007 Youth Sports Survey, and the 2018 Community Web Survey and Open House completed as part of this project.
- **Geographic Analysis** – an analysis of the geographic distribution and accessibility of parkland and recreational facilities in Belleville.

4.1 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

An analysis of existing recreational land area is provided to determine if the recreational needs of the residents are being met. This analysis is limited to an evaluation of the space, or land, devoted to recreational use. For the purpose of calculating anticipated parkland demand, a level of service of 27 acres per 1,000 residents was assumed. This level of service is based on the standard developed in the previous park plan and carried forward as a policy in this plan (*refer to Chapter 5*). It was derived by dividing the total acreage of active parkland by the total number of housing units.

Currently the Village is providing approximately 64.7 acres of active parkland (*excluding 36.4 acres of preserved land*). This translates to 0.027 acres of parkland per person, or 27.1 acres per 1,000 residents. Based on the level of service standard set in Chapter 5 (i.e., 27 acres per 1,000 residents), the Village is currently meeting its demand.

Assuming the revised population projections are correct and the Village does not add additional parkland, the Village will have a shortfall of 12 acres by year 2030. This analysis excludes the Village's preserved land, totaling 36.4 acres, as it does not offer passive or active uses. Additionally, the regional recreational facilities (Badger State Trail) and school facilities were excluded from this calculation since access and maintenance of these properties are not regulated by the Village.

Although the total acreage of community park and recreation lands is an easy indicator of the presence of parks and recreation space, it is not the only indicator of whether a community is able to meet the park and recreation needs of its residents. **The National Recreation and Park Association advocates that the location of parkland, and the types of recreational facilities offered on that land, are just as important as the total acres of parkland.** A community with a lot of parkland, but few recreational facilities, is less likely to meet the needs of its residents than a community which has a lesser amount of parkland, but has a larger variety of recreational opportunities.

Chapter 4 Analysis of Needs & Demands

ACTIVE PARK SPACE SURPLUS/DEFICIT BY TYPE (in acres)*

Year	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Population	2,385	2,465	2,585	2,719	2,842
Mini-Park	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.7
Neighborhood Playground	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0
Neighborhood Park	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2
Community Playfield (excluding school properties)	-3.4	-3.8	-4.4	-5.1	-5.7
w/ School Properties	26.6	26.2	25.6	24.9	24.3
Community Park	1.1	0.7	0.1	-0.6	-1.2
TOTAL (excluding school properties)	3.9	2.9	1.5	0.0	-1.5

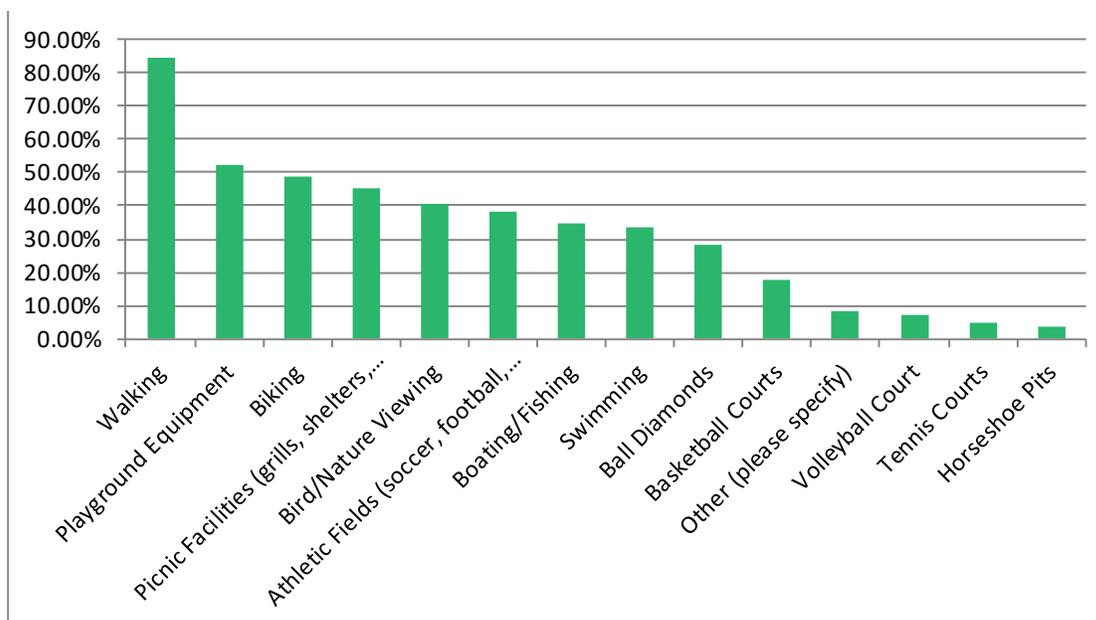
* Based on NRPA Recommendations (see Appendix B)

As the table above illustrates, the village has a shortfall in mini-parks and community playfields (excluding school facilities) and will have a shortfall of community park space by 2030 (based upon the NRPA minimum park size standards for each type of park space). If the acreage associated with school facilities were included in the analysis, Belleville would have a surplus of parkland now and into the future.

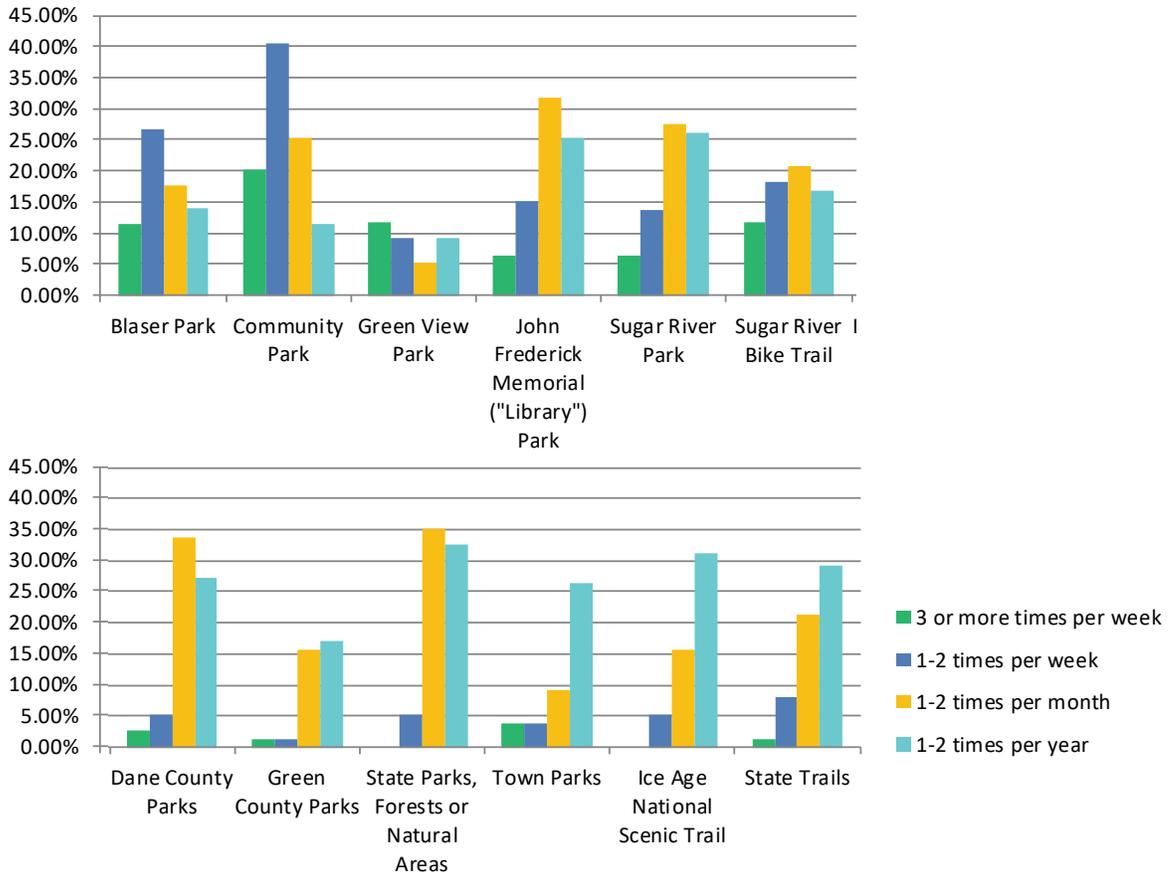
4.2 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

As part of the planning process the village conducted an online survey to poll village and adjacent town residents' opinions regarding Belleville's park facilities. The information is a key component to analyzing the recreational needs and demands in Belleville. The following is a summary of responses to key questions. A complete copy of the survey results is available in **Appendix A**.

When visiting Village parks, which activities or facilities do you or members of your household most commonly participate in or use?



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



GENERAL PARK USE/SATISFACTION

- 83% indicated they were “satisfied” with the park facilities (up from 58% in the 2010 survey), while 16.5% of respondents indicated they were “dissatisfied” with park facilities in Belleville (down from 34.6% in the 2010 survey).
- When asked to rate several characteristics of the park system (cleanliness, landscaping/mowing, play equipment, athletic fields), only tennis courts resulted in an unfavorable response. High marks went to general park cleanliness and park mowing/landscaping.
- Excluding winter months, the top visited parks/trails in the area on at least a weekly basis are: Community Park (53% of respondents),

Blaser Park (34%) and Sugar River Bike Trail (30%).

- Favorite parks to visit outside of the Village include the following: McKee Farms (splash pad), Exeter Park, State Parks (Devil’s Lake), Badger Prairie Park - Verona (snowshoeing, play equipment), and New Glarius (park equipment).

COMMUNITY PARK USAGE

When asked specifically about recreational activities/facilities used most often when visiting village park system, the top responses were walking (80% of respondents), playground equipment (59%), picnic facilities (48%), biking (45%) and athletic fields (41%).

RECREATIONAL FACILITY DEMAND

When asked what type of park areas/facilities should be added/improved/expanded, the top six responses were:

1. Canoe/Kayak facilities - 50%
2. Beaches/Lake access - 42%
3. Splash pad - 35%
4. Indoor athletic complex - 32%
5. Indoor pool - 32%

Also notable from this question are the top five improvements to existing parks, as follows:

1. Playground equipment - 27%
2. Site furnishings - 23%
3. Lake & shoreline restoration - 21%
4. Lighted athletic fields - 21%
5. Fishing facilities - 20%

YOUTH SPORTS CLUB NEEDS

As part of the 2007 park plan, organizers of several youth sport leagues submitted a report to the Village Board regarding their long-term facility needs. That information was verified in the 2012 CORP update for relevancy with current league directors and no changes were found. Since the conditions have remained the same since the 2012 CORP update, the information is viewed as still accurate and, therefore, provided below.

Belleville-Albany Bobcat Youth Football

At Community Park any significant rain causes the field to flood, and when the lights were replaced they were no longer adequate to use for night football games.

At Sugar River Park very little topsoil with sand underneath requires consistent rain or the grass dies and the field becomes quite hard; therefore, additional topsoil or a water system is needed. The blacktop walking trail also affects field layout, moving the trail closer to STH 92 and Remy Road would allow us to turn the existing field straight north and south and allow for a partial practice field between the ball diamond and STH 92.

When we reach eight teams we are going to need two game fields equipped with scoreboards. One field will need lights so we could host night games. When we reach ten teams we will need to have five total fields for practice and for games. We will also need storage buildings for equipment at each field.

Belleville Youth Baseball

Our needs for the immediate future will be to reconfigure and reconstruct the two youth diamonds at Sugar River Park. These would be home fields for the 9,10,11, and 12 year old age groups. We would also like the Village to consider allowing an independent lawn service company/contractor to maintain and mow fields. This will free-up time and costs need to employ Village workers to maintain those. We would also like the Village to explore the notion of having a paid position of Recreation Coordinator. This person would be in charge of everything from scheduling, setting up officials, and coordinating lawn care.

