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INTRODUCTION

This plan updates and replaces the City of Middleton Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan (2007). It has been prepared to guide the city in acquiring and developing public outdoor parks and recreation facilities and to enable Middleton to participate in outdoor recreation grant programs through the Department of Natural Resources.

1.1 Executive Summary

This update of the City of Middleton's Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan sets forth the city's vision for the future growth and development of its outdoor recreation parks and facilities. This plan is intended to guide the city's outdoor recreation facility development through the year 2019.

Middleton has enjoyed steady population growth over the past few decades and is anticipated to add an additional 3,815 residents by the year 2025 (Wisconsin DOA). These new populations will enjoy a variety of active and passive use parks with activities ranging from skateboarding (Quarry Skate Park), softball and baseball (Firefighters Memorial Park), Aquatic Center, soccer, tennis, basketball, splashpad and fishing pier (Lakeview Park), and football at the developing Harvey John and Lucille Taylor Memorial Park (Bishops Bay).

The existing 156 acres of city-owned park system is comprised of 27 active and passive use park areas. 12 of these parks are mini parks that provide playground facilities and picnic areas. Another 5 of the parks are special use parks that provide specific facilities for skateboarding, dog exercise, water access, community pool or other active use pursuits. The remaining 10 parks are designated as neighborhood and community parks, which provide opportunities for both active and passive recreation, including softball, baseball, basketball, volleyball, tennis, and soccer. In addition, the City of Middleton currently owns and maintains 28 conservancy areas, located throughout the city, providing approximately 800 acres of public open space including 22 miles of trail system. Dane County Parks and the State of Wisconsin own and operate a number of public lands outside of Middleton. These areas provide opportunities for low impact public recreation, including hunting, fishing, skiing, and hiking. Many of these areas, particularly around Lake Mendota, also function as important ecological corridors and are vital to the local watersheds.

During the public input process, several issues repeatedly surfaced from different stakeholder groups, as highlighted below:

- Maintenance Partnerships: *With the growing system of open space, outside organizations may play a key role in assisting with park maintenance and recreational programming.*
- Sports Fields: *While the city has a large offering of sports fields of different types, there is an increasing demand for active recreation (sports) field areas to accommodate the diverse youth sports organizations. With the recent loss of some school district facilities, this demand continues to increase.*
- Connections: Stakeholders agreed that Middleton has a great parks system, and continuing to link the parks with trails and dedicated ped/bike routes is vital.

General recommendations for the entire park system include periodical/regular inspections and regrading of safety surfacing under swing structures, conduct bi-annual inspections of

playground structures, complete sports field turf inspections to meet safety standards, installing standardized park welcome/entry signs that follow the recent templates created (each park should have its own identity but fall within the parameters of the standard), provide ice rinks that perform multi-purpose roles as active recreation field space in summer months, adopt standards for bicycle storage and upgrade facilities as needed, update drinking fountains and restrooms to meet current ADA regulations, provide a shade structure in all Neighborhood and Community parks, upgrade picnic tables at community parks, install large outdoor grills at community parks, increase amount of tree plantings city-wide (see adopted EAB plan), and continue actively pursuing funds for park and recreation programs and park development.

1.1.1 Mission Statement

As formulated by the PRFC, the City of Middleton seeks to provide a park and recreation system that will: meet the needs of current residents and future generations; preserve and protect the City's open space, water, cultural and natural resources; offer barrier free access for all visitors, and provide a park and recreation program that is designed to enhance the quality of life for City of Middleton residents.

1.1.2 Statement of Need

The City of Middleton Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan has been prepared to identify strategies to provide residents and visitors an array of recreational opportunities. This plan updates the 2007 Plan which has expired and is no longer useful in preparing budgets, policies and strategies to maximize the enjoyment and economic capability of the parks and recreation system. Middleton desires to leverage the desirable attributes of the current park system to enhance the vitality of neighborhood and commercial areas, and enhance facilities and connectivity that will make Middleton a destination locale for shopping, dining, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, and attract active/healthy lifestyles to the area.

1.2 Goals and Objectives

The following section identifies goals and objectives to guide the future development or expansion of city parks and open space facilities.

Goal 1.2.1: Ensure that the city's existing open space, outdoor recreational facilities and programs are designed to meet the special needs of all residents and visitors regardless of age, gender, or ability.

Objectives:

- a. Prepare a site Master Plan prior to improvement and/or development of any public park to assure the highest and best use of existing city resources.
- b. Provide ADA compliant barrier-free access in all new or improved park facility construction, play areas, and sports field areas in accordance with adopted regulations and recommendations set forth in the 2012 RAC report.
- c. Achieve compliance with ADA access recommendations in all existing facilities by 2019.
- d. Encourage participation and accommodation of all interested participants at park and recreational meetings, in recreational programs, and park facilities.
- e. Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as it applies to communication with the public. This is in reference to the standard language that government

- agencies should use on their public meeting agendas and other documents stating accommodation of those with disabilities who wish to will be met.
- f. Implement recommendations established in the 2012 RAC report, on file at city hall.

Goal 1.2.2: Meet or exceed National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) standards for active and passive recreational land, to address current and future recreational needs.

- a. Acquire additional lands for active and passive recreation
- b. Continue to acquire parkland to attain a ratio of 10.5 acres of total parkland per 1,000 residents at a minimum.
- c. Adopt new ratio goal of 15 acres of total parkland per 1,000 residents.
- d. Annually review and adjust the city's parkland dedication requirements to assure a nexus between required parkland and the population characteristics of proposed housing developments.
- e. Codify minimum standards or expectations for parklands that are dedicated through the land development approval process.
- f. Utilize PRORAGIS analysis system to set benchmarks and guide the process.

Goal 1.2.3: Use all available resources to further enhance the quality of the City's park system.

Objectives:

- a. Continually pursue county, state, and federal funding programs, which can aid in the purchase and/or development of desired park system improvements.
- b. Nurture the existing positive relationships with public and private organizations for donations and volunteer help to aid in park system development, maintenance, and staffing.
- c. Update the City's Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan every five years to maintain grant eligibility (upcoming 2019, 2024, 2029).
- d. Pursue the development of revenue generating recreational facilities and activities, which can aid in the development of new facilities and/or the maintenance of existing facilities (ie. private for profit concession agreements, sport facility use agreements, and fee/permit systems with a regular evaluation and renewal process.
- e. Utilize the skills and ideas of Park Board members. This includes keeping a roster of improvement ideas for evaluation and inclusion in Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan updates.
- f. Develop a non-lapsing endowment fund for parks donations to be used for park facility enhancements or land acquisition.
- g. Integrate new online maintenance management program to document improvements made annually.

Goal 1.2.4: Recognize the importance of an adequate park budget, which can financially address existing park health and safety hazards and allow for future parkland acquisition and/or facility development.

Objectives:

- a. Use the Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan as a guide to establish annual and five year capital spending budgets.

- b. Invest funds for the development of facilities that will maximize existing park and recreation areas and provide exciting recreational programs, with the intention of increasing park prominence, community visibility, and use.
- c. Establish new methods for maintaining funding such as non-lapsing park funds, or Foundation funding to be used as a match.
- d. Utilize customer survey results to improve existing facilities and budgets to ensure demands are being met.
- e. Allocate adequate funding for progressive operation and completion of department duties.

Goal 1.2.5: Coordinate subdivision review with all departments responsible for providing or maintaining adequate park facilities.

Objectives:

- a. The PRFC and Plan Commission must consult and incorporate the needs identified in the Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan before subdivision plats are approved.
- b. Evaluate land dedicated for parks to differentiate between land appropriate for active park use, land appropriate for open space only, and land requiring protection from development. Land requiring protection from development should be protected via development codes. Such lands should be considered for incorporation into the city-wide Conservancy Land areas.
- c. Evaluate and update the parkland dedication subdivision ordinance at intervals consistent with the regular five year updates of this document so that it adequately addresses the recreational needs of residents.
- d. Preserve any proposed local and regional trail corridors in review of all new developments.

Goal 1.2.6: Coordinate development efforts and the use and maintenance of outdoor recreational facilities between the City of Middleton/Cross Plains School District, and appropriate sporting associations.

Objectives:

- a. Coordinate planning efforts of new alternate transportation corridors to ensure proper consideration of local and regional trail connection development, and adequate green space protection.
- b. Coordinate the public use and programming efforts of indoor and outdoor school recreation facilities on city lands.
- c. Encourage cooperative public/private/City/School/Sports Association development projects to help improve and expand outdoor recreational opportunities throughout the community in a cost-effective manner.
- d. Develop formal use/revenue/maintenance agreements between the City, school district, and community/volunteer organizations to help fund, operate and maintain public outdoor recreation facilities in the City. Agreements must be reviewed and renewed every three to five years by PRFC and Common Council.
- e. Participate in regional planning of parks and outdoor recreational needs, including the Dane County Parks Department, WisDOT, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Goal 1.2.7: Provide a wide range of park facilities to address the needs of existing and changing demographics and to meet the standards set forth by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

Objectives:

- a. Analyze the location, size and function of existing and proposed parks as annexations, residential development, or land use changes occur on a five year basis.
- b. Communicate and plan for the importance of dynamic, multi-purpose parks and outdoor recreational facilities as a component of the city's regional draw, tourism, business, and economic development.
- c. Use Park Service Area Criteria to help determine the location of future park sites (see Chapter 2 and Appendix).
- d. Incorporate recreational opportunities customized to Middleton demographics (current trend shows increase in population 50 and up). Examples could include skiing/snowshoeing, biking, tennis, running/fitness trails, and disc golf.

Goal 1.2.8: Provide residents with safe and reliable recreation equipment throughout the city park system.

Objectives:

- a. Develop bi-annual inspections and inventory of existing parks facilities to maintain an active log of facilities improvement.
- b. Continue funding the replacement of old and deteriorating equipment in all city parks to ensure health, safety, and welfare of visitors including playground equipment and safety surfacing.

Goal 1.2.9: Inventory, improve and expand the bicycle and pedestrian network.

Objectives:

- a. Improve local trail connectivity throughout the Middleton area to parks, conservancy areas, schools, and all regional trails.
- b. Establish wayfinding signage to allow new residents or visitors to effectively travel throughout the City on foot or bicycle or other means (skateboard, rollerblades, etc.).
- c. Inventory, standardize, and improve the availability and accessibility of bicycle parking.
- d. Provide input to Public Works and Bike/Ped committee for development of on-street linkages (such as bike lanes) between trail segments and park facilities.
- e. Coordinate planning and development efforts with adjacent municipal bodies to complete larger regional networks (municipal, county, and state).

Goal 1.2.10: Better integrate outdoor recreational programming and facilities development to correspond to outdoor pursuits on a seasonal basis.

Objectives:

- a. Create a menu of outdoor recreational programs for each season to identify gaps in the calendar where programs are deficient.
- b. Focus on providing winter programs, indoor and outdoor, to maximize the outdoor recreation opportunity of Middleton as a year-round destination.

- c. Promote and support seasonal festivals in cooperation with local business and organizations. Examples include Good Neighbor Fest, National Trails Day, Arbor Day, and Forestry Field Day.

Goal 1.2.11: Provide adequate management and staffing levels to oversee the maintenance of park and open space lands and facilities.

Objectives:

- a. Continually evaluate the amount of lands to be managed by City Staff with consideration to keeping expenditures balanced with expected levels of service and maintenance and invest funds to implement FT park crewman positions.
- b. Invest funds for a FT Forestry/Conservancy Lands Crewman to assist with forestry operations.
- c. Complete investment in the office administration staffing by creating a FT Operations/Office Manager and one FT Recreation Assistant. This would revise the current $\frac{3}{4}$ time status of these positions.
- d. Invest funds to implement a full time Planner/Supervisor/Foreman to prepare grant applications, prepare master plans, and supervise park maintenance staff. Position should have strong background in both active and passive recreation fields to compliment the city-wide system of open space.
- e. Invest funds to restore the LTE staffing positions to a level commensurate with the public demand for facility upkeep.

Goal 1.2.12: Ensure that appropriate landscape plant materials are incorporated into all new and existing park and open space lands.

Objectives:

- a. Develop and follow landscape guidelines for park and open space lands that will enhance the sensory impact, moderate the microclimate, provide visual and audio buffers and minimize the removal of mature native species. Guidelines must be approved by PRFC and Council for effective enforcement.
- b. Any new tree plantings must be submitted and approved by city forester prior to installation in public spaces.

Goal 1.2.13: Obtain program accreditation from NRPA within five years from plan adoption.

Objectives:

- a. Raise public awareness of the city-wide open space system by securing the highest level of recognition bestowed by the NRPA.
- b. Maintain current NRPA and WPRA memberships in good standing.
- c. Solidify Middleton Public Lands Department as the model of excellence for Wisconsin park and open space systems.
- d. Complete and maintain the PRORAGIS system data for all parks by 2015.

1.3 Review of Past Planning Documents (Local, Regional, State)

1.3.1 City of Middleton Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan (2007-2013)

The 2007 plan set forth the City of Middleton's vision for the future growth and development of its outdoor recreation parks and facilities. It was intended to guide the City's outdoor recreation facility development to the year 2012. The plan recognizes the equitable distribution of parks throughout the city, the city's commitment to upgrading park lands to keep current with citizen expectations and the strong community support for the department.

The plan recommends continued monitoring of existing facilities with improvement and repair as needed, establishing criteria for acceptance of parkland dedication and the continued implementation of master plans for all parks and conservancy lands.

Key topics identified within the 2007 plan include:

- a. Middleton should prepare for shifts in demographics including the increase in residents aged 50 and older as well as the increasing population density to the north of the existing city boundary. The plan recommends increasing opportunities for low impact outdoor recreation and prepares to obtain funds for the developments of parks related to future development.
- b. Periodic review of the application of the parkland dedication requirements at 10.5 acres/1,000 residents in order to maintain a reasonable correlation between population growth and the demand for parkland.
- c. The land lying north of the current city limits extending to Balser Road and Onken Road and between HWY 12 and Governor Nelson State Park is anticipated to become the primary growth area for the city. The plan recommends the establishment of (3) neighborhood parks, (1) community park, protection of the sensitive environmental area and development of a trail system linking Graber Pond to HWY 12 bike path and extending easterly via the Pheasant Branch Conservancy to Governor Nelson State Park.
- d. The city should investigate the development of additional multi-use athletic fields appropriate for soccer, lacrosse, football and softball/baseball.
- e. Residents and various neighborhood groups have expressed the need for additional dog parks and the inappropriateness for locating a new dog park in existing parkland adjacent to residential neighborhoods. The plan identifies opportunities along the perimeter of South Pond and along the south side of North Fork Confluence Pond.
- f. Community or botanical gardens should be developed and located in community parks or at the discretion of PRFC.
- g. This plan recommends that the City of Middleton work with the City of Shorewood Hills and the Village of Waunakee to develop a community park, including the redevelopment of a Master Plan that excludes parcels still owned and used by the Metropolitan Refuse District (MRD).
- h. Recommendations from the Dane County Park and Open Space Plan as well as the Wisconsin SCORP include the development of specific facilities. Facilities from these recommendations that are applicable to the City of Middleton include the development of:
 - a. Passive recreation facilities (birding, fishing, skiing, trails, etc.)
 - b. Backcountry/walk-in camping
 - c. Boat launches (carry-in, trailerable)
 - d. Public water access (canoe/kayak/fishing)
 - e. Trails-hiking/biking

- f. Dog exercise areas
- g. Natural areas (conservancy lands)
- h. Parks
- i. Nature centers
- j. Picnic areas (not allowed in conservancy lands)
- k. Sailboat clubs/rentals/concessions
- l. Tennis courts and programs
- m. Soccer

Finally, the 2006 CORP recommends a park land dedication requirement of 3,789 square feet per new residential dwelling unit to accommodate future city growth.

1.3.2 Allen Boulevard/Middleton Beach Road Feasibility Plan (2013-14)

The goal of this study is to develop a sustainable land use plan incorporating practices to mitigate stormwater runoff pollution, restore wetlands, provide recreational trails and improve fish habitat integrated with the overall site re-development of this Neighborhood. Typical redevelopment improvements, including road surface replacement, parking space and sidewalk/ recreational trail installation will be reformulated based on a sustainable land use plan framework focused on environmental and habitat enhancement issues. An example is the street replacement will be a “Green Street” configuration including porous asphalt draining to a bio-retention cell draining to a grassed swale ditch instead of the traditional urban road surface of asphalt draining to an underground stormwater pipe.

1.3.3 City of Middleton Conservancy Lands Plan (2011-2016)

This plan was prepared to identify all of the lands currently in the conservancy lands program and provide an inventory of each, including parcel size, existing facilities and current management efforts. The plan also addresses trail standards, management techniques, recommended policies, staffing issues in addition to identifying needs and providing implementation strategies over a five year period. Conservancy lands are properties owned by the city of Middleton that contain forests, fields, ponds or wetlands as their primary land cover. The lands are managed for passive outdoor recreation and conservation purposes.

Goals outlined in the plan include:

1. Protect and restore native landscapes and designated conservancy lands to maintain or improve the natural habitat, scenic beauty, outdoor recreation and environmental education.
2. Expand partnerships for maintenance of conservancy lands and hands-on restoration and learning opportunities for the residents of Middleton.
3. Improve water quality within the conservancy land properties.
4. Increase connections between Middleton’s conservation lands and other adjacent or regional conservation areas including trail corridors/linkages with other government/municipal agencies and land management plans.
5. Provide adequate management and staffing to oversee the management and maintenance of all conservancy lands.

1.3.4 City of Middleton Comprehensive Plan (2006)

The comprehensive plan provides a long-range guide for Middleton officials, staff, and citizens to effectively address future development and natural resource protection in the city, and sets forth city planning goals and objectives. The *City of Middleton Conservancy Lands Plan*, which

provides a detailed inventory of natural resources, is included within the comprehensive plan as a reference. Comprehensive plan goals, objectives, policies, and programs related to the preservation and enhancement of open spaces and park facilities are detailed below.

Goals, Policies and Objectives:

1. Provide adequate recreation facilities and open space lands for each segment of the community, coordinate public parks with private recreation areas and school facilities, and preserve natural features within the City.
 - a. Provide park areas and recreation facilities in all neighborhoods of the city.
 - b. Continue to plan for and provide pedestrian and bicycle trails throughout the city, for both recreational and commuter purposes.
 - c. Acquire for public use or preserve by other means lands that are environmentally sensitive, lands with access to water and lands with historically significant areas. Environmentally sensitive lands include floodplain, wetlands, steep slopes and wooded areas. Additional public access to Lake Mendota is desirable.
 - d. Recognize that public open space includes land for intensive and passive outdoor recreation activities and conservancy areas.
 - e. Review dedication requirements for parkland and other potential sources to help ensure adequate land for open space and for recreation purposes.
 - f. Guide design, development and site selection of all types of development to minimize potential adverse impacts on the integrity of land and quality of ground and surface waters.
 - g. Preserve the role of wetlands and woodlands as essential components of the hydrologic system and valuable wildlife habitat. Protect shoreland and floodplain areas accordingly.
2. Ensure that open space, recreation facilities and programs are designed to meet the special needs of all residents, especially the elderly and disabled.
 - a. Provide barrier-free access in all new park facility construction and play areas.
 - b. Achieve compliance with accessibility requirements in existing facilities by 2007.
 - c. Encourage participation of elderly and disabled citizens at park and recreational meetings and in recreational programs.
 - d. Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act as it applies to communication between the Public Lands Department, and the public.
3. Protect and restore designated conservancy lands to maintain or improve the natural habitat, scenic beauty, passive recreation and environmental outdoor education.
 - a. Plan and implement programs designed to restore and develop Middleton's conservancy lands so as to provide aesthetic landscapes as well as opportunities for education and passive recreation for all.
 - b. Maintain or improve the water quality of all creeks and kettle ponds within Middleton's conservancy lands system by providing a shoreland buffer zone of diverse native vegetation 100' to 300' in width along the edges of streams, wetlands and ponds.

1.3.5 City of Middleton BUILD Plan - Allen Boulevard Corridor (2006)

The Dane County BUILD Program was created in 1998 to encourage infill development by providing funds to communities within the County to create redevelopment plans. This *Plan* seeks to apply guiding principles to the Allen Boulevard corridor, which is characterized by a

lack of connectivity between residences and retail, auto-orientation and aging strip-mall developments.

1.3.6 Middleton Downtown Circulation Study (2008)

The objective of the *Downtown Circulation Study* was to identify refinements to the existing parking and street network that would enhance vehicle flow, transit service, pedestrian movement, parking utilization, and street aesthetics in the downtown area.

1.3.7 Middleton Parmenter Neighborhood Plan (2008)

The *Parmenter Neighborhood Plan* establishes a vision for the development of a sustainable, vibrant neighborhood with a mix of living, working and shopping oriented land uses. The plan offers recommendations related to land use, transportation, housing and design guidelines.

1.3.8 City of Middleton Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (2009)

The *2009 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan* represents Middleton's vision for making alternative modes of transportation an integral part of the community. The plan identifies actions that should be taken to improve conditions along four key Bicycle and Pedestrian corridors. These actions are summarized as follows:

1. Continue to make improvements to the Pheasant Branch Trail so that it serves as the east-west spine and centerpiece of the city's bikeway and pedestrian network while at the same time assessing and addressing concerns about reducing user conflicts.
2. Develop a path along the WisDOT/Wisconsin & Southern railroad corridor to connect Middleton with the existing bike network in Madison and to the proposed Good Neighbor Trail along Black Earth Creek to Mazomanie.
3. Establish bike lanes along the High/Park/Gammon Street corridor to develop a north-south route through the heart of Middleton and to facilitate access to the Rail Corridor, Pheasant Branch, and North Mendota trails.
4. Develop an integrated side path and bike lane network on the north side of Century Avenue between Allen Boulevard and the eastern city limits.

1.3.9 Wisconsin's State Outdoor Recreation Plan

Since 1965, the State has developed and maintained the *Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* (SCORP) in an attempt to classify, measure, and ultimately provide for the preferences and needs of a statewide recreating public. Goals include the following:

1. Improve integration of outdoor recreation interests and needs in land use and other relevant planning efforts.
2. Continue to provide and enhance access to Wisconsin recreational land and waters.
3. Promote outdoor recreation as a means of improving public health among Wisconsinites.
4. Establish great urban parks and community green spaces.

1.3.10 Northern Lake Mendota Regional Plan (1999)

The regional Master Plan summarizes a year-long study of the ecological assets found in the North Lake Mendota area. The heart of this study area is the Pheasant Branch Conservancy and its tributary watershed. An inventory of flora and fauna is provided for landscape context. The plan also provides recommendations for the greenway trail system and connections to other sites of ecological significance.

1.3.11 Comprehensive ADA Review (RAC) (2012)

This review of the entire city-wide trail, pathway, and park facility access system was completed to gain an understanding of compliance with current ADA regulations and recommendations for public spaces. Detailed recommendations were derived and outlined in the summary report. Many of these findings were observed during the CORP process and recommendations merged with the 2013 report. For clarity, the CORP recommendations refer to the RAC report in lieu of duplication in this report body.

1.3.12 Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan (2012-2017)

The *Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan (2012-2017)* seeks to identify significant cultural, historical and natural resources that should be considered for possible protection, preservation or restoration through 2017. The plan also identifies countywide recreation needs and Dane County's role in providing facilities to meet anticipated demands. The five primary goals of the plan include:

1. Provide sufficient park land and recreation facilities to meet the demand of Dane County residents without adversely affecting existing natural resources.
2. Preserve for posterity the characteristics and diversity of the natural, cultural and historical resources of Dane County.
3. Preserve large tracts of natural and agricultural rural landscapes at urban fringe areas that will provide regional resource protection and recreation benefits.
4. Provide volunteer opportunities and stewardship education to county residents of all ages.
5. Protect lakes, rivers and streams, including shorelines, wetlands, high infiltration areas and associated vegetative buffers to maintain high water quality, manage water quality and sustain water related recreation throughout Dane County.

High demand and participation rates were consistently shown for camping, biking, fishing and most trail activities in national, state, county and local recreation surveys. High participation rates in water related activities continue to warrant the priority to provide a variety of public access opportunities on Dane County waters and strong public support was heard to expand trail facilities, particularly single track mountain biking in western Dane County. A synthesis of all planning considerations provides an accurate portrayal of the primary recreation expectations and the needs on Dane County's park system. They are as follows:

1. Trails (particularly mountain biking, snowshoeing, equine, and multi-use regional)
2. Wildlife viewing opportunities
3. Water access facilities (fishing, canoe/kayak)
4. Camping
5. Picnicking and shelters
6. Disc golf
7. Dog exercise areas
8. Hunting and archery

Future development of these types of facilities is compatible with projected population trends that point toward high future populations of both young and retirement-age residents.

1.4 Summary of the Planning Process

1.4.1 Work Plan and Timeline

This plan was developed between September 2013 and April 2014. The process included six meetings with staff and other officials, various stakeholder interviews, and a public information meeting. All parks were audited by SAA staff with findings identified on inventory sheets. An online survey was also performed to elicit public information from individuals and groups unable to attend the public meetings. (See Appendix for full tabulated results of this survey) Results from a separate 2013 Customer Service Survey were also taken into account for this plan. (Full survey results are on file at City Hall)

1.4.2 Meetings

Meeting #1 September 17, 2013: the kick-off meeting was at City Hall with the City's Director of Public Lands. The scope and timeline of the project were reviewed and dates for the remainder of the meetings were set.

Meeting #2 October 21, 2013: this was a public information meeting held to report on the status of the comprehensive outdoor recreation plan, discuss its purpose, and obtain feedback before recommendations were developed. The event was held in the Council Chambers at Middleton City Hall and was attended by approximately 10 people. Immediately following, SAA held a progress review meeting with the PRFC to review input received to date and generate additional feedback from the park committee before preparing plan recommendations.

Meeting #3 October 30, 2013: this meeting consisted of discussion with city staff regarding the recreation and forestry programs and future needs. Goals and implementation strategies were discussed.

Meeting #4 November 18, 2013: SAA attended the PRFC meeting to discuss goals and objectives, and the current/proposed parkland dedication ordinance language.

Meeting #5 November 22, 2013: the draft plan was reviewed with city staff for initial input. Revisions were incorporated into the next draft document.

Meeting #6 December 16, 2013: The draft plan was presented to the PRFC for reaction and feedback. Direction from this meeting was incorporated into the final plan documents.

Meeting #7 January 20, 2014: SAA attended the PRFC meeting to discuss project progress and specific recommendation language.

Meeting #8 February 3, 2014: SAA attended the PRFC meeting to discuss project progress and specific recommendation language.

1.4.3 Stakeholder Interviews

In October 2013, SAA conducted interviews with city-selected stakeholders identified as having interest, expertise, or insight into parks and open space issues within the planning area. There were no members of the Parks and Recreation Committee individually interviewed,

however, the input received at the 10-21-13 PRFC meeting is included below. The following groups participated in the interview process:

- Middleton Baseball & Softball Commission
- Middleton Lacrosse Club
- KEVA Sports & Event Center
- Middleton United Soccer Club
- Cardinal Youth Football
- Rush Wisconsin (Soccer)
- Neighborhood Associations

The purpose of the interviews was to collect primary-level data regarding the current and future conditions of parks from a broad spectrum of users within the community. A special emphasis was placed on collecting information about the perceived adequacy of existing facilities and any related improvements to mitigate concerns.

In all cases we recorded information about assets and opportunities for the park each group used most often. The results of this exercise would be most effectively utilized if shared with other implementation authorities including the school district and county parks. Input received from the PRFC immediately follows, complete results from other stakeholders are available in Appendix A.

PRFC Input:

- Quisling soccer complex improved with irrigation and potentially 2 additional fields should land to the west be acquired
- Additional bicycle and pedestrian trails and pathways (specifically cited was Allen Boulevard from ex. trail terminus to Century Ave. and Century Ave. from Allen to CTH Q)
- Rest periods for existing athletic fields for turf recovery
- Splashpads at Firefighters Memorial Park and the aquatic center
- Neighborhood parks should reviewed for a need of shade shelters or open air pavilions on a case by case basis
- As land and resources are available, add new athletic field space for growing sports such as lacrosse and rugby
- New restroom/shelter for the Splashpad at Lakeview
- Increased tree plantings in all parks
- Coordinate an adopt-a-park program by highschool service clubs or local sports organizations
- Completion of the trail segment from Pheasant Branch Conservancy to Graber pond
- Completion of the master plan (2014 grant funded study) for Middleton Beach Road and trail connection along Allen Boulevard from Marshall Park to Century Avenue. This is a major commuter route.
- Revise MRD site master plan
- Update recreational programming utility to web-based STRIVE
- Update sports use agreements for increased demand in soccer and football categories

1.4.4 Survey Results

As part of this planning process, an online survey was developed with questions pertaining to the overall quality and quantity of outdoor recreation facilities the city offers its residents. The questions asked users to identify specific issues and concerns observed as well as opportunities for growth and new facility development.

A total of 40 respondents completed the survey between September 2013 and February 2014. Re-occurring themes from the survey data showed that overwhelmingly, the public is satisfied with the overall quality and offerings provided by the city public open space system. The aquatic center and Splashpad were the most commonly cited popular attractions for families followed by the city-wide trails. The most popular activities for pre-school age children were the Splashpad and playgrounds. Popular activities for children age 5-12 included athletic fields followed by the aquatic center. The trail system and dog parks ranked #1 and #2 with age groups 19-54 as well as 55 plus. While not part of the Middleton Park system, the Senior Center was also mentioned as a popular resource for city residents.

Chart 1-1 indicates that recreational needs of all age groups within the city are adequately met with the exception of Adolescents. This is very typical of municipal park systems of this size.

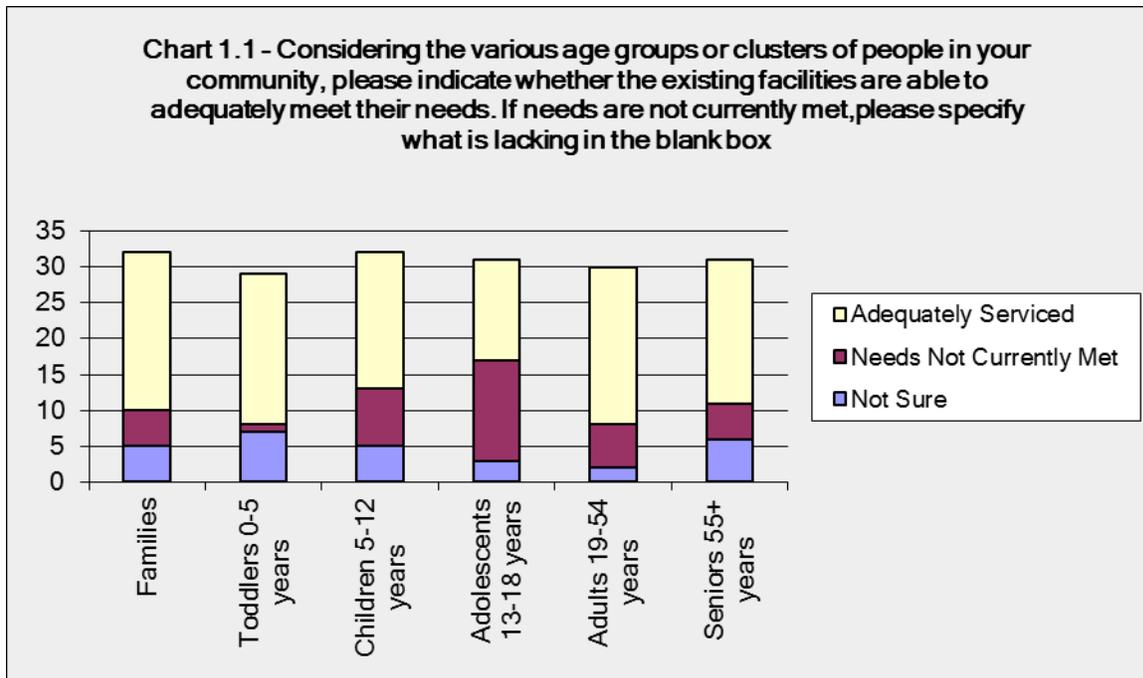


Chart 1.2 shows the most commonly cited area for improvement was providing additional restroom and shelter facilities in the larger community scale parks followed by additional trail and accessibility improvements.

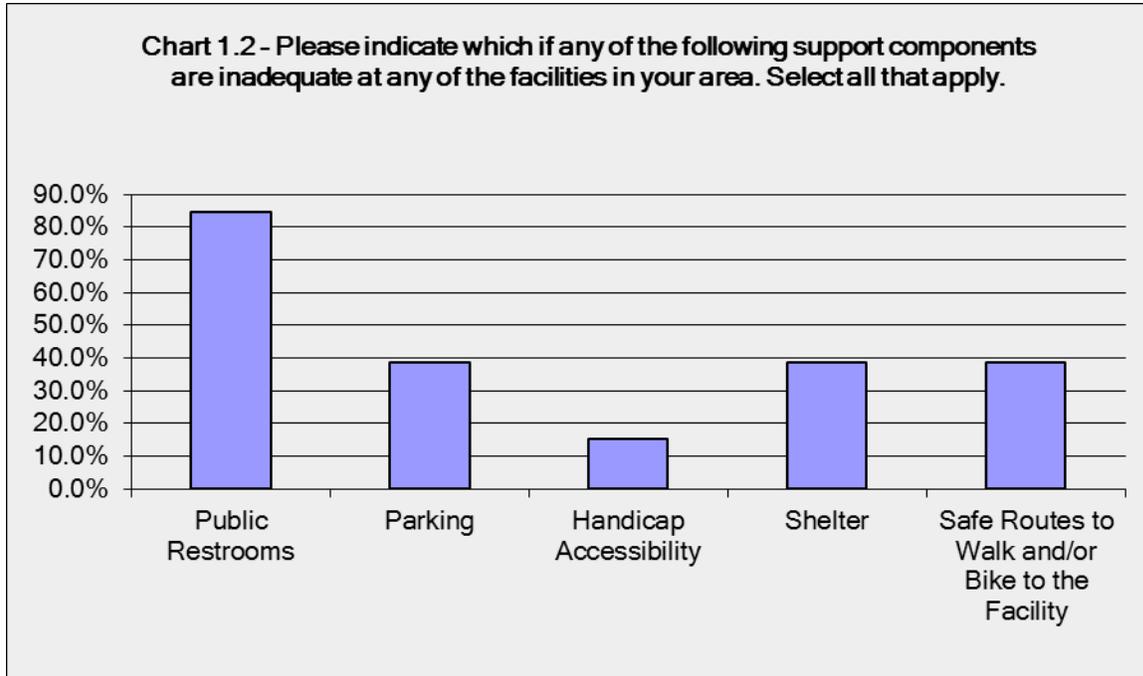
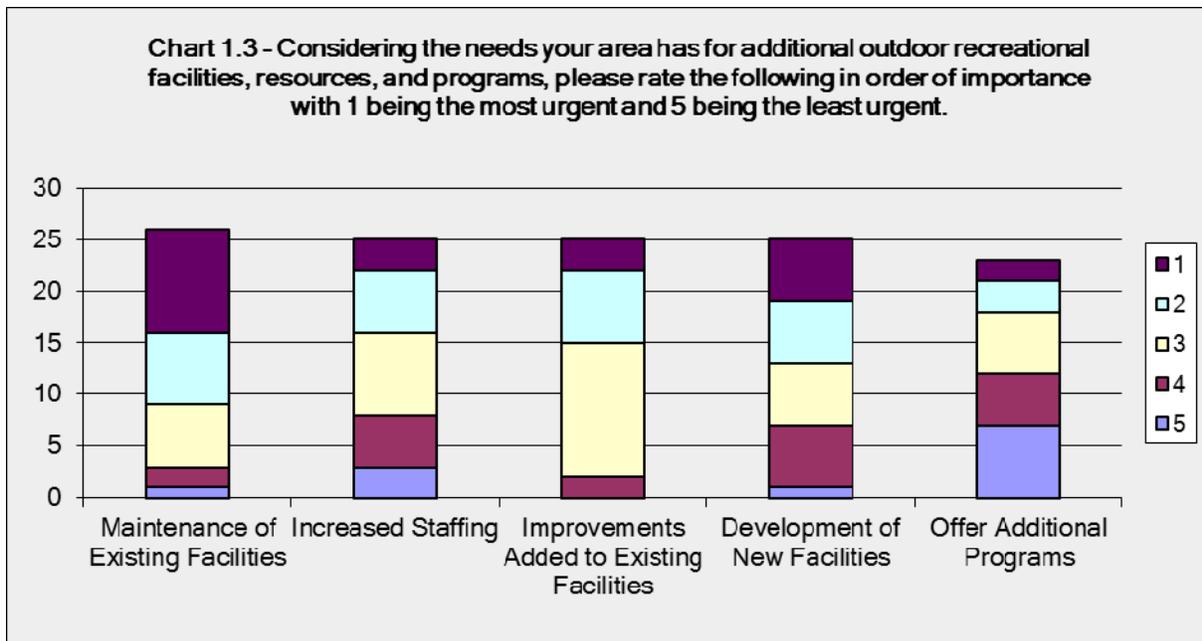


Chart 1.3 indicates that maintenance of existing facilities and development of new facilities were the #1 priority for residents followed by increased staffing. The desire for increased staffing levels indicate further support for increased maintenance and upkeep of existing facilities.