We would like the Village to consider constructing a four-plex of diamonds, three which could accommodate up to 75 foot length bases and an area which would have outfield fences up to 250 feet. The fourth field would need to accommodate regulation length bases (90 feet) and an outfield area having fences out to 350 feet in centerfield. With this there would be a separate concession stand and utility shed to house equipment.

Belleville Youth Softball

A two field complex that would have the ability to grow into a 4-plex would be ideal. Additionally, at any park used by youth sports, concession stands are the lifeblood. Bathrooms are always nice. It would be helpful to have someone do all of the youth sports field scheduling and act as a contact person with the clubs, the Village, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Belleville Bulldogs Youth Soccer

Based on population growth our club would like to duplicate the field situation that we have at Blaser Park. This will allow our club room to grow in the future as we currently depend on using quite a bit of practice field space at the high school and this may not be available to us in the future.

It would be interesting to look into the possibility of having a sports director/coordinator. We currently do all of our field work ourselves, except for the mowing, which is a huge factor in soccer. If we had a better idea of when that was scheduled we could worked our games and practices around that.

4.3 GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

The location of park and open space facilities in relation to the Village's residents is an important indicator of how well existing facilities meet the needs of the community. The National Recreation and Park Association advocates that all residents should live within a 1/4 to a 1/3 mile of some type of public park or open space.

Park and School Services Area Map indicates areas of the Village that are not currently served by a neighborhood park; that is, they do not fall within the 1/4 mile recommended service area of any park, or the service area is broken by a pedestrian barrier. This map indicates the following deficiencies in the location of parkland:

- There are some residences on the northside that are outside of the 1/4-mile service area for Blaser Park. However, this concern seems minimal since using a 1/2-mile buffer, the maximum service area for a neighborhood park, would provide full coverage.
- A significant portion of the existing residences on the west side of the Village are under

served by public parkland. However, if the recreational facilities located at each school site are considered in the analysis, full coverage is obtained.

- The majority of the planned "West Neighborhood" has the potential to be underserved with park facilities if the vacant land in this area develops into residential neighborhoods without new park facilities. The same is true of the proposed Northeast and Northwest planned neighborhoods.

The **Park and School Services Area Map** also provides one-mile service areas for Community Park and Sugar River Park. Both parks offer unique and diverse recreational resources that are intended to serve the broader needs of more than one neighborhood. For example, Community Park offers fishing opportunities and space for picnics, while Sugar River Park provides space for soccer, baseball and football at one location, as well as and space for community festivals. Because of the size of these parks and the recreational facilities they offer, these parks are classified above the level of a neighborhood park or playground; and therefore, have service areas of 1-2 miles. However, for the purpose of illustrating gaps where residences do not have some type of park within walking distance, a 1/4-mile service area was assumed for all parks regardless of classification.

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CHAPTER 5

GOALS & POLICIES

23 Over-Riding Goal

23 Objectives & Policies

Before any standards are applied and recommendations developed, there should be an understanding of basic goals, objectives, and policies that should be considered in developing a park and recreation system. The following policies have been adapted from the National Park, Recreation, and Open Space Standards, a publication of the National Recreation and Park Association. These policies are paramount in obtaining a balanced allocation of land to meet the Village's social, physical, and economic needs.

5.1 OVER-RIDING GOAL

Ensure the provision and stewardship of sufficient parks, recreation facilities, and natural areas to satisfy the health, safety, and quality of life needs of citizens and visitors - and to enrich the environmental and aesthetic quality of the Village's neighborhoods and the surrounding region.

5.2 OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

Objective 1: Acquire and develop new park and recreational facilities where Village growth creates a need for additional facilities and where existing residents are underserved by existing Village parks.

- *Policy 1: Most residents should be within a ten minute walk or 1/4 mile from a public park or open space area and the Village will strive to maintain a minimum of one acre of parkland per 15 housing units (the equivalent of 27 acres per 1,000 residents using an average of 2.5 people per housing unit).*
- *Policy 2: The Village will require that residential developments dedicate parkland, provide recreational facilities, and dedicate or otherwise preserve conservancy areas like wetlands and floodplains. In such special cases that this is not possible, the Village will require that residential developments provide fees-in-lieu of parkland dedication and fees-in-lieu of park development sufficient to meet the anticipated cost, on a per household basis, of providing park improvements at a level equivalent to the park standards adopted in this plan.*
- *Policy 3: The Village may consider the use of an Official Map, Purchase of Development Rights (PDR), or other planning tools, to reserve areas planned for future public park and open space areas.*

Chapter 5 Goals & Policies

Objective 2: Preserve environmental corridors located within Belleville and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

- *Policy 1: The Village will guide the location and design of development in order to prevent potential adverse impacts to environmental corridors, and the habitat of threatened and endangered species.*
- *Policy 2: The Village may consider the development of utilities, roads, stormwater management and telecommunications facilities within parks, or through environmental corridors, provided practicable steps to minimize disturbances to these areas are taken.*
- *Policy 3: The Village encourages using environmental corridors and open space areas to link community parks, including allowing the development of compatible recreational uses and facilities (i.e. trails, shelters, playfields, etc.) within environmental corridors.*
- *Policy 4: The Village encourages lake rehabilitation efforts to improve the water quality of the Sugar River and Lake Belle-View.*
- *Policy 5: The Village will practice the use of native landscaping within Village park and open space areas and will encourage the removal of invasive species from the landscape.*

Objective 3: Improve interconnectivity and visibility of Village parks and open spaces throughout the community.

- *Policy 1: New park and recreational facilities should be centrally located within the area that they are intended to serve.*
- *Policy 2: The provision of safe and convenient pedestrian and bicycle connections between parks, open spaces, and recreational*

facilities will be emphasized in on-going Village planning and acquisition efforts, with a particular emphasis in maximizing connections between Village parks and the Badger State Trail. This will provide an internal circulation route with regional entry and exit points.

Objective 4: Provide a diversity of multi-seasonal and multi-use recreation opportunities.

- *Policy 1: The Village will require that land dedicated for use as park areas in new neighborhoods be of sufficient size to accommodate the recreational needs of the new neighborhood, and when possible, for multiple uses.*
- *Policy 2: The Village's park and recreation system will provide a variety of recreational opportunities to address the diverse needs of residents.*
- *Policy 3: The Village encourages "special purpose" parks, plazas, and open spaces within commercial and industrial areas to provide outdoor gathering places and aesthetic enhancements in otherwise developed environments for the enjoyment of employees and patrons.*
- *Policy 4: The Village encourages the restoration and maintenance of historic places or structures as unique enhancements to the community's recreational resources.*

Objective 5: Coordinate parkland development and recreational uses with other government units.

- *Policy 1: The Village will coordinate park and open space acquisition, development, and management with neighboring towns, Dane and Green counties to enhance regional recreational opportunities and to prevent*

duplication of facilities where such duplication is not necessary.

- *Policy 2: Where feasible and otherwise consistent with Village park needs, locate neighborhood and community parks adjacent or near to schools so that there are opportunities for joint use of facilities. This can enhance the school environment and prevent duplication of facilities.*

Objective 6: Provide safe park and recreational facilities with access for all persons regardless of race, creed, age, gender, or economic status.

- *Policy 1: Facility development must be reviewed with safety in mind, adhering to accepted standards prior to installation.*
- *Policy 2: To the extent possible improvements/maintenance to existing facilities will be designed to meet the requirements of the American's With Disabilities Act (ADA). Any new park facilities should be designed to meet ADA standards unless environmental limitations are present or similar ADA compliant facilities are present within a park (i.e. duplicate facilities).*
- *Policy 3: The Village will prohibit land uses adjacent to existing or planned park and recreational areas that will pose a public safety or access hazard for individuals using the park or recreational facility.*

Objective 7: Preserve environmental corridors as permanent open space areas.

- *Policy 1: The Village will preserve areas for open space where development is difficult due to unstable soils, steep slopes, poor drainage conditions, or other similar conditions. Recreational uses in these areas will be limited to passive recreation uses, including nature walking, wildlife*

COMPLYING WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

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

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

(source: www.ada.gov)

Chapter 5 Goals & Policies

photography, or snowshoeing. The Village will prohibit active recreational uses from locating in environmental corridors if they are found not to be conducive to periodic flooding, or if they pose a threat to plants and animals using these areas for food and habitat.

- *Policy 2: The Village will encourage public awareness of environmental and cultural resources within local parks using interpretative signage or historical markers. The Village encourages the use of park facilities for outdoor environmental education.*

Objective 8: Coordinate future improvements to park and recreational facilities.

- *Policy 1: The Village may acquire, or dedicate, parkland in advance of development in order to prevent the loss of high quality sites to other uses.*
- *Policy 2: The Village may explore alternative means of reserving lands required for open space to ensure that lands are obtained at the lowest cost to the public (e.g. state and federal grants, non-profit organizations, conservation easements, purchase of developments rights).*
- *Policy 3: The Village will maintain a capital improvements plan to replace worn or damaged recreational equipment and facilities.*
- *Policy 4: The Village encourages volunteer participation and stewardship in maintaining existing and future parks. Citizen involvement in the recreation and open space decision-making process is encouraged.*
- *Policy 5: The Village will review and update this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years.*

CHAPTER 6

RECOMMENDATIONS

28 Existing Park Facilities

31 New Park Facilities

34 Recreational Trails

35 Other Recommendations

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

The recommendations of this plan are divided into four major sections:

1. Recommendations for existing park facilities;
2. Recommendations for new park facilities;
3. Recommendations for recreational trails; and,
4. Miscellaneous recommendations.

Many of the specific recommendations discussed in each section are identified on the **Potential Park and Recreation Facilities Map**². Acquisition projects will be implemented through donation, dedication, purchase, or a combination of all three.

Most recommendations include an estimated time frame for completion. The time frames suggested were developed based on a combination of public demand, and the relative ease and anticipated cost for design and construction.

- Time frames between 2018-2019 are considered “low hanging fruit” actions that should be relatively easy to implement and/or are of high-priority.
- Time frames between 2020-2022 indicate that some moderate planning or additional budgeting will be required (*moderate priority*).
- Time frames beyond 2022 indicate the action item requires more advanced planning and design, or may be cost prohibitive to implement in the short-term (*low priority*).

While adding new park facilities is important to enhancing the Village’s park system, the Village maintains a commitment to a program of maintaining existing parks in satisfactory condition and providing sufficient funding for operations. Such maintenance and operations include providing sufficient budget for the following:

- Maintaining and replacing existing facilities and equipment, as needed,
- Maintaining or improving the landscape at existing parks in good condition,
- Providing sufficient resources in support of recreational programs,
- Maintaining a safe and accessible environment at all Village parks.

As new lands are added to the park system, the Village will need to budget additional funds for maintenance and operations.

² This map indicates approximate or preferred locations for new park and recreational facilities. More detailed planning and analysis may reveal other opportunities.

Chapter 6 Recommendations

6.1 EXISTING PARK FACILITIES

At the time this plan was created, concept plans illustrating park facility recommendations were only created for Blaser, Sugar River, and Community Park. The Village should consider developing similar site plans for each of their parks and adding them to this plan in **Appendix C**.

BLASER PARK

(Classification: Neighborhood Park)



2018-2019

1. Add bike parking near the shelter and playground area.
2. Add benches for soccer players along main field.

2020-2024

3. Construct angled parking along the west side of Jon Street using existing grass terrace (but maintaining existing sidewalk).
4. Add deciduous trees along the park borders.
5. Add trail/boardwalk along the edge of the wetland.

GREEN VIEW PARK

(Classification: Neighborhood Playground)



2018-2019

1. Add bike parking near the shelter and playground area.
2. Add benches around playground equipment.
3. Add a sign w/ new Village logo and add a smaller sign at the pedestrian entrance along 4th Street (see #6).