1.5 Summary of Public Lands Department

1.5.1 Public Lands Organization

The Middleton Public Lands, Recreation and Forestry Department oversees all parks and facilities within the City of Middleton. The city maintains a distinction between parkland and conservancy areas for management purposes. Parkland includes all areas dedicated to the City for public use as a park, parkway or recreation facility, but not including lands designated as conservancy under Section 21.03(1) of the City's Code of Ordinances. Conservancy lands are a broader category of land, designated for conservancy or open space that include stormwater management facilities and trail corridors. Planning, budgeting and operations are managed by the Public Lands Manager with input from the Conservancy Lands Commission (CLC) and the Park, Recreation and Forestry Commission.

1.5.2 Existing Staffing Levels

City of Middleton Public Lands' staff is responsible for both conservancy lands and park lands in Middleton. The city's ball diamonds and active use parks are maintained by using a combination of FTEs and seasonal LTEs while conservancy lands utilize two (2) LTEs allowed to work 600 hours annually on operations and maintenance including planting, brushing, mowing, trail maintenance and other management efforts (additional LTE staff cut in 2008). Maintenance of public lands is augmented through the utilization of five (5) Department of Corrections workers. The system is will benefit from the restoration of two LTE staff to improve the maintenance and upkeep of the park Conservancy lands also utilize one (1) full-time Lead Crewman (see Figure 2.1).

The LTE's generally work full-time during the summer months from June to August and may work part-time during the off-season and shoulder seasons (spring and fall) if they are local residents. However, most of the intensive conservancy land management activity occurs during the spring and fall seasons, and the LTE employment dates generally do not coincide with these times of intensive management activity. The full-time Conservancy Lead Foreman oversees management of the two LTE's daily activities and assists in conservancy land management efforts during the shoulder seasons, however, due to limited staff hours it is difficult to manage all of Middleton's conservancy lands during these crucial seasons. The restoration of two or three LTE's would have a direct benefit on the quality of conservancy lands in Middleton.

As shown in past studies, the demand for public open space and recreational facilities exceeds the existing staffing levels and has not kept pace with the growth of population or public land offerings. Consistently, past planning documents and budget requests have shown need for additional FTE parks and CLC staff. These additional FTE staff will be required in the future to maintain facilities. There is also demonstrated need for additional administrative and planning staff to assist with system wide management and operation.

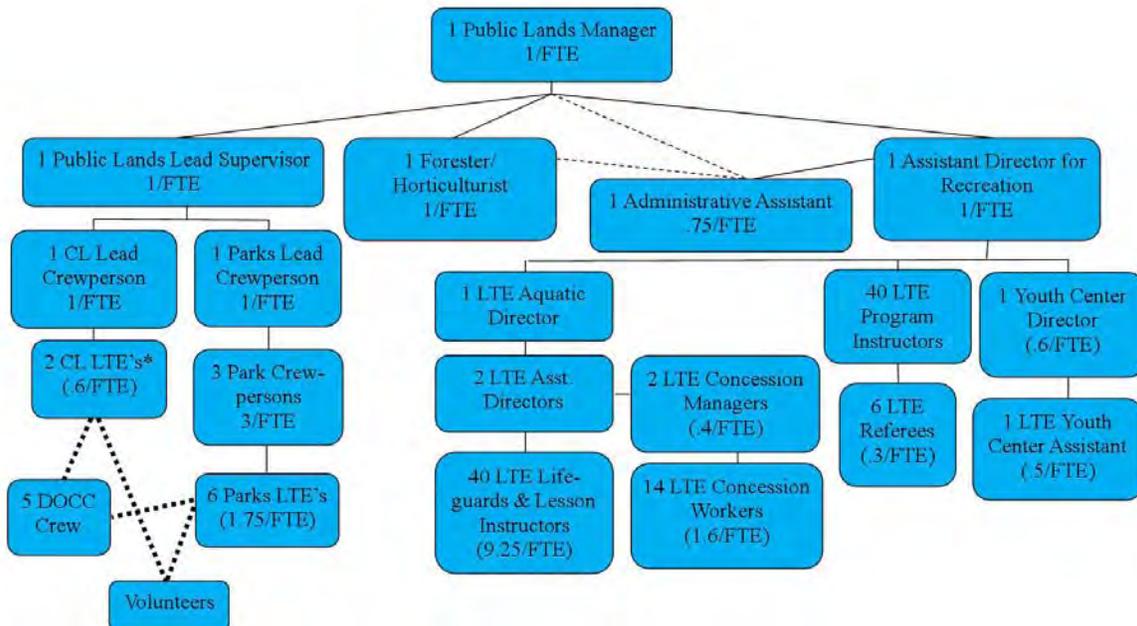
As of the printing of this plan, public lands staff is as follows:

Penni Klein – Director
 Parks Foreman – Cal Hack
 Assistant Foreman – Dave Beck
 Parks Crewman – Kurt Bruenig
 Tim Dahmen
 Kurt Meinholz

City Forester – Mark Wegner
 Recreation Supervisor – Megan Meyer
 Administrative Assistant – Jessica Ripp

Five LTE summer staff
 CLC Assistant Foreman – Dennis Hellenbrand
 Two LTE summer staff
 Department of Corrections Work Crew
 Volunteers

Figure 1.5: Public Lands Organization Chart



*1 CL LTE dedicated field work. Other CL LTE office/administration

Source: City of Middleton, 2014

1.5.3 Public Lands Policies

Policy decisions that affect park lands are generally made by three (3) advisory committees within the city government, subject to the final approval of the Middleton Common Council. The Public Lands, Recreation, and Forestry Department maintains actual management authority. The body that reviews and makes recommendations regarding these lands is the Park, Recreation and Forestry Commission (PRFC). The Conservancy Lands Committee (CLC) and Water Resources Management Commission (WRMC) are also involved in policy studies regarding public lands in Middleton. A description of committees involved in providing quality public lands is provided below.

Park, Recreation and Forestry Commission (PRFC)
(Chapter 2.10 Middleton Code of Ordinances)

The PRFC consists of seven (7) members, including one (1) Alderperson and six (6) citizens. The PRFC's mission is to govern, control, maintain and improve all public parks, parkways, and boulevards within the city, as well as any that may be owned or acquired outside the corporate limits of the city, except designated conservancy lands.

The PRFC oversees park facilities in Middleton, which totaled approximately 156 acres in 2013. Many of these parks border conservancy lands, and therefore the management of one may affect the other. Also, the PRFC has oversight responsibilities for the Urban Forestry program, which includes over 8,500 street trees (an estimated 25% of which are ash trees) and urban forest management areas within these parks and urban areas.

Powers and Duties: the Board of Park, Recreation and Forestry Commissioners shall have the following powers and duties:

- (a) To govern, control, maintain and improve all public parks, parkways, boulevards and pleasure drives within the City, as well as any which may be owned or from time to time acquired outside the corporate limits of the City, except those lands designated as conservancy under section 21.03(1) of the Code of Ordinances, Wis. Stat. s. 27.08, and to adopt and enforce rules and regulations to promote those purposes as described in Chapter 21 of the Code of Ordinances and Wis. Stat. s. 27.14.
- (b) To provide, conduct and supervise public playgrounds, playfields, indoor recreation centers and other recreation areas and facilities owned or controlled by the City, to have the power to conduct any form of recreational or cultural activity that will employ the leisure time of the people in a constructive and wholesome manner, and may conduct such activities on properties under its control, on public properties with the consent of the authorities thereof, and on private properties with the consent of the owners.
- (c) To have general supervision over the planting, trimming, spraying, protection and removal of all trees and shrubs in the City, except in lands designated as conservancy pursuant to section 21.03(1) of the Code of Ordinances such supervision shall occur only for the purpose of addressing issues relating to the protection of the health or safety of the public or trees or shrubs located within or outside the boundaries of such lands. The Board shall also have general supervision of the activities of the Public Lands Manager as they relate to the powers and duties of the Board.
- (d) The Board shall have the power to remove or cause the removal of any dead, diseased, infested, or structurally damaged tree, or portion of tree on private property when such tree constitutes a potential hazard to life and property within the right-of-way or on public property or constitutes a threat to the urban forest.
- (e) The powers and duties in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) above shall be construed as relating to planning and policy decisions, and ensuring the level of maintenance of the parks and recreational facilities, relating to the matters expressly stated in these paragraphs and shall not be construed as giving the Board of Park, Recreation and Forestry Commissioners control over the employees, equipment or budgetary matters except in an advisory sense or where otherwise provided by the Common Council.

Conservancy Lands Committee (CLC)
(Chapter 2.16 Middleton Code of Ordinances)

The CLC consists of seven (7) members, as outlined in Chapter 2.16 of the city's Code of Ordinances, which can be found on the city of Middleton's website. Members include the Chair of the PRFC (or someone appointed by the Chair), the Chair of the WRMC (or someone appointed by the Chair), the Chair of the Public Works Committee (or someone appointed by the Chair), one (1) Alderperson, two (2) citizens who are residents of the city of Middleton and one (1) citizen who is not required to be a resident of the city of Middleton. The committee chairs are automatic members on the CLC board, all others are appointed by the Mayor.

Objectives and Powers: (a) to further the City's interest in management of its community forests, fields and wetlands for conservation purposes pursuant to Wis. Stats. §28.20, and subject to the limitations set forth herein, the Committee shall govern, maintain, improve and be responsible for studying all land conservation issues affecting all City of Middleton lands designated as conservancy under Section 21. 03 of the Code of Ordinances. It shall plan and implement programs designed to restore and develop such land so as to accomplish ecological restoration and natural scenic beauty as well as opportunities for education and recreation for the residents of the City. It shall also recommend, to the Common Council adoption of ordinances to further the above goals, as well as to further the general health, safety and welfare of the public. The Committee shall have general supervision over the planting, trimming, spraying, protection and removal of all trees, shrubs, plants, and grasses for conservation purposes except where the Board of Park, Recreation and Forestry Commissioners acts or intervenes pursuant to its authority under section 2.10(3)(c) of the Code of Ordinances. The Committee shall also have general supervision over the activities of the Public Lands Manager as they relate to the objectives and powers of the Committee. The Committee shall have the use of the facilities of the Public Works and the Planning Office of the City and may appoint subcommittees to carry out technical studies and projects, provided that such subcommittee appointments are first submitted to and approved by the Mayor. The Committee may propose to the Common Council an annual budget to cover anticipated expenses required to fulfill its objectives. It will also consult with similar bodies from neighboring cities, towns, and the county to develop a regional response to issues concerning land conservation. (b) The objectives and duties in paragraph (a) shall be construed as relating to planning and policy decisions relating to matters expressly stated therein and shall not be construed as giving the Committee control over any employees, equipment or budgetary matters except in an advisory sense or where otherwise provided by the Common Council.

Water Resources Management Commission (WRMC)
(Chapter 2.05 Middleton Code of Ordinances)

The WRMC consists of seven (7) members, including the Chair of the PRFC (or someone appointed by the Chair), one (1) Alderperson and five (5) citizen members.

Objectives and Powers: the Commission shall study, plan and implement programs involving the management of water resources both within and, insofar as possible, beyond the corporate limits of the City of Middleton. All specific and related storm drainage, flood control, flood plain, stream, lake and shoreline projects and improvements which affect or may affect the City of Middleton or its residents shall be reviewed and analyzed by the Commission and its

conclusions transmitted to the Common Council. The Commission shall have the use of the facilities of the Public Works Department and Planning Office of the City and may appoint such technical sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist in its planning functions, provided that all sub-committee appointments are first submitted to and approved by the Mayor, and may propose to the Common Council an annual budget to cover the anticipated expenditures believed necessary to carry out its objectives. The Commission shall prepare and update on an annual basis a detailed program on its duties, responsibilities and objectives for submission to the Common Council.

This committee's decisions have the potential to impact conservancy lands, natural resource features and the ecology that contain water features, including the kettle ponds, stream corridors and detention ponds.

City Staff

The city of Middleton has one (1) full-time Public Lands Director who oversees daily operations related to the parks, recreation facilities, forestry, and conservancy lands. Public lands operation and supervision tasks are performed by one (1) FTE Public Lands Foreman, one (1) FTE CLC Lead Crewman, two (2) LTE crew and five (5) DOC Crew. The LTE and DOC (Dept. of Corrections) crew members are available seasonally. There are also three (3) park crew members, one (1) FTE Parks Lead Crewman, one (1) FTE Forester/Horticulturist, and five (5) LTE park staff that may assist with public lands under the direction of the Public Lands Manager. One (1) Recreation Supervisor oversees all event programming, youth sports, and reports to the Public Lands Director. Volunteer labor also plays a large role in the care and quality of public lands with approximately 400. A table with accumulated volunteer hours is available from the city upon request and provided in the appendix of this report.

1.5.3 Benefits of Park and Public Lands

Aside from the numerous environmental, health, and recreation benefits to preserving conservancy areas, there are economic incentives and quality of life benefits as well. The DNR selected Middleton as one of only five communities in Wisconsin to sign on to the Green Tier Charter. The Charter is an agreement by which municipalities take actions and share information to achieve superior environmental performance with regard to water quality and sustainability practices. It is anticipated that the Charter will not only prove beneficial to the environment, but also help promote economic vitality.

Middleton was one of only six communities in the state to achieve the highest recognition – as a gold star community – in the Water Star Program. This program honors cities, villages, towns, and counties that have taken important steps to protect surface water and groundwater, such as strengthening stormwater controls, ensuring water quality, protecting habitats and encouraging residents to conserve water.

In 2011, the city was designated as a Bird City by the bird city Wisconsin project. Middleton qualified by meeting or exceeding the following four categories; Creation and Protection of Habitat, Participation in Programs Promoting Effective Community Forest Management, Limiting of Removing Hazards to Birds, and Public Education.

The city has been designated as a Tree City USA for more than 20 years. The continuing efforts to maintain and improve the urban forest canopy are vital to the beautification and health of the tree population.

Middleton was named one of four finalists for the 2013 National Recreation and Parks Association Gold Medal Award in the category for communities with populations less than 25,000. This award is given to those communities who exhibit excellence in long-range planning, resource management, and agency recognition.

1.6 City of Middleton Demographics

1.6.1 Social Characteristics

This section presents social factors that are important to understanding the Middleton community and its recreation needs and potential. Particularly important to planning for the adequate provision of parks and open spaces are population trends and projections over the planning period (5-10 years) and age characteristics of potential park users.

Population Trends and Projections

There is a direct relationship between population and the need for parks and recreational space. Predicting how the population might grow in the future provides important information about the amount of new parkland and recreational facilities that will be needed to serve the new populations.

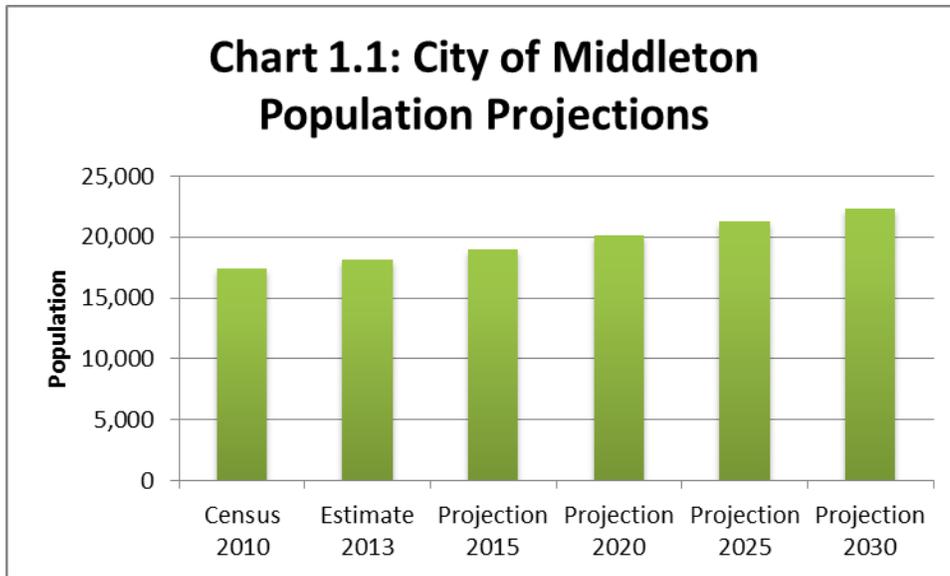
According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, the greatest population change over the past 50 years in the City of Middleton was between 1970 and 1980, when population increased 43.6% (from 8,246 to 11,848). More recently, population grew by 14.4% between the 1990 and 2000 Census (from 13,785 to 15,770), and by 10.6% between the 2000 and 2010 Census (from 15,770 to 17,442), indicating that although population growth is slowing somewhat, it is growing steadily nonetheless (statewide population, by comparison, grew just over 6% between the 2000 and 2010 Census). The Wisconsin Department of Administration Demographic Services Center (DOA) estimated Middleton's population to be 18,939 in 2015.

Table 1.1 includes a housing unit projection for the city through 2030, which also utilizes census and Wisconsin DOA data and projection methodology to project an additional 462 housing units in the city in 2030. This figure is important because the city's Park Land Dedication Ordinance requires a minimum of 1 acre of parkland to be dedicated for every 30 residential units. Utilizing this methodology, a minimum of 15.4 additional acres of parkland should be planned for through 2030 in the Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan.

Table 1.1: Population Projections for City of Middleton and Comparables (2030)

Name of Municipality	Census 2010	Estimate 2013	Projection 2015	Projection 2020	Projection 2025	Projection 2030	Percentage Change 2010-2030
C Middleton	17,442	18,146	18,939	20,121	21,257	22,308	28%
V Cross Plains	3,538	3,560	4,158	4,534	4,901	5,249	48%
C Madison	233,209	236,900	245,913	259,712	272,891	284,978	22%
V Mount Horeb	7,009	7,058	7,793	8,522	9,235	9,911	41%
C Verona	10,619	11,162	12,453	14,165	15,855	17,488	65%
V Waunakee	12,097	12,336	13,409	14,976	16,517	17,996	49%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration Estimates and Projections (2008, 2013)



Ethnic Background

In 2010, the Census indicated the largest percentage of Middleton residents (87.1%) were white. The second highest percentage was Hispanic or Latino with (5.6%) followed by Asian (4.2%) and Black or African American (3.5%).

Employment/Unemployment

In 2013, the DOA indicated that 4.8% of Middleton residents were unemployed. This compares slightly lower than the state figure which indicated 6.81% of the population was unemployed this same year.

Age

Age distribution in the City of Middleton is shown in Table 1.2. Age cohorts are an important consideration when determining park facilities because certain age groups are more likely to utilize certain recreation facilities depending upon their stage in life. For example, in 2010

there were an estimated 939 (5.4% of Middleton’s population) children under the age of 5. These children would best be served by low platforms with ramps or ladders, sand areas, or short slides no taller than 4 feet. These same facilities would be uninteresting to a 10 year old. A well-rounded park system will provide a variety of facilities (soccer fields, etc.) and equipment (swings, etc.) for all potential users regardless of ability or stage of life.

Changes in age distribution between 2000 and 2010 seem to suggest there is a growing need for playground equipment and facilities (0-19 years) and for more adult-oriented (55-75 years) activity centers. Following national trends, the city is likely to experience an increase of senior residents seeking recreation opportunities. These populations are generally seeking walking paths (with benches), bird watching, skiing, snowshoeing, formalized senior programming as well as fishing and other outdoor options.

Table 1.2: Age Distribution, 2000-2010

	2000		2010		Percent Change 2000-2010
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Under 5 years	882	5.6	939	5.4	6%
5 to 9 years	986	6.3	1084	6.2	10%
10 to 14 years	1046	6.6	1087	6.2	4%
15 to 19 years	980	6.2	965	5.5	-2%
20 to 24 years	1069	6.8	1044	6.0	-2%
25 to 29 years	1350	8.6	1532	8.8	13%
30 to 34 years	1274	8.1	1135	6.5	-11%
35 to 39 years	1266	8.0	1168	6.7	-8%
40 to 44 years	1328	8.4	1241	7.1	-7%
45 to 49 years	1429	9.1	1352	7.8	-5%
50 to 54 years	1251	7.9	1271	7.3	2%
55 to 59 years	787	5.0	1341	7.7	70%
60 to 64 years	504	3.2	1135	6.5	125%
65 to 69 years	405	2.6	722	4.1	78%
70 to 74 years	335	2.1	456	2.6	36%
75 to 79 years	375	2.4	323	1.9	-14%
80 to 84 years	267	1.7	298	1.7	12%
85 to 89 years	166	1.1	228	1.3	37%
90 years and over	70	0.4	121	0.7	73%
Total Population	15,770		17,442		11%

Source: 2000, 2010 Census, SF-1

1.6.2 Physical Characteristics

This section presents physical factors in the community and region that are important to understanding Middleton’s recreation potential.

Topography and Soils

The terrain in Middleton is highly varied from rolling hills to lowlands and kettle ponds. These features not only provide varied interest in the housing and commercial development markets, but also contributes to the natural aesthetics of the community. Several city parks offer expansive viewsheds overlooking Lake Mendota to the east and the rolling hills/farmstead to

the west and north. Much of the lowland areas in the city have been classified into conservancy lands and are now protected. Unfortunately, this variety of topography also poses challenges for development including unsuitable soils due to often saturated conditions.

Water Resources

Middleton is bounded by Lake Mendota to the east and provides water based recreation access at several points. The Pheasant Branch Creek also bisects the city flowing east in the lake. Several branches of the Creek split off and provide natural habitats for wildlife heading north, west, and south of the city core. Many small kettle ponds are found in the city and are now protected as public resources.

Floodplains and Wetlands

The Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor is the largest natural waterway in the city and is surrounded by many areas of natural wetlands and floodway. This is of great importance to city residents as it provides not only wildlife habitat and expansive stormwater management, but has also been integrated into the public open space system. Periodic seasonal flooding has in the past caused detrimental impacts to these open spaces, but has been largely mitigated by aggressive management practices in the last 5 years.

Climate

Climate is an important consideration for determining the range of recreational activities that should be provided in a community. Middleton exhibits a continental climate, characterized by significant changes in weather from season to season. The cold, snowy winters favor a variety of winter sports. Lakes and rivers usually begin to freeze over in December and remain ice covered until March. Early spring brings a variety of temperatures and a mix of precipitation. By the end of March, nearly all precipitation is in the form of rain. Summers are characterized by warm days and potentially cool nights with occasional hot and humid weather. Drought conditions may occur. Fall temperatures are generally mild during the day with cool clear nights. Temperatures range from an average low of 9.2° F in January to an average high of 84° F in July. With an annual average of 101 precipitation days, Middleton's average annual rainfall measures 33.2", and average annual snowfall measures 37.9".

2 ANALYSIS OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

This chapter analyzes the park and open space system in and around the City of Middleton. It inventories and classifies the park system based on national standards established by the National Recreation and Park Association (www.nrpa.org). The city has elected to expand their definition of “active recreation” lands beyond what is acknowledged by the NRPA standards. A short discussion of this change is included in this chapter. In addition, this chapter documents the nearby county and state outdoor recreation supply available to Middleton residents.

2.1 City of Middleton Parks, Open Spaces, and School Facilities

The information for this section was gathered from site visits conducted by SAA staff, discussion with City staff, and review of the 2007 Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan. A Facility Matrix for the entire Middleton park system is located in Appendix B. See Appendix C for a map of park locations.

2.1.1 Mini Parks

Mini parks include specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. Desirable size is 1 acre or less.

Baskerville Park

This quarter-acre park is located on the corner of Century Avenue (CTH “Q”) and Baskerville Avenue, approximately 3 blocks north of Lake Mendota. Baskerville Park effectively serves as a playground for the surrounding neighborhood, and is outfitted with a small area of open lawn, playground equipment and picnic tables. Mature trees provide shade, but not a visual buffer from the adjacent residences. A sidewalk runs parallel to the park along Century Avenue, but does not provide access to the play area.

Boundary Road Park

Boundary Road Park is a 0.2 acre park located along Boundary Road near Middleton’s southeast side. The park, which borders the Boundary Road Park Conservancy Area, functions as a small playground for the surrounding neighborhood. The park is equipped with benches, picnic tables and playground equipment set on a lawn panel surrounded by vegetation. The park is accessed via sidewalk from Boundary Road.

Hawkrige Park

Hawkrige Park, located just north of Middleton Hills, is 0.4 acres in size and is accessed by a serpentine sidewalk connecting Knoll Court and Companion Lane. Two distinct play areas line the path and are equipped with playground equipment, picnic tables and benches. The park also serves as a pedestrian connection within the surrounding residential neighborhood.

Hillcrest Park

This $\frac{3}{4}$ acre mini park is located on Hillcrest Avenue near downtown Middleton, adjacent to the Quarry Hill Conservancy Area. The park includes a $\frac{1}{2}$ basketball court, playground equipment, picnic tables and open lawn areas dotted with mature shade trees.

Hinrichs Family Farm Park

Hinrichs Family Farm Park is located on the west side of Middleton between Airport Road and Highway 14. The park is completely surrounded by residential development with pedestrian access to the Hidden Oaks Conservancy Area to the east. The park consists of open lawn, playground equipment, bicycle parking and bench seating. The neighborhood surrounding Hinrich's Family Farm Park was developed as housing relatively recently and few large shade trees remain in the area.

Lakeview East Park

Lakeview East Park is located between Allen Blvd and Middleton Beach Road, east of Lakeview Park. The park features ample open lawn, playground equipment, picnic tables and a prairie restoration. Lake Mendota is approximately 1 block to the east, although the shoreline is not easily accessible from this location. The Lakeview Conservancy Area occupies the lands to the north and south of the park site and contains approximately 2 acres of prairie.

Meadows Park

This 1.9 acre park is located on South Avenue between Meadowcrest Lane and South Gateway Street. The park lies within a residential neighborhood several blocks east of Downtown Middleton. The park is predominantly open lawn, but also contains a half basketball court, a free-standing batting cage, playground equipment seating and a small shelter. A small ice rink is also maintained during winter months.

Middleton Ridge Park

Middleton Ridge Park is a $\frac{1}{2}$ acre mini park located near the intersection of Belle Fontaine Blvd and High Road, on Middleton's north side. Middleton Ridge Park consists of a lawn area, playground equipment and seating. The park functions as a play area for the developing neighborhood surrounding it.

Middleton Station Park

Located adjacent to the Middleton-Cross Plains School District Administrative Center, this park occupies 1.8 acres on South Avenue between Henry Street and Park Street. A park shelter and playground are located at the north end of the park and a softball field occupies much of the remaining space. The park can be accessed from South Avenue and Hubbard Avenue via a bicycle and pedestrian path. In 2009, a demonstration rain garden was installed.

Parkside Heights Park

Parkside Heights Park is a 1.6 acre park that occupies the northern $\frac{1}{3}$ of the block between Northbrook Drive and Ravine Drive along Mockingbird Lane. The park is ringed with mature trees and features a basketball court, playground facilities, an internal path system and a large area of open space that functions as open lawn during the warmer months and can be flooded and maintained for ice skating in the winter months.

Pheasant Branch Ridge Park

This 0.6 acre park is located on Whittlesey Road between Manito Court and Algonquin Drive. The park is adjacent to the Pheasant Branch Ridge Drainageway Conservancy Area. The park borders the Pheasant Branch Ridge Drainageway, an 18.5 acre wooded area. The park is largely open space with playground equipment and bench seating along the eastern edge.

Stonefield Park (commonly referred to as neighborhood but classified here due to size)

Stonefield Park is a 1.8 acre park located at the corner of Clovernook Road and Rooster Run. The park is adjacent to Elm Lawn Elementary School and bordered by a residential neighborhood to the north, south and east. Stonefield Park contains two soft court tennis courts with a separate warm-up wall, a sand volleyball court, a restroom and storage building, playground equipment/tot lot and picnic tables.

2.1.2 Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are areas for multiple and sometimes intensive recreation activities, such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus, skating, picnicking, wading pools and the like. Desirable size is between 3 to 10 acres.

Middleton Hills Park - North

Middleton Hills Park – North is a 4.8 acre neighborhood park located along Ramsey Road between Spring Hill Drive and Associates Way. The park is surrounded by residential development and large overhead electric lines define the northern border. Middleton Hills Park – North includes a softball field with bleachers, open air shelter, playground equipment, picnic facilities as well as a sled hill.

Middleton Hills Park - South

Middleton Hills Park – South is a 7.2 acre park that borders the larger Middleton Hills Wetland Conservancy Area (13.6 acres). The park facilities are located near the southern end of the property and include playground facilities, soccer fields, a park shelter, sand volleyball courts, bicycle parking and picnic tables. The park is surrounded by residential development on three sides with a commercial corridor defining the southern boundary.

Parisi Park

This 4.8 acre neighborhood park features a softball field, playground equipment, shelter and restroom facilities, playground equipment, a basketball court and a parking area. Parisi Park shares its northern border with the 63.5 acre Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor and can be accessed via Park Street north of Maywood Avenue.

Stricker Park

Stricker Park is located on the western edge of Stricker Pond and adjoins the 24.5 acre Stricker Pond Conservancy Area. This 4.8 acre park contains two tennis courts, two half court tennis courts, a sandlot baseball backstop, playground equipment, bicycle parking, flexible open space and a trail network complete with overlook platform and interpretive signage.

Woodside Heights Park

Located along the western edge of Tiedeman Pond, Woodside Heights Park covers 4 acres and features playground equipment, a basketball court, bicycle parking and picnic tables. A

one mile loop trail system connects the park to the surrounding residential neighborhood and circles the adjacent Tiedeman Pond Conservancy Area (28.2 acres).

2.1.3 Community Parks

Community parks are areas of diverse environmental quality and may include areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. Desirable size is at least 10 acres.

Firefighters Memorial Park (FFMP)

Firefighters Memorial Park (23.6 acres) abuts the 34.1 acre Quisling Park to the north as well as the 70 acre North Fork of the Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor to the east. The park is accessed off of Pleasant View Road south of Airport Road on Middleton's west side as well as the regional trail system. Firefighters Memorial Park features four youth baseball/softball fields complete with lighting, scoreboards and dugouts as well as batting cages, a restroom/concessions building, a championship soccer field (with lights, press box, 500 seat bleachers, scoreboard and covered benches), parking, a path system and storage facilities.

Fireman's Park

Fireman's Park is a 4 acre park, adjacent to Middleton High School, located between Lee Street and North Avenue. The park includes playground equipment, 3 open air shelters, pathway linkages, restroom facilities and picnic tables. Mature trees provide an attractive overhead canopy and help define the park boundaries.

Lakeview Park

This 43 acre community park is located on Allen Boulevard between Maywood Avenue and Mendota Court. The park is approximately two blocks from Lake Mendota and abuts the Lakeview Park Conservancy Area as well as Lakeview Park East. The northern and western areas of the park are primarily wooded while the southern and eastern areas host a wide range of recreational amenities. Lakeview Park offers a range of recreational opportunities. Recreational features include a splashpad, 3 playground systems, a path system and picnic tables. For park users interested in more intense active recreation, the park also features tennis courts, a baseball field (with bleachers, dugouts, scoreboard and bullpens), horseshoe pits, and Life Trail exercise stations. A large fishing pond contains several accessible fishing piers/platforms. Restroom facilities, shade kites, an open air gazebo and picnic shelters compliment the park's programming and provide shade for picnic areas.

Orchid Heights Park

Orchid Heights Park is a 14 acre park located on Valley Ridge Road, adjacent to both the Orchid Heights Conservancy (4.6 acres) and the Pheasant Branch Conservancy (328 acres). The park includes restroom facilities, a lighted softball field, soccer fields (2), an ice skating rink, a basketball court, two tennis courts, playground equipment, bicycle parking and a pond.

Quisling Park

This 34 acre park is located east of the Middleton Municipal Airport along Airport Road on Middleton's west side. Quisling Park adjoins Firefighters Memorial Park to the south and the Tallard Conservancy (8 acres) to the west. Quisling Park is equipped with a baseball field and batting cage, bleachers, soccer fields (8), a dog exercise area, multi-use trails and parking.

2.1.5 Special Use Parks

Special use parks are areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities, such as golf courses, nature centers, skate parks, and ball diamonds.

Lake Street Boat Launch

The Lake Street Boat Launch is a 0.3 acre space at the terminus of Lake Street near the intersection of Century Avenue and Allen Boulevard. The boat launch is a paved surface and is accompanied by two ADA piers/boarding docks, 40' concrete approach ramps, educational signage and a donation box.

Metropolitan Community Park/Community Dog Park

This 1.45 acre park is located on Highway Q north of Oncken Road. The park features a 20 acre fenced dog exercise area with an agility course, separate small dog area, a shade structure, picnic tables, benches and a 40 car parking area. This park also contains four soccer fields, parking facilities, and a shelter.

Pleasant View Golf Course

Pleasant View Gold Course is a 249.8 acre, 27 hole public golf course located on the west side of Middleton. The course is situated on sloping terrain approximately 300 feet above Lake Mendota and offers panoramic views of the City of Middleton and Madison. The 55.5 acre Pleasant View Golf Course Conservancy Area defines the northern boundary. Recreational facilities include a bike skills park, mountain bike trails, and cross country ski trails.

Quarry Skate Park

The Quarry Skate Park is adjacent to the Quarry Hill Conservancy Area (5.5 acres) on Terrace Avenue. The park features a 10,000 sf skate park facilities (ramps, rails, stairs, etc.), bicycle parking, lighting and a portable restroom.

Walter Bauman Pool

The Walter Bauman Pool is an outdoor facility located adjacent to Middleton High School near downtown Middleton. The facility includes a zero-depth pool entrance, an eight lane competition pool as well as a diving area. Waterslides, interactive play equipment, shade shelters, sand play and a concessions/restroom building complement the pool facilities.

2.2 Inventory of Nearby County and State Facilities

2.2.1 Dane County Parks

Mendota County Park

Mendota County Park is a 20-acre park located along the north shore of Lake Mendota in the Town of Westport. The park has a 30-unit campground as well as a 5-unit boat camping area with restrooms, shower facilities and a dump station. Additional park amenities include park shelters, a swimming area.

Indian Lake County Park

At 483 acres, Indian Lake County Park is one of Dane County's largest parks. The park's main entrance is located in the town of Berry on State Highway 19, approximately 2 miles west of US Highway 12. A trail system circles Indian Lake and provides miles of cross country ski and

hiking trails and other park facilities include a boat launch, log cabin warming house and a pet exercise area.

Festge County Park

This park consists of 126 acres of wooded parkland offering views of the Black Earth Creek Valley in the Town of Berry. Park features include three picnic shelters, a softball field, playground equipment, shaded picnic areas and hiking trails. The entrance is located on Scherbel Road, approximately 1.5 miles west of the Village of Cross Plains.

Yahara Heights County Park/Cherokee Marsh Natural Resource Site

The Yahara Heights/Cherokee Marsh Natural Resource Site is a 385 acre property containing the largest remaining wetland in Dane County and the major wetland in Lake Mendota's Watershed. Over 3,000 feet of water frontage provide wildlife habitat, fish spawning grounds and a sedimentation area for Lake Mendota. Recreational opportunities include a 20 acre pet exercise area and a canoe and kayak launch. The site can be accessed off of River Road near the on the intersection of STH 113 and CTH "M".

Pheasant Branch Creek Conservancy (North)

This 160-acre site is located approximately 1.5 miles north of Century Avenue on Pheasant Branch Road and adjoins the 328-acre Pheasant Branch Conservancy owned by the City of Middleton. Pheasant Branch Creek Conservancy North's diverse topography and natural features offer panoramic views as well as opportunities for activities such as hiking and bird watching. The Conservancy has been designated as one of Wisconsin's' 100 Wetland Gems and an Important Bird Area.

Black Earth Creek Sunnyside Unit Wildlife Area

The Black Earth Creek Wildlife Area – Sunnyside Unit is a 292 acre property that lies along the western edge of the Wisconsin glacial advance in the Town of Middleton. The Wildlife Area lies within the Black Earth Creek Natural Resource Area, which mirrors the boundary of the Black Earth Creek watershed, and the creek itself is well known for its trout fishing and excellent water quality. The land remains open to the public for low impact recreational uses including hunting, hiking and bird watching. This site is also of importance to the Good Neighbor Trail connecting communities along the Highway 14 corridor.

Dorn Creek Fishery and Wildlife Area

The Dorn Creek Wildlife area is a 287 acre area, located in the Town of Westport, which is owned and managed by the Wisconsin DNR and Dane County Parks. The Fishery and Wildlife Area surrounds the Dorn Creek and lies between County Highway "Q" and County Highway "M", where it abuts Governor Nelson State Park. The land is open to public hunting and fishing and offers opportunity for other nature-based recreation activities.

Pope Farm Conservancy

Pope Farm Conservancy is 105 acres that sits on top of three recessional moraines in the Town of Middleton, Wisconsin, where three different watersheds come together. A 360 degree panoramic view of Lake Mendota, the Capitol and Madison's west side can be seen to the east, the Black Earth Creek valley to the North, and the terminal moraine to the South and West.

Tallard Conservancy

The Town of Middleton owns this 20 acre conservancy area situated adjacent to the city owned Quisling Soccer Complex. This property is used for passive recreation and is a former Christmas tree farm.

Good Neighbor Trail

The Good Neighbor Trail, a 15-mile multi-use regional trail will extend from the City of Middleton westerly to the Village of Mazomanie. It will be within a 2-mile wide corridor that straddles HWY 14/Black Earth Creek. This corridor is within an area of exceptional natural and recreational resources including the Black Earth Creek, Festge County Park, Salmo Pond, the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation's Anderson Preserve, DNR owned Black Earth Creek Fishery Areas and several local municipally-owned park and conservancy lands.

2.2.2 State of Wisconsin Lands

Governor Nelson State Park

Governor Nelson State Park is a day use park, located on Lake Mendota, that offers a sand beach, boat launch, fishing facilities, picnic areas, playground equipment as well as an extensive trail network and prairie restorations. This park is a major destination for hiking, swimming, boating and fishing. Primary access to the park is located on the southeast side of County Highway M, about 2 miles west of State Highway 113 and 5 miles east of U.S. Highway 12.