2020-2024

4. Add trees along park edges.
5. Add a path from 4th Street to existing sidewalk from Blaser Drive. Add park benches trees, and bird houses along path. Consider adding lighted bollards along pathway.

2025+

6. Add one of the following in the western open grass area: half-court basketball, two pickleball courts or a sand volleyball court. Add landscaping (berm) between the court and neighboring residential properties.
7. Add restroom building/drinking fountain.

JOHN FREDERICK MEMORIAL PARK

(Classification: Special Purpose Park)



2018-2019

1. Install historic marker for the old Library.
2. Add more bike parking near the intersection of Vine and Main.

2020-2024

3. Add a sign w/ new Village logo.
4. Repair and maintain the old Library for community festivals and rentals.

SUGAR RIVER PARK

(Classification: Community Playfield)



2018-2019

1. Add bike parking near playground and shelter.
2. Replace and expand the playground area to include swing set, climbing apparatus, etc. This is a good location for the the old Intermediate School play equipment and the swing set from the former Elementary School.

3. Add benches around playground equipment.
4. Build a parking lot within public right-of-way from School Street to Pearl Street (placing a single row of parking under existing overhead wires). Add a bike path east of the parking spaces, connecting to existing path on School Street.
5. Add more deciduous trees along park edges, especially adjacent to sewage plant. Consider flowering trees along the sewage plant edges.

2020-2024

6. Reseed and stripe western portion of the park for a north/south multi-purpose field (football/soccer) with the option for two practice soccer fields running east/west. *Additional lights, benches, scoreboard and bleacher amenities could be added.*

7. Add new sidewalk from E. Pearl St. and E. Church St. around proposed football field to existing restrooms/shelter/parking area.

2025+

8. Once Sugar River Park is expanded east of Remy Road (see Item #M), add lighted full-length basketball court and lighted tennis courts (2 courts side-by-side) between stormwater swale and planned multi-use field (see #6). The existing little league baseball field will be moved to the park expansion on east side of Remy Road.

BERM & LAKE BELLE VIEW

CONSERVANCY ISLANDS

(Classification: Reservations & Preserves)

2018-2019

1. Add entrance features, including signs, trash/recycling receptacles at both ends of the berm.

COMMUNITY PARK

(Classification: Community Park)



2018-2019

1. Grade and pave the main parking lot just north of recently added pedestrian bridge. Consider best management practices when reconstructing the parking area to reduce potential washouts.

2. Place play equipment between the three shelters in the center of the park. The space should remain open, so play equipment should fit the area (examples below). The concept plan shows a 30-FT by 50-FT area that is raised at least 2 FT above surrounding grade (reducing potential washout).



3. Re-purpose Bross Circle as a one-way circle west of the basketball court. This will provide ample space for both pedestrians (walking and biking) and passing vehicles. It also will improve functionality of the boat launch. Angled parking can remain as marked (reverse angled parking), or be remarked to head-in parking.

4. Reconstruct the boat launch and pave the entire area to allow for staging. Also add a canoe launch on the opposite side of the berm providing access to Lake Belle View. Re-use pavement for a boat launch staging area (hatched in the concept) and boat parking (two spots). The mature evergreen tree could remain, but removal is recommended to allow better visibility of boat launch, vehicles and pedestrians around this bend.

5. Add picnic tables and benches in key locations along the waterfront edges.

6. Reuse existing concessions shelter in the southwest corner (behind the baseball backstop) for tubing rentals, and add a tube take-out and gravel path to the rental building.

7. Add a fishing pier northeast of the shelters.

2020-2024

8. Add a beach just north of the main parking lot.

9. Add a multi-use path from the pedestrian bridge to Bross Circle, removing existing sidewalk and removing existing horseshoe area. Consider adding trees along the path and several picnic tables.

10. Replace the existing sign with a larger monument-style sign that is visible from River Street. Surround the sign with low perennials that will not interfere with the sign's prominence.

11. Replace the baseball diamond team bench areas with larger benches and add a fence around them based on current standards. Also add two light poles beyond the baseball outfield. It is recommended that these poles be placed 19 degrees from dead centerfield at least 30 feet beyond the football endline, as illustrated in the final concept plan.

12. Add fitness-focused equipment at key locations around Bross Circle. A minimum of four locations are recommended. Below are examples of this type of equipment.



2025+

13. Add pedestrian decorative lighting that are evenly spaced along Bross Circle and on the major walkways.

CANDY POINT

(Classification: Special Purpose Park)

2018-2019

1. Add a bench taking advantage of the views offered at this location.

6.2 NEW PARK FACILITIES

The Village should develop new park and recreational facilities in areas that are under served by existing facilities, where future Village expansion is expected to occur, or where the acquisition of park and open space will advance the goals and policies of this plan or the Village’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The analysis of park and recreation needs and demands identified several opportunities to address neighborhoods that do not have access within a 1/4 mile of an existing park facility. Specific recommendations are discussed below and illustrated on **Map 3:**

Potential Park and Recreation Facilities Map. Acquisition projects will be implemented through donation, dedication, purchase, or a combination of all three.

Timing for the completion of these projects is more difficult to estimate since new park development generally coincides with the construction of adjacent residential development; therefore, park development should occur as opportunities are presented, preferably before or at the time new neighborhoods are platted. The Village should consider developing site plans for proposed parks and add them to this plan in **Appendix C.**

SHAMROCK HILLS/WEST NEIGHBORHOOD

A. Unnamed Park (current outlot)

This platted outlot has vehicular access via Grant Street and pedestrian access via Harmon Circle; however, the outlot lacks amenities and park facilities. Consider giving the outlot a dedicated park name and place a park sign along Grant Street. Add a playground area, couple benches and a few trees (surrounding the playground and benches). Consider placing the smaller playset from the former Elementary School.

B. Mini Park.

The Shamrock Hills plat includes a number of outlots which the Village owns that could be developed as mini-parks as once the neighborhood is developed. The three sites identified on Map 3 in **Appendix C** are under one acre in size and thus would be limited to only a couple recreational facilities such as the larger playset from the former Elementary School and the old swings from the Intermediate School.

C. Frisbee Golf Course.

A 9- to 18-hole, corridor-style course could be created with limited space left over for a walking path along the Sugar River. When the Shamrock Hills (phase 2) develops, consider maintaining

Chapter 6 Recommendations

the necessary space for the disc golf course around any stormwater management area, plus a 10-ft walking/biking path. See **Appendix B** for specifications.



D. Mountain Biking & Pedestrian Trails.

Construct a linear pedestrian path along the conservancy area, including benches, interpretive nature signs, etc., spaced along the trail. A parallel mountain biking track/loop could also be accommodated.

E. Trail Access (or Mini-Park).

Provide mid-block easements from the residential neighborhood to the proposed hiking/biking trails. Where space permits, construct one or more Mini-Park to serve as trailheads. A Mini-Park consisting of a gazebo, playground equipment, and associated benches can be built within a relatively small area. Besides providing access to the trail, the mini-park provides neighborhood gathering places and activity centers for small children.

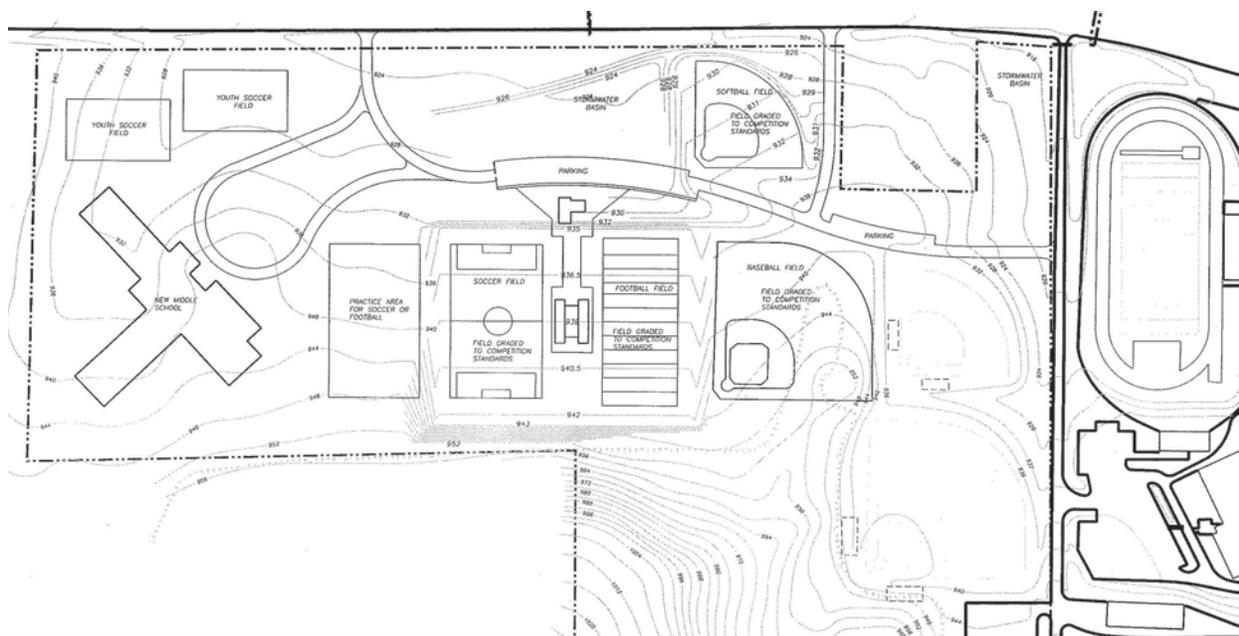
F. Neighborhood Park.

This area is planned for a new residential neighborhood. When it develops a 2-4 acre neighborhood park should be incorporated in the lot layout to serve the residents in this area.

SCHOOL DISTRICT EXPANSION SITE

G. Shared Use of Recreational Facilities.

Work with the school district to provide fields for Village sports leagues as this site develops (see concept plan below provided by the School District). The Village and School District should consider adding tennis courts as an optional recreational facility to serve this portion of the community. An alternative location for the tennis courts would be next to the community pool where the existing soccer practice field is located.



DOWNTOWN/SUGAR RIVER CORRIDOR

H. Depot Renovation.

Purchase and renovate the old depot as a multi-purpose building housing a Badger State Trailhead, bathrooms, and venue for events (wedding receptions, meetings, winter farmers market, etc.). This portion of the block could also be redeveloped for commercial/mixed use, for business looking to capitalize on the proximity to the Badger State Trail.

I. Dog Park, or Kayak Viewing Station, or Fishing Dock/Canoe Launch.

The Village owns several parcels of land at the end of the cul-de-sac in the Business Park that combine to form 2.6 acres. These parcels could serve as a potential site for a small dog park, or as a viewing station/platform for the proposed Kayak Course (K), or as a fishing dock.



J. Riverwalk.

The Village owns about half of the shoreline along the northern edge of the Sugar River from Remy Road to the Badger State Trail. Additional property or easement acquisition could make it possible to construct a trail from the Badger State Trail to Remy Road and Sugar River Park.

K. Kayak Course or Wave Feature (include pedestrian viewing areas).

To supplement the eco-tourism economy, the Village could construct either a competitive kayak course (running from Community Park to Site L), or a kayak wave feature between the dam and the planned pedestrian bridge.

SUGAR RIVER PARK EXPANSION

L. Parking Lot & Canoe Launch.

Move the fence line around the Public Works facility west away from Remy Road to align with the existing gate. Construct a small auxiliary parking lot with a canoe launch into the Sugar River. Construct additional storage shed.

M. Park Expansion (~8 acres).

As conceptualized in **Appendix C**, the Village could expand the park across Remy Road and develop three ballfields, a concessions/bathroom building, playground, and associated walkways.