Ice Age National Scenic Trail

The Ice Age Trail is a National Scenic Trail located entirely within Wisconsin and is one of the 42 designated Wisconsin state trails. The trail, which is primarily an off-road hiking and backpacking trail, winds for more than 1,000 miles through some of Wisconsin's most scenic landscapes. The trail creates important connections between several County Parks and can be picked up just west of Middleton.

2.3 Parkland Classification Analysis

The number and type of parks and recreation facilities needed within a community are dependent on the demands of the local residents. Identifying the recreational needs and wants of community residents provides the justification for funding the acquisition and development of new facilities as well as for the maintenance of existing recreational facilities.

2.3.1 Parkland Classification

A parkland classification system is a useful tool to determine if an existing park system serves the needs of a community. The definitions in this document are adapted from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) classification system. Total acreage alone does not guarantee that the community's park needs are being met. A community should have a number of different types of parks to serve the various needs of the residents. They may have "met the standard" in acreage through the creation of one large park, but the community's needs can best be met through a variety of recreational activity. Table 2-1 (next page) explains the seven park classifications most commonly used in the NRPA system, their associated use, service areas, desirable size and desired acres per 1,000 population. A well-rounded park system offers at least one park in each classification.

2.3.2 Non-standard Active Recreation Classification

Consistent with state and national standards, active park use refers to structured recreational activities which require specialized parkland development and management which may restrict general use of the parkland or facility. Passive park use refers to less structured recreational activities which require little or no specialized parkland development and management and are enjoyed on a first-come, first served basis.

The term “active recreation” is currently used to define open spaces that contain athletic fields (soccer, football, etc), basketball and tennis courts, swimming facilities, and other traditional park sports. Initial development and annual maintenance of these spaces of significant and often require assistance beyond that which in-house city crews can provide. Given the growth of “extreme” sports such as mountain biking, disc golf, and bmx biking, and the national trends of encouraging these types of activities in local scale parks, the city has developed a new classification of open space.

“Non-standard active recreation” areas expand the traditional definition and limitations of open space to include land that may support these high aerobic activities. Examples of these activities include but may not be limited to single-track mountain biking, nordic skiing, and Exercise/fitness trails. This type of recreation requires an investment in basic infrastructure such as trail building, but long term operation and maintenance costs are significantly less. However, these activities require a combination of distance and variable topography to be considered suitable for this category. This type of land should only be considered for acceptance if the current service area gap analysis illustrates need and the standard “active recreation” requirements have been met. The following items are parameters that should be met for such lands:

- Land should be contiguous and in a configuration to serve the development(s) with proposed recreational components. Careful consideration must be made for providing connections to other new or expected subdivisions. In cases where several new subdivisions are being developed within a “planned neighborhood,” the opportunity to develop a larger neighborhood park (5 to 10 acres) in a central location should be explored as the best option rather than several smaller parks that are less land intensive.
- Minimum buffers of 15-30’ from housing of commercial structures, 30’ from roads, parking lots and lands zoned industrial, and 15’ from property lines must be accommodated between any proposed recreational facilities. These buffers shall be planted with landscape groupings with plant material of varying sizes, but at a minimum will require a tree canopy of acceptable species at intervals on no less than 15’ in a staggered natural configuration.
- If a developer proposes a parcel that is contiguous with the neighborhood, provides needed multi-modal transportation connections, and offers the potential for high aerobic active recreational activities such as; single-track mountain biking, nordic skiing, disc golf, vita-course, or trail running, the request should be considered.
- Any lands proposed to be dedicated as park space must be delivered in safe, usable, and manageable conditions. This may require a certain level of mitigation must be completed by a developer prior to land acceptance by the city. Land management

items to be addressed include presence of invasive plant species, steep precipice slopes in excess of 12%, hazardous water bodies, or sub-surface soil contaminants.

- Lands accepted as park space based on the “non-standard active recreation” basis must have supplemental value beyond basic open space. Special elements include geological and/or historical features of significant stature, connection to a regional trail system, or special/unique vegetation types.
- Lands that will not be accepted include ponds and stormwater detention basins, wetlands, and landlocked parcels without connectivity to existing trail networks.
- A minimum amount of developable trail network (1500 lf) must be accommodated on the parcel to support one of the above mentioned recreational activities. Minimum length standards will vary depending on the activity. As an example, 10 acres could support up to 1 mile of single track mountain bike trail.
- A public facilities needs assessment should be developed to determine the true cost of park development. Many communities that perform these studies find that the cost to develop a park, including facilities, not just land, far exceeds the fee in lieu of dedication amount that is collected. Middleton should examine updating Chapter 19 of the Code of General Ordinances.
- Non-standard active recreation lands dedicated, will be accepted on a pro-rated acreage basis at a 1:4 ratio.

Table 2-1 National Recreation and Park Association Parkland Classification System

Component	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres/1,000 Population
A. Local/Close-to-Home Space				
Mini-Park	Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens.	Less than ¼ mile radius	1 acre or less	0.25 to 0.5A
Neighborhood Park/Playground	Areas for intense recreational activities, such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus area, skating, picnicking, wading pools, etc.	¼ to ½ mile radius to serve a population up to 5,000 (a neighborhood)	3-10 acres	1.0 to 2.0A
Community Park	Areas of diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation, such as walking, viewing, sitting, picnicking. May be any combination of the above, depending upon site suitability and community need.	Several neighborhoods. 1 to 2 mile radius	10+ acres	5.0 to 8.0A
Total Local Space = 6.25 to 10.5 AC/1,000				

B. Regional Space

Regional/ Metro-politan Park	Areas of natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation, such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, and trail uses; may include play areas.	Several communities. 1 hour driving time	200+ acres	5.0 to 10.0A
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C. Space that may be Local or Regional and is Unique to Each Community

Linear Park	Area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel, such as hiking, biking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, canoeing and pleasure driving. May include active play areas. (NOTE: the above components may occur in the "linear park")	No applicable standard	Sufficient width to protect the resource and provide maximum use	Variable
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Component	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres/1,000 Population
Special Use	Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities, such as golf courses, nature centers, skateparks, marinas, zoos, conservatories, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, gun ranges, or downhill ski areas, or areas that preserve, maintain, and interpret buildings, sites, and objects of archeological significance. Also plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards, parkways.	No applicable standard	Variable	Variable
Conservancy	Protection and management of the natural/cultural environment with recreational use as a secondary objective.	No applicable standard	Sufficient to protect the resource	Variable

2.3.2 Level of Service Standards

Once a community's existing parks have been classified, a comparison can be made between the national standard for each park type and existing park acreage. While there is no formally established formula to determine the Level of Service (LOS) provided by the existing facilities, the following parameters should be considered.

Indicators	Social Environmental Economic
Acreage/Miles	Population standards (Acres/1000 population) Benchmarking
Facilities, Activities, Capacity	Population standards Demographic Analysis Neighborhood area activities Supply/Demand
Access	Walking/Bicycling/Driving, Transit Parks Facilities
Quality	Evaluation Mapping/Distribution
Programs	Relevancy, quality, and variety Scheduling Mapping/Distribution

The widely accepted NRPA standard for park acreage per 1,000 population is between 6 and 10.5 acres. For this plan, the city-defined standard of 15-acres/1,000 population, which is notably higher than the NRPA standard, is used as a basis for determining recommended acreage needs. This acreage should be distributed among park types as follows:

Designation	NRPA Standard	City of Middleton Standard
Mini Parks	0.5 acres/1,000 population	0.5 acres/1,000 population
Neighborhood Parks	2 acres/1,000 population	4.5 acres/1,000 population
Community Parks	8 acres/1,000 population	10 acres/1,000 population
Total	10.5 acres/1,000 population	15 acres/1,000 population

Below, current actual acreage totals in the city compared to NRPA standards are identified in Chart 2-1. As shown, current acreage totals surpass minimum NRPA standards, but do not meet the Recommended National Standards overall, specifically due to a shortage of neighborhood parks (25 actual acres compared to a recommended standard of 36 acres) and community parks (91 actual acres compared to a recommended standard of 145 acres). As shown in Chart 2-2, if the acres for Harvey John and Lucille Taylor Park are added, the city begins to close the gap on meeting the Recommended National Standards for the current population (estimated at 18,146 in 2013).

Chart 2-3 uses the 2030 projection (Wisconsin Department of Administration) of 22,038 residents and applies it to measure current acreage figures and future standards. Assuming Harvey John and Lucille Taylor Park becomes a city Community Park (adding about 10 acres), Middleton will have a roughly 47 acre shortage versus the recommended standard for community parks, a roughly 19 acre shortage versus the recommended standard for neighborhood parks, and a surplus of about 1 acre versus the standard for mini-parks.

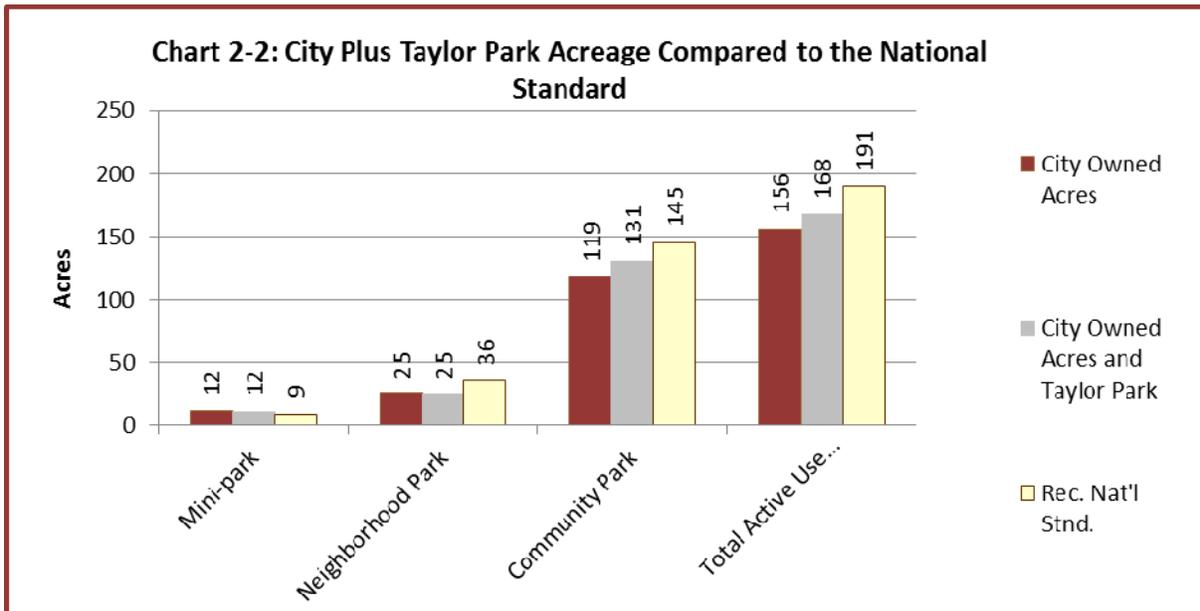
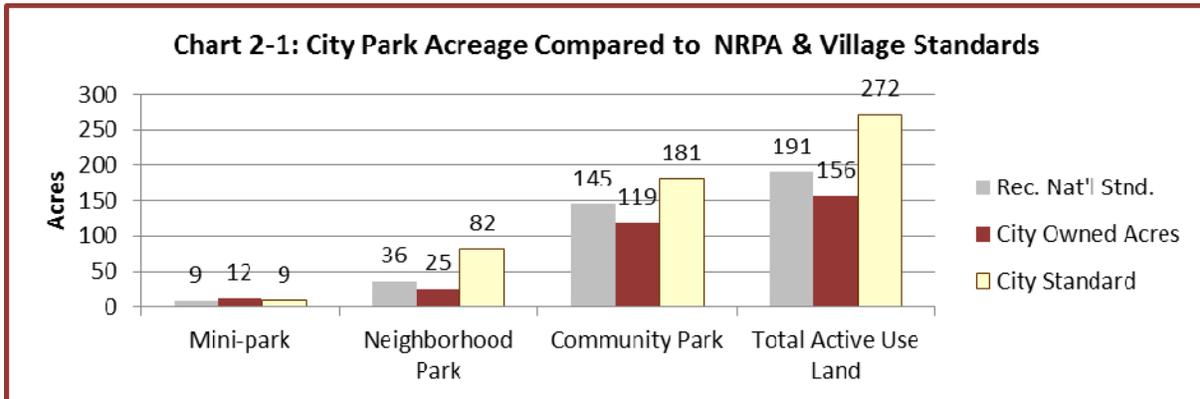


Figure 2-3: City Owned Acres Plus Taylor Park Compared to 2030 Population Projection

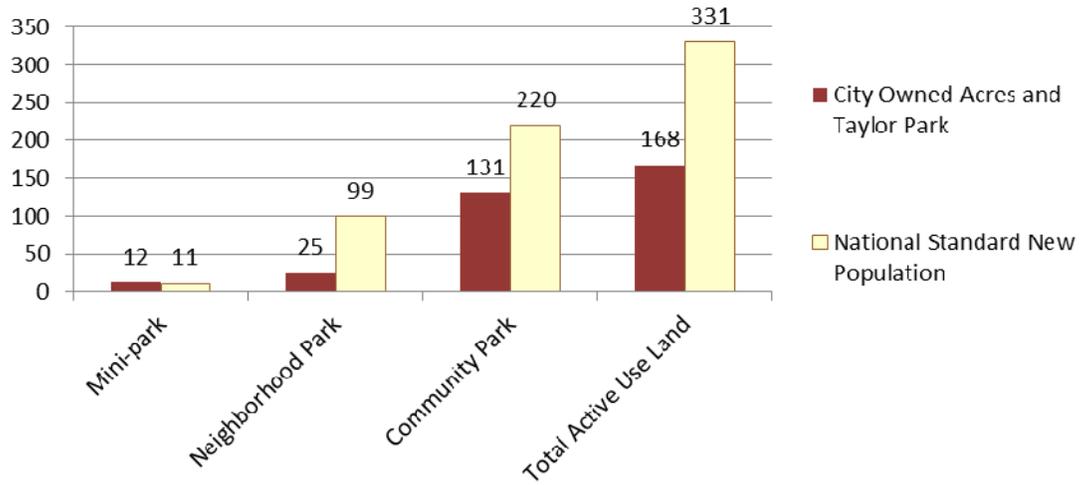
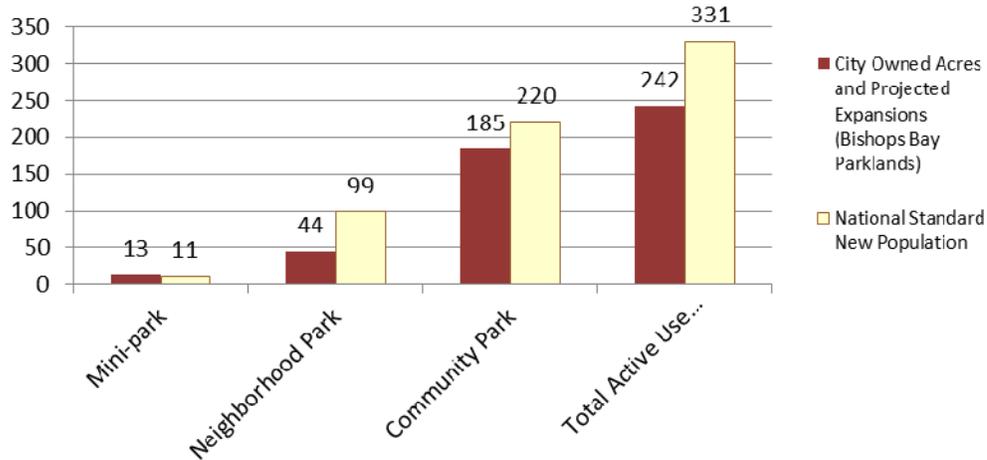


Figure 2-4: City Owned Acres and Projected Expansion Compared to 2030 Population Projection



2.3.3 Level of Service Comparison – Cohort Communities

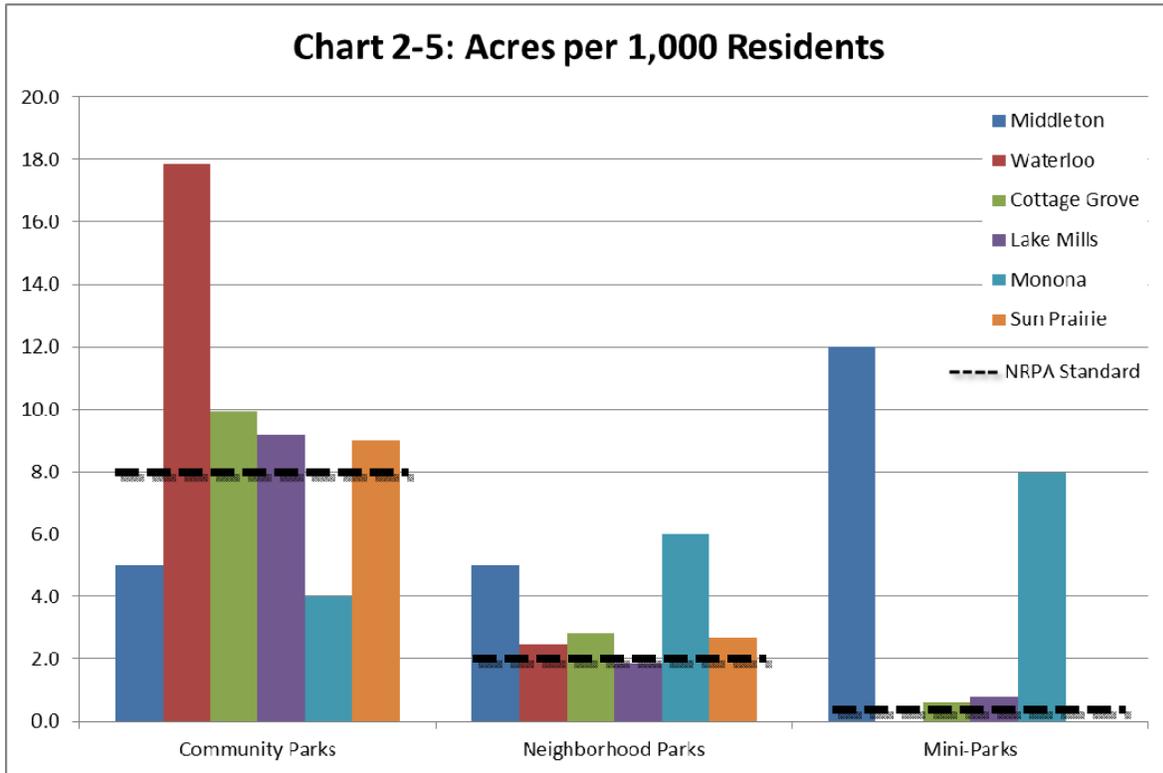


Chart 2-5, above, provides an overview of how Middleton measures against some of its neighbors in terms of acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. As Chart 2-5 reveals, Middleton sets the pace for mini park acreage per 1,000, but is somewhat behind its cohort communities in terms of community park acreage per 1,000. It should be noted that Waterloo is a tremendous outlier thanks primarily to its roughly 60-acre community park (Waterloo Firemen’s Park).

Taken at face value, Chart 2-5 indicates that in terms of “destination” park spaces that can accommodate a wide range of recreation and programming, Middleton appears to have some “catching up” to do. More and more in the 21st Century, communities are finding that quality of life – including robust parks and recreation systems – are critical in attracting residents and strong employers to the community.

2.4 Park Service Area Requirements

This method of evaluating a community's parkland needs and adequacy of service includes plotting park service areas on a base map to identify areas that are underserved. Utilizing the park service radii criteria established by the NRPA, park service areas were mapped for existing mini, neighborhood and community parks in Middleton. See Map 2 in Appendix C.

While no major gaps exist under the community park classification for populated areas, both neighborhood and mini park classifications are lacking in the outlying areas of the city, particularly south of west of STH 12 and east of Pheasant Branch Road. The developing community of Bishops Bay currently does not have any park or open space developed, thus creating the large gap in any service area. However, a Master Plan for the Harvey John and Lucille Taylor Memorial Park is underway which will provide a community scale park to service some of this area. As more housing stock develops, additional parklands will need to be established. Other open spaces are planned for the Communities of Bishops Bay to include a large 55 acre woodland community park, one neighborhood park, and potentially several mini parks. Once these spaces are developed, the gaps in service area should be closed.

Another gap in service occurs between the Graber Pond and STH 12. This is primarily industrial development and limited open space is expected. Residential areas in the southwest corner of the city have the largest gap in public park system coverage, although it is important to note that several conservancy land areas are located in this vicinity and offer significant recreational value. As depicted on map 7.1, Area 1 is located in the southwest corner of the city (Greenway Boulevard and Pleasant Valley Road) and is not currently served by park space of any type. This zone is a mixture of office, multi-family residential, and business park land uses. While the multi-family development does provide a small tot-lot and swimming pool for the residents, these facilities are private. It may be possible to site a small mini park within this location to better serve the needs of the public. In 2013, an important trail connection was finalized through this area connecting the golf course (to the west) and the existing multi-use trail through Greenway Station.

As residential growth continues, specific areas of focus should include the neighborhoods east of CTH Q and along the STH 14 corridor. As new housing development is contemplated and developed, the city should utilize this analysis to assure that existing facilities adequately and conveniently serve new populations.

2.5 GIS Age Cohort Analyses

This analysis was developed to help prioritize improvements based on the distribution of residents by age and the availability of recreation facilities most suited for these ages in relation to their geographic location. The methodology includes the layering of data on a map (See Maps 6.0-6.4 in Appendix C). The result is a graduated scale of relative need or "priority" based on the absence of a particular set of amenities we would expect an age group to utilize. The map is used to identify areas of spatial mismatch where parks containing certain apparatus or amenities are not located in neighborhoods containing user groups best suited for those amenities. For example, if an area contains a high percentage of toddlers (age 2-5) but does not contain toddler-aged play equipment, the priority rating would be "high" because the area lacks the amenities to serve that population.

The analysis was used for three populations:

1. Under 5 years of age: toddlers are best served by play equipment such as sandboxes, toddler swings, tot slides, spring riders, play panels, and tilt cups.
2. Age 5 to 17 year of age: this group can be served by a variety of play equipment and field areas. Amenities evaluated for this population include standard swings, rock and net climbing structures, modular play structures, teeter totters, and standard slides.
3. Age 50+: this group was used to help identify areas within the city where walking/jogging, and hiking trails, picnic areas, shelters, and other passive uses are the primary attractions.

Parks that appear in “priority” areas (shown as the darkest areas on the graduated scale) are listed in Table 2-3. A map has been created for each age group identifying the city park where the appropriate recreational amenity should be provided (see Appendix C).

2.6 Bicycle and Pedestrian Connections

A park-by-park analysis revealed a lack of barrier-free access to a few of the parks (predominantly sports fields) and to some of the play equipment. These findings were also quantified in the recent Playground Audits and Accessible Route studies and many of the issues are being remedied by the city. This is an important consideration for residents who have mobility limitations and require additional accommodation. Barrier-free access to Middleton’s lakefront should also be prioritized. Similarly, the curb cuts that are lacking in some parks and preclude easy access for pedestrians from street to park also pose a barrier for cyclists. Many of the parks do contain bicycle parking facilities, however all racks should be placed on hard surface and in easy to reach locations. Parking allocation should be consistent with the size and offerings of each individual site.

Map 4 (Appendix C) shows the existing bicycle network in the City of Middleton. Route segments have been coordinated with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan maps as well as the Department of Tourism brochures. Through a combination of off-road trails, demarcated on-street facilities, and informal routes, this network increases the number of linkages between community destinations and has recreational value for all users. While the system is extensive, there are several large gaps in the service area that should be addressed in both short and long term planning. Primary gaps for development concentration include:

- Allen Boulevard
- Good Neighbor Trail
- Parmenter Street Connector (University to PBC Trail)
- Communities of Bishops Bay trail network with emphasis on the east-west segment from Northlake Subdivision leading to Governor Nelson State Park
- Segment from CTH Q west to Pheasant Branch Conservancy via North Lake Subdivision
- Century Ave from CTH Q to Allen Boulevard. This will also provide a connection to Mendota County Park

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

This comprehensive outdoor recreation plan for the city of Middleton includes a variety of recommendations specifically developed to meet the existing and future needs of the community over the next ten years. The plan incorporates substantial local citizen input and has been developed as a result of extensive detailed analysis and participation by city officials, staff, citizens, stakeholder groups and local organizations as presented in the preceding chapters.

General city-wide recommendations are provided for direction on policy and design considerations while also considering operational and maintenance procedures. This chapter also includes a detailed park inventory sheet for each city park including general issues, possible improvement options, and costs. Where they can be graphically depicted, the park inventory sheets provide general concept layouts for park improvement options. This chapter is divided into the following sections:

3.1 General Recommendations: system-wide policies and procedures

3.2 Future Parks and Open Spaces: identification of potential spaces to be acquired and/or developed as public parks and open spaces

3.3 Individual Park Recommendations: an inventory sheet has been provided for each city park (includes inventory and park improvement options)

3.1 General Recommendations

The following is a list of general recommendations for the entire City of Middleton parks system. Some recommendations should occur when capital improvements and upgrades are considered on an annual basis while others reflect procedures or policies that should be implemented over time. The recommendations are divided into four categories: Facilities, Programs, Marketing and Community Outreach, and Finance.

3.1.1 Facilities

- a. Public demand for dog exercise areas continues to grow. The Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan (2012-2017) also supports this recommendation.
- b. Where possible with existing infrastructure, assure that all community and neighborhood parks are improved with water fountains. This includes updating at least one in three facilities to ADA compliant double bowl fountains. The RAC report outlines priority locations.
- c. Cover surfaces directly under play equipment and a safe zone around the play equipment with a 10-inch to 12-inch layer of resilient safety surface. Commonly used resilient surfaces are sand, pea gravel, recycled rubber or engineered wood fiber to meet the Federal ADA requirements.
- d. Periodically conduct a safety audit/inspection of all existing play areas for current National Playground Safety Institute (NPSI) conformance. Audits should be performed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI). This includes a thorough examination of existing slides, and other play structures.
- e. Continue to improve existing playlots and playgrounds as neighborhood gathering places for all ages. This includes the addition of passive spaces, shade shelters, and benches for older residents. At a minimum, open air pavilions or shade shelters should be installed at all neighborhood parks.
- f. Improve the “friends of the parks” or “adopt a park” programs drawing upon support from the local highschool service clubs, neighborhood associations, and youth sports organizations to perform limited maintenance and upkeep of facilities.
- g. Incorporate new neighborhood-focused facilities consistent with the patterns of new residential growth in the City.
- h. Acquire and develop additional parklands when lands within residential growth areas, as identified in the City-wide Comprehensive Plan, are platted and developed. Ratios and quality of new lands shall be consistent with current ordinances and city policies.
- i. Continue tree plantings and reforestation efforts on a city-wide basis.
- j. Perform systematic routine maintenance of park facilities and equipment including:
 - i. Play equipment – annual basis
 - ii. Courts and fields – as needed

- iii. Benches and picnic tables – annual basis
 - iv. Trail systems – annual basis
 - v. Restrooms and shelters – as needed
- k. Continue to develop field space to accommodate the growing demand for youth sports including soccer, football, lacrosse, and rugby. Additional field space could be made available with minor modifications at some existing parks including:
- i. Middleton Hills South – fill and regrade northeast corner of existing sports field area
 - ii. Orchid Heights – Dredge and reconfigure existing pond and soccer fields to provide additional playable fields
 - iii. Quisling – Acquisition of the parcel adjacent to the western boundary could provide an additional 2-3 soccer fields
 - iv. MRD Soccer Complex (CTH Q) – There is ample room for expansion of this facility to the west. Some land clearing/brush mowing and regrading of the site could yield 4-5 new playable fields.

3.1.2 Promotion/Education

- a. Maximize the use of current large parks by offering additional music concerts and special events. Depending on demand, the addition of an amphitheater at a community park may be warranted.
- b. Improve and standardize on-site park signage for all Middleton parks, and establish a community-wide wayfinding system that identifies key parks and bicycle routes along primary transportation corridors to and through the city.
- c. Utilize marquee signs and other displays to announce special events, prices, or programs. For example, major parks that hold sporting tournaments could benefit from variable message signs. This plan recommends coordinating with user groups and/or advertisers to offset costs and install marquees when budgets, grants, or fundraising allow for purchase and installation.
- d. Continue to communicate with user groups over facilities updates and promote donations and park endowment funds.
- e. Establish or update formalized use agreements for facility maintenance with private sports organizations. Current agreements are on file at the city hall.
- f. Enhance the city web page to include an interactive parks location map and specific site maps for each park illustrating site layout and amenities.
- g. Utilize regularly scheduled meetings to promote and educate the public about Middleton's parks system and recreation programming, and continue distributing a periodic (quarterly or semi-annual, etc.) Recreational Guide and Tourism Guide to households in Middleton to generate interest and participation in Middleton's parks and recreational offerings.

3.1.3 Environmentally Sustainable Practices

- a. Trash receptacles should be evenly distributed throughout Middleton parks. The method of collection should also be used to determine receptacle locations. Placement of trash receptacles near sitting benches, for example is not preferred since it may discourage use of the benches or the trash receptacle.
- b. Continue integrating rain gardens and bio-retention facilities, rain barrels, and other stormwater best management practices to park designs and improvements. Water quality of the Pheasant Branch Creek watershed is of vital importance to the Greater Madison Lakes, and minimizing the amount of untreated rainwater entering the creek and shorelands could help to alleviate this issue.
- c. Continue adopting a “grow not mow” policy in city parks to limit how often (and what portions of) parks are mowed. Adding a day or more to the mowing cycle and preserving natural grasslands and other features in parks can reduce the amount of fossil fuels consumed in city operations, increase natural buffers around shoreland and wooded areas, and reduce soil erosion. Current policy has established three zones of mowing priority (A, B, and C).
- d. Encourage the use of existing community garden facilities within the city. As new requests for agricultural developments arise, these should be considered on a case by case basis. To be successful, community gardens often require support infrastructure such as irrigation, waste disposal areas, and secure tool/equipment storage areas. A common issue cited with these types of facilities is the lack of constant maintenance and unsightly results. Any new development of community gardens or other agricultural developments should be placed out of high traffic areas and active recreation zones. These facilities are often used as transition zones between land-use.
- e. When replacing and/or installing new lighting in city parks, consider fixtures that utilize solar regeneration and LED illumination to reduce long-term maintenance costs and minimize non-renewable energy use. This strategy has been successfully implemented in Lakeview Park.

3.1.4 Surplus or Shortage Property Strategies

- a. The city currently is in a shortage condition of public open space and will benefit from the acquisition and development of new lands. Several areas have been identified for future growth including various parcels within the Communities of Bishops Bay development, expansion of Quisling, and new residential developments along the STH 14 corridor.
- b. The first developed park within the Bishops Bay Neighborhood to be known as Harvey John and Lucille Taylor Memorial Park is a positive step towards growing the city public space holdings and is an example of responsible negotiations with developers.

3.1.5 Finance

- a. The city should pursue grant funding to supplement capital funds for future development and park system upgrades. Some facilities mentioned in this plan are almost entirely dependent on grant acquisition as development costs are too great to fund through the general fund alone.
- b. Continue to explore opportunities to share existing recreation facilities through the use of formalized use agreements with community organizations (MCPASD, MBSC, Rush Wisconsin, Cardinal Youth Football, etc.).
- c. User fees should be reevaluated commensurate with increases in service periodically and as new facilities come online. Middleton should be cautious about charging fees for facilities that can be of general use, and user fees should continue to be charged for leased facilities (park shelters, etc.).
- d. Consider private sponsorships and non-traditional funding opportunities to fund facilities improvements or special events. These include cash and property donations, planned giving, and park endowment funds.
- e. Continue to require parkland dedication at a rate of at least 1,450 square feet per residential units as a condition of land development approval. The fee in lieu of dedication (currently set at \$1,650 per 1 bedroom dwelling unit and \$2,750 per 2 bedroom dwelling unit in the land division ordinance) and parkland development fee (currently set at \$707 per 1 bedroom dwelling unit and \$1,176 per 2 bedroom dwelling unit in the land division ordinance) should be reevaluated annually to assure they accurately represent site acquisition and development costs.

3.2 Future Parks and Open Spaces

The following section identifies future park and open space locations based on previously adopted city plans and the results of the analysis performed as part of this comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. Instead, the upgrade and redevelopment of existing parks has been identified as the primary outcome.

3.2.1 Comprehensive Plan

The *City of Middleton Comprehensive Plan (2006)* does not specifically identify locations for future parkland development to serve the City of Middleton population and household growth. The plan refers to the *City of Middleton Parks and Open Space Plan (2002-2006)* and the *2005 Conservancy Lands Plan* while making the following mission statement regarding the parks system:

The City of Middleton seeks to provide a park and recreation system that will: meet the need of our current residents and future generations; preserve and protect the City's open space, water, historical and natural resources; and provide a park and recreation program that is designed to enhance the City's quality of life.

The city has very little land within the existing city limits to accommodate future residential development and future housing needs will likely be met through growth areas identified in intergovernmental agreements with adjacent townships as well as infill development and

redevelopment within the city. Development will likely continue to occur north of the current city limits and the 2007 *Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan* recommends the following:

- Three Neighborhood Parks. Generally 11 acres in size and generally spaced 1 mile apart
- One Community Park.
- Protection of the sensitive environmental areas and development of a regional bicycle/pedestrian trail system linking Graber Pond to HWY 12 Bike Park and extending easterly via the Pheasant Branch Conservancy, the new (expanded) community park and Dorn Creek to Governor Nelson State Park.

Redevelopment of older neighborhoods and the establishment of new higher density residential projects in the downtown and University Avenue/Parmeter Street Corridors is not likely to significantly increase population within the central core of Middleton due to the net increase in dwelling units being offset by smaller household sizes. The need for new park acreage serving residential neighborhoods will likely be focused north of the existing city limits, and in the lands west of the city.

3.2.2 City Owned Lands

Although the comprehensive plan (wisely) directs new public park development towards areas slated for future residential growth, there are other opportunities that the city could pursue in order to meet the more pressing and current gaps in the current park system, such as serving the areas in the southwest corner of the city. Hence, in addition to acknowledging the future park locations identified in the comprehensive plan, the CORP considers several sites that the city should consider for development and/or acquisition in order to address the needs identified by this plan in the spirit of the plan's goals and objectives.

3.2.3 Park Layout Concept /Park Master Plans

As part of this plan update, a potential site layout concept was prepared for Fireman's Park, MRD Dog Park, Middleton Hills North, and Middleton Hills South providing an alternate approach to accommodating a more diverse range of recreational programming and activities. This layout should serve as a primer for a more detailed design and not a final direction. In addition to these concept plans, a detailed Master Plan was developed for the parcel now known as Harvey John and Lucille Taylor Memorial Park. As the other proposed park sites in the Bishops Bay Neighborhood get closer to development, Master Plans should be prepared for each.

The process for development of a park master plan includes research and data collection to identify drainage patterns, topography and other site features. After this initial reconnaissance, a public meeting is held to gather input on preferred park programming and amenities. Following this community engagement, concept development plans are created and cost estimates are prepared. The final step in this process of formal adoption by the Park, Recreation, and Forestry Commission.

The city has completed master plans for a majority of the existing parks and the full reports/graphics can be reviewed at city hall. However, a few of the existing sites are in need of Master Plans or are ready for plan updates.

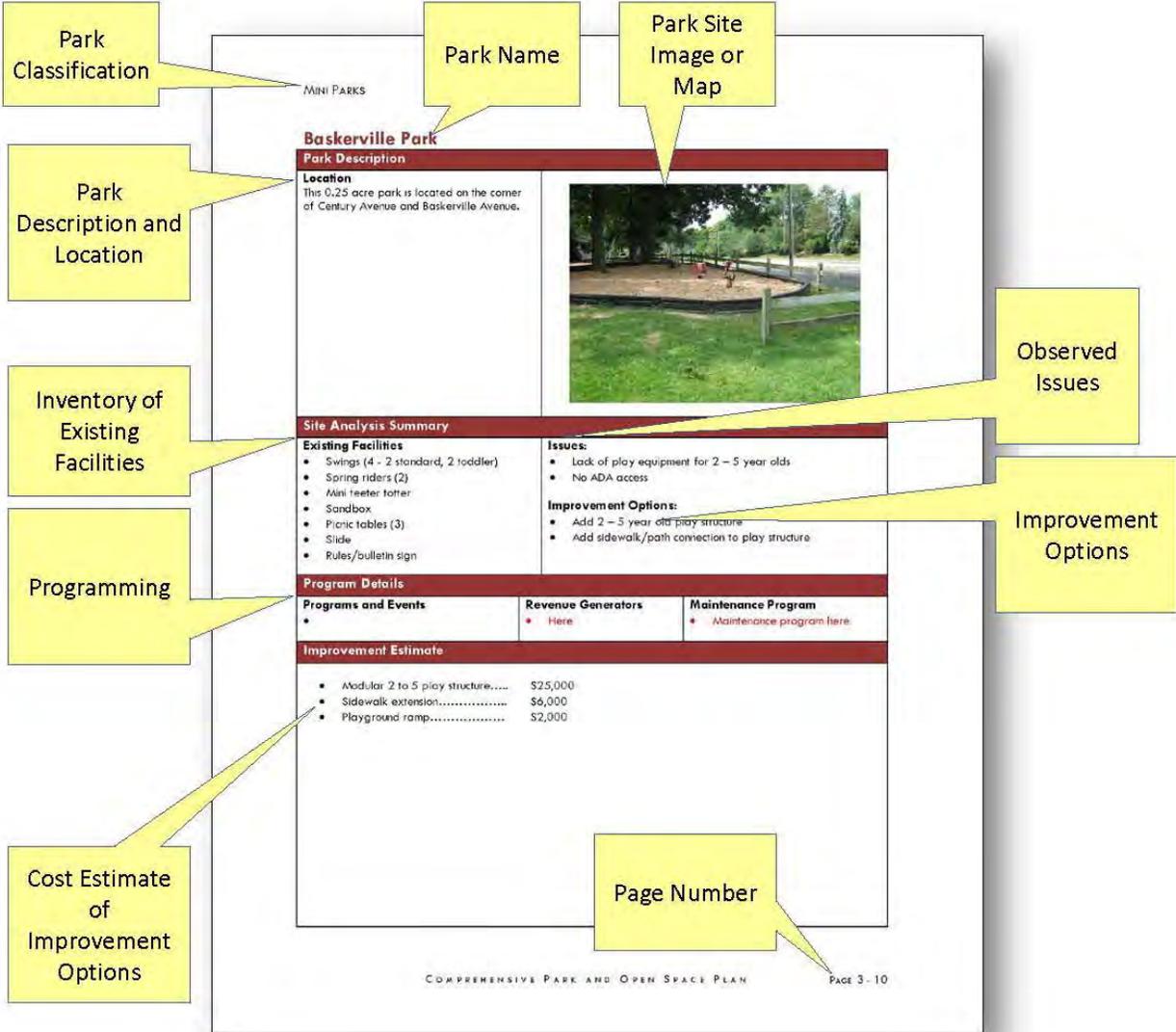
3.3 Individual Park Recommendations

The following section discusses detailed improvements identified by residents, stakeholders, city staff and departments, and local officials for each park in the Middleton parks system. Improvement options identified for each park are included in the 5-Year Capital Improvements Table in Chapter 4.