N. Sugar River Preserve/Trails.

The Village should acquire the woodland on either side of the Sugar River to provide an area for multi-purpose recreational trails, which could be linked to the Badger State Trail via the proposed Riverwalk, and eventually to future neighborhoods east of CTH D and STH 92.

LAKE BELLE VIEW ISLANDS

O. Hiking Trails/Picnic Point.

Given the proximity of this small island to the berm and the “canoe pass” (the small area between the two wooded islands) a hiking trail or picnic point could be constructed to accommodate canoers, wildlife, and bird enthusiasts.

NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD

P. Hiking/Mountain Biking Trails.

From the berm construct a hiking trail and/or mountain biking trail along the edge of the floodway and wetland areas linking the proposed campground (Site Q), Blaser Park, and the planned Northwest Neighborhood Mini-Park (Site R).

Q. Campground.

This site could serve as an ideal location for either a public or private campground. The site is wooded and has direct access to the Sugar River at a location where there is minimal wetland for floodway areas. Any campground that is constructed at this site should provide adequate landscaping to buffer planned residential expansion in this area. This site could also serve as an alternative location for a Frisbee Golf Course. The developable portion of the site offers up to 24 acres for either use.

R. Mini-Park/Trail Head.

There is a small area of undeveloped land west of Welch Street on the northside of the Village, which has the potential to develop as additional single-family residences. Given the size of this neighborhood and the proximity to Blaser Park, a mini-park should be sufficient to meet the needs of this area. The site could simply consist of a trail head (kiosk with a map of the community trail/park system, bench, waste receptacles), or could be expanded to include a gathering place (e.g. gazebo or shelter) and playground equipment.

NORTHEAST NEIGHBORHOOD

S. Northeast Neighborhood Park.

To serve the recreational needs of any future residential growth in the northeast portion of the Village a new park will need to be developed. The size and type of amenities at this park will depend in-part on the planned densities of residential development and to what extent improvements have been made at Blaser and Sugar River parks.

6.3 RECREATIONAL TRAILS

The third major recommendation of this plan is the establishment of on and off-road recreational trails. The Proposed Park and Recreation Facilities Map identifies a number of potential on and off-road trails. The proposed on-road bike routes could be implemented immediately, while the proposed recreation trails will likely develop with the expansion of existing parks and new neighborhoods.

ON-ROAD BICYCLE ROUTES

The Village should create a network of on-street bicycle routes, which would connect important social, civic, and economic destinations within the community. The Potential Park and Recreation Facilities Map proposes creating a looping bicycle route that would link existing and proposed Village parks, schools, and other important destinations together. Most segments of the route could be established with simple route markers; however, the Village should consider additional painted lanes along roads with higher levels of traffic if necessary.



OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL TRAILS

The Potential Park and Recreation Facilities Map proposes creating a number of recreational trails within the Village. The proposed trails primarily follow the edge of the existing wetland, floodplain and drainage corridors. Most trails are anticipated to be developed with a wood-chip or limestone base; however, opportunities should be explored to create ADA compatible trails. Parallel mountain bike trails should also be considered when new trails are proposed.

6.4 OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

PROMOTE AWARENESS OF LOCAL RESOURCES

Promote awareness of local parks and historical and natural resources (as well as businesses). Steps to be considered:

1. **Install interpretive signage and historical markers.** Incorporating interpretive signage and historical markers as part of local park improvements can promote awareness of natural vegetation, geology, park founders, and other historical events.
2. **Install information kiosks at community parks** Informational kiosks can help to promote existing Village businesses and upcoming community festivals.
3. **Install bicycle and trail maps at Village parks.** Where bicycle or pedestrian trails enter or exit Village parks, install maps indicating the entire trail network.
4. **Ensure that local streets provide sufficient signage to direct tourists to community parks.**



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs) & SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

Promote BMP and sustainable measures within the Village’s Park System. Below are some measures to be considered:

1. **Preserve or enhance wetland and floodplain areas within the Village.** Wetlands and floodplains provide a natural means of filtering pollutants and controlling erosion and flooding. Ensuring their

protection to the fullest extent will help protect water quality in regional waterways.

2. **Install rain gardens and other retention and filtering features in public parks.** Rain gardens function as natural stormwater retention facilities and are an inexpensive alternative for reducing runoff and pollution.
3. **Only use native plant and tree species within Village parks.** Native plants are recommended because they generally do not require fertilizer and are more tolerant of local climate, soils, and water conditions.
4. **Provide trash and recycling receptacles at all Village Parks.**
5. **Install additional bike racks at all Village parks.**
6. **Replace existing light fixtures with high-efficiency LED lighting.**



7. **Add outdoor public art or flower gardens to enhance local parks.**



8. *As a first resort, consider using local vendors within a 50-mile radius of Belleville for recreational supplies/equipment.* This action step will help to promote local economic development.

ADA ACCESS AUDIT

The Village should conduct an Accessibility Audit of existing park facilities for compliance with the 2010 ADA Standards. The audit will identify those park facilities, buildings, and routes which are not accessible. Since the Village does not employ more than 50 individuals a Transition Plan is not acquired; however, it is good practice to create one in order to guide decisions regarding a plan for corrective work. The Village's existing ADA Compliance Committee can provide oversight.

SITE PLANS FOR NEW PARKS

Prepare site master plans for all existing and proposed Village parks. All site plans should be adopted to this plan in **Appendix C**.

PUBLIC LAND DEDICATION

Negotiate public land dedications, including both park and trail dedications, as part of the approval process for all residential developments and incorporate the conclusions of such negotiations into a Developer Agreement or final subdivision plat.

CONDUCT A PARK FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Wisconsin Statute 236.45, as amended in 2008, allows the Village to require the dedication of parkland or payment of a fee in lieu of land dedication, but it also requires that the cost to the developer have a rational relationship to the need resulting from the development. A park and recreational facility needs assessment study will provide a defensible rationale for any fees in lieu of land dedication charged to developers. This study should be incorporated as **Appendix D** to this plan.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

Incorporate improvements outlined in this plan to the Village's Capital Improvement Plan.

HIRE A COMMUNITY RECREATION DIRECTOR

As the Village continues to grow it may become necessary to hire a full or part-time community recreation director to coordinate adult and youth recreation leagues.

ADOPT THIS PLAN AS A COMPONENT TO THE VILLAGE'S COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

Future updates to the Village's Comprehensive Land Use Plan should include the parkland, bicycle, and recreational trail recommendations in this plan, or the entire plan itself may be adopted into the Comprehensive Plan.

CHAPTER 7

FUNDING

- 37 Funding Tools & Mechanisms
- 40 Plan Adoption & Amendments
- 40 Plan Updates

This chapter summarizes tools and mechanisms that the Village can use to fund implementation of the park and open space recommendations discussed in Chapter 6, plan adoption and plan amendments.

7.1 FUNDING TOOLS & MECHANISMS

Maintenance and operational expenses of the Village’s Public Works & Parks Committee are generally funded through property taxes and user fees. As the park system grows the need to increase funding to meet the basic maintenance and operational costs also grows. Often there are insufficient funds to undertake major capital

improvement projects. There are a wide variety of potential funding sources to assist with up-front capital costs, including acquisition of land and the development of new recreational facilities.

GRANT PROGRAMS

An important source of funding is grant programs offered by state and federal agencies, especially the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The table below (and on the next page) provides a summary of common state and federal park and recreation grant programs. The table is not an exhaustive list, rather those that are typically used by municipalities. Other grant programs may exist

Funding Programs By Category	Maximum Award	Application Due Date	Granting Agency
Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program			
The Stewardship Program was established in 1989 to preserve Wisconsin’s most significant land and water resources for future generations and to provide the land base and recreational facilities needed for quality outdoor experiences.	50% local match required	1-May	DNR
These goals are achieved by acquiring land and easements for conservation and recreation purposes, developing and improving recreational facilities, and restoring wildlife habitat.			
This is an umbrella program that funds the following grants:			
Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps to buy land or easements and develop or renovate local park and recreation area facilities for nature-based outdoor recreation purposed (e.g., trails, fishing access, and park support facilities). 			
Urban Green Space (UGS)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps to buy land or easements in urban or urbanizing area to preserve the scenic and ecological values of natural open spaces for nature-based outdoor recreation, including non-commercial gardening. 			
Urban Rivers (UR)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps to buy land on or adjacent to river flowing through urban or urbanizing areas to preserve or restore the scenic and environmental values of riverways for nature-based outdoor recreation. 			
Acquisition of Development Rights Grants (ADR)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps to buy development rights (easements) for the protection of natural, agricultural, or forestry values, that would enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. 			

Funding Programs By Category	Maximum Award	Application Due Date	Granting Agency
Natural Heritage Land Trust (NHLT)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A non-profit conservation organization that buys land and holds conservation easements. Conservation easements are voluntary agreements between a landowner and an easement holder (NHLT) to protect land by restricting certain uses. Conservation easements are voluntary and permanent. 			
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This fund is used to implement projects that are identified by both the local and the state Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. In general, land acquisition, development, and renovation projects for public outdoor recreation purposes are eligible LWCF projects. LWCF does not include the “nature-based outdoor recreation” restriction that the Stewardship Local Assistance Programs do. 	50% local match required	1-May	DNR
Recreational Trails Program Grant			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible projects include: maintenance and restoration of existing trails, development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages, construction of new trails, and acquisition of easement or property for trails. May only be used on trails which have been identified in or which further a specific goal of a local, county or state trail plan included or reference in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan required by the federal LAWCON. 	Up to 50% of the total project costs of a recreational trail project. Payments are reimbursements on costs incurred after project approval.	1-May	DNR
Urban Forestry			
<p>Provides technical service and financial assistance to communities for developing urban forestry programs. Priorities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Communities needing to develop an urban forestry plan; Communities needing worker training; and Communities needing to conduct a street tree inventory. <p>Eligible projects include 1) Undertaking street tree inventories; 2) Training for Village tree workers; 3) Developing urban open space programs; 4) Developing urban forestry plans; 5) Developing a tree ordinance; 6) Developing a public awareness program; and, 7) Tree planting and maintenance</p>	50% local match required. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$25,000.	1-Oct	DNR
Lake Protection and Classification Grants			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed to assist lake users, lake communities and local governments as they undertake projects to protect and restore lakes and their ecosystems. Eligible projects include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase of property or a conservation easement Restoration of wetlands Development of local regulations or ordinances Lake classification projects that allow counties to design and implement local land and water management programs that are tailored to specific classes of lakes in response to various development and recreational use pressures (these grants are limited to \$50,000). Lake protection projects recommended in a DNR-approved plan including watershed management, lake restoration, diagnostic feasibility studies, or any other projects that will protect or improve lakes. 	25% local match required. \$200,000 maximum per project.	1-May	DNR
Recreational Boating Facilities Grant			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of capital improvements to provide safe recreational boating facilities and for feasibility studies related to the development of safe recreational facilities. Also includes purchase of navigation aids, dredging of channels of waterways, and chemically treating Eurasian water milfoil. 	50% local match required	Established quarterly	DNR
NRPA Fund Your Park			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crowdfunding platform service designed for park and recreation agencies 	Service is free, tax deductible donations		IRPA

and information regarding funding details shown in tables should be verified with grant providers prior to seeking grant funding.

In 2015 a new 5-year transportation program, Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, was approved and is authorized through September 30, 2020. This Act is administered by the Federal Highway Administration. The FAST Act includes funds for pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity.

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING & VOLUNTEER GROUPS

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

501(C)3 FOUNDATION

The Village can set up an endowment fund as an additional means of providing continual financial support for park acquisition and development. An endowment fund works like a permanent savings account. The amount individuals give, which is the principal, is never spent. Only the interest income is spent, thereby providing a continual source of monies. A park endowment fund can provide a means for residents to either bequeath money or provide ongoing donations to the Village’s park system, with the certainty that the money donated will only be used for the advancement of recreation in the community. Gifts to an endowment fund are typically tax deductible under federal and state law.