An inventory sheet has been prepared for each park area in the city park system. Each sheet contains the location of the park, existing facilities, observed issues, and recommendations for improvements.

A sample inventory sheet (Figure 3.3) illustrates how information is presented on each park sheet. Park sheets are presented by parkland classifications devised by the National Recreation and Park Association as identified in Chapter 2.

Figure 3.3: Inventory Sheet



Baskerville Park

Park Description		
<p>Location This 0.25 acre park is located on the corner of Century Avenue and Baskerville Avenue.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swings (4 - 2 standard, 2 toddler) • Spring riders (2) • Mini teeter totter • Sandbox • Picnic tables (3) • Slide • Rule sign/bulletin board 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of play equipment for 2 – 5 year olds • Lacks accessible route to site features <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 2 – 5 year old play items • Add 10' porous paved accessible route 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modular 2 to 5 play items..... \$25,000 • Paved path..... \$6,000 • Playground ramp..... \$2,000 		

Site Images



Park sign



Utility box



Sand box



Play equipment



Picnic area



Playground equipment

Boundary Road Park

Park Description								
<p>Location This 0.2 acre mini park is located on Boundary Road on the city's southeast side. It is adjacent to the Boundary Road Park Conservancy Area.</p>								
Site Analysis Summary								
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swings (4 – 2 standard, 2 toddler) • Play structure • Dashboard/puzzle panels • Benches (2) • Picnic tables (2) • Rules/bulletin sign • Trash/recycle receptacles 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No bike parking/bike racks • Existing benches need maintenance <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace bench • Install bike rack on concrete pad 							
Program Details								
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection 						
Improvement Estimate								
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">• Bike rack.....</td> <td style="text-align: right; width: 30%;">\$500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Concrete pad.....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Replace bench.....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$650</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			• Bike rack.....	\$500	• Concrete pad.....	\$500	• Replace bench.....	\$650
• Bike rack.....	\$500							
• Concrete pad.....	\$500							
• Replace bench.....	\$650							

Site Images



Rules/Bulletin Sign



Rules/Bulletin Sign



Play Structure



Dashboard/Puzzle Panels



Swings



Bench

Hawkridge Park

Park Description

Location

Hawkridge Park is a 0.4 acre park located at the end of the Knoll Court cul-de-sac.



Site Analysis Summary

Existing Facilities

- Play structure (non-compliant)
- 4 swings (2 belt, 2 bucket)
- Sand box
- 3 sandbox diggers
- Sidewalk through park west to east
- Picnic tables (2)
- 3 aluminum benches
- Trash/recycling receptacles

Issues:

- Weeds in sand
- Existing concrete slab at sidewalk has drainage issues and is a trip hazard
- Picnic table and trash receptacle not on accessible route

Improvement Options:

- Fix sidewalk at east end
- Replace bucket swings and play structure
- Install new shade trees
- Add sign at west end
- Add bike rack on existing concrete slab
- Locate accessible picnic table and relocate trash receptacle along accessible route

Program Details

Programs and Events

-

Revenue Generators

- NA

Maintenance Program

- Mowing
- Trash Collection

Improvement Estimate

• Park sign.....	\$500	• Replace play structure	\$25,000
• Repair sand box.....	\$400	• Add bike rack	\$500
• Replace swing and chains.....	\$400	• Install new shade trees	\$800
• Replace sidewalk.....	\$1,000		

Site Images



Street frontage



Playground equipment



Park entry



Playground equipment



Park entry and bench seating



Playground equipment



Path system



Path system



Playground equipment

Hillcrest Park

Park Description		
<p>Location This 0.75 acre mini park is located on Hillcrest Avenue and adjacent to the Quarry Hill Conservancy Area.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/2 Basketball court • Swings (6 – 4 standard, 2 toddler) • Spring riders • Play structure • Picnic tables (2) • Rule sign/bulletin board • Sandbox • Trash/recycling receptacles 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible route lacks continuous detectable warning, 6% running slope towards play area • Small text at kiosk <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fence panel..... \$500 • Install park sign..... \$500 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install benches (2)..... \$1,600 	

Site Images



Playground equipment



Basketball court



Storage building



Entry drive



Playground equipment



Playground equipment

Hinrichs Family Farm Park

Park Description		
<p>Location Hinrichs Family Farm Park is a 0.4 acre mini park adjacent to the Hidden Oaks Conservancy Area. The park is located at the intersection of Sun Pearl Trail and Black Opal Avenue.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play structure (5-12 year old) • Swings (3 – 2 standard, 1 toddler) • Mini teeter totter • Starburst climber • Talk tubes • Multi-use path • Picnic tables (2) • Park sign • Interpretive signage • Bike rack • Benches (2) • Dog waste bag dispenser 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of shade • Lack of accessible route from parking or sidewalk to open multi-use field • Trash receptacle, mutt mitt and accessible picnic table are not located along accessible route <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install wood arbor shade structure • Install concrete pad for shade structure, seating area and bike rack • Create accessible route from parking or sidewalk to multi-use field • Relocate trash receptacle, mutt mitt and accessible picnic table along accessible route 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install shade structure..... \$8,000 • Install concrete pad..... \$2,000 		

Site Images



Trash facilities



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Path system

Lakeview East Park

Park Description

Location

This 1.9 acre park is on Middleton Beach Road east of Lakeview park.



Site Analysis Summary

Existing Facilities

- General open space
- Curly slide
- 4 swings (2 belt, 2 bucket)
- Prairie
- Bench
- Mulched area with plastic curb
- 2 picnic tables
- Gravel entry

Issues:

- No access to Lakeview park
- No 2-5 play equipment
- Lack accessible route to horseshoes, benches
- Lack paved surface bench pads
- Lack accessible picnic table

Improvement Options:

- Install modular 2 – 5 play items
- Install standard park sign
- Create accessible route to picnic table, horseshoes, benches
- Install paved bench pads
- Install accessible picnic table

Program Details

Programs and Events

-

Revenue Generators

- NA

Maintenance Program

- Mowing

Improvement Estimate

- | | |
|--|----------|
| • Install standard park sign..... | \$5,000 |
| • Install 2 – 5 year old play structure..... | \$15,000 |

Site Images



Park bench



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Prairie



Open lawn/play area



Open lawn

Meadows Park

Park Description		
<p>Location Meadows Park is a 1.9 acre park located on South Avenue between Meadowcrest Lane and South Gateway Street.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play structure • Slide • Basketball court • Batting cage • Mini-shelter • Open space with lighting • Path • Swings (4 – 2 standard, 2 toddler) • Sandbox • Sandbox diggers (2) • Bench • Picnic tables (2) • Spring riders (2) • Rules/bulletin sign • Drinking fountain 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsafe edge on roof of shelter • No bike parking <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove/relocate batting cage • Replace roof of shelter (standing seam panel) • Replace stand-alone spiral slide • Install standard park sign • Install bike rack with concrete pad 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reroof shelter..... \$2,000 • Replace spiral slide..... \$7,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install standard park sign..... \$5,000 • Install bike rack/concrete pad... \$1,000 	
Site Images		

MINI PARKS



Path system and drinking fountain



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Open lawn



Basketball court



Shelter

Middleton Ridge Park

Park Description		
<p>Location Middleton Ridge Park is a 0.5 acre mini park on Belle Fontaine Boulevard near the intersection of High Road.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play structure (5 to 12 year olds) • Swings (2 bucket, 2 belt) • General open space • Tilt cup • Teeter totter • 2 benches • 2 picnic tables • Trash can • Mulch with curb 	<p>Issues & Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No shade • Need ADA mat at playground • Add spring riders • Need ramp at street 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		

Site Images



Playground equipment



Park bench



Playground equipment/path system



Playground equipment/path system



Playground equipment



Playground equipment

Middleton Station Park

Park Description						
<p>Location This 1.8 acre park is adjacent to the Middleton-Cross Plains School District Administrative Center. It is located on South Avenue between Henry Street and Park Street.</p>						
Site Analysis Summary						
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball/Softball field with Bleachers (2) • Shelter • Play structure • Slide • Swings (4 – 2 standard, 2 toddler) • Picnic tables (9) • Toddler climbing animals • Park sign • Rule sign/bulletin board • Bike rack • Open space 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike rack has no concrete pad <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install concrete pad at bike rack 					
Program Details						
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Rental 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection 				
Improvement Estimate						
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">• New park sign.....</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">\$5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Install concrete pad at bike rack</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">\$500</td> </tr> </table>			• New park sign.....	\$5,000	• Install concrete pad at bike rack	\$500
• New park sign.....	\$5,000					
• Install concrete pad at bike rack	\$500					

Site Images



Softball field



Picnic area



Open lawn, shelter, playground



Utility screening



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Bike rack



Path system

Parkside Heights Park

Park Description		
<p>Location This 1.6 acre park is located at the corner of Northbrook Drive and Mockingbird Lane.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball court • Play structure (5 to 12 year olds) • Swings (2 belt, 2 bucket) • 2 Sandboxes • 4 sandbox diggers • 2 spring riders • Drinking fountain • Sign and kiosk • 3 picnic tables • Small open space • Hockey net/ice rink • Metal climber • 3 benches • Internal pathways 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly mature ash trees. Will need shade as these die. • ADA mat at play structure leads to grass/Accessible route needed • No bike parking • Accessible route sidewalks exceed slope requirements <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install accessible route to ADA transfer mat • Install bike rack on concrete pad • Upgrade drinking fountain to meet ADA standards 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install accessible route to ADA transfer mat..... \$3,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install bike rack/concrete pad... \$1,000 • Upgrade drinking fountain..... \$4,000 	

Site Images



Playground equipment



Path system



Basketball court



Playground equipment



Path system



Open lawn area



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Picnic area

Pheasant Branch Ridge Park

Park Description		
<p>Location Pheasant Branch Ridge Park is a 0.6 acre mini park located on Whittlesey Road between Manito Court and Algonquin Drive. The park is adjacent to the Pheasant Branch Ridge Drainageway Conservancy Area.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play structure (5 to 12 year olds) • General open space • 5 swings (3 belt, 2 bucket) • 3 picnic tables • Balance beam • 2 spring riders • Mulch with plastic curb • Ball bucket game • Sign and map • 2 benches • Trash can • ADA access 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weeds in mulch • No bike parking • Needs shade trees <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install bike rack/concrete pad • Add trees near play area • Control weeds in mulch 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park sign..... \$5,000 • Install bike rack/concrete pad..... \$1,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting..... \$1,200 	

Site Images



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Informal path



Playground equipment

Stonefield Park

Park Description		
<p>Location This 1.8 acre park is located at the corner of Clovernook Road and Rooster Run and adjacent to Elm Lawn Elementary School.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis courts (2) • Tennis warm up wall • Restroom/storage building • Sand volleyball court • Play structure (2 to 5 year olds) • Swings (4 – 2 standard, 2 toddler) • Tot spinner • Talk tubes • Benches (4) • Picnic tables (2) 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No bike parking <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide small shelter 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection • Restroom Winterization and upkeep
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurface practice court..... \$5,000 • Install park sign..... \$5,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install small shelter \$25,000 	

Site Images



Tennis warm up wall



Restroom building



Tennis courts



Tennis courts



Path system and playground



Playground equipment



Path system and playground



Playground equipment



Playground equipment

Middleton Hills Park - North

Park Description		
<p>Location This 4.8 acre neighborhood park is located on Ramsey Road between Spring Hill Drive and Associates Way.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Softball field with bleachers • Play structure (5 -12 year olds) • Shelter • 4 picnic tables • 2 benches • Sandbox • 2 sandbox diggers • Small sled hill • Net climber • Mulch with plastic curb • 4 swings (2 belt, 1 bucket, 1 molded) • Drinking fountain • Trash & recycling 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space is potential location for youth soccer and/or lacrosse fields <p>Improvement Options:</p>	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		

Site Images



Street frontage



Softball backstop



Park shelter



Playground equipment



Softball field



Shelter and playground equipment



Shelter



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Install asphalt path

Parking

U12 Soccer

U14 Soccer

180'

120'

300'

165'

Ramsey Rd

Phil Lewis Way

Duany Dr

Middleton Hills Park - South

Park Description

Location
 This is a 7.2 acre park bounded on the west by High Road and on the north and east by Frank Lloyd Wright Avenue.



Site Analysis Summary

- Existing Facilities**
- Play structure (2 to 5 year olds)
 - Play structure (5 to 12 year olds)
 - Shelter with lights
 - 2 soccer fields (youth)
 - 2 spring riders
 - 2 benches
 - Swings (2 belt, 2 bucket)
 - Basketball court
 - 2 sand volleyball courts
 - Donor bench
 - Talk tubes
 - Drinking fountain
 - Bench
 - Small bike rack
 - Lighted path
 - 4 picnic tables (2 are ADA)
 - Mulch with plastic curb
 - Trash and recycling
 - ADA access

- Issues:**
- Damaged basketball court surface
 - Volleyball court needs maintenance
 - Mulch migrating
 - More trees
- Improvement Options:**
- Resurface basketball court
 - Create more open space - Remove west volleyball court
 - Re-grade and install new sand on east volleyball court
 - Remove trail roundabout
 - Install concrete "bag toss" near volleyball court

Program Details

<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
--	---	--

Improvement Estimate

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurface basketball court..... \$9,000 • Remove volleyball court..... \$0 • Volleyball court improvements... \$0 • Remove trail roundabout..... \$0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install concrete cornhole..... \$3,000
---	--

Site Images



Shelter and path system



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Playground equipment



Basketball court



Basketball court



Volleyball court



Path system



Boardwalk



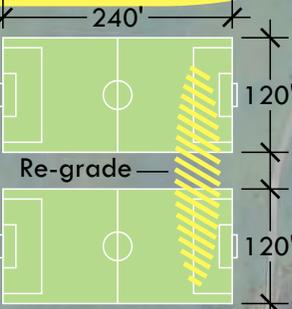
Apprentice Pl

Friendship Ln

High Rd

Century Ave

Frank Lloyd Wright Ave



Add youth soccer fields

Add parking

Parisi Park

Park Description

Location

Parisi Park is a 4.8 acre neighborhood park north of Maywood Avenue between Park Street and Mayflower Drive. It is adjacent to the Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor.



Site Analysis Summary

Existing Facilities

- Softball field with benches and small bleachers
- Play structure (5 to 12 year olds)
- Restroom building with two overhangs
- 4 picnic tables
- Swings (2 belt, 2 bucket)
- Curly slide
- Tilt spinner
- Wobble ring
- Teeter totter
- Open Space
- Parking lot (No stripes)
- Basketball hoop
- Mulch with plastic curb

Issues:

- Basketball/parking conflict
- Accessible route near shelter has severe cross slope
- Lack accessible route from parking to bench
- Accessibility issues with picnic tables, drinking fountain and informational signage

Improvement Options:

- New park sign
- Correct slopes along shelter accessible route
- Correct accessibility issues with picnic tables, drinking fountain and informational signage
- Create accessible route from parking or sidewalk to bench

Program Details

Programs and Events

- NA

Revenue Generators

- NA

Maintenance Program

- Mowing
- Trash Collection

Improvement Estimate

- Install new park sign..... \$5,000

Site Images



Entry drive



Parking lot and path system



Softball field



Shelter



Playground equipment



Playground surfacing



Open lawn



Park bench and playground



Playground equipment

Stricker Park

Park Description

Location

Stricker Park is a 4.8 acre park adjacent to the Stricker Pond Conservancy Area on Voss Parkway.



Site Analysis Summary

Existing Facilities

- Tennis courts (2)
- 1/2 court basketball (2)
- Sandlot backstop
- Trails with interpretive signage
- Play structure
- Swings (5 – 2 standard, 3 toddler)
- Sandbox
- Sandbox diggers (4)
- Spring rider (2)
- Tot spinner
- Panel games
- Web climber
- Picnic tables (2)
- Bike rack
- Drinking fountain
- Benches (5)
- Open space
- Park sign
- Rules/bulletin sign

Issues:

- Drinking fountain does not meet ADA standards
- Tennis court surface and fencing needs repair
- Path is buckling in some areas
- Exterior accessible route has cross slopes that exceed maximums; signage too far off accessible route with small text
- Lack accessible route from parking or sidewalk to backstop and tennis courts
- Amenities not located along accessible route

Improvement Options:

- Upgrade drinking fountain to meet ADA standards
- Resurface tennis courts
- Repair tennis court fencing
- Repair asphalt path
- Replace ash trees
- Create accessible route from parking or sidewalk to backstop and tennis courts
- Relocate accessible table and 20% of trash receptacles to accessible route

Program Details

Programs and Events

- NA

Revenue Generators

- NA

Maintenance Program

- Mowing
- Trash Collection

Improvement Estimate

• Upgrade drinking fountain.....	\$3,000	• Repair asphalt path.....	\$1,500
• Repair tennis court fence.....	\$5,000	• Replace ash trees.....	\$1,600
• Resurface tennis courts.....	\$?????	• Install park sign.....	\$5,000

Site Images



Bike rack



Park bench and playground



Playground equipment



Park bench and playground



Drinking fountain



Open lawn



Basketball courts



Park bench and path system



Shoreline

Woodside Heights Park

Park Description

Location
 Woodside Heights Park is a 4 acre park east of Middleton Street and adjacent to Tiedeman Pond.



Site Analysis Summary

- Existing Facilities**
- 2-5 Play structure
 - Swings (4 – 2 standard, 2 toddler)
 - Sandbox
 - Sandbox diggers (4)
 - Puzzle and viewer panel
 - Bike rack
 - Picnic tables (5)
 - Basketball court
 - Park sign (2)
 - Rules/bulletin sign
 - Benches (4)
 - Trails
 - Viewing platform (Conservancy)
 - Sundial (Conservancy)
 - Interpretive Signage (Conservancy)

- Issues:**
- Basketball court – poor pavement condition
 - Concrete walk entry area is uneven
 - Vegetation is blocking the park sign and sidewalk at the south park entry
 - Exterior accessible route is not compliant with ADA guidelines
- Improvement Options:**
- Repaint park sign
 - Resurface basketball court – porous overlay
 - Replace basketball court net
 - Remove or repair concrete entry space
 - Clear vegetation blocking sign and sidewalk
 - Address exterior accessible route issues

Program Details

- Programs and Events**
- NA

- Revenue Generators**
- NA

- Maintenance Program**
- Mowing
 - Trash Collection

Improvement Estimate

• Install park sign.....	\$5,000	• Remove or repair concrete.....	\$1,500
• Porous overlay basketball court	\$10,000	• Clear vegetation near sign.....	\$0
• Replace basketball nets.....	\$200	• Install shelter.....	\$25,000

Site Images



Path system and playground



Playground equipment



Picnic area



Playground equipment



Path system



Path system



Overlook/interpretive sign



Path system



Path system and bench seating

Firefighters Memorial Park

Park Description

Location
 Firefighters Memorial Park is a 23.6 acre community park located at the corner of Airport Road and North Pleasant View Road.



Site Analysis Summary

- Existing Facilities**
- Youth baseball/softball fields (4) with lights, scoreboards and dugouts
 - Restroom/concession building
 - Batting cages (2)
 - Bleachers (8)
 - Soccer field (With lights, press box, large bleachers, scoreboard and covered benches)
 - Park sign
 - Parking
 - Picnic tables (4)
 - Drinking fountains (4)
 - Multi-use path
 - Storage sheds (3)

- Issues:**
- No bike parking
 - Lack accessible routes to athletic fields
 - Lack accessible drinking fountains, picnic tables
- Improvement Options:**
- Install bike parking
 - Install disc golf course
 - Create accessible routes to athletic fields
 - Install accessible drinking fountain and picnic tables; locate along accessible route

Program Details

Programs and Events	Revenue Generators	Maintenance Program
•	• NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection • Shelter Maintenance

Improvement Estimate

• Install bike racks/concrete pad	\$2,000	• Install 9-hole disc golf.....	\$7,5,000
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Site Images



Path system



Path system at baseball/softball



Baseball/softball field



Restroom/concession building



Infield, scoreboard and lighting



Batting cage



Batting cage



Bleachers



Pressbox

Fireman's Park

Park Description		
<p>Location Fireman's Park is a 4 acre park on North Avenue adjacent to Middleton High School.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play structure (5 to 12 year olds) • Large open air shelter with grill • Small open air shelter with grill • 6 swings (4 belt, 2 bucket) • 2 spring riders • Red shade kite • Restroom building • Picnic tables (many) • Oaks and maples • Bench • Trash & recycling 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mature ash trees • Minimal play equipment for children ages 2 to 5 • No bike racks • Exterior accessible route does not connect to some play areas, horseshoe or volleyball; compliance issues • Drinking fountain and picnic tables not accessible <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add play items for 2 to 5 year olds • Install bike parking • Install path to south in between play areas • Create accessible routes to park elements • Install accessible drinking fountain and picnic tables 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Neighbor Fest 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Neighbor Festival 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection • Shelter Maintenance
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install park sign..... \$5,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install 2-5 play items..... \$3,000 	

Site Images



Swings and shelter



Shelter



Picnic area



Playground equipment



Play area and path system



Open lawn area



Basketball court



Lawn area and playground



Open lawn area



Lee St

Clark St

Install bike racks and concrete pad

Install bike racks and concrete pad

Install 2-5 year old play structure and swings

Install asphalt path

North Ave

Lakeview Park

Park Description

Location

This 43 acre community park is located on Allen Boulevard between Maywood Avenue and Mendota Avenue.



Site Analysis Summary

Existing Facilities

- Splash pad
- Main Shelter with restrooms & grills
- Small shelter with lights and grills
- 3 play structures (5 to 12 year olds play structure)
- Tennis (4 courts)
- Baseball field (with bleachers, dugouts, bullpens, scoreboard and batting cage)
- Concession stand/restroom
- Picnic tables (100+)
- ADA parking (lighted)
- Multi-use path
- Bike rack
- Interpretive signage
- Swings
- Gazebo (1)
- 2 climbing structures
- Splash pad restrooms
- Sandbox
- Sandbox diggers
- Rock wall
- Teeter totter
- Benches
- Grills
- ADA fishing pier
- 2 horseshoe pits
- Shade kite shelter
- Life trail/exercise stations
- Accessible fishing piers (3)

Issues:

- Tennis court surface and bounding board is in need of repair
- Interpretive signage is incomplete
- Poor separation of sandbox and safety surface in playground
- Turf in southeast corner of park needs repair
- Parking lot is not ADA compliant
- Exterior accessible route does not connect to some park elements
- Park amenities do not meet ADA guidelines (picnic tables, athletic fields, drinking fountain)
- Fishing piers do not meet ADA guidelines

Improvement Options:

- Resurface tennis courts – soft court overlay
- Repaint bounding board
- Upgrade drinking fountain to ADA standards
- Separate safety material and sandbox
- Replace shingles on small shelter
- Complete/replace interpretive signage installation
- Install additional parking along Mendota Avenue
- Install splash pad restroom/shelter
- Repair turf in southeast open space
- Move grill away from shelter

Program Details		
Programs and Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	Revenue Generators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need info 	Maintenance Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection • Shelter Maintenance • Pond Cleaning • Splash Pad Winterization
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurface tennis courts..... \$?????? • Separate mulch and sandbox..... \$0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install parking at Mendota Ave.. \$?????? • Install restroom/shelter..... \$80,000 • Repair turf in open space..... \$3,000 • Move grill away from shelter.... \$0 	

COMMUNITY PARKS

Site Images



Splash Pad



Pier



Baseball Field



Park Signage



Interpretive Signage



Concessions/Restrooms



Baseball field



Path system



Shelter



Tennis courts



Playground equipment



Fitness stations

Orchid Heights Park

Park Description		
<p>Location Orchid Height Park is a 14 acre community Park located on Valley Ridge Road south of Sedgemoor Road. It is adjacent to the Pheasant Branch Conservancy.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter with restrooms • Softball field (with lights, dugouts, scoreboard and bleachers) • 5 soccer fields (3 junior, 2 half size) • Skating rink • Basketball court • Sand volleyball • 2 tennis courts • Swings (2 belt, 2 bucket) • Multi-use trail • Lighted parking • Bike rack • Grill • Detention ponds (2) • Drinking fountain at building • Trash & recycling 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many trees in decline (3 in island, maple by basketball court, ash by playground) • Minor trail damage • Broken concrete curb at playground • Parking lot striping is worn and does not meet ADA standards • Need more tree plantings for shade • Large ash by softball provides good shade – Plan for future • Drinking fountain does not meet ADA standards • Exterior accessible route does not meet ADA standards and does not connect to all necessary park elements <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair damage trail • Repair concrete curb at playground • Restripe parking lot, address ADA issues • Expand soccer area • Upgrade drinking fountain to ADA standards • Re-grade open space south of parking lot • Remove/replace dead trees • Install concrete pads for bleachers • Expand exterior accessible route, address ADA issues 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Soccer 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection • Shelter Maintenance • Pond Dredging

COMMUNITY PARKS

Improvement Estimate

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| • Repair trail..... | \$0 | • Expand soccer area..... | \$8,000 |
| • Repair curb at playground..... | \$500 | • Upgrade drinking fountain..... | \$4,000 |
| • Restripe parking lot..... | \$1,500 | • Install park sign..... | \$5,000 |
| • Install benches..... | \$0 | • Install ADA mat and ramp..... | \$2,000 |
| • Tree removal & planting..... | \$2,000 | • Install concrete pads (bleachers) | \$2,200 |

Site Images



Path system



Shelter



Parking lot



Softball field



Playground equipment



Softball lighting, scoreboard, fence



Drinking fountain



Playground equipment

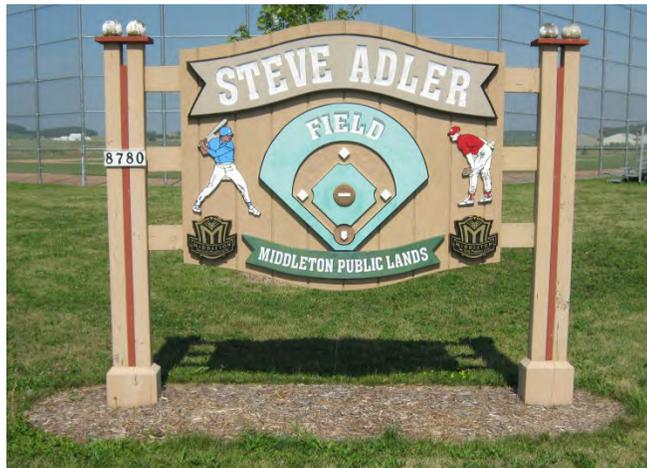


Playground equipment

Quisling Park

Park Description

Location
 This is a 34 acre community park located east of the Middleton Municipal Airport on Airport Road.



Master plan on file (2001)

Site Analysis Summary

- Existing Facilities**
- Baseball field
 - Batting cage
 - Bleachers (2)
 - Soccer fields (8)
 - Dog exercise area w/ tables
 - Multi-use trail
 - Parking
 - Park sign
 - Directional signage
 - Soda machine
 - Port a potty

- Issues:**
- Poor turf
 - Baseball bleachers need concrete pads
 - Vegetation along bike path
 - Vegetation in dog park
 - No bike parking
 - Parking lots lack minimum number of accessible stalls
 - Exterior accessible routes lack connection to soccer fields and Steve Adler Field
- Improvement Options:**
- Install concrete pads
 - Repair/re-plant turf
 - Manage vegetation along bike path and in dog exercise area
 - Install bike rack on concrete pad

Program Details

Programs and Events	Revenue Generators	Maintenance Program
•	• Youth Soccer	• Mowing

Improvement Estimate

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| • Repair/re-plant turf..... | \$4,000 | • Manage vegetation..... | \$0 |
| • Concrete pads at bleachers..... | \$1,500 | • Install bike rack/concrete pad.... | \$1,000 |

COMMUNITY PARKS

Site Images



Open lawn area



Dog exercise area



Dog exercise area entry



Path system



Parking lot



Baseball field



Baseball backstop



Baseball fencing



Signage

Lake Street Boat Launch

Park Description				
<p>Location This boat launch is located at the end of Lake Street on Lake Mendota.</p>				
Site Analysis Summary				
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA Shoremaster Piers (1) 200'x6', (1) 40'x6' • Rescue boat/hoist (1) • Fish interpretive sign (1) • Donation box (1) • Winter use signs • Rule sign/bulletin board 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pier bumpers lacking • Park sign lacking • Accessible parking lacking • Signage text is not ADA compliant <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pier bumpers (Rhino type) needed for temporary parking and van loading spaces • Park sign 			
Program Details				
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boat Launch Fees 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trash Collection 		
Improvement Estimate				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park sign needed..... \$5,000 • Bench installation..... \$500 • Rhino pier bumpers..... \$1,500 • ADA signage and striping..... \$0 </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road striping..... \$0 </td> </tr> </table>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park sign needed..... \$5,000 • Bench installation..... \$500 • Rhino pier bumpers..... \$1,500 • ADA signage and striping..... \$0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road striping..... \$0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park sign needed..... \$5,000 • Bench installation..... \$500 • Rhino pier bumpers..... \$1,500 • ADA signage and striping..... \$0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road striping..... \$0 			

Site Images



Driveway and boat launch



Signage



MFD rescue boat and hoise



Educational signage
"Fish of Lake Mendota"



Street frontage



Donation box

Metropolitan Community Park/Community Dog Park

Park Description		
<p>Location This 145 acre park is located on Highway Q north of Oncken Road and includes the Middleton Dog Park.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <p>Dog Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog exercise area (2) • Dog agility course (1) • Shade structure (1) • Picnic tables (7) • Benches • Rules/bulletin sign (2) • Donation box/Fee box (2) • Parking lot (40 car) • Porta potty (2) <p>Soccer Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer fields (3 - 2 are lighted) • Bleachers (2) • Shelter (1) • Picnic tables (10) • Gravel Parking • Warm-up area (1) • Porta potty (3) 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unpaved road/parking lot • Lack of park signage • Parking does not meet ADA standards • Lack exterior accessible route • Park amenities not located along accessible route • Benches, tables lack concrete pads <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pave access road • Pave lower parking lot • Re-pave dog park parking, add ADA parking, correct slope • Add park signage • Add shelter/restroom building • Soccer field expansion • Install new trail • Install canoe launch and parking area • Add exterior accessible route, relocate amenities along route • Add concrete pads under benches, tables 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User Fees 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Debris and Waste Collection • Trail Maintenance
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pave access road..... \$55,000 • Pave lower parking..... \$100,000 • Re-pave upper parking..... \$12,000 • Install park signage..... \$5,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kayak trail/pier..... \$15,000 • Exercise trail..... \$20,000 	

Site Images



Parking lot



Driveway and parking lot



Park signage



Entry gate



Signage kiosk



Shade structure



Path system

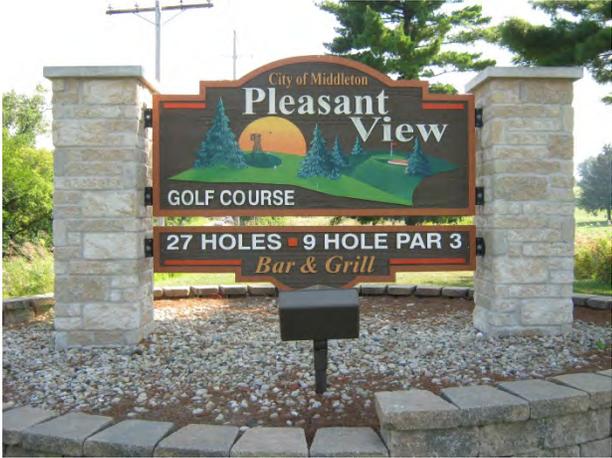


Path system



Path system

Pleasant View Golf Course

Park Description		
<p>Location Pleasant View Golf Course is located on Pleasant View Road north of Blackhawk Road and contains approximately 250 acres.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf Course (27 holes) • Clubhouse (year round) • Driving range • Putting/chipping green • Parking lot • Nordic ski trail system (6.5+ miles) • Bike skills park • Mountain Bike Trails 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nordic ski trail lacks accessible route, accessible parking <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create accessible route, parking for ski trail 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User Fees 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trail Maintenance
Improvement Estimate		

Site Images



Parking lot



Clubhouse



Golf course



Golf course



Golf course



Golf course

Quarry Skate Park

Park Description		
<p>Location Quarry Skate Park is a 1.8 acre park on Terrace Avenue between High Point Road and Aurora Street.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skate park (Ramps, rails, stairs) • Bike rack • Bench • Trash can • Porta potty • Park sign • Balance boards (3) • Rules signage • Lighting • Picnic table (1) • Portable restroom (1) • Security system 	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of shade • Parking does not meet ADA standards • Exterior accessible route does not meet ADA standards • Drinking fountain does not meet ADA standards • Portable restroom is not accessible • Play equipment does not meet ADA standards <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install shade structure 	
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade structure..... \$10,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace drinking fountain \$2,500 	

Walter Bauman Pool (Aquatic Center)

Park Description		
<p>Location The Walter Bauman Pool is located on a 5.6 acre parcel owned by the school district adjacent to Middleton High School.</p>		
Site Analysis Summary		
<p>Existing Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 lap lanes • Dive well with 2 boards, drop slide • Zero depth entry • Lift • Sand box with toys • Shade kites (5-6) • Bike racks • 2 large water slides • Admission, restroom concessions building (4 showers per side) 		<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking does not meet ADA standards • Some park elements not located along accessible route • Additional accessibility issues – see report <p>Improvement Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install new splashpad to replace sand box • Install security system
Program Details		
<p>Programs and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All City Swim and Dive Event (every 10 years) 	<p>Revenue Generators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User Fees • Special Event Rental Fees 	<p>Maintenance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing • Trash Collection • Chemicals • Mechanical Systems Maintenance
Improvement Estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New splashpad..... \$225,000 • Install security system..... \$10,000 		
Site Images		
 <p>Swim Lanes</p>	 <p>All City Swim Meet</p>	 <p>Water Slides</p>

4 IMPLEMENTATION

The previous chapter of this report detailed an extensive number of specific improvement options. This chapter of the comprehensive outdoor recreation plan provides the mechanism for implementing them. It includes a compilation of capital improvements, park acquisition and development mechanisms, and funding sources. The chapter also includes the process for adopting, monitoring, and updating this plan.

4.1 Plan Approval and Amendments

Introduction

A prerequisite to participation in outdoor recreation grant programs is the adoption by City Council and Plan Commission, and subsequent Department of Natural Resources acceptance of a local comprehensive outdoor recreation plan every five years.

Comprehensive planning is an overall survey of the existing facilities within a given jurisdiction, and gives recommendations for future improvements. A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (CORP) is only the first step in the development of a recreational park site or system.

Master planning, which follows the recommendations of the comprehensive plan, is an overall view and analysis of an existing or proposed park area. The purpose is to guide the orderly development of a park or recreational facility. All city parks should have a plan on file, and be revised every 20 years maximum to reflect current trends and highest and best land use.

Site planning, is the detailed plan of how an area within a park or recreation area will be developed. Site plans supply the construction details needed to develop a facility recommended in the master plan.

This plan provides strategies and recommendations for improving Middleton parks community-wide. It is anticipated that master planning for community parks and proposed parks is a high priority and should be featured prominently when budgets are determined over the life of this plan.

Formal Plan Approval

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan should be approved by the local governing body after thorough review by the Parks Commission. Once adopted by Council and Plan Commission, the plan will become a component of the city comprehensive plan. The city should follow all rules and procedures established in the citizen participation plan adopted as part of the comprehensive planning process (per State Statute 66.1001) when adopting this CORP.

Amending the Plan

Plan amendments are common and may be considered part of the planning process. They frequently represent good implementation or plan usage and are acceptable for consideration by local decision-makers. Amendments may follow the same process as the original plan and may be developed in coordination with the PRFC before presented to the Common Council for approval. Amendments generally prolong the effectiveness of the parent plan.