TAX INCREMENTAL FINANCING (TIF)

As part of a broader plan to redevelop an area, the Village can use tax increment financing to assist with parkland or trail acquisition and development. There are some limitations to what revenues from a TIF district can be used to pay for; generally the costs of constructing public buildings cannot be funded with TIF.

Under state statute 66.1105 a municipality can use tax increment to complete public improvements within a 0.5-mile radius of the TID, so long as the use of the funds supports and benefits the TID. Therefore it may be possible for the Village to use TIF increment to pay for trail improvement projects near current TIDs or if it were to create any TIDs in the future.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Belleville should work with the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) and WisDOT to include major recommendations of this Plan in annual updates of the Transportation Improvement Program, to facilitate access to federal and state funding support. In particular, the communities should request that “first priority” projects get included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

PARKLAND DEDICATION AND IMPACT FEES

The Village’s Municipal Code includes regulations regarding parkland dedication requirements. Within the corporate limits of the Village, subdividers are required to dedicate sufficient land to provide park, recreation, and general open space to meet the anticipated neighborhood needs of residential and development areas, as such park development is determined necessary or desirable by this plan.

- **Parkland Dedication:** Per the Village’s Ordinance Section 600-7, subdividers are required to dedicate a minimum of 1 acre per 15 dwelling units, but th area shall not exceeding

1/3 of the total are of the plat. Lands required for drainageways or stormwater retention/detention (per Village ordinance) shall not be used to satisfy this requirement. As stated in Section 600-7(B), Plan Commission shall refer the plat to the Public Works and Parks Committee for its recommendation on whether land should be dedicated (or fees paid in lieu of dedication), how much shall be dedicated (if deemed appropriate), and where in the plat would be ideal parkland. ***The Public Works and Parks Committee should use this CORP to make a recommendation to the Village Board, who will ultimately render conditions of approval.***

- **Fees in Lieu:** If parkland dedication is not possible/desired in the subdivision plat, at the sole discretion of the Village Board, a subdivider may satisfy the requirement for provisions of such park, recreation and general open space by payment of a fee in lieu of land. These fees are collected and used for purchase, development, improvement and maintenance of parks, playgrounds, open spaces and other recreational sites and facilities. ***Payments are required before the plat is submitted for final approval. Belleville's fees in lieu of land dedication should be updated annually based on the average assessed value per acre of undeveloped property within the Village, as determined by the Village assessor. With this approach, the fee for single-family units should be 100% of the average assessed value per acre and the fee for each multi-family unit should be two-thirds (2/3) of the average assessed value per acre. This methodology will keep fees up-to-date based on market conditions.***
- **Impact Fees:** The Village could also consider establishing a one-time fee assessed and paid as special charge (impact fee) for parkland development. This payment shall be required at the time building permits are issued for new construction of single-unit or multi-family residential units. Generally this only applies to residential properties.

7.2 PLAN ADOPTION & AMENDMENTS

This plan recommends adoption as a component of the Village Comprehensive Plan. As such, procedures for adoption of this plan, and future amendments, shall follow those procedures enumerated under sec. 66.1001 Wis. Stats. for comprehensive plan adoption. Those procedures are highlighted below:

Public Hearing

As a component of the Comprehensive Plan, adopting (or amending) this CORP requires the Village to hold a public hearing to discuss the proposed plan or amendment. The meeting notice should provide a method for submitting written comments, and those comments should be read or summarized at the public hearing. The public hearing may be held by either Plan Commission or the Village Board.

Plan Adoption

This plan and any future amendments become official Village policy when the Village Board passes, by a majority vote of all elected members, an adoption ordinance. The Village Board may choose to revise the plan after it has been recommended by the Public Works and Parks Committee, and after the public hearing (optional).

Plan Amendment

Amendments of the plan may become necessary after plan adoption, for example, the incorporation of a more detailed park master plan for an existing or proposed park. Plan Amendments should follow the same procedure for adoption: Public Works and Parks Commission recommendation, Plan Commission recommendation, public hearing, and Village Board Adoption.

7.3 PLAN UPDATE

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

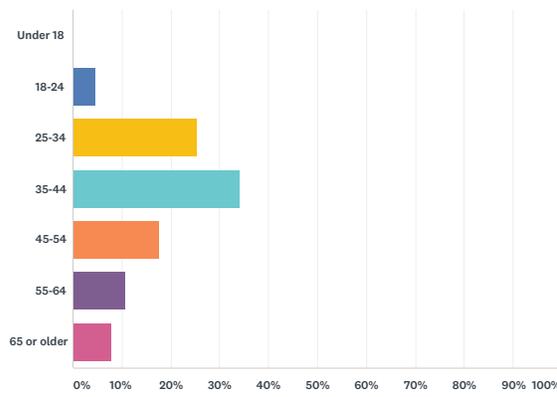
APPENDIX A

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULT

A1 Summary

Q1 What is your age?

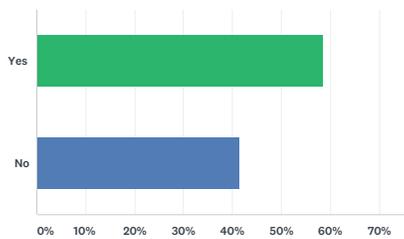
Answered: 170 Skipped: 0



Q3 Indicate the location of your primary residence

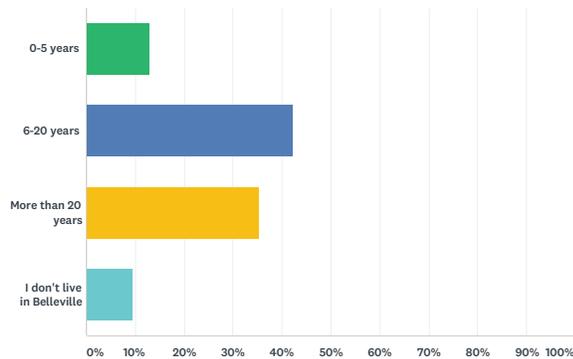
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
(1) North Belleville	21.18%
(2) East Belleville	18.82%
(3) Central/West Belleville	18.24%
Town of Primrose	0.00%
Town of Montrose	7.06%
Town of Oregon	0.59%
Town of Brooklyn	2.35%
Town of Exeter	24.71%

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



Q4 How long have you lived in the Village of Belleville?

Answered: 170 Skipped: 0



Q5 How often do you...

	3 OR MORE TIMES PER WEEK	1-2 TIMES PER WEEK	1-2 TIMES PER MONTH	1-2 TIMES PER YEAR	ALMOST NEVER	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Walk for exercise	53.95% 82	25.00% 38	13.16% 20	3.29% 5	4.61% 7	152	1.80
Bike for exercise	7.89% 12	14.47% 22	15.79% 24	21.71% 33	40.13% 61	152	3.72
Walk for transportation from home to work, stores, restaurants, etc.	8.61% 13	13.25% 20	21.19% 32	9.93% 15	47.02% 71	151	3.74
Bike for transportation from home to work, stores, restaurants, etc.	2.67% 4	4.67% 7	5.33% 8	12.67% 19	74.67% 112	150	4.52

Appendix A Community Survey Results

Q6 Name a specific location or destination in the Village of Belleville that needs to be improved for bicycle or pedestrian safety.

GENERAL

- Streets w/out sidewalks
- Bellewest
- North Belleville to pool/school/downtown
- Bike path crossings
- Ped Crossing Signs / Flashing Signs

SPECIFIC

- WIS69 (along/crossing)
- Main Street/WIS92 (along/crossing)
- WIS69/WIS92 Intersection
- River Street
- Remy Road
- North Shore Drive
- Vine Street (near Library)

Q7 Where would you prioritize the location of new bike facilities, routes or trails?

- All of River Street
- Sugar River Park
- Northside to Schools
- West Belleville to Downtown (possibly use Village Dr)
- Riverwalk expansion

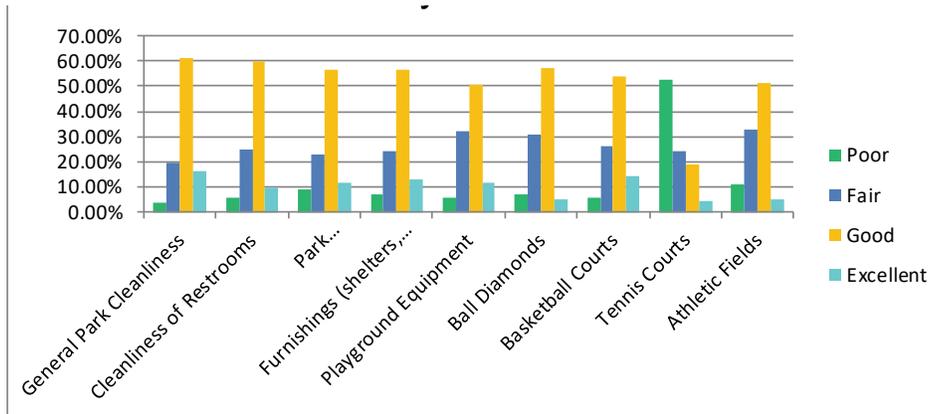
Q8 How close is the nearest park or trail to your home?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Within reasonable walking or biking distance	69.13%
Within reasonable bike distance, but not walking distance	8.72%
I have to drive	22.15%

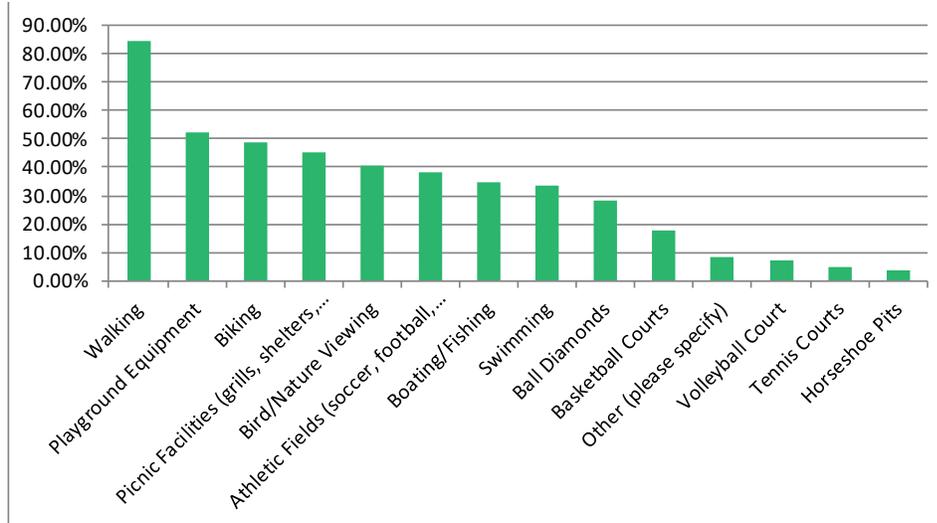
Q9 How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the park facilities

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Very Dissatisfied	1.44%
Dissatisfied	15.11%
Satisfied	74.82%
Very Satisfied	8.63%

Q10 How would you rate the following characteristics of the Village's park system?



Q11 When visiting Village parks, which activities or facilities do you or members of your household most commonly participate in or use?



Q12 Which of the following amenities would you like to be added, improved or expanded either by public or private entities?

Rank	Amenity	Responses
1	Canoe/Kayak facilities	50.00%
2	Beaches/Lake access	41.46%
3	Splash pad	35.37%
4	Indoor athletic complex (for multiple programs/sports)	31.71%
5	Indoor pool	31.71%
6	Dog park	28.05%
7	Playground equipment	26.83%
8	Ice skating/Hockey rink	24.39%
9	Site furnishings (benches, tables, grills, etc.)	23.17%
10	Sledding hill	23.17%
11	Lake & shoreline restoration	20.73%
12	Lighted athletic fields	20.73%
13	Fishing facilities	19.51%
14	Off-road walking/biking trails	19.51%
15	Ball diamonds	18.29%
16	Archery/Trap shooting range	17.07%
17	Sand volleyball courts	17.07%
18	Tennis courts	17.07%
19	Restrooms	15.85%
20	Park landscaping/Trees	14.63%

Appendix A Community Survey Results

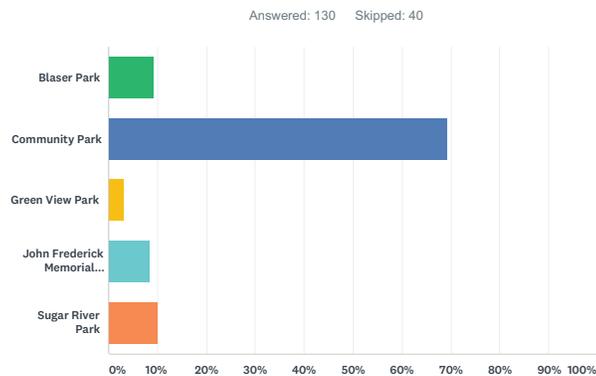
Q13 Do you have any safety or accessibility concerns at any of the following parks? Please use the comment box to describe any specific concerns.

	YES	NO
Blaser Park	8.59% 11	91.41% 117
Community Park	10.94% 14	89.84% 115
Green View Park	4.80% 6	95.20% 119
John Frederick Memorial ("Library") Park	1.56% 2	98.44% 126
Sugar River Park	10.08% 13	89.92% 116

- 1 Put glass backboards and break away rims on the bball courts at community park.
- 2 Berm is hard to take wheelchair on because of ruts. should be blacktopped.
- 3 Parking at Blazer park
- 4 Water drainage was poorly designed in both parks.
- 5 The bathrooms are never open . Embarrassing when we r hosting sporting events. If vandalism is a problem that our police force obviously can not handle we have more problems than just our parks and lack of businesses
- 6 Park when kids have soccer or football practices is terrible - use either one-way or enlarge parking lot by concession stand
- 7 Might have been nice to add location to this question. Not everyone will recognize where the parks are by name.
- 8 paved walking path into the park off of E. Church street. There is a play area that was a raised border around it and I have seen people stumble there. I don't want to be one of them!! Especially at Fireworks night where it is very poorly lit when leaving.
- 9 There's drop-offs that is be nervous about with small kids...just have to watch them closely.
- 10 Blaser fields need much more attention for soccer fields. Better grass, better goals, better bathroom facilities, better field conditions, etc.
- 11 Soccer fields are in horrible shape with unevenness, gopher holes, dog poop
- 12 Exeter Park
- 13 Need more parking and better signage
- 14 It would be nice to have community picnic at our community park. Not by the sewer plant!
- 15 Goose poo
- 16 Greenview needs a bench, and Sugar River needs more shade.
- 17 Wish they had more lighting at night
- 18 Kids jumping off the rocks into the lake... fun.. but I see a lot of unsupervised kids doing it.
- 19 Sugar River Park playground equipment is too tall for younger kids. Need bathroom facilities at all parks.
- 20 There is no parking or access to the far soccer fields at Blazer without parking in someones yard. There are no sidewalks to walk there either so if you have trouble walking that far through the grass you can't go. Also there are no sidewalks at community park and the football field is not terrible. The bathroom doors going to the outside at blazer a dangerous and don't open well.
- 21 Need soap in restrooms. Apartment complexes on north side of blaser let their dogs use the soccer field as a bathroom. Landlord has been notified
- 22 Lake is easily accessible and fire department has no training or gear for water rescues/ice rescues
- 23 Lights at Blaser and Sugar River would be nice.
- 24 You need more garbage cans even during the winter or garbage ends up in the lake/ river.

25	No parking at Blaser Park
26	Some of the equipment I used when I was a kid. 30+ years ago. Now my kids play on it (kind of cool and nostalgic)
27	The last few times I had been to Sugar River Park during the summer and fall last year, the park was disgusting and the trash bins were overflowing, which meant there were bees and bugs everywhere and the smell was unpleasant.
28	Geese population and the mess they leave.
29	No safety concerns. Green View park is a small park with limited parking access but that seems appropriate for the size of it. More scattered parks of that size may increase inner city destinations. Sugar River park for the size is lacking attractive elements and parking.
30	Again: get rid of the stumps in the north half of the lake. The wooden footbridge does not get plowed in the winter, with the heavy foot traffic packing down the snow, it gets extremely icy. There is no reason it can't be plowed.
31	I don't like the sliding toy at SR that swings kids off very easily. Broken arms
32	Just mowing in general. Parks need to be mowed more often.
33	I have seen bolts loose and missing on the playground equipment at Green View Park. I have not checked the other parks as thoroughly - perhaps all the parks could use an inspection in this area.

Q14 What is your favorite park to visit IN THE VILLAGE?



Q15 Why is this park your favorite park to visit IN THE VILLAGE?

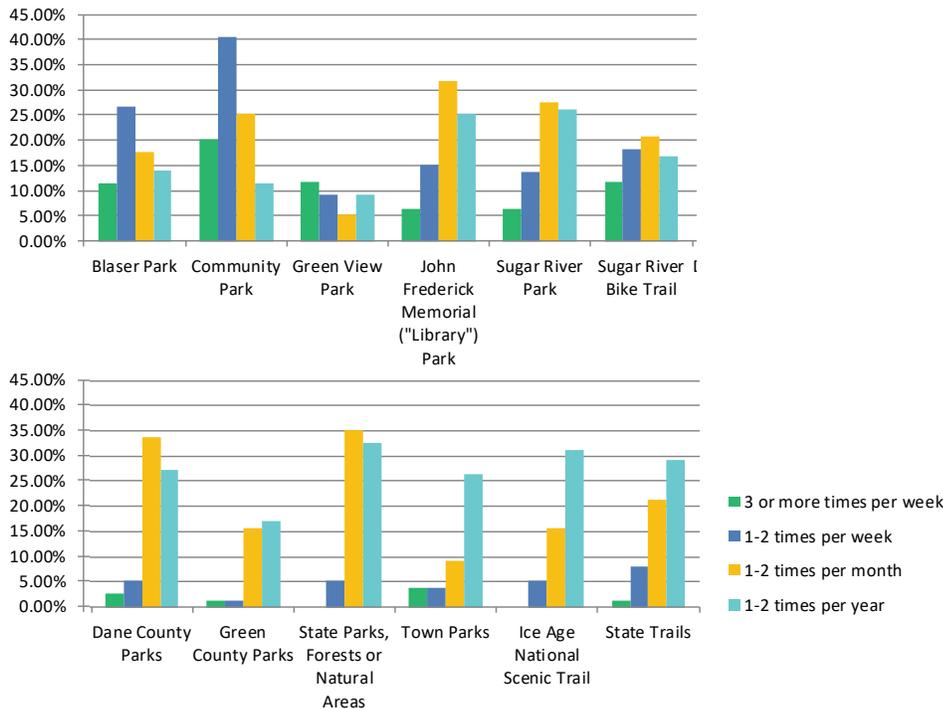
Lake	34.67%	26
Berm	12%	9
Beautiful	9.33%	7
Community	9.33%	7
Activities	5.33%	4
Kids	5.33%	4
Walking Trails	4%	3
Close to Home	4%	3
Fishing	4%	3
Pretty Views	2.67%	2

Appendix A Community Survey Results

Q16 What is your favorite park to visit OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE, and why?

- McKee Farms (Splash Pad, Play Equipment, etc)
- Exeter Park
- State Parks (Devil's Lake)
- Badger Prairie Park, Verona (Snowshoeing, Play Equip)
- New Glarius (park equipment)
- Hunting Areas

Q17 Excluding winter months, how often do you or members of your household visit or use...?



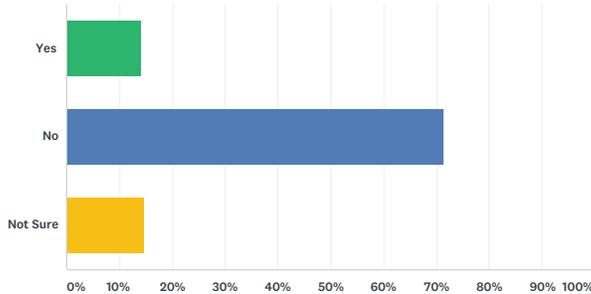
Q18 Do you or members of your household commonly (an average of at least once per month) drive somewhere outside of Belleville to use specific recreational facilities?

#	IF YES, PLEASE SPECIFY WHERE YOU GO AND FOR WHAT ACTIVITIES/FACILITIES.
1	Any park with good views and hiking trails
2	Wildlife areas to hunt and fish
3	Lakes for fishing
4	Golf Courses within 45 min drive (golfing) Lake Shore bike path in Madison running)
5	Occasionally the dog park.
6	Blue Mounds
7	Monticello to go fishing
8	Oregon indoor pool weekly
9	Driving range, splash pads, volleyball
10	Sports facilities and other parks
11	Hiking trails

12	Tennis courts and splash pad
13	Dog park, Verona
14	all over
15	We go to the Dane County Dog park several times a week.
16	McKee Farms - the playset, splash pad and tennis courts Exeter Park - basketball court, nature walk, playset New Veridian Parks (Cathedral Point / Scenic Ridge) - newer playground equipment New Glarus Park - Basketball, playground equipment, volleyball court and swimming pool
17	Softball and volleyball league Madison, exercise classes
18	Splash pad
19	Middleton Pheasant Branch trails.
20	Fishing, kayaking, hiking.
21	Northern Counties for ATV trails, camping, kayaking, Oregon and Monticello for archery shooting
22	Camping facilities throughout the state.
23	Prairie Athletic Club- indoor volleyball
24	Atv trails
25	Green & Dane county parks for hiking
26	Blue Mounds to run
27	Soccer fields and biking (both mountain, trail, and road)
28	Ice age trail and the Oregon dog park
29	Gymnastics and volley ball camp
30	Lakes and rivers for kayaking and fishing.
31	Yellowstone Lake
32	Swimming laps in Verona. No indoor pool here, and in the summer, there are not many lap swim hours.
33	State parks & county parks for hiking & kayaking.
34	the mac
35	Devils lake, gov. Dodge for swimming hiking and climbing
36	Madison Zoo and arboretum
37	Devil's Lake
38	State parks for hiking and camping
39	Ice skating
40	Indoor kids play area in Fitchburg called legacy academy
41	Verona rec programs
42	The downtown New Glarus park. Kids like the play structure, plus the local places to eat is a plus.
43	Dog park
44	Splash pad in Fitchburg
45	Blue Mound and Governor Dodge State Parks for hiking and picnicking; Magnolia Bluff preserve, conservation land off W in Exeter for hiking. Exeter Park (not sure this is the name) for canoeing and kayaking; Vilas Park and Lake Wingra for kayaking, picnics/gatherings; Fireman's Park in Waterloo for picnics, gatherings. Yellowstone and Blackhawk State Parks, as well as White Mound County Park for camping, kayaking and hiking. LaFarge park for camping and hiking--and others.
46	Home Talent Baseball
47	Parks specified previously. We mostly head to parks outside of Belleville to entertain our children as they are not in sports yet. We need to travel out to play around on tennis courts as well.
48	Visit specific parks/playgrounds/splashpads for variety for kids.
49	We have a vacation home and visit the natural areas there.
50	Indoor pool for swimming lessons Fitness Classes
51	We visit various parks for hiking.
52	Verona Blackhawk Archery.
53	Verona or other Dane County parks for dog exercise

Appendix A Community Survey Results

Q19 Did anyone in your household participate in Belleville Community Education/Recreation Program activities in the past year (e.g. open gym, yoga, walking)?