The City of Middleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) will make the city eligible for funding through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources through the year 2019. Similarly, since this plan has been developed with a five-year timeframe, it should be revised in 2019 to ensure grant eligibility and to reflect progress made over time.

4.2 Park Acquisition and Development Mechanisms

4.2.1 Parkland Dedication Ordinance Elements

Many communities, including the city of Middleton, have developer exactions for parkland acquisition. These exactions are designed to help a growing community acquire new park land to keep pace with new residential development. As residents move into a new subdivision, they place additional stress on existing park facilities. Developer exactions, agreed upon during the subdivision review and approval period, provide land or cash or a combination of both to be used for the provision of park facilities for the new neighborhood.

The city of Middleton Subdivision Regulations code (Chapter 19, Article 7.) covers dedication of lands and public site fee options. Subdividers of land where suitable sites have been designated on the Comprehensive Plan, Park and Open Space Plan, or Official Map are required to dedicate these sites to the public. If the city allows the land division to not include a public park, a fee in lieu of dedication must be paid for the acquisition of park land.

Typically, lands accepted in lieu of would be suitable for active recreation types. However, the city of Middleton holds vast amounts of land classified as Conservancy and has developed an extensive system of passive use trails, wildlife habitats, and ecosystem enhancements taking advantage of the natural surroundings. A great deal of evaluation and discussion of the current policy has taken place and modifications proposed.

Usable Lands

Because the intent of parkland dedication requirements is to provide sufficient recreation lands for new residents, neighborhood parks should be developed within new developments. Neighborhood parks are designed to provide active and passive recreation activities and organized league recreation, as well as informal “pick up” play. The service area of 1/2 mile radius should include the entire neighborhood; with some neighborhood overlap if features are unique. The average neighborhood park commonly ranges from 3 to 10 acres in size and serves from 1,000 to 5,000 people – basically one park for every elementary school.

4.2.2 User Groups

The city should coordinate with potential user groups when planning new facilities to see if cost-sharing, donation, or outright purchase options exist. There are several unique relationships between the city and community organizations such as the Cardinal Youth Football, Rush Wisconsin, MBSC, MCPASD, FBPB, etc. Ongoing discussions with these organizations are vital to understand the changing needs and maximize utilization.

4.2.3 Planned Giving

In many communities, parkland development often occurs with the availability of land. Donations of private land for a public purpose are not uncommon, but there needs to be criteria for accepting lands, and a formal procedure for how the land will be planned and used in the best interest of the community. A planned giving program through the city of

Middleton would allow prospective patrons to dedicate land in a legal manner that provides a legacy for how the land will be utilized over time. This mechanism also applies to monetary gifts as exhibited by the generous gift by Lucille Taylor in 2013. At the time of printing of this plan a giving program has not been established, but discussion of the process has begun.

Other options could include establishing a Match Fund Incentive program or participating in a Park Endowment Fund similar to the system operated by the Madison Community Foundation.

4.2.4 Grant Funding

Implementation dollars are available for acquisition and development of recreation spaces and facilities. Linear parks and trails can be funded through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) or the Department of Transportation (WDOT). The WDNR also provides monies for the acquisition of lands, the stabilization of shorelands, and the protection of environmentally sensitive areas. A complete list of grant opportunities is provided in Section 4.3. A list of secured grants since 2000 is available in the appendix of this plan.

4.3 Grant Information for Park Acquisition and Development

The state and federal government provides grants to local governments for the acquisition and development of parks. Many of these programs require that a local government submit an approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plan or master plan to the WDNR as a condition for eligibility. By adopting this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan by resolution, the City of Middleton has met the eligibility requirement for these grant programs until 2019.

4.3.1 Projects that Require Grant Funding

The financial realities of our time necessitate the acquisition of outside funding to enable the development of large projects. Grant funding also provides seed money and crucial capital for leveraging additional community dollars and support. While many projects identified in this CORP would benefit from the acquisition of outside funding sources, some projects will require grant funding if they are to be realized. A brief description of each project, priority level, and potential funding is provided below. Grant programs are discussed in the next section (4.3.2).

(High) Development of a restroom/shelter facility at Lakeview Park to ease the demand on the existing facilities.

(High) Construction of a restroom/shelter facility at Quisling Park. Currently there are no support facilities for the sports organizations to utilize.

(High) Development of Harvey John and Lucille Taylor Park per the adopted Master Plan.

(High) A combination of Dane County PARC and DNR Stewardship grants could be obtained for purchase of the land adjacent to Quisling. The Stewardship monies as to be used for passive recreation purposes only, and could not be allocated toward development of soccer fields.

(High) Further development of the MRD sports complex to house the regional soccer league. Various grant programs should be explored for funding assistance including the Madison Community Foundation, Dane County PARC, and CDBG grants.

(Medium) Development of additional trails at the MRD Soccer complex. These trails include exercise/fitness as well as a water trail on Dorn Creek.

(Medium) As the Communities of Bishops Bay continues to expand its phased development, the additional parklands illustrated in the adopted Master Plan should be completed.

(Low) The shelter and playground facilities at *Fireman's Park* should be connected to the pedestrian network to the south. The DNR RTA grant program would be an excellent opportunity to fund this trail segment connecting these existing facilities.

4.3.2 Grant Programs

This section provides general information and details for many of the grant programs that may be used to acquire and develop local park facilities, linear trails, or beaches. Categories, by authorization agency, include:

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation
- Wisconsin Department of Administration
- Other Programs (Various Agencies)

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program: Named for two of Wisconsin's most revered conservation leaders, Governor Warren Knowles and Senator Gaylord Nelson, the Wisconsin Legislature created this innovative program in 1989 to preserve valuable natural areas and wildlife habitat, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand opportunities for outdoor recreation.

All grant program awards cover up to 50% of eligible project costs. Projects eligible for Stewardship grant programs require that all land acquisition and development projects provide public access for "nature-based outdoor recreation" purposes. DNR decisions as to whether a particular project activity is "nature-based outdoor recreation" are made on a case-by-case basis. Please note that purchase and installation of playground equipment, and the purchase of land for recreation areas not related to nature-based outdoor recreation (dedicated sports fields, swimming pools, etc.) are not eligible. The Stewardship Program includes the four funds described below (A – D).

For more information and to submit applications contact the South Central Region representative (listed below). All applications are due May 1.

Cheryl Housley
 Telephone: (608) 275-3218
 Email: Cheryl.Housley@wisconsin.gov

A. Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)

Description: Stewardship sets aside 50% of funds for projects that improve community parks and acquire land for public outdoor recreation. Applicants compete against other applicants

from their region. Funds may be used for both land acquisition projects and development projects for nature-based outdoor recreation, such as fishing piers, hiking trails and picnic facilities. Funds are not available for non nature-based activities such as baseball and soccer fields. Costs associated with operation and maintenance of parks and other outdoor recreation facilities are not eligible for Stewardship funds.

Eligible Project Examples:

- Land acquisition projects that will provide opportunities for nature-based outdoor recreation.
- Property with frontage on rivers, streams, lakes, estuaries and reservoirs that will provide water-based outdoor recreation.
- Property that provides special recreation opportunities, such as floodplains, wetlands and areas adjacent to scenic highways.
- Natural areas and outstanding scenic areas where the objective is to preserve the scenic or natural values, including areas of physical or biological importance and wildlife areas. These areas shall be open to the general public for outdoor recreation use to the extent that the natural attributes of the areas will not be seriously impaired or lost.
- Land within urban areas for day-use picnic areas.
- Land for nature-based outdoor recreation trails.

Ineligible Project Examples:

- Projects that are not supported by a local comprehensive outdoor recreational plan.
- Land to be used for non-nature-based outdoor recreation.
- Acquisition and development of golf courses.

B. Urban Rivers (UR)

Description: Stewardship allocates 20% of funds annually to restore or preserve the character of urban riverways through the acquisition of land or easements adjacent to rivers. Funding will be provided for projects that are part of a plan to enhance the quality of a river corridor. Applicants compete against other applicants statewide. The purposes of the program are:

- To provide for economic revitalization through the restoration or preservation of urban rivers or riverfronts;
- To improve outdoor recreational opportunities by increasing access to urban rivers for a variety of public uses, including but not limited to, fishing, wildlife observation, enjoyment of scenic beauty, canoeing, boating, hiking and bicycling;
- To preserve or restore significant historical, cultural, or natural areas along urban rivers.

Funding Priorities: Priority is given to projects that have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Acquires land or land rights that preserve or restore natural values, including aesthetic values, and enhance environmental quality along urban waterways.
- Provides new or expanded diverse recreational opportunities to all segments of urban populations.
- Provides new or expanded access to urban waterways.
- Acquires blighted lands that will be restored to complement riverfront redevelopment activities.
- Encourages comprehensive riverway planning within and between municipalities and other agencies.

- Provides opportunities for increasing tourism.
- Acquires lands that through proper management will improve or protect water quality.

C. Urban Green Space (UGS)

Description: The intent of the Urban Green Space Program (UGS) is to provide open natural space within or in proximity to urban areas; to protect from urban development areas that have scenic, ecological or other natural value and are within or in proximity to urban areas; and to provide land for noncommercial gardening for the residents of an urbanized area.

Funding Priorities: Priority is given to projects that have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Planning Considerations, including:
 - Specifically implementing a priority of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
 - Implementing the approved master plans of 2 or more units of government or regional planning agencies
 - Preserving land that is listed on the natural heritage inventory database
 - Implementing elements of water quality plans or initiatives
- Project Considerations, including:
 - Serving the greatest population centers
 - Serving areas of rapidly increasing populations
 - Providing accessibility
 - Having unique natural features, threatened or endangered species, or significant ecological value
 - Providing open natural linear corridors connecting open natural areas
 - Having water frontage
 - Containing or restoring wetlands
 - Protecting sensitive wildlife habitat
 - Protecting an area threatened by development
 - Preserving a natural community or one that could be restored
 - Having regional or statewide significance
 - Relating to brownfield redevelopment
- Administrative considerations, including:
 - Projects that are ready to be implemented and/or continue previously started projects

D. Acquisition of Development Rights

Description: The purpose of the Acquisition of Development Rights Program is to protect natural, agricultural, or forest lands that enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. "Development Rights" are the rights of a landowner to develop their property to the greatest extent allowed under state and local laws. The goals of the program are achieved through the purchase of those development rights and compensating landowners for limited future development on their land.

Funding Priorities: Priority is given to projects that have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Property with frontage on rivers, streams, lakes or estuaries

- Property that creates a buffer between land that has been permanently protected for natural resource and conservation purposes and potential or existing residential, commercial or industrial development
- Property that is within the boundaries of an acquisition project established by the DNR, a government unit or a NCO where the uses of the property will complement the goals of the project and the stewardship program
- Property that is within an environmental corridor that connects 2 or more established resource protection areas

Federal Programs Related to the Stewardship Program: The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and Recreational Trails Act (RTA) programs fund projects that are similar to the Stewardship programs. One primary difference is that LWCF and RTA programs are not restricted to nature-based outdoor recreation projects. In these programs, nature-based outdoor recreation projects compete against projects with non-nature based recreation elements for LWCF funds. Another difference is that federal programs have additional requirements that must be satisfied – for example, compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Historic Preservation Act, etc. Federal programs administered through the DNR include the two funds described below (E, F).

E. Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Description: This program was established to encourage nationwide creation and interpretation of high quality outdoor recreational opportunities. The program funds both state and local outdoor recreation activities.

Funding Priorities: Priority is given to projects that have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Relationship to the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan; activities must be in locally approved plans
- Regional or statewide in nature
- Acquires land where a plan supports need
- Provides or enhances water-based activity
- Serves the greatest populations
- Involves other local government's, cooperation, volunteers, local donations
- First time applicants
- Sponsor has completed past projects
- Provides multi-season, multi activity use
- Basic over elaborate facilities
- Participant over spectator facilities
- "Nature based" restriction does not apply

Eligible Project Examples:

- Land acquisition
- Development of outdoor recreation facilities, including active sports facilities

F. Recreational Trails Act (RTA)

Description: These funds are used to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses. RTA funds may only be used on trails which have been identified in or which further a specific goal of a local, county,

or state trail plan included or referenced in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. 30% of funds must be used on motorized trail uses, 30% on non-motorized trail uses, and 40% on diversified (multiple) trail uses.

Funding Priorities: Priority is given to projects that have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Maintenance and restoration of existing trails.
- Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages.
- Construction of new trails (with certain restrictions on Federal lands).
- Acquisition of easement or property for trails.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT)

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation offers a variety of programs that can provide financial assistance to local governments, along with other public and private entities, to make improvements to highways, airports, harbors, bike, rail and pedestrian facilities. The use of these funds in Middleton would be most closely tied to developing trails to link parks and conservancy areas to places of employment, residence, and commerce.

G. Surface Transportation Program – Rural (STP-R)

Description: This program allocates federal funds to complete a variety of improvements to federal-aid-eligible roads and streets outside of census-designated urban areas. Projects must meet federal and state requirements. Communities are eligible for funding on roads functionally classified collector or arterial. The WisDOT requires that pedestrian and on-street bicycle accommodations be part of all STP projects within or in the vicinity of population centers, unless extraordinary circumstances can be demonstrated to WisDOT for not providing these accommodations.

Contact: Michael Erickson, Southwest Region at (608) 246-5361 or Michael.erickson@dot.wi.gov

Deadline: spring of odd-numbered years, next cycle Calendar Year 2015

H. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

Description: The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) allocates federal funds to transportation improvement projects that “expand travel choice, strengthen the local economy, improve the quality of life, and protect the environment.” TAP is a new legislative program that was authorized in 2012 by federal transportation legislation, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). The transportation alternatives program provides for the implementation of a variety of non-traditional projects, with examples ranging from the restoration of historic transportation facilities, to bike and pedestrian facilities, to landscaping and scenic beautification, and to the mitigation of water pollution from highway runoff. Examples of bicycle and pedestrian projects that TAP will likely fund include: multi-use trails, paved shoulders, bike lanes, bicycle route signage, bicycle parking, overpasses/underpasses/bridges, sidewalks, and pedestrian crossings. Local municipalities contribute 20% of the project costs. Federal regulations restrict the use of funds on trails that allow motorized users, except snowmobiles.

Contact: Tressie Kamp, State Coordinator at 608-266-3973 or tressie.kamp@dot.wi.gov or Marilyn Daniels, Southwest Region at 608-246-3864 or Marilyn.daniels@dot.wi.gov

Deadline: first application cycle expected to open October 2013

Wisconsin Department of Administration

I. Community Development Block Grant – Public Facilities (CDBG-PF)

Description: Available through the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), communities receiving CDBG funds from the State may use the funds for many kinds of community development activities including, but not limited to:

- acquisition of property for public purposes;
- construction or reconstruction of streets, water and sewer facilities, neighborhood centers, recreation facilities, and other public works;
- demolition;
- rehabilitation of public and private buildings;
- public services;
- planning activities;
- assistance to nonprofit entities for community development activities; and
- assistance to private, for profit entities to carry out economic development activities (including assistance to micro-enterprises).

Contact: Tom Clippert at (608)261-7538 or tom.clippert@wisconsin.gov

4.4 Capital Improvements Plan

Capital improvements to a park are the addition of labor and materials that improve the overall value and usefulness of that park. Capital improvements are designated and funded individually through segregated municipal funds. Routine maintenance, on the other hand, is considered to be the repair and upkeep of existing park facilities, such as painting a shelter building. Routine maintenance of park facilities does not appreciably increase the value or usefulness of the park, and is traditionally funded through the park department's operations budget. Non-routine maintenance of park facilities, such as upgrading a toilet facility to be barrier-free, is usually considered to be a capital improvement.

Most projects can be easily identified and categorized, but some are difficult. When a project falls on the borderline between a capital improvement and maintenance, the overall cost becomes the determinant. Projects with a high cost, such as that for seal coating roads or parking lots, are categorized as capital improvements.

The capital improvements program for each park is a combination of several types of projects. These projects are ranked according to their importance and priority in the overall development of the park, and the value of the project to the overall city parks system. Capital improvements for this plan are ranked in the following manner:

- a. Improvements to existing facilities that will:
 - i. Correct health and safety hazards
 - ii. Upgrade deficient facilities
 - iii. Modernize adequate but outdated facilities
- b. Installation of facilities as deemed appropriate and necessary through public demand (public meetings, Park Commission input, city budgeting)
- c. Development of new facilities as deemed necessary through level of service, population projection, and age cohort analyses

Generally, improvements to existing facilities rank the highest in the capital improvements program, while new facilities are usually ranked lower, according to their relative need in each park location. Improvements that correct health and safety hazards are always the highest ranking priority. Improvements that are deemed necessary through empirical analyses are usually ranked the lowest.

Parks have been divided by classifications established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) including Mini, Neighborhood, Community, and Special Use parks. Improvement costs are shown by year (2014-2019) which establishes a priority ranking – higher priority improvements would occur sooner in the schedule. When a long-term improvement is forecast to occur beyond 2019 the improvement is highlighted and labeled “LONGTERM”. In some cases a capital improvement may utilize a special fund. When this occurs the improvement contains an identifier citing that particular funding source. Depending on the fund, it may or may not be reflected in the subtotal for each park type.

The total improvement cost by park classification and by year is assembled in Table 4. Costs associated to each park improvement option are based upon recent regional project

construction costs and may be spread out over many years. An inflation factor of 2.5% starting in year three has been used to adjust for cost increases. This inflation factor, like the priority rankings, should be adjusted over time to reflect changes that may occur over time that were unknown when this plan was originally prepared.

Table 4: Total Improvement Costs by Year and Park Classification

Year	MINI PARKS	NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS	COMMUNITY PARKS	CONSERVANCY LANDS	SPECIAL USE PARKS	ALL PARKS
2014	\$15,500	\$44,200	\$60,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$154,700
2015	\$30,000	\$120,500	\$144,000	\$25,000	\$5,500	\$325,000
2016	\$25,625	\$184,500	\$97,375	\$15,375	\$3,075	\$325,950
2017	\$84,000	\$420,000	\$111,510	\$0	\$3,150	\$618,660
2018	\$129,000	\$80,625	\$110,725	\$37,625	\$258,000	\$615,975
Grand Total	\$284,125	\$849,825	\$523,610	\$98,000	\$284,725	\$2,040,285

The complete capital improvements schedule is located in Appendix E.

Appendix A:
Public Process Results

Appendix B:

Facilities Matrix

Appendix C:

Maps

Appendix D:

Capital Improvements (by park classification)

Table 4: Total Improvement Costs by Year and Park Classification

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
MINI PARKS						
Subtotal	\$15,350	\$0	\$81,795	\$0	\$26,875	\$124,020
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS						
Subtotal	\$3,100	\$71,000	\$99,425	\$0	\$25,000	\$173,525
COMMUNITY PARKS						
Subtotal	\$476,200	\$265,500	\$57,913	\$472,500	\$0	\$1,272,113
SPECIAL USE PARKS						
Subtotal	\$39,500	\$245,000	\$139,400	\$36,750	\$548,250	\$1,008,900
ALL PARKS						
Subtotal	\$534,150	\$581,500	\$378,533	\$509,250	\$600,125	\$2,578,558

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
MINI PARKS						
Baskerville Park						
Age 2 to 5 play items			\$25,000			
Paved path			\$6,000			
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$31,000	\$0	\$0	\$31,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,775	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,775
Boundary Road Park						
Bike rack	\$500					
Concrete pad	\$500					
Replace bench	\$650					
Subtotals	\$1,650	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,650
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 1,650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,650
Hawkridge Park						
Park sign			\$5,000			
Repair sand box	\$400					
Repair path sidewalk	\$1,000					
Add bike rack	\$500					
Install new shade trees	\$800					
Subtotals	\$2,700	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$7,700
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 2,700	\$ -	\$ 5,125	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,825
Hillcrest Park						
Fence panel			\$500			
Install park sign			\$5,000			
Install benches			\$1,600			
Install bollards			\$3,000			
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$10,100	\$0	\$0	\$10,100
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,353	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,353
Hinrichs Family Farm Park						
Install concrete pad			\$2,000			
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,050	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,050
Lakeview Park East						
Install standard park sign			\$5,000			
Install age 2-5 year old play items	\$6,000					
Subtotals	\$6,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$11,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ 5,125	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,125
Meadows Park						
Reroof shelter	\$2,000					
Install standard park sign			\$5,000			
Install bike rack/concrete pad	\$1,000					
Subtotals	\$3,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$8,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 5,125	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,125
Middleton Ridge Park						
Install ADA curb cut	\$2,000					
Subtotals	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
Totals	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000
Middleton Station Park						
Install standard park sign			\$5,000			
Install AR route to ball field			\$2,000			
Install concrete pad at bike rack			\$500			
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$500
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 513	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 513
Parkside Heights Park						
Install path to ADA transfer mat			\$3,000			
Install bike rack/concrete pad			\$1,000			
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$4,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,100
Pheasant Branch Ridge Park						
Install park sign			\$5,000			
Install bike rack/concrete pad			\$1,000			
Tree planting			\$1,200			
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$7,200	\$0	\$0	\$7,200
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,380	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,380
Stonefield Park						
Resurface practice court			\$5,000			
Install park sign			\$5,000			
Install small shelter					\$25,000	
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$35,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,250	\$ -	\$ 26,875	\$ 37,125
MINI PARKS						
Subtotal	\$15,350	\$0	\$81,795	\$0	\$26,875	\$124,020

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS						
Middleton Hills Park North						
Regrade open space			\$8,000			
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$8,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,200
Middleton Hills Park South						
Resurface basketball court			\$9,000			
Remove volleyball court	\$0					
Volleyball court improvements	\$0					
Remove trail roundabout	\$0					
Install concrete bag toss game		\$3,000				
Subtotals	\$0	\$3,000	\$9,000	\$0	\$0	\$12,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ 9,225	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,225
Parisi Park						
Relocate basketball court		\$10,000				
Resurface parking lot		\$55,000				
Install new park sign			\$5,000			
Subtotals	\$0	\$65,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$70,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ 65,000	\$ 5,125	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70,125
Stricker Park						
Upgrade drinking fountain		\$3,000				
Repair tennis court fence			\$5,000			
Resurface tennis courts			\$65,000			
Repair asphalt path	\$1,500					
Replace ash trees	\$1,600					
Install park sign			\$5,000			
Subtotals	\$3,100	\$3,000	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$81,100
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,000	\$ 76,875	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 82,975
Woodside Heights Park						
Install park sign			\$5,000			
Porous overlay basketball court		\$10,000				
Replace basketball nets		\$200				
Remove or repair concrete	\$1,500					
Install shelter					\$25,000	
Subtotals	\$1,500	\$10,200	\$5,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$41,700
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 1,500	\$ 10,200	\$ 5,125	\$ -	\$ 26,875	\$ 43,700
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS						
Subtotal	\$3,100	\$71,000	\$99,425	\$0	\$25,000	\$173,525

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
COMMUNITY PARKS						
Firefighters Memorial Park						
Install bike rack/concrete pad	\$2,500					
Splashpad				\$450,000		
Tree plantings	\$2,000					
Install 9 hole disc golf course		\$7,500				
Playground			\$45,000			
Concession/shelter building		\$250,000				
Subtotals	\$4,500	\$257,500	\$45,000	\$450,000	\$0	\$757,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 4,500	\$ 257,500	\$ 46,125	\$ 472,500	\$ -	\$ 780,625
Fireman's Park						
Install park sign	\$5,000					
Install pathway connections	\$8,000					
Install age 2-5 play items	\$3,000					
Resurface basketball court	\$9,500					
Subtotals	\$25,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,500
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 25,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,500
Lakeview Community Park						
Resurface tennis courts	\$130,000					
Shelter/restroom building (donor item)						
New park sign (2)	\$10,000					
Repair turf in open space	\$3,000					
Install restroom/shelter	\$80,000					
Install concrete bag toss game	\$3,000					
Subtotals	\$226,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$226,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 226,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 226,000
Orchid Heights						
Repair trail			\$5,000			
Repair curb at playground	\$500					
Restripe parking lot			\$1,500			
Expand soccer area		\$8,000				
Install concrete pads (bleachers)	\$2,200					
Install park sign			\$5,000			
Subtotals	\$2,700	\$8,000	\$11,500	\$0	\$0	\$22,200
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 2,700	\$ 8,000	\$ 11,788	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,488
Quisling Park						
Repair/replant turf	\$5,000					
Concrete pads at bleachers	\$1,500					
Shade shelter for dog area	\$5,000					
ADA drinking fountain	\$5,000					
Restroom building	\$200,000					
Install bike rack/concrete pad	\$1,000					
Subtotals	\$217,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$217,500
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 217,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 217,500
COMMUNITY PARKS						
Subtotal	\$476,200	\$265,500	\$57,913	\$472,500	\$0	\$1,272,113

Appendix E:

Summary of Volunteer Park Maintenance Labor Hours

Appendix F:
City Grant History

Appendix G:
Park Capital Budget History

Appendix H:

Adoption

Appendix A: Public Process Results – no data provided

Appendix B: Existing Facilities Matrix

Appendix C: Map 1: Existing Parks

Map 1.1: Existing & Proposed Parks

Map 1.2: Aldermanic Districts & Existing Parks

Map 2: Park Service Areas

Map 2.1: Park Service Density

Map 3: Population Density

Map 4: Bicycle Routes

Map 5: Distribution of Sports Facilities in Middleton Parks

Map 6: Park Access by Population Density

Map 6.1: Playground Equipment Priority Areas for Children under 5

Map 6.2: Playground Equipment Priority Areas for Children 5 to 9

Map 6.3: Park Facility Priority Areas for Children 10 to 17

Map 6.4: Park Facility Priority Areas for Ages 55 and above

Map 7: Potentially Underserved Areas

Map 7.1: Potentially Underserved Areas – Air Photos

Map 8: Population Density by Age Group

Mini Parks

1. Baskerville Park (0.25 Acres)
2. Boundary Road Park (0.21 Acres)
3. Hawkridge Park (0.37 Acres)
4. Hillcrest Park (0.76 Acres)
5. Hinrichs Family Farm Park (0.35 Acres)
6. Lakeview Park East (1.92 Acres)
7. Meadows Park (1.92 Acres)
8. Middleton Ridge Park (0.50 Acres)
9. Middleton Station Park (1.83 Acres)
10. Parkside Heights Park (1.56 Acres)
11. Pheasant Branch Ridge Park (0.64 Acres)
12. Stonefield Park (1.82 Acres)

Neighborhood Parks

13. Middleton Hills Park North (4.80 Acres)
14. Middleton Hills Park South (7.15 Acres)
15. Parisi Park (4.76 Acres)
16. Strickers Park (4.86 Acres)
17. Woodside Heights Park (3.90 Acres)

Community Parks

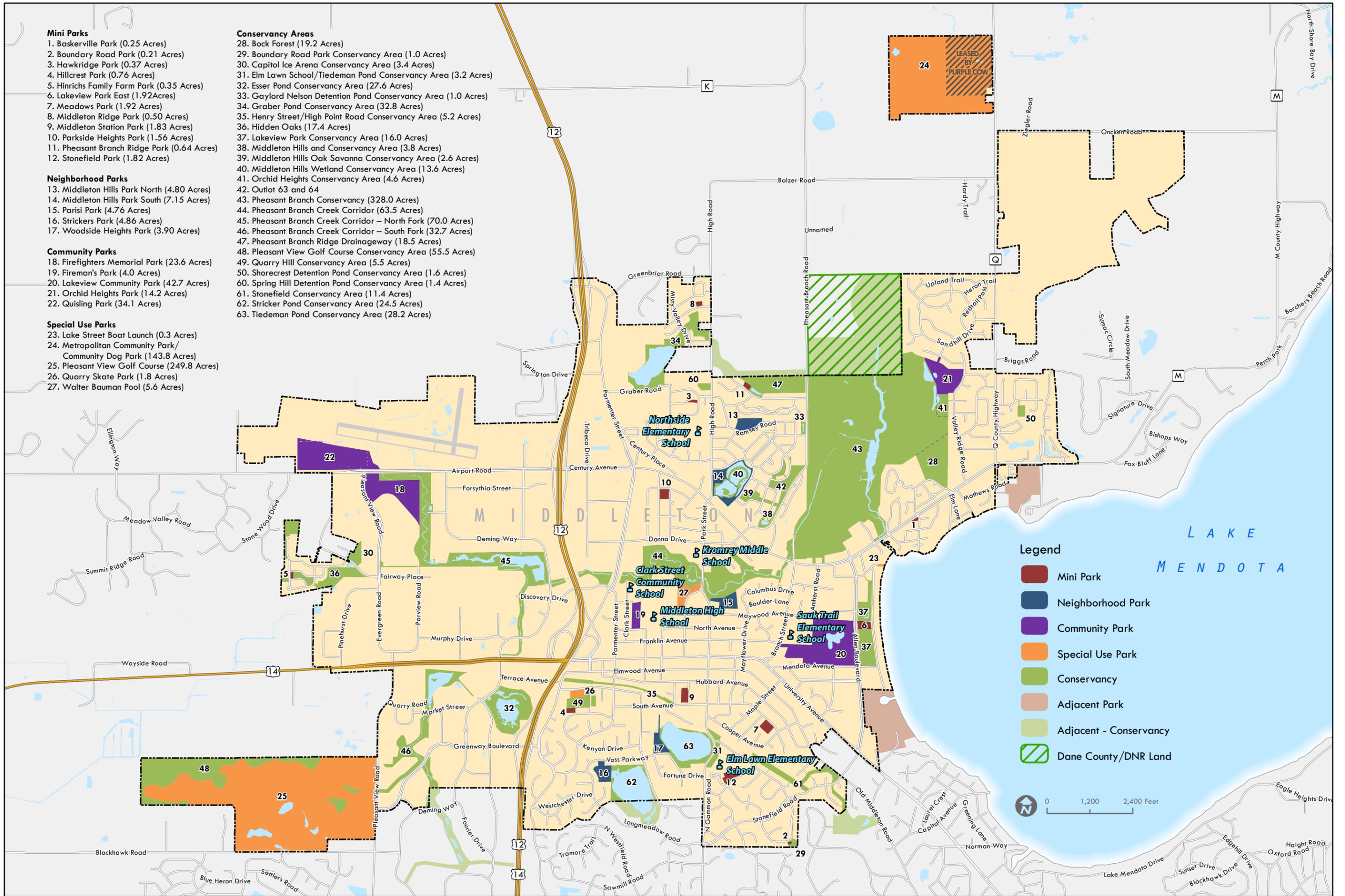
18. Firefighters Memorial Park (23.6 Acres)
19. Fireman's Park (4.0 Acres)
20. Lakeview Community Park (42.7 Acres)
21. Orchid Heights Park (14.2 Acres)
22. Quisling Park (34.1 Acres)

Special Use Parks

23. Lake Street Boat Launch (0.3 Acres)
24. Metropolitan Community Park/
Community Dog Park (143.8 Acres)
25. Pleasant View Golf Course (249.8 Acres)
26. Quarry Skate Park (1.8 Acres)
27. Walter Bauman Pool (5.6 Acres)

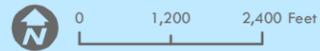
Conservancy Areas

28. Bock Forest (19.2 Acres)
29. Boundary Road Park Conservancy Area (1.0 Acres)
30. Capitol Ice Arena Conservancy Area (3.4 Acres)
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33. Gaylord Nelson Detention Pond Conservancy Area (1.0 Acres)
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61. Stonefield Conservancy Area (11.4 Acres)
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63. Tiedeman Pond Conservancy Area (28.2 Acres)



Legend

- Mini Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- Special Use Park
- Conservancy
- Adjacent Park
- Adjacent - Conservancy
- Dane County/DNR Land



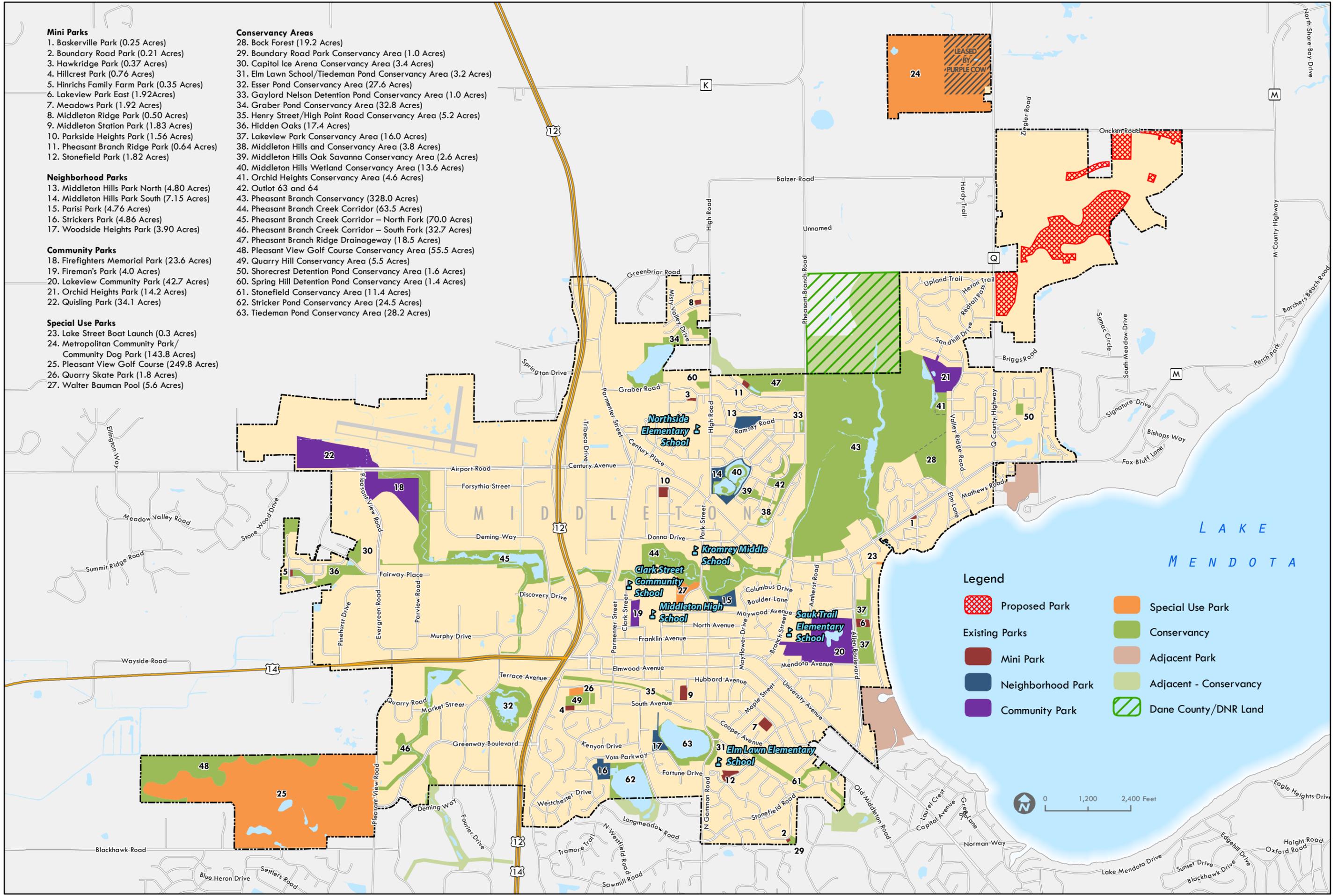
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 63. Tiedeman Pond Conservancy Area (28.2 Acres)



Legend

	Proposed Park		Special Use Park
	Mini Park		Conservancy
	Neighborhood Park		Adjacent - Conservancy
	Community Park		Dane County/DNR Land
	Adjacent Park		



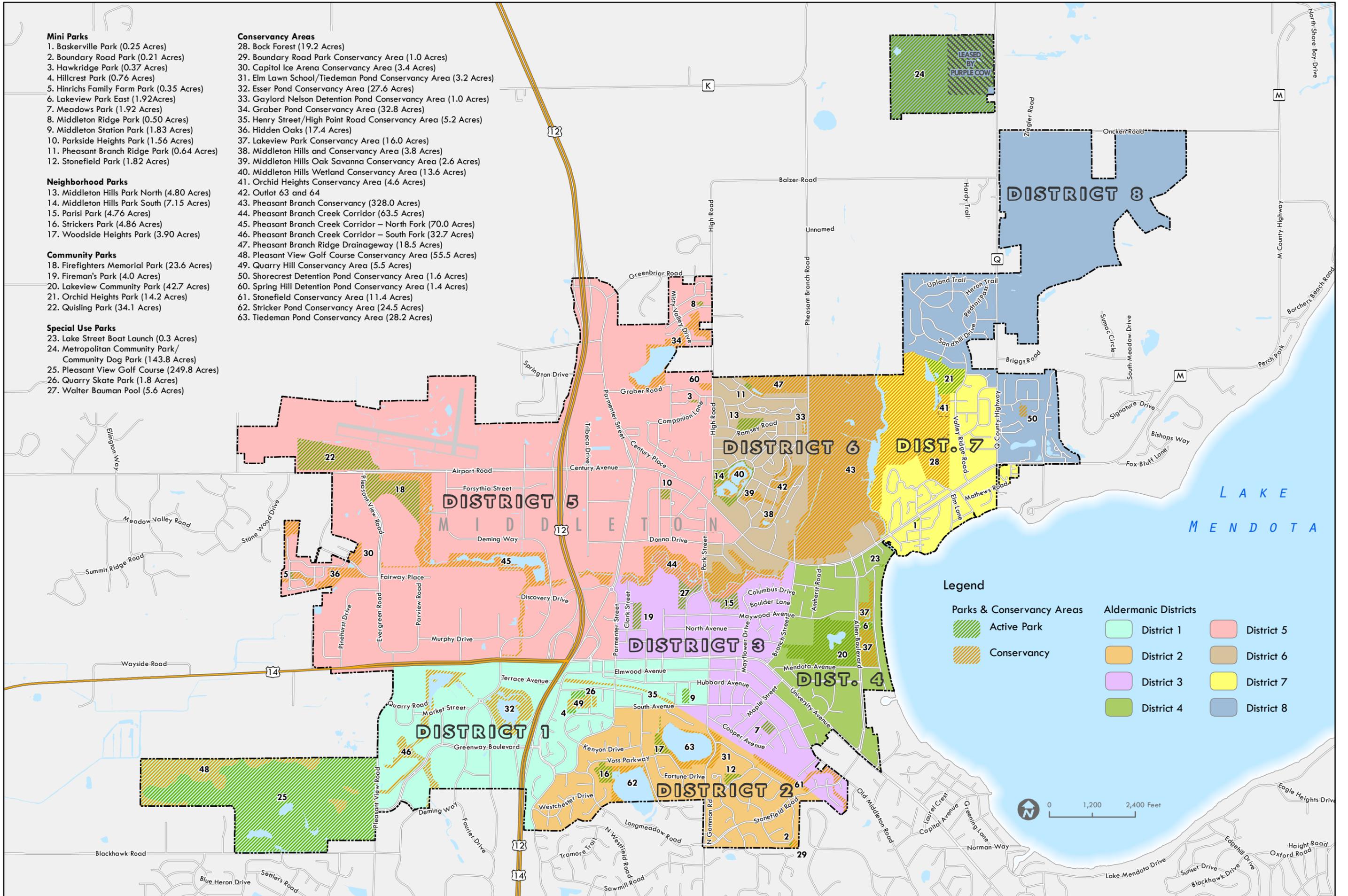
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1. Baskerville Park (0.25 Acres)
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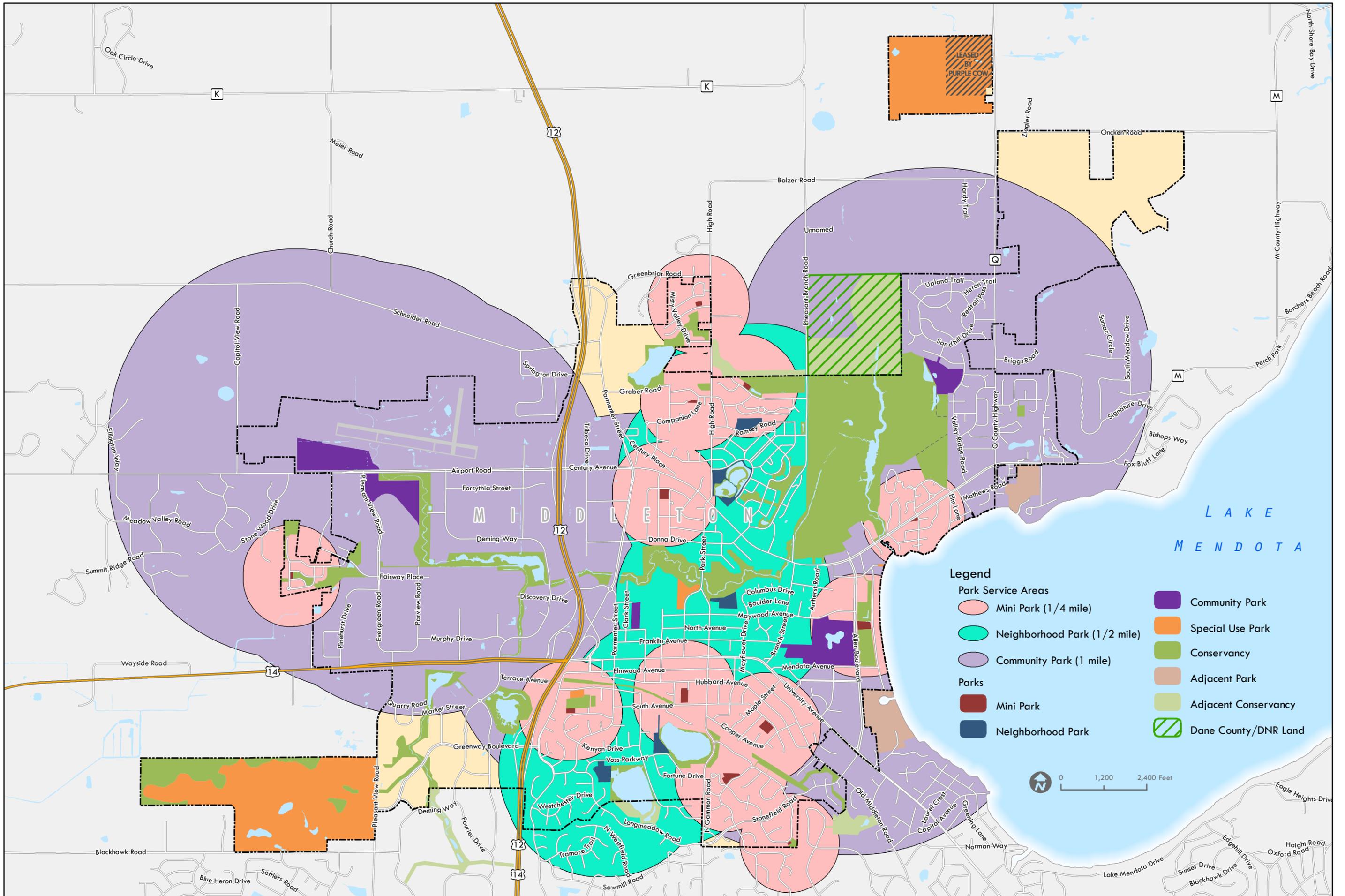
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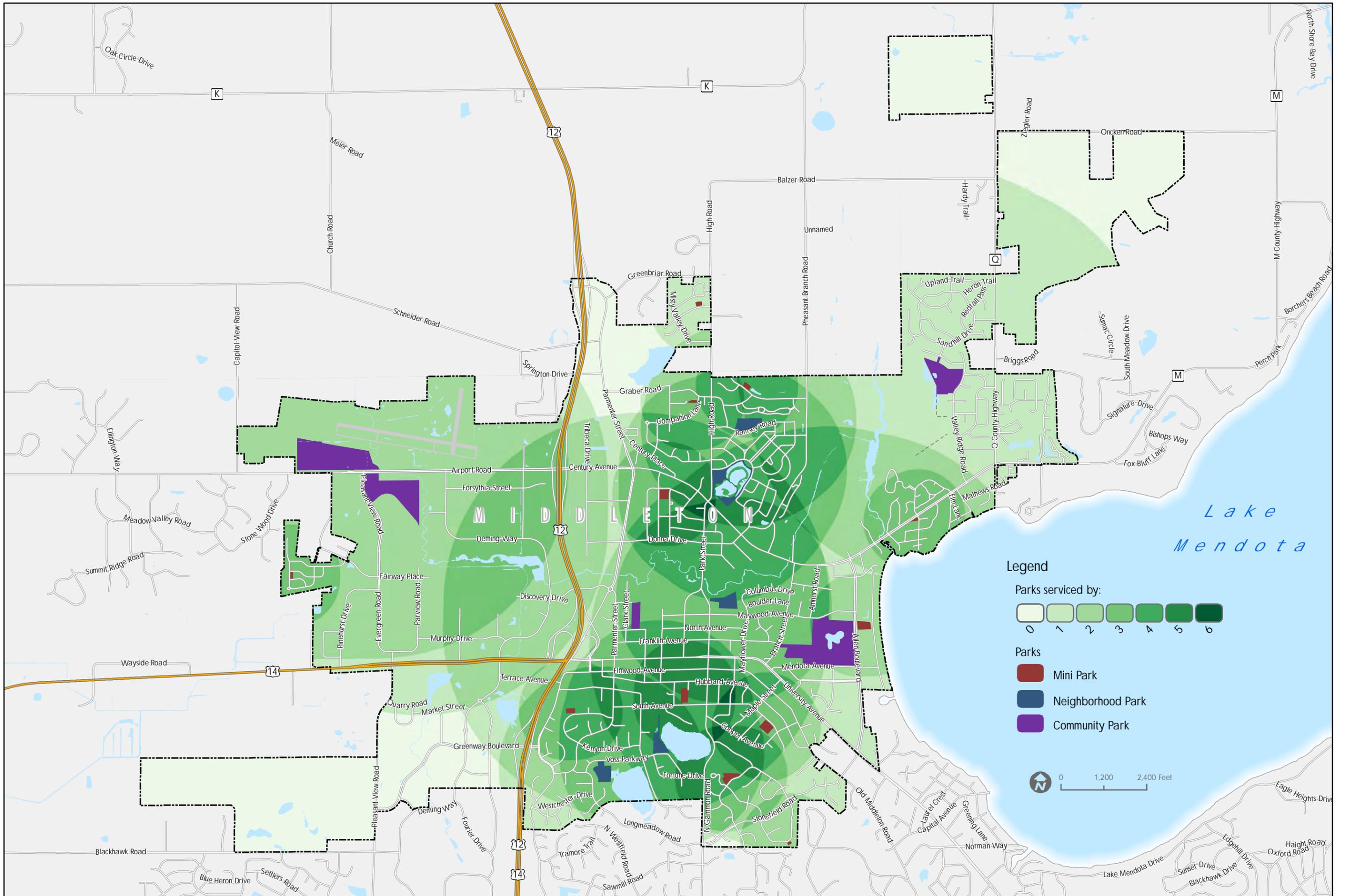
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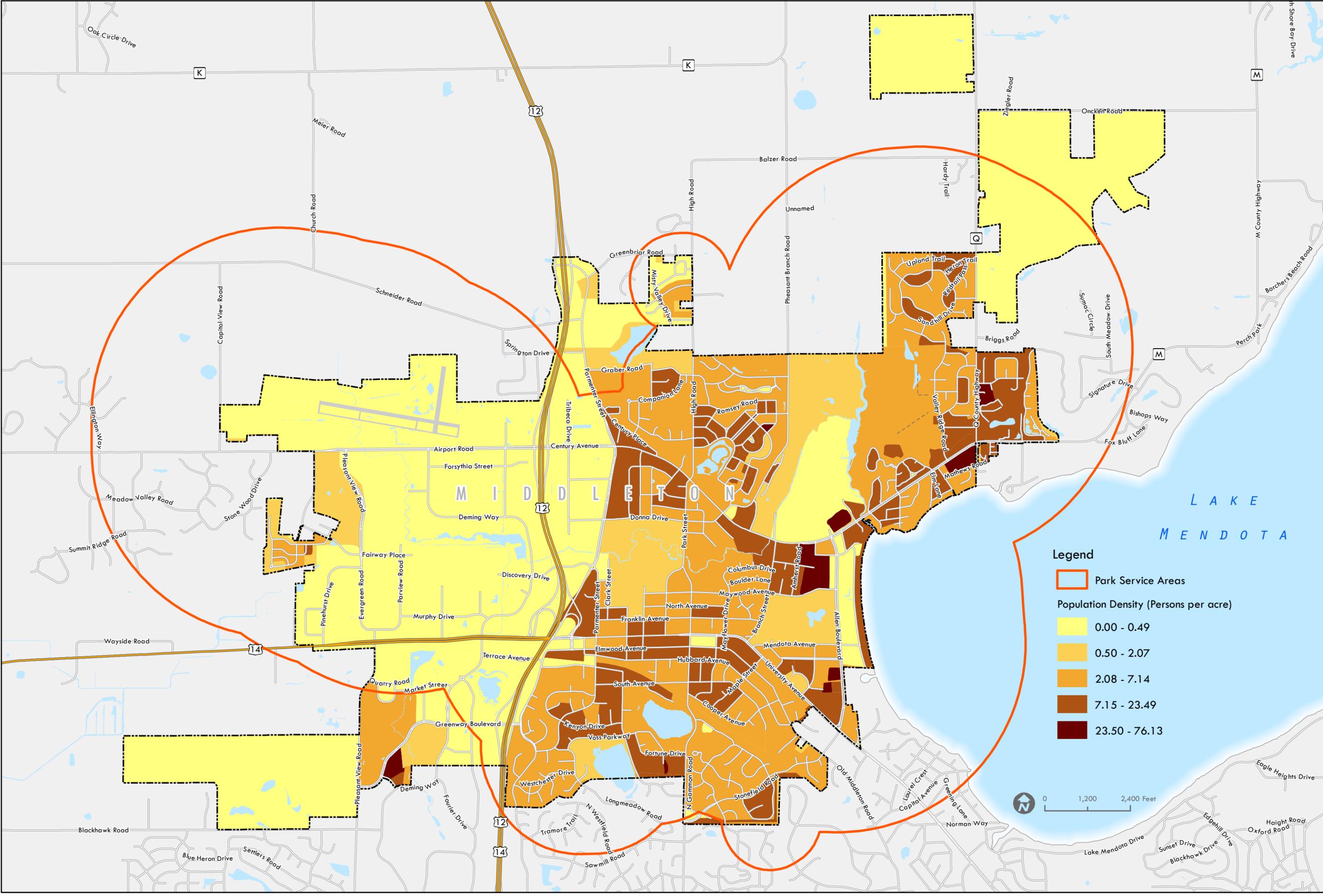




- Legend**
- Park Service Areas**
- Mini Park (1/4 mile)
 - Neighborhood Park (1/2 mile)
 - Community Park (1 mile)
 - Community Park
 - Special Use Park
 - Conservancy
 - Adjacent Park
 - Adjacent Conservancy
 - Dane County/DNR Land
- Parks**
- Mini Park
 - Neighborhood Park
 - Community Park







- Mini Parks**
1. Baskerville Park (0.25 Acres)
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City of Middleton Trail System

••••• Proposed Trails

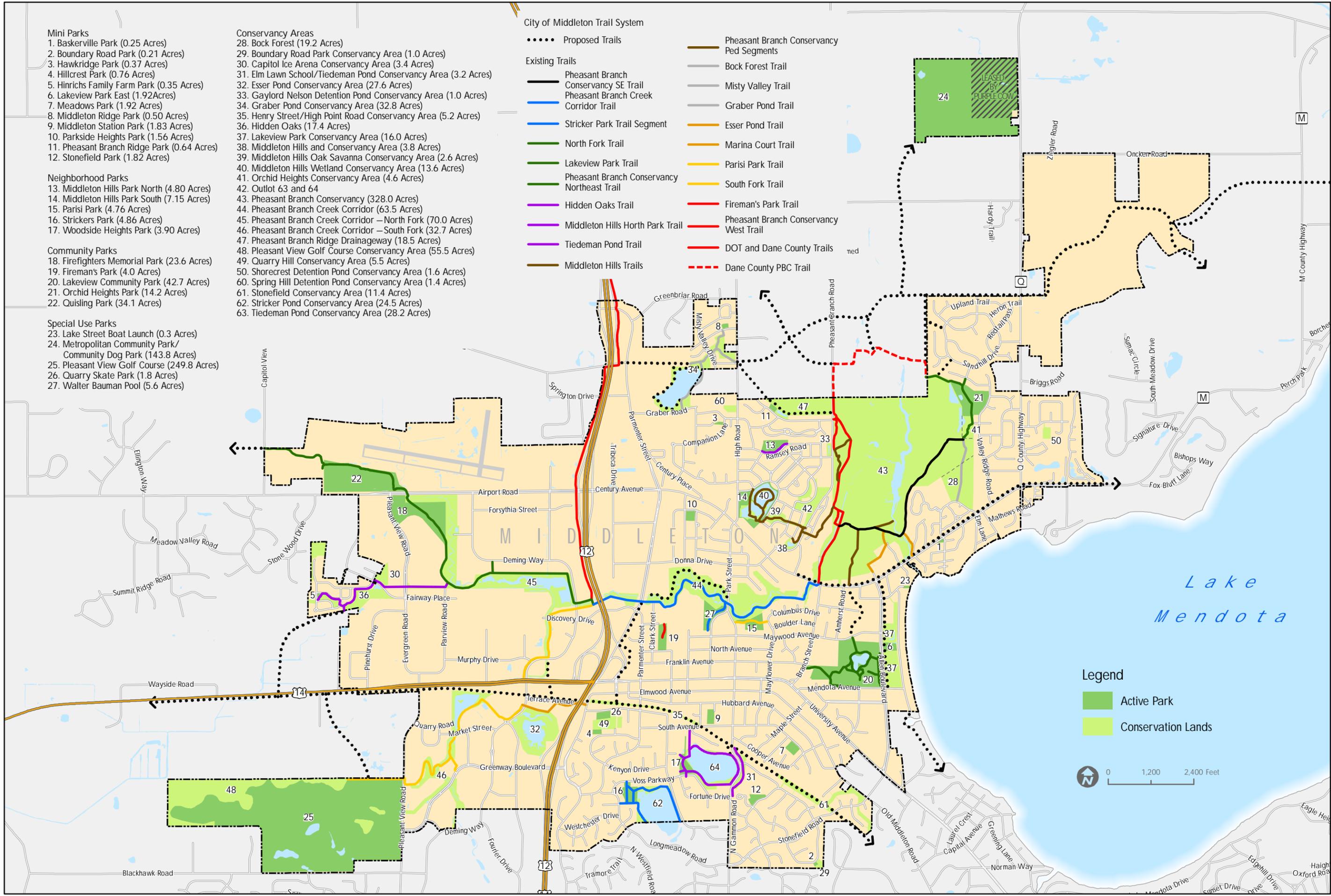
Existing Trails

- Pheasant Branch Conservancy SE Trail
- Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor Trail
- Stricker Park Trail Segment
- North Fork Trail
- Lakeview Park Trail
- Pheasant Branch Conservancy Northeast Trail
- Hidden Oaks Trail
- Middleton Hills Horth Park Trail
- Tiedeman Pond Trail
- Middleton Hills Trails

Pheasant Branch Conservancy Ped Segments

- Bock Forest Trail
- Misty Valley Trail
- Graber Pond Trail
- Esser Pond Trail
- Marina Court Trail
- Parisi Park Trail
- South Fork Trail

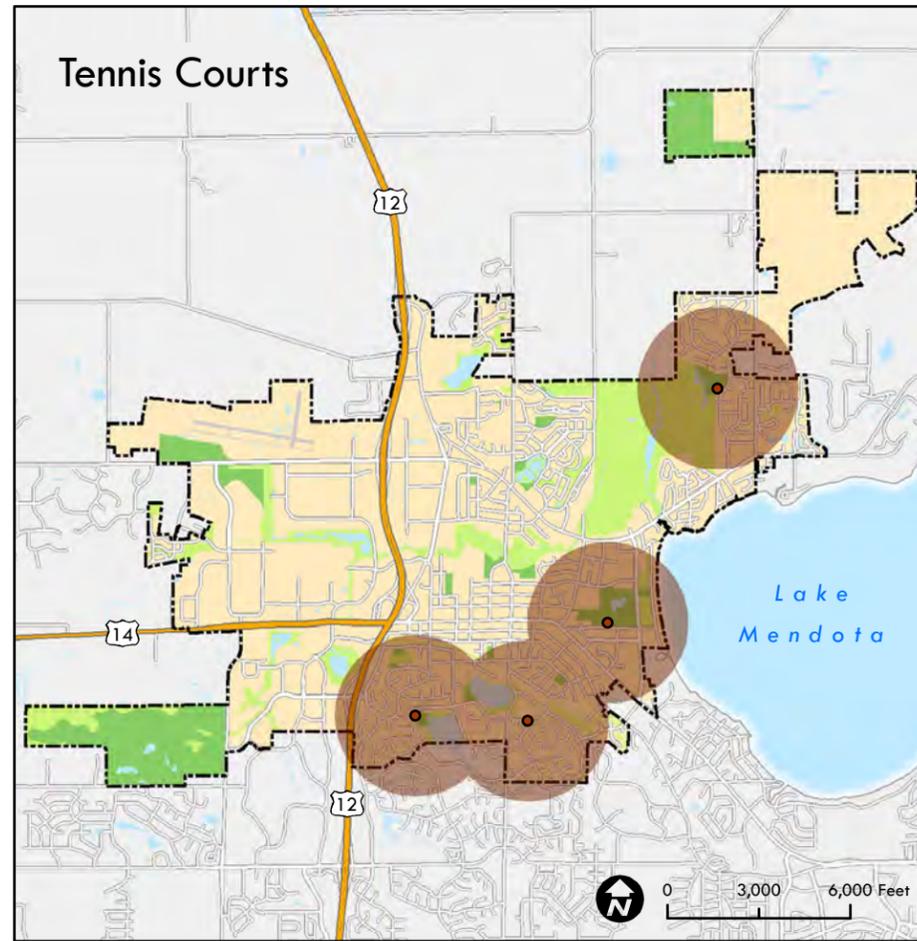
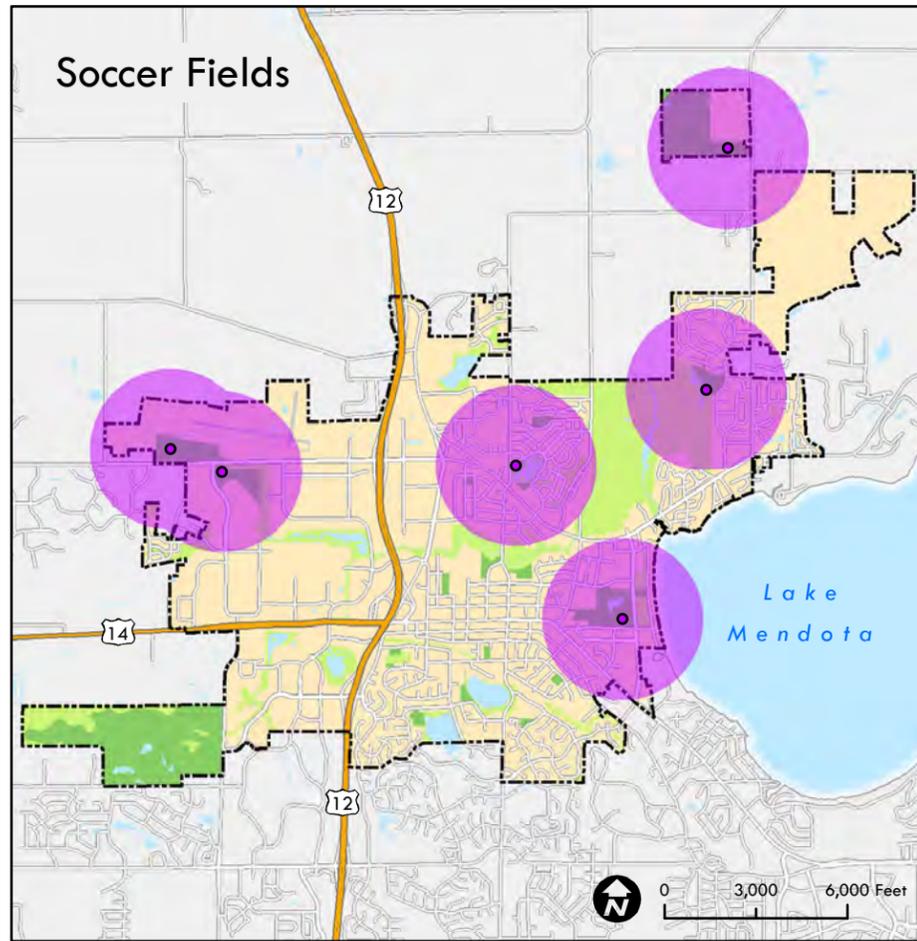
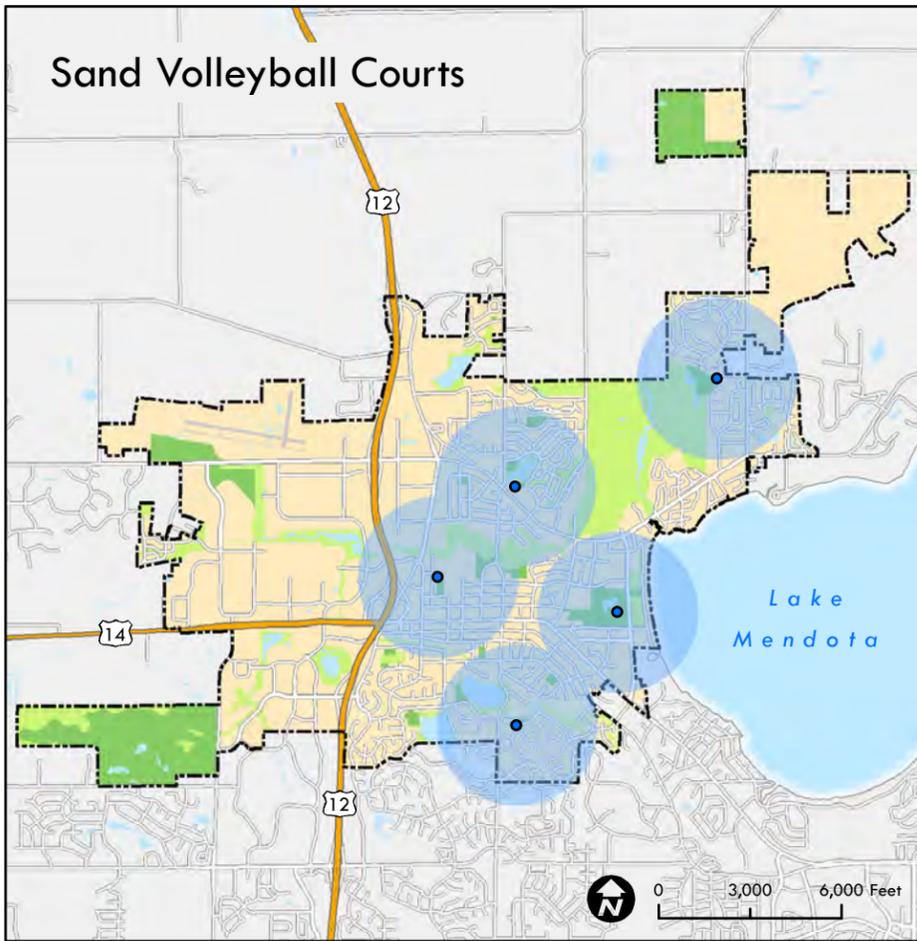
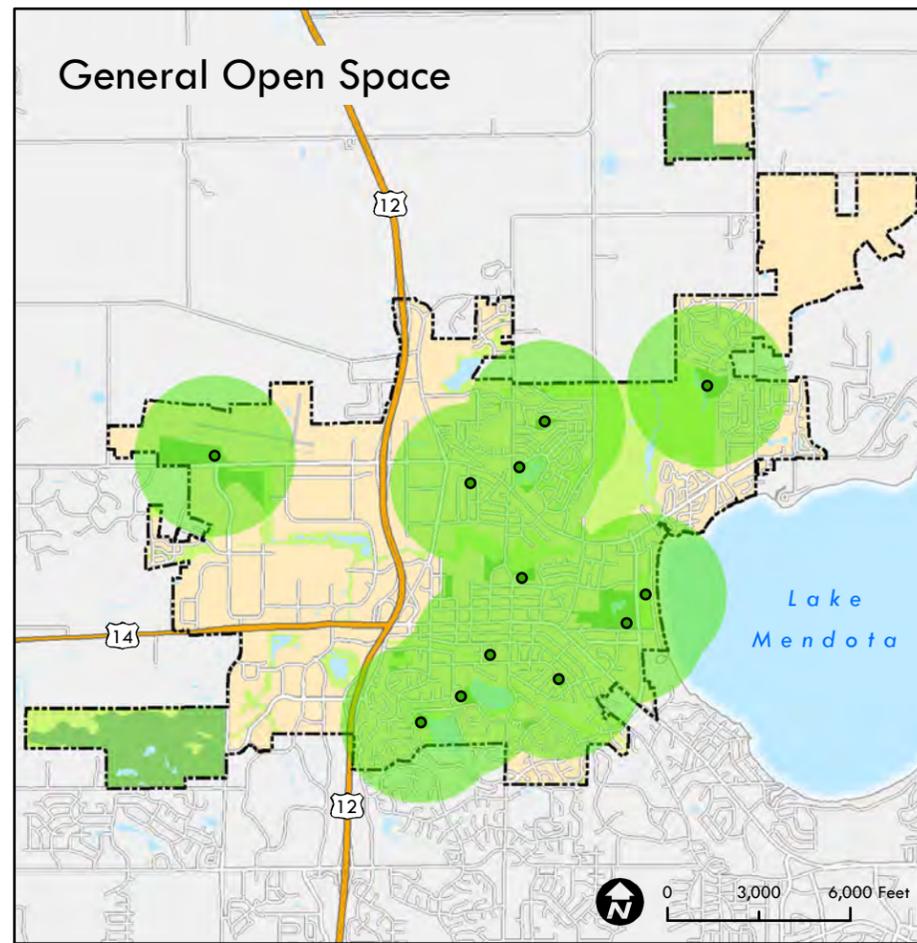
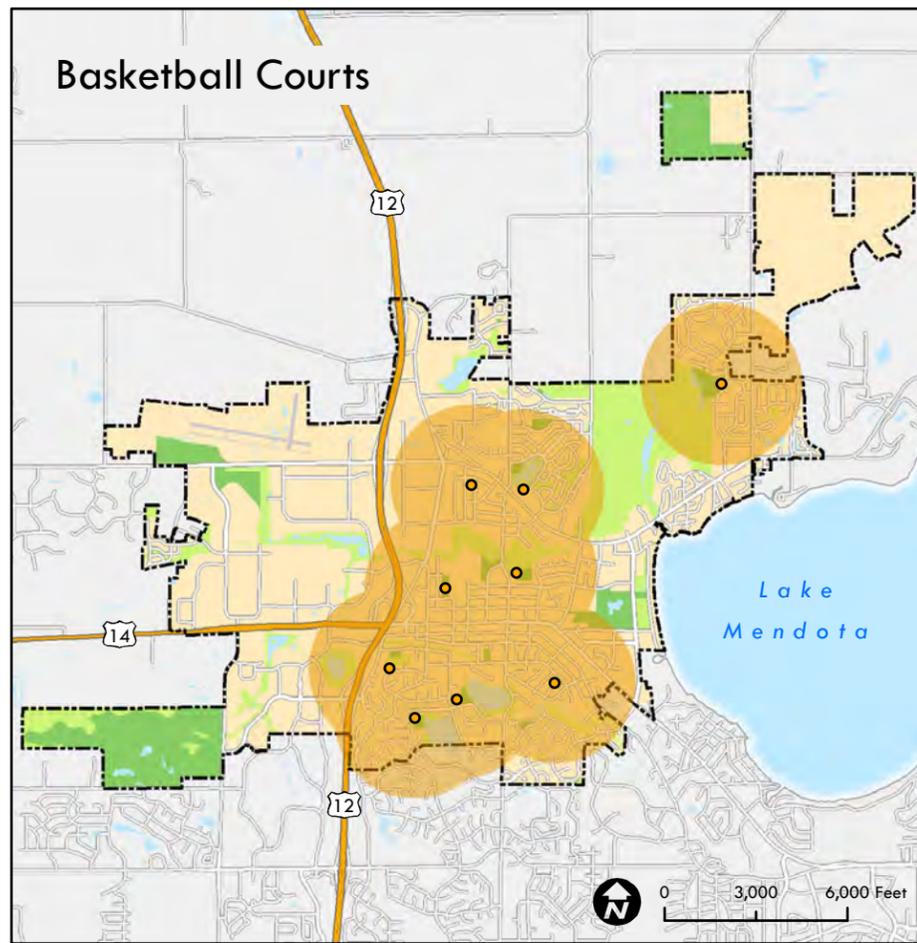
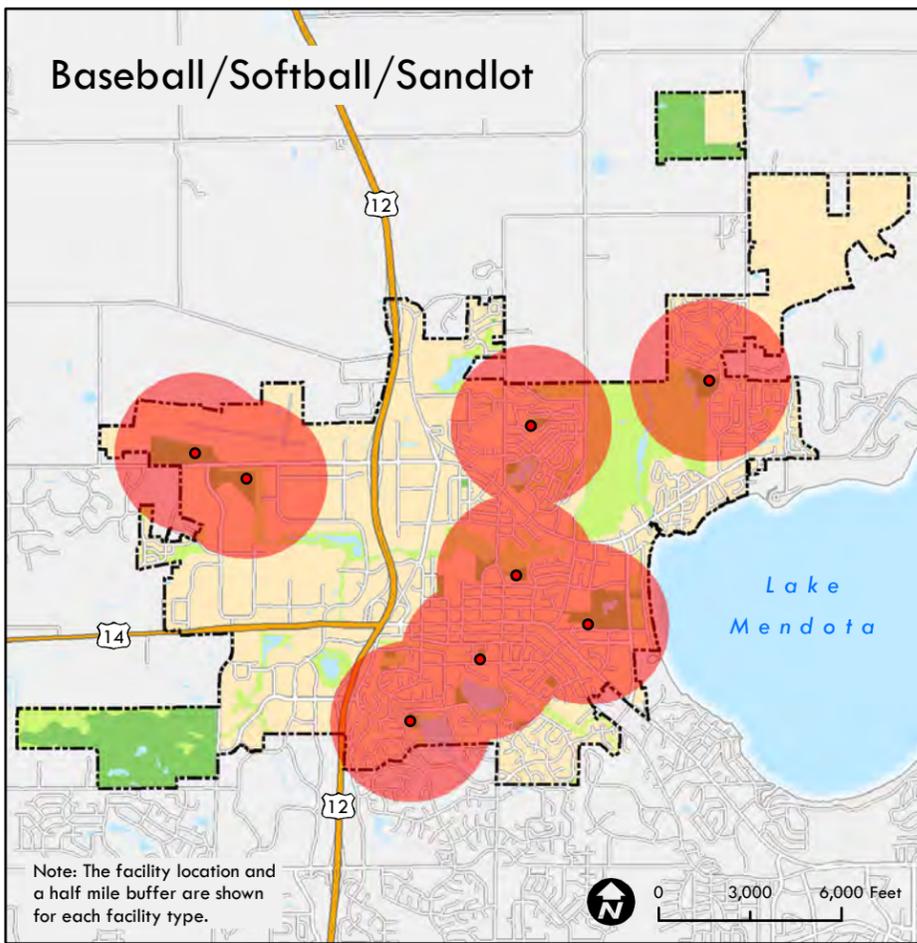
- Fireman's Park Trail
- Pheasant Branch Conservancy West Trail
- DOT and Dane County Trails
- Dane County PBC Trail