Q20 Should your community allocate additional funds to be spent on?

	YES	NO	NOT SURE	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Park maintenance (maintain existing grounds/facilities)	64.75% 79	16.39% 20	18.85% 23	1.54
Installing new park facilities/equipment	73.77% 90	9.84% 12	16.39% 20	1.43
Parkland acquisition	34.17% 41	30.83% 37	35.00% 42	2.01
Bicycle facilities/trails	42.74% 53	34.68% 43	22.58% 28	1.80
Sidewalk facilities/pedestrian enhancements	61.98% 75	18.18% 22	19.83% 24	1.58
Tree plantings/Emerald Ash Borer management	68.60% 83	13.22% 16	18.18% 22	1.50

Q21 Please use the space provided below to identify a type of new recreation program or service that the Village should consider offering.

#	RESPONSES
1	Sand volleyball courts and new basketball backboards and breakaway rims.
2	New to area- not sure
3	I think adding courts or fields into some of our parks would increase usage.
4	Splash pad
5	Update the inside of the community park building to include cooking facilities as the park has always had.
6	New piers for the lake. Please follow up on your plans for the lake and the park, Facilities..
7	Consolidate all of the youth sport registrations under a village recreation department. It is very hard for residents that are new to town to learn what activities are available and how to get involved.
8	Rec program similiar to many other communities near us. Business. We miss out on so much because this village as a whole has nothing to offer. No decent bar or resturamt that is open daily and later in the evening for food
9	Tennis courts or splash pad
10	I need to walk, so an indoor walking facility (a track)for wintertime use would be most welcome. I walked the Walking Buddy program at school, but the hallways are very short, it's still under construction and you can't walk in the gym because of practices at school. Hours are not convenient because you have to wait until late afternoon when school is out.
11	I like that the school is facilitating community programs. Keep in going!

12	Snowshoeing, ice skating/hockey in the winter. Horse riding trails-would bring a different & unique visitor to town. A driving range for golf would be awesome!
13	Canoe/Kayak Rentals in fall, spring, and summer seasons. Possibly also allow canoe/kayak off season storage as well (for a charge). Create a big beach with a staffed lifeguard (great high school job). A new sports facility. Teams need Basketball courts. Very limited.
14	I would love a dog park close by. The one in Verona is OK to drive to, but I would use a local dog park every day.
15	We still have toddler aged children, but does Belleville offer a 4-H club?
16	Summer park and Rec for kids
17	Splash pad and much better play ground equipment
18	Maintaining the lower Sugar River for kayak/canoe access from Belleville to Exeter Park.
19	Not sure
20	None that I can think of.
21	Atv trails
22	Disc golf course
23	NA
24	A splash pad and better pool!!! Maybe with the splash pad added new and more slides indoor pool! That would make a nice amount of money
25	Kayak rental for sugar river. Lake belle view is not all that great for kayaking - it kind of smells.
26	connect Badger trail in Belleville to Military Ridge trail
27	No one wants the community picnic at the shit park
28	Radio control modeling
29	Tennis courts, more lap swim hours for adults in the summer. Better baseball diamonds for adults... a fence. Possibly another park with basketball hoops. Playground, climbing equipment geared more towards older kids. Obstacle type equipment.
30	Dog park
31	A kids rec center. Somewhere for kids to go when it is too cold, rainy, snowing etc. there is no where in town for the kids to go so parents have to take them out of town.
32	Treat the soccer fields and parks for weeds
33	Ice skating with a shelter and place to rent skates - not too many kids here have their own. The softball fields for the rec programs could use some improvements as well.
34	A community center tailored to everyone in the community to bring everyone together. Possibly an indoor facility similar to legacy academy for younger kids and indoor recreation for during the colder months
35	More for seniors we are often over looked. More choices in winter. Pickle ball, kayaking, snowshoeing.
36	Splash pad would be awesome. Larger/different kind of play structure. Sandy beach. Sugar river park lacks shade trees.
37	Sand volleyball Summer park and rec for kids
38	A splash pad would be great! The current pool isn't great for families with young children. A splash pad would bring families to Belleville from neighboring communities.
39	Splash pad
40	A rec center for youth tournaments, practice spaces, etc. Youth sports are having to have practices at the gym at 9 pm or later because of the demand for our gymnasiums. We are obviously using our gymnasiums and still fighting for times and spaces - why not expand and provide more space and opportunity? A rec director for coordination of the various youth groups, park reservations, practice schedules, etc. Someone who could work with local businesses to have them advertise specials, events, etc. the same weekend as big sporting events in town (family-friendly restaurants like Borlands or the Cafe being open and running specials during Wrestling or Basketball tournaments), etc. It's a wasted opportunity right now having all kinds of people from out of town with no place to go but dive bars during youth sporting events. It's also a shame to have large events scheduled at the same time, where a rec director would know about all events and could offer guidance on scheduling to avoid overlap. How about equipment rental opportunities? We have a lake - want to Kayak or canoe or go ice skating? Too bad. We don't offer any kind of equipment rentals to use our lake while you are in town. We have bike trails and make it nearly impossible to buy a trail pass.

Appendix A Community Survey Results

41	Would be great to see basic boating skills classes for kids at Community Park on lake Bellevue, maybe collaborating with Audubon Society for bird-watching program.
42	In a lot of communities there are programs (usually summer programs) for kids and adults. I would like to see a sports complex that could be used year round for people of all ages. Being an older adult I would like to do water aerobics year round. But I have to drive to New Glarus, Verona, Oregon, Fitchburg or Madison to find a place with an indoor pool.
43	Anything supporting exploring on the river or along the river. You can literally paddle, bike, or run/walk to Belleville from surrounding communities. That is a unique feature of the city.
44	Camping, our area has very limited camping facilities.
45	Foot golf course
46	Camping
47	Not sure.
48	I am not sure of the intended use for the Elementary School after students are moved to the Intermediate School, but it seems that the building (more particularly, the gym) would be beneficial as use for public recreation.

222 Please use this space to provide any other comments relating to pedestrian, bicycle, park and recreation services or facilities in the Village

#	RESPONSES
1	New to area- not sure
2	I think adding onto the river walk is a great idea.
3	Pave the two remaining covered pavilions and parking lot at Community Park. Other than those that park is pretty awesome.
4	I would like to see the bike trail black topped.
5	The riverwalk was the biggest waste of money
6	Thank you for the new basketball court in Community Park!!
7	Parking/street parking near bike trails
8	Paved trails into Madison would be good. Mapping of entry/exit points for kayaks within Dane and Green County would be encouraged.
9	Extremely unsafe biking on the side of roadway on River St from Richard St all the way south to Main St. The new part from Main St north for that couple of blocks has made that area much safer.
10	Belleville should be a mecha for recreation sports like biking, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, etc. It should be a hot destination to bike to and through, offering canoe/kayak rentals, big beach on lake, snack bar, coffee shop/ice cream shop (downtown), etc. And it's time to redo/rethink downtown area (lots of wasted space and outer buildings look run down) as well as River St. That unopened Auto Care place (former car wash) NEEDS to go. Embarrassing as a community. River St. has so much potential.
11	Should promote the Bike trail more, remodel the old train station to suit this.
12	As far as I know, Belleville does not have tennis courts anywhere. It seems that every town should have one! The Sugar River Park seems underutilized. Also, it would be nice to see a tree line planted so that you can not see the industrial buildings behind the park. The new basketball courts in Community Park are beautiful, it would be nice to see basketball courts in other parks as well.
13	It would be nice if all playgrounds had park benches by the play equipment for supervision.
14	We could use any extra help to make Belleville a destination for visitors to enjoy and bring money into our local businesses. Community Park is great. We should expand more water activities, biking trails and connecting walking trails.
15	N/A
16	When storms hit the village, it can take at least three weeks for village works to remove the downed branches. This should not take this long. It is an eye-sore and also a safety issue for visitors. I'm not even referring to small branches but sometimes whole limbs. The same goes for pickup of branches around the village.
17	Flashing pedestrian signs

18	We have great bike, parks, pedestrian facilities in Belleville but need to expand those great parks.
19	overall condition of bike trails is getting very bad, need attention
20	No one wants the community picnic at the shit park
21	Beautiful parks
22	It would be nice if someone could maintain the trail made by the Eagle Scout in the woods next to the Berm. It's a really pretty trail and as one person I ran into while I was walking through it said to me once - this is a hidden treasure of Belleville that we are lucky to have.
23	The ball diamond in community park needs work. Any sort of rain and the field is a disaster. Find more ways to hold events at the community park as it is the Central Park of Belleville. Farmers market in library park to bring people into town
24	Belleville natural resources should be the focus on drawing tourists to the Village, but then you need to improve the downtown to have good restaurants & retail stores for tourists. Offer & promote outdoor activities ie..bike trail w/tunnel, bike parking available, canoe & kayak in lake & river, bird watching, cross country skiing & snow shoeing
25	More thought to biking on main st. One has to go on the sidewalk because the street itself is too skinny to allow bikes, large trucks, cars & people trying to get into or out of their parked vehicle. We're lucky no one has been hurt.
26	We have all the things a community could hope for in our small town and we aren't using it to its full potential. We have lakes, and trails, parks a-plenty, but rarely any community sponsored events, family weekends, activities, equipment rental opportunities, etc. I also feel like we have been lucky that Youth Football and Baseball have invested so much time and energy into the Community and Sugar River Parks and that Youth Soccer and the Community Club have been working on making Blaser Park better. It shouldn't be the responsibility of these groups to spend that time and effort improving our parks - that should be the job of the village. Shame on us for not caring for these areas and forcing these groups to have sacrifice funds to make these parks usable for their needs. And besides the sidewalks and bike path, there really isn't any beautiful walking trails along our scenic perimeter of town. We have rolling hills to the southwest, a lake and river running through our downtown and far west side, but no walking trails to enjoy these - except for a VERY short stretch of the berm or the dodging bicycles on the Badger State Trail.
27	It would be nice to see the footpaths extended out beyond the berm trail to hook up along the north side of the lake to follow the river toward the West side. Also could use pier for boat launching on east side of Lake Bellevue--and clean up of the lake of the old tree stumps so we don't scrape them when using kayaks and other boats.
28	I love the berm. Fantastic addition to our community. I can only imagine what a time saver that would have been when I was a kid! I use it often and with the addition of the walkway under the bridge, I can gain access to the bike trail without riding on any streets. I also like the idea of a veteran memorial area. The summer music program at library park is well attended. This community needs to give people an activity or something to do. Besides the occasional soccer/softball game in the parks, there is really nothing to do.
29	The train bridge is in need of repair, it is becoming unsafe to walk across.
30	Sugar River park is a giant place, it could be great with the addition of trees and a new playground structure that is a "draw" to the area. We travel to other towns to play in their parks and we spend money there along the way. Community park is fairly bare but supports the community picnic and gives place for volleyball and inflatables but it is not an attractive place to go and the equipment is old, weathered, and limited.
31	In the last few years Belleville has made good progress for outdoor activities. We are becoming more and more a health oriented community. Some goals: a pedestrian walk/trail continuing west from the community park, out the berm, back across the river to the new west side development. Same from the Community park east to the bridge on Remy Rd. Much needed (slightly) heated restrooms staying open year round (big one).
32	Loving the new sidewalk along the river under the bridge near community park!
33	Expand trail system around Lake and river. Camping.
34	Question 17 in this survey seems like it should include the Badger State trail as a separate item since that is the trail that goes through Belleville.

Appendix A Community Survey Results

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APPENDIX B

PARK & OPEN SPACE CLASSIFICATION/STANDARDS

B1 Classification B3 Standards

Definitions used in this plan are modifications of definitions used by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). They are used to classify the existing recreation system and to guide plans for its future. They begin with the smallest and most intensely used, and proceed to the largest and least used. Neighborhood and community parks are normally provided by municipalities. Larger recreation areas are normally provided by larger units of government or private developers.