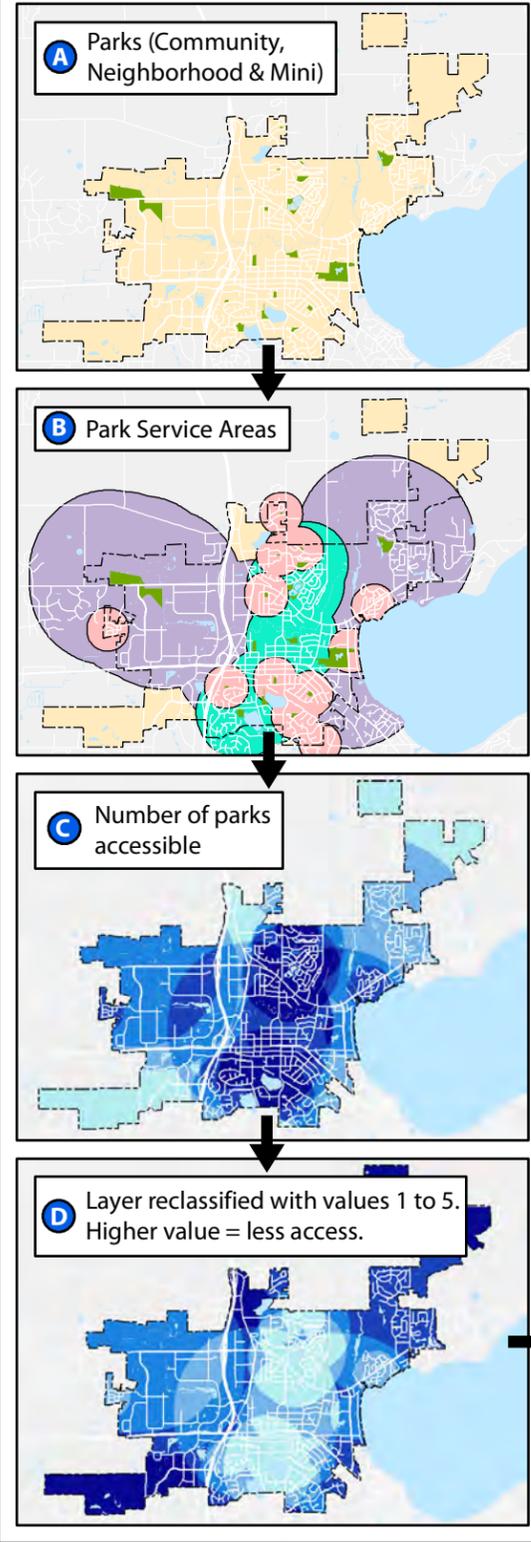
Legend

- Active Park
- Conservation Lands

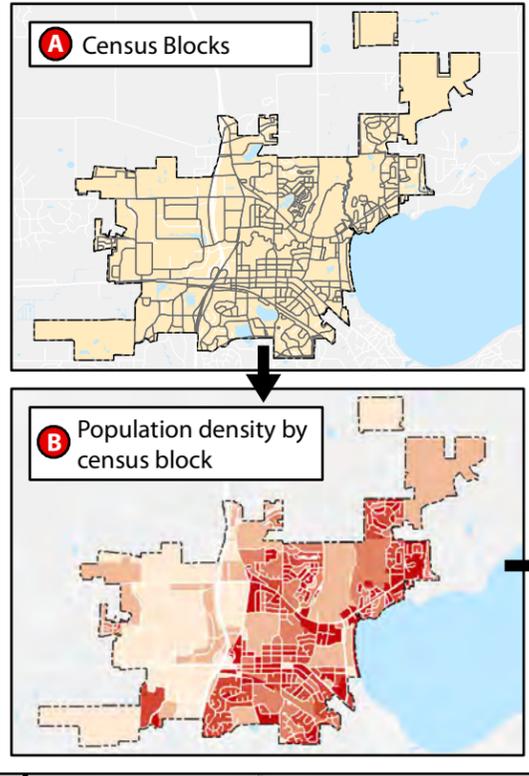
0 1,200 2,400 Feet



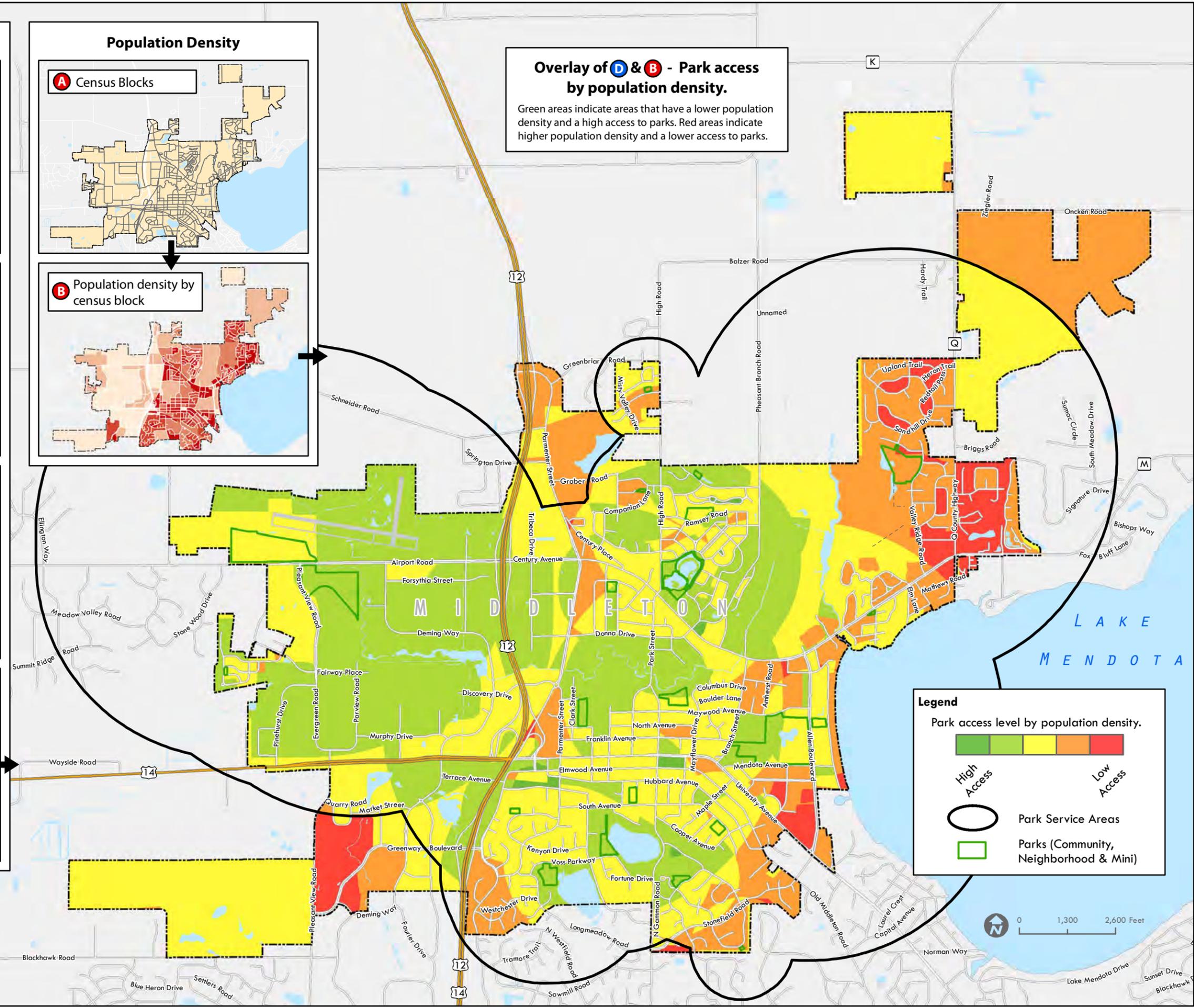
Identifying Areas with Less Park Access



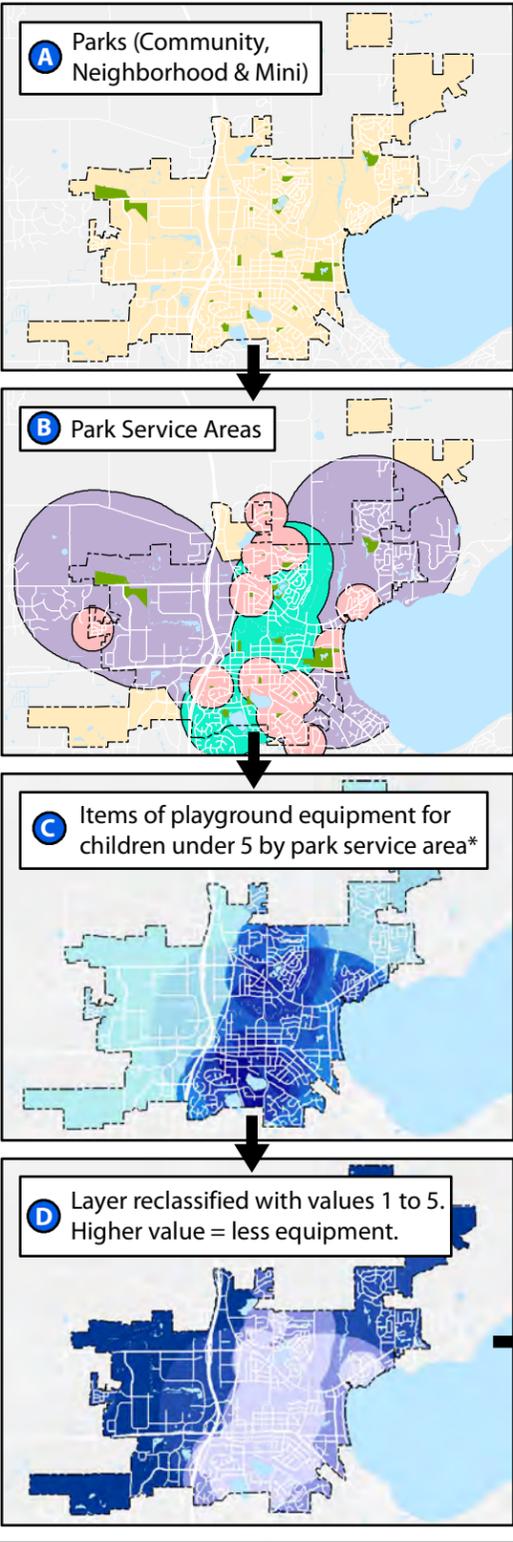
Population Density



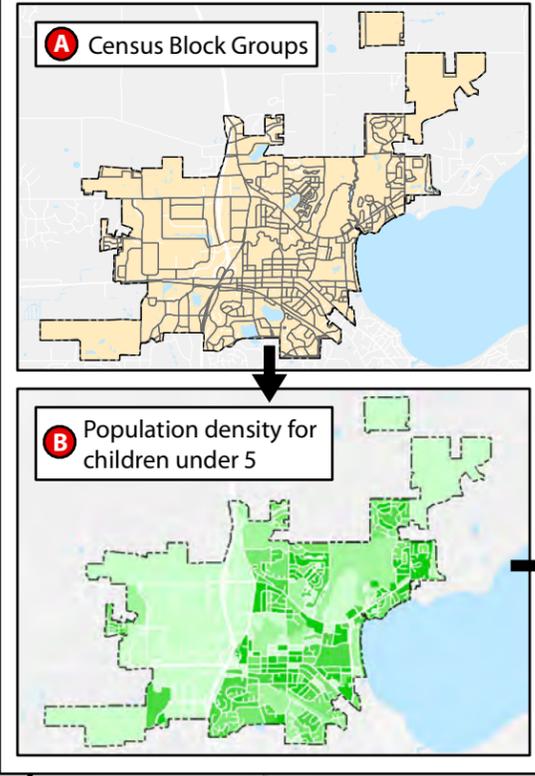
Overlay of D & B - Park access by population density.
 Green areas indicate areas that have a low population density and a high access to parks. Red areas indicate higher population density and a lower access to parks.



Determining Need for Equipment



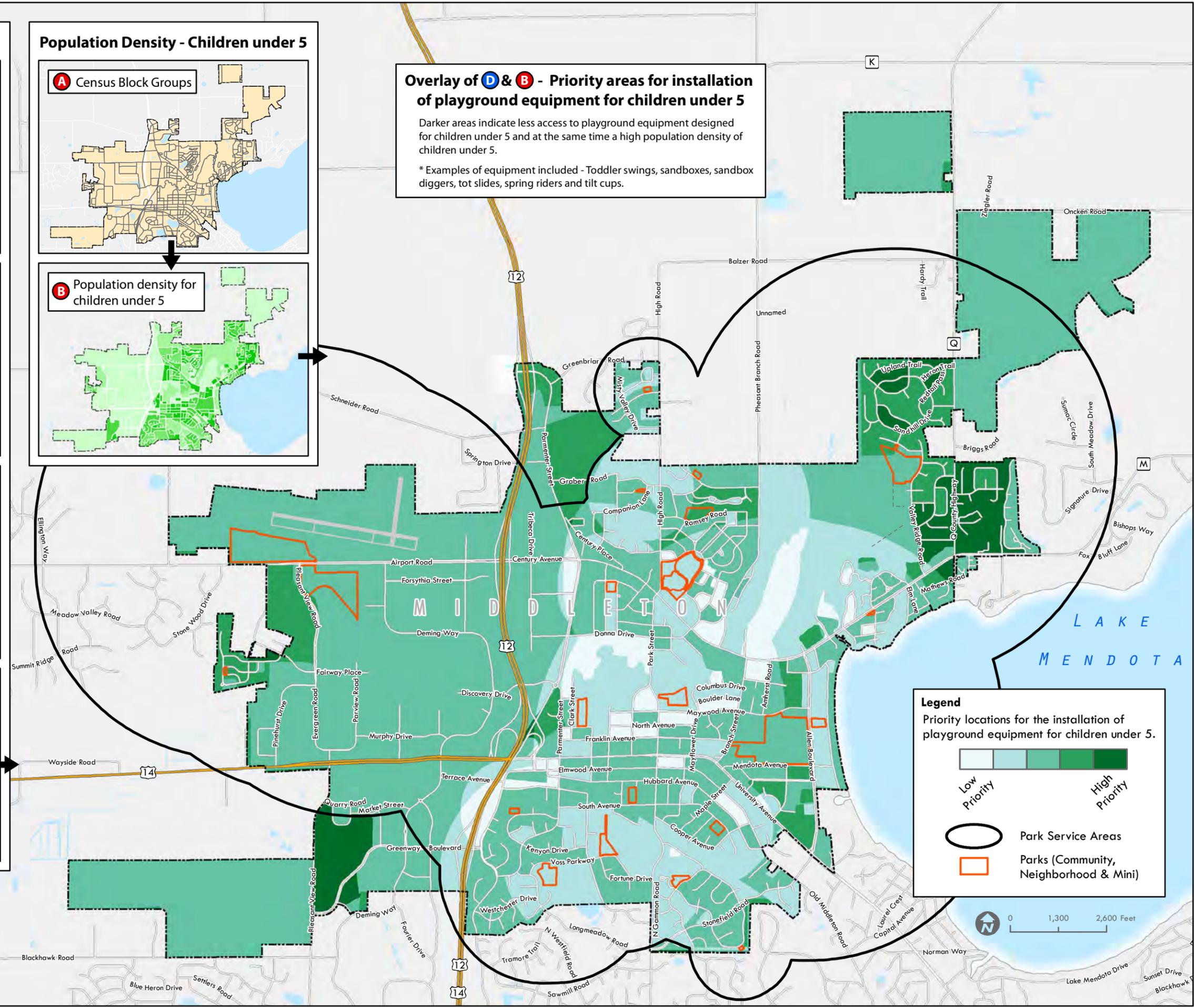
Population Density - Children under 5



Overlay of D & B - Priority areas for installation of playground equipment for children under 5

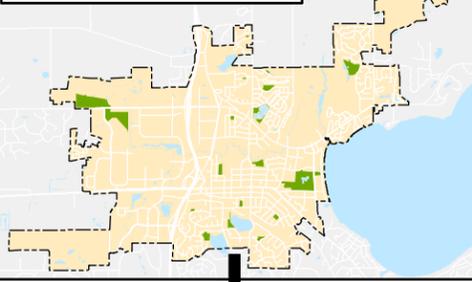
Darker areas indicate less access to playground equipment designed for children under 5 and at the same time a high population density of children under 5.

* Examples of equipment included - Toddler swings, sandboxes, sandbox diggers, tot slides, spring riders and tilt cups.

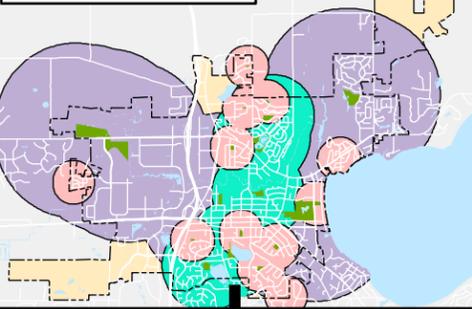


Determining Need for Equipment

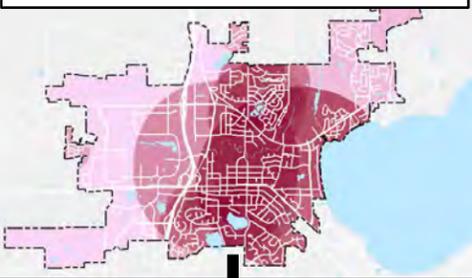
A Parks (Community, Neighborhood & Mini)



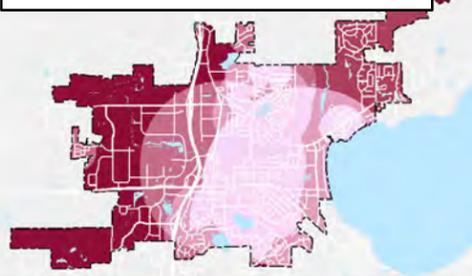
B Park Service Areas



C Items of playground equipment for children 5 to 9 by park service area*

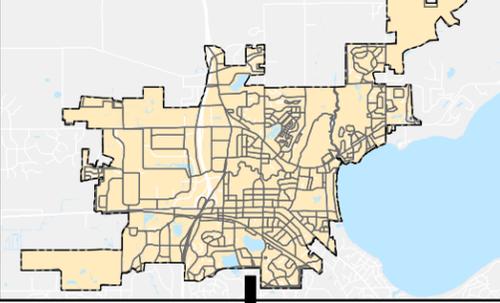


D Layer reclassified with values 1 to 5. Higher value = less equipment.

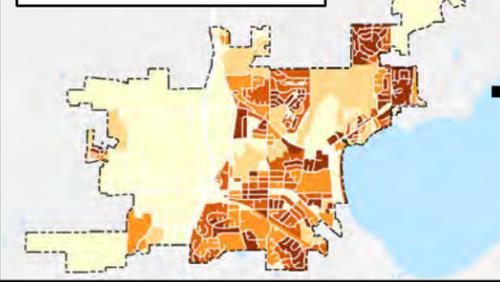


Population Density - Children 5 to 9

A Census Block Groups



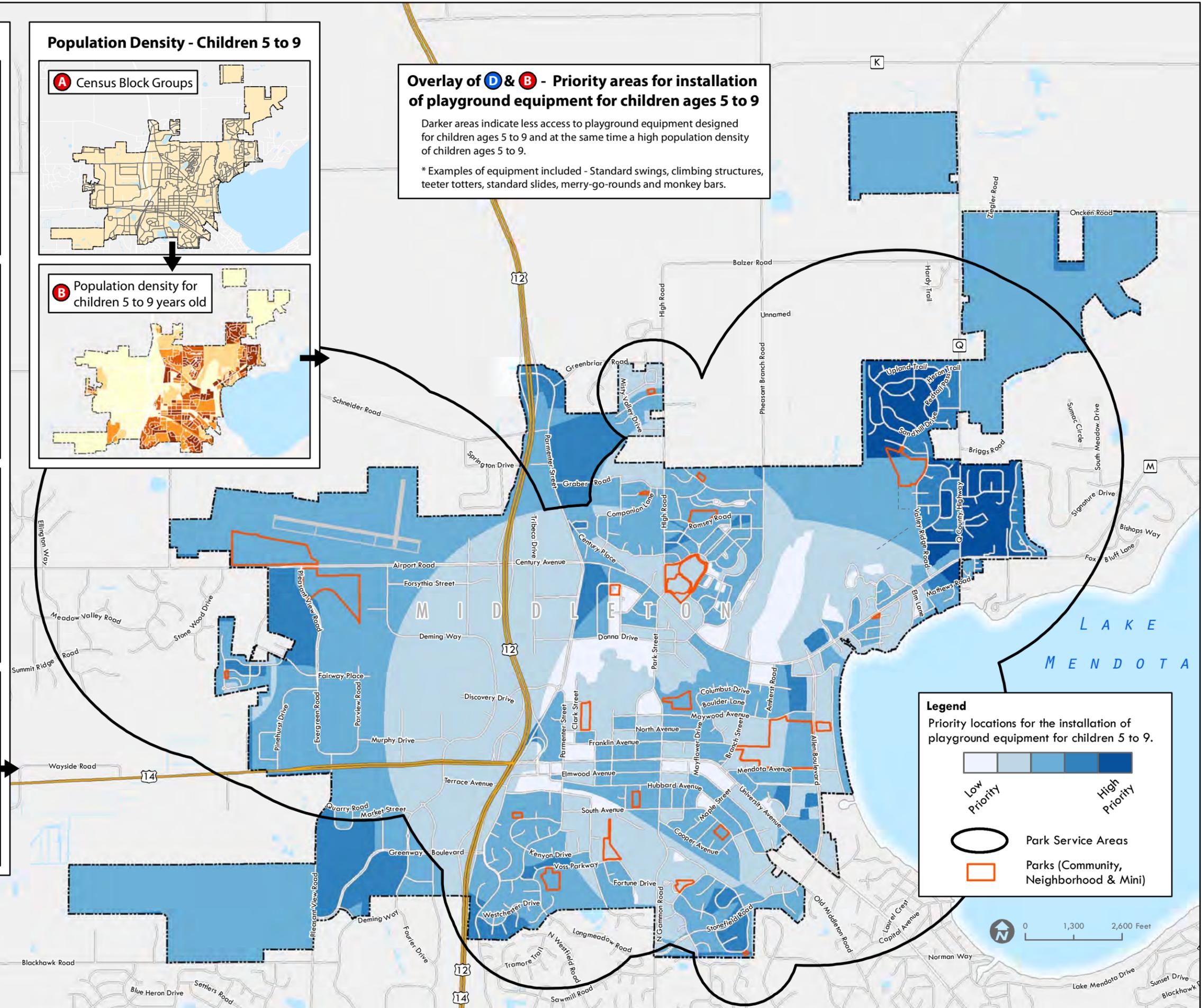
B Population density for children 5 to 9 years old



Overlay of D & B - Priority areas for installation of playground equipment for children ages 5 to 9

Darker areas indicate less access to playground equipment designed for children ages 5 to 9 and at the same time a high population density of children ages 5 to 9.

* Examples of equipment included - Standard swings, climbing structures, teeter totters, standard slides, merry-go-rounds and monkey bars.



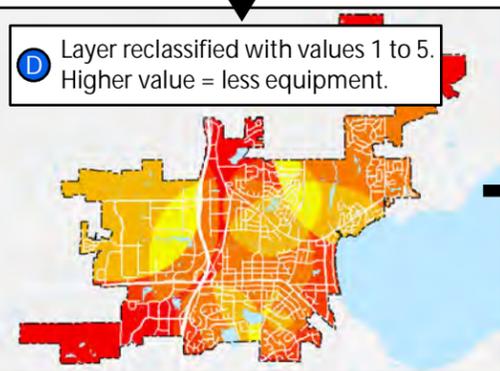
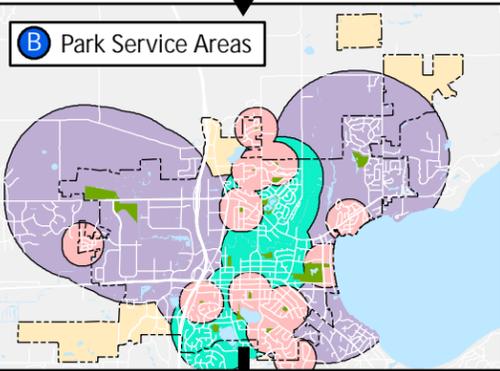
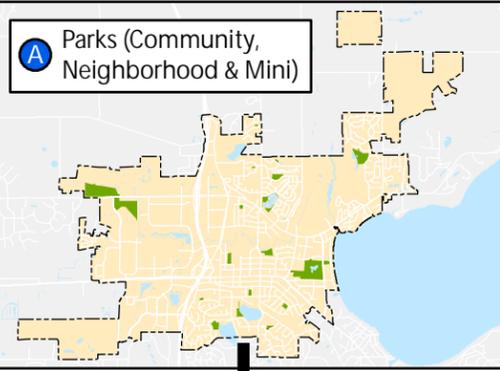
Legend
 Priority locations for the installation of playground equipment for children 5 to 9.

	Low Priority
	High Priority

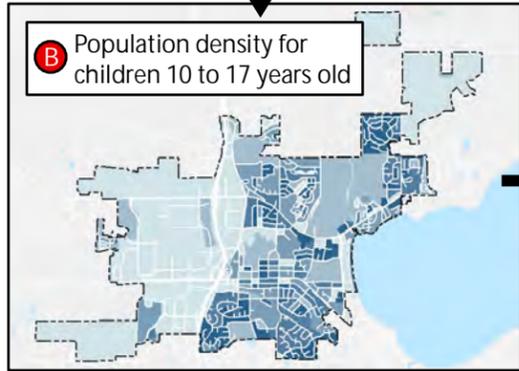
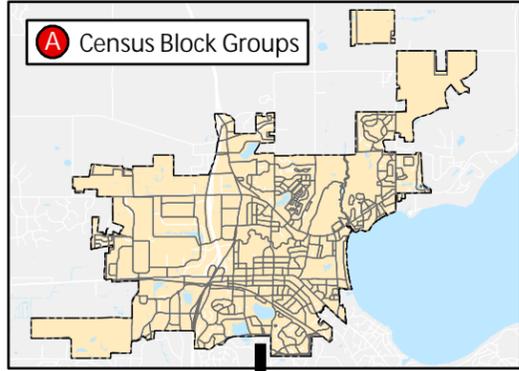
Park Service Areas
 Parks (Community, Neighborhood & Mini)



Determining Need for Equipment



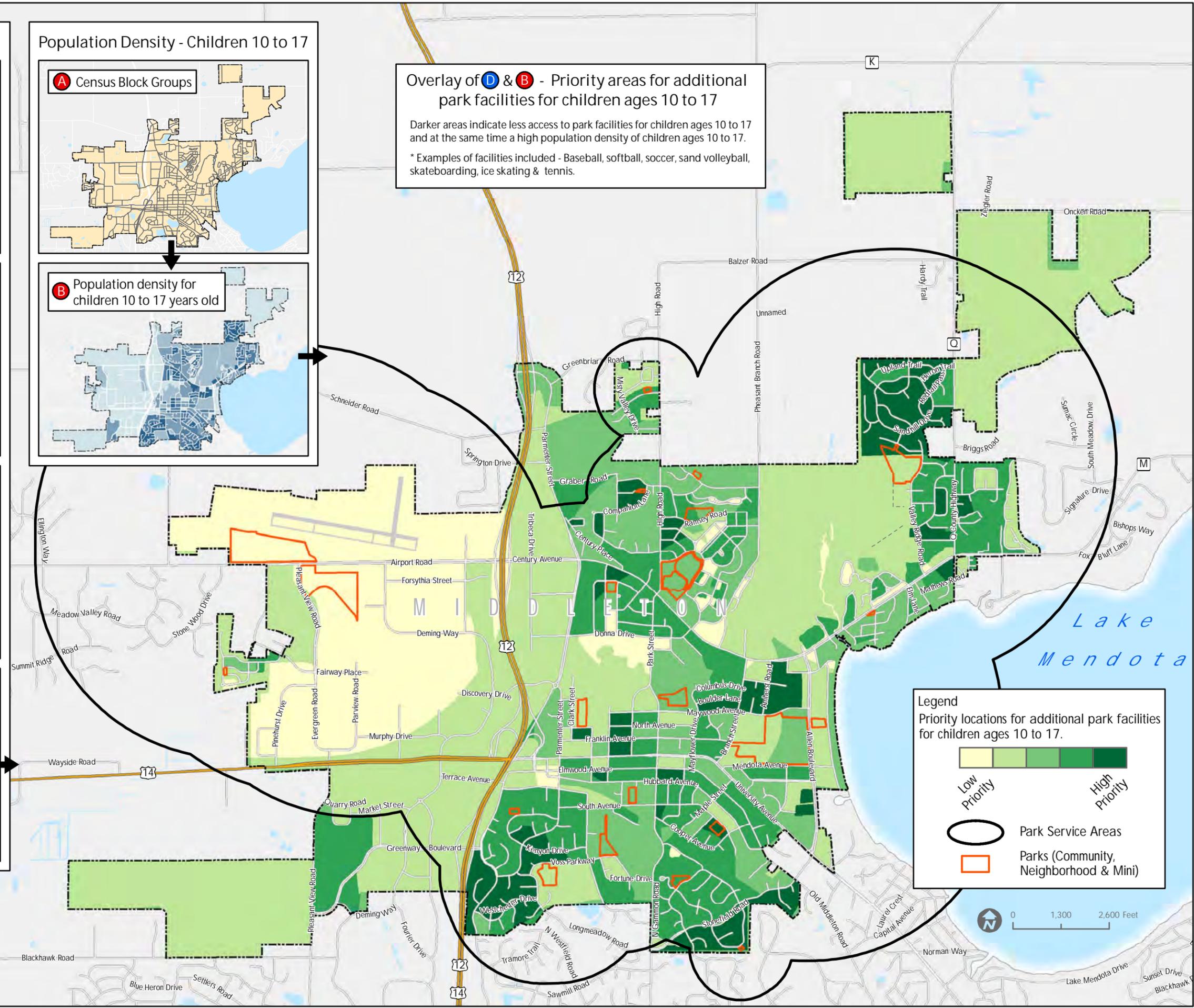
Population Density - Children 10 to 17



Overlay of D & B - Priority areas for additional park facilities for children ages 10 to 17

Darker areas indicate less access to park facilities for children ages 10 to 17 and at the same time a high population density of children ages 10 to 17.

* Examples of facilities included - Baseball, softball, soccer, sand volleyball, skateboarding, ice skating & tennis.



Legend

Priority locations for additional park facilities for children ages 10 to 17.

Low Priority High Priority

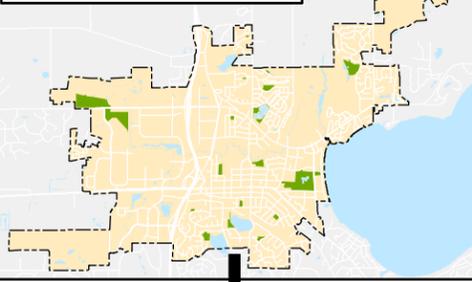
Park Service Areas

Parks (Community, Neighborhood & Mini)

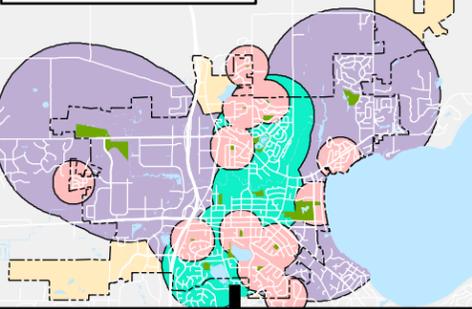


Determining Need for Equipment

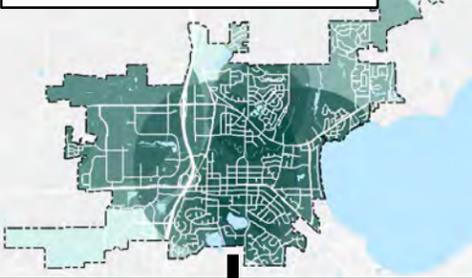
A Parks (Community, Neighborhood & Mini)



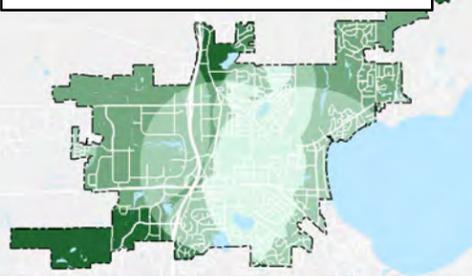
B Park Service Areas



C Park facilities for ages 55 and above by park service area*

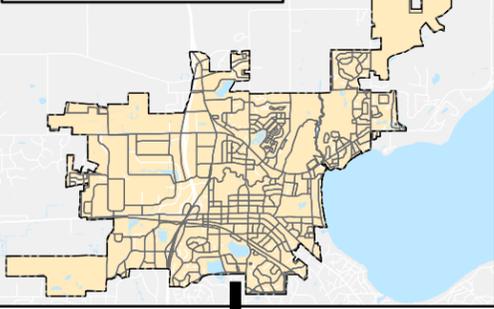


D Layer reclassified with values 1 to 5. Higher value = less equipment.

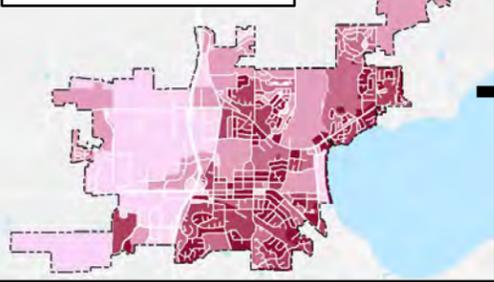


Population Density - Age 55 and above

A Census Block Groups



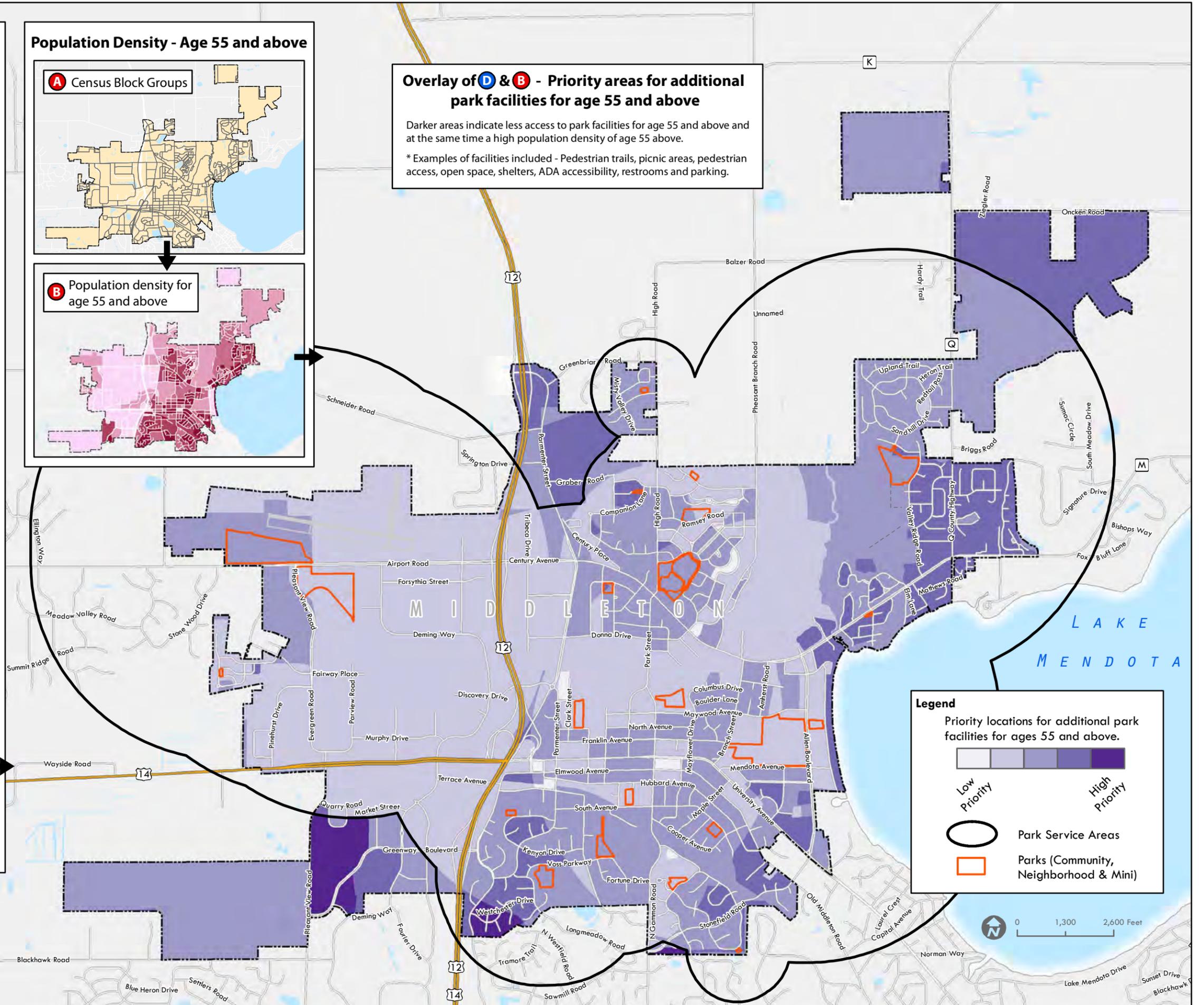
B Population density for age 55 and above



Overlay of D & B - Priority areas for additional park facilities for age 55 and above

Darker areas indicate less access to park facilities for age 55 and above and at the same time a high population density of age 55 above.

* Examples of facilities included - Pedestrian trails, picnic areas, pedestrian access, open space, shelters, ADA accessibility, restrooms and parking.



Legend

Priority locations for additional park facilities for ages 55 and above.

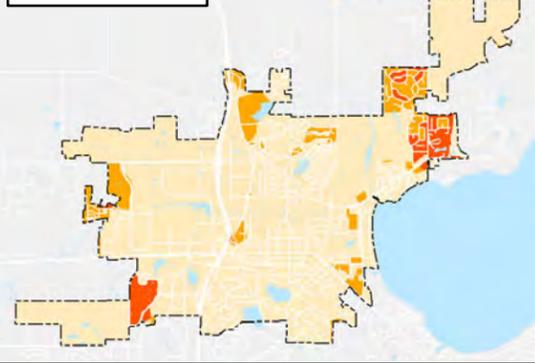
Low Priority High Priority

Park Service Areas

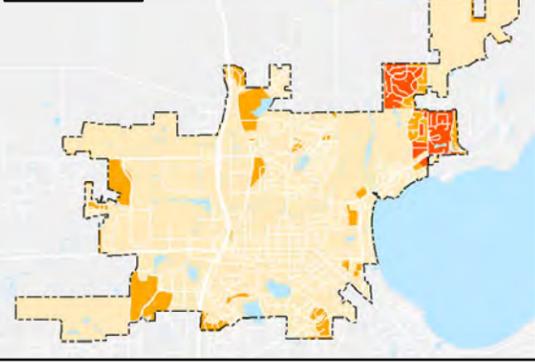
Parks (Community, Neighborhood & Mini)

Most Underserved Areas by Age Cohort
(See Maps 6.1 - 6.4)

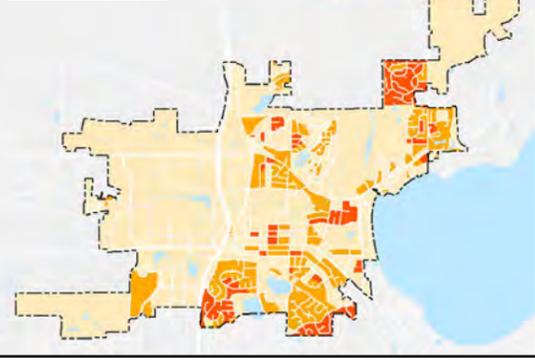
Children under 5



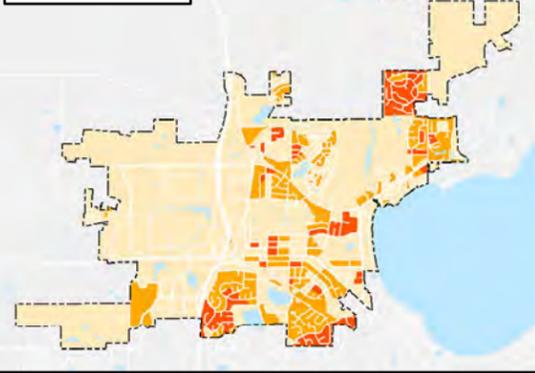
Ages 5 to 9



Ages 10 to 17

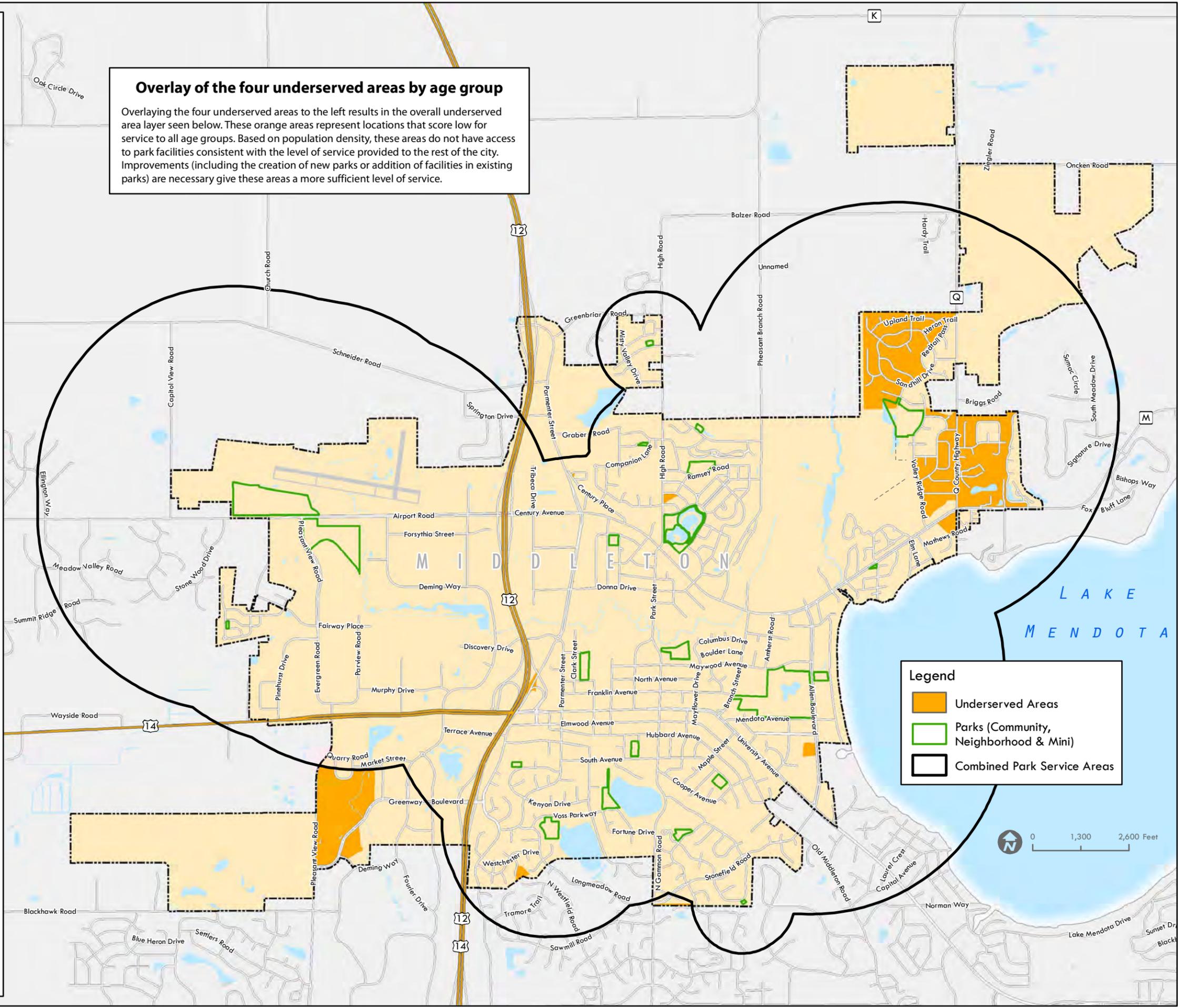


Ages 55 and up



Overlay of the four underserved areas by age group

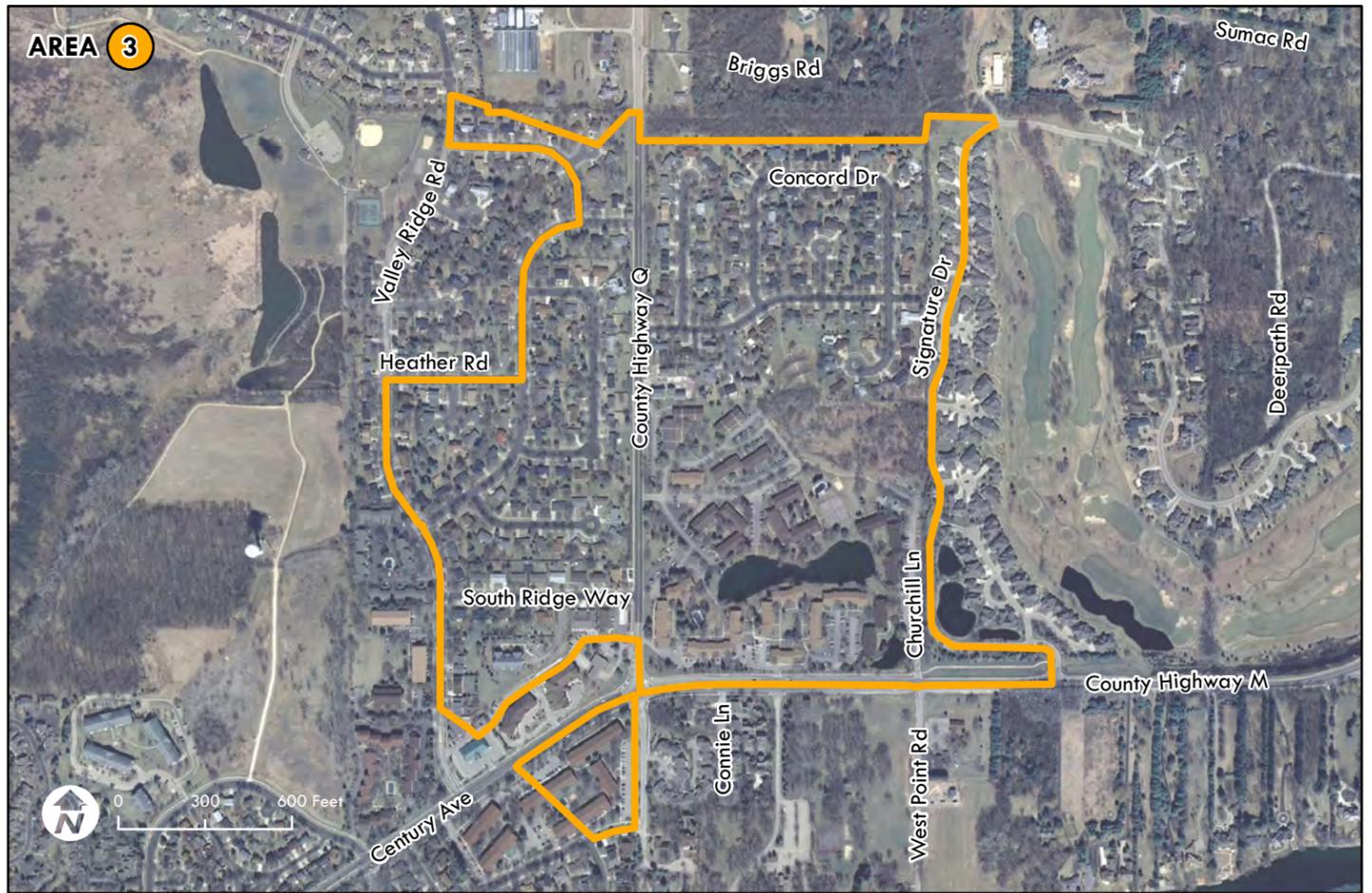
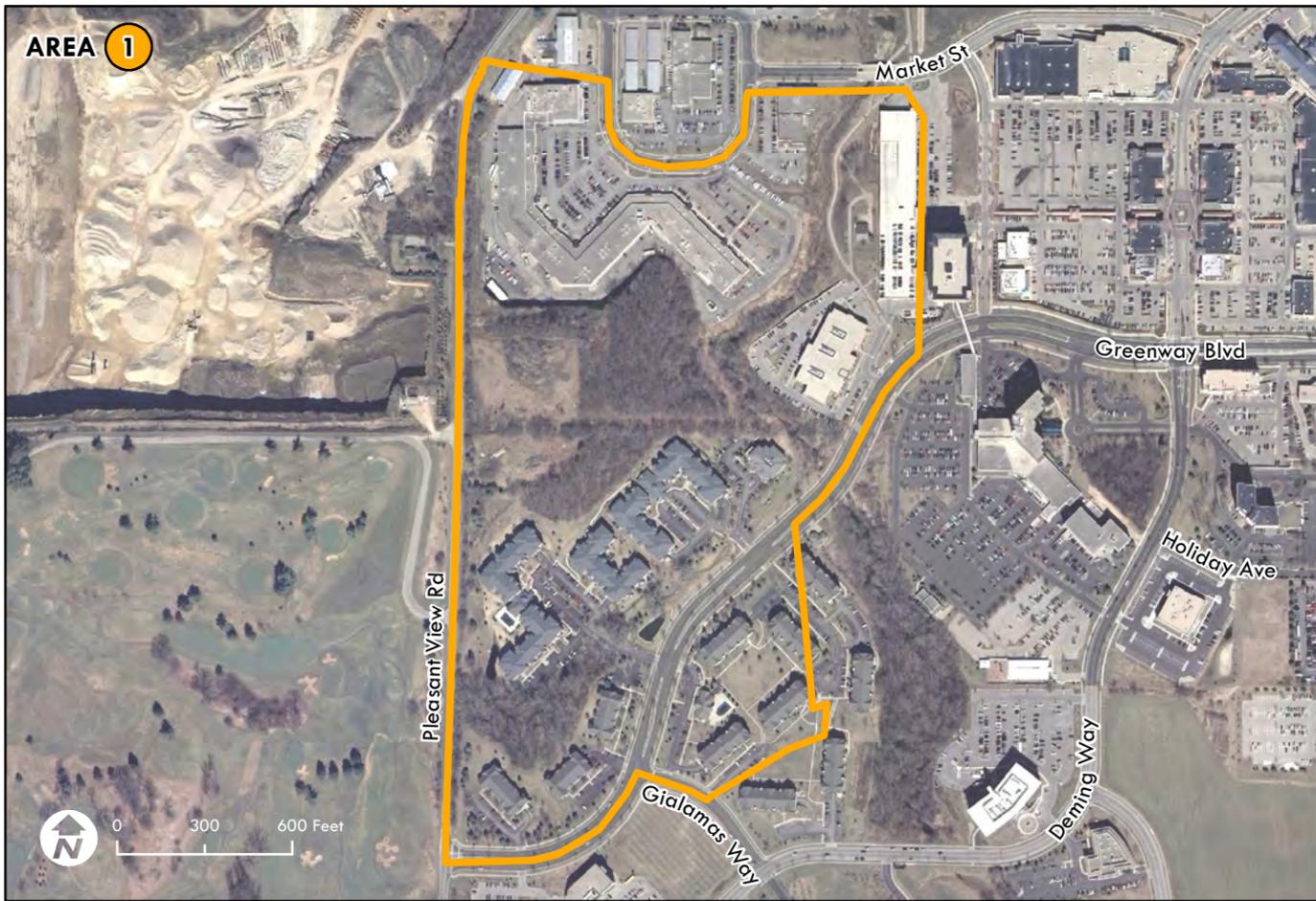
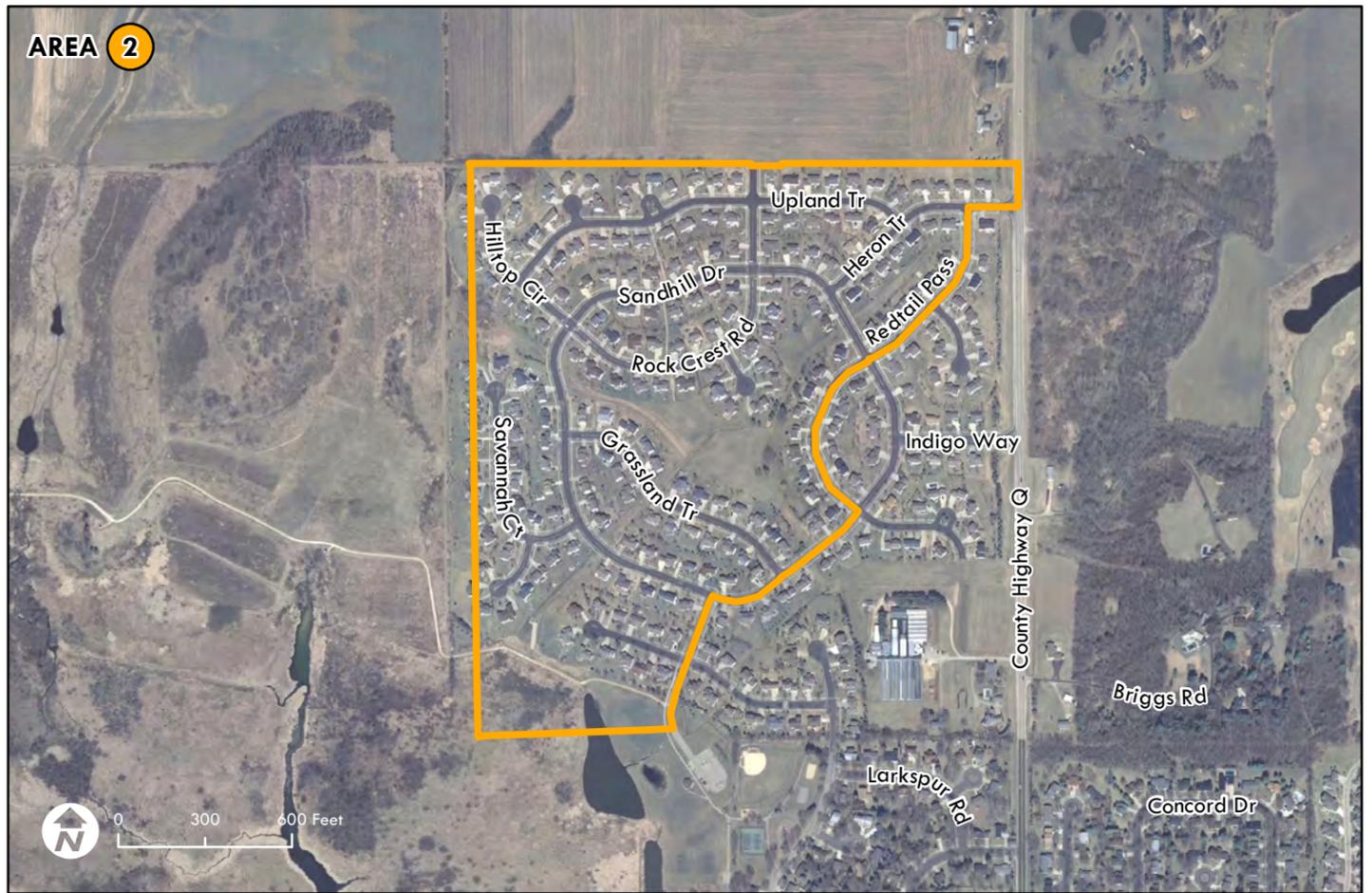
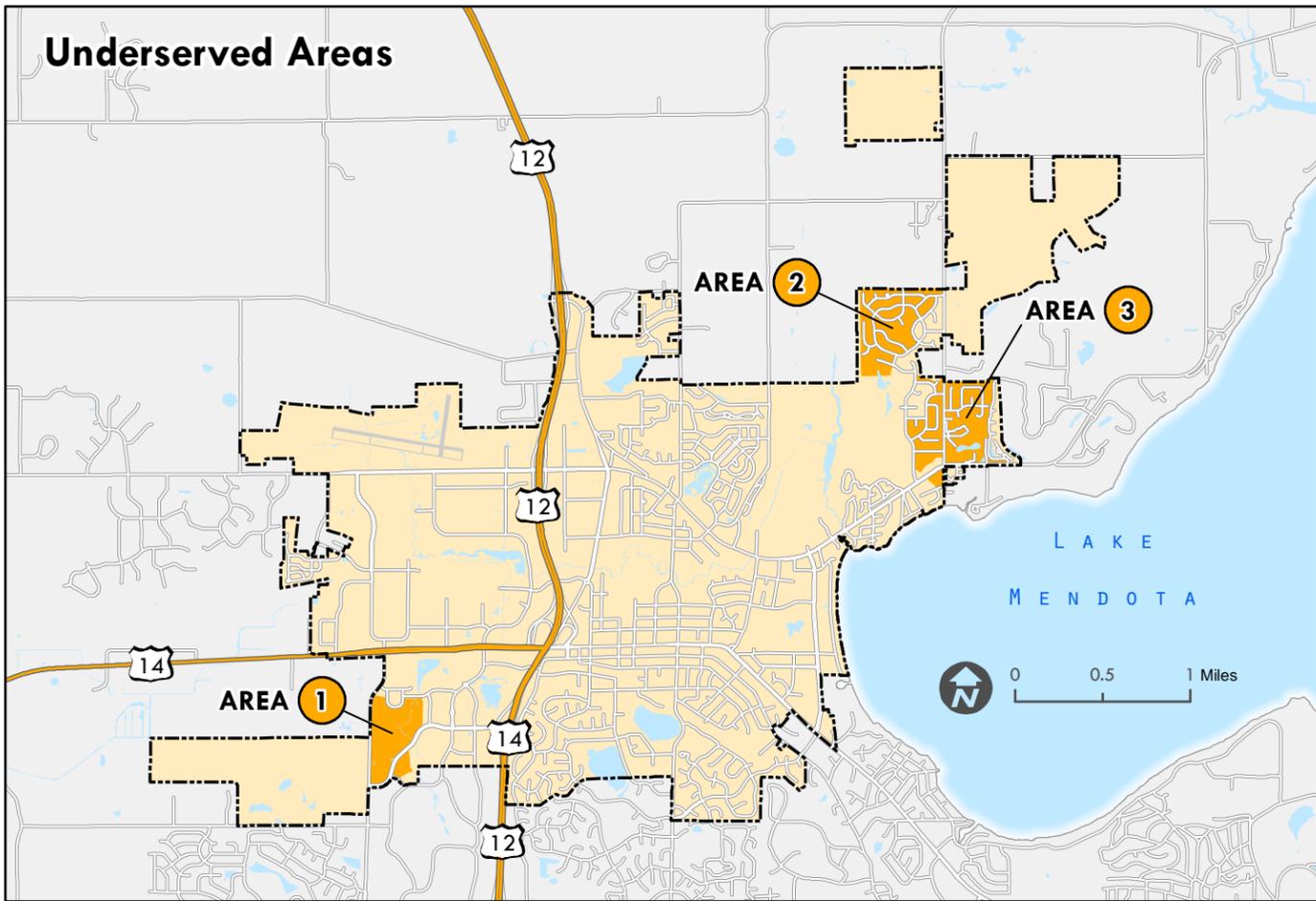
Overlaying the four underserved areas to the left results in the overall underserved area layer seen below. These orange areas represent locations that score low for service to all age groups. Based on population density, these areas do not have access to park facilities consistent with the level of service provided to the rest of the city. Improvements (including the creation of new parks or addition of facilities in existing parks) are necessary give these areas a more sufficient level of service.

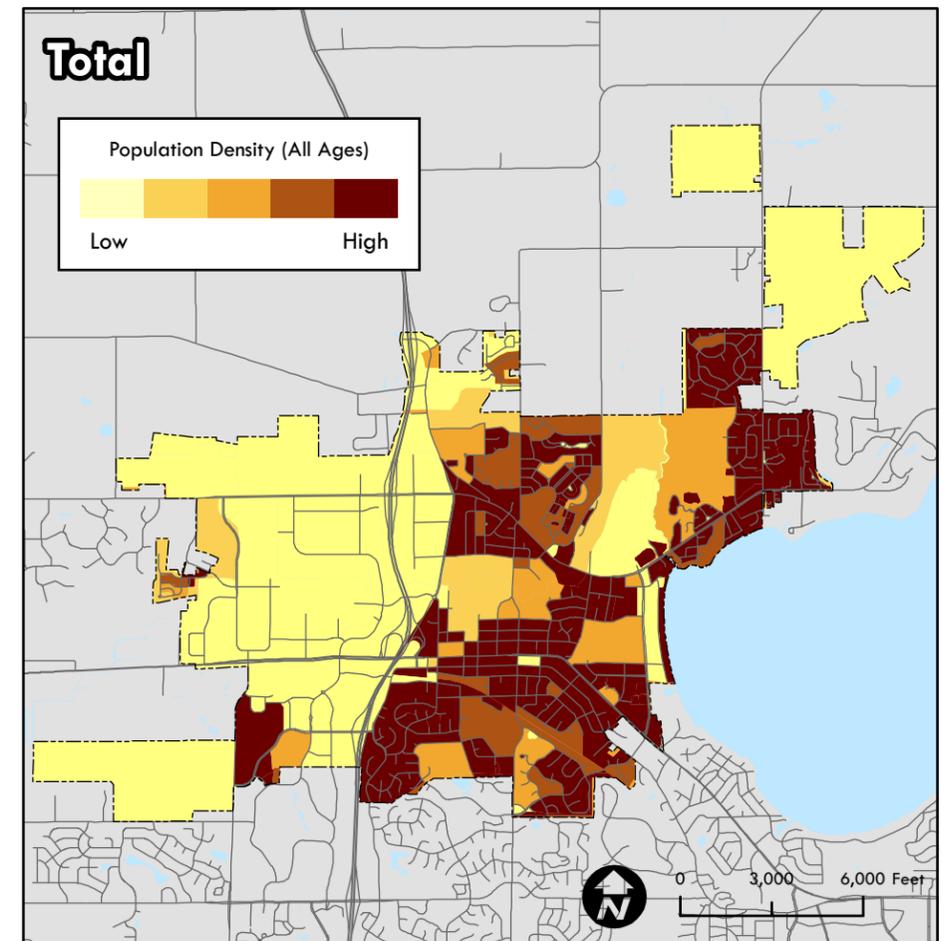
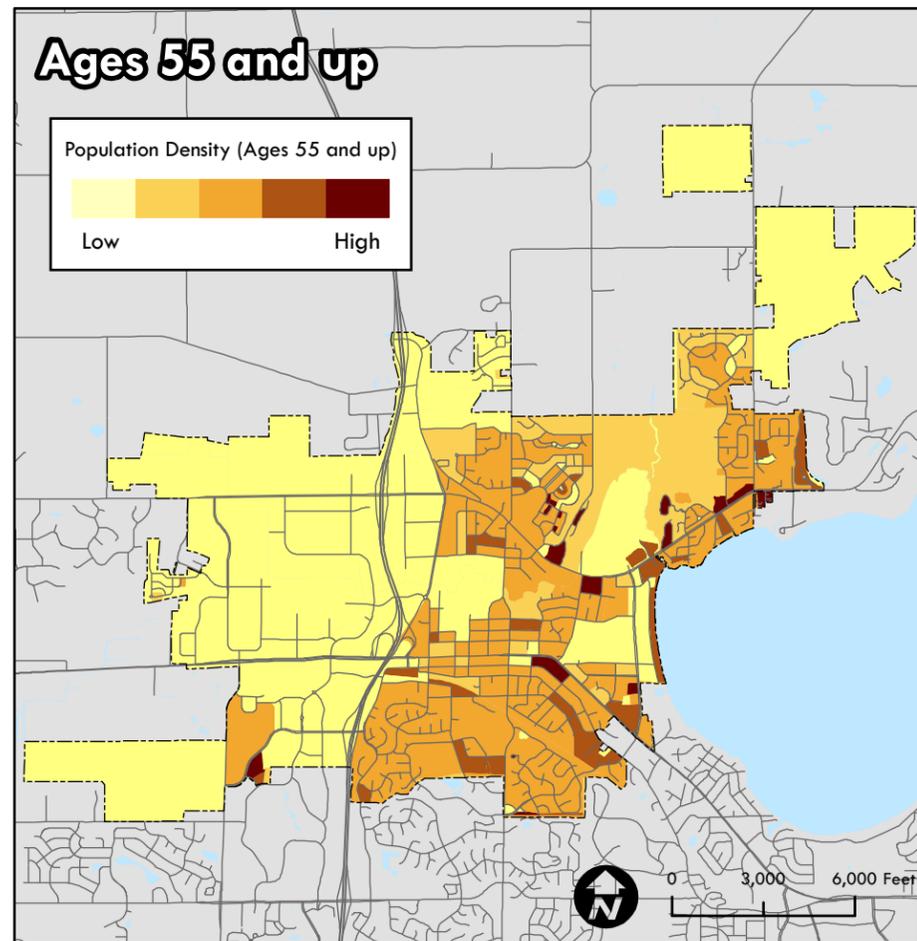
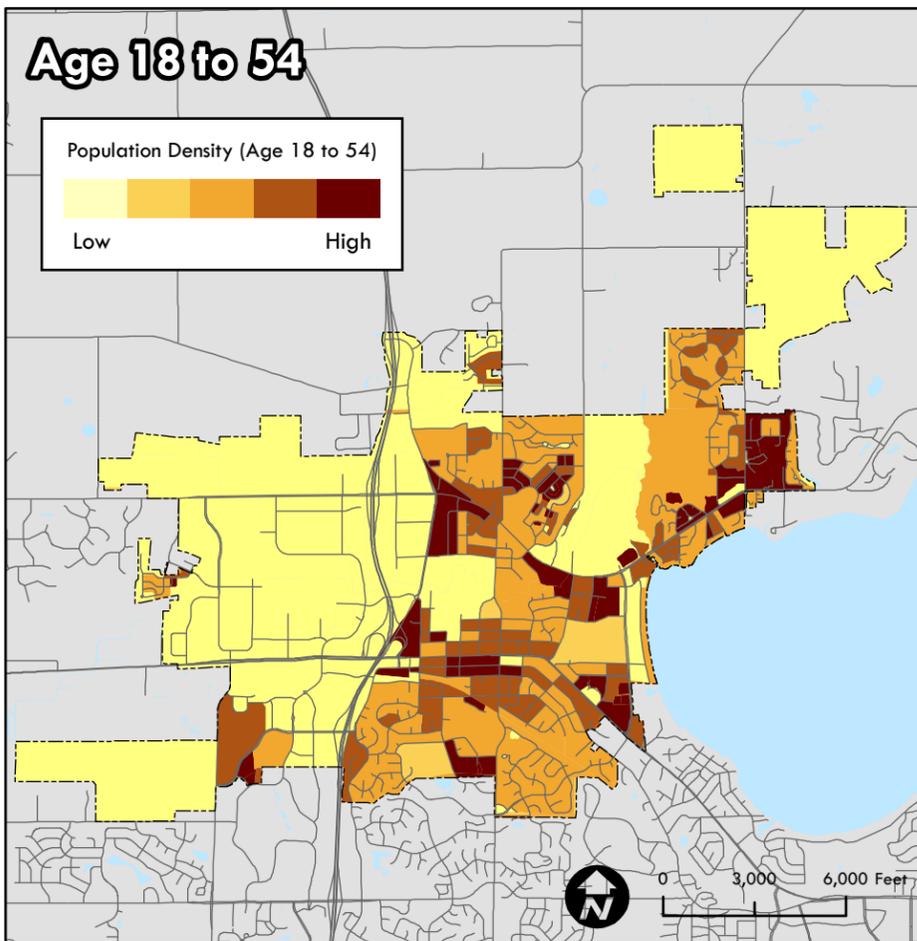
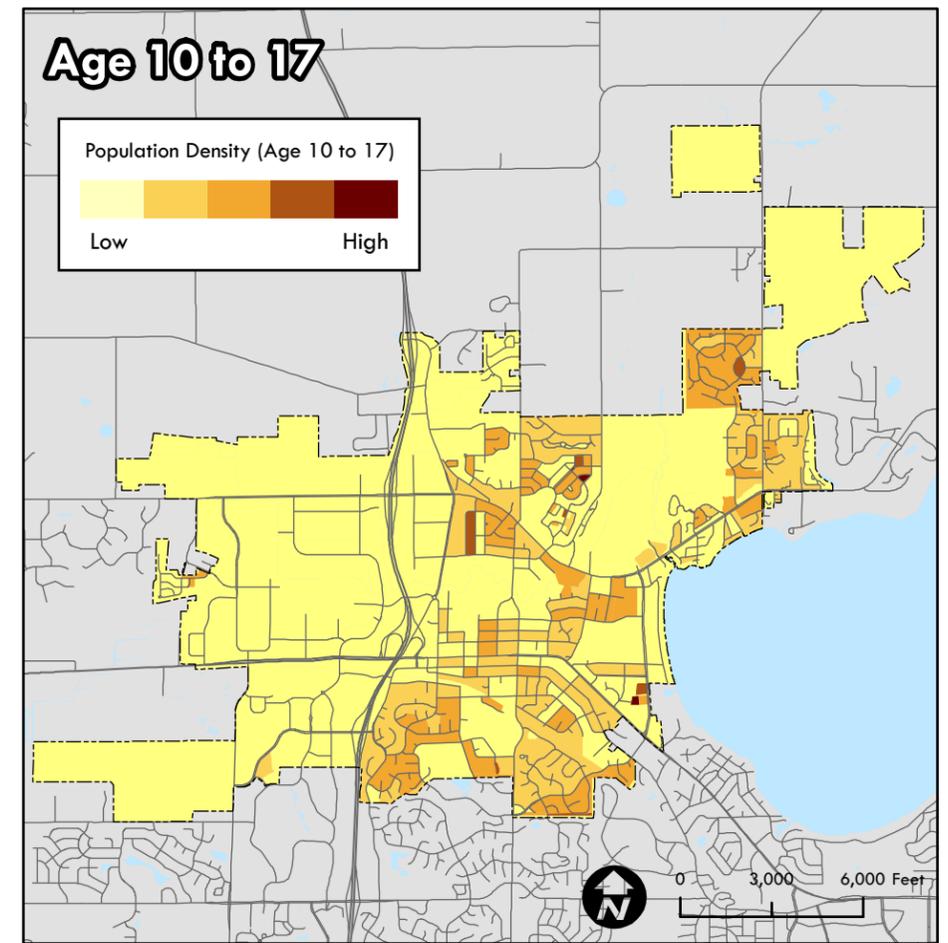
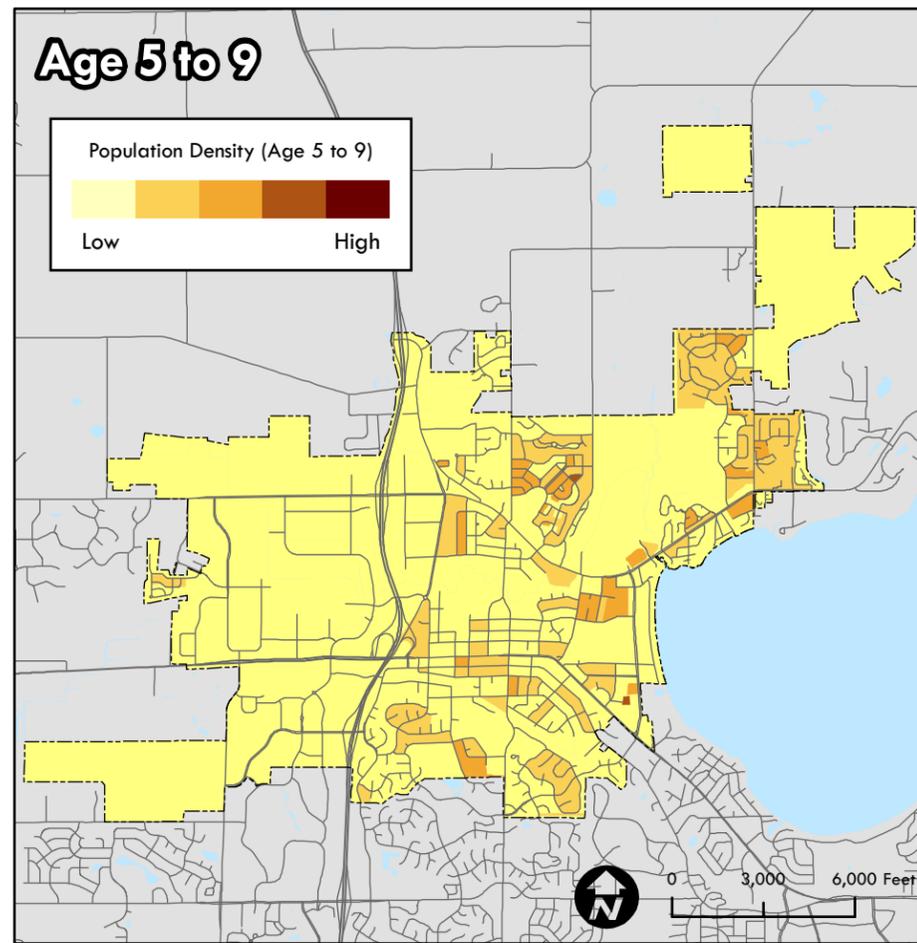
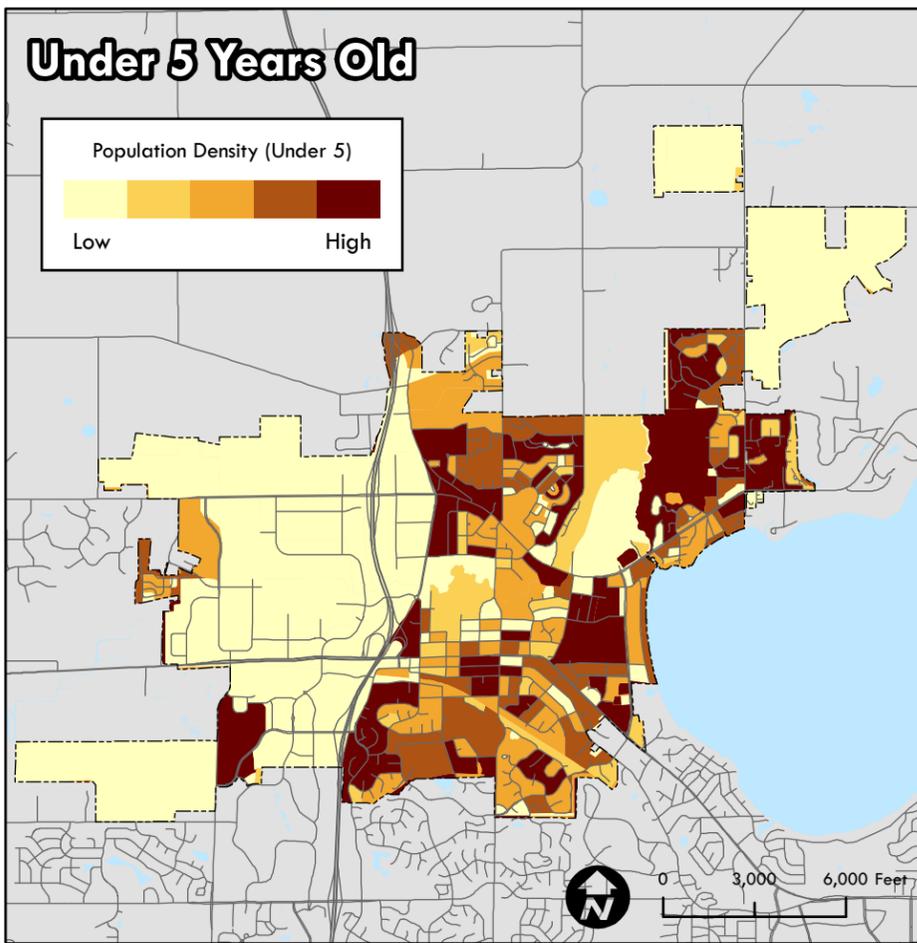


Legend

- Underserved Areas
- Parks (Community, Neighborhood & Mini)
- Combined Park Service Areas







	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
SPECIAL USE PARKS						
Lake Street Boat Launch						
New park sign			\$5,000			
Bench installation	\$500		\$500			
Rhino Pier bumpers	\$1,500					
ADA signage and striping	\$1,500					
Road striping	\$1,000					
Subtotals	\$4,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,500
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 4,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,500
Metropolitan community Park/Community Dog Park						
Pave access road	\$25,000					
Pave lower parking		\$100,000				
Install upper parking lot			\$100,000			
Install park signage (3)		\$12,500				
Install solar bollard lighting			\$16,000			
Kayak trail/pier				\$15,000	\$15,000	
Exercise trail and stations				\$20,000	\$20,000	
Restrooms					\$250,000	
Additional soccer fields		\$120,000				
Subtotals	\$25,000	\$232,500	\$116,000	\$35,000	\$285,000	\$693,500
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 25,000	\$ 232,500	\$ 118,900	\$ 36,750	\$ 306,375	\$ 719,525
Pleasant View Golf Course						
Park sign			\$5,000			
Shade shelter at bike park			\$15,000			
Subtotals	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$20,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,500
Quarry Park Skate Park						
Shade structure		\$10,000				
Upgrade drinking fountain		\$2,500				
Subtotals	\$0	\$12,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,500
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ -	\$ 12,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,500
Walter Bauman Pool						
New splashpad					\$225,000	
Install security system	\$10,000					
Subtotals	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$225,000	\$235,000
Inflation	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Totals	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 241,875	\$ 251,875
SPECIAL USE PARKS						
Subtotal	\$39,500	\$245,000	\$139,400	\$36,750	\$548,250	\$1,008,900