CLASSIFICATION

Listed below are the various types of parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces applicable to the Village of Belleville:

Mini-Park

Also sometimes referred to as a “Tot Lot” or “Pocket Park” typically located on a small lot, generally a ¼ acre or less, within a residential neighborhood. Often these sites were originally intended for residential use, but due to various factors (e.g. poor lot design, environmental concerns, etc.), have been converted to a park. Mini-parks generally are limited to one facility, such as a playground or fountain, with associated benches or picnic tables. Mini-parks are ideal in locations where there are high concentrations of multi-family housing, in business parks, or in downtown areas..

- **Desirable size:** 2 acres or less
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** 0.25 to 0.5 acres
- **Service Area:** 1/8 to 1/4 mile radius

Neighborhood Playgrounds

A neighborhood playground mainly serves the active recreational needs of children from 5 to 15 years of age, usually in conjunction with an elementary school. It is often provided in conjunction with play apparatus; open areas for games, fields for baseball or football, courts for basketball or volleyball; restroom and shelter facilities. Buffered play areas are desirable. If size permits, an area for more constrained activities, such as quiet games or handicrafts, is advised. Population density is important for determining the space needs and service area of a neighborhood playground. It should be within easy walking distance of intended users.

- **Desirable size:** 2 to 4 acres
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** 0.5 to 1.5 acres
- **Service Area:** 1/4 to 1/3 mile radius

Neighborhood Parks

A neighborhood park provides opportunities for passive and active recreational activities for all age groups in a neighborhood and enhances the overall neighborhood environment. An attractive, natural setting such as a lake, stream or woods is a desirable location for a neighborhood park. In addition to neighborhood playground facilities, neighborhood parks include benches and tables, open areas for sitting and sunning, paths, shelters, drinking fountains, lighting, and restrooms. Population density is important in determining the space needs and service area of a neighborhood park. The greater the density, the more space is needed. It should be within easy walking distance

Appendix B Park & Open Space Classification/Standards

of intended users. Community playfields may also be included in neighborhood parks.

- **Desirable size:** 2 to 10 acres
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** 1.0 to 2.0 acres
- **Service Area:** 1/4 to 1/2 mile radius

Community Playfields

The community playfield provides for the active recreational needs of several neighborhoods. It is designed to accommodate activities that can not be included at smaller sites. Such facilities may include: several soccer fields or ball diamonds, a tennis complex, football fields, multi-purpose courts, ice-skating area, sanitary facilities, a playground and landscaping to buffer the playfields from surrounding properties. A community playfield might adjoin a public junior or senior high school and usually includes facilities for spectators. Population size and density are important for determining the space needs of a community playfield. Neighborhood facilities might be included in a community playfield.

- **Desirable size:** 5 or more acres with 15 to 40 acres being most common
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** 5.0 to 8.0 acres
- **Service Area:** 1 to 2 mile radius

Community Parks

The community park is intended to serve the passive and active recreational needs of a number of neighborhoods or a medium-sized municipality. It may include wooded areas, varied topography, water features, undisturbed natural areas, scenic lookouts, picnic areas, hiking or riding trails, boating and swimming areas, and some area for active recreation on a smaller scale than the community playfield. The park may also be utilized for winter activities. Community park size should be determined by size and density of population. Community parks also serve as neighborhood facilities for the surrounding neighborhood.

- **Desirable size:** 5 or more acres with 15 to 40 acres being most common
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** 5.0 to 8.0 acres
- **Service Area:** 1 to 2 mile radius

Special Purpose Parks

Special purpose parks may be created by a municipality or by a larger unit of government. These areas are located to take advantage of natural or unusual features of the landscape, or to preserve areas of historic value and provide a variety of outdoor recreation activities. Special purpose parks might be created to provide access to lakes and rivers or to protect ledges and areas with steep slopes. Sites of cultural, archaeological or historic importance might be designated special purpose parks. Certain recreational facilities such as golf courses, trails, boat launching ramps and marinas might be considered special purpose parks.

- **Desirable size:** Varies - depends on function
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** Varies - depends on function
- **Service Area:** Varies - depends on function

Reservations & Preserves

Reservations and preserves are usually located outside urban concentrations and include large tracts of land that are undeveloped or have limited development. Such areas are usually provided by county, state, or federal governments and have the primary function of resource protection. Reservations and preserves may be established to conserve forest lands, marshlands, floodplains, wildlife habitats, and other areas having cultural, scenic, or natural values. Normally, reservations and preserves include several hundred acres of undeveloped land, although some improvements may be provided which are incidental to the enjoyment of the natural scenery. Improvements are usually located in one section on the reservation or preserve so that the area remains

largely undeveloped. Improvements may include parking areas, interpretive centers, and scenic waysides. Hunting may be a primary recreational activity in such areas. Other recreational uses might include backpacking, camping, trail use, picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, and water sports.

- **Desirable size:** *Varies - depends on function*
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** *Varies - depends on function*
- **Service Area:** *Varies - depends on function*

Greenbelts & Linear Parkways

The greenbelt has basically the same characteristics and functions as the reservation or preserve; however, a greenbelt may be used to shape urban development and usually follow natural drainage ways. It may be a buffer between an urban area and surrounding rural areas and may connect parks within an urban area via multi-purpose trails. They may be enlarged at specific locations to provide the required area and facilities for a neighborhood park.

- **Desirable size:** *Varies - depends on function*
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** *Varies - depends on function*
- **Service Area:** *Varies - depends on function*

Waysides, Welcome Centers, and Historic Markers

These are special purpose parks designed to serve motorists. They are important to a tourist industry as a means of providing rest and information. They may include restrooms, picnic areas, shelters, or other facilities needed by motorists. The size and location of special purpose parks depends upon natural features and the functions they are intended to serve. If oriented to motorists, traffic volumes must be considered.

- **Desirable size:** *Varies - depends on function*
- **Acres / 1,000 population:** *Varies - depends on function*
- **Service Area:** *Varies - depends on function*

STANDARDS

The standards listed below are guidelines that are applicable nationwide for planning, acquisition, and development of recreation facilities commonly found in communities of Belleville's size.

ACTIVITY/ FACILITY	SPACE NEEDED	SIZE AND DIMENSIONS	RECOMMENDED ORIENTATION	UNITS PER POP.	SERVICE RADIUS	LOCATION NOTES
Basketball						
1. Youth	2400-3036 sq. ft.	46-50'x84'	Long axis north-south	1 per 1,000	¼ - ½ mile	Outdoor courts in neighborhood and community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings.
2. High School	5040-7280 sq. ft.	50'x84'				
Ice Hockey	22,000 sq. ft. including support area	Rink 85'x200' (minimum 85'x185') Additional 5000 sq. ft. support area	Long axis north-south if outdoor	Indoor – 1 per 50,000 Outdoor – depends on climate	½ - 1 hour travel time	Climate important consideration affecting no. of units. Best as part of multi-purpose facility.
Tennis	Min. of 7,200 sq. ft. single court (best in batteries of 2 or 4)	36'x78'. 12' clearance on both sides; 21' clearance on both ends.	Long axis north –south	1 court per 1,500	¼ - ½ mile	Best in batteries of 2-4. Located in neighborhood/community park or adjacent to school

Appendix B Park & Open Space Classification/Standards

ACTIVITY/ FACILITY	SPACE NEEDED	SIZE AND DIMENSIONS	RECOMMENDED ORIENTATION	UNITS PER POP.	SERVICE RADIUS	LOCATION NOTES
Volleyball	Minimum of 4,000 sq. ft.	30'X60'. Minimum 6' clearance on all sides	Long axis north-south	1 per 3,500	¼ - ½ mile	Same as other court activities (e.g. badminton)
Baseball	3.0-3.85 A minimum	Baselines – 90' Pitching distance 60 ½' foul lines – min. 320' Center field – 400'+	Locate home plate to pitcher throwing across sun and batter not facing it. Line from home plate through pitchers mound run east-north-east.	1 per 3,500	¼ - ½ mile	Part of neighborhood complex. Lighted fields part of community complex.
1. Official	1.2 A minimum	Baselines – 60' Pitching distance – 46' Foul lines – 200' Center field – 200' – 250'		Lighted 1 per 5,000		
2. Little League						
3. Softball	1.5 to 2.0 A	Baselines – 60' Pitching distance- 46' (min. 40') Women -Fast pitch Radius from Plate – 225' between foul lines Slow Pitch – 275' (men) 250'	Same as baseball	1 per 3,500 (if also used for youth baseball)	¼ - ½ mile	Slight differences in dimensions for 16" slow pitch. May also be used for youth baseball.
Field Hockey	Minimum 1.5 A	180' x 300' with a minimum of 10' clearance on all sides.	Fall season – long axis northwest to southwest. For longer periods north-south.	1 per 10,000	15-30 minutes travel time	Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school.
Football	Minimum 1.5 A	160' x 360' with a minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Same as field hockey.	1 per 3,500	15-30 minutes travel time	Same as field hockey.
Soccer	1.7 – 2.1 A	195' to 225'x330' to 360' with a minimum 10' clearance all sides.	Same as field hockey.	1 per 1,000	1-2 miles	Number of units depends on popularity. Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to schools or neighborhood parks.
Swimming Pools	Varies on size of pool and amenities. Usually ½ to 2 A site.	<i>Teaching</i> - minimum of 25 yards x 45' even depth of 3-4 ft. <i>Competitive</i> – minimum of 25 m x 16 m. Minimum of 27 square feet of water surface per swimmer. Ratios of 2:1 deck vs. water.	None-although care must be taken in siting of lifeguard stations in relation to afternoon sun.	1 per 10,000 (Pools should accommodate 3 to 5% of total population at a time.)	15 to 30 minutes travel time	Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching, competitive and recreational purposes with enough depth (3.4m) to accommodate 1m and 3m diving boards. Located in community park or school site.
¼ Mile Running Track	4.3 A	Overall width – 276' Length – 600.02' Track width for 8 to 4 lanes is 32'.	Long axis in sector from north to south to north-west-south-east with finish line at northerly end.	1 per 10,000	15-30 minutes travel time	Usually part of high school, or in community park complex in combination with football, soccer, etc.
Trails	N/A	Well defined trailhead maximum 10' width, maximum average grade is 5% not to exceed 15%.	N/A	1 system per region	N/A	

ACTIVITY/ FACILITY	SPACE NEEDED	SIZE AND DIMENSIONS	RECOMMENDED ORIENTATION	UNITS PER POP.	SERVICE RADIUS	LOCATION NOTES
Golf 1. Par 3 (18 hole) 2. 9-hole standard 3. 18-hole standard	50-60 A	Average length vary 600-2,700 yd.	Majority of holes on north-south axis	--	½ to 1 hour travel time	9 hole course can accommodate 350 people/day. 18 hole course can accommodate 500-550 people/day. Course may be located in community or district park, but should not be over 20 miles from population center.
	Minimum 50 A	Average length ~2,250 yards		1 per 10,000		
	Minimum 110 A	Average length 6,500 yards		1 per 25,000		
Golf-driving Range	13.5 A for minimum of 25 tees	900'x690' wide. Add 12' width for each additional tee.	Long axis south-west-northeast with golfer driving toward northeast.	1 per 25,000	30 minutes travel time.	Part of a golf course complex. As separate unit may be privately owned.
Disc Golf	0.5-1.5 acres per hole. Minimum of 5 acres for championship course.	Vary hole configurations for multiple skill levels. Average hole is 20-50 ft. wide by 200-240 feet long. No holes shorter than 120 feet. Most holes contain at least two sets of tees.	Majority of holes on north-south axis	N/A	N/A	
Skate Park 1. Concrete 2. Steel Frame 3. Portable & Wood	7,000-17,000 sq. ft.	N/A	N/A	0.06 per 1,000	N/A